



**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
(Cofnod y Trafodion)**

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

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

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

*Cyfarfu'r Cynulliad am 2 p.m. gyda'r Llywydd yn y Gadair.
The Assembly met at 2 p.m. with the Presiding Officer in the Chair.*

**Cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog
Questions to the First Minister**

**Ceffylau ar Grwydr yng Nghaerdydd
Stray Horses in Cardiff**

Q1 Lorraine Barrett: Will the First Minister make a statement on what action the Welsh Assembly Government is taking to tackle stray horses in Cardiff? OAQO362(FM)

C1 Lorraine Barrett: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar yr hyn y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ei wneud i fynd i'r afael â cheffylau ar grwydr yng Nghaerdydd? OAQO362(FM)

The First Minister (Rhodri Morgan): The issue of stray horses in Cardiff is the responsibility of Cardiff County Council.

Y Prif Weinidog (Rhodri Morgan): Cyfrifoldeb Cyngor Sir Caerdydd yw cheffylau ar grwydr yng Nghaerdydd.

Lorraine Barrett: Thank you for reminding us of that, First Minister. It is estimated that at least 100 strays—and I have seen a lot—are wandering the city's streets and causing damage to cars and people, particularly in Trowbridge, St Mellons, Rumney and Llanrumney in my constituency. Will you offer your support to calls made by Alun Michael and Labour councillor Ralph Cook for anti-social behaviour orders to be placed on the irresponsible owners of these horses?

Lorraine Barrett: Diolch i chi am ein hatgoffa o hynny, Brif Weinidog. Amcangyfrifir bod o leiaf 100 o geffylau yn crwydro strydoedd y ddinas—ac yr wyf fi wedi gweld llawer—gan beri difrod i geir a niwed i bobl, yn arbennig yn Trowbridge, Llaneirwg, Tredelerch a Llanrhymni yn fy etholaeth i. A gynigiwch eich cefnogaeth i alwadau gan Alun Michael a'r cynghorydd Llafur Ralph Cook am roi gorchmynion ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol ar berchnogion anghyfrifol y cheffylau hyn?

The First Minister: Yes. The city council is considering that course of action, I believe, but has not yet made its mind up. I think that it is considering recruiting a full-time horse warden, and forging closer links with official groups such as the British Horse Society and the Royal Society for the Protection of Animals, as well as issuing anti-social behaviour orders. All three measures combined might solve the problem, which is now spreading from your constituency to others in Cardiff, including my own. I am pleased to hear that the city council is considering a programme of action, and I can only recommend that it gets on with it.

Y Prif Weinidog: Gwnaf. Credaf fod cyngor y ddinas yn ystyried gweithredu yn y fath fodd, ond heb wneud penderfyniad terfynol eto. Yr wyf yn meddwl ei fod yn ystyried recriwtio warden cheffylau llawnamser a ffurfio cysylltiadau agosach gyda grwpiau swyddogol megis Cymdeithas Cheffylau Prydain a'r Gymdeithas Frenhinol er Gwarchod Anifeiliaid, yn ogystal â rhoi gorchmynion ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol. Gallai'r tri mesur gyda'i gilydd ddatrys y broblem, sydd bellach yn ymestyn o'ch etholaeth chi i eraill yng Nghaerdydd, gan gynnwys fy etholaeth i. Yr wyf yn falch o glywed bod cyngor y ddinas yn ystyried rhaglen weithredu, a'r cwbl y gallaf ei argymhell yw ei fod yn symud ymlaen gyda'r rhaglen honno.

Owen John Thomas: Like Lorraine Barrett, I have also had complaints from constituents from as far afield as St Fagans and Ely, right

Owen John Thomas: Fel Lorraine Barrett, yr wyf innau hefyd wedi cael cwynion gan etholwyr o gyn belled â San Ffagan a Threlái,

across to St Mellons. Some time ago, Mr Tom Price, who is the head of the Gypsy community in Cardiff, approached me and asked me to try to influence the council to prepare a field where the horses could be fenced in, so that they would not be running about the streets. I got a negative response to that. There were 632 phone calls made to the authority in the past 12 months. The council does impound some horses, but only seven have been impounded since September 2003. It then charges a small fee for clipping the horses' ears. The authority needs to take action and, at the moment, that is not happening.

The First Minister: It was difficult to find a question in that, but I presume that there was one somewhere. I understand that the council has met representatives of the local traveller community, which would probably include Tom Price, to seek the community's co-operation and support in keeping animals secure. The traveller community will be becoming increasingly aware that a programme of micro-chipping is taking place, sometimes in co-operation with the community, but certainly for impounded horses. If any horses are found to have offended for a second time, having been micro-chipped, then anti-social behaviour orders can be placed—not on the horses, of course, but on their owners. They can then be charged for removal, stabling, and electronic tagging of the animal by the veterinarian.

Jenny Randerson: When I worked at Rumney Technical College in the mid 1980s, we had a problem with stray horses, so this is not a new problem. Do you accept that this problem has existed for many years in Cardiff, and that no matter how willing the authority is to place an anti-social behaviour order on the horse owner it must first of all find out who the owner is? To do that, a great deal of public co-operation is needed, as well as complaints from the public, because information is essential to solving this problem.

The First Minister: The answer to the first question is, undoubtedly, 'yes', but the

a hyd at Laneirwg. Gryn amser yn ôl, cysylltodd Tom Price, pennaeth cymuned y Sipsi yng Nghaerdydd, â mi gan ofyn i mi geisio dylanwadu ar y cyngor i baratoi cae y gellid cau'r ceffylau ynddo, fel na fyddent yn rhedeg o gwmpas y strydoedd. Ymateb negyddol a gefais i hynny. Gwnaethpwyd 632 galwad ffôn i'r awdurdod yn ystod y 12 mis diwethaf. Mae'r cyngor yn corlannu rhai ceffylau, ond dim ond saith sydd wedi cael eu corlannu ers Medi 2003. Mae wedyn yn codi ffi fechan am glipio clustiau'r ceffylau. Rhaid i'r awdurdod weithredu ac, ar hyn o bryd, nid yw hynny'n digwydd.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr oedd yn anodd dod o hyd i gwestiwn yn y geiriau hynny, ond cymeraf fod un yno yn rhywle. Deallaf fod y cyngor wedi cyfarfod â chynrychiolwyr o'r gymuned leol o grwydriaid, a fyddai mae'n debyg yn cynnwys Tom Price, i geisio cydweithrediad a chefnogaeth y gymuned i gadw anifeiliaid yn ddiogel. Bydd cymuned y crwydriaid yn dod yn fwyfwy ymwybodol fod rhaglen o osod microsglodion ar waith, weithiau gyda chydweithrediad y gymuned, ond yn sicr ar gyfer ceffylau wedi'u corlannu. Os canfyddir bod ceffylau wedi troseddu am yr eildro, ar ôl cael microsglodyn, wedyn gellir rhoi gorchmynion ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol – nid ar y ceffylau, wrth gwrs, ond ar eu perchnogion. Wedyn, gellir codi tâl arnynt am symud yr anifeiliaid, eu rhoi mewn stabl a'u tagio'n electronig gan y milfeddyg.

Jenny Randerson: Pan oeddwn yn gweithio yng Ngholeg Technegol Tredelerch yng nghanol y 1980au, yr oedd gennym broblem gyda cheffylau ar grwydr, ac felly nid problem newydd mo hon. A ydych yn derbyn bod hyn yn broblem ers blynnyddoedd yng Nghaerdydd, a pha mor barod bynnag yw'r awdurdod i roi gorchmyn ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol ar berchennog y ceffyl, rhaid iddo yn gyntaf gael gwybod pwy yw'r perchennog? I wneud hynny, mae angen cryn dipyn o gydweithrediad o du'r cyhoedd, yn ogystal â chwynion gan y cyhoedd, oherwydd y mae gwybodaeth yn hanfodol er mwyn datrys y broblem hon.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ateb i'r cwestiwn cyntaf yn ddi-os yw 'ydwyf', ond ymddengys

problem does appear to have worsened considerably in the past 12 months. How we get the problem back into manageable proportions, when it is now becoming unmanageable, is a matter for the traveller community, which appears to own most of these horses, and the local authority. The authority will need strong support from the RPSCA and other bodies such as the British Horse Society. This problem is beginning to get out of control.

fod y broblem wedi gwaethygu'n arw yn y 12 mis diwethaf. Mater i gymuned y crwydriaid, sydd i bob golwg yn berchen ar y rhan fwyaf o'r ceffylau hyn, a'r awdurdod lleol, yw sut y mae cael y broblem yn ôl i lefel y gellir ei rheoli, a hithau bellach yn dechrau mynd y tu hwnt i reolaeth. Bydd angen i'r awdurdod gael cefnogaeth gref gan yr RSPCA a chyrrff eraill megis Cymdeithas Ceffylau Prydain. Mae'r broblem hon yn dechrau mynd y tu hwnt i reolaeth.

Ffyrdd Iach o Fyw Healthy Lifestyles

Q2 Christine Chapman: What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to promote healthy lifestyles in Wales? OAQ0363(FM)

C2 Christine Chapman: Beth y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i hybu ffyrdd iach o fyw yng Nghymru? OAQ0363(FM)

The First Minister: In addition to the Health Challenge Wales campaign, we are also now able to use role models. Yesterday, I met the Wales rugby team that won the grand slam, which is among the best in the world in terms of its diet, nutrition, fitness and lifestyle programme. It is an ideal role model to engage and inspire the public to adopt healthier lifestyles.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yn ogystal â'r ymgyrch Her Iechyd Cymru, yr ydym bellach hefyd yn gallu defnyddio modelau rôl. Ddoe, cyfarfûm â thîm rygbi Cymru a enillodd y gamp lawn, sydd ymysg y gorau yn y byd o ran ei raglen deiet, maeth, ffitrwydd a ffordd o fyw. Mae'n fodel rôl delfrydol ar gyfer annog ac ysbrydoli'r cyhoedd i fabwysiadu ffyrdd iachach o fyw.

Christine Chapman: Would you agree that one of the most fundamental aspects of a healthy lifestyle is a balanced and nutritional diet, which includes a sufficient intake of fruit and vegetables? In 1942, the average Briton ate 438g of green vegetables a week; by 1999, that figure had fallen to just 245g. Much work has gone into promoting healthier diets in Wales and, with an average consumption of 4.1 portions of fruit and vegetables a day, we are ahead of England, where the average is below three portions, and Scotland and Northern Ireland, where the average is less than one portion. Wales is the only country in the UK anywhere near achieving the target consumption of five portions of fruit and vegetables a day. Do you agree that the momentum that we have built must be sustained to ensure that we all get the required nutritional intake?

Christine Chapman: A fydddech yn cytuno mai un o agweddau mwyaf sylfaenol ffordd iach o fyw yw deiet cytbwys a maethlon, sy'n cynnwys dogonau digonol o ffrwythau a llysiau? Yn 1942, yr oedd Prydeiniwr cyffredin yn bwyta 438g o lysiau gwyrdd yr wythnos; erbyn 1999, yr oedd y ffigur wedi gostwng i 245g yn unig. Mae llawer o waith wedi'i wneud i hybu deietau iachach yng Nghymru a, chyda chyfartaledd o 4.1 dogn o ffrwythau a llysiau yn cael ei fwyta yn y dydd, yr ydym ar y blaen i Loegr, lle y mae'r cyfartaledd o dan dri dogn, a'r Alban a Gogledd Iwerddon lle y mae'r cyfartaledd yn llai nag un dogn. Cymru yw'r unig wlad yn y DU sydd rywle yn agos at gyflawni'r targed o fwyta pum dogn o ffrwythau a llysiau yn y dydd. A ydych yn cytuno bod rhaid cynnal y momentwm yr ydym wedi'i ddatblygu i sicrhau ein bod i gyd yn bwyta'r hyn sy'n ofynnol o ran maeth?.

The First Minister: Yes. Aiming towards everyone achieving the target of consuming five portions of fresh fruit and vegetables a

Y Prif Weinidog: Ydwyf. Mae anelu tuag at sicrhau bod pawb yn cyflawni'r targed o fwyta pum dogn o ffrwythau a llysiau ffres y

day—though not everyone will achieve it—is important, but people should also cease doing what they should not be doing. I commend the BBC for its clever campaign against binge drinking; it is part of the Health Challenge Wales programme, although it is a BBC Wales initiative. We will be evaluating that campaign, as it shows every sign of being extremely successful.

David Davies: Would you agree that a brisk walk to a local school is one of the best starts to encourage a healthy lifestyle? Do you therefore agree that the systematic closure of small local junior and infant schools by Labour councils and the Labour Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning must cease immediately? [*Interruption.*]

The Presiding Officer: Order. When I call an Assembly Member to ask a question, I expect that question to be heard in relative silence.

The First Minister: We all accept that it is important to encourage safe routes to school and free breakfast clubs at schools. Those clubs are now serving a healthy breakfast diet, compared with the not-so-healthy diets served under the previous, lottery-funded programme. That is going well. You will have read the excellent article about Herbert Thompson Junior School, in my constituency, where 115 children now receive a free and healthy breakfast every day. There are many similar initiatives aimed at inculcating, at an early age, these healthy lifestyle attitudes. This is partially about improving children's cardiovascular system, in terms of their cycling, walking or even running to school, as used to happen in the old days, but also partially about improving diet and avoiding unhealthy lifestyles in future, such as binge drinking.

Peter Black: You talk about the value of a healthy diet in terms of healthy living, and school meals are an important aspect of that. However, while we accept that meals in Wales are far more nutritious than they are in some parts of England, particularly those areas highlighted by Jamie Oliver, do you not

dydd – er na fydd pawb yn llwyddo i wneud hynny – yn bwysig, ond dylai pobl hefyd roi'r gorau i'r hyn na ddylent fod yn ei wneud. Yr wyf yn canmol y BBC am ei ymgyrch glyfar yn erbyn goryfed yn achlysurol; mae'n rhan o raglen Her Iechyd Cymru, er mai cynllun gan y BBC ydyw. Byddwn yn pwysu a mesur yr ymgyrch honno, gan fod yr holl arwyddion yn awgrymu y bydd yn hynod lwyddiannus.

David Davies: A fydddech yn cytuno mai cerdded yn sionc i ysgol leol yw un o'r ffyrdd gorau o hybu ffordd iach o fyw? A ydych felly'n cytuno y dylid rhoi terfyn yn syth ar y cau systematig sy'n digwydd i ysgolion cynradd a babanod lleol bach gan gynghorau Llafur a'r Gweinidog Llafur dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes? [*Torri ar draws.*]

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Pan fyddaf yn galw ar Aelod o'r Cynulliad i ofyn cwestiwn, disgwyliaf i'r cwestiwn hwnnw gael gwrandawriad cymharol ddistaw.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydym i gyd yn derbyn ei bod yn bwysig hybu teithio'n ddiogel i'r ysgol a chlybiau brecwast am ddim mewn ysgolion. Mae'r clybiau hynny yn awr yn darparu deiet brecwast iach o'i gymharu â'r deietau heb fod mor iachus a oedd yn cael eu darparu dan y rhaglen flaenorol a ariennid gan arian y loteri. Mae hynny'n mynd rhagddo'n dda. Byddwch wedi darllen yr erthygl ardderchog am Ysgol Gynradd Herbert Thompson yn fy etholaeth i, lle y mae 115 o blant bellach yn cael brecwast iach ac am ddim bob diwrnod. Mae llawer o gynlluniau tebyg sy'n ceisio cyflwyno'r agweddau hyn o ffyrdd iach o fyw yn gynnar. Mae hyn yn ymwneud yn rhannol â gwella system gardiofasgwlaidd plant drwy feicio, cerdded neu hyd yn oed rhedeg i'r ysgol, fel a arferai ddigwydd yn yr hen ddyddiau, ond hefyd yn rhannol â gwella deiet ac osgoi ffyrdd afiach o fyw yn y dyfodol, megis goryfed yn achlysurol.

Peter Black: Yr ydych yn sôn am werth deiet iach o ran byw'n iach, ac mae prydau ysgol yn elfen bwysig yn hynny. Fodd bynnag, er ein bod yn derbyn bod prydau yng Nghymru yn llawer mwy maethlon nag y maent mewn rhannau o Loegr, yn arbennig yr ardaloedd hynny y rhoddodd Jamie Oliver sylw iddynt,

think that it would be useful for the Assembly Government to take a lead in highlighting the advantage that Wales has in terms of its nutritious school meals? Do you also agree that the Assembly Government should work with local education authorities to ensure consistency in the nutrition available for pupils across Wales, and to get that message across to parents?

The First Minister: Yes, it is important. More and more schools should be encouraged to join the healthy school meals network. So much of what we are trying to achieve is about making school meals nutritious and attractive to children, thus ensuring that they eat them rather than wasting them. There is no point in having healthy meals on offer if they are rejected in favour of an unhealthy choice or, where they are the only choice available, if they are toyed with and thrown away. Good presentation, and engaging children in understanding why a healthy meal is good for you, is fun and cool to eat and so on, is part of the game. Where one local authority or school, or a group of schools, has already found a particularly successful method of doing this, it is important for people to hear about that best practice, through the networking arrangements, and apply it locally.

2.10 p.m.

There is wide disparity in terms of content costs between areas like Powys and Cardiff. Powys has something like a 2:1 advantage in its favour, although it may have higher transport costs, which may partially explain that. It is important that all local authorities attempt to achieve best practice in this, and I was also pleased that Jamie Oliver said that we were ahead of the game in Wales.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Mae bwyta'n iach a hyrwyddo ymarfer corff i bawb o bob oedran yn cael cefnogaeth pob plaid yn y Cynulliad, a rhaid inni ei bwysleisio. Fodd bynnag, rhaid pwysleisio hefyd yr angen i gynnig triniaeth i bobl sy'n dioddef afiechyd. A wnewch chi ymuno â mi wrth ganmol gwaith Ymddiriedolaeth Cancr yr Ardddegau Cymru, sydd â stonidin yn y Neuadd y prynhawn yma? Cefais y cyfle i redeg marathon

onid ydych yn credu y byddai'n ddefnyddiol i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad roi arweiniad drwy dynnu sylw at y fantais sydd gan Gymru o ran ei phrydau ysgol maethlon? A ydych hefyd yn cytuno y dylai Llywodraeth y Cynulliad weithio gydag awdurdodau addysg lleol i sicrhau cysondeb yn y maeth sydd ar gael i ddisgyblion ar draws Cymru, ac i drosglwyddo'r neges honno i rieni?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ydyw, mae'n bwysig. Dylid annog mwy a mwy o ysgolion i ymuno â'r rhwydwaith prydau ysgol iach. Mae cymaint o'r hyn yr ydym yn ceisio'i gyflawni yn ymwneud â chael prydau ysgol sy'n faethlon ac yn ddeniadol i blant, a thrwy hynny sicrhau eu bod yn eu bwyta yn hytrach na'u gwastraffu. Nid oes diben cynnig prydau iach os cânt eu gwrthod, a'r plant yn dewis yn hytrach fwyd nad yw'n iach, neu, os mai'r rhai iachus yw'r unig rai sydd ar gael, fod y disgyblion yn chwarae gyda'r bwyd a hwnnw'n cael ei daflu. Mae cyflwyno da, a chael gan blant ddeall pam mae pryd iachus yn lles iddynt, yn hwyl ac yn cwl i'w fwyta ac yn y blaen, yn rhan o'r gêm. Lle y mae un awdurdod lleol neu ysgol, neu grŵp o ysgolion, eisoes wedi dod o hyd i ddull llwyddiannus o wneud hyn, mae'n bwysig bod pobl yn gwybod am yr arferion da hynny, trwy'r trefniadau rhwydweithio, a'u rhoi ar waith yn lleol.

Mae gwahaniaeth mawr o ran costau'r cynnwys rhwng ardaloedd megis Powys a Chaerdydd. Mae gan Bowys fantais o ryw 2:1 o'i phlaid, er bod ganddi gostau cludiant uwch o bosibl, a all esbonio hynny i raddau. Mae'n bwysig bod pob awdurdod lleol yn ceisio sicrhau'r arferion gorau yn hyn o beth, ac yr oeddwn innau hefyd yn falch o glywed Jamie Oliver yn dweud ein bod ar flaen y gad yng Nghymru.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Healthy eating and promoting physical exercise for people of all ages has cross-party support in the Assembly, and is something that we must emphasise. However, we must also emphasise the need to offer treatment to those suffering illnesses. Will you join me in praising the work of the Teenage Cancer Trust for Wales, which has a display stand in the Assembly Neuadd this afternoon? I had the opportunity of running

Llundain ar ran yr ymddiriedolaeth ddydd Sul, felly a wnewch chi gytuno bod ei gwaith yn bwysig, yn ogystal â'r uned ar gyfer cleifion canser yn eu harddegau y mae am ei sefydlu yn Ysbyty Athrofaol Cymru?

Y Prif Weinidog: Wrth gwrs. Fel rhywun sydd hefyd wedi rhedeg marathon Llundain, er bod hynny oesoedd yn ôl erbyn hyn—17 o flynyddoedd—gwn ei bod hi'n bwysig cefnogi pobl sy'n gwneud pethau iachus fel rhedeg.

Mae'r uned yr ydych yn ei chefnogi yn bwysig, ac mae stondin yr ymddiriedolaeth yn dangos yr hyn y mae'n bwriadu ei wneud o ran hynny. Er na chefais yr amser i ymweld â'r stondin hyd yn hyn, byddaf yn sicr o wneud ar fy ffordd allan o'r Siambr y prynhawn yma.

the London marathon on behalf of the trust on Sunday, so will you agree that its work is important, as is the unit for teenage cancer patients that it wants to set up at the University Hospital of Wales?

The First Minister: Of course. As someone who has also run the London marathon, although that was ages ago now—17 years ago—I know how important it is to support people who take part in healthy activities such as running.

The unit that you support is important, and the trust's display stand shows what it intends to do in that regard. Although I have not yet had time to visit the stand, I will be sure to do so on my way out of the Chamber this afternoon.

Cam-drin yn y Cartref Domestic Abuse

Q3 Catherine Thomas: Will the First Minister make a statement on what the Assembly Government is doing to help the victims of domestic abuse? OAQ0357(FM)

The First Minister: Our new Welsh national strategy to reduce domestic abuse was launched on 30 March 2005. To assist with the strategy, an additional £1.1 million is being allocated in the three-year period that began this financial year. That will build on initiatives already in place, such as the new national helpline.

Catherine Thomas: I applaud and welcome the strategy, as well as other measures introduced by the Assembly Government. Does it concern you to learn that local authority housing departments are still asking victims to prove their abuse before giving them accommodation? This is not acceptable, and all it does is compound a situation that is already harrowing. It also demonstrates that too many individuals who should know better still do not, and that there is still ignorance as to what constitutes abuse. A great deal of abuse cannot be proven, especially if it is emotional or psychological.

C3 Catherine Thomas: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar yr hyn mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ei wneud i helpu'r rhai sy'n cael eu cam-drin yn y cartref? OAQ0357(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Lanswyd ein strategaeth genedlaethol newydd i leihau cam-drin yn y cartref ar 30 Mawrth 2005. I helpu gyda'r strategaeth, mae £1.1 miliwn yn ychwanegol yn cael ei ddyrannu yn ystod y tair blynedd a ddechreuodd yn y flwyddyn ariannol hon. Bydd hynny'n adeiladu ar y cynlluniau sydd eisoes ar waith, megis y llinell gymorth genedlaethol newydd.

Catherine Thomas: Yr wyf yn cymeradwyo ac yn croesawu'r strategaeth yn ogystal â mesurau eraill a gyflwynwyd gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad. A yw'r ffaith bod adrannau tai awdurdodau lleol yn dal i ofyn i ddioddefwyr brofi eu bod yn cael eu cam-drin cyn rhoi llety iddynt yn peri pryder i chi? Nid yw hyn yn dderbyniol, a'r unig beth y mae'n ei wneud yw gwaethygu sefyllfa sydd eisoes yn dorcalonnus. Dengys hefyd fod gormod o unigolion a ddylai wybod yn well yn dal i fod yn ddi-ddeall, a bod anwybodaeth o hyd am beth yn union yw cam-drin. Mae llawer iawn o gam-drin nad oes modd ei brofi, yn enwedig os yw'n gam-

drin emosiynol neu seicolegol.

The First Minister: That last proposition is absolute; you cannot argue with that. It is not good enough if authorities are following inappropriate guidelines before accepting a person claiming to have suffered domestic abuse, especially of that kind. I will ensure that either Edwina Hart or I will write to you on that matter, because we need to know which local authorities you are talking about to see what we can do to inculcate best practice.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r gosodiad olaf yn gwbl gywir; ni allwch ddadlau â hynny. Nid yw'n ddigon da os yw awdurdodau'n dilyn canllawiau amhriodol cyn derbyn rhywun sy'n honni iddo ddiodef cam-drin yn y cartref, y math hwnnw yn enwedig. Byddaf yn sicrhau fy mod i neu Edwina Hart yn ysgrifennu atoch am y mater hwnnw, oherwydd y mae angen inni wybod at ba awdurdodau lleol yr ydych yn cyfeirio i weld beth y gallwn ei wneud i ddarbwylllo pobl i ddilyn yr arfer gorau.

William Graham: First Minister, I am sure that you would agree that it is a great shame that 74 incidents of domestic violence are reported to the police every day in Wales. What particular policies will your Assembly Government direct towards ensuring that the largely unreported crime of domestic violence becomes far more a cause for concern, and ensuring that something can be done to prevent its occurrence?

William Graham: Brif Weinidog, yr wyf yn siŵr y byddech yn cytuno ei bod yn drueni mawr bod yr heddlu yn derbyn 74 o adroddiadau am ddigwyddiadau o drais yn y cartref bob diwrnod yng Nghymru. Pa bolisiâu neilltuol y bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn eu cyfeirio at sicrhau bod trais yn y cartref, sy'n drosedd na hysbysir yr heddlu amdano yn aml iawn, yn dod yn destun llawer mwy o bryder, a sicrhau y gellir gwneud rhywbeth i'w rwystro rhag digwydd?

The First Minister: You must accept, William, that the willingness to report domestic abuse has improved enormously over recent years. I do not want to get into the details of the problem of statistics appearing to show an increase in domestic abuse when what is actually reflected is an increased willingness to come forward to the police to complain about it. In that context, I commend the work of Cardiff Women's Safety Unit, which is regarded as a leading pilot project in the UK and has been heavily supported by the Home Office. It has also been awarded more than £235,000 from the domestic abuse services grant here for the current financial year. By introducing advocacy services in such a constructive way, the unit has been able to confront that problem and bring the issue forward so that people do not bury it and so that there are no repeat incidents of domestic abuse before it is reported to the police.

Y Prif Weinidog: Rhaid i chi dderbyn, William, fod y parodrwydd i roi gwybod am gam-drin yn y cartref wedi gwella'n fawr iawn dros y blynyddoedd diweddar. Nid oes arnaf eisiau trafod manylion y broblem sy'n gysylltiedig ag ystadegau sydd i bob golwg yn dangos cynnydd mewn cam-drin yn y cartref er mai'r hyn a ddangosir yn y bôn yw mwy o barodrwydd i fynd at yr heddlu i gwyno amdano. Yn y cyswllt hwnnw, yr wyf yn canmol gwaith Uned Diogelwch Merched Caerdydd, sy'n cael ei hystyried yn brosiect peilot o bwys yn y DU sydd wedi derbyn cefnogaeth sylweddol gan y Swyddfa Gartref. Mae hefyd wedi derbyn £235,000 oddi wrth y grant gwasanaethau cam-drin yn y cartref yma ar gyfer y flwyddyn ariannol gyfredol. Drwy gyflwyno gwasanaethau eiriolaeth mewn modd mor adeiladol, mae'r uned wedi gallu dod â'r broblem honno i'r amlwg fel nad yw pobl yn ei chladdu ac fel nad yw pobl yn cael eu cam-drin yn y cartref drachefn a thrachefn cyn i'r heddlu gael eu hysbysu amdano.

Gwasanaethau Ambiwllans yn y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin

Ambulance Services in Mid and West Wales

Q4 Lisa Francis: Will the First Minister make a statement on ambulance services in mid and west Wales? OAQ0360(FM)

The First Minister: The performance of the emergency ambulance service has markedly improved during the last year, and the Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust is continuing to work with Health Commission Wales to secure further improvements.

Lisa Francis: You will know that there are four remaining standby stations in mid and west Wales. These are stations without 24-hour cover. Llanidloes Town Council has been instrumental in trying to get its ambulance station upgraded to one that provides 24-hour cover. Last November, town councillors were left stunned when a Health Commission Wales representative told them that if they wanted a better service, they would have to move to a better, bigger town. Health Commission Wales statistics show that just 30 per cent of calls to the ambulance service at Llanidloes and the surrounding area are responded to within eight minutes. Do you agree with the advice given by the gentleman from Health Commission Wales, or will your administration make sure that adequate funding is channelled into the ambulance service to allow 24-hour cover in mid and west Wales? Is this not a basic human right? It is not just an add-on and it is not a luxury.

The First Minister: I was not at the meeting, so it is a bit unfair to ask me whether I would have said the same thing and at the same point. I was not there, so I do not know the context in which the remarks were made. Even though you were not being entirely fair about it, you recognised the fact that five stations in mid and west Wales were upgraded to provide 24-hour cover. These stations are at Barmouth, Corwen, Llanrwst, Machynlleth and New Quay. Geographically, Corwen may be marginal in terms of the area you mentioned, but it serves large areas of rural mid Wales. The stations in Bala and

C4 Lisa Francis: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar wasanaethau ambiwlans yn y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin? OAQ0360(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae perfformiad y gwasanaeth ambiwlans brys wedi gwella'n sylweddol yn ystod y flwyddyn a aeth heibio, ac mae Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Gwasanaethau Ambiwllans Cymru yn dal i weithio gyda Chomisiwn Iechyd Cymru i sicrhau gwelliannau pellach.

Lisa Francis: Gwyddoch fod pedair gorsaf wrth gefn ar ôl yn y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin. Gorsafoedd sydd heb ddarpariaeth 24 awr yw'r rhain. Bu Cyngor Tref Llanidloes â rhan yn yr ymgais i uwchraddio'r orsaf ambiwlans sydd yno fel y bydd yn darparu gwasanaeth ddydd a nos. Fis Tachwedd diwethaf, syfrdanwyd cynghorwyr y dref pan ddywedodd cynrychiolydd o Gomisiwn Iechyd Cymru wrthynt y byddai'n rhaid iddynt symud i dref fwy a gwell os oeddent yn dymuno cael gwasanaeth gwell. Dengys ystadegau Comisiwn Iechyd Cymru mai dim ond 30 y cant o'r galwadau i'r gwasanaeth ambiwlans yn Llanidloes a'r cyffiniau yr ymatebwyd iddynt o fewn wyth munud. A ydych yn cytuno â'r cyngor a roddodd y gŵr bonheddig o Gomisiwn Iechyd Cymru, neu a wnaiff eich gweinyddiaeth sicrhau y caiff digon o arian ei ddyrannu i'r gwasanaeth ambiwlans fel y gellir cael gwasanaeth 24 awr yn y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin? Onid yw hyn yn hawl ddynol sylfaenol? Nid rhyw fanyn ychwanegol ydyw o gwbl ac nid moethusbeth ydyw.

Y Prif Weinidog: Ni fûm yn y cyfarfod hwnnw, felly braidd yn annheg yw gofyn i mi a ddywedaswn yr un peth ar yr un adeg. Nid oeddwn yno, felly ni wn am gyd-destun y sylwadau hynny. Er nad oeddech yn hollol deg yn hynny o beth, bu ichi gydnabod bod pum gorsaf yn y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin wedi'u huwchraddio fel eu bod yn cynnig darpariaeth 24 awr. Mae'r gorsafoedd hynny yn Abermaw, Corwen, Llanrwst, Machynlleth a'r Ceinewydd. Er bod Corwen, efallai, ar gyrion yr ardal y cyfeiriasoch ati, mae'n gwasanaethu rhannau helaeth o'r Canolbarth gwledig. Nid oes gwasanaeth 24

Tywyn in Meirionnydd, and in Knighton and Llanfyllin in Powys, do not have 24-hour cover because the call rate is extremely low. We all understand that point. You have to look at the general pattern—where you have very sparsely populated areas, the call rate will be low. Therefore, it is difficult to have people sitting around waiting for a call when there is an insufficient number of calls to justify their being paid.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Yr ydych yn sôn am y ffaith bod ardaloedd gwledig yn cael eu heffeithio gan nifer annigonol o alwadau i orsafoedd ambiwlans. Yn ysbyty Llanymddyfri yn fy etholaeth i, mae'r uned ar gyfer mân anafiadau bellach yn cael ei chau gyda'r nos, a dim ond un ambiwlans sydd ar gael. Os caiff yr ambiwlans hwnnw ei alw i un man, caiff fy etholwyr eu gadael heb unrhyw fath o gludiant os oes angen iddynt fynd i'r ysbyty yng Nghaerfyrddin, dros 30 milltir i ffwrdd. Er bod y galw yn isel, mae rhai cleifion mewn ardaloedd gwledig y mae angen triniaeth arnynt. Mae'r ffaith nad yw'r ambiwlans ar gael dros 24 awr yn effeithio ar y gwasanaeth a gânt ac, mewn rhai sefyllfaoedd, mae hyn yn arwain at fygythiad i'w hiechyd a'u bywydau.

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid wyf yn sôn am ardaloedd gwledig, ond ardaloedd gyda phoblogaeth fach iawn. Dylid, wrth gwrs, roi'r un flaenoriaeth i drin cleifion mewn ardaloedd gwledig ag mewn ardaloedd trefol. Mewn ardaloedd â phoblogaeth fach, nid oes llawer o alwadau, a pheth anodd yw cyfiawnhau cael gwasanaeth ambiwlans drwy'r nos a thrwy'r dydd. Mae angen rhoi clod pan fydd angen gwneud hynny, a dylid tynnu sylw at y ffaith ein bod wedi creu gwasanaeth 24 awr yn Abermo, Corwen, Llanrwst, Machynlleth a Cheinwydd ers 2003-04.

Kirsty Williams: If you were to look at a map you would see that having a 24-hour ambulance in New Quay is of little consequence to my constituents in Knighton, where they do not have access to a 24-hour ambulance. A 24-hour service is what my constituents want, it is what the local health board wants, and it is what local GPs want, but it is not what the Welsh ambulance trust

awr yn y gorsafoedd yn y Bala a Thywyn ym Meirionnydd, nac yn Nhrefyclo a Llanfyllin ym Mhowys, gan fod cyfradd y galwadau yn isel iawn. Yr ydym oll yn deall y pwynt hwnnw. Rhaid edrych ar y patrwm cyffredinol—yn achos ardaloedd tenau iawn eu poblogaeth, ceir cyfradd galwadau isel. Felly, anodd yw dadlau dros gael rhai'n eistedd yn disgwyl am alwad a nifer y galwadau heb fod yn ddigon i gyfiawnhau talu cyflog iddynt.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: You refer to the fact that rural areas are being affected by an insufficient number of calls to ambulance stations. The minor injuries unit at Llandovery hospital in my constituency is now closed at night, and the area is served by only one ambulance. If that ambulance is called to an incident, my constituents are left without any form of transport should they need to go to the hospital in Carmarthen, which means a 30-mile journey. Even though the demand is low, there are patients in rural areas who need treatment. The fact that the ambulance is not available on a 24-hour basis impacts upon the service that they receive and, in some cases, this can impact on people's health and put their lives at risk.

The First Minister: I was not talking about rural areas, but sparsely populated areas. Patients in rural areas should of course be given the same priority in terms of treatment as those in urban areas. There tends to be fewer calls in sparsely populated areas, and it is, therefore, difficult to justify having 24-hour ambulance provision. Credit should be given where it is due, and it should be noted that we have secured a 24-hour ambulance service in Barmouth, Corwen, Llanrwst, Machynlleth and New Quay since 2003-04.

Kirsty Williams: Pe byddech yn edrych ar fap, gwelech nad yw darparu ambiwlans ddydd a nos yn y Ceinwydd o fawr ddim pwys i'm hetholwyr yn Nhrefyclo, lle nad oes ambiwlans sydd ar gael ddydd a nos. Gwasanaeth 24 awr yw'r hyn y mae ar fy etholwyr ei eisiau, hynny y mae ar y bwrdd iechyd lleol ei eisiau, a hynny y mae ar y meddygon teulu lleol ei eisiau, ond nid hynny

and the Welsh Assembly Government is giving them. The vast majority of my constituents live over 25 miles from a district general hospital, and our ambulances have some of the worst response times in Wales. In treating a heart attack patient, the response time is crucial as it can mean the difference between survival and death. Is it not about time that you and your Minister for Health and Social Services woke up to the fact that rural Wales is getting a second-class ambulance service?

y mae ymddiriedolaeth ambiwlans Cymru a Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei roi iddynt. Mae'r mwyafrif llethol o'm hetholwyr yn byw dros 25 milltir o ysbyty dosbarth cyffredinol, a chan ein hambiwlsiau ni y mae rhai o'r amseroedd ymateb gwaethaf yng Nghymru. Wrth drin claf a gafodd drawiad ar y galon, mae'r amser ymateb yn hollbwysig gan y gall olygu'r gwahaniaeth rhwng byw a marw. Onid yw'n bryd i chi a'ch Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol sylweddoli bod Cymru wledig yn cael gwasanaeth ambiwlans eilradd?

2.20 p.m.

The First Minister: I will not put up with this synthetic indignation from you, talking rubbish about New Quay being a long way from Knighton, as though I did not know that. Do not put up Aunt Sallies that you know are without foundation. You want a better service and you have to recognise that we have provided a far better service by upgrading five stations in the middle of Wales. The key point in terms of providing a better service for heart attack patients may not be in having 24-hour cover but in training all of the ambulance staff to administer thrombolytic drugs when they get to the patient's house rather than those drugs being administered when the patient gets to the hospital, because that saves 25 minutes and could make the difference between life and death. We are doing that. As I understand it, mid Wales is not the last part of Wales to get thrombolytic training for paramedics, but south-east Wales. Therefore, your last point is total rubbish and your indignation is totally false and utterly synthetic.

Y Prif Weinidog: Ni oddefaf ddieter ffug o'r fath gennyh chi, a'r lol wrth ddweud bod y Ceinewydd yn bell o Drefyclo, fel pe na wyddwn hynny. Peidiwch â chynnig dadleuon y gwyddoch nad oes sail iddynt. Yr ydych am gael gwell gwasanaeth a rhaid ichi gydnabod ein bod wedi darparu gwasanaeth sydd yn well o lawer drwy uwchraddio pum gorsaf yng nghanol Cymru. Mae'n bosibl nad darpariaeth 24 awr yw'r peth allweddol o ran cynnig gwell gwasanaeth i gleifion a gafodd drawiad ar y galon ond hyfforddi holl staff yr ambiwlansiau i roi cyffuriau thrombolytig pan gyrhaeddant dŷ'r claf yn hytrach na rhoi'r cyffuriau hynny pan yw'r claf yn cyrraedd yr ysbyty, gan fod hynny'n arbed 25 munud a gallai olygu'r gwahaniaeth rhwng byw a marw. Yr ydym yn gwneud hynny. Yn ôl yr hyn yr wyf yn ei ddeall, nid y Canolbarth yw'r rhan olaf o Gymru sy'n cael hyfforddiant thrombolytig ar gyfer parameddygon, ond y De-ddwyrain. Felly, mae'r pwynt olaf a wnaethoch yn nonsens pur ac mae eich dieter yn gwbl annilys ac yn hollol ffug.

Kirsty Williams: Tell that to—

Kirsty Williams: Dywedwch hynny wrth—

The Presiding Officer: Order.

Y Llywydd: Trefn.

Question 5 OAQ0355(FM) has been withdrawn.

Tynnwyd cwestiwn 5 OAQ0355(FM) yn ôl.

Breast Cancer Facilities Cyfleusterau Canser y Fron

Q6 Sandy Mewies: What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to ensure that all women in Wales have equal access to

C6 Sandy Mewies: Beth y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod yr un cyfleusterau i brofi am ganser y fron ar

breast cancer testing facilities?
 OAQ0348(FM)

gael i bob merch yng Nghymru?
 OAQ0348(FM)

The First Minister: We have set a target that, by December 2006, all cancer patients should be seen within the waiting-times standards for the start of definitive treatment.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydym wedi gosod targed ar gyfer mis Rhagfyr 2006 sydd yn nodi y dylai'r holl gleifion canser gael eu gweld yn unol â'r safonau amseroedd aros ar gyfer dechrau cael triniaeth benodol.

Sandy Mewies: While I congratulate the north Wales breast cancer screening unit on detecting more than 5,000 cases of cancer since its inception, there is still a need for more radiologists and radiographers. I am aware that, since 1999, important progress has been made in increasing numbers of staff but there is still a problem. What action is the Welsh Assembly Government taking to address this shortfall?

Sandy Mewies: Er fy mod yn llongyfarch uned sgrinio canser y fron y Gogledd ar ddarganfod mwy na 5,000 o achosion o ganser ers ei sefydlu, mae angen rhagor o radiolegwyr a radiograffwyr o hyd. Gwn fod cynnydd mawr wedi bod, ers 1999, o ran cynyddu nifer y staff ond mae problem o hyd. Pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn eu cymryd i ymdrin â'r prinder hwn?

The First Minister: You are right that radiographers, and, in particular, radiologists, are in short supply because, for some reason, medical students have ceased to see that as a glamorous profession to go into. We do not know why it is, but there has been a big fall off in the number of medical students choosing that profession when they finish their training as doctors. Conversely, Germany has many unemployed qualified radiologists. As things stand, there is a problem in north Wales in terms of moving towards the new standard that we propose as regards women being brought in for routine screening up to the age of 70, which will be a major advance in Wales. However, we still expect that north Wales will be able to do that by 31 March 2006, a year from now.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydych yn iawn wrth ddweud bod radiograffwyr, a radiolegwyr yn benodol, yn brin, oherwydd, am ryw reswm, nid yw myfyrwyr meddygol bellach yn ystyried hynny'n broffesiwn deniadol. Ni wyddom beth yw'r rheswm dros hynny, ond bu gostyngiad mawr yn nifer y myfyrwyr meddygol sy'n dewis y proffesiwn hwnnw ar ôl cwblhau eu hyfforddiant fel meddygon. Mewn cyferbyniad â hynny, ceir llawer o radiolegwyr cymwysedig di-waith yn yr Almaen. Fel y mae pethau, mae problem yn y Gogledd o ran symud tuag at y safon newydd a gynigiwn mewn cysylltiad â sgrinio menywod yn rheolaidd hyd nes y byddant yn 70 oed, a fydd yn gam mawr ymlaen yng Nghymru. Er hynny, yr ydym yn dal i ddisgwyl y bydd modd gwneud hynny yn y Gogledd ymhen blwyddyn, erbyn 31 Mawrth 2006.

David Melding: I am sure that you will agree that it is essential that all breast cancer patients see a consultant within a short time, even if they are not regarded as being serious cases at that stage. Some people are waiting an inordinate time at the moment and suffer great mental anguish.

David Melding: Yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunwch ei bod yn hollbwysig y bydd yr holl gleifion y mae canser y fron arnynt yn cael gweld ymgynghorydd o fewn cyfnod byr, hyd yn oed os bernir ar y pryd nad yw eu hachosion yn rhai difrifol. Mae rhai pobl yn disgwyl llawer gormod o amser ar hyn o bryd ac yn dioddef poen meddwl mawr.

The First Minister: That is a problem. We introduced a new policy whereby we came away from the formal standard of, I think, seeing a consultant within 10 days if the referral was marked as urgent, in favour of a

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae hynny'n broblem. Cyflwynasom bolisi newydd fel ein bod yn rhoi'r gorau i'r drefn safonol ffurfiol o gael gweld ymgynghorydd cyn pen 10 niwrnod, yr wyf yn credu, os oedd yr atgyfeiriad wedi'i

standard of two months to the commencement of treatment. So that concentrates not so much on how quickly you get to see the consultant for the first time, but on how long it takes you to get from general practitioner referral to consultation and to the commencement of treatment. However, we accept that some people get referred as non-urgent, and therefore fall behind in the queue, who are part of the small minority that should probably have been marked as urgent but were not because their symptoms were not typical. They will then have a guarantee of treatment starting within a month of seeing the consultant because they will have seen the consultant later.

Lorraine Barrett: Cancer diagnosis at any age is frightening but for teenagers it is even more difficult to come to terms with. Will you give your support to the Teenage Cancer Trust, which has an exhibition in the milling area today, and will you encourage all Members to pick up one of its leaflets?

The First Minister: You are right. It does not happen often, but, when it does, it is totally traumatic because it is so unexpected. I commend those who work with teenagers who are afflicted in this way and their families to try to help them to access the right treatment and to overcome the trauma that happens on discovering the diagnosis.

nodi'n un brys, ac yn troi at drefn safonol o ddau fis tan ddechrau'r driniaeth. Felly nid yw hynny'n canolbwyntio'n cymaint ar ba mor fuan y gwelwch yr ymgynghorydd am y tro cyntaf, ond yn hytrach ar faint o amser y mae'n ei gymryd ichi fynd o'r atgyfeiriad gan ymarferwr cyffredinol at yr ymgynghoriad ac at ddechrau'r driniaeth. Fodd bynnag, derbyniwn fod rhai'n cael eu hatgyfeirio heb nodi bod eu hachos yn un brys a'u bod yn disgwyl yn hwy o'r herwydd, a hwythau'n rhan o'r lleiafrif bach y dylai eu hachosion fod wedi'u nodi'n rhai brys, yn ôl pob tebyg, ond na chawsant eu nodi felly am nad oedd eu symptomau'n nodweddiadol. Wedyn cânt warrant y bydd y driniaeth yn dechrau cyn pen mis ar ôl gweld yr ymgynghorydd gan y byddant wedi gweld yr ymgynghorydd yn hwytrach.

Lorraine Barrett: Mae canfod bod canser ar rywun yn peri braw mewn unrhyw oedran ond mae'n anos byth i rai yn eu harddegau ddygymod â hynny. A wnewch roi eich cefnogaeth i Ymddiriedolaeth Canser y Glasoed, sydd ag arddangosfa yn y neuadd heddiw, ac a wnewch annog yr holl Aelodau i godi un o'i thafleenni?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydych yn iawn. Nid yw'n digwydd yn aml, ond, pan ddigwydd, mae'n beth trawmatig dros ben gan ei fod mor annisgwyl. Canmolaf y rhai sydd yn gweithio gyda rhai yn eu harddegau sydd yn dioddef fel hyn a chyda'u teuluoedd i geisio eu helpu i gael y driniaeth briodol ac i ddod dros y trawma sy'n digwydd wrth gael gwybod beth yw'r diagnosis.

Waiting Time Targets Targedau Amserau Aros

C7 Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Ieuan Wyn Jones): A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar dargedau amserau aros? OAQ0352(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Bydd y targedau newydd ar gyfer 2005-06 yn sicrhau na fydd neb yn aros mwy na 12 mis am apwyntiad fel claf mewnol neu glaf allanol erbyn Mawrth 2006. Yn 2007, y targed ar gyfer amseroedd aros i gleifion allanol a cheifion mewnol fydd 16 mis, ac yn 2009, cyfanswm yr amser aros, rhwng cyfeirio gan y meddyg teulu, a'r

Q7 The Leader of the Opposition (Ieuan Wyn Jones): Will the First Minister make a statement on waiting-time targets? OAQ0352(FM)

The First Minister: New targets for 2005-06 will ensure that, by March 2006, no patient will wait longer than 12 months for an out-patient or in-patient appointment. In 2007, the target for in-patient and out-patient waiting times will be 16 months, and in 2009, the total waiting time, from a GP referral to treatment, will be six months, including, for

driniaeth, fydd chwe mis, yn cynnwys, am y tro cyntaf, aros am brofion diagnostig neu therapi.

the first time, waits for any diagnostic tests or therapy.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Fel yr amlinelloch, cyhoeddwyd y targedau hyn ers 17 Mawrth. Fodd bynnag, er ichi eu hamlinellu heddiw, yr ydym i gyd yn gwybod bod y targedau newydd hyn yn golygu bod cleifion yng Nghymru yn dal i ddisgwyl yn hirach na chleifion yn Lloegr. Hyd yn oed os cyrhaeddwch eich targed, fel y dywedoch, bydd cleifion yng Nghymru yn disgwyl am chwe mis yn 2009, tra bydd cleifion yn Lloegr yn disgwyl am 18 wythnos yn 2008. Onid yw hyn yn golygu, Brif Weinidog, eich bod yn trin cleifion yng Nghymru fel dinasyddion eilradd?

Ieuan Wyn Jones: As you outlined, these targets have been announced since 17 March. However, although you have outlined them today, we all know that these new targets mean that patients in Wales will still be waiting longer than patients in England. Even if you achieve the targets, as you said, patients in Wales will wait for six months in 2009, while patients in England will wait for 18 weeks in 2008. Does this not mean, First Minister, that you are treating patients in Wales as second-class citizens?

Y Prif Weinidog: Dim o gwbl. Rhaid ichi gofio bod ein hamseroedd aros cleifion allanol yn chwyddo o ryw 50 y cant o gymharu â Lloegr gan ein bod yn cyfrif—yn wahanol i Loegr—pan gaiff pobl eu hatgyfeirio o un ymgynghorydd at y llall. Dim ond y cleifion hynny sy'n cael eu hatgyfeirio o feddyg teulu at ymgynghorydd sy'n cael eu cyfrif fel cleifion allanol yn Lloegr. Felly, os ystyriwch y ffactor hwnnw, nid oes gwahaniaeth sylweddol rhwng ein targedau a thargedau'r Ysgrifennydd dros Iechyd yn Lloegr.

The First Minister: Not at all. You must remember that our out-patient waiting lists are increased by some 50 per cent compared with England because we count—in contrast to England—when people are referred from one consultant to another. It is only those patients who are referred from a GP to a consultant who are counted as out-patients in England. Therefore, if you consider that factor, there is no significant difference between our targets and the targets of the Secretary of State for Health in England.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: That would not account for the enormous disparity between waiting lists in Wales and England, but we will return to that in a moment. In an earlier question, you answered on the issue of breast cancer. You know perfectly well that the Department of Health in England recently stated that by 2008 every woman suffering from breast cancer will be seen by a consultant within 14 days of being seen by a GP. The same will apply to patients who suffer from suspected bowel cancer. Will you make the same commitment for patients in Wales, and, if not, why?

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Ni fyddai hynny'n egluro'r gwahaniaeth aruthrol rhwng y rhestrau aros yng Nghymru a'r rhai yn Lloegr, ond deawn yn ôl at hynny mewn eiliad. Mewn cwestiwn cynharach, rhesoch ateb ar fater canser y fron. Gwyddoch yn iawn fod yr Adran Iechyd yn Lloegr wedi datgan yn ddiweddar y bydd pob menyw sydd yn dioddef gan ganser y fron, erbyn 2008, yn cael ei gweld gan ymgynghorydd cyn pen 14 diwrnod ar ôl cael ei gweld gan feddyg teulu. Bydd yr un peth yn berthnasol i gleifion yr amheuir bod canser y coluddion arnynt. A wnewch yr un ymrwymiad ar gyfer cleifion yng Nghymru, ac, os na wnewch, pam?

The First Minister: I take you back to your use of the word 'enormous' when describing the disparity. You did not support that with any facts. I told you why there were no significant differences whatsoever between

Y Prif Weinidog: Af â chi'n ôl at eich defnydd o'r gair 'aruthrol' wrth ddisgrifio'r gwahaniaeth. Ni roesoch ddim ffeithiau i ategu hynny. Dywedais wrthy ch pam nad oedd gwahaniaethau o bwys rhwng

the waiting-list targets for 2008 in England and 2009 in Wales. However, rather than trying to rebut that in any way, or provide any supporting evidence, you simply chuck in the word 'enormous'. As regards the second part of your question, we recently announced targets, on which we said, based on medical evidence and professional views, that it was more important to emphasise the treatment of cancers and how quickly a patient receives treatment, rather than how quickly he or she sees a consultant, if the symptoms, family history or other circumstances do not indicate urgency. While accepting that, occasionally, the designation of a referral as non-urgent can be wrong, we have emphasised treatment. If you compare what we are offering with what England is offering, it is different, but we are emphasising access to treatment within two months of GP referral, if that referral is marked urgent, by 2006. I understand that England is not offering such a guarantee by 2006; it is concentrating on 2008, and it is referring to all referrals, including those marked non-urgent. There will be arguments on both sides, but I do not believe that anyone in the field would regard what we are offering as being in any way inferior to what England is offering.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: That is a matter upon which patients must reach a judgment in a few days' time. However, let me return to your assertion that there is no great disparity between waiting lists in Wales and in England. I said that I would return to that issue, but you obviously chose, for your own reasons, to ignore that. Let me tell you what the difference is. In Wales, 300,000 people are on a waiting list—that is 10 per cent of the population. In England, 6 per cent of the population are on a waiting list. That is an enormous disparity. If English waiting lists were the same as in Wales, hundreds of thousands more people would be on waiting lists. You know perfectly well that England has been meeting its targets, but we have not been meeting them in Wales. I will quote a target that you, as First Minister, gave. In June 2000, you said that by March 2001 in-patient waiting list numbers would be down

targedau'r rhestrau aros ar gyfer 2008 yn Lloegr a'r rhai ar gyfer 2009 yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, yn hytrach na cheisio gwrthbrofi hynny mewn rhyw fodd, neu gynnig tystiolaeth ategol, y cwbl a wnaethoch oedd taflu'r gair 'aruthrol' i mewn. Gyda golwg ar ail ran eich cwestiwn, cyhoeddasom dargedau'n ddiweddar, gan ddweud amdanynt, ar sail tystiolaeth feddygol a barn broffesiynol, ei bod yn bwysicach rhoi sylw i'r dull o drin canserau a pha mor fuan y mae claf yn cael triniaeth, yn hytrach na pha mor fuan y bydd yn gweld ymgynghorydd, os nad yw'r symptomau, yr hanes teuluol neu amgylchiadau eraill yn dangos bod yr achos yn un brys. Er ein bod yn derbyn y gellir camgymryd, weithiau, wrth nodi nad yw achos y claf a atgyfeirir yn un brys, yr ydym wedi rhoi pwys ar driniaeth. Os cymharwch yr hyn a gynigiwn ni a'r hyn y mae Lloegr yn ei gynnig, gwelwch ei fod yn wahanol, ond yr ydym yn rhoi pwys ar ddarparu triniaeth cyn pen dau fis ar ôl atgyfeiriad gan feddyg teulu, os nodir bod yr atgyfeiriad hwnnw'n un brys, erbyn 2006. Deallaf nad yw Lloegr yn cynnig gwarant o'r fath erbyn 2006; mae'n canolbwyntio ar 2008, ac mae'n cyfeirio at yr holl atgyfeiriadau, gan gynnwys y rhai sydd heb eu nodi'n rhai brys. Ceir dadleuon ar y ddwy ochr, ond ni chredaf neb sydd yn y maes hwn a ystyriai fod yr hyn a gynigiwn yn israddol mewn unrhyw fodd i'r hyn y mae Lloegr yn ei gynnig.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Mae hynny'n fater y bydd yn rhaid i gleifion farnu yn ei glych ymhen ychydig ddyddiau. Fodd bynnag, gadewch imi fynd yn ôl at eich haerriad i'r perwyl nad oes gwahaniaeth mawr rhwng y rhestrau aros yng Nghymru a'r rhai yn Lloegr. Dywedais y deawn yn ôl at y mater hwnnw, ond mae'n amlwg eich bod wedi dewis anwybyddu hynny, am fod gennych eich rhesymau eich hun dros wneud hynny. Gadewch imi ddweud wrthy ch beth yw'r gwahaniaeth. Yng Nghymru, mae 300,000 o bobl ar restr aros—sef 10 y cant o'r boblogaeth. Yn Lloegr, mae 6 y cant o'r boblogaeth ar restr aros. Mae hynny'n wahaniaeth aruthrol. Pe byddai'r rhestrau aros yn Lloegr yr un fath â'r rhai yng Nghymru, byddai cannoedd o filoedd yn rhagor o bobl ar restrau aros. Gwyddoch yn iawn fod Lloegr wedi bod yn cyrraedd ei thargedau, ond nid ydym wedi bod yn eu

to 65,500.

cyrraedd yng Nghymru. Dyfynnaf darged a roesoeh chi, a chithau'n brif Weinidog. Ym mis Mehefin 2000, dywedasoeh y byddai'r niferoedd ar restrau aros i gleifion mewmol wedi gostwng, erbyn mis Mawrth 2001, i 65,500.

2.30 p.m.

Do you know how many are waiting today? Sixty-seven thousand people. You have missed your target by over five years. Every one of those years has meant an increase in your waiting lists. In England, they have decreased; you know that as well as anyone.

A wyddoch faint o bobl sy'n aros heddiw? Chwe deg saith o filoedd o bobl. Yr ydych wedi methu â chyrraedd eich targed o fwy na phum mlynedd. Mae pob un o'r blynyddoedd hynny wedi golygu cynnydd yn eich rhestrau aros. Yn Lloegr, maent wedi lleihau; fe wyddoch hynny cystal â neb.

Given that we cannot be satisfied that you will keep to these targets, are you now prepared to have the waiting-list targets that you have announced independently validated? We want an answer to that question because, otherwise, we will see these targets for what they are—a political stunt just before an election.

O ystyried na allwn fod yn sicr y byddwch yn cadw at y targedau hyn, a ydych bellach yn barod i'r targedau rhestr aros a gyhoeddwyd gennych gael eu dilysu yn annibynnol? Yr ydym eisiau ateb i'r cwestiwn hwn neu, fel arall, byddwn yn gweld beth yw'r targedau hyn mewn gwirionedd— stýnt wleidyddol cyn etholiad.

The First Minister: That is a long-winded load of garbage, if I can put it that way politely. You have rebutted what I said earlier when I criticised your addition of the word 'enormous' to the disparity between our waiting lists in 2008-09, which is what we were talking about. You said that you had come back to that, but you have not; you have simply changed the terms to today's waiting-list position or the one in 2001. I rebut your use of the phrase enormous. It is misleading and you should withdraw it; it is cobblers and absolute rubbish with no scientific basis.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae hynny'n nonsens hirwyntog llwyr, os gallaf ei roi felly yn gwrtais. Yr ydych wedi gwrthod yr hyn a ddywedais yn gynharach pan feirnedais y modd yr oeddech yn ychwanegu'r gair 'aruthrol' at y gwahaniaeth rhwng ein rhestrau aros yn 2008-09, sef yr hyn yr oeddem yn siarad amdano. Dywedasoeh eich bod wedi dod yn ôl at hynny, ond nid ydych; y cyfan yr ydych wedi'i wneud yw newid y geiriad ar gyfer sefyllfa'r rhestr aros fel y mae heddiw, neu yn 2001. Yr wyf yn ymwrthod â'ch defnydd o'r gair aruthrol. Mae'n gamarweiniol a dylech ei dynnu'n ôl; lol a nonsens llwyr ydyw heb ddim sail wyddonol iddo.

On our progress on waiting lists, the number waiting over 18 months for in-patient treatment in February 2003 was 5,392; it has now decreased to 368. That is roughly 6 per cent of where it was two years ago— [Interruption.]

Yng nghyswllt ein cynnydd gyda'r rhestrau aros, y nifer a oedd yn aros dros 18 mis am driniaeth fel cleifion mewmol yn Chwefror 2003 oedd 5,392; mae wedi gostwng i 368 erbyn hyn. Mae hynny tua 6 y cant o'r hyn ydoedd ddwy flynedd yn ôl— [Torri ar draws.]

The Presiding Officer: Order. I will not allow the leader of the opposition to shout from a sedentary position. He has already been allowed to ask a number of supplementary questions.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Ni chaniatâf i arweinydd yr wrthblaid weiddi ar ei eistedd. Mae eisoes wedi cael gofyn nifer o gwestiynau atodol.

The First Minister: He does not like to hear the facts.

In February 2003, the number of people waiting 12 months for in-patient treatment was 12,383—that is a fact. Now that figure is 3,555, which is around a quarter of the 2003 figure. The out-patient waiting list for those waiting over 18 months has decreased from 11,708 in 2003 to 3,381—roughly 25 per cent of the 2003 figure. We are making good progress and will continue to do so.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: You have not answered my question. Did you not make a statement in a press release on 7 June 2000 that the waiting list for in-patient treatment would decrease to 65,000 people? Will you apologise to the people of Wales because now, five years later, that figure is 67,000? Admit that you have missed your target.

The First Minister: I do not have that piece of paper in front of me. What I can repeat is the excellent progress being made on reducing the long waiting times to around 7 per cent of what they were two years ago between February 2003 and February 2005. The figure is now 368. We will be switching that over to in-patients waiting over 12 months. We intended not to have anyone waiting over 12 months at the end of the year that has just come to an end. We will go on to bring down out-patient waits by 31 March so that no-one is waiting over 12 months without receiving a second offer guarantee, and 16 months in total; however, that is exclusive of diagnostic waits. By 2009, the target will be six months, inclusive of diagnostic waits. That is extremely good progress. We have already made good progress and we know what we are doing, which is why there is a sharp downward trajectory in waiting lists. However, we are not complacent because that decrease needs to continue over the next two to three years.

The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives (Nick Bourne): As we have got closer to the election, the First Minister has increasingly questioned the statistics. He never used to do

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid yw'n hoffi clywed y ffeithiau.

Yn Chwefror 2003, yr oedd 12,383 o bobl yn aros 12 mis am driniaeth fel cleifion mewnol—mae hynny'n ffaith. Erbyn hyn, mae'r ffigur yn 3,555, sydd tua chwarter y ffigur yn 2003. Mae rhestr aros y cleifion allanol sy'n aros dros 18 mis wedi lleihau o 11,708 yn 2003 i 3,381—tua 25 y cant o'r ffigur yn 2003. Yr ydym yn gwneud cynnydd da a byddwn yn parhau i wneud hynny.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Nid ydych wedi ateb fy nghwestiwn. Oni ddywedasoch mewn datganiad i'r wasg ar 7 Mehefin 2000 y byddai'r rhestr aros ar gyfer trin cleifion mewnol yn lleihau i 65,000 o bobl? A wnewch ymddiheuro i bobl Cymru am fod y ffigur hwnnw, bum mlynedd yn ddiweddarach, yn 67,000? Pam na wnewch gyfaddef eich bod wedi methu cyrraedd eich targed?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid yw'r darn papur hwnnw gennyf o'm blaen. Yr hyn y gallaf ei ailadrodd yw'r cynnydd gwych sy'n cael ei wneud gyda lleihau'r amseroedd aros hir i tua 7 y cant o'r hyn oeddent ddwy flynedd yn ôl rhwng Chwefror 2003 a Chwefror 2005. Mae'r ffigur bellach yn 368. Byddwn yn troi wedyn at gleifion mewnol sy'n aros dros 12 mis. Ein bwriad oedd peidio â chael neb yn aros dros 12 mis erbyn diwedd y flwyddyn sydd newydd ddod i ben. Byddwn yn parhau i leihau arosiadau gan gleifion allanol erbyn 31 Mawrth fel na fydd neb yn aros dros 12 mis heb dderbyn gwarant ail gynnig, a 16 mis ar y mwyaf; fodd bynnag, nid yw hynny'n cynnwys arosiadau diagnostig. Erbyn 2009, bydd y targed yn chwe mis, gan gynnwys arosiadau diagnostig. Mae hynny'n gynydd ardderchog. Yr ydym eisoes wedi gwneud cynnydd da a gwyddom beth yr ydym yn ei wneud, a dyma'r rheswm pam y mae rhestrau aros yn lleihau'n sydyn a chyson. Er hynny, nid ydym yn hunanfodlon am fod angen i'r lleihad hwnnw barhau dros y ddwy neu dair blynedd nesaf.

Arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru (Nick Bourne): Wrth inni nesáu at yr etholiad, mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi cwestiynu'r ystadegau fwyfwy. Ni fyddai byth yn gwneud

that. Last week, he questioned the basis on which they used to be prepared in Wales, now he is questioning the basis on which they are prepared in England, as if there is no comparison. Let me take you back to something that you said, which is clearly on the record. In your manifesto in 1999, you promised that no-one would have to wait over six months for out-patient treatment in a Welsh hospital. There are currently over 60,000 people waiting longer than six months. More than 18,000 people are waiting a year and more than 3,000 people are waiting 18 months. Is it not appropriate for you to apologise to those people?

The First Minister: I do not question the statistics; I have just been reading them out. It was the leader of the opposition who did not seem to enjoy hearing the statistics. There is a clear difference between how out-patient statistics are counted in England and in Wales. If you do not agree with me, please write to the Secretary of State for Health or to Brian Gibbons or to the two respective statisticians and they will be able to explain that I am in no way trying to draw on this; it is a simple statement of fact—in England, they do not include referrals from consultant to consultant in the waiting lists, and we do.

We understand that that swells our out-patient waiting list statistic by about 50 per cent. That is a fact. I am not questioning statistics because an election is coming up; I have said it before on many occasions. What seems to have caught you on the hop in recent months is the fact that it has been put to me that out-patient waiting-list statistics were not kept in a systematic fashion when we inherited the situation in 1999. If you think that I invented this, I am sorry, Nick; you obviously feel that that is shooting your fox in some way. It is not about that at all—that is what was put to me by the people involved in collecting statistics in Wales. They said that it was not done systematically at an out-patient level in 1999. We cracked that problem by approximately 2000-01. That is a plain statement of fact. I did not invent that—I would not have thought of it—that is what was put to us by those running the health service in Wales. I am terribly sorry

hynny. Yr wythnos diwethaf, cwestiynodd y sail yr arferid eu paratoi arni yng Nghymru, ac erbyn hyn mae'n cwestiynu'r sail y paratoir hwy arni yn Lloegr, fel pe na bai dim cymhariaeth. Gadewch imi fynd â chi yn ôl at rywbeth a ddywedaso, sydd wedi'i gofnodi'n glir. Yn eich maniffesto yn 1999, addawsoch na fyddai'n rhaid i neb aros dros chwe mis am driniaeth fel claf allanol mewn ysbyty yng Nghymru. Ar hyn o bryd, mae dros 60,000 o bobl yn aros yn hwy na chwe mis. Mae mwy na 18,000 o bobl yn aros blwyddyn a rhagor na 3,000 o bobl yn aros 18 mis. Onid yw'n briodol ichi ymddiheuro i'r bobl hynny?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid wyf yn cwestiynu'r ystadegau; yr wyf newydd eu darllen allan. Arweinydd yr wrthblaid oedd fel pe na bai'n mwynhau gwranddo ar yr ystadegau. Mae gwahaniaeth clir rhwng sut y mae ystadegau cleifion allanol yn cael eu cyfrif yn Lloegr ac yng Nghymru. Os nad ydych yn cytuno â mi, gallwch ysgrifennu ar bob cyfrif at yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Iechyd neu at Brian Gibbons neu at ystadegydd y naill neu'r llall a byddant yn gallu esbonio ichi nad wyf yn ceisio defnyddio hyn mewn modd yn y byd; ffaith syml ydyw—yn wahanol i ni yng Nghymru, nid yw Lloegr yn cynnwys ar y rhestrau aros achosion sy'n cael eu hatgyfeirio gan un ymgynghorydd at un arall.

Deallwn fod hynny'n chwyddo ystadegau ein rhestr aros ar gyfer cleifion allanol o tua 50 y cant. Mae hynny'n ffaith. Nid wyf yn cwestiynu'r ystadegau am fod etholiad ar y gorwel; yr wyf wedi dweud hyn droeon o'r blaen. Yr hyn sydd, i bob golwg, wedi eich dal ar y gamfa yn y misoedd diwethaf yw'r ffaith imi gael gwybod nad oedd ystadegau'r rhestr aros ar gyfer cleifion allanol yn cael eu cadw'n drefnus pan etifeddasom y sefyllfa yn 1999. Os ydych yn credu fy mod wedi dyfeisio hyn oll, mae'n flin gennyf, Nick; yr ydych yn amlwg yn teimlo bod hyn wedi saethu eich cadno mewn rhyw fodd. Nid mater felly ydyw o gwbl—cefais wybod hyn gan y bobl sy'n casglu ystadegau yng Nghymru. Yn ôl y bobl hyn, ni wnaethpwyd hyn yn systematig ar lefel cleifion allanol yn 1999. Yr oeddem wedi datrys y broblem honno erbyn tua 2000-01. Mae hynny'n ffaith. Ni ddyfeisiais hynny—ni fyddwn wedi meddwl hyd yn oed am y peth—cawsom

that it is inconvenient for you. You obviously feel badly hurt because you have lost your little football to play with. I am terribly sorry, Nick; you will have to find another football.

Nick Bourne: There is a football in the back of the net. Will you apologise to the 60,000 people whom you told in 1999 would not be on a waiting list? You have not responded to that part of the question. You have blamed everyone—opposition politicians, the media and now you blame the statisticians. When they look at the Record, people will know who is really rattled. You know that this is your vulnerable front, and that the waiting-list position is in a mess. You said in 1998 that Nye Bevan would be revolving in his grave if the position got worse. People must be deafened by the revolutions by now. Will you answer the part of the question about the 60,000 people on a waiting list, whom you said should not be?

The First Minister: I am terribly sorry that you want your football so badly that you will not recognise the improvement that we have seen in long waits. I will repeat the figures, so that the position is clear. You say that it is getting worse, and I am saying it is getting better, because the statistics clearly say so. The number of patients waiting over 18 months for in-patient treatment two years ago was 5,392, and the figure is now 363. [*Interruption.*]

The Presiding Officer: Order.

The First Minister: They do not like the facts or the figures, because they have lost their political football. That is what this is all about. Out-patient waiting lists over 18 months— [*Interruption.*]

The Presiding Officer: Order. If Rhodri Glyn Thomas persists in shouting, I shall have to eject him from the congregation.

The First Minister: There were 11,708 patients waiting over 18 months in February

wybod hyn oll gan y bobl sy'n rhedeg y gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru. Mae'n flin iawn gennyf nad yw hynny'n hwylus i chi. Yr ydych yn amlwg wedi eich clwyfo'r fawr oherwydd eich bod wedi colli eich pêl-droed ac na allwch chwarae rhagor. Mae'n ddrwg iawn gennyf, Nick, bydd yn rhaid ichi ddod o hyd i bêl-droed arall.

Nick Bourne: Mae pêl-droed eisoes yng nghefn y rhwyd. A wnewch ymddiheuro i'r 60,000 o bobl y dywedasoch wrthynt yn 1999 na fyddai'n rhaid iddynt fod ar restr aros? Nid ydych wedi ateb y rhan honno o'r cwestiwn. Yr ydych wedi beio pawb— gwleidyddion yr wrthblaid, y cyfryngau ac, yn awr, yr ystadegwyr. Pan fyddant yn darllen y Cofnod, bydd pawb yn gwybod pwy sydd wedi cynhyrfu fwyaf. Gwyddoch mai dyma eich man gwan, a bod sefyllfa'r rhestrau aros yn llanastr llwyr. Dywedasoch yn 1998 y byddai Nye Bevan yn troi yn ei fedd pe bai'r sefyllfa yn gwaethygu. Rhaid bod pobl yn cael eu byddaru gan yr holl droi erbyn hyn. A wnewch ateb y rhan o'r cwestiwn am y 60,000 o bobl ar y rhestr aros na ddylent fod yn ôl yr hyn a ddywedasoch?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'n flin iawn gennyf eich bod yn gweld eisiau eich pêl-droed gymaint fel na wnewch gydnabod y gwelliannau a fu o ran arosiadau hir. Ailadroddaf y ffigurau, fel bod y sefyllfa yn glir. Dywedwch ei bod yn gwaethygu, a dywedaf finnau ei bod yn gwella, am fod yr ystadegau yn dweud hynny'n glir. Ddwy flynedd yn ôl, yr oedd 5,392 o gleifion yn aros dros 18 mis am driniaeth fel cleifion mewnol, ac erbyn hyn mae'r ffigur yn 363. [*Torri ar draws.*]

Y Llywydd: Trefn.

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid ydynt yn hoffi'r ffeithiau na'r ffigurau, am eu bod wedi colli eu pêl-droed wleidyddol. Dyna yw hyn. Mae rhestrau ar gyfer cleifion allanol yn aros dros 18 mis— [*Torri ar draws.*]

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Os bydd Rhodri Glyn Thomas yn mynnu gweiddi eto, bydd yn rhaid imi ei daflu allan o'r cynulliad.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr oedd 11,708 o gleifion yn aros dros 18 mis yn Chwefror 2003, ac

2003, and that figure is down to 3,381, which is nearly a quarter of the original figure. I fully accept that we must go a lot further, and we will make further progress towards the target of a 6-month, all up patient experience by the end of 2009, which will include diagnostic and therapy waits as well as in-patients and out-patients.

Nick Bourne: My fox has not been shot—it was a promise that you made in 1999. It was a clear promise in your manifesto. If you are not big enough to apologise, that is down to you, but it is clear that you made these promises. You know that you are vulnerable on this issue. The health service has been your big failing as an Assembly Government. There are people on waiting lists whom you promised would not be on them. Those people are on waiting lists as a direct result of your policies. You now promise that it will be magicked away, but why should people believe you now when you got it so wrong in 1999?

The First Minister: You are talking the language of political football. You love to have political footballs to play with, and you wrongly think that the national health service is a lovely political football for you. However, the facts prove otherwise. You will not recognise this; you never have a word of praise for NHS staff who have achieved this remarkable drop. In February 2005 only 7 per cent of the original number of patients who were waiting over 18 months in February 2003 were on the lists. Likewise, the figure for out-patients is down to approximately 25 per cent plus of what it was two years ago.

Nick Bourne: How dare you turn this into a question about the professionalism of NHS staff. You know very well that I have consistently praised the staff's fantastic work. I am not critical of them—I am critical of you and your Ministers and team for letting down the people of Wales. To try to pretend that this is an issue of the professionalism of NHS staff is something of which you should be deeply ashamed. What will you do to

mae'r ffigur hwnnw i lawr i 3,381, sydd bron i chwarter y ffigur gwreiddiol. Yr wyf yn derbyn yn llwyr fod gennym lawer o ffordd i fynd eto, a byddwn yn gwneud cynnydd pellach gyda'r targed o arhosiad 6 mis ar gyfer pob claf erbyn diwedd 2009, a fydd yn cynnwys arosiadau diagnostig a therapi yn ogystal â chleifion mewnol ac allanol.

Nick Bourne: Nid yw fy nghadno wedi'i saethu—addewid a wnaethoch yn 1999 ydoedd. Yr oedd yn addewid clir yn eich manifesto. Os nad ydych yn ddigon mawr i ymddiheuro, mater i chi yw hynny, ond yr hyn sy'n glir yw eich bod wedi gwneud yr addewidion hyn. Gwyddoch eich bod yn agored i niwed ar y mater hwn. Y gwasanaeth iechyd yw eich methiant mawr fel Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Mae pobl ar restrau aros a chithau wedi addo na fyddent arnynt. Mae'r bobl hyn ar restrau aros o ganlyniad uniongyrchol i'ch polisiau chi. Yr ydych yn awr yn addo y bydd hyn yn diflannu'n llwch, ond pam y dylai pobl eich credu heddiw a chithau wedi camsynied i'r fath raddau yn 1999?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydych yn siarad iaith pêl-droed wleidyddol. Yr ydych wrth eich bodd yn cael peli troed gwleidyddol i chwarae gyda hwy, ac yn cyfeiliorni wrth feddwl bod y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol yn bêl-droed wych i chwarae gyda hi. Fodd bynnag, mae'r ffeithiau yn dweud fel arall. Ni fyddwch yn cydnabod hyn; nid ydych erioed wedi canmol staff y GIG a fu'n gyfrifol am sicrhau'r gostyngiad rhyfeddol hwn. Yn Chwefror 2005, dim ond 7 y cant o'r nifer wreiddiol o gleifion a oedd yn aros dros 18 mis yn Chwefror 2003 a oedd ar y rhestrau o hyd. A'r un modd, mae'r ffigur ar gyfer cleifion allanol wedi gostwng i tua 25 y cant a rhyw fymryn o'r hyn ydoedd ddwy flynedd yn ôl.

Nick Bourne: Rhag eich cywilydd yn troi hyn yn gwestiwn ynghylch proffesiynoldeb staff y GIG. Gwyddoch yn dda fy mod wedi canmol gwaith gwych y staff yn gyson. Nid eu beirniadu hwy yr wyf—ond eich beirniadu chi a'ch Gweinidogion a'ch tîm am siomi pobl Cymru. Mae ceisio cymryd arnoch mai mater o broffesiynoldeb staff y GIG yw hyn yn rhywbeth y dylech fod â chywilydd mawr ohono. Beth a wnewch i geisio gwella

improve the lives of patients and the staff you have just maligned?

bywydau cleifion a'r staff yr ydych newydd eu pardduo?

2.40 p.m.

The First Minister: Have I maligned staff? All that I am doing is indicating their remarkable achievement, which you cannot bring yourself to praise. The facts show that there were 5,392 patients waiting over 18 months for in-patient treatment two years ago; that is now down to 368, approximately 7 per cent of the original figure. You cannot bring yourself to say what a good job has been done in bringing down those long-wait figures. The same goes for out-patient waits and the same is also happening for in-patient waits over 12 months. A remarkable amount has been achieved over the past two years, and everyone in the national health service in Wales should be praised for it. However, we have to go further than that and achieve the 16-month joint target, and then the six month all-in target, which also includes all diagnostic and therapy waits.

Y Prif Weinidog: A ydwyf wedi pardduo'r staff? Y cyfan yr wyf yn ei wneud yw nodi eu llwyddiant nodedig, rhywbeth na allwch ganmol eich hun. Dengys y ffeithiau fod 5,392 o bobl yn aros dros 18 mis am driniaeth fel cleifion mewnol ddwy flynedd yn ôl; mae'r ffigur wedi gostwng i 368 erbyn hyn, tua 7 y cant o'r ffigur gwreiddiol. Ni allwch yn eich byw ddweud pa mor dda y mae'r bobl hyn wedi gwneud i ddod â'r cyfnodau aros hir hyn i lawr. Mae'r un peth yn wir am arosiadau cleifion allanol ac mae'r un peth hefyd yn digwydd gydag arosiadau cleifion mewnol dros 12 mis. Cyflawnwyd gwaith aruthrol yn ystod y ddwy flynedd ddiwethaf, a dylid canmol pawb yn y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni fynd yn bellach na hynny a chyflawni'r targed 16 mis ar y cyd, yna'r targed chwe mis i bawb, sydd hefyd yn cynnwys pob arhosiad diagnostig a therapi.

The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrat Group (Michael German): Let us deal with a cry from the heart from the professional staff in the national health service. You will recall, First Minister, that, last week, I raised the issue of the accident and emergency unit at the University Hospital of Wales, and you reassured me that things were getting better there. The next day, I received an e-mail from a doctor, who said that things are not getting better. You promised an investigation into these matters, for which I am grateful. Rather than it being a stunt, as the Minister said, you obviously recognised that there were serious matters that needed to be dealt with. We then had the revelation from the University Hospital of Wales that 200 beds were blocked, meaning that 200 patients waiting to get into the hospital could not do so, due to the fact that the beds were blocked. I am grateful for the inquiry, First Minister, but can you tell me when it will conclude, and will you make its results and recommendations public?

Arweinydd Grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Michael German): Gadewch inni ddelio â chri o'r galon gan y staff proffesiynol yn y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol. Byddwch yn cofio, Brif Weinidog, fy mod yr wythnos diwethaf wedi codi mater yr uned ddamweiniau a brys yn Ysbyty Athrofaol Cymru, a'ch bod wedi fy sicrhau bod pethau yn gwella yno. Drannoeth, cefais e-bost gan feddyg, a ddywedodd nad oedd pethau yn gwella o gwbl. Yr oeddech wedi addo y byddech yn ymchwilio i'r materion hyn, ac yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am hynny. Yn hytrach na stŷnt, fel y dywedodd y Gweinidog, yr oeddech yn amlwg yn cydnabod bod y rhain yn faterion difrifol yr oedd angen rhoi sylw iddynt. Cawsom wybod wedyn gan Ysbyty Athrofaol Cymru fod 200 o welyau wedi eu blocio, sy'n golygu na allai 200 o gleifion a oedd yn aros i fynd i'r ysbyty wneud hynny, am fod y gwelyau wedi eu blocio. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am yr ymchwiliad, Brif Weinidog, ond a allwch ddweud wrthyf pryd y daw i ben, ac a fyddwch yn cyhoeddi'r canlyniadau a'r argymhellion?

The First Minister: I have a report of an

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae gennyf adroddiad ar

investigation into this matter by the Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust. I regret that the doctor concerned—I do not know if it was the same doctor who e-mailed you again—did not make his name public, as the trust is happy for people to make their complaints public and believes that they should talk openly about any issues that they have regarding the management of the hospital. The report indicates that some of the—how can I say—more fanciful phrases are not recognised at all.

When we read that report, we were worried by some of the highly coloured language, which did not sound like the language of a professional doctor, though you can never rule out the possibility that issues such as those arise. However, as an example, there is a reference to ‘patients in severe pain to sit on the floor in the corridor when we have even run out of chairs’. There are no reports of that in the UHW files, and the hospital does not believe that that ever happened. Likewise, a nurse allegedly saying ‘I am sorry, but I have to stop this other patient bleeding, so you will have to wee in the bed and I will help you when I can’, is thought to be highly fanciful, and never to have happened. That is an example of the highly coloured language that made people wonder if this was really a doctor, though it may well have been. There are other areas that appear to be a mixture of fact and rumour. I will have to consider, with the management of the trust, to what degree we can make this report public. I would obviously be happy to do so, but it is the trust’s decision as it has drawn up the report.

Michael German: I thank you for that, First Minister, and I hope that you will tell us in the near future, perhaps by next week, whether you can make this report public, as people need to be reassured.

The second issue that I raised with you was the trust’s response to the number of beds that are blocked, which is more worrying. The figure stands at 200 beds, which is around 10 per cent of the beds available in

ymchwiliad i’r mater hwn gan Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Caerdydd a’r Fro. Mae arnaf ofn na wnaeth y meddyg dan sylw—ni wn ai’r un meddyg ag a anfonodd e-bost atoch chi eto ydoedd—gyhoeddi ei enw, gan fod yr ymddiriedolaeth yn fodlon i bobl gyhoeddi eu cwynion ac mae’n credu y dylent siarad yn agored am unrhyw broblemau sydd ganddynt ynghylch rheolaeth yr ysbyty. Yn ôl yr adroddiad, nid yw rhai o’r ymadroddion—sut y gallaf ddweud—mwy ffansiol yn canu cloch o gwbl.

Pan ddarllenasm yr adroddiad hwnnw, yr oeddem yn poeni ynghylch yr iaith eithaf lliwgar oherwydd nid oedd yn swnio fel iaith meddyg proffesiynol, er na allwch byth ddiystyru’r posibilrwydd bod materion fel hyn yn codi. Fodd bynnag, fel enghraifft, cyfeirir at ‘gleifion mewn poen difrifol yn eistedd ar y llawr yn y coridor pan na fydd rhagor o gadeiriau hyd yn oed ar gael’. Nid oes adroddiadau ynghylch hynny yn ffeiliau Ysbyty Prifysgol Cymru, ac nid yw’r ysbyty yn credu i hynny ddigwydd erioed. Yr un modd, tybir mai eithriadol ddychmygol yw bod nyrs, yn ôl yr honiad, wedi dweud ‘Mae’n flin gennyf, ond rhaid imi atal gwaedu’r claf hwn, felly bydd yn rhaid ichi biso yn y gwely a dof atoch pan allaf’, ac na ddigwyddodd o gwbl. Mae hyn yn enghraifft o’r iaith hynod liwgar a wnaeth i bobl feddwl tybed ai meddyg ydoedd mewn gwirionedd, er y gallai fod yn hawdd. Mae cymysgedd o ffeithiau a sibrydion yn ymddangos mewn manau eraill. Bydd yn rhaid imi ystyried, gyda rheolwyr yr ymddiriedolaeth, i ba raddau y gallwn gyhoeddi’r adroddiad hwn. Byddwn yn amlwg yn fodlon gwneud hynny, ond penderfyniad yr ymddiriedolaeth fydd hynny gan fod yr adroddiad wedi’i lunio ganddynt hwy.

Michael German: Diolchaf ichi am hynny, Brif Weinidog, a gobeithiaf y byddwch yn dweud wrthym yn y dyfodol agos, efallai erbyn yr wythnos nesaf, a allwch gyhoeddi’r adroddiad hwn ai peidio, gan fod angen tawelu meddyliau pobl.

Yr ail fater a godais gyda chi oedd ymateb yr ymddiriedolaeth i nifer y gwelyau sy’n cael eu blocio, sy’n achosi mwy o bryder. Dau gant o welyau yw’r ffigur, sef tua 10 y cant o’r gwelyau sydd ar gael yn yr

the trust. If you ally that with the last figure for the Royal Gwent Hospital for the Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust area, which was 150 beds, then there appears to be a pattern. A majority in the Assembly, across all parties, voted in favour of free personal care for the elderly. Are you prepared to take that commitment forward, having seen the trite little remark made by the former Minister for Health and Social Services in a letter to the Government seeking the power to act upon the view of the National Assembly?

The First Minister: We have discussed this issue at length in terms of the value for money that comes from introducing this policy, which exists in Scotland, and costs a great deal more than they originally estimated, as your Scottish colleagues will have told you, Mike. The value-for-money criticisms of it would be even greater now than they were at the time that we considered it, which was shortly after Scotland brought it in, but before they knew how much it was going to cost.

Your linking this with the 200 beds blocked in this part of Wales, and the considerable number blocked in Newport, hides the fact that across most of Wales, in around 20 of the 22 local authorities, and certainly in Wales overall, there has been a major improvement in the delayed transfers of care, or bed blocking, problem. You will also be aware that this is not always an issue of dispute between Cardiff County Council and us over what to do about certain long-term nursing-care beds. You will be aware that there is a great deal of joint working to save the capacity at St Winifred's Hospital, which was falling apart because of the difficulty of recruiting nuns to run it, and so forth. We are working closely with Cardiff council to try to retain that nursing home capacity, because losing it would make the situation worse. However, Cardiff and possibly some of the Gwent authorities need to learn from some of the extremely good practice elsewhere in Wales, which has resulted in a big improvement in the bedblocking situation.

ymddiriedolaeth. Os cymharwch hynny â'r ffigur diwethaf ar gyfer Ysbyty Brenhinol Gwent yn ardal Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Gofal Iechyd Gwent, a oedd yn 150 o welyau, ymddengys fod patrwm yn datblygu. Pleidleisiodd mwyafrif yn y Cynulliad, ar draws yr holl bartion, o blaid gofal personol di-dâl i'r henoed. A ydych yn barod i symud ymlaen gyda'r ymrwymiad hwnnw, ar ôl gweld y sylw digon ystrydebol a wnaethpwyd gan y cyn Weinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol mewn llythyr at y Llywodraeth yn gofyn am y pŵer i weithredu ar farn y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydym wedi trafod y mater hwn yn burfaith o ran y gwerth am arian a ddaw o gyflwyno'r polisi hwn, sy'n bodoli yn yr Alban, ac sy'n costio llawer mwy na'r hyn a dybiwyd ganddynt yn wreiddiol, fel y bydd eich cyd-aelodau yn yr Alban wedi dweud wrthy, Mike. Byddai'r feirniadaeth o'i werth am arian hyd yn oed yn fwy erbyn hyn na phan oeddem yn ei ystyried, sef yn fuan ar ôl i'r Alban ei gyflwyno, ond cyn iddynt wybod faint y byddai'n ei gostio.

Mae'r ffaith eich bod yn cysylltu hyn gyda'r 200 o welyau sy'n cael eu blocio yn y rhan hon o Gymru, a'r nifer sylweddol sydd wedi eu blocio yng Nghasnewydd, yn cuddio'r ffaith bod gwelliant mawr wedi digwydd, mewn tua 20 o'r 22 awdurdod lleol, ac yn sicr yng Nghymru yn gyffredinol, yn glŷn â'r broblem o ohirio trosglwyddo gofal, neu flocio gwelyau. Byddwch hefyd yn ymwybodol nad yw hyn bob amser yn fater o anghydfod rhwng Cyngor Sir Caerdydd a ninnau ynghylch beth i'w wneud gyda rhai gwelyau gofal nyrsio hirdymor. Byddwch yn ymwybodol bod llawer iawn o weithio ar y cyd i achub y capasiti yn Ysbyty St Winifred's, a oedd yn mynd ar chwâl oherwydd yr anhawster wrth recriwtio lleianod i'w redeg, ac yn y blaen. Yr ydym yn gweithio'n agos gyda chyngor Caerdydd i geisio cadw capasiti'r cartref nyrsio hwnnw, oherwydd byddai ei golli yn gwneud y sefyllfa'n waeth. Fodd bynnag, mae angen i Gaerdydd a rhai o awdurdodau Gwent efallai ddysgu oddi wrth rai o'r arferion neilltuol o dda mewn rhannau eraill o Gymru, sydd wedi arwain at welliant mawr o ran y sefyllfa yn glŷn â blocio gwelyau.

Michael German: Of course, the trusts will tell you, particularly in the south-east Wales area of Cardiff and Gwent, that one of the biggest issues that they face in trying to improve patient care and getting people off their waiting lists is that they have beds which are occupied by people who need to leave hospital. If those patients need to leave hospital, surely we must find a way of doing that more rapidly than is being done at present. The accident and emergency unit problems in the University Hospital of Wales are being blamed on people unnecessarily occupying hospital beds. According to the trust, the whole problematic trail—from the ambulances stacked at the doors, patients waiting on trolleys in the corridors through to the unit being unable to manage and to hospital beds being unavailable—is being caused by the back end being unable to find appropriate follow-up care for patients. Do you at least agree with me that not being able to find appropriate care is causing a major problem for reducing waiting lists and getting people the proper care that they need in Wales?

The First Minister: It is not a problem in all of Wales, but it is a problem in one part of Wales, as you rightly said in your opening remarks. It is a problem in the south-east corner. However, you are wrong about the general picture, as it is getting better, but it is still sticky in this part of Wales.

The problem covers both ends. If there is an inadequate supply of nursing homes or they are closing down or are inadequately staffed, you will get a much higher attendance of nursing home residents in hospitals, because the nursing homes cannot cope. Where a nursing home cannot get a GP there to deal with chest infections and so on, it sends people to hospital in ambulances through the 999 system. This issue also applies to patients coming out of hospitals.

This is about good bed management, and I think that UHW recognises that. It is also about having a better night service and an increased number of consultants. The number of consultants at the accident and emergency

Michael German: Wrth gwrs, bydd yr ymddiriedolaethau yn dweud wrthyfych, yn enwedig yn ardal de-ddwyrain Cymru sef Caerdydd a Gwent, mai un o'r problemau mwyaf sy'n eu hwynebu wrth geisio gwella'r gofal i gleifion a chael pobl oddi ar y rhestrau aros yw bod ganddynt welyau wedi'u llenwi gan bobl y mae angen iddynt adael yr ysbyty. Os oes angen i'r cleifion hynny adael yr ysbyty, onid oes rhaid inni ganfod ffordd o wneud hynny'n gyflymach nag y mae'n cael ei wneud ar hyn o bryd. Mae'r problemau yn yr uned ddamweiniau ac achosion brys yn Ysbyty Athrofaol Cymru yn cael eu beio ar bobl sydd mewn gwelyau ysbyty yn ddianghenraid. Yn ôl yr ymddiriedolaeth, mae'r llyf o broblemau—o'r ambiwlansys niferus wrth y drysau, cleifion yn aros ar droliâu yn y coridorau hyd at fethiant yr uned i ymdopi a'r ffaith nad oes gwelyau ar gael—yn cael ei achosi am nad yw'r pen draw yn gallu dod o hyd i ofal dilynol addas i gleifion. A ydych o leiaf yn cytuno â mi fod methu dod o hyd i ofal priodol yn achosi problem fawr o ran lleihau'r rhestrau aros a sicrhau'r gofal priodol y mae ei angen arnynt i bobl yng Nghymru?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid yw'n broblem drwy Gymru gyfan, ond mae'n broblem mewn un rhan o Gymru, fel y dywedasoch yn gywir yn eich sylwadau agoriadol. Mae'n broblem yn y cornel de-ddwyrainiol. Fodd bynnag, yr ydych yn anghywir am y darlun cyffredinol, gan fod pethau'n gwella, ond mae'n dal yn anodd yn y rhan hon o Gymru.

Mae a wnelo'r broblem â'r ddau ben. Os oes cyflenwad annigonol o gartrefi nyrsio neu os ydynt yn cau neu'n cael eu staffio'n annigonol, cewch lawer mwy o breswylwyr cartrefi nyrsio mewn ysbytai, gan nad yw'r cartrefi nyrsio yn gallu ymdopi. Lle nad yw cartref nyrsio yn gallu cael meddyg teulu i ddod yno i ddelio â heintiau ar y frest ac yn y blaen, mae'n anfon pobl i'r ysbyty mewn ambiwlansys drwy'r system 999. Mae hyn yn wir hefyd am gleifion yn dod allan o'r ysbyty.

Mater o reoli gwelyau yn dda yw hyn, a chredaf fod yr Ysbyty Athrofaol yn cydnabod hynny. Mae hefyd yn fater o gael gwell gwasanaeth nos a rhagor o ymgynghorwyr. Mae nifer yr ymgynghorwyr yn yr uned

unit is being doubled from three to six. I was pleased to hear that, as it will enable the unit to cover the night better than is being done at the moment. The hospital is also opening an additional ward, which has now commenced, but I understand that it will not be fully open for another two years. However, that represents greater progress in being able to deal with acute winter pressures.

Carl Sargeant: We obviously welcome the improvement in waiting times. Would you join me in congratulating the staff in our Welsh hospitals on how they are tackling MRSA? Do you agree, First Minister, that we should deal in real health statistics and not the statistical lies relating to MRSA that had to be withdrawn, and for which an apology was issued, by the Conservative Party this week?

The First Minister: Indeed. The rate of MRSA infection is considerably lower in Wales than in England, and there is no sign of it going up either. It has been at 0.11 per cent consistently for the past four years and there is no sign of an increasing trend. I think that it is very important that there are no scare stories that could have the effect of frightening people off from going into hospital.

I commend Welsh hospitals, though there is always further to go in infection control. What I think that the Conservatives have done in bringing in this scare story about MRSA is to try to link it, unscientifically, to clean hospitals. Suppressing MRSA is much more about hand washing and hygiene, and about getting everyone to complete their course of antibiotics, especially so in the case of the new virulent epidemic strain of MRSA, which first emerged in British hospitals in about 1995 and which led to greater surveillance of MRSA. The Conservatives have confused that greater surveillance with an increase in MRSA. We have not seen an increase but rather a greater level of MRSA reporting, particularly following the instructions of health authorities that it should be noted on death certificates. It has been important to do this since the epidemic highly virulent strain arrived in Britain in about

ddamweiniau ac achosion brys yn cael ei ddyblu o dri i chwech. Yr oeddwn yn falch o glywed hynny, gan y bydd yn galluogi'r uned i ddarparu'n well dros nos nag a wneir ar hyn o bryd. Mae'r ysbyty hefyd yn agor ward ychwanegol, sydd wedi dechrau, ond deallaf na fydd ar agor yn llwyr am ddwy flynedd arall. Fodd bynnag, mae hynny'n golygu rhagor o gynnydd o ran gallu delio â phwysau trwm y gaeaf.

Carl Sargeant: Yr ydym yn amlwg yn croesawu'r gwelliant mewn amseroedd aros. A fydech yn ymuno â mi i longyfarch y staff yn ysbytai Cymru ar y ffordd y maent yn mynd i'r afael ag MRSA? A ydych yn cytuno, Brif Weinidog, y dylem ymdrin ag ystadegau iechyd gwirioneddol, nid y celwyddau ystadegol am MRSA y bu'n rhaid eu tynnu'n ôl, ac yr ymddiheurwyd amdanynt, gan y Blaid Geidwadol yr wythnos hon?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yn wir. Mae cyfradd heintiadau MRSA yn sylweddol is yng Nghymru nag yn Lloegr, ac nid oes arwydd ei bod ar gynnydd ychwaith. Bu'n 0.11 y cant yn gyson yn ystod y pedair blynedd diwethaf ac nid oes arwydd o duedd ar i fyny. Credaf ei bod yn bwysig iawn nad oes storïau brawychus a allai godi ofn ar bobl a'u rhwystro rhag mynd i'r ysbyty.

Yr wyf yn canmol ysbytai Cymru, er bod mwy i'w wneud bob amser i reoli heintiau. Yr hyn y mae'r Ceidwadwyr wedi ei wneud yn fy marn i drwy dynnu sylw at y stori frawychus hon am MRSA yw ceisio dangos dolen gyswllt rhyngddi, yn anwyddonol, ag ysbytai glân. Mae atal MRSA yn fwy o fater o olchi dwylo a hylendid, ac o gael pawb i gwblhau eu cwrs gwrthfotigau, yn enwedig felly yn achos y rhywogaeth epidemig wenwynig newydd o MRSA, a ymddangosodd gyntaf yn ysbytai Prydain oddeutu 1995 ac a arweiniodd at fwy o arolygu ar MRSA. Mae'r Ceidwadwyr wedi cymysgu rhwng yr arolygu llymach hwnnw a chynnydd mewn MRSA. Nid ydym wedi gweld cynnydd ond yn hytrach lefel uwch o gofnodi MRSA, yn enwedig yn sgîl cyfarwyddiadau'r awdurdodau iechyd y dylid ei nodi ar dystysgrifau marwolaeth. Bu'n bwysig gwneud hyn ers i'r rhywogaeth

1995.

epidemig hynod wenwynig gyrraedd Prydain tua 1995.

Plismona Cymunedol yn Wrexham
Community Policing in Wrexham

Q8 Karen Sinclair: What discussions has the Welsh Assembly Government had with local authorities on community policing in Wrexham? OAQ0342(FM)

The First Minister: We are working closely with the Wrexham Community Safety Partnership, which involves Wrexham Borough Council, to deliver local strategies to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, and community policing is integral to that. Almost £2.6 million has gone to the Wrexham Community Safety Partnership since 1999 from Assembly Government resources.

Karen Sinclair: Do you agree that, under Labour, the number and visibility of community support officers is at a record high in Wales, and are far higher than was the case under the last Tory Government? Do you also agree that, whereas the opposition parties—such as the Liberal Democrats on Wrexham County Borough Council—have blocked extra numbers of community wardens on the streets, we as an Assembly Government are committed to enhancing community safety, increasing the presence of officers and wardens, and tackling crime on our streets?

2.50 p.m.

The First Minister: Yes, indeed. There are 172 police community support officers in Wales, 33 of them in the north Wales force. They represent a major improvement in the availability of uniformed police to work with the police under police rules, although they are not fully-fledged police officers, supplemented by neighbourhood wardens who do not work under police rules and are local authority officers. They all act as the community's eyes and ears. That is one reason why, despite Conservative claims to the contrary, there is no question that the level of crime, and violent crime, has come

C8 Karen Sinclair: Pa drafodaeth a fu rhwng Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ac awdurdodau lleol ynghylch plismona cymunedol yn Wrexham? OAQ0342(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydym yn gweithio'n agos gyda Phartneriaeth Diogelwch Cymunedol Wrexham, sy'n cynnwys Cyngor Bwrdeistref Wrexham, i roi strategaethau lleol ar waith i ostwng lefel troseddu ac ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol, ac mae plismona cymunedol yn rhan annatod o hynny. Mae bron i £2.6 miliwn wedi mynd i Bartneriaeth Diogelwch Cymunedol Wrexham ers 1999 o adnoddau Llywodraeth y Cynulliad.

Karen Sinclair: A ydych yn cytuno, o dan Lafur, fod nifer y swyddogion cefnogi cymunedau yn uwch nag erioed yng Nghymru, ac yn llawer uwch nag o dan y Llywodraeth Dori'aid ddiwethaf, a'u bod yn amlycach nag erioed? A ydych yn cytuno hefyd, tra bo'r gwrthbleidiau—megis y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol ar Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Wrexham—wedi atal cael rhagor o wardeiniaid cymunedol ar y strydoedd, ein bod ni fel Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi ymrwymo i wella diogelwch cymunedol, cynyddu presenoldeb swyddogion a wardeiniaid, a mynd i'r afael â throseddu ar ein strydoedd?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ydwyf, yn wir. Mae gan yr heddlu 172 o swyddogion cefnogi cymunedau yng Nghymru, 33 ohonynt yn heddlu gogledd Cymru. Maent yn golygu gwelliant mawr yn yr heddlu mewn lifrai sydd ar gael i weithio gyda'r heddlu o dan reolau'r heddlu, er nad ydynt yn heddweision cyflawn, ac yn gefn iddynt ceir wardeiniaid cymunedol nad ydynt yn gweithio o dan reolau'r heddlu ac sy'n swyddogion llywodraeth leol. Maent i gyd yn gweithredu fel llygaid a chlustiau'r gymuned. Dyna un rheswm pam, er gwaethaf honiadau'r Ceidwadwyr i'r gwrthwyneb, nad oes

down in Wales over recent years. No-one should listen to Conservative rubbish and scare stories to the opposite.

John Marek: Do you agree that policing should be left to the police, and that any future proposals from the Labour Party should be properly funded and not based on tapering grants that means that the council tax payer eventually has to pick up the bill, and this on top of the swingeing 20 per cent council tax increases that a goodly proportion of my constituents in Wrexham will face this year, and another 20 per cent next year?

The First Minister: Given that you were around in the House of Commons at the time, you will be aware, John, that the last time a Government set out deliberately to increase council tax much more in Wales than elsewhere was when the Conservatives were in power and when William Hague wrote his notorious letter to John Morris, which was back in 1995 or 1996. In the last year that the Conservatives were in power, a council tax increase of 18 per cent applied to everyone in Wales and not just to some people, as I believe your question implies. As regards the funding of community support officers, you will be aware that the guarantees from the Home Office regarding funding PCSOs runs out in March 2008, and we must have a close understanding of exactly what will happen after that date. Edwina Hart, as the relevant Assembly Minister, has been in touch with the Home Office about what is supposed to happen in three years' time.

Eleanor Burnham: Do you not agree that it is right for a local authority such as Wrexham to await the results of the pilot scheme in order to evaluate real value for money before pumping more of its scarce resources into a scheme, laudable as this is?

The First Minister: You, of course, like to have some evidence. However, you must also have pilot schemes to provide the evidence on which you would base any further expansion. I am not sure to what stage exactly you are referring, but what is

amheuaeth nad yw lefelau troseddu, a throseddu treisgar, wedi gostwng yng Nghymru dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Ni ddylai neb wrando ar sothach y Ceidwadwyr a storïau brawychus i'r gwrthwyneb.

John Marek: A ydych yn cytuno y dylid gadael plismona i'r heddlu, ac y dylai unrhyw gynigion i'r dyfodol gan y Blaid Lafur gael eu hariannu'n briodol ac nid eu seilio ar grantiau tapro sy'n golygu mai trethdalwyr y dreth gyngor sy'n gorfod talu'r bil maes o law, a bod hyn ar ben y codiadau llethol o 20 y cant yn y dreth gyngor y bydd cyfran dda o'm hetholwyr i yn Wrecsam yn eu hwynebu eleni, ac 20 y cant arall y flwyddyn nesaf?

Y Prif Weinidog: O ystyried eich bod chi yno yn Nhŷ'r Cyffredin ar y pryd, byddwch yn gwybod, John, mai'r tro diwethaf yr aeth Llywodraeth ati'n fwriadol i godi'r dreth gyngor yn llawer mwy yng Nghymru nag mewn mannau eraill oedd pan oedd y Ceidwadwyr mewn grym a phan ysgrifennodd William Hague ei lythyr drwg-enwog at John Morris, yn 1995 neu 1996. Ym mlwyddyn olaf y Ceidwadwyr mewn grym, cafwyd cynnydd o 18 y cant yn y dreth gyngor i bawb yng Nghymru, nid i rai pobl yn unig, fel sydd ymhlyg yn eich cwestiwn fe gredaf. O ran ariannu swyddogion cefnogi cymunedau, byddwch yn ymwybodol bod gwarantau'r Swyddfa Gartref ar ariannu swyddogion cefnogi cymunedau yr heddlu yn dod i ben ym mis Mawrth 2008, a rhaid inni ddeall beth yn union fydd yn digwydd ar ôl y dyddiad hwnnw. Mae Edwina Hart, fel y Gweinidog perthnasol yn y Cynulliad, wedi bod mewn cysylltiad â'r Swyddfa Gartref ynghylch yr hyn sydd i fod i ddigwydd ymhlen tair blynedd.

Eleanor Burnham: Onid ydych yn cytuno ei bod yn iawn i awdurdod lleol fel Wrecsam aros am ganlyniadau'r cynllun peilot er mwyn gwerthuso gwerth gwirioneddol am arian cyn arllwys rhagor o'i adnoddau prin i mewn i gynllun, er mor ganmoladwy yw?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydych, wrth gwrs, yn hoffi cael tystiolaeth. Fodd bynnag, rhaid ichi gael cynlluniau peilot hefyd i ddarparu'r dystiolaeth y byddech yn seilio unrhyw ehangu pellach arni. Nid wyf yn siŵr at ba gam yn union yr ydych yn cyfeirio, ond yr

important is that the police believe that community support officers act as the eyes and ears of the community. Pensioners, who are law-abiding citizens, will go to a PCSO because they are in uniform, and will say to them, 'Look, I believe that a drug seller is going to that primary school at 11.30 a.m. every day when the kids are ready to go out of school, and here is the phone number'. That sort of information is like gold. That is already demonstrated in PCSO operations elsewhere in Wales. Therefore, everyone must agree that it is good practice, but I agree with you that you can always do with more evaluation, and then you see where you go from there.

hyn sy'n bwysig yw bod yr heddlu'n credu bod swyddogion cefnogi cymunedau yn gweithredu fel llygaid a chlustiau'r gymuned. Bydd pensiynwyr, sy'n ddinasyddion ufudd i'r gyfraith, yn mynd at swyddog cefnogi cymuned gan ei fod mewn lifrai, ac yn dweud wrtho, 'Clywch, rwy'n credu bod gwerthwr cyffuriau yn mynd i'r ysgol gynradd acw am 11.30 a.m. bob dydd pan fydd y plant yn barod i ddod allan o'r ysgol, a dyma'r rhif ffôn'. Mae'r math hwn o wybodaeth fel aur. Caiff hynny ei ddangos eisoes yng ngweithrediadau swyddogion cefnogi cymunedau mewn mannau eraill yng Nghymru. Felly, rhaid i bawb gytuno ei fod yn arfer da, ond yr wyf yn cytuno â chi fod mwy o werthuso bob amser yn beth da, ac yna gallwch benderfynu i ble i fynd o'r fan honno.

Rhaglen Cleifion Arbenigol The Expert Patient Programme

Q9 Gwenda Thomas: Will the First Minister make a statement on the Expert Patient Programme in Wales? OAQ0373(FM)

C9 Gwenda Thomas: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar Raglen Cleifion Arbenigol Cymru? OAQ0373(FM)

The First Minister: The Expert Patient Programme is an NHS-based training programme delivered in six-week courses to help people to develop confidence and skills to cope better with living with the curse of Welsh health service life, namely long-term chronic conditions, such as respiratory diseases, diabetes, heart conditions, strokes, and so on. We intend to roll out the programme throughout the NHS in Wales by 2008.

Y Prif Weinidog: Rhaglen hyfforddi o fewn y GIG yw Rhaglen Cleifion Arbenigol Cymru a gyflwynir drwy gyrsiau chwe wythnos i helpu pobl i ddatblygu'r hyder a'r sgiliau i ymdopi'n well â byw gyda melltitth y gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru, sef cyflyrau cronig hirdymor, megis clefydau anadlu, diabetes, anhwylderau ar y galon, strôc, ac yn y blaen. Bwriadwn gyflwyno'r rhaglen fesul cam ar hyd a lled y GIG yng Nghymru erbyn 2008.

Gwenda Thomas: Three courses have been held in my constituency for patients who wish to participate in this programme, since November 2003. Neath Port Talbot Local Health Board, having taken a strategic view of the programme, has another six courses planned to December 2005. The patients that have taken part have found that the courses have been beneficial and have helped them to manage their long-term conditions more effectively. From your answer, you obviously agree that these courses are welcome. Do you also agree that patients, when newly diagnosed with long-term conditions, should be made aware of the Expert Patient Programme?

Gwenda Thomas: Mae tri chwrs wedi cael eu cynnal yn fy etholaeth i gleifion sy'n dymuno cymryd rhan yn y rhaglen hon, ers mis Tachwedd 2003. Mae Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Castell-nedd Port Talbot, sydd wedi edrych yn strategol ar y rhaglen, wedi cynllunio chwe chwrs arall hyd at fis Rhagfyr 2005. Mae'r cleifion sydd wedi cymryd rhan wedi canfod bod y cyrsiau o fudd a'u bod wedi eu helpu i reoli eu cyflyrau hirdymor yn fwy effeithiol. Yn ôl eich ateb, yr ydych yn amlwg yn cytuno bod y cyrsiau hyn i'w croesawu. A ydych yn cytuno hefyd y dylai cleifion, pan gânt eu diagnosisio i ddechrau â chyflyrau hirdymor, gael gwybod am y Rhaglen Cleifion Arbenigol?

The First Minister: Yes. This goes back to Eleanor Burnham's question about pilot schemes and their independent evaluation. There were two pilot schemes. Gwynedd LHB and, I believe, Swansea LHB—rather than Neath Port Talbot—took part in the pilot scheme to test the Expert Patient Programme. The words used about the Gwynedd pilot were quite extraordinary, saying how successful it was and that it may even be said to be exceptional in what it was able to achieve. Clearly, in certain designs of the Expert Patient Programmes, it really is leading to great achievements in helping people to live with arthritis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, asthma and so on. They are remarkable achievements.

David Lloyd: Sut wnewch chi sicrhau y defnyddir arbenigedd cyrff gwirfoddol megis Diabetes UK Cymru ac Arthritis Care yn y rhaglen hon?

Y Prif Weinidog: Fe wnaif i neu Brian Gibbons ysgrifennu atoch, achos ni welaf yn syth—efallai fy mai i ydyw—y berthynas rhwng y cwestiwn, yr atebion a roddwyd yn barod a'r ffordd i gyflawni rhaglenni i ymdrin â'r cyflyrau arbenigol hyn. A minnau'n dioddef o asthma ers dros 30 mlynedd, mae gennyf ddiddordeb yn hyn, achos mae'r ddealltwriaeth ynglŷn â'r hyn y gall rhywun ei wneud a'r modd y gall fyw'n esmwyth gyda chyflyrau o'r fath—yr wyf yn siŵr ei bod hi yn gymwys yr un peth i arthritis ac ati—yn hollbwysig, fel na fydd person yn dibynnu yn unig ar yr hyn y mae'r dyn sy'n eistedd yn ei ymyl yn y tafarn yn ei ddweud wrtho am y clefyd. Yr ydym yn ceisio gwneud hyn yn strwythurol, ond nid yw 'strwythurol' yn golygu nad ydych yn siarad â'r sector gwirfoddol. Nid yw'n fater o ddibynnu'n unig ar wybodaeth y bobl broffesiynol yn y meysydd hyn.

Y Prif Weinidog: Ydwyf. Mae hyn yn mynd yn ôl at gwestiwn Eleanor Burnham am gynlluniau peilot a gwerthuso annibynnol arnynt. Yr oedd dau gynllun peilot. BILL Gwynedd ac, fe gredaf, BILL Abertawe—yn hytrach na Chastell-nedd Port Talbot—a gymerodd ran yn y cynllun peilot i roi prawf ar y Rhaglen Cleifion Arbenigol. Yr oedd y geiriau a ddefnyddiwyd am beilot Gwynedd yn bur hynod, yn dweud mor llwyddiannus y bu ac y gellid dweud hyd yn oed iddi fod yn eithriadol o ran yr hyn y llwyddodd i'w gyflawni. Yn amlwg, mae Rhaglenni Cleifion Arbenigol, neu rai ffurfiau arnynt, yn arwain o ddifrif at lwyddiannau mawr wrth helpu pobl i fyw gydag arthritis, clefydau rhwystrol cronig ar yr ysgyfaint, asthma ac yn y blaen. Maent yn llwyddiant aruthrol.

David Lloyd: How will you ensure that the expertise of voluntary organisations such as Diabetes UK Cymru and Arthritis Care is utilised in this programme?

The First Minister: Brian Gibbons or I will write to you, because I cannot immediately ascertain—perhaps that is my fault—the relationship between the question, the answers already given and the means of delivering programmes for these particular conditions. Having been an asthma sufferer for over 30 years, I have an interest in this, because understanding what you can achieve and the means by which you can live comfortably with such conditions—I am sure that the same applies for arthritis and so on—is crucial, so that you do not depend solely on what the bloke sitting next to you in the pub tells you about that condition. We are trying to do this strategically, but 'strategically' does not mean that you do not speak to the voluntary sector. This is not a matter of depending solely on information provided by the professionals in these fields.

Y Gwaharddiad ar Hela Llwynogod The Fox-hunting Ban

Q10 Laura Anne Jones: Will the First Minister make a statement on the fox-hunting ban in Wales? OAQ0374(FM)

C10 Laura Anne Jones: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar y gwaharddiad ar hela llwynogod yng Nghymru? OAQ0374(FM)

The First Minister: This is not a devolved matter, as you know. However, the Act allows exempt hunting for the purpose of pest control to allow farmers and others to protect their stock, crops and other property and to protect biodiversity.

Laura Anne Jones: Will you join me in commending the work of the Welsh packs in ensuring that there is an effective fallen stock collection service?

The First Minister: I do not know the details of this fallen stock collection service, but Carwyn Jones will write to you to confirm the details of the particular pack that you are concerned with.

Mick Bates: Do you agree with me and my Welsh Liberal Democrat colleagues that the right place to make a decision on fox-hunting is here in the Assembly and that, furthermore, we should not just simply reverse the ban, but look for a sustainable, working solution to the issue of hunting with dogs in Wales?

The First Minister: You will recall that the Assembly discussed this matter and that a motion was passed before the 2003 elections, when Jack Straw was the Home Secretary. I wrote to him on the instruction of the Assembly, asking for the matter to be devolved. He refused to do that, saying that he did not think it feasible given the nature of the Welsh-English border. I doubt that, now the Bill has been enacted, there would be any change in that view. You will be aware, of course, that the exempt hunting categories were heavily influenced by Welsh practices, and Alun Michael and I always made it clear that exempt hunting, namely flushing and other pest control practices, were an extremely important part of Welsh agriculture and were not a sport. I believe that it is because of the Welsh experience that the exempt hunting category was included in the Bill.

Brynle Williams: Do agree that we should be considering licenses for more than two dogs to work for fox predation in forestry plantations? It is absolutely ridiculous to expect someone to flush the foxes to guns

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid yw hwn yn fater sydd wedi'i ddatganoli, fel y gwyddoch. Fodd bynnag, mae'r Ddeddf yn caniatáu hela esempt i'r diben o reoli plâu i ganiatáu i ffermwyr ac eraill amddiffyn eu stoc, eu cnydau ac eiddo arall ac i warchod bioamrywiaeth.

Laura Anne Jones: A wnewch ymuno â mi i ganmol gwaith helfeydd Cymru wrth sicrhau bod gwasanaeth casglu stoc trig effeithiol?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ni wn beth yw manylion y gwasanaeth casglu stoc trig hwn, ond bydd Carwyn Jones yn ysgrifennu atoch i gadarnhau manylion yr helpa yr ydych yn cyfeirio ati.

Mick Bates: A ydych yn cytuno â mi a'm cyd-Aelodau o'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yng Nghymru mai'r lle iawn i benderfynu ar hela â chŵn yw yma yn y Cynulliad ac, ar ben hynny, na ddylem fynd ati i wneud dim ond gwrthdroi'r gwaharddiad, ond y dylem chwilio am ateb cynaliadwy, a fyddai'n gweithio, i fater hela â chŵn yng Nghymru?

Y Prif Weinidog: Fe gofiwch i'r Cynulliad drafod y mater hwn ac i gynnig gael ei basio cyn etholiadau 2003, pan oedd Jack Straw yn Ysgrifennydd Cartref. Ysgrifennais ato ar gyfarwyddyd y Cynulliad, yn gofyn i'r mater gael ei ddatganoli. Gwrthododd wneud hynny, gan ddweud nad oedd o'r farn bod hynny'n ddichonadwy o ystyried natur y ffin rhwng Cymru a Lloegr. Yr wyf yn amheus, a'r Mesur bellach yn Ddeddf, y ceid newid yn y farn honno. Byddwch yn gwybod, wrth gwrs, fod arferion hela yng Nghymru wedi dylanwadu'n drwm ar y categorïau hela esempt, ac mae Alun Michael a minnau wedi ei gwneud yn glir erioed fod hela esempt, sef codi llwynogod ac arferion eraill i reoli plâu, yn rhan hynod bwysig o amaethyddiaeth Cymru ac nad math o chwarae ydynt. Credaf mai profiadau Cymru sydd i gyfrif bod y categori hela esempt wedi cael ei gynnwys yn y Mesur.

Brynle Williams: A ydych yn cytuno y dylem fod yn ystyried trwyddedau i fwy na dau gi weithio wrth hela llwynogod mewn coedwigoedd? Mae'n gwbl hurt disgwyl i rywun godi llwynogod at y gynnu gyda dau

with two dogs over 15,000 acres. I see major problems looming on the horizon again, and I ask you and your group to consider some form of licensing for predation control.

The First Minister: I am not aware of your point about two dogs not being enough, and that four—or whatever other figure you might want to bring forward—may be sufficient to manage the practice of flushing, or to ensure the effective continuation of flushing or driving foxes out of forestry cover and into the line of shotguns and so on. If you want to make a point of that kind, then it is a matter of detail and I suggest that you write to Carwyn, and he may engage in discussions with the Home Office if the case is sufficiently convincing.

gi dros 15,000 o erwau. Gwelaf broblemau mawr ar y gorwel eto, a gofynnaf i chi a'ch grŵp ystyried rhyw fath o drwyddedu i reoli anifeiliaid ysglyfaethus.

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid wyf yn ymwybodol o'ch pwynt nad yw dau gi yn ddigon, ac y byddai pedwar—neu pa nifer bynnag arall y byddech am ei gynnig—yn ddigonol efallai i lwyddo wrth godi llwynogod, neu i sicrhau bod modd parhau'n effeithiol â'r gwaith o godi llwynogod neu eu gyrru allan o'u lloches yn y goedwig ac i olwg y drylliau ac yn y blaen. Os ydych am wneud pwynt o'r math hwn, mae'n fater manwl a byddwn yn awgrymu eich bod yn ysgrifennu at Carwyn, a gallai yntau gynnal trafodaethau gyda'r Swyddfa Gartref os yw'r ddadl yn ddigon cryf.

3.00 p.m.

Datganiad Busnes Business Statement

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): I have a few changes to this week's business to report. The Minister for Economic Development and Transport will make a further statement this afternoon on the impact of the closure of the MG Rover plant at Longbridge on the supply chain in Wales. In order to accommodate that statement, Sue Essex will make her statement on the Public Services Ombudsman (Wales) Act 2005 tomorrow in place of the statement on local government planning rationalisation. The motions to elect Members to regional committees have been moved to 27 April. Business for the next three weeks is as set out in the draft statement, which can be found on the Chamberweb under supporting documents.

Further to this morning's deliberations in the Business Committee, it has been determined that the following items of subordinate legislation need not be referred to a subject committee for extended consideration: the Rights of Re-entry and Forfeiture (Prescribed Sum and Period) (Wales) Regulations 2005; the Commonhold and Leasehold Reform Act 2002 (Commencement No. 3 and Saving and Transitional Provision) (Wales) Order 2005; the Leasehold Houses (Notice of Insurance

Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Mae gennyf ychydig o newidiadau i fusnes yr wythnos hon i'w dwyn i'ch sylw. Bydd y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth yn gwneud datganiad arall y prynhawn yma ar effaith cau gwaith MG Rover yn Longbridge ar y gadwyn gyflenwi yng Nghymru. Er mwyn inni gael y datganiad hwn, bydd Sue Essex yn gwneud ei datganiad ar Ddeddf Ombwdsmon Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus (Cymru) 2005 yfory yn lle'r datganiad ar resymoli cynlluniau llywodraeth leol. Symudwyd y cynigion i ethol Aelodau ar bwyllgorau rhanbarth i 27 Ebrill. Mae'r busnes ar gyfer y tair wythnos nesaf yn unol â'r datganiad drafft, sydd i'w weld ar we'r Siambr dan y pennawd dogfennau atodol.

Yn sgîl y trafodaethau y bore yma yn y Pwyllgor Busnes, penderfynwyd nad oes angen cyfeirio'r is-ddeddfwriaethau a ganlyn at bwyllgor pwnc i gael ei hystyried yn helaethach: Rheoliadau Hawliau Ailfyndiad a Fforffediad (Swm a Chyfnod Rhagnodedig) (Cymru) 2005; Deddf Cyfunddaliad a Diwygio Cyfraith Lesddaliad 2002 (Cychwyn Rhif 3 ac Arbed a Darpariaeth Drosiannol) (Cymru) 2005; Rheoliadau Tai ar Lesddaliad (Hysbysiad Sicrwydd Yswiriant) (Cymru)

Cover) (Wales) Regulations 2005; the Landlord and Tenant (Notice of Rent) (Wales) Regulations 2005; the Miscellaneous Food Additives (Amendment) (No.2) (Wales) Regulations 2005; the Poultry Meat, Farmed Game Bird Meat and Rabbit Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2005; the Leasehold Valuation Tribunals (Procedure) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2005; the Service Charges (Consultation Requirements) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2005; and the Food Labelling (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2005.

Y Llywydd: A oes gwrthwynebiadau i'r datganiad busnes? Gwelaf nad oes. Galwaf ar un Aelod o bob grŵp plaid i siarad yn fyr.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Croesawn ddatganiad y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth ar drafferthion grŵp MG Rover, ac edrychwn ymlaen at glywed y datganiad hwnnw.

Caf ar ddeall hefyd, Drefnydd, eich bod bellach wedi caniatáu datganiad gan y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ar faterion iechyd. A wnewch chi egluro cynnwys y datganiad hwnnw? A fydd yn egluro targedau Llywodraeth Cymru o ran y gwasanaeth iechyd, ac a fydd yn trafod pryderon y cyrff hynny sy'n cynrychioli staff proffesiynol ynghylch y pwysau ychwanegol a roddir ar staff yn ein hysbytai—doctoriaid a nyrsys—er mwyn i chi gyrraedd y targedau hynny?

David Melding: Minister, I am grateful to you for indicating that the Government will set aside time for a debate on the Welsh aerospace industry. I note that you say that that will be done 'soon'. I am not naive enough to expect this debate before 5 May, and it may not shed that much light on the subject even if it were that soon, but I would expect a debate in May, or in June at the very latest, to look at this area of great success for Wales, as a current challenge and future aspiration. We need a good productive debate as soon as possible.

2005; Rheoliadau Landlord a Tenant (Hysbysiad Rhent) (Cymru) 2005; Rheoliadau Ychwanegion Bwyd Amrywiol (Diwygio) (Rhif 2) (Cymru) 2005; Rheoliadau Cig Dofednod, Cig Adar Hela wedi'i Ffermio a Chig Cwningod (Hylendid ac Archwilio) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2005; Rheoliadau Tribiwnlysoedd Prisio Lesdaliadau (Gweithdrefn) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2005; Rheoliadau Taliadau Gwasanaeth (Gofynion Ymgynghori) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2005; a Rheoliadau Labelu Bwyd (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2005.

The Presiding Officer: Are there any objections to the business statement? I see that there are none. I call one Member from each party group to speak briefly.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: We welcome the statement from the Minister for Economic Development and Transport on the difficulties faced by MG Rover, and we look forward to hearing that statement.

I also understand, Minister, that you have agreed to allow a statement from the Minister for Health and Social Services on health issues. Will you clarify the contents of that statement? Will it explain the Government of Wales's targets for the health service, and will it get to grips with the concerns of those organisations that represent professional staff about the additional pressures placed upon staff in our hospitals—doctors and nurses—for you to achieve those targets?

David Melding: Weinidog, yr wyf yn ddiolchgar ichi am nodi bod y Llywodraeth am neilltuo amser ar gyfer dadl ar ddiwydiant awyrofod Cymru. Sylwaf eich bod yn dweud y bydd hyn yn digwydd 'yn fuan'. Nid wyf yn ddigon naif i ddisgwyl y ddadl hon cyn 5 Mai, ac efallai na fyddai'n taflu cymaint â hynny o oleuni ar y pwnc hyd yn oed pe bai mor fuan â hynny, ond byddwn yn disgwyl cael dadl ym Mai, neu ym Mehefin fan bellaf, i edrych ar y maes hynod lwyddiannus hwn yng Nghymru, fel her ar hyn o bryd ac fel rhywbeth i anelu tuag ato yn y dyfodol. Mae arnom angen dadl gynhyrchiol dda cyn gynted ag y bo modd.

Kirsty Williams: Minister, you will be aware that prior to, and since, the Easter recess we have asked for statements and debates on the situation in accident and emergency departments across Wales. It seems clear to us that medics, nurses, and the public want to talk about accident and emergency departments; the only people who are unwilling to talk about accident and emergency departments at any great length in detail is your Minister for Health and Social Services and your Government. Will you reconsider the Liberal Democrats' request to have a debate or a statement from the health Minister on the situation in our accident and emergency departments?

Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Diolch yn fawr, Rhodri Glyn, am gefnogi'r datganiad heddiw.

I am also pleased that you recognise that coming forward with a statement on MG Rover is an important demonstration of our Government's commitment to ensuring that all Members can raise questions on this important issue for the people of Wales.

On the health targets statement, and in respect of Kirsty's point about issues relating to accident and emergency departments—not just the issue that we discussed during First Minister's questions on the University Hospital of Wales—there will be an oral statement next week from the Minister for Health and Social Services on health matters, and we will reflect on the points raised today. On the First Minister's point, a report is being finalised by Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust on accident and emergency issues at the University Hospital of Wales. It will be published tomorrow, and I will place it in the Library. There will be opportunities for Members to raise issues next week both when the statement is made and during questions to the First Minister.

David, I will seek to ensure that a debate is held on the Welsh aerospace industry in May or June. This issue is crucial, and the Minister for Economic Development and Transport was pleased to respond positively to that request.

Kirsty Williams: Weinidog, gwyddoch ein bod wedi gofyn cyn gwyliau'r Pasg, ac wedi hynny, am ddatganiadau a dadleuon ar y sefyllfa mewn adrannau damweiniau ac achosion brys ledled Cymru. Ymddengys yn amlwg i ni fod y staff meddygol, y nyrsys, a'r cyhoedd eisiau siarad am adrannau damweiniau ac achosion brys; yr unig bobl sy'n anfodlon siarad llawer iawn am adrannau damweiniau ac achosion brys yw eich Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a'ch Llywodraeth chi. A wnewch ailystyried cais y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol am dadl neu ddatganiad gan y Gweinidog iechyd ar y sefyllfa yn ein hadrannau damweiniau ac achosion brys?

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): Thank you, Rhodri Glyn, for supporting the statement today.

Yr wyf hefyd yn falch eich bod yn cydnabod bod gwneud datganiad ar MG Rover yn arwydd pwysig o ymrwymiad ein Llywodraeth i sicrhau bod cyfle i bob Aelod godi cwestiynau ar y mater hwn sy'n bwysig i bobl Cymru.

O ran y datganiad ynglŷn â thargedau iechyd, ac mewn perthynas â phwynt Kirsty ynghylch materion sy'n ymwneud ag adrannau damweiniau ac achosion brys—nid y mater a drafodasom yn ystod cwestiynau'r Prif Weinidog ar Ysbyty Athrofaol Cymru yn unig—bydd y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yn gwneud datganiad llafar ar faterion iechyd yr wythnos nesaf, a byddwn yn ystyried y pwyntiau a godwyd heddiw. Ynglŷn â phwynt y Prif Weinidog, mae Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Caerdydd a'r Fro wedi ysgrifennu adroddiad ar faterion yn ymwneud â damweiniau ac achosion brys yn Ysbyty Athrofaol Cymru. Cyhoeddir yr adroddiad yfory, a rhoddaf gopi ohono yn y Llyfrgell. Bydd cyfle i'r Aelodau godi cwestiynau yr wythnos nesaf pan wneir y datganiad ac yn ystod y cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog.

David, ceisiaf sicrhau ein bod yn cael dadl ar ddiwydiant awyrofod Cymru ym Mai neu ym Mehefin. Mae hwn yn fater pwysig iawn, ac yr oedd y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth yn falch ei fod yn gallu ymateb yn gadarnhaol i'r cais hwn.

*Derbyniwyd y datganiad busnes.
Business statement adopted.*

Datganiad ar Effaith Cau MG Rover ar y Gadwyn Gyflenwi yng Nghymru Statement on the Impact of the MG Rover Closure upon the Supply Chain in Wales

The Minister for Economic Development and Transport (Andrew Davies): Last week, I promised Members an update on the situation regarding MG Rover; I am delighted to be able to give that update today.

In 2001, following previous difficulties experienced by the MG Rover Group Ltd, the Welsh Assembly Government and the Welsh Development Agency established the Accelerate Wales programme, which was developed by the Welsh automotive taskforce. The taskforce has been successful in helping automotive suppliers in Wales to diversify their customer base over the last five years. The extent of this diversification has been significant in limiting the impact of the recent situation at MG Rover on individual suppliers. Indeed, a recent survey conducted by the Welsh automotive taskforce shows that only three suppliers in Wales have a business turnover associated with MG Rover that is greater than 15 per cent, which is a significant reduction from the position five years ago.

The Welsh Assembly Government will draw upon the substantial support network available within Team Wales to provide an effective response for any supplier and individual in Wales adversely affected by the situation at MG Rover, and this response is well under way. As at the end of last week, we were aware that around 120 job losses had been declared at three plants in Wales, and we should all recognise that the situation remains uncertain. The companies affected were Thyssen Krupp Camford Pressings Ltd and Calsonic Kansei UK Ltd in Llanelli, and CU Tech. The geographic proximity of these companies means that it is vital that we do everything possible to limit further job losses, and to provide those already affected with the support and the training needed to find new

Y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth (Andrew Davies): Yr wythnos diwethaf, addewais y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf ynglŷn â sefyllfa MG Rover i'r Aelodau; yr wyf yn falch fy mod yn gallu rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf honno ichi heddiw.

Yn 2001, yn sgîl anawsterau blaenorol MG Rover Group Ltd, sefydlodd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ac Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru raglen Accelerate Cymru, a ddatblygwyd gan dasglu modurol Cymru. Mae'r tasglu wedi llwyddo i helpu cyflenwyr moduron yng Nghymru i ehangu eu sylfaen cwsmeriaid yn ystod y pum mlynedd diwethaf. Mae'r ehangu sylweddol hwn wedi bod yn bwysig iawn, oherwydd y mae wedi lleihau effaith y sefyllfa ddiweddar yn MG Rover ar gyflenwyr unigol. Yn wir, dengys arolwg diweddar a gynhaliwyd gan dasglu modurol Cymru mai dim ond tri chyflenwr yng Nghymru sydd â throsiant busnes o fwy na 15 y cant gydag MG Rover, ac mae hyn gryn dipyn yn llai na'r hyn ydoedd bum mlynedd yn ôl.

Bydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn defnyddio'r rhwydwaith cefnogi sylweddol sydd ar gael yn Nhîm Cymru er mwyn cynnig ymateb effeithiol i unrhyw gyflenwr ac unigolyn yng Nghymru sy'n dioddef oherwydd y sefyllfa yn MG Rover, ac mae'r gwaith o baratoi'r ymateb hwn yn dod yn ei flaen yn dda. Ddiwedd yr wythnos diwethaf, gwyddem, yn ôl y cyhoeddiad a wnaed, fod tua 120 o swyddi wedi eu colli mewn tri safle yng Nghymru, a dylem i gyd gydnabod bod y sefyllfa'n dal i fod yn ansicr. Y cwmnïau yr effeithiwyd arnynt oedd Thyssen Krupp Camford Pressings Ltd a Calsonic Kansei UK Ltd yn Llanelli, a CU Tech. Oherwydd agosrwydd daearyddol y cwmnïau hyn mae'n hanfodol ein bod yn gwneud popeth sy'n bosibl i geisio sicrhau na cholli rhagor o

employment opportunities.

swyddi, ac i ddarparu i'r rhai hynny sydd wedi dioddef yn barod y cymorth a'r hyfforddiant sydd ei angen er mwyn canfod cyfleoedd newydd ar gyfer gwaith.

The Welsh automotive taskforce has set up a Wales helpline and, together with my officials, has already met with representatives of some of the companies affected. Arrangements have been established to enable support under the UK package of measures to be delivered locally through the Welsh automotive forum and the WDA.

Mae tasglu modurol Cymru wedi sefydlu llinell gymorth ar gyfer Cymru ac, ar y cyd â'm swyddogion, mae eisoes wedi cyfarfod cynrychiolwyr rhai o'r cwmnïau yr effeithiwyd arnynt. Sefydlwyd trefniadau er mwyn gallu darparu cefnogaeth dan becyn mesurau'r DU yn lleol drwy fforwm modurol Cymru a'r Awdurdod Datblygu.

The UK Government has made £40 million available to provide support for supply chain companies, and I am delighted to say that companies in Wales will be able to apply for that. This aid will focus primarily on helping companies to analyse any impact on their business, and includes an intensive business review programme to help companies to identify new market opportunities, with support for employee retraining where required. Suppliers with a turnover with MG Rover that is in excess of 15 per cent are also eligible for access to a wage subsidy for employees available for training.

Mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi rhyddhau £40 miliwn er mwyn darparu cefnogaeth i gwmnïau yn y gadwyn gyflenwi, ac yr wyf yn falch o ddweud y bydd cwmnïau yng Nghymru yn gallu gwneud cais am yr arian hwn. Bydd y cymorth ariannol hwn yn canolbwyntio'n bennaf ar helpu cwmnïau i ddadansoddi unrhyw effaith ar eu busnesau, ac mae'n cynnwys rhaglen adolygu busnes gynhwysfawr er mwyn helpu cwmnïau i ddod o hyd i gyfleoedd newydd yn y farchnad, ynghyd â chefnogaeth ar gyfer ailhyfforddi gweithwyr lle y bo angen. Mae cyflenwyr sydd â throsiant o dros 15 y cant gydag MG Rover hefyd yn gymwys i gael cymorthdal cyflog ar gyfer gweithwyr sydd ar gael ar gyfer hyfforddiant.

The 19 MG Rover dealerships in Wales are also affected by the situation, as many Members have brought to my attention. While the UK support package does not currently extend to the dealership network, we understand that the UK Government is looking into the potential to provide European Union-compliant aid to this group. The automotive taskforce has asked Automotive Skills, the sector-specific skills council for the retail motor industry, to investigate the needs of this sector and to report back.

Mae'r sefyllfa hefyd wedi effeithio ar y 19 cwmni gwerthu ceir MG Rover sydd yng Nghymru, fel y mae nifer o'r Aelodau wedi fy hysbysu. Er nad yw pecyn cymorth y DU yn ymestyn hyd at y rhwydwaith cwmnïau gwerthu ceir ar hyn o bryd, deallwn fod Llywodraeth y DU yn ystyried y posibilrwydd o ddarparu cymorth sy'n cydymffurfio â rheolau'r Undeb Ewropeaidd i'r grŵp hwn. Mae'r tasglu modurol wedi gofyn i Automotive Skills, y cyngor sgiliau sector-benodol ar gyfer y diwydiant adwerthu moduron, ymchwilio i anghenion y sector hwn ac adrodd yn ôl.

We remain committed to supporting the evolution of the automotive sector in Wales, and a follow-up programme to the Accelerate Wales programme, called Accelerate Clusters, is already under way. That is why I am pleased to announce today that the UK's first centre of excellence in product lifecycle management is to be established at Technium

Mae ein hymroddiad i gefnogi esblygiad y sector modurol yng Nghymru yn parhau, ac mae rhaglen a fydd yn dilyn rhaglen Accelerate Cymru, dan yr enw Clystyrau Accelerate, ar y gweill yn barod. Dyna pam yr wyf yn falch o gyhoeddi heddiw fod canolfan ragoriaeth gyntaf y DU ym maes rheoli cylch bywyd cynnyrch i'w sefydlu yn

Auto at Dafen in Llanelli, which will provide small and medium-sized enterprises in the Welsh automotive sector with access to some of the most sophisticated software products in the world.

The multi-million-pound investment follows an agreement between the Welsh Assembly Government, IBM and the University of Wales Swansea, following the establishment of the Institute of Life Science at the university. The new centre will provide small and medium-sized Welsh businesses with an unparalleled opportunity to gain a competitive edge by drawing on IBM's expertise in terms of accelerated and improved product development and lifecycle management. IBM's solutions are used by some of the world's leading companies to bring products to market faster, to produce higher quality products and components, and to minimise the cost of product modifications. This latest collaboration with IBM demonstrates our clear commitment as a Government to support the automotive industry in Wales, to provide practical support to develop the industry, and to enable Welsh companies to continue to compete in the highly competitive global market.

3.10 p.m.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Yr ydym yn ddiolchgar am y datganiad hwn ac am eich ymrwymiad i gefnogi'r gweithwyr sydd wedi colli eu gwaith. Croesawn y ffaith eich bod wedi dweud bod Llywodraeth Prydain yn edrych o'r newydd ar sut y gall fod o gymorth i'r modurdai hynny sy'n delio o fewn grŵp MG Rover—mae hynny'n eithriadol o bwysig. Fel y dywedasoch, effeithiwyd ar 120 o swyddi eisoes ac mae'n debygol yr effeithir ar fwy o swyddi gan y datganiad hwn. Yr wyf yn derbyn na allwch wneud fawr mwy na'r hyn sy'n y datganiad yn uniongyrchol am y sefyllfa hon, ond galwn arnoch i fod yn wylidwrus a cheisio pob cyfle i gefnogi a chynnal y gweithlu ac i sicrhau bod ganddynt gyfleoedd i gael swyddi eraill.

Yn ehangach, a gytunwch fod perygl bellach bod elfen gweithgynhyrchu economi Cymru yn cael ei danseilio? Mae mwy nag 1 filiwn o swyddi gweithgynhyrchu wedi diflannu yn

Technium Auto yn Nafen yn Llanelli, gan sicrhau bod busnesau bach a chanolig yn y sector modurol yng Nghymru yn gallu cael gafael ar feddalwedd sydd ymhlith y mwyaf soffistigedig yn y byd.

Mae'r buddsoddiad, sy'n werth miliynau o bunnoedd, yn dilyn cytundeb rhwng Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, IBM a Phrifysgol Cymru Abertawe, ar ôl sefydlu Sefydliad Gwyddor Bywyd yn y brifysgol. Bydd y ganolfan newydd yn gyfle heb ei ail i fusnesau bach a chanolig yng Nghymru fod ar flaen y gad drwy fanteisio ar wybodaeth arbenigol IBM o ran datblygu cynnyrch yn gyflymach ac yn well a rheoli cylch bywyd cynnyrch. Defnyddir atebion IBM gan rai o gwmnïau amlycaf y byd er mwyn dod â chynnyrch i'r farchnad yn gynt, gwneud cynnyrch a chydannau o ansawdd gwell, a lleihau cost addasiadau i'r cynnyrch. Mae'r cydweithio diweddaraf hwn gydag IBM yn dangos ein hymrwymiad pendant fel Llywodraeth i gefnogi'r diwydiant modurol yng Nghymru, i ddarparu cymorth ymarferol i ddatblygu'r diwydiant, ac i alluogi cwmnïau Cymru i barhau i gystadlu mewn marchnad fyd-eang hynod gystadleuol.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: We are grateful for this statement and for your commitment to provide support for those workers who have lost their jobs. We also welcome the fact that you said that the British Government is looking anew at how it can support those dealership garages in the MG Rover group—that is exceptionally important. As you said, 120 jobs have already been affected and the likelihood is that more jobs will be affected by this statement. I accept that you directly cannot do much more than that which you have included in the statement about this situation, but we ask you to be alert and to seek every opportunity to support and sustain the workforce and to ensure that there are opportunities for them to get other jobs.

From a wider perspective, do you agree that there is now a danger that the manufacturing sector of the Welsh economy is being undermined? Over 1 million manufacturing

Mhrydain ers 1997, a chollwyd llu o swyddi yng Nghymru. A ydych yn poeni bod economi sy'n colli swyddi yn y sector gweithgynhyrchu yn economi dan fygythiad? A gytunwch hefyd nad yw swyddi yn y sector gwasanaethau yn cyfateb, o ran eu gwerth i'r economi, i swyddi yn y sector gweithgynhyrchu?

Bu ichi gyfeirio at yr ardal ddaearyddol yr effeithir arni—mae nifer o'r cwmnïau hyn yn Llanelli ac yn sir Gaerfyrddin—a byddwch yn ymwybodol o'r datganiad a wnaed yr wythnos diwethaf y bydd hufenfa Llangadog hefyd yn cau, bod pryderon na ddaw unrhyw un i brynu'r cwmni hwnnw, ac y bydd mwy o swyddi yn cael eu colli yn y sector gweithgynhyrchu yn sir Gaerfyrddin. A dderbyniwch fod lle i Lywodraeth Cymru, ac i chi, Weinidog, ymyrryd mewn sefyllfa o'r fath, lle yr effeithir yn andwyol ar economi un ardal o Gymru gan golli swyddi yn y sector gweithgynhyrchu? Er na allwch wneud dim byd yn y sefyllfa arbennig hon, Weinidog, a derbyniat hynny, dyma gyfle i Lywodraeth Cymru ymyrryd o ran sefyllfa hufenfa Llangadog. A dderbyniwch fod angen ymyrraeth ar adegau? A fydddech yn ystyried ymyrraeth gan y Llywodraeth er mwyn cynnal yr economi mewn rhan arbennig o Gymru?

Cyfeiriasoch hefyd at sgiliau a'r angen i'r gweithlu yng Nghymru fod yn aml-sgilioedig. A dderbyniwch fod angen inni edrych o'r newydd ar y sgiliau a gynigiwn i'r gweithlu, bod yn rhaid bod modd i aelodau'r gweithlu symud o swydd i swydd ac i fod yn hyblyg o ran eu sgiliau? A dderbyniwch hefyd y gallai Llywodraeth Cymru wneud llawer mwy o waith i gynnal hynny? Croesawn eich ymrwymiad i gynorthwyo'r gweithwyr yr effeithir yn uniongyrchol arnynt a'r cwmnïau yr effeithir arnynt gan y datganiad hwn. Gobeithiwn y gallwch weithredu'n ymarferol i'w cynorthwyo.

Andrew Davies: As I said this week, last week and on other occasions when job losses have been announced, we will do everything possible, as a Government, working with public sector bodies and the private sector, to help those affected into alternative work and to access training opportunities where they

jobs in Britain have disappeared since 1997, and a multitude of jobs have been lost in Wales. Are you concerned that an economy losing jobs in the manufacturing sector is an economy under threat? Do you also agree that jobs in the service sector are not equivalent to jobs in the manufacturing sector, in terms of their value to the economy?

You referred to the geographical area that has been affected—many of these companies are in Llanelli and Carmarthenshire—and you will be aware of the statement made last week that Llangadog creamery is also to close, that there are concerns that no-one will buy that company, and that more jobs will be lost in the manufacturing sector in Carmarthenshire. Do you accept that there is room for the Government of Wales and for you, Minister, to intervene in such a situation, where the economy in one area of Wales is being so badly affected by job losses in the manufacturing sector? Although you cannot do anything in this particular instance, Minister, and I accept that, there is an opportunity for the Government of Wales to intervene regarding the situation at Llangadog creamery. Do you accept that intervention is needed at times? Would you consider Government intervention to support the economy in a particular part of Wales?

You also referred to skills and to the need for the workforce in Wales to be multiskilled. Will you accept that we need to look again at the skills that we offer the workforce, that there must be a way for the workforce to move from job to job, and to be flexible in their skills? Do you also accept that the Government of Wales could do much more work to support that? We welcome your commitment to help both the workers affected directly and the companies affected by this statement. We hope that you can do something practical to help them.

Andrew Davies: Fel y dywedais yr wythnos hon, yr wythnos diwethaf ac ar adegau eraill pan gyhoeddwyd bod swyddi'n cael eu colli, byddwn yn gwneud popeth sy'n bosibl, fel Llywodraeth, gan weithio gyda chyrff sector cyhoeddus a'r sector preifat, er mwyn helpu'r rhai a gollodd eu swyddi i ddod o hyd i waith

are required by those who have been made redundant.

On the latest situation regarding car dealerships—and Alun Pugh has raised with me the impact of this on his constituency, as others have done—we still await more complete information on that.

The issue with Llangadog Creamery was about over-capacity in the dairy industry across the European Union, particularly given the restructuring of the common agricultural policy. We have been in touch with—and I have personally spoken to—the Carmarthenshire County Council's head of economic development, and with Nigel Davies, the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers official, whose members are represented at that creamery, to see what we can do to help it to respond to that. We will be providing the same tailored service for those affected by the MG Rover situation.

To return to the bigger picture with regard to manufacturing, it is not just in the last few years, or even the last eight years, that the manufacturing sector has lost jobs. This is not only happening in Wales, or the United Kingdom—a decline in manufacturing is happening across the whole of the advanced industrial economies, particularly western economies. Compared with 30 years ago, far more cars are now produced in Britain. However, a much smaller workforce is now required to make and assemble that larger number of cars. That is the natural trend in manufacturing; it is the result of increased capital investment and increased productivity. It is a straight, economic question of fewer people being more productive, and we have seen that in many manufacturing sectors, not least in the steel industry. It is not just in this last period, since 1997, that these jobs have been lost. From 1979 to 1997, 360,000 jobs were lost in manufacturing in Wales: 20,000 for each year that the Conservative Government were in power at Westminster. It is far too simplistic to say that manufacturing jobs are always higher paid or higher skilled than those in the service industry. For example, 750 jobs have

arall ac i gael hyfforddiant os oes angen.

O ran y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf ynglŷn â chwmnïau sy'n gwerthu mathau penodol o geir—ac mae Alun Pugh, ac eraill, wedi dwyn fy sylw at effaith hyn ar eu hetholaethau—yr ydym yn dal i aros am wybodaeth fwy cyflawn am hynny.

Yr oedd y broblem gyda Hufenfa Llangadog yn ymwneud â gormod o gapasiti yn y diwydiant llaeth ar draws yr Undeb Ewropeaidd, yn enwedig yng ngoleuni ad-drefnu'r polisi amaethyddol cyffredin. Yr ydym wedi cysylltu gyda—ac yr wyf wedi siarad yn bersonol gyda—phennaeth datblygu economaidd Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin, a chyda Nigel Davies, swyddog Undeb y Gweithwyr Siopau, Dosbarthu a Gwaith Perthynol, undeb sy'n cynrychioli ei aelodau yn yr hufenfa honno, er mwyn gweld beth y gallwn ei wneud i'w helpu i ymateb i hyn. Byddwn yn darparu'r un gwasanaeth wedi ei deilwrio'n arbennig i'r rhai y mae sefyllfa MG Rover yn effeithio arnynt.

A dychwelyd at y darlun mwy o safbwynt gweithgynhyrchu, nid yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf yn unig, na hyd yn oed yn ystod yr wyth mlynedd diwethaf, y mae'r sector gweithgynhyrchu wedi colli swyddi. Nid yng Nghymru, nac yn y Deyrnas Unedig yn unig y digwydd hyn—mae dirywiad yn y sector gweithgynhyrchu i'w weld ar draws yr holl economïau diwydiannol datblygedig, yn enwedig economïau'r gorllewin. O'i gymharu â 30 o flynyddoedd yn ôl, cynhyrchir llawer yn rhagor o geir ym Mhrydain yn awr. Fodd bynnag, mae gweithlu llawer llai yn ofynnol yn awr i wneud a chydod nifer fwy o geir. Dyma'r tueddiad naturiol ym maes gweithgynhyrchu; mae'n ganlyniad buddsoddiadau cyfalaf mwy a gwell cynhyrchedd. Mae'n fater economaidd, syml o lai o bobl yn bod yn fwy cynhyrchiol, ac yr ydym wedi gweld hynny mewn nifer o sectorau gweithgynhyrchu, yn y diwydiant dur yn anad yr un. Rhwng 1979 a 1997, collwyd 360,000 o swyddi yn y sector gweithgynhyrchu yng Nghymru: 20,000 ar gyfer pob blwyddyn y bu'r Llywodraeth Geidwadol mewn grym yn San Steffan. Mae'n llawer rhy syml dweud bod swyddi'r sector gweithgynhyrchu yn cynnig gwell

been created by Logica CMG at its Bridgend plant with financial assistance from the Assembly Government. I had the pleasure of opening its new facility a few weeks ago. These are extremely skilled jobs, of graduate and post-graduate level in many cases, and very well paid. It is, therefore, far too simplistic to say that manufacturing jobs always pay better than those in the service sector—that is not the case.

We do, however, respond where the need arises; we have done that with regard to the redundancy package announced by Corus a few years ago. We have done it with Dewhurst, and also on a smaller scale. We have helped companies with management buy-outs, for example, on both a small and a large scale. As ever, as a Government, and as Team Wales, we stand ready to respond to the needs of the individual employees, the unions, and, where appropriate, the management as well.

William Graham: Thank you for your statement, Minister. I welcome what has been done, but the situation is clearly a matter of concern to the manufacturing industry in Wales. You will recall that last week I tried to explain to you the difference between receivership and administration. On Tuesday, you claimed that the company was in receivership, and, of course, by Friday you were correct. Were you aware when you made your statement that the company was in such a parlous state, in that it had over £1 billion-worth of debts, the brand names were on licence only, the freehold property belonged to St Modwen Properties Plc, the part supply business belonged to Caterpillar Logistics, and the car-finance business, often the jewel in the crown of any manufacturing concern, was owned by Phoenix Venture Holdings? The cash injection for BMW seems to have been squandered, there is unpaid tax to the inland revenue, and we know that there are now potential pension liabilities. This has created enormous

cyflogau neu'n gofyn am sgiliau uwch na'r swyddi yn y diwydiant gwasanaethau. Er enghraifft, mae Logica CMG wedi creu 750 o swyddi yn ei weithfeydd ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr gyda chefnogaeth ariannol oddi wrth Lywodraeth y Cynulliad. Cefais y pleser o agor ei gyfleusterau newydd ychydig wythnosau yn ôl. Mae'r rhain yn swyddi hynod sgilgar, ar lefel raddedig neu ôl-raddedig mewn sawl achos, ac maent yn cynnig cyflogau da iawn. O'r herwydd, mae'n rhy syml o lawer dweud bod swyddi gweithgynhyrchu bob amser yn talu'n well na'r rhai hynny yn y sector gwasanaethau—nid yw hynny'n wir.

Yr ydym, fodd bynnag, yn ymateb ym mhle bynnag y cyfyd yr angen; yr ydym wedi gwneud hynny ynglŷn â'r pecyn diswyddiadau a gyhoeddodd Corus ychydig flynyddoedd yn ôl. Yr ydym wedi gwneud hyn gyda Dewhurst, a hefyd ar raddfa lai. Yr ydym wedi helpu cwmnïau pan geir ymgais gan y rheolwyr i'w prynu, er enghraifft, ar raddfa fawr a graddfa fechan, fel ei gilydd. Fel bob amser, fel Llywodraeth, ac fel Tîm Cymru, yr ydym yn barod i ymateb i anghenion y gweithwyr unigol, yr undebau, a, phryd bynnag y bo hynny'n berthnasol, y rheolwyr hefyd.

William Graham: Diolch ichi am eich datganiad, Weinidog. Croesawaf yr hyn a wnaethpwyd, ond mae'r sefyllfa yn amlwg yn peri pryder i'r diwydiant gweithgynhyrchu yng Nghymru. Byddwch yn cofio fy mod yr wythnos diwethaf wedi ceisio esbonio wrthyach y gwahaniaeth rhwng cwmni yn mynd i law'r derbynnydd ac yn mynd i law'r gweinyddwr. Ddydd Mawrth, honasoch fod y cwmni yn mynd i law'r derbynnydd, ac, wrth gwrs, erbyn dydd Gwener yr oeddech yn iawn. A oeddech yn ymwybodol pan wnaethoch eich datganiad fod y cwmni mewn cyflwr mor enbyd, o ran bod ganddo dros gwerth £1 biliwn o ddyledion, fod yr enwau brand ar drwydded yn unig, fod yr eiddo rhydd-ddaliad yn eiddo i St Modwen Properties Plc, fod y busnes cyflenwi cydrannau yn perthyn i Caterpillar Logistics, a bod y busnes cyllid ceir, sef gem unrhyw fusnes gweithgynhyrchu yn aml, yn eiddo i Phoenix Venture Holdings? Ymddengys fod y chwistrelliad o arian i BMW wedi cael ei afradloni, mae treth heb ei thalu i gyllid y

problems for dealers in Wales, of which you do not make a great deal in your statement. I do, however, appreciate that you are awaiting further information on that.

We know that, unfortunately, Wales remains one of the least productive regions of the United Kingdom, and the collapse of Rover—which was the last British-owned manufacturer that sourced parts in Wales—is a concern, not just for the manufacturing industry at present, but for its capabilities in the future. Is it not now true that your party's claim to economic competence is about as good as a Rover warranty?

3.20 p.m.

Andrew Davies: There were more questions than facts there. Your rather perplexing statement that Wales is the least productive part of the UK is not true. If you consider recent economic development, growth in gross value added, the increase in employment and a whole range of hard economic indicators, you will see that the performance of the Welsh economy has improved dramatically since 1997, and even more dramatically since 1999. One reason why this Government and my party were so committed to restoring the Welsh economy in 1997 and 1999 was because of the devastation that your party wreaked on it when it was in Government. I would not want Members to be in any doubt about that: 360,000 jobs were lost in manufacturing between 1979 and 1997. That is 20,000 jobs a year on average. However, I stand corrected on your point about the distinction between receivership and administration. I have written to you—I am not sure whether the letter has reached your office yet—accepting your correction.

On the car dealerships, as I said earlier, we are still trying to get information on what the impact on them will be—I think that there are 15 of them in Wales—and we are exploring with the UK Government the financial assistance that might be possible for those dealerships affected by the collapse of MG

wlad, a gwyddom fod rhwymedigaethau pensiwn posibl erbyn. Mae hyn wedi creu problemau anferthol i werthwyr yng Nghymru, rhywbeth na roddasoch lawer o sylw iddo yn eich datganiad. Sylweddolaf, fodd bynnag, eich bod yn disgwyl cael rhagor o wybodaeth am hynny.

Gwyddom, yn anffodus, fod Cymru yn dal ymysg rhanbarthau lleiaf cynhyrchiol y Deyrnas Unedig, a bod cwmpwys Rover—sef y cwmni gweithgynhyrchu Prydeinig olaf a brynai gydrannau yng Nghymru—yn peri pryder, nid yn unig o ran y diwydiant gweithgynhyrchu ar hyn o bryd, ond o ran ei alluoedd i'r dyfodol. Onid yw'n wir bellach fod haerriad eich plaid ynghylch meistrolaeth ar yr economi mor ddi-werth â waranti Rover?

Andrew Davies: Yr oedd mwy o gwestiynau nag o ffeithiau yn y geiriau hynny. Nid yw eich datganiad astrus braidd, mai Cymru yw'r rhan leiaf cynhyrchiol o'r DU, yn wir. Os ystyriwch y datblygu economaidd diweddar, cynnydd yn y twf economaidd cyffredinol, y cynnydd mewn cyflogaeth ac amrywiaeth mawr o ddangosyddion economaidd pendant, byddwch yn gweld bod perfformiad economi Cymru wedi gwella'n aruthrol ers 1997, ac yn fwy aruthrol byth ers 1999. Un rheswm pam yr oedd y Llywodraeth hon a fy mhlaid mor ymroddedig i adfer economi Cymru yn 1997 ac 1999 oedd oherwydd y distryw a wnaeth eich plaid pan oedd mewn grym. Ni hoffwn i'r Aelodau fod ag unrhyw amwysedd ynghylch hynny: collwyd 360,000 o swyddi yn y sector gweithgynhyrchu rhwng 1979 ac 1997. Mae hyn yn 20,000 o swyddi y flwyddyn ar gyfartaledd. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn derbyn eich cywiriad ynghylch y gwahaniaeth rhwng cwmni yn mynd i law'r derbynnydd ac yn mynd i law'r gweinyddwr. Yr wyf wedi ysgrifennu atoch—nid wyf yn sicr a yw'r llythyr wedi cyrraedd eich swyddfa eto—yn derbyn eich cywiriad.

O ran y cwmnïau sy'n gwerthu ceir, fel y dywedais yn gynharach, yr ydym yn dal i geisio cael gwybodaeth ynghylch pa effaith a gaiff hyn arnynt—credaf fod 15 ohonynt yng Nghymru—ac yr ydym yn pwysu a mesur gyda Llywodraeth y DU y cymorth ariannol y gellid ei gynnig o bosibl i'r delwriaethau

Rover.

hynny y mae cwmp MG Rover yn effeithio arnynt.

Jenny Randerson: This is a long, sorry tale of a slow decline over several years, of hope that there had been a resolution and now of an eventual clean-out. I think that you would agree that many questions need to be answered about what has happened in this group.

Jenny Randerson: Mae hwn yn hanes maith a thrist am ddirywiad araf dros nifer o flynyddoedd, am obaith bod ateb wedi ei gael ac yn awr am golledion llwyr yn y pen draw. Credaf y byddech yn cytuno bod llawer o gwestiynau i'w hateb ynghylch yr hyn a ddigwyddodd yn y grŵp hwn.

I am grateful for the additional information that you have given us today. You mentioned in your statement that just three suppliers in Wales have more than 15 per cent of their turnover associated with MG Rover. That leaves the question that I asked last week: do you now have an estimate of how many companies might be affected that have turnover associated with MG Rover of below 15 per cent, and of the number of jobs that could be affected? Those companies will not get any UK Government aid, and we should be particularly concerned about them. I am sorry to hear of the 120 jobs that are to be lost and I fear that there could be many more in the long term.

Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y wybodaeth ychwanegol a roddasoch inni heddiw. Crybwyllasoch yn eich datganiad mai tri chwmni cyflenwi yn unig yng Nghymru sydd â thros 15 y cant o'u trosiant yn gysylltiedig ag MG Rover. Mae hyn yn gadael y cwestiwn a ofynnais yr wythnos diwethaf: a oes gennych bellach amcan ynghylch faint o gwmnïau yr effeithir arnynt o bosibl ac sydd â throsiant yn gysylltiedig ag MG Rover sy'n is na 15 y cant, ac ynghylch nifer y swyddi y gallai hyn effeithio arnynt? Ni fydd y cwmnïau hynny yn cael dim cymorth gan Lywodraeth y DU, a dylem fod yn bryderus yn eu cylch hwy yn arbennig. Mae'n resyn gennyf glywed am y 120 o swyddi a fydd yn cael eu colli ac ofnaf y bydd llawer rhagor o bosibl yn y tymor hir.

You mentioned that there are 19 Rover dealerships, but there are also—and I also raised this last week—those companies that do most of their car servicing for MG Rover cars. There are all sorts of issues for them. There may not be a sudden turning-off of business, because those cars will go on being used for many years, but there are issues over the supply of parts and the security of their work. What are you specifically doing with those involved in the servicing sector?

Crybwyllasoch fod 19 o ddelwriaethau Rover, ond hefyd—a chodais hyn yr wythnos diwethaf hefyd—mae'r cwmnïau hynny sydd yn gwneud y rhan fwyaf o'u gwaith gwasanaethu ceir ar geir MG Rover. Bydd y rhain yn wynebu pob math o broblemau. Mae'n bosibl na fydd y busnes yn dod i ben dros nos, oherwydd y bydd y ceir hyn yn dal i gael eu defnyddio am nifer o flynyddoedd, ond mae problemau o safbwynt cyflenwi cydrannau a sicrwydd eu gwaith. Beth yr ydych yn ei wneud yn benodol gyda'r rhai sy'n gysylltiedig â'r sector gwasanaethu?

I agree with Rhodri Glyn Thomas's comments on the loss of manufacturing jobs and the general concern about that, which I have raised with you many times before. The news today that more than half of the jobs gained in Wales are in the public sector obviously means that less than half are in the private sector. Week after week we hear of the loss of manufacturing jobs. Those are often well-paid jobs and it is of great concern that this is yet another to add to the list. I

Cytunaf â sylwadau Rhodri Glyn Thomas am golli swyddi gweithgynhyrchu a'r pryder cyffredinol ynghylch hyn, mater yr wyf wedi ei godi gyda chi sawl tro o'r blaen. Mae'r newyddion heddiw mai yn y sector cyhoeddus y mae dros hanner y swyddi a sicrhawyd yng Nghymru yn amlwg yn golygu bod llai na'u hanner yn y sector preifat. Wythnos ar ôl wythnos, clywn am golli swyddi gweithgynhyrchu. Mae'r rhai hyn yn aml yn swyddi â chyflogau da ac

would be grateful for answers on the specific questions that I have raised.

Andrew Davies: When an event such as the collapse of MG Rover occurs, there are many questions and, in many cases, the information that is required takes some time, and it takes times for the implications of such a collapse to feed its way through the economy. The major problem facing not just the component suppliers, but the dealerships and the service sector, will be cash flow. Where, within European Union rules, we are able to help, we will do so.

On the component suppliers, at present, the taskforce has identified three companies that have a turnover of more than 15 per cent related to MG Rover. However, it is not true to say that those with less than 15 per cent turnover are not able to access any help—they will be able to access part of that £40 million fund for diagnostic support to identify their needs and help them identify ways in which they might diversify. That is why I am delighted to make the announcement about IBM and the link-up with Technium Auto, because that is exactly the kind of focused help that small companies need. Often, they do not have that resource and capability themselves. That resource will help the considerable diversification that has been undertaken in the automotive sector over the last five years. The industry, including the trade unions, have gone on record as saying that if it had not been for the dynamic response of the Assembly Government and the Welsh Development Agency in providing help with diversification, the industry would be in a much worse situation today.

With regard to the impact on the service sector, it is still too early to say, but I will ask the taskforce, as the industry representative, to report back to me on that. On the loss of manufacturing jobs, I will make a couple of points. First, manufacturing is of significant importance to the Welsh economy. A larger proportion of our GDP per capita or GVA is produced by the manufacturing sector than is the case for any other part of the UK, at 23

mae'n peri cryn bryder bod hyn yn un arall eto i'w ychwanegu at y rhestr. Byddwn yn falch o gael atebion i'r cwestiynau penodol yr wyf wedi eu codi.

Andrew Davies: Pan fydd digwyddiad megis cwymp MG Rover yn digwydd, bydd llawer o gwestiynau ac, mewn sawl achos, mae'r wybodaeth sy'n ofynnol yn cymryd cryn amser, a chymer amser i oblygiadau cwymp o'r fath fwydo eu ffordd drwy'r economi. Y broblem fawr a fydd yn wynebu nid yn unig y cwmnïau cyflenwi cydrannau, ond y delwriaethau a'r sector gwasanaethu, fydd llif arian. Ym mhle bynnag y gallwn helpu, o fewn rheolau'r Undeb Ewropeaidd, byddwn yn gwneud hynny.

O safbwynt y cwmnïau cyflenwi cydrannau, ar hyn o bryd, mae'r tasglu wedi enwi tri chwmni sydd â throsgiant o dros 15 y cant yn gysylltiedig ag MG Rover. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'n gywir dweud nad yw'r rhai sydd â llai na 15 y cant o drosgiant yn gallu cael gafael ar ddim cymorth—byddant yn gallu cael gafael ar ran o'r gronfa £40 miliwn honno ar gyfer cymorth diagnostig i ganfod beth yw eu hanghenion a'u helpu i ganfod dulliau y gallent arallgyfeirio. Dyna pam yr wyf yn falch dros ben o wneud y cyhoeddiad am IBM a'r rhyng-gysylltiad gyda Technium Auto, oherwydd dyma'r union fath o help â ffocws pendant iddo y mae ar gwmnïau bach ei angen. Yn aml, nid yw'r adnodd a'r gallu hwnnw ganddynt eu hunain. Bydd yr adnodd hwn yn helpu'r arallgyfeirio sylweddol a wnaed yn y sector modurol dros y pum mlynedd diwethaf. Mae'r diwydiant, gan gynnwys yr undebau llafur, wedi dweud ar ddu a gwyn y byddai'r diwydiant, heb ymateb deinamig Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ac Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru yn darparu cymorth gydag arallgyfeirio, mewn sefyllfa lawer gwaeth heddiw.

O safbwynt yr effaith ar y sector gwasanaethu, mae'n dal yn rhy fuan i ddweud, ond gofynnaf i'r tasglu, fel cynrychiolydd y diwydiant, adrodd yn ôl wrthyf am hynny. O safbwynt colli swyddi gweithgynhyrchu, gwnaf ddau bwynt. I ddechrau, mae gweithgynhyrchu yn bwysig aruthrol i economi Cymru. Cynhyrchir cyfran fwy o'n cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth y pen neu ein twf economaidd cyffredinol gan

per cent I believe. The automotive sector is still a considerable wealth generator and employer—around 25,000 people work in it. However, as I said, the loss of manufacturing jobs does not just affect Wales, but the rest of the UK and the wider advanced industrial world, certainly western Europe and North America. In fact, the loss of manufacturing jobs in Wales has been significantly less than it has been in other parts of the UK, in particular Scotland. It is an important sector, which is why I set up the manufacturing task and finish group last year to recommend ways in which we can help the sector. I absolutely reject any implication that this Government, the WDA and other public bodies in Wales are not committed to promoting and enhancing the manufacturing sector. However, the point must be made that, as the collapse of MG Rover demonstrates, it is a very competitive market and there is substantial overcapacity in the global automotive sector. I am sure that you will be aware of the difficulties faced by Ford and General Motors, which have featured in the financial press in the last few days. However, our aim as a Government is to help the sector and individual companies, wherever we can, to remain, improve their competitiveness and maintain their employment.

Catherine Thomas: Thank you for your statement this afternoon, which provides an update on the situation and the support that is being provided. We now know the fate of MG Rover, and, as you said in your statement, this is devastating news for thousands of workers and their families. You also acknowledged the impact on businesses in Llanelli, particularly, Krupp Camford Pressings and Calsonic Kansei. Since last week's statement, Krupp Camford Pressings has announced more job losses, and Calsonic has announced 17 job losses. Small and medium-sized businesses in my constituency, which are component suppliers, may also suffer, as well as transportation businesses and MG Rover dealers in the area. I particularly welcome your comments that you are awaiting information about support for those with dealerships. As you know, I

y sector gweithgynhyrchu nag unrhyw ran arall o'r DU, mae'n 23 y cant yr wyf yn credu. Mae'r sector modurol yn dal yn gyflogwr ac yn gynhyrchydd cyfoeth sylweddol—mae oddeutu 25,000 yn gweithio ynddo. Fodd bynnag, fel y dywedais, nid Cymru yn unig y mae'r colli swyddi gweithgynhyrchu yn effeithio arni, ond gweddill y DU a'r byd diwydiannol datblygedig ehangach, gorllewin Ewrop a Gogledd America yn sicr. Yn wir, bu'r swyddi gweithgynhyrchu a gollwyd yng Nghymru yn sylweddol is nag mewn rhannau eraill o'r DU, yn enwedig yr Alban. Mae'n sector pwysig, a dyna pam y sefydlais y grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen gweithgynhyrchu y llynedd i argymhell dulliau o helpu'r sector. Yr wyf yn gwrthod yn llwyr unrhyw awgrym nad yw'r Llywodraeth hon, Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru a chyrff cyhoeddus eraill yng Nghymru wedi ymrwymo i hybu a gwella'r sector gweithgynhyrchu. Fodd bynnag, rhaid gwneud y pwynt ei bod, fel y dengys cwmp MG Rover, yn farchnad gystadleuol iawn a bod cryn or-gapasiti yn y sector modurol byd-eang. Yr wyf yn sicr eich bod yn ymwybodol o'r anawsterau y mae Ford a General Motors yn eu hwynebu, sydd wedi ymddangos yn y wasg ariannol yn ystod y dyddiau diwethaf. Fodd bynnag, ein nod fel Llywodraeth yw helpu'r sector a'r cwmnïau unigol, pryd bynnag y gallwn, i gynnal a gwella eu gallu i gystadlu a chadw eu cyflogaeth.

Catherine Thomas: Diolch ichi am eich datganiad y prynhawn yma, datganiad sy'n rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y sefyllfa ac am y cymorth sy'n cael ei roi. Mae tynged MG Rover yn hysbys inni bellach, ac, fel y dywedasoeh yn eich datganiad, mae hyn yn newyddion deifiol i filoedd o weithwyr a'u teuluoedd. Cydnabuoeh hefyd yr effaith ar fusnesau yn Llanelli, yn enwedig Krupp Camford Pressings a Calsonic Kansei. Ers datganiad yr wythnos diwethaf, mae Krupp Camford Pressings wedi cyhoeddi y bydd rhagor o swyddi yn cael eu colli, ac mae Calsonic wedi cyhoeddi y bydd 17 o swyddi yn cael eu colli. Mae'n bosibl y bydd busnesau bach a chanolig yn fy etholaeth, busnesau sy'n cyflenwi cydrannau, hefyd yn dioddef, yn ogystal â busnesau trawsgludo a gwerthwyr MG Rover yn yr ardal. Croesawaf yn arbennig eich sylwadau eich bod yn

am in regular contact with management, shop stewards, trade unions and the workforce, and they have raised a number of issues with me that I would like to raise this afternoon.

Although you have outlined in some detail in your statement the crucial support that is given, I would appreciate information on how people can access this and how it is being advertised.

3.30 p.m.

On retraining, which is crucial, many of my constituents are too young to retire, but are now of an age when they do not want to uproot from Llanelli. What will be done to identify realistic retraining where there will be real job opportunities in the area? What action will Team Wales take to prevent a further haemorrhaging of jobs from existing businesses, to ensure that current jobs are safeguarded? What support can be given to secure new business for companies such as Krupp Camford and Calsonic, both of which have received a great deal of support from the Welsh Assembly Government in recent years?

Recently, I attended a meeting in Bridgend convened by the Welsh automotive taskforce. It was clear from that meeting that there was an enormous amount of support available. It was also clear that this level of support was not available five years ago, when Rover hit huge problems. Consequently, over the past few years, I am glad to say that businesses have been assisted in reducing their dependency on Rover and because of that, as has already been stated, only two or three companies have 15 per cent or more of their turnover with Rover. However, those that do, such as Krupp Camford in my constituency, must receive the crucial support that is needed. Furthermore, companies such as Calsonic are among the majority whose turnover is 15 per cent and under, and, again, they need that crucial support.

Finally, I know that Team Wales is doing

disgwyl cael gwybodaeth am gymorth i'r rhai hynny sydd â delwriaethau. Fel y gwyddoch, yr wyf yn cysylltu yn rheolaidd gyda rheolwyr, stiwardiaid undeb, undebau llafur a'r gweithlu, ac maent wedi codi nifer o faterion gyda mi yr hoffwn eu codi y prynhawn hwn.

Er eich bod wedi amlinellu mewn cryn fanylder yn eich datganiad y cymorth hollbwysig a roddir, byddwn yn gwerthfawrogi cael gwybodaeth ynghylch sut y gall pobl gael hyn a sut y mae'n cael ei hysbysebu.

O ran ailhyfforddi, sy'n allweddol, mae llawer o'm hetholwyr yn rhy ifanc i ymddeol, ond wedi cyrraedd oed bellach lle nad oes arnynt eisiau codi'u gwreiddiau o Lanelli. Beth a wneir i ganfod ailhyfforddi realistig lle y bydd cyfleoedd gwaith go iawn yn yr ardal? Beth a wnaiff Tîm Cymru i atal gwaedlif pellach o swyddi oddi wrth fusnesau sy'n bodoli, er mwyn sicrhau bod swyddi cyfredol yn cael eu diogelu? Pa gymorth y gellir ei roi i sicrhau busnes newydd i gwmnïau fel Krupp Camford a Calsonic, dau gwmni sydd wedi cael llawer iawn o gymorth gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn y blynyddoedd diweddar?

Yn ddiweddar, mynychais gyfarfod ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr a alwyd gan dasglu modurol Cymru. Yr oedd yn glir o'r cyfarfod hwnnw fod peth wmbredd o gefnogaeth ar gael. Yr oedd yn glir hefyd nad oedd y lefel hon o gefnogaeth ar gael bum mlynedd yn ôl, pan gafodd Rover broblemau aruthrol. Wedi hynny, yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf, mae'n dda gennyf ddweud bod busnesau wedi cael cymorth i leihau eu dibyniaeth ar Rover ac oherwydd hynny, fel y dywedwyd eisoes, dim ond dau neu dri chwmini sydd â 15 y cant neu fwy o'u trosiant gyda Rover. Fodd bynnag, rhaid i'r ddau neu dri hynny, fel Krupp Camford yn fy etholaeth i, gael y cymorth allweddol sydd ei angen. At hynny, mae cwmnïau fel Calsonic ymysg y mwyafrif y mae eu trosiant yn 15 y cant ac is, ac eto, mae arnynt hwythau angen y cymorth allweddol hwnnw.

Yn olaf, gwn fod Tîm Cymru'n gwneud

everything possible and I believe that there is still life in the automotive industry in Wales. I also believe that we have a huge responsibility not to talk down Welsh businesses; that is irresponsible. I am glad that, in the latter part of your statement, you mentioned developments at the Technium Auto in Dafen in Llanelli, which shows, through partnership working, a real commitment to the future of the automotive industry in Wales, which I welcome for the sake of my constituents and all those involved in this industry throughout Wales.

Andrew Davies: Thank you, Catherine. I know how assiduously you have worked, not just in the last week, but over the last couple of years, with the companies in your constituency and the region, and with the trade unions and the workforce. As I said, we stand ready to help individual companies and the sector to identify opportunities for diversification and to look for new business. Where that may mean capital investment, we can help with regional selective assistance or Assembly investment grants, depending on the scale of the company and the investment that it seeks. The development of the product lifecycle management facility at the new Technium Auto at Dafen will provide the focused support that many companies will need to identify and develop new opportunities. There is a range of opportunities available for companies to develop their business. Clearly, the automotive taskforce is the crucial mechanism for doing so because it brings together industry representatives on the side of management and trade unions to work on that agenda.

I am pleased that you mentioned the fact that the work done over the last five years has meant that the automotive sector, particularly in south Wales, is in better shape to handle the collapse of a company like MG Rover than it would have been five years ago. Calsonic, in its announcement on restructuring a few weeks ago, was full of praise for the support that it had received from the Assembly Government and the WDA. Similarly, we have made several offers of RSA to Krupp Camford over many years, some of which were taken up and

popeth posibl a chredaf fod bywyd o hyd yn y diwydiant cerbydau modur yng Nghymru. Credaf hefyd fod gennym gyfrifoldeb enfawr i beidio â dibrisio busnesau Cymreig; mae hynny'n anghyfrifol. Yr wyf yn falch ichi grybwyll, yn rhan olaf eich datganiad, ddatblygiadau yn y Technium Auto yn Nafen yn Llanelli, sy'n dangos, drwy waith mewn partneriaeth, wir ymrwymiad i ddyfodol y diwydiant cerbydau modur yng Nghymru, a groesawaf er mwyn fy etholwyr a phawb sy'n ymwneud â'r diwydiant hwn ledled Cymru.

Andrew Davies: Diolch, Catherine. Gwn mor ddyfal yr ydych wedi gweithio, nid yn unig yn ystod yr wythnos ddiwethaf, ond dros y flwyddyn neu ddwy ddiwethaf, gyda'r cwmnïau yn eich etholaeth a'r rhanbarth, a chyda'r undebau llafur a'r gweithlu. Fel y dywedais, yr ydym yn barod i helpu cwmnïau unigol a'r sector i ganfod cyfleoedd i arallgyfeirio ac i edrych am fusnes newydd. Lle y gall hynny olygu buddsoddi cyfalaf, gallwn helpu gyda chymorth dewisol rhanbarthol neu grantiau buddsoddi'r Cynulliad, yn ôl maint y cwmni a'r buddsoddiad y mae arno eisiau ei gael. Bydd datblygu'r cyfleuster rheoli cylch oes cynnyrch newydd yn y Technium Auto newydd yn Nafen yn darparu'r cymorth sydd â ffocws iddo y bydd ar lawer o gwmnïau ei angen er mwyn canfod a datblygu cyfleoedd newydd. Mae llawer o gyfleoedd ar gael i gwmnïau ddatblygu eu busnes. Wrth reswm, y tasglu modurol yw'r mecanwaith allweddol ar gyfer gwneud hynny gan ei fod yn dod â chynrychiolwyr y diwydiant o ochr y rheolwyr a'r undebau llafur ynghyd i weithio ar yr agenda honno.

Yr wyf yn falch ichi grybwyll y ffaith bod y gwaith a wnaethpwyd dros y pum mlynedd diwethaf wedi golygu bod y sector cerbydau modur, yn enwedig yn y De, mewn gwell cyflwr i ddelio â chwalfa cwmni fel MG Rover nag a fuasai bum mlynedd yn ôl. Yr oedd Calsonic, yn ei gyhoeddiad ar ailstrwythuro ychydig wythnosau'n ôl, yn llawn clod i'r cymorth a gawsai gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad a'r WDA. Yn yr un modd, yr ydym wedi cynnig cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol sawl gwaith i Krupp Camford dros flynyddoedd lawer, ac yntau

others not. Once again, we stand ready to help a company through that process, if it so wishes.

Access to information is provided through the automotive taskforce helpline, which knows the sector better than anyone else. We feel that that is the best way of handling the issue. My officials are involved in the taskforce, and they will bring their support to the process.

On retraining, as ever, the public sector is ready to respond and is already engaged. That includes Careers Wales, the Education and Learning Wales training agency, Jobcentre Plus and other agencies. There is an Objective 1 funded programme called ReAct which is able to help those affected by redundancy to identify training needs and other work opportunities. Therefore, there is a range of support mechanisms in place to help companies.

It will be cold comfort to those affected, but the current employment situation is extremely buoyant—unemployment is at its lowest for 30 years. The major issue which employers have—particularly in the manufacturing and engineering sectors—is that it is very difficult to recruit and retain skilled people. Against that background, there will be many employment opportunities for people affected in your constituency and elsewhere. Over the last year, up to March 2005, in the Llanelli travel-to-work area, the inflow to the claimant count was 3,400, and the outflow was 3,600. In other words, over the last year there were just under 3,500 new claims, and just over 3,500 claims came to an end, which reflects the buoyancy of the labour market. There is a churn in the labour market, but most people who enter the claimant system move on very quickly into alternative employment. That is cold comfort to those facing redundancy, but we stand ready as a Government to help them in that task.

Lisa Francis: Your statement mentioned the wage subsidy, which suppliers with in excess of 15 per cent of their turnover with MG

wedi derbyn weithiau a heb wneud dro arall. Unwaith eto, yr ydym yn barod i helpu cwmni drwy'r broses honno, os dymuna hynny.

Darperir mynediad at wybodaeth drwy linell gymorth y tasglu modurol, sy'n adnabod y sector yn well na neb arall. Teimlwn mai dyna'r ffordd orau i drin y mater. Mae fy swyddogion wrthi yn y tasglu, a byddant hwythau'n rhoi eu cefnogaeth i'r broses.

O ran ailhyfforddi, fel erioed, mae'r sector cyhoeddus yn barod i ymateb ac mae wrthi eisoes. Mae hynny'n cynnwys Gyrfya Cymru, asiantaeth hyfforddi Dysgu ac Addysgu Cymru, Canolfan Byd Gwaith ac asiantaethau eraill. Mae rhaglen a ariennir dan Amcan 1 o'r enw ReAct a all helpu'r rhai sy'n dioddef yn sgîl dileu swyddi i ganfod yr anghenion o ran hyfforddi a'r cyfleoedd i gael gwaith arall. Felly, mae amrediad o fecanweithiau cymorth ar gael i helpu cwmnïau.

Ni fydd hyn fawr o gysur i'r rhai yr effeithir arnynt, ond mae'r sefyllfa o ran gwaith ar hyn o bryd yn eithriadol o fywiog—mae diweithdra ar ei isaf ers 30 mlynedd. Y brif broblem sydd gan gyflogwyr—yn enwedig yn y sectorau gweithgynhyrchu a pheirianyddol—yw ei bod yn anodd iawn recriwtio a chadw pobl fedrus. Yn erbyn y cefndir hwnnw, bydd llawer o gyfleoedd gwaith i bobl yr effeithir arnynt yn eich etholaeth chi a mannau eraill. Dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, hyd at fis Mawrth 2005, yn ardal teithio-i'r-gwaith Llanelli, ychwanegwyd 3,400 at nifer yr hawlwyd, tra collwyd 3,600. Mewn geiriau eraill, yn ystod y flwyddyn ddiwethaf cafwyd ychydig dan 3,500 o hawliadau newydd, a daeth ychydig dros 3,500 o hawliadau i ben, sy'n adlewyrchu bywiogrwydd y farchnad lafur. Mae llawer o fynd a dod yn y farchnad lafur, ond mae'r rhan fwyaf o bobl sy'n ymuno â'r system hawlwyd yn symud ymlaen yn gyflym iawn i waith arall. Nid yw hynny fawr o gysur i'r rhai sy'n wynebu colli'u swyddi, ond yr ydym yn barod fel Llywodraeth i'w helpu yn y dasg honno.

Lisa Francis: Yr oedd eich datganiad yn sôn am y cymhorthdal cyflogau, y mae hawl i'w dderbyn gan gyflenwyr sydd â mwy na 15 y

Rover are entitled to receive. The statement said that that particular group is entitled to access the wage subsidy. Does that mean that they will get the wage subsidy, or that they are entitled to try to access it? That is rather misleading. Over how long a period will the subsidy be payable?

Andrew Davies: The fund was set up in collaboration between the west Midlands regional development agency and the Department of Trade and Industry. Each individual company will be able to access the helpline, and will, therefore, be taken through the process. As you said, the support with wage subsidy and retraining was only available to companies with 15 per cent of their turnover with MG Rover, and it has support for employees who have been laid off, but who are available for training. Companies will need to make affected employees available for off-the-job training, and would be eligible for a wage replacement package based on £50 per employee per day for a maximum of six weeks. However, we are operating within EU rules, and any aid under the UK package is subject to the de minimis state aid limit, which is €100,000, which is approximately £60,000. This applies at company, not plant, level. As we get more information, I will make it available to Members.

Gwenda Thomas: I have been in touch with the management and trade unions at TRW in Resolven in my constituency, a company which is also making some workers redundant, albeit on a rota basis, due to the MG Rover situation. Notwithstanding the fact that TRW has been actively diversifying its work since the BMW crisis a few years ago, and that the Wales TUC initiative, 'Accelerate Wales', is proving helpful, can you give an assurance that the workforce at TRW, if permanent redundancies become necessary, will receive a fair share of the resources being made available by the Labour Government?

3.40 p.m.

cant o'u trosiant gyda MG Rover. Dywedodd y datganiad fod gan y grŵp arbennig hwnnw hawl i gael y cymhorthdal cyflogau. A olyga hynny y cânt y cymhorthdal cyflogau, ynteu fod ganddynt hawl i geisio'i gael? Mae hynny braidd yn gamarweiniol. Am ba hyd y bydd y cymhorthdal yn daladwy?

Andrew Davies: Sefydlwyd y gronfa ar y cyd rhwng asiantaeth datblygu rhanbarthol gorllewin canoldir Lloegr a'r Adran Masnach a Diwydiant. Bydd pob cwmni unigol yn gallu defnyddio'r llinell gymorth, ac felly, eir â hwy drwy'r broses. Fel y dywedasoeh, dim ond i gwmnïau â 15 y cant o'u trosiant gyda MG Rover yr oedd y cymorth gyda chymhorthdal cyflogau ac ailhyfforddi ar gael, ac mae'n cynnwys cymorth i weithwyr a gollodd eu swyddi, ond sydd ar gael i hyfforddi. Bydd angen i gwmnïau sicrhau bod gweithwyr yr effeithir arnynt ar gael ar gyfer hyfforddiant i ffwrdd o'r gwaith, a byddent yn gymwys i gael pecyn yn lle'r cyflog yn seiliedig ar £50 y gweithiwr y dydd am uchafswm o chwe wythnos. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn gweithredu o fewn rheolau'r UE, ac mae unrhyw gymorth dan becyn y DU yn amodol ar y terfyn cymorth gwladwriaeth de minimis, sef €100,000, neu oddeutu £60,000. Mae hyn i'w weithredu ar lefel y cwmni, nid y gweithle. Pan gawn ragor o wybodaeth, sicrhaf y bydd ar gael i'r Aelodau.

Gwenda Thomas: Bûm mewn cysylltiad â'r rheolwyr a'r undebau llafur yn TRW yn Resolven yn fy etholaeth, sef cwmni sydd hefyd yn anfon rhai gweithwyr adref o'r gwaith, er mai ar sail rota y gwneir hynny, oherwydd sefyllfa MG Rover. Er gwaethaf y ffaith bod TRW wedi bod wrthi'n arallgyfeirio'i waith ers argyfwng BMW ychydig flynyddoedd yn ôl, a bod menter TUC Cymru, 'Accelerate Cymru', yn help, a allwch roi sicrwydd y caiff y gweithlu yn TRW, os bydd angen diswyddo'n barhaol, gyfran deg o'r adnoddau a ddarperir gan y Llywodraeth Lafur?

Andrew Davies: If they qualify under the system which has been established, they will be eligible for support, but it would depend on the degree of business that the company had with MG Rover in terms of any wage subsidy or access to the larger support proposal. If employees are to be made redundant—and it is currently a case of laying staff off, on a rota basis, rather than redundancies at TRW—then the suite of offers that Team Wales is able to provide for individual employees will be made available for those affected at TRW. I hope that it does not come to that.

Andrew Davies: Os ydynt yn gymwys dan y system a sefydlwyd, gallant gael cymorth, ond byddai'n dibynnu ar faint o fusnes a oedd gan y cwmni gyda MG Rover o ran unrhyw gymhorthdal cyflogau neu hawl i fanteisio ar y cynnig cymorth ehangach. Os diswyddir gweithwyr—ac ar hyn o bryd mater o anfon staff adref, ar sail rota, yn hytrach na diswyddo, ydyw yn TRW—yna sicrheir y bydd y set o gynigion y gall Tîm Cymru ei darparu i weithwyr unigol ar gael i'r rhai yr effeithir arnynt yn TRW. Gobeithiaf na ddaw hi i hynny.

Pwyntiau o Drefn Points of Order

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Codaf bwynt o drefn o dan adran 57.4 o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998 a Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 9.2, sy'n ymwneud â phwyllgorau pwnc a'u Cadeiryddion. Fe wyddoch fod y Blaid Lafur erbyn hyn wedi colli ei mwyafrif yn y Cynulliad, sy'n golygu bod gan y gwrthbleidiau fwy o Aelodau na'r Blaid Lafur. Dywed Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 9.2:

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I raise a point of order under section 57.4 of the Government of Wales Act 1998 and Standing Order No. 9.2, regarding subject committees and their Chairs. You will know that the Labour Party has now lost its majority in the Assembly, which means that the opposition parties have more Members than the Labour Party. Standing Order No. 9.2 states that:

'Dewisir cadeiryddion y pwyllgorau pwnc o banel o Aelodau a etholir gan y Cynulliad er mwyn sicrhau, cyn belled ag y bo'n ymarferol, fod cydbwysedd y pleidiau yn y Cynulliad yn cael ei adlewyrchu yn aelodaeth y panel'.

'Chairs of subject committees shall be selected from a panel of Members elected by the Assembly so as to ensure that, as far as is practicable, the balance of the parties in the Assembly is reflected in the membership of the panel'.

Hyd yma, gan fod gan y Llywodraeth fwyafrif, yr oedd gan y Blaid Lafur bedwar aelod o Banel y Cadeiryddion, ac yr oedd gan y gwrthbleidiau dri. Mae lle i ofyn a yw'r panel presennol yn adlewyrchu cydbwysedd y pleidiau yn y Cynulliad gan fod newid wedi bod. Gofynnaf i chi, fel Cadeirydd Panel y Cadeiryddion, ystyried y mater hwn ac, efallai, adrodd yn ôl pan fydd hynny'n gyfleus.

To date, since the Labour Party had a majority, it had four members on the Panel of Chairs, and the opposition parties had three. It can be asked whether the current panel reflects party balance within the Assembly now that this change has taken place. I ask you, as Chair of the Panel of Chairs, to consider this issue and perhaps report back to us when it is convenient.

Y Llywydd: Yr wyf wedi clywed y pwynt o drefn, ac wedi ystyried y mater hwn yn ofalus ers i mi dderbyn gohebiaeth oddi wrth Peter Law, Aelod Cynulliad, ddoe. Cynhelir cyfarfod o Banel y Cadeiryddion yn fuan, ac mae'n sicr y bydd y mater hwn yn codi. Mae'r Ddeddf, fel y dywedodd arweinydd yr wrthblaid, yn glir. Mae'r dyfyniad o Reol

The Presiding Officer: I have heard the point of order, and have considered this issue carefully since I received correspondence from Peter Law, Assembly Member, yesterday. A meeting of the Panel of Chairs will be held soon, and this issue will certainly be raised. The Act, as the leader of the opposition said, is clear. The quotation of

Sefydlog Rhif 9.2 yn cyfateb i'r hyn sy'n y Ddeddf. Y mae'n ofynnol arnom i gydymffurfio â'r Ddeddf honno, oherwydd dywed yn glir:

'The Assembly shall elect a number of Assembly members to be a panel from which the members who are to chair the subject committees are to be selected; and the members of the panel shall be elected so as to secure that, as far as is practicable, the balance of the parties in the Assembly is reflected in the membership of the panel'.

Nid mater o gydbwysedd grwpiau yw hyn, ond mater o gydbwysedd pleidiau. Cyfeiriodd arweinydd yr wrthblaid at Reol Sefydlog Rhif 9.2; mae Rheol Sefydlog 9.3 yn dweud bod yn rhaid i'r Trefnydd:

'gyflwyno cynigion ar gyfer ethol Aelodau yn aelodau o'r panel, ac ar gyfer dewis cadeiryddion pwyllgorau pwnc penodol, ar ôl ymgynghori yn y Pwyllgor Busnes â'r grwpiau gwleidyddol a gynrychiolir yn y Cynulliad'.

Deallaf fod y mater hwn wedi'i ystyried yng nghyfarfod y Pwyllgor Busnes—er nad wyf yn ymwybodol o'r hyn sy'n mynd ymlaen yn llawn yn y pwyllgor hwnnw—ac mae'r Trefnydd yn gwrandao ar yr hyn sy'n digwydd yma heddiw. Y cwbl y gallaf ei ddweud yw y bydd yn rhaid i ni edrych ymlaen at y datblygiadau, gan ychwanegu ein bod ni wedi bod yn y sefyllfa hon o'r blaen. Gobeithiaf, felly, fod gennym brofiad o sut i ymateb yn y sefyllfa hon, gan sicrhau ein bod yn cydymffurfio â'n cyfansoddiad sylfaenol o dan y Ddeddf a'n Rheolau Sefydlog. Byddaf yn sicrhau, gyda chymorth y rhai sy'n fy nghynghori, ein bod yn gwneud hynny.

Nick Bourne: On a separate point of order, of which I have given you notice, the National Assembly voted on 16 March in favour of setting a 500m buffer zone between opencast sites and residential developments. At that stage, no section 106 agreement had been signed off in respect of Ffos-y-frân. Subsequently, such an agreement was signed, in contravention of, or at odds with, that Assembly decision. I seek your guidance as to what we can do when a decision made by the Planning Division is so clearly at odds

Standing Order No. 9.2 corresponds to what is set out in the Act. We are required to conform with that Act, as it states clearly:

Rhaid i'r Cynulliad ethol nifer o aelodau'r Cynulliad i fod yn banel y dewisir yr aelodau a fydd yn cadeirio'r pwyllgorau pwnc ohono; ac etholir aelodau'r panel mewn modd a fydd yn sicrhau, cyn belled ag y bo'n ymarferol, yr adlewyrchir cydbwysedd y pleidiau yn y Cynulliad yn aelodaeth y panel.

It is not a matter of the balance of groups, but of parties. The leader of the opposition referred to Standing Order No. 9.2; Standing Order No. 9.3 states that the Business Minister:

'shall table motions for election of Members as panel members, and for selection of chairs of particular subject committees, following consultation in the Business Committee with the political groups represented in the Assembly'.

I understand that this issue was considered by the Business Committee—although I am not aware of everything that takes place at that committee—and the Business Minister is listening to what is being said here today. All I can say is that we will have to look forward to developments, and add that we have been in this situation before. Hopefully, therefore, we have experience of how to respond in such a situation, ensuring that we conform with our underlying constitution under the Act and our Standing Orders. I will ensure, with the support of my advisers, that we do that.

Nick Bourne: Ar bwynt o drefn gwahanol, yr wyf wedi rhoi rhybudd i chi yn ei gylch, pleidleisiodd y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ar 16 Mawrth o blaid gosod clustogfa 500m rhwng safleoedd cloddio brig a datblygiadau preswyl. Ar y pryd, nid oedd cytundeb adran 106 wedi'i gytuno'n derfynol yng nghyswllt Ffos-y-frân. O ganlyniad, llofnodwyd cytundeb o'r fath yn groes i'r penderfyniad hwnnw yn y Cynulliad, neu'n anghydnaws ag ef. Gofynnaf am eich arweiniad ynghylch beth y gallwn ei wneud pan fo penderfyniad a

with the democratic decision of the National Assembly.

The Presiding Officer: I am grateful for receiving notice of this point of order. As I understand it, the leader of the Welsh Conservatives is arguing that the decision of the Assembly on 16 March in respect of primary legislative bids should have influenced the contents of a decision letter issued on 11 April in respect of a specific development at Ffos-y-frân. As I am sure that he is aware, I have taken a keen interest in planning legislation over a number of years, having had the joy and occasional trouble of representing a national park, as does the leader of the Welsh Conservatives. My response is clear: the Assembly resolution was in the context of bids for primary legislation, and it was not related to a decision on a particular case.

There is also the issue that when the Assembly elects its planning decision committees, it delegates the powers of making those planning decisions to those committees, and therefore I can see no role for Plenary after those decisions have been taken.

Huw Lewis: It was my understanding that, when that vote took place, we were, as you said, not voting on setting a 500m buffer zone between opencast sites and residential areas. In fact, we were asking Westminster to give us a power that we already had. This was a move that you described from the chair, if I recall correctly, as ‘nonsense.’ The following up of this by opposition parties through this point of order just confirms to me that the whole point of that amendment was to cruelly deceive the residents that live near Ffos-y-frân and to enable opposition politicians to make disingenuous points of order.

The Presiding Officer: I shall have to check the Record to see when and why I used the word ‘nonsense.’

The First Minister: You used the Welsh

wneir gan yr Is-adran Gynllunio yn amlwg yn groes i benderfyniad democrataidd y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol.

Y Llywydd: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am dderbyn rhybudd ynghylch y pwynt o drefn hwn. Yn ôl fel y deallaf y sefyllfa, mae arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru yn dadlau y dylai penderfyniad y Cynulliad ar 16 Mawrth yng nghyswllt bidiau deddfwriaeth sylfaenol fod wedi dylanwadu ar gynnwys llythyr penderfyniad a gyhoeddwyd ar 11 Ebrill ynglŷn â datblygiad penodol yn Ffos-y-frân. Fel y mae’n ymwybodol yr wyf yn siŵr, mae gennyf ddiddordeb brwd ers nifer o flynyddoedd mewn deddfwriaeth cynllunio, ar ôl cael y pleser a’r drafferth weithiau o gynrychioli parc cenedlaethol, fel sy’n wir am arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru. Mae fy ymateb yn glir: gwnaethpwyd y penderfyniad gan y Cynulliad yng nghyd-destun bidiau ar gyfer deddfwriaeth sylfaenol, ac nid oedd a wnelo â phenderfyniad ynghylch achos neilltuol.

Cyfyd y mater hefyd, pan fydd y Cynulliad yn ethol ei bwyllgorau penderfyniadau cynllunio, ei fod yn dirprwyo’r pwerau ar gyfer gwneud y penderfyniadau cynllunio hynny i’r pwyllgorau hynny ac, felly, ni allaf weld unrhyw rôl i’r Cyfarfod Llawn ar ôl gwneud y penderfyniadau hynny.

Huw Lewis: Yn ôl fy nealltwriaeth i, pan gynhaliwyd y bleidlais honno, nid pleidleisio ar osod clustogfa 500m rhwng safleoedd cloddio brig a thir preswyl yr oeddem, fel y dywedaso. Mewn gwirionedd, yr oeddem yn gofyn i San Steffan roi pŵer a oedd gennym eisoes inni. Yr oedd hyn yn gam y gwnaethoch gyfeirio ato o’r gadair, os cofiaf yn iawn, fel ‘nonsens’. Mae’r ffaith bod y gwrthbleidiau wedi dal ati â’r mater hwn drwy’r pwynt o drefn hwn yn cadarnhau i mi mai gwir ddiben y gwelliant hwnnw oedd twyllo’r preswylwyr sy’n byw gerllaw Ffos-y-frân mewn modd creulon, a galluogi gwleidyddion y gwrthbleidiau i wneud pwyntiau ffuantus yn ymwneud â threfn.

Y Llywydd: Bydd yn rhaid i mi archwilio’r Cofnod i weld pryd a pham y defnyddiais y gair ‘nonsens’.

Y Prif Weinidog: Bu ichi ddefnyddio’r gair

word 'afraid'.

The Presiding Officer: I am grateful to the First Minister. I am glad that he listens so carefully to what I have to say.

The important issue here is that while we have this arrangement of planning decision committees within our Standing Orders, it is clear that decisions are for those committees. Although there was a period between the final determination and the decision of the Assembly, it would not have been open to the Assembly to seek to interfere with the planning decision that had been communicated to a developer who could legitimately expect permission to be granted on the terms indicated. There are important legal issues here in terms of how we operate, and that is the nature of the planning decision committee system. Members will be aware of my views on that system, but it is the system that we have. Therefore, when a planning decision committee acts, it acts as the equivalent of a Minister making a planning decision, as a sole decision maker of an executive planning decision. This system is understood more clearly by some of us, and it is something that we may or may not prefer to have in place here. However, that is not an issue for me today.

Cymraeg 'afraid'.

Y Llywydd: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i'r Prif Weinidog. Yr wyf yn falch ei fod yn gwrando mor astud ar hyn yr wyf yn ei ddweud.

Y mater pwysig yn y fan hon yw tra bo'r trefniant hwn o bwyllgorau penderfyniadau cynllunio gennym fel rhan o'n Rheolau Sefydlog, mae'n glir mai lle'r pwyllgorau hynny yw gwneud penderfyniadau. Er bod cyfnod o amser rhwng y penderfyniad terfynol a phenderfyniad y Cynulliad, nid lle'r Cynulliad fyddai ymyrryd â'r penderfyniad cynllunio a roddwyd i ddatblygwr a allai, yn gyfreithlon, ddisgwyl derbyn caniatâd ar y telerau a nodwyd. Cyfyd materion cyfreithiol pwysig yn y fan hon ynghylch sut yr ydym yn gweithredu, a dyna natur system y pwyllgorau penderfyniadau cynllunio. Bydd yr Aelodau'n ymwybodol o fy marn am y system honno, ond dyna'r system sydd gennym. Felly, pan fydd pwyllgor cynllunio yn gweithredu, mae'n gweithredu fel corff sy'n cyfateb i Weinidog sy'n gwneud penderfyniad cynllunio, yr unig un sy'n penderfynu ar benderfyniad cynllunio gweithredol. Mae rhai ohonom yn fwy na'i gilydd yn deall y system hon yn glir, ac mae'n rhywbeth yr ydym o bosibl yn dymuno ei gael yma, neu nad ydym yn dymuno ei gael, efallai. Fodd bynnag, nid yw hynny'n fater o bwys i mi heddiw.

Cymeradwyo Rheoliadau Hadau Planhigion Porthiant (Cymru) 2005 Approval of the Fodder Plant Seed (Wales) Regulations 2005

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

The Business Minister: I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales, acting under Standing Order No. 24.25:

1. considers the report of the Legislation Committee laid in the Table Office and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 12 April 2005 on the draft regulations the Fodder Plant Seed (Wales) Regulations 2005, and

2. approves that the Fodder Plant Seed

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

Y Trefnydd: Cynigiaf fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan weithredu o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 24.25:

1. yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ac a anfonwyd drwy'r e-bost at Aelodau'r Cynulliad ar 12 Ebrill 2005 ar Reoliadau drafft Rheoliadau Hadau Planhigion Porthiant (Cymru) 2005, ac

2. yn cymeradwyo Rheoliadau Hadau

(Wales) Regulations 2005 is made in accordance with: *Planhigion Porthiant (Cymru) 2005 yn unol ag:*

a) the draft regulations laid in the Table Office on 16 March 2005; *a) y rheoliadau drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 16 Mawrth 2005;*

b) regulatory appraisal laid in the Table Office on 4 April 2005; *b) yr arfarniad rheoliadol a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 4 Ebrill 2005;*

c) the memorandum of correction laid in the Table Office and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 12 April 2005. (NDM2382) *c) y memorandwm cywiriadau a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ac a anfonwyd drwy'r e-bost at Aelodau'r Cynulliad ar 12 Ebrill 2005. (NDM2382)*

Cynnig (NDM2382): O blaid 50, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.

Motion (NDM2382): For 50, Abstain 0, Against 0.

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet

Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

3.50 p.m.

**Cymeradwyo Gorchymyn Deddf Mabwysiadu a Phlant 2002 (Cychwyn Rhif 8)
 (Cymru) 2005
 Approval of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (Commencement No. 8)
 (Wales) Order 2005**

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Brian Gibbons): I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales considers the principle of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (Commencement No. 8) (Wales) Order 2005, a copy of which was laid in the Table Office on 9 March 2005. (NDM2383)

I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales:

1. considers the report of the Legislation Committee laid in the Table Office and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 12 April 2005 in relation to the draft Order the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (Commencement No. 8) (Wales) Order 2005, and

2. approves that the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (Commencement No. 8) (Wales) Order 2005 is made in accordance with the draft Order laid in the Table Office on 9 March 2005. (NDM2384)

The commencement Order before you brings into force sections 3(3) and 3(4) of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. Section 3(3) of the Act enables the Assembly to make regulations prescribing those persons to whom local authorities in Wales must extend arrangements for the provision of adoption support services. Section 3(4) enables regulations to be made prescribing those persons that local authorities may

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Brian Gibbons): Cynigiau fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn ystyried egwyddor Gorchymyn Deddf Mabwysiadu a Phlant 2002 (Cychwyn Rhif 8) (Cymru) 2005, y gosodwyd copi ohono yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 9 Mawrth 2005. (NDM2383)

Cynigiau fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

1. yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ac a anfonwyd drwy'r e-bost at Aelodau'r Cynulliad ar 12 Ebrill 2005 mewn perthynas â'r Gorchymyn drafft Gorchymyn Deddf Mabwysiadu a Phlant 2002 (Cychwyn Rhif 8) (Cymru) 2005, ac

2. yn cymeradwyo bod Gorchymyn Deddf Mabwysiadu a Phlant 2002 (Cychwyn Rhif 8) (Cymru) 2005 yn cael ei wneud yn unol â'r Gorchymyn drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 9 Mawrth 2005. (NDM2384)

Daw'r Gorchymyn Cychwyn ger eich bron ag adrannau 3(3) a 3(4) Deddf Mabwysiadu a Phlant 2002 i rym. Mae adran 3(3) o'r Ddeddf yn galluogi'r Cynulliad i wneud rheoliadau yn nodi'r bobl hynny y mae'n rhaid i awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru ymestyn trefniadau i ddarparu gwasanaethau cymorth mabwysiadu iddynt. O dan adran 3(4), gellir gwneud rheoliadau yn nodi'r bobl hynny y gall awdurdodau lleol eu comisiynu i

commission to provide adoption support services.

The provision of adoption support services is one of the new initiatives for adoption being brought under the Adoption and Children Act 2002. Persons affected by adoption, including adopted children, adopters, and birth parents, may require additional support to ensure the success or continuation of an adoptive placement. I therefore intend to bring forward regulations shortly that will prescribe the arrangements that local authorities must make for the provision of adoption support services, the persons to whom the services may extend, and those whom local authorities may commission to deliver these services. I aim to bring these regulations forward so that they and all other elements of the Act, and related regulations, will be brought into force by 30 December 2005. This commencement Order will not bring these regulations into force today, but will enable us to bring them forward for further consideration, as I said, in the near future.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Derbyniodd y Mesur hwn Gydsyniad Brenhinol ym mis Tachwedd 2002. Mae'n ymwneud â'r holl fframwaith cyfreithiol sy'n ymwneud â mabwysiadu, fel y'i sefydlwyd gan Ddeddf Mabwysiadu 1976.

Mae nifer o bethau wedi digwydd ac wedi eu gweithredu eisoes o ran mabwysiadu yng Nghymru. Ar 1 Mehefin 2004, cawsom wasanaethau eiriol dros blant a phobl ifanc sy'n dymuno gwneud cwyn o dan Ddeddf Plant ddiwygiedig 1989. Ar 1 Medi 2004, cyflwynwyd mesur yn galw ar awdurdodau lleol a mudiadau gwirfoddol i sicrhau bod swyddogion adolygu annibynnol yno i adolygu achosion plant. Ar 1 Hydref 2004, galwyd ar awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru i sicrhau gwasanaethau i gynnal mabwysiadu.

O ran y Gorchymyn hwn sydd ger ein bron ac o ystyried ymrwymiad Llywodraeth Cymru i ariannu yn llawn y cyfrifoldebau a roddwyd ar lywodraeth leol yng Nghymru o ganlyniad i'r Ddeddf, faint o arian ychwanegol sy'n mynd i gael ei roi i lywodraeth leol i

ddarparu gwasanaethau cymorth mabwysiadu.

Mae darparu gwasanaethau cymorth mabwysiadu yn un o'r cynlluniau newydd ar gyfer mabwysiadu a gyflwynir o dan Ddeddf Mabwysiadu a Phlant 2002. Mae ar bobl yr effeithir arnynt gan fabwysiadu, gan gynnwys plant wedi eu mabwysiadu, mabwysiadwyr, a rhieni gwaed, weithiau angen cymorth ychwanegol i sicrhau llwyddiant neu barhad lleoliad mabwysiadu. Yr wyf felly'n bwriadu cyflwyno rheoliadau cyn bo hir a fydd yn nodi'r trefniadau y mae'n rhaid i awdurdodau lleol eu gwneud i ddarparu gwasanaethau cymorth mabwysiadu, y bobl y bydd y gwasanaethau efallai'n cael eu hymestyn iddynt, a'r bobl y bydd awdurdodau lleol efallai'n eu comisiynu i ddarparu'r gwasanaethau hyn. Byddaf yn ceisio cyflwyno'r rheoliadau hyn fel eu bod, ynghyd â holl elfennau eraill y Ddeddf, a rheoliadau cysylltiedig, yn dod i rym erbyn 30 Rhagfyr 2005. Ni fydd y Gorchymyn Cychwyn hwn yn dod â'r rheoliadau hyn i rym heddiw, ond yn ein galluogi i'w rhoi gerbron ar gyfer ystyriaeth bellach, fel y dywedais, yn y dyfodol agos.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: This Bill was given Royal Assent in November 2002. It deals with the whole legal framework involved in adoption, as established by the Adoption Act 1976.

Several things have already happened and have been implemented in terms of adoption in Wales. On 1 June 2004, we saw the introduction of advocacy services for children and young people who wish to make a complaint under the amended Children Act 1989. A measure was introduced on 1 September 2004 calling on local authorities and voluntary organisations to ensure that independent review officials were available to review children's cases. On 1 October 2004, local authorities in Wales were called upon to provide adoption support services.

In terms of the Order before us and given the Government of Wales's commitment to fully fund the responsibilities placed on local government in Wales as a result of this Act, how much additional funding will be allocated for local government to implement

weithredu galwadau'r ddeddfwriaeth? O ystyried, fel y dywedais, fod y Mesur hwn wedi derbyn Cydsyniad Brenhinol yn 2002, a all y Gweinidog ddweud wrthym beth yn union oedd y problemau o ran rhoi'r ddeddfwriaeth ar waith ac a arweiniodd at y sefyllfa bresennol? Yr ydym wedi mynd o fis Tachwedd 2002 i fis Ebrill 2005 cyn dechrau gweithredu'r Ddeddf yng Nghymru. Pa broblemau a arweiniodd at yr oedi hwnnw?

A all y Gweinidog hefyd roi adroddiad inni yn nodi gallu awdurdodau lleol i benodi swyddogion i adolygu gwasanaethau plant yng Nghymru? Pa awdurdodau lleol sydd wedi penodi'r swyddogion hyn, ac a wnaed hynny'n gyson ledled Cymru? Hefyd, Weinidog, a wnewch chi sicrhau bod cysondeb yn y gwasanaethau sydd ar gael? Yr ydym yn gyfarwydd â'r sefyllfa lle mae gwasanaethau cymdeithasol yn cael eu darparu yn wahanol gan wahanol awdurdodau lleol. A wnewch chi sicrhau cysondeb a bod y cysondeb hwnnw yn ystyried anghenion ieithyddol, diwylliannol ac addysgol ynghyd â sensitifrwydd materion ieched, a hynny mewn gwlad sydd, erbyn hyn, yn amlieithog lle y mae pobl o sawl cenedl yn byw?

Mark Isherwood: My party supported this Act in Westminster, and the Welsh Conservatives will support this technical commencement Order. In Westminster, however, my colleagues expressed concerns that were not addressed by this legislation, particularly the concerns that people who adopt children must receive support from their local social services departments. As I understand it, the Act only requires social services departments to review the support that they provide to the parents of adopted children, and the department can decide not to implement any recommendations of the review. We called for this to be made a statutory requirement, because the social services departments have so many statutory requirements that providing support for parents of adopted children can get pushed down the list.

Another serious concern is that some social services departments could become more

the requirements of this legislation? Bearing in mind that this Bill, as I said, received Royal Assent in 2002, can the Minister tell us what exactly were the problems in terms of putting in place this legislation and which led us to the position in which we find ourselves today? We have gone from November 2002 to April 2005 before starting to implement the requirements of the Act in Wales. What were the problems that led to this delay?

Can the Minister also give us a report outlining local authorities' powers to appoint officers to review children's services in Wales? Which local authorities have already appointed these officers, and had this been done in a consistent manner throughout Wales? Also, Minister, will you ensure consistency of services? We are used to seeing inconsistency of provision in the social services provided by different local authorities. Will you seek to ensure consistency and that that consistency takes account of linguistic, cultural and educational needs along with the sensitive nature of health issues in what is by now a multilingual country in which people from a wide variety of backgrounds live?

Mark Isherwood: Yr oedd fy mhlaidd o blaid y Ddeddf hon yn San Steffan, a bydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru yn cefnogi'r Gorchymyn Cychwyn technegol hwn. Yn San Steffan, fodd bynnag, lleisiodd fy nghyd-aelodau bryderon nad oedd y ddeddfwriaeth hon yn delio â hwy, yn enwedig eu pryderon bod pobl sy'n mabwysiadu plant yn gorfod derbyn cymorth gan eu hadrannau gwasanaethau cymdeithasol lleol. Yn ôl fel y deallaf y sefyllfa, y cyfan y mae'r Ddeddf yn ei ofyn yw bod adrannau gwasanaethau cymdeithasol yn adolygu'r cymorth a ddarperir ganddynt i rieni plant sydd wedi eu mabwysiadu, a gall yr adran benderfynu peidio â gweithredu unrhyw argymhellion yn yr adolygiad. Bu inni ofyn am wneud hyn yn ofyniad statudol, am fod gan adrannau gwasanaethau cymdeithasol gymaint o ofynion statudol fel bod darparu cymorth i rieni plant mabwysiedig yn gallu cael ei wthio i lawr y rhestr blaenoriaethau.

Pryder garw arall yw y gallai rhai adrannau gwasanaethau cymdeithasol fynd yn fwy

zealous, perhaps, in their implementation of adoption procedures for young children and babies. This is because they are often easier to provide homes for than older children are. With adoption rates largely static at present, we must avoid any risk of councils feeling pressured into raising their quota of adoptions in this way. Also, there is an urgent need to concentrate on older children, and we therefore suggest that there must be greater incentives to tackle the education and health inequalities faced by children who are more difficult to adopt. We strongly urge the Welsh Assembly Government to give these matters its attention.

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Brian Gibbons): The main source of financial support for this new Act will come through the Children First grant. The budget for Children First for 2005-06 is £27 million, and we see further sums being available, leading to a total of £40.7 million, and, hopefully, this money will be sufficient to allow the Adoption and Children Act 2002 to be implemented.

It is true that some time has passed since the Bill was enacted, but, as Rhodri Glyn pointed out, this is a root-and-branch reform of the Adoption Act 1976, and, consequently, a considerable amount of background information and consultation was needed to get us where we are. However, we were determined that this Act and the associated regulations would be in place by the end of the year, which is why we have given this commitment in relation to putting in place the necessary regulations and so on by the end of the year.

On education and training, we are committed to providing workshops and training throughout Wales to ensure consistency of practice and good standards of behaviour. That may be deemed a factor that may have delayed the introduction of these regulations, but we felt it important, as Rhodri Glyn said, to have consistency and high standards across Wales. Therefore, to do that, we need the necessary education and training.

selog, efallai, wrth weithredu gweithdrefnau mabwysiadu ar gyfer plant ifanc a babanod. Gallai hyn ddigwydd am ei bod yn aml yn haws darparu cartrefi i'r plant hyn nag i blant hŷn. Gan fod cyfraddau mabwysiadu yn eithaf statig ar hyn o bryd, rhaid inni osgoi unrhyw berygl i gynghorau deimlo dan bwysau i godi eu cwota mabwysiadu fel hyn. Hefyd, mae taer angen canolbwyntio ar blant hŷn, ac awgrymwn felly fod yn rhaid cael mwy o gynlluniau i roi sylw i'r anghydraddoldebau addysg ac iechyd a wynebir gan blant sy'n anos eu mabwysiadu. Yr ydym yn taer annog Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i roi ei sylw i'r materion hyn.

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Brian Gibbons): Prif ffynhonnell y cymorth ariannol ar gyfer y Ddeddf newydd hon fydd y grant Rhoi Plant yn Gyntaf. Y gyllideb ar gyfer Rhoi Plant yn Gyntaf ar gyfer 2005-06 yw £27 miliwn, a bydd symiau pellach ar gael, gan roi cyfanswm o £40.7 miliwn, a gobeithio y bydd yr arian hwn yn ddigon i ganiatáu gweithredu Deddf Mabwysiadu a Phlant 2002.

Mae'n wir bod peth amser wedi mynd heibio ers pan ddeddfwyd y Mesur, ond, fel y dywedodd Rhodri Glyn, mae hyn yn ddiwygiad sylfaenol ar Ddeddf Mabwysiadu 1976, ac, o ganlyniad, yr oedd angen cryn dipyn o wybodaeth gefndir ac ymgynghori i gyrraedd ein sefyllfa bresennol. Fodd bynnag, yr oeddem yn benderfynol y byddai'r Ddeddf hon a'r rheoliadau cysylltiedig ar waith erbyn diwedd y flwyddyn, a dyna pam y gwnaethpwyd yr ymrwymiad hwn i gyflwyno'r rheoliadau angenrheidiol, ac yn y blaen, erbyn diwedd y flwyddyn.

Ynghylch addysg a hyfforddiant, yr ydym yn ymrwymedig i ddarparu gweithdai a hyfforddiant drwy Gymru i sicrhau cysondeb o ran arferion a safonau ymddygiad da. Gellid gweld hyn yn ffactor sydd efallai wedi gohirio cyflwyno'r rheoliadau hyn, ond yr oeddem yn teimlo ei bod yn bwysig, fel y dywedodd Rhodri Glyn, sicrhau cysondeb a safonau uchel ledled Cymru. Felly, i wneud hynny, rhaid cael yr addysg a'r hyfforddiant angenrheidiol.

4.00 p.m.

On Mark's points, the context in which the Act is being introduced is to ensure that adoption services provide a more stable framework for children. Therefore, that is the whole premise on which the Act has been brought forward. The regulations, particularly in relation to adoption support, must be understood in the context of the fundamental principle behind the Act. It would not be consistent with the Act if support services were not provided where they were needed, which is what the regulations, as presented to the Assembly, will seek to achieve. In order to provide stable and more satisfactory adoption services, this Act will oblige that the services are in place to achieve that. Where that is unnecessary, that obligation will not be there.

Ynglŷn â phwyntiau Mark, cyflwynir y Ddeddf hon yng nghyd-destun sicrhau bod gwasanaethau mabwysiadu yn rhoi fframwaith mwy sefydlog i blant. Felly, ar sail y rhagdybiaeth honno y ducpwyd y Ddeddf gerbron. Rhaid deall y rheoliadau, yn enwedig y rhai sydd yn ymwneud â chymorth i fabwysiadu, yng nghyd-destun egwyddor sylfaenol y Ddeddf. Anghyson â'r Ddeddf fyddai peidio â darparu gwasanaethau cymorth pe bai angen amdanynt, a hynny y bydd y rheoliadau, fel y'u cyflwynwyd i'r Cynulliad, yn ceisio ei sicrhau. Er mwyn darparu gwasanaethau mabwysiadu cyson a mwy boddhaol, bydd y Ddeddf hon yn mynnu y bydd y gwasanaethau ar waith i gyflawni hynny. Os nad oes angen hynny, ni fydd gorfodaeth o'r fath.

*Cynnig (NDM2383): O blaid 45, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2383): For 45, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Essex, Sue
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne

Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty

Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.

*Cynnig (NDM2384): O blaid 46, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2384): For 46, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty

Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.

**Cymeradwyo Gorchymyn Ciniawau Ysgol (Gofyniad Rhagnodedig)
(Cymru) 2005**

Approval of the School Lunches (Prescribed Requirement) (Wales) Order 2005

Y Llywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliant 1 yn enw Jocelyn Davies, a gwelliannau 2 a 3 i NDM2385 yn enw Kirsty Williams.

The Presiding Officer: I have selected amendment 1 in the name of Jocelyn Davies and amendments 2 and 3 to NDM2385 in the name of Kirsty Williams.

The Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning (Jane Davidson): I propose that

Y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes (Jane Davidson): Cynigiaf fod

the National Assembly for Wales considers the principle of the School Lunches (Prescribed Requirement) (Wales) Order 2005 a copy of which was laid in the Table Office on 9 March 2005. (NDM2385)

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn ystyried egwyddor Gorchymyn Ciniawau Ysgol (Gofyniad Rhagnodedig) (Cymru) 2005 y gosodwyd copi ohono yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 9 Mawrth 2005. (NDM2385)

I propose that

Cynigiaf fod

the National Assembly for Wales:

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

1. considers the report of the Legislation Committee laid in the Table Office and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 12 April 2005 in relation to the draft Order, the School Lunches (Prescribed Requirement) (Wales) Order 2005, and

1. yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ac a e-bostiwyd at Aelodau'r Cynulliad ar 12 Ebrill 2005 mewn perthynas â'r Gorchymyn drafft, Gorchymyn Ciniawau Ysgol (Gofyniad Rhagnodedig) (Cymru) 2005, a

2. approves that the School Lunches (Prescribed Requirement) (Wales) Order 2005 is made in accordance with:

2. yn cymeradwyo bod Gorchymyn Ciniawau Ysgol (Gofyniad Rhagnodedig) (Cymru) 2005 yn cael ei wneud yn unol â:

a) the draft Order laid in the Table Office on 9 March 2005;

a) y Gorchymyn drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 9 Mawrth 2005;

b) regulatory appraisal laid in the Table Office on 4 April 2005. (NDM2386)

b) yr arfarniad rheoliadol a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 4 Ebrill 2005. (NDM2386)

In accordance with Standing Order No. 24, I propose that the Assembly approve the School Lunches (Prescribed Requirement) (Wales) Order 2005. The Order clarifies the criteria for the qualification of nursery pupils for a school lunch, whether paid or free, as set out in the Education (School Lunches) (Prescribed Requirement) (Wales) Order 2003.

Yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 24, cynigiaf fod y Cynulliad yn cymeradwyo Gorchymyn Ciniawau Ysgol (Gofyniad Rhagnodedig) (Cymru) 2005. Mae'r Gorchymyn yn egluro'r meini prawf ar gyfer cymhwyster disgyblion mewn meithrinfeydd i gael cinio ysgol, boed hwnnw'n ginio y codir tâl amdano neu am ddim, fel y nodir yng Ngorchymyn Addysg (Ciniawau Ysgol) (Gofyniad Rhagnodedig) (Cymru) 2003.

The intention of the 2003 Order was that nursery pupils had to be in attendance for a full day—both sides of lunchtime—to be entitled to a school lunch. The 2003 Order refers to nursery school pupils receiving full-time education. The Welsh Assembly Government has received a number of enquiries from local education authorities asking whether the 2003 Order requires that a nursery pupil must be in attendance for five full days each week in order to qualify for a school lunch, but that was not the intention of the 2003 Order. This Order clarifies the criteria and will ensure that the interpretation of that entitlement is consistent across Wales.

The new Order prescribes that a pupil receiving nursery education must be present for two full sessions on any day on which he or she attends school in order to qualify for a school lunch. The entitlement of nursery pupils to school lunch must be clear since, while this Order in itself does not give an entitlement to free school meals, a nursery pupil must first qualify for school lunch under this Order before claiming eligibility for a free school lunch in accordance with the Education (Free School Lunches) (Prescribed Tax Credits) (Wales) Order 2003.

Three amendments have been tabled. In amendment 1, Jocelyn Davies calls for a review of the regulations and guidance concerning the nutritional content of school meals to ensure standardised nutritional requirements across Wales. I am happy to accept this amendment as work on this is already under way. The Education (Nutritional Standards for School Lunches) (Wales) Regulations 2001, which came into force on 1 September 2001, define the different food groups and set out the daily minimum nutritional standards for primary and secondary school pupils. Officials are at an advanced stage of preparing a food and fitness manifesto, and we will be consulting on this over the summer. Further work on the nutritional content of school meals will be considered as part of the Welsh Assembly

Y bwriad yng Ngorchymyn 2003 oedd y byddai'n rhaid i ddisgyblion meithrinfeydd fod yn bresennol am ddiwrnod cyfan—cyn ac ar ôl amser cinio—i gael yr hawl i dderbyn cinio ysgol. Mae Gorchymyn 2003 yn cyfeirio at ddisgyblion ysgolion meithrin sy'n addysg lawnamser. Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi cael sawl ymholiad gan awdurdodau addysg lleol yn gofyn a yw Gorchymyn 2003 yn mynnu y bydd disgybl mewn meithrinfa yn bresennol am bum niwrnod llawn bob wythnos er mwyn bod yn gymwys i gael cinio ysgol, ond nid hynny oedd bwriad Gorchymyn 2003. Mae'r Gorchymyn hwn yn egluro'r meini prawf a bydd yn sicrhau bod y dehongliad o'r hawl honno yn gyson ledled Cymru.

Mae'r Gorchymyn newydd yn mynnu bod disgybl sydd yn cael addysg feithrin yn gorfod bod yn bresennol am ddau sesiwn llawn ar unrhyw ddiwrnod y daw i'r ysgol er mwyn bod yn gymwys i gael cinio ysgol. Rhaid i hawl disgyblion meithrinfeydd i gael cinio ysgol fod yn glir oherwydd, er nad yw'r Gorchymyn hwn yn rhoi hawl i gael prydau ysgol am ddim ohono'i hun, rhaid i ddisgybl mewn meithrinfa fod yn gymwys yn gyntaf i gael cinio ysgol o dan y Gorchymyn hwn cyn hawlio cymhwyster i gael cinio ysgol am ddim yn unol â Gorchymyn Addysg (Ciniawau Ysgol Rhad ac am Ddim) (Credydau Treth Rhagnodedig) (Cymru) 2003.

Mae tri gwelliant wedi'u cyflwyno. Yng ngwelliant 1, geilw Jocelyn Davies am adolygiad o'r rheoliadau a'r canllawiau ynghylch cynnwys maethol prydau ysgol er mwyn sicrhau gofynion maethol safonol ledled Cymru. Yr wyf yn fodlon derbyn y gwelliant hwn gan fod gwaith ar hyn yn mynd rhagddo eisoes. Rheoliadau Addysg (Safonau Maethol ar gyfer Ciniawau Ysgol) (Cymru) 2001, a ddaeth i rym ar 1 Medi 2001, sydd yn diffinio'r gwahanol grwpiau bwyd ac yn nodi'r safonau maethol sylfaenol dyddiol ar gyfer disgyblion mewn ysgolion cynradd ac uwchradd. Mae'r swyddogion wedi cyflawni rhan helaeth o'r gwaith o baratoi maniffesto bwyd a ffitrwydd, a byddwn yn ymgynghori ar hwnnw dros yr haf. Ystyrir gwaith pellach ar gynnwys maethol prydau ysgol fel rhan o ddull

Government's whole-school approach to food and nutrition in schools, through the Welsh network of healthy school schemes, which is being extended to all schools.

In amendment 2, Kirsty Williams calls upon the Welsh Assembly Government to work actively with local councils to continue to drive up the nutritional quality of school dinners. I am happy to support this amendment, as it also reflects the action that the Welsh Assembly Government is already taking.

One of the top 10 actions of the Assembly's sustainable development action plan is to work with local education authorities and governing bodies so that, when they come up for renewal, all contract specifications for school meals address issues of health and nutrition, and food seasonality. In recognition of local authorities' important role in influencing the provision of healthy school meals, I have already asked the local government partnership council to consider this. Our approach to school meals is to try to influence the eating habits of pupils as part of a whole-school approach towards healthy eating, rather than simply legislating on the nutritional content of the food that is served.

In amendment 3, Kirsty recognises the nutritional and environmental benefits of fresh food, and therefore calls on the Labour Assembly Government to promote and encourage the local sourcing of produce for free school lunches. I must oppose this amendment. The Education Act 2002 provides that an LEA may supply meals and other refreshments to pupils and should charge for them, except in relation to pupils entitled to free school meals. It would not be acceptable to treat free school meals separately from those paid for by pupils.

The Welsh Assembly Government has already issued each local authority with a guidance document on sustainable public-sector procurement, entitled 'Food for Thought—A new approach to public sector

Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru o ymdrin drwy'r ysgol gyfan â bwyd a maethiad mewn ysgolion, drwy gyfrwng rhwydwaith y cynlluniau ysgolion iach yng Nghymru, a estynnir i gynnwys yr holl ysgolion.

Yng ngwelliant 2, geilw Kirsty Williams ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gydweithio â chynghorau lleol er mwyn parhau i wella ansawdd maethol prydau ysgol. Yr wyf yn fodlon cefnogi'r gwelliant hwn, gan ei fod hwn hefyd yn adlewyrchu'r camau y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn eu cymryd eisoes.

Un o'r 10 cam gweithredu pwysicaf yng nghynllun gweithredu'r Cynulliad ar ddatblygu cynaliadwy yw cydweithio ag awdurdodau addysg lleol a chyrrff llywodraethu fel y bydd yr holl fanylebau mewn contractau ar gyfer prydau ysgol, pan ddaw'r adeg i'w hadnewyddu, yn rhoi sylw i faterion sydd yn ymwneud ag iechyd a maethiad, a thymoroldeb bwydydd. Wrth gydnabod y rôl bwysig sydd gan yr awdurdodau lleol o ran dylanwadu ar ddarparu prydau ysgol iach, yr wyf eisoes wedi gofyn i'r cyngor partneriaeth llywodraeth leol ystyried hyn. Ein dull o ymdrin â phrydau ysgol yw ceisio dylanwadu ar arferion bwyta disgyblion fel rhan o ddull o ymdrin â bwyta'n iach sydd yn cynnwys yr ysgol gyfan, yn hytrach na dim ond deddfu ar gynnwys maethol y bwyd a arlwyir.

Yng ngwelliant 3, mae Kirsty yn cydnabod manteision maethol ac amgylcheddol bwyd ffres, ac yn galw felly ar Lywodraeth Lafur y Cynulliad i hyrwyddo ac annog defnyddio cynnyrch lleol ar gyfer prydau ysgol am ddim. Rhaid imi wrthwynebu'r gwelliant hwn. Yn ôl Deddf Addysg 2002 caiff AALl gyflenwi prydau a lluniaeth arall i ddisgyblion a dylai godi tâl amdanynt, ac eithrio mewn cysylltiad â disgyblion sydd â hawl i gael prydau ysgol am ddim. Annerbyniol fyddai trafod prydau ysgol am ddim ar wahân i'r rhai y telir amdanynt gan ddisgyblion.

Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru eisoes wedi rhoi dogfen ganllawiau i bob awdurdod lleol ar gaffael cynaliadwy yn y sector cyhoeddus, o'r enw 'Cnoi Cil—Agwedd newydd tuag at gaffael bwyd yn y sector

food procurement', which highlights ways of encouraging local supply chains through procurement processes, without disadvantage to smaller suppliers. Carwyn will reinforce this message at the Supply and Buy Wales 2005 procurement conference on 27 April in Llandrindod Wells. I commend the motion to Members.

Owen John Thomas: Cynigaf welliant 1 yn enw Jocelyn Davies: ychwanegu fel pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn galw am adolygiad o'r rheoliadau a'r canllawiau ynghylch cynnwys maethol prydau ysgol er mwyn sicrhau gofyniad maethol safonol ledled Cymru.

Croesawaf y Gorchymyn oherwydd y gwelliant a ddaw gyda'r ddarpariaeth newydd ar gyfer plant sy'n derbyn addysg feithrin. Fodd bynnag, fel llawer o bobl, nid wyf yn fodlon â chynnwys maethol prydau ysgol yn gyffredinol, a chynigaf welliant 1 felly, sy'n galw am adolygiad o'r rheoliadau a'r canllawiau ynghylch cynnwys maethol prydau ysgol er mwyn sicrhau bod gofynion maethol safonol ar gyfer Cymru gyfan. Rhaid inni fanteisio ar bob cyfle i wella iechyd plant.

Yn yr Alban, gosodwyd cyfyngiadau ar lefelau'r halen, siwgr a braster a geir mewn prydau ysgol er mwyn gwarchod plant rhag bwyta bwyd afiach. Gall Cymru wneud hynny hefyd.

Mae ystadegau'n dangos bod cynifer ag un o bob tri o blant yng Nghymru yn byw mewn tloedi, ac mae hyn yn pwysleisio'r angen inni geisio cywiro'r sefyllfa rywfaint drwy sicrhau bod bwyd iach ar gael mewn ysgolion. Yn ôl ymchwil a wnaed gan y BBC, mae'r swm o arian a gaiff ei wario ar brydau ysgol gan awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru yn amrywio o 42c i 60c y dydd, a 48c yn unig yw'r cyfartaledd ar gyfer Cymru gyfan. Mae angen dybryd i sicrhau bod mwy o'r arian sy'n cael ei dalu er mwyn darparu prydau ysgol yn cael ei wario ar y prydau eu hunain.

Mae cyfle hefyd inni ddehongli rheoliadau Ewropeaidd er mwyn sicrhau bod cynnyrch maethol, ffres, lleol o ansawdd da yn cael ei

cyhoeddu', sydd yn tynnu sylw at ddulliau o hybu cadwynau cyflenwi lleol drwy brosesau caffael, heb beri anfantais i gyflenwyr llai. Bydd Carwyn yn cadarnhau'r neges hon yng nghynhadledd caffael Cyflenwi a Phrynu Cymru 2005 ar 27 Ebrill yn Llandrindod. Cymeradwyaf y cynnig i'r Aelodau.

Owen John Thomas: I propose amendment 1 in the name of Jocelyn Davies: add as a new point at the end of the motion:

calls for a review of regulations and guidance concerning the nutritional content of school meals to ensure a standardised nutritional requirement across Wales.

I welcome the Order because of the improvement it will bring through the new provision for children in nursery education. However, like many people, I am not satisfied with the nutritional content of school meals generally, and I therefore propose amendment 1, which calls for a review of the regulations and guidance on the nutritional content of school meals to ensure standard nutritional requirements for all of Wales. We must take every opportunity to improve children's health.

In Scotland, restrictions have been set on the levels of salt, sugar and fat in school meals in order to protect children from eating unhealthy food. Wales can do the same.

Statistics show that as many as one in three children in Wales live in poverty, which only serves to emphasise the need for us to rectify the situation somewhat by ensuring that healthy food is available in schools. According to research carried out by the BBC, the amount of money spent by local authorities across Wales on school meals varies from 42p to 60p a day, with the average for the whole of Wales being only 48p. There is a dire need to ensure that more of the money that is paid for providing school meals is actually spent on the meals themselves.

We also have the opportunity to interpret European regulations in order to ensure that nutritional, fresh, local, high-quality food is

ddefnyddio yn ein hysgolion. Gall hyn fod yn fwy cost-effeithiol ac o les i economi Cymru. Felly, gofynnaf i Aelodau gefnogi gwelliant 1 Plaid Cymru, yn ogystal â gwelliannau 2 a 3.

Peter Black: I propose the following amendments in the name of Kirsty Williams. Amendment 2: add as a new point at the end of the motion:

calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to work actively with local councils to continue to drive up the nutritional quality of school dinners.

I propose amendment 3: add as a new point at the end of the motion:

recognises the nutritional and environmental benefits of fresh food and therefore calls on the Labour Assembly Government to promote and encourage the local sourcing of produce for free school lunches.

I thank the Minister for supporting amendment 2. On amendment 3, the Minister rightly pointed out that we cannot legally discriminate between free and paid meals. I think that the word 'free' slipped in there by mistake. Therefore, if possible, I wish to withdraw that amendment, because it has been badly worded. However, I would like to promote the principle set out in that amendment, namely that we should seek to promote and encourage the local sourcing of produce for all school lunches. In responding to the debate, I hope that the Minister can give us an undertaking that she will promote that principle as part of her work on this issue.

This important issue has gained prominence as a result of a particular television programme and Jamie Oliver's work. As the First Minister highlighted earlier, it is right that Jamie Oliver has acknowledged that, in Wales, we are ahead of the game in this regard, and the nutritional value of school meals provided in Wales is higher than that of comparative meals served in central London and in other parts of England.

4.10 p.m.

used in our schools. That could be more cost-effective, as well as beneficial to the Welsh economy. Therefore, I ask Members to support Plaid Cymru's amendment 1, as well as amendments 2 and 3.

Peter Black: Cynigaf y gwelliannau canlynol yn enw Kirsty Williams. Gwelliant 2: ychwanegu fel pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gydweithio â chynghorau lleol er mwyn parhau i wella ansawdd maethol prydau ysgol.

Cynigaf welliant 3: ychwanegu fel pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn cydnabod manteision maethol ac amgylcheddol bwyd ffres ac felly yn galw ar Lywodraeth Lafur y Cynulliad i hyrwyddo ac annog defnyddio cynnyrch lleol ar gyfer prydau ysgol am ddim.

Diolchaf i'r Gweinidog am gefnogi gwelliant 2. Ynghylch gwelliant 3, nododd y Gweinidog yn gywir na allwn wahaniaethu'n gyfreithlon rhwng prydau am ddim a rhai y codir tâl amdanynt. Credaf fod y geiriau 'am ddim' wedi llithro i mewn yn y fan honno drwy amryfusedd. Felly, os oes modd, dymunaf dynnu'n ôl y gwelliant hwnnw, gan ei fod wedi'i eirio'n wael. Er hynny, carwn hyrwyddo'r egwyddor a nodir yn y gwelliant hwnnw, sef y dylem geisio hyrwyddo ac annog defnyddio cynnyrch lleol ar gyfer yr holl giniawau ysgol. Pan fydd yn ymateb i'r ddadl, gobeithiaf y bydd y Gweinidog yn gallu rhoi addewid y bydd yn hyrwyddo'r egwyddor honno fel rhan o'i gwaith ar y mater hwn.

Mae'r pwnc pwysig hwn wedi dod i'r amlwg o ganlyniad i raglen deledu neilltuol ac i waith Jamie Oliver. Fel y nododd y Prif Weinidog yn gynharach, mae'n wir bod Jamie Oliver wedi cydnabod ein bod ni yng Nghymru ar y blaen yn hyn o beth, a bod gwerth maethol y prydau ysgol a ddarperir yng Nghymru'n uwch na'r hyn a geir mewn prydau tebyg a arlwyir yng nghanol Llundain ac mewn rhannau eraill o Loegr.

Concentrating on the amount of money spent on ingredients does not necessarily mean that we will provide a nutritional meal; what is important is what goes into the meal and the end product, not necessarily how much is spent on it. The principle applies that the more money spent on ingredients, the better the quality will be—and we cannot argue with that. Nevertheless, we should still look at the overall quality of meals and concentrate on getting some form of consistency across Wales between local education authorities—in terms of the nutritional quality of the meals that they provide and in terms of using local, fresh produce, and ensuring that every child has the benefit of partaking of a highly nutritional meal at lunchtime.

Education is also important. We must educate not only the staff cooking the meals, but also the children about what is involved in a nutritional meal. Jamie Oliver's television programmes clearly illustrated that many children would prefer to eat chips than fish, which is not a good thing. I am partial to the odd chip myself, but it is important that we educate children as to why they should eat fish and fresh fruit, and why they should choose those food items. If we can get the education right, we will have less resistance from children when it comes to eating the meals that we provide for them.

I am happy to support the motion, and I am happy that the Minister supports amendments 1 and 2. I would urge the Minister again to adopt the principle behind amendment 3, although I have withdrawn it. I hope that she can work with local government to try to get consistency and locally sourced food, and to drive up quality across Wales.

Jeff Cuthbert: A healthy school lunch is a serious matter. It is not an issue about Turkey Twizzlers or Jamie Oliver; it is about the future health and wellbeing of the next generation in our country. If our young people's eating habits go unchecked, we could see a sharp rise in type 2 diabetes, and this generation could be the first not to outlive its parents.

Nid yw canolbwyntio ar faint o arian a werir ar gynhwysion yn golygu o reidrwydd y byddwn yn darparu pryd maethlon; yr hyn sydd yn bwysig yw'r hyn a aiff i'r pryd bwyd a'r cynnyrch terfynol, nid y swm a werir arno o reidrwydd. Yr egwyddor berthnasol yw mai po fwyaf a werir ar y cynhwysion, gorau oll fydd yr ansawdd—ni allwn anghytuno â hynny. Er hynny, dylem ystyried ansawdd cyffredinol y prydau a cheisio sicrhau rhyw fath o gysondeb ledled Cymru rhwng awdurdodau addysg lleol—o ran ansawdd maethol y prydau a ddarparant ac o ran defnyddio cynnyrch ffres, lleol, a sicrhau bod pob plentyn yn cael y fantais o gael bwyta pryd o fwyd tra maethlon amser cinio.

Mae addysg yn bwysig hefyd. Rhaid inni addysgu'r staff sydd yn coginio'r prydau, a hefyd y plant ynghylch yr hyn a geir mewn pryd maethlon. Yr oedd rhaglenni teledu Jamie Oliver yn dangos yn glir y byddai'n well gan lawer o blant fwyta sglodion yn hytrach na physgod, ac nid yw hynny'n beth da. Yr wyf finnau'n eithaf hoff o sglodion weithiau, ond mae'n bwysig inni addysgu plant ynghylch y rheswm y dylent fwyta pysgod a ffrwythau ffres, a'r rheswm dros ddewis yr eitemau bwyd hynny. Os gallwn gynnig addysg iawn, cawn lai o wrthwynebiad gan blant pan ddaw'n fater o fwyta'r prydau a ddarparwn ar eu cyfer.

Yr wyf yn fodlon cefnogi'r cynnig, ac yr wyf yn falch bod y Gweinidog yn cefnogi gwelliannau 1 a 2. Anogaf y Gweinidog eto i fabwysiadu'r egwyddor sydd yn sail i welliant 3, er fy mod wedi'i dynnu'n ôl. Gobeithiaf y bydd yn gallu gweithio gyda llywodraeth leol i geisio sicrhau cysondeb a defnyddio bwyd lleol, ac i wella'r ansawdd ledled Cymru.

Jeff Cuthbert: Mae cinio ysgol iach yn fater difrifol. Nid yw'n ymwneud â Turkey Twizzlers neu Jamie Oliver; mae'n ymwneud ag iechyd a lles y genhedlaeth nesaf yn ein gwlad yn y dyfodol. Os na herir arferion bwyta ein pobl ifanc, gallem weld cynnydd sydyn yn nifer yr achosion o ddiabetes math 2, ac mae'n bosibl mai'r genhedlaeth hon fydd y gyntaf fydd heb fyw'n hwy na'i

rhieni.

The Assembly Government is right to take steps to ensure that healthy food options are promoted, and that high-fat, high-sugar options are discouraged in our schools. The Assembly Government's healthy schools scheme is a sign of our commitment to that. The fact that over 1,000 schools in Wales have signed up to the Welsh network of healthy school schemes means that the people at the coalface have trust in this Assembly initiative. As the chair of the all-party group on healthy living, currently looking into healthy living on a low income, I know that the Assembly Government, in partnership with Health Challenge Wales, is doing a great deal to combat ill health and the sedentary lifestyles of our youngest citizens.

Mae'n briodol i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad gymryd camau i sicrhau y bydd dewis o fwydydd iach yn cael ei hyrwyddo, ac y cymerir camau yn erbyn cynnig dewis o fwydydd â llawer o fraster a siwgr yn ein hysgolion. Mae cynllun ysgolion iach Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn arwydd o'n hymrwymiad i wneud hynny. Mae'r ffaith bod mwy na 1,000 o ysgolion yng Nghymru wedi ymuno â rhwydwaith y cynlluniau ysgolion iach yng Nghymru yn dangos bod ffydd gan y rhai sydd yn y rheng flaen yn y fenter hon o eiddo'r Cynulliad. Fel cadeirydd y grŵp trawsbleidiol ar fwyta'n iach, sydd ar hyn o bryd yn ystyried bwyta'n iach ar incwm isel, gwn fod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, ar y cyd â Her Iechyd Cymru, yn gwneud llawer i ymladd yn erbyn afiechyd a ffyrdd eisteddog o fyw ymysg ein dinasyddion ieuengaf.

The Minister may be aware that, in Cardiff, the Liberal Democrat-controlled council has slashed £120,000 from its budget for school dinners and plans to cut a further £80,000 next year, but it has increased the cost of school meals by 5p. Minister, will you join me in supporting Jon Owen Jones's petition to oppose this cut, which is bound to lead to a reduction in nutritional standards?

Efallai y gŵyr y Gweinidog fod y cyngor a reolir gan y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yng Nghaerdydd wedi torri £120,000 oddi ar ei gyllideb ar gyfer ciniawau ysgol a'i fod yn bwriadu torri £80,000 eto y flwyddyn nesaf, ond ei fod wedi ychwanegu 5c at gost prydau ysgol. Weinidog, a wnewch ymuno â mi i gefnogi deiseb Jon Owen Jones i wrthwynebu'r toriad hwn, sydd yn sicr o arwain at ostwng safonau maethol?

David Davies: I am delighted to be able to offer my support for the motion and amendments 1 and 2, and I welcome the strange air of consensus that seems to have come over the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning. I remember her saying, only a few months ago, that she would not support the amendments because the Government was already doing those things; now she says that, given that the Government is already doing those things, she will support the amendments. What can have caused this? What has happened in the last few weeks to have brought about this wonderful change in her attitude? I cannot possibly imagine.

David Davies: Yr wyf wrth fy modd fy mod yn gallu cynnig fy nghefnogaeth i'r cynnig ac i welliannau 1 a 2, a chroesawaf yr ymdeimlad rhyfedd o gonsensws yr ymddengys fod y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes yn dechrau ei brofi. Fe'i cofiaf yn dweud, ychydig fisoedd yn ôl, na fyddai'n cefnogi'r gwelliannau gan fod y Llywodraeth eisoes yn gwneud y pethau hynny; dywed yn awr, gan fod y Llywodraeth eisoes yn gwneud y pethau hynny, y bydd yn cefnogi'r gwelliannau. Beth a allai fod wedi achsoi hyn? Beth a ddigwyddodd yn yr wythnosau diwethaf a barodd y fath newid rhyfeddol yn ei hagwedd? Ni allaf yn fy myw ddyfalu.

I am delighted that we are all here to support better quality school meals. Only yesterday, I was the guest of the headteacher at the Dell Primary School in Chepstow—an award-

Yr wyf wrth fy modd ein bod i gyd yma i gefnogi prydau ysgol gwell. Ddoe ddiwethaf, bûm yn westai i'r pennaeth yn Ysgol Gynradd Dell yng Nghas-gwent—ysgol sydd

winning school—where I thoroughly enjoyed the meal that was served. There are two important points here. The first is that one of the options was an extremely healthy plate of green salad—[*Interruption.*]

The Presiding Officer: Order. I did not hear the interruption, yet again from the Reverend Rhodri Glyn Thomas. Take no notice of him.

David Davies: I would like to point out that it was not a free meal, as one of the Members has suggested—it would certainly have cost something. It was, however, a healthy meal—a jacket potato, tuna and green salad. Although there were some less healthy options available, that meal would provide enough protein and carbohydrate for youngsters running around, and even for slightly older people who also engage in brisk activity. The other point—and this is a little more serious—is that, from speaking to the staff who served up those meals, it was clear that they were hurt by some of the language that has been used by politicians of all parties—and certainly by the press—with regard to how the meals are served up. I think that we would all agree that, whatever the shortcomings of school meals, the people who serve them do a good job. They are there to be supported, and they do the best that they can with the available resources.

We therefore support any extra money going into school meals. The Prime Minister told us that he was passionate about them. He has had eight years to act on that passion, yet it is just before the general election that he has announced an extra £280 million for them

Eleanor Burnham: Will you take an intervention?

David Davies: In a moment. What puzzles me, however, is that we have not had any announcement of extra money from the Treasury for school meals in Wales. This suggests to me that it is not new money at all. However, if there is new money coming into Wales from the Treasury, I would be

wedi ennill gwobr—lle y mwynheais yn fawr y pryd a gefais. Mae dau bwynt pwysig yn hyn o beth. Y cyntaf yw mai un o'r dewisiadau a gynigiwyd oedd platiad iach iawn o salad gwyrdd—[*Torri ar draws.*]

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Ni chlywais yr ymyriad, eto fyth gan y Parchedig Rhodri Glyn Thomas. Peidiwch â chymryd sylw ohono.

David Davies: Hoffwn ddatgan nad oedd y pryd am ddim, fel yr awgrymodd un o'r Aelodau—byddai'n sicr o fod wedi costio rhywbeth. Yr oedd, fodd bynnag, yn bryd iach—taten drwy'i chroen, tiwna a salad gwyrdd. Er bod rhai dewisiadau llai iach ar gael, byddai'r pryd hwnnw wedi cynnwys digon o brotein a charbohydrad ar gyfer pobl ifanc sy'n rhedeg o gwmpas, a hyd yn oed pobl ychydig yn hŷn sydd hefyd yn ymgymryd â gweithgarwch egniol. Y pwynt arall—ac mae hwn ychydig yn fwy difrifol—yw ei bod yn amlwg, ar ôl siarad â'r staff a oedd yn gweini'r prydau hyn, eu bod wedi cael eu brifo gan beth o'r iaith a ddefnyddiwyd gan wleidyddion o bob plaid—ac yn sicr gan y wasg—ynghŷn â'r modd y mae'r prydau'n cael eu gweini. Credaf y bydd pob un ohonom yn cytuno, beth bynnag fo diffygion prydau ysgol, fod y bobl sy'n eu gweini'n gwneud gwaith da. Dylent gael cefnogaeth, ac maent yn gwneud eu gorau gyda'r adnoddau sydd ar gael.

Yr ydym felly'n cefnogi unrhyw arian ychwanegol sy'n cael ei wario ar brydau ysgol. Mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi dweud wrthym ei fod yn frwd o'u plaid. Mae wedi cael wyth mlynedd i weithredu ar y brwdfrydedd hwnnw, ond eto dim ond ychydig cyn yr etholiad cyffredinol y mae'n cyhoeddi £280 miliwn ychwanegol ar eu cyfer.

Eleanor Burnham: A wnewch dderbyn ymyriad?

David Davies: Mewn munud. Yr hyn sy'n peri syndod imi, fodd bynnag, yw nad ydym wedi cael dim cyhoeddiad am arian ychwanegol gan y Trysorlys ar gyfer prydau ysgol yng Nghymru. Mae hyn yn awgrymu i mi nad yw'n arian newydd o gwbl. Fodd bynnag, os oes arian newydd yn dod i Gymru

delighted if the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning would tell us all about it, so that we can be certain that it is new money, and not another example of spin from the British Prime Minister. I give way to that Member there. *[Laughter.]*

The Presiding Officer: ‘That Member there’ is Carl Sargeant.

Carl Sargeant: From this directly-elected Member to that directly-elected Member, where have you been, David? In Wales, we are already providing a substantial amount of money for school meals. In Flintshire County Council the amount is 50p per meal already. We are way ahead of England. Have you been too busy with the election campaign to notice what we are doing in Wales?

David Davies: Certainly not. I have, however, been busy visiting schools, and one clear message that has come from them, and from the Secondary Heads Association, is that schools in Wales receive far less funding than schools in England.

Eleanor Burnham: Will you take an intervention?

David Davies: Yes, I will take this last intervention.

Eleanor Burnham: I am thrilled to hear that the Conservatives are so keen on school meals, considering that it was Margaret Thatcher, referred to as ‘Margaret Thatcher the milk snatcher’, who, I believe, reduced the nutritional standards of school meals.

David Davies: I would be very happy to engage in a historical debate with Eleanor on the rights and wrongs of different parties at some time, but what I wanted to talk about was school lunches. If this Government is serious about sourcing local and high-quality produce, why can it not insist that all food bought by the public sector has the red tractor mark, which clearly shows that, even if the food has not been produced in Britain, it conforms to the high standards that are

gan y Trysorlys, byddwn yn falch iawn pe bai'r Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes yn rhoi gwybod inni amdano, er mwyn inni gael bod yn sicr ei fod yn arian newydd, ac nid yn enghraifft arall o gamarwain gan Brif Weinidog Prydain. Ildiaf i'r Aelod acw. *[Chwerthin.]*

Y Llywydd: ‘Yr Aelod acw’ yw Carl Sargeant.

Carl Sargeant: Oddi wrth yr Aelod hwn sydd wedi ei ethol yn uniongyrchol i'r Aelod hwnnw sydd wedi ei ethol yn uniongyrchol, ble yr ydych wedi bod, David? Yng Nghymru, yr ydym eisoes yn darparu swm sylweddol o arian ar gyfer prydau ysgol. Yn achos Cyngor Sir y Fflint mae'r swm eisoes yn 50c y pryd. Yr ydym ar y blaen i Loegr. A ydych wedi bod yn rhy brysur gyda'r ymgyrch etholiadol i sylwi ar yr hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud yng Nghymru?

David Davies: Ddim o gwbl. Yr wyf, fodd bynnag, wedi bod yn ymweld ag ysgolion, ac un neges amlwg yr wyf wedi ei chlywed ynddynt, a chan Gymdeithas y Prifathrawon Uwchradd, yw bod ysgolion yng Nghymru'n derbyn llawer llai o arian nag ysgolion yn Lloegr.

Eleanor Burnham: A wnewch dderbyn ymyriad?

David Davies: Iawn, deryniaf yr ymyriad olaf hwn.

Eleanor Burnham: Yr wyf yn falch iawn o glywed bod y Ceidwadwyr mor hoff o brydau ysgol, o gofio mai Margaret Thatcher, y cyfeiriwyd ati fel ‘Margaret Thatcher y lleidr llaeth’, a oedd, fe gredaf, yn gyfrifol am ostwng safonau maethol prydau ysgol.

David Davies: Byddwn yn fodlon iawn cymryd rhan mewn dadl hanesyddol gydag Eleanor ar rinweddau a chamweddau gwahanol bleidiau ar ryw adeg neu'i gilydd, ond yr hyn yr oeddwn am ei drafod oedd ciniawau ysgol. Os yw'r Llywodraeth hon o ddifrif ynglŷn â defnyddio cynnyrch sy'n lleol ac o ansawdd uchel, pam na all fynnu bod yr holl fwyd a brynir gan y sector cyhoeddus yn dangos nod y tractor coch, sy'n dangos yn eglur, hyd yn oed os nad yw'r

imposed on British farmers? If this Government announces that it is prepared to do that, then we might be able to start to believe that it is serious about improving school dinners, and we would certainly support it in doing so.

Brynle Williams: Leading on from what my colleague has just said, I will not return to what happened 18 or 20 years ago—you have had eight years to sort this out. We hear that between 20p and 30p is being spent per school meal. That is ridiculous. In Wales, we produce some of the best food that there is; there is no two ways about that. As David said, the food is produced to a standard. However, we are quite happy to stuff into our children anything that we can get hold of: it does not matter how little it costs, it is pushed into our children. It is time, as someone said earlier, that we realised that we are feeding the next generation, who will, hopefully, be looking after us. If we are not careful, we will kill the next generation. We should be looking at local procurement, and at providing local food for children in schools, thus keeping local employment. We have been discussing MG Rover today. Regrettably, 6,000 people are losing their jobs. Let us make sure that this does not happen in the education sector, and let us feed the children with what they deserve—good, clean, healthy food and a balanced diet.

4.20 p.m.

The Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning (Jane Davidson): I thank Members for their contributions. I am grateful to you for withdrawing amendment 3, Peter. As you heard me say, the word ‘free’ caused us a problem in terms of supporting the amendment, and, in my introduction, I made it clear that one of the top 10 actions in the Assembly’s sustainable development action plan, which Assembly Members have endorsed, is about working with local education authorities and governing bodies so that, when contracts come up for renewal, all specifications for school meals address issues of health,

bwyd wedi’i gynhyrchu ym Mhrydain, ei fod yn cydymffurfio â’r safonau uchel a orfodir ar ffermwyr Prydain? Pe bai’r Llywodraeth hon yn cyhoeddi ei bod yn barod i wneud hynny, yna efallai y gallem ddechrau credu ei bod o ddifrif ynglŷn â gwella ciniawau ysgol, a byddem yn sicr o’i chefnogi yn hyn o beth.

Brynle Williams: Gan barhau â’r hyn y mae fy nghyd-Aelod newydd ei ddweud, ni ddychwelaf at yr hyn a ddigwyddodd 18 neu 20 mlynedd yn ôl—yr ydych wedi cael wyth mlynedd i ddatrys hyn. Yr ydym yn clywed bod rhwng 20c a 30c yn cael ei wario ar bob pryd ysgol. Mae hynny’n hurt. Yng Nghymru, yr ydym yn cynhyrchu peth o’r bwyd gorau sydd ar gael; nid oes dwywaith am hynny. Fel y dywedodd David, mae’r bwyd a gynhyrchir yn cyrraedd safon uchel. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn barod i roi unrhyw beth y gallwn gael gafael ynddo i’n plant: nid yw o bwys pa mor rhad ydyw, mae’n cael ei wthio i’n plant. Mae’n hen bryd, fel y dywedodd rhywun yn gynharach, inni sylweddoli ein bod yn bwydo’r genhedlaeth nesaf, a fydd, gobeithio, yn gofalu amdanom ni. Os na fyddwn yn ofalus, byddwn yn lladd y genhedlaeth nesaf. Dylem fod yn ystyried caffael yn lleol, a darparu bwyd lleol i blant yn yr ysgolion, a thrwy hynny ddiogelu swyddi lleol. Yr ydym wedi bod yn trafod MG Rover heddiw. Yn anffodus, mae 6,000 o bobl yn colli eu gwaith. Gadewch inni wneud yn siŵr na fydd hyn yn digwydd yn y sector addysg, a gadewch inni fwydo’n plant gyda’r hyn y maent yn ei haeddu—bwyd da, glân, iach a deiet cytbwys.

Y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes (Jane Davidson): Diolchaf i’r Aelodau am eu cyfraniadau. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar ichi, Peter, am dynnu gwelliant 3 yn ôl. Fel y clywsoch fi’n dweud, parodd y geiriau ‘am ddim’ broblem inni o ran cefnogi’r gwelliant, ac, yn fy nghyflwyniad, yr wyf wedi ei gwneud yn amlwg mai un o’r 10 cam pwysicaf yng nghynllun gweithredu datblygu cynaliadwy y Cynulliad, sydd wedi cael ei gymeradwyo gan Aelodau’r Cynulliad, yw gweithio gydag awdurdodau addysg lleol a chyrrff llywodraethu fel bod yr holl fanylebau ar gyfer prydau ysgol, pan ddaw’r adeg i adnewyddu contractau, yn edrych ar faterion

nutrition and food seasonality. We have already issued each local authority with guidance on sustainable public-sector procurement in 'Food for Thought', which is a document on how authorities can encourage local supply chains through their procurement processes and how not to disadvantage smaller suppliers. We have been strong on the procurement agenda in Wales. We obviously have to comply with European requirements, but we are ensuring that we offer the best kind of opportunities. Carwyn's speaking at the 'Supply and Buy Wales 2005' conference will demonstrate that unequivocally, because that conference is about encouraging people to use local produce and about ways in which we can use procurement effectively.

Jeff, you made a point about cutting funding for school meals. One thing that was clear in the effective public-health message that came over in Jamie Oliver's work on school meals was that this is not just about funding per se. You saw him demonstrate that you could change the funding for school meals and that you could produce healthy outcomes. You heard the catering manager in Cardiff comment that Cardiff is able to keep prices down on the basis of having a huge procurement order, for £2 million-worth of food.

Peter Black: The amount of money that Cardiff County Council spends on the ingredients of the school meal has not changed from the previous administration. Any changes in the funding are to do with the administration of the school meal.

Jane Davidson: I am grateful for that information.

Jamie Oliver's work has propelled this issue into the spotlight. I welcome that, because the Assembly Government has a good record on this issue. We set nutrition standards, we issued guidance, and we undertook a school meals survey in 2002 to check that the minimum standards were being complied with. We currently have 1,000 schools in the healthy schools network programme and we are extending that programme to all schools in Wales. We are considered a world beater

iechyd, maeth a bwyd yn ei dymor. Yr ydym eisoes wedi cyhoeddi cyfarwyddyd i bob awdurdod lleol ar gaffael cynaliadwy i'r sector cyhoeddus yn 'Food for Thought', dogfen sy'n egluro sut y gall awdurdodau annog cadwynau cyflenwi lleol drwy eu prosesau caffael a sut i sicrhau nad yw cyflenwyr bach o dan anfantais. Yr ydym wedi bod yn gadarn ynglŷn ag agenda caffael yng Nghymru. Yr ydym, yn amlwg, wedi gorfod cydymffurfio â gofynion Ewrop, ond yr ydym yn sicrhau ein bod yn cynnig y math gorau o gyfleoedd. Mae'r ffaith bod Carwyn yn annerch yng nghynhadledd 'Cyflenwi a Phrynu Cymru 2005' yn dangos hynny'n eglur, gan mai nod y gynhadledd honno yw annog pobl i ddefnyddio cynnyrch lleol a dangos sut y gallwn ddefnyddio caffael mewn ffordd effeithiol.

Jeff, gwnaethoch bwynt am dorri cyllid ar gyfer prydau ysgol. Un peth a oedd yn amlwg yn y neges effeithiol ynghylch iechyd y cyhoedd a glywyd yng ngwaith Jamie Oliver ar brydau ysgol oedd nad ag arian ynddo'i hun yn unig y mae a wnelo hyn. Gwelsoch ef yn dangos y gallech newid y cyllid sydd ar gael ar gyfer prydau ysgol ac y gallech gynhyrchu canlyniadau iach. Clywsoch y rheolwr arlwyyo yng Nghaerdydd yn dweud bod Caerdydd yn gallu cadw prisiau'n isel oherwydd bod ganddynt archeb gaffael enfawr, am werth £2 filiwn o fwyd.

Peter Black: Nid yw'r swm y mae Cyngor Sir Caerdydd yn ei wario ar gynhwysion prydau ysgol wedi newid ers y weinyddiaeth flaenorol. Mae unrhyw newidiadau yn y cyllid yn deillio o'r modd y mae prydau ysgol yn cael eu gweinyddu.

Jane Davidson: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y wybodaeth honno.

Mae gwaith Jamie Oliver wedi dod â'r mater hwn i'r amlwg. Yr wyf yn croesawu hynny, gan fod gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad record dda ar y mater hwn. Yr ydym wedi pennu safonau maeth, cyhoeddi cyfarwyddyd, a chynnal arolwg o brydau ysgol yn 2002 i sicrhau bod cydymffurfio â'r safonau gofynnol yn digwydd. Ar hyn o bryd mae gennym 1,000 o ysgolion sy'n rhan o'r rhaglen rhwydwaith ysgolion iach ac yr ydym yn ehangu'r rhaglen honno i gynnwys pob

in terms of the healthy schools agenda and we should be proud of that. I was pleased that Jamie Oliver, unbidden by the Assembly Government, praised the work that was going on in Welsh schools. In the autumn, we are co-funding a study with the Food Standards Agency to examine the food choices that pupils make and why they make them. That is important, because we know that, even if healthy options are put in front of them, pupils will not necessarily choose them. Although we have given guidance on how to present food and have worked with the catering organisations, we still need to take that forward.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Given what you have said about the need to work with local authorities, schools and governors on this matter—and I take your point that Jamie Oliver’s words of congratulation are to be welcomed; there are many good examples in Wales, but there is still much work to be done—will you consider giving schools and governors the flexibility to decide whether they want free school breakfasts or whether they want to use the value of that meal to supplement the midday meal if they feel that that would be a better use of money?

Jane Davidson: The issue around free school breakfasts is important. It has been wonderful to see the amount of positive press on this issue, particularly from some of the media in Wales that was originally hostile to the notion of our trying to ensure that our children were well set up for starting the school day. If you talk to teachers about breakfast clubs in your constituency, you will find that teachers support them because they start kids off with a healthy breakfast on a school day. Therefore, we will not renege on that commitment. This debate has confirmed the importance of ensuring that we provide healthy school breakfasts, along with everything else, so that we give our children the best possible opportunities.

ysgol yng Nghymru. Yr ydym yn cael ein cyfrif ymhlith y gorau yn y byd o safbwynt yr agenda ysgolion iach a dylem ymfalchïo yn hynny. Yr oeddwn yn falch bod Jamie Oliver, heb ei gymell gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad, wedi canmol yr hyn sy’n digwydd yn ysgolion Cymru. Yn yr hydref, byddwn yn cyd-ariannu astudiaeth gyda’r Asiantaeth Safonau Bwyd i edrych ar y dewisiadau bwyd y mae disgyblion yn eu gwneud a pham y maent yn eu gwneud. Mae hynny’n bwysig, oherwydd gwyddom, hyd yn oed os oes opsiynau iach ar gael iddynt, na fydd disgyblion o reidrwydd yn eu dewis. Er ein bod wedi cyhoeddi cyfarwyddyd ar sut i gyflwyno bwyd ac wedi gweithio gyda sefydliadau arlwyyo, rhaid inni ddal ati gyda’r gwaith hwn.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: O gofio’r hyn yr ydych wedi ei ddweud am yr angen i weithio gyda’r awdurdodau lleol, yr ysgolion a’r llywodraethwyr ar y mater hwn—ac yr wyf yn derbyn eich pwynt bod llongyfarchion Jamie Oliver yn rhywbeth i’w groesawu; mae nifer o enghreifftiau da i’w cael yng Nghymru, ond mae llawer o waith i’w wneud eto—a wnewch ystyried rhoi’r hyblygrwydd i ysgolion a llywodraethwyr benderfynu a ydynt am ddarparu brecwastau am ddim ynteu a ydynt am ddefnyddio gwerth y pryd hwnnw i ychwanegu at y pryd canol dydd os ydynt yn teimlo y byddai hynny’n gwneud gwell defnydd o’r arian?

Jane Davidson: Mae brecwastau ysgol am ddim yn fater pwysig. Mae wedi bod yn braf gweld cymaint o sylw positif yn y wasg ar y pwnc, yn enwedig gan rai o’r cyfryngau yng Nghymru a oedd ar y dechrau yn gwrthwynebu’r syniad o sicrhau bod ein plant yn cael dechrau da i’w diwrnod ysgol. Os byddwch yn siarad ag athrawon am glybiau brecwast yn eich etholaeth, gwelwch fod athrawon yn eu cefnogi am eu bod yn rhoi brecwast iach i’r plant ar ddechrau eu diwrnod. Felly, ni fyddwn yn torri ein haddewid ar y mater hwnnw. Mae’r ddadl hon wedi cadarnhau pwysigrwydd darparu brecwastau ysgol iach, ynghyd â phopeth arall, fel ein bod yn rhoi’r cyfleoedd gorau posibl i’n plant.

I asked my officials to search back through letters from Assembly Members, because we have this artificial outrage about why we have not done X, Y and Z for so long. The opposition was happy for this particular motion to go through the accelerated procedure until it realised that it would be a bit embarrassing not to take the opportunity to talk about school meals. The only Assembly Member who wrote to me about school meals before Jamie Oliver spoke was Lynne Neagle, and the only dialogue of which we are aware is the food and fitness dialogue that has been generated by the Labour Party, because, right from 1999, we have been determined to try to change the eating habits of our young people, and we will continue to do that. I commend the motion to Members in the full knowledge that we will now be able to rely on the support of the whole Assembly in taking this agenda forward.

Yr wyf wedi gofyn i'm swyddogion chwilio drwy lythyrau gan Aelodau'r Cynulliad, gan ein bod yn clywed y dicter artiffisial hwn ynglŷn â pham nad ydym wedi gwneud X, Y neu Z ers cyhyd. Yr oedd yr wrthblaid yn hapus i'r cynnig arbennig hwn fynd trwy'r weithdrefn garlam nes iddynt sylweddoli y byddai'n embaras braidd peidio â manteisio ar y cyfle i sôn am brydau ysgol. Yr unig Aelod o'r Cynulliad a ysgrifennodd ataf ynglŷn â phrydau ysgol cyn i Jamie Oliver ddod â'r mater i amlygrwydd oedd Lynne Neagle, a'r unig ddeialog yr ydym yn ymwybodol ohoni yw'r ddeialog ynghylch bwyd a ffitrwydd a ysbardunwyd gan y Blaid Lafur, oherwydd yr ydym, ers 1999, wedi bod yn benderfynol o geisio newid arferion bwyta ein pobl ifanc, a byddwn yn dal ati i wneud hynny. Cymeradwyaf y cynnig i'r Aelodau gan wybod yn iawn y byddwn yn awr yn gallu dibynnu ar gefnogaeth y Cynulliad cyfan i weithredu ar yr agenda hon.

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

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lewis, Huw

Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment carried.*

*Gwelliant 2: O blaid 46, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 2: For 46, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen

Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment carried.*

Tynnwyd gwelliant 3 yn ôl.
 Amendment 3 withdrawn.

Cynnig NDM2385 fel y'i diwygiwyd:
 Motion NDM2385 as amended:

The National Assembly for Wales considers the principle of the School Lunches (Prescribed Requirement) (Wales) Order 2005 a copy of which was laid in the Table Office on 9 March 2005;

Bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn ystyried egwyddor Gorchymyn Ciniawau Ysgol (Gofyniad Rhagnodedig) (Cymru) 2005 y gosodwyd copi ohono yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 9 Mawrth 2005;

calls for a review of regulations and guidance concerning the nutritional content of school meals to ensure a standardised nutritional requirement across Wales;

yn galw am adolygiad o'r rheoliadau a'r canllawiau ynghylch cynnwys maethol prydau ysgol er mwyn sicrhau gofyniad maethol safonol ledled Cymru;

calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to work actively with local councils to continue to drive up the nutritional quality of school dinners.

yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gydweithio â chynghorau lleol er mwyn parhau i wella ansawdd maethol prydau ysgol.

*Cynnig wedi'i ddiwygio: O blaid 48, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
 Amended motion: For 48, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Butler, Rosemary
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Gibbons, Brian
 Graham, William
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John

Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty

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

*Cynnig (NDM2386): O blaid 45, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2386): For 45, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn

Jones, Laura Anne
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Melding, David
 Mewies, Sandy
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 4.28 p.m.
 The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 4.28 p.m.*

**Adroddiad y Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth ar Anweithgarwch
 Economaidd
 The Economic Development and Transport Committee's Report on Economic
 Inactivity**

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I have a full list of speakers for this hour-long debate, so there will be a three-minute time limit for all speakers, apart from the opening speaker. Following that, I have a full list of speakers for the last item, and not all speakers will be able to speak, unless the Assembly decides to prolong this afternoon's sitting.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Mae gennyf restr lawn o siaradwyr ar gyfer y ddadl hon a fydd yn parhau am awr, felly cyfyngir pob siaradwr i dri munud, ac eithrio'r siaradwr agoriadol. Wedi hynny, mae gennyf restr lawn o siaradwyr ar gyfer yr eitem olaf, ac ni fydd pob siaradwr yn gallu siarad, oni bai fod y Cynulliad yn penderfynu ymestyn cyfarfod y prynhawn.

Christine Gwyther: I propose that *the National Assembly for Wales, acting under Standing Orders Nos. 6.6 and 9.9, notes the Economic Development and Transport Committee report, 'Economic Inactivity in Wales', which was laid in the Table Office on 12 April 2005. (NDM2381)*

Christine Gwyther: Cynigiau fod *Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan weithredu o dan Reolau Sefydlog Rhifau 6.6 a 9.9, yn nodi adroddiad y Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth, 'Economic Inactivity in Wales', a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 12 Ebrill 2005. (NDM2381)*

I am delighted to present the Economic Development and Transport Committee's report on economic inactivity in Wales. It is an important issue, and I look forward to a lively debate, which I hope will reflect the level of concern and some of the innovative thinking that our evidence-gathering indicated. This has been a long and thoughtful review, as befits the complexity of the subject. We were aware throughout that it would need a broad Government response,

Yr wyf yn falch o gael cyflwyno adroddiad y Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth ar anweithgarwch economaidd yng Nghymru. Mae hwn yn fater pwysig, ac edrychaf ymlaen at ddadl fywiog, a fydd, gobeithio, yn adlewyrchu'r pryder a pheth o'r meddwl arloesol y mae'r dystiolaeth a gasglwyd yn ei ddangos. Bu hwn yn adolygiad maith ac ystyriol, fel y byddid yn disgwyl yn achos pwnc mor ddyrys. Yr oeddem yn ymwybodol ar hyd yr amser y

because the problems and issues cross ministerial boundaries. They are not just to do with economic development and transport, but education, for skills and training, health, for early re-entry back into work, and social justice, for the vital links between support for deprived communities and breaking the cycle of economic inactivity. As I said, the issues are broad and we will expect the Welsh Assembly Government response to be broad.

byddai angen ymateb eang ei gwmpas gan y Llywodraeth, oherwydd bod y problemau a'r materion yn croesi ffiniau cyfrifoldebau gweinigogion. Nid ymwneud â datblygu economaidd a thrafnidiaeth yn unig y maent, ond hefyd addysg, ar gyfer sgiliau a hyfforddiant, iechyd, ar gyfer mynd yn ôl i weithio yn ddiymdroi, a chyfiawnder cymdeithasol, y dolenni hanfodol rhwng cymorth i gymunedau difreintiedig a thorri cylch anweithgarwch economaidd. Fel y dywedais, mae'r materion hyn yn eang a byddwn yn disgwyl i ymateb Llywodraeth y Cynulliad fod yn eang.

4.30 p.m.

I will briefly set out the context. Over the last two or three decades, we have seen a transformation in the Welsh economy. Where once we relied heavily on traditional industries, such as coal and steel, the Welsh economy has diversified. We now have some successful modern industries: aerospace, the automotive industry, telecommunications, renewable energy and the service sector. We have many successful companies in all sectors that depend on a highly skilled and highly motivated workforce. Welsh productivity compares well with the rest of the UK, but our economy has still not caught up with many other UK regions. Part of the reason for that is the lower proportion of people participating in the labour market. This is an obvious concern for the overall economic performance of Wales and our relative GDP.

Amlinellaf y cyd-destun yn gryno. Yn ystod y ddau neu dri degawd diwethaf, gwelsom drawsffurfio economi Cymru. Pryd yr oeddem unwaith yn dibynnu'n drwm ar ddiwydiannau traddodiadol, fel glo a dur, mae economi Cymru wedi arallgyfeirio. Bellach mae gennym rai diwydiannau modern llwyddiannus: awyrofod, y diwydiant modurol, telathrebu, ynni adnewyddol a'r sector gwasanaeth. Mae gennym lawer o gwmnïau llwyddiannus ym mhob sector sydd yn dibynnu ar weithlu medrus iawn a chryf ei gymhelliad. Mae cynhyrchiant Cymru'n cymharu'n dda gyda gweddill y DU, ond nid yw ein heconomi wedi dal i fyny â llawer o ranbarthau eraill y DU eto. Rhan o'r rheswm dros hynny yw'r gyfran lai o bobl sydd yn cyfranogi yn y farchnad lafur. Mae hyn yn destun pryder amlwg o ran perfformiad economaidd cyffredinol Cymru a'n CMC cymharol.

We also need to recognise that behind the statistics is the impact of economic inactivity on individuals, who find themselves locked out of the labour market, and on those companies which try to recruit in Wales and find an ever-diminishing pool of labour. The closer we move to full employment, the more important it is to ensure that our people have the skills and opportunity to enter or re-enter the world of work and that they do not slip through cracks in the system.

Mae angen inni gydnabod hefyd, y tu ôl i'r ystadegau, effaith anweithgarwch economaidd ar unigolion, sy'n canfod eu bod wedi'u cloi allan o'r farchnad lafur, ac ar y cwmnïau hynny sydd yn ceisio recriwtio yng Nghymru ac yn canfod cronfa lafur sydd yn lleihau o hyd. Po agosaf y dyneswn at gyflogaeth lawn, pwysicaf ydyw sicrhau bod y sgiliau a'r cyfle gan ein pobl i fynd i mewn neu ddychwelyd i fyd gwaith ac nad ydynt yn llithro drwy fylchau yn y system.

During the review we decided to focus on areas where we might come up with practical recommendations. The underlying factors are only partly understood. One of the first

Yn ystod yr adolygiad penderfynasom ganolbwyntio ar y meysydd lle y gallem lunio argymhellion ymarferol. Dim ond rhannol ddeall y ffactorau gwaelodol a wneir.

recommendations in the report recognises the need for better information on economic inactivity and calls for the Welsh Assembly Government to analyse the information already available to gain a better understanding of the issues and of the potential solutions. We took evidence from a wide range of individuals and organisations in committee and through visits and we consulted widely on what people consider to be the main issues.

I place on record the committee's thanks to everyone who contributed to this report in committee meetings, through the consultation and on the visits. I will take this opportunity to thank the parliamentary staff, who, once again, pulled out all the stops to produce this report. I do not propose going through the recommendations one by one, as you all have the report before you, but I will talk about the key areas that the committee identified during the course of this review.

One of the key points put to us time and again was that in addressing economic inactivity, the evidence for a people-based approach was overwhelming, which the committee wholly endorses. People do not fit into tidy boxes, particularly when they face a personal crisis, such as loss of employment or lack of a job in the first place. Individuals face barriers—internal barriers, such as the lack of relevant skills and low confidence in many cases, and external barriers, such as the lack of affordable childcare and other care, transport difficulties or funding issues for intermediate labour projects.

The committee recommends that the Welsh Assembly Government should be more proactive in targeting groups affected by these barriers and should be pressing the Department of Work and Pensions to widen pilot schemes such as pathways to work and passport back to benefits. There is a need to assess the effectiveness of these pilot schemes, but the evidence that the committee has received so far already suggests that these schemes benefit people for whom re-entering the labour market is particularly difficult.

Mae un o'r argymhellion cyntaf yn yr adroddiad yn cydnabod yr angen am well gwybodaeth am anweithgarwch economaidd ac yn galw ar i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ddadansoddi'r wybodaeth sydd eisoes ar gael er mwyn deall y problemau a'r atebion posibl yn well. Cymerasom dystiolaeth oddi wrth amrediad eang o unigolion a sefydliadau yn y pwyllgor a thrwy ymweliadau, ac ymgynghorasom yn eang ynghylch yr hyn a ystyrir yn brif broblemau gan bobl.

Cofnodaf ddiolch y pwyllgor i bawb a gyfrannodd at yr adroddiad hwn yng nghyfarfodydd y pwyllgor, drwy'r broses ymgynghori ac yn ystod yr ymweliadau. Cymeraf y cyfle hwn i ddiolch i'r staff seneddol, a roddodd bob gewyn ar waith, unwaith eto, i gynhyrchu'r adroddiad hwn. Ni fwriadaf fynd drwy'r argymhellion fesul un, gan fod yr adroddiad gan bawb ohonoch o'ch blaen, ond siaradaf am y meysydd allweddol a nododd y pwyllgor yn ystod yr adolygiad hwn.

Un o'r pwyntiau allweddol a fynegwyd wrthym dro ar ôl tro oedd bod tystiolaeth ysgubol o blaid mynd ati ar sail pobl wrth ymdrin ag anweithgarwch economaidd, ac mae'r pwyllgor yn ategu hynny'n gyfan gwbl. Ni ellir gosod pobl mewn blychau taclus, yn enwedig a hwythau'n wynebu argyfwng personol, fel colli gwaith neu fod heb waith yn y lle cyntaf. Mae unigolion yn wynebu rhwystrau—rhwystrau mewnol, fel diffyg sgiliau perthnasol a diffyg hyder mewn llawer achos, a rhwystrau allanol, fel diffyg gofal plant fforddiadwy a phroblemau eraill yn ymwneud â gofal, anawsterau teithio neu arian ar gyfer prosiectau llafur trosiannol.

Mae'r pwyllgor yn argymhell y dylai Llywodraeth y Cynulliad fod yn fwy rhagweithiol wrth dargedu grwpiau yr effeithir arnynt gan y rhwystrau hyn ac y dylai bwysu ar yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau i ehangu cynlluniau peilot fel Llwybrau at Waith a phasbort yn ôl at fudd-daliadau. Mae angen asesu effeithiolrwydd y cynlluniau peilot hyn, ond mae'r dystiolaeth a gafodd y pwyllgor hyd yma'n awgrymu'n barod fod y cynlluniau hyn yn fuddiol i bobl sy'n ei chael hi'n arbennig o anodd mynd yn ôl i'r farchnad lafur.

The committee was particularly impressed with the work that we saw in north Wales when we visited the north Wales intermediate labour market project. Some of the committee's key recommendations recognise the role that the voluntary sector plays in facilitating the move from inactivity back into employment. We see a need for greater support for the voluntary sector's work in these areas with particular emphasis on funding and, in some cases, on marketing the voluntary sector as a vital component to get people back into work and training.

These recommendations are in line with the wide body of evidence that supports the use of community-based programmes to help people outside the labour market gain a range of work experience. The committee believes that the work being carried out by the north Wales ILM in partnership with local authorities—interestingly, all north Wales local authorities are working closely on this project, which is a good model for elsewhere—could be used elsewhere in Wales, particularly, though not exclusively, in the south Wales Valleys.

Focusing on community projects in particular is important, because 100 jobs in a single community will have far greater and more lasting impact on those individuals than the same 100 jobs being scattered across a larger area. To support this community-based approach, the committee has made a number of recommendations concerning childcare and community transport.

There are two aspects to consider when looking at childcare. First, there is the impact that better caring arrangements have on individuals. The Welsh Assembly Government, in its paper, 'Raising Economic Activity Rates', indicated that childcare and other care-related problems were unlikely to be the key factor in explaining the relatively weak legacy of Wales in terms of underperforming economic activity. We think that this conclusion should be re-examined. We recognise the impact, particularly on lone parents, of providing quality and affordable childcare, which allows those individuals to return to the labour market. A further factor is the strong evidence that early intervention

Cafodd y pwyllgor argraff arbennig o dda o'r gwaith a welsom yn y Gogledd wrth ymweld â phrosiect marchnad lafur drosiannol y Gogledd. Mae rhai o argymhellion allweddol y pwyllgor yn cydnabod y rôl sydd gan y sector gwirfoddol wrth hwyluso'r symudiad o anweithgarwch yn ôl i waith. Gwelwn angen am fwy o gefnogaeth i waith y sector gwirfoddol yn yr ardaloedd hyn gyda phwyslais arbennig ar ariannu ac, mewn rhai achosion, ar farchnata'r sector gwirfoddol fel elfen allweddol i gael pobl yn ôl i waith a hyfforddiant.

Mae'r argymhellion hyn yn cyd-fynd â'r corff eang o dystiolaeth sydd yn cefnogi defnyddio rhaglenni sy'n seiliedig ar y gymuned i helpu pobl y tu allan i'r farchnad lafur i gael amrediad o brofiad gwaith. Cred y pwyllgor y gallai'r gwaith a wneir gan farchnad lafur drosiannol y Gogledd mewn partneriaeth â'r awdurdodau lleol—yn ddi-ddorol, mae holl awdurdodau lleol y Gogledd yn cydweithio'n agos ar y prosiect hwn, sydd yn fodel da ar gyfer manau eraill—gael ei ddefnyddio mewn rhannau eraill o Gymru, yn enwedig yng Nghymoedd y De, er nad yn y fan honno'n unig.

Mae'n bwysig canolbwyntio ar brosiectau cymunedol yn arbennig, oherwydd caiff 100 o swyddi mewn un gymuned effaith lawer mwy a mwy parhaus ar yr unigolion hynny na gwasgaru'r 100 swydd hynny ar draws ardal fwy. Er mwyn cefnogi'r agwedd gymunedol hon, mae'r pwyllgor wedi gwneud nifer o argymhellion ynghylch gofal plant a thrafnidiaeth gymunedol.

Mae dwy agwedd i'w hystyried wrth edrych ar ofal plant. Yn gyntaf, ystyrier yr effaith a gaiff gwell trefniadau gofalu ar unigolion. Yn ei phapur 'Codi Cyfraddau Gweithgarwch Economaidd', nododd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ei bod yn annhebygol mai gofal plant a phroblemau eraill cysylltiedig â gofal fyddai'r ffactor allweddol wrth esbonio etifeddiaeth gymharol wan Cymru o ran tanberfformiad gweithgarwch economaidd. Credwn y dylid edrych eto ar y casgliad hwn. Cydnabyddwn yr effaith, yn enwedig ar unig rieni, a geir wrth ddarparu gofal plant fforddiadwy o ansawdd da, a fydd yn caniatáu i'r unigolion hynny ddychwelyd i'r farchnad lafur. Ffactor arall yw'r dystiolaeth

in a child's life is crucial to combating subsequent disadvantage, and is likely to have a major long-term impact on inactivity. We have made specific recommendations which recognise these factors, including the provision of children's centres, better availability of wrap-around care, reducing the bureaucracy which prevents people setting up as childcare providers—we heard some powerful evidence on that point—and supporting the voluntary sector.

One of the other key areas we looked at was the impact of poor health on removing people from the workplace, and the need to improve medical and counselling services, especially in relation to anxiety and depression. We took evidence calling for better occupational health services, and making these more accessible to small business people. We have made a number of recommendations in this area.

Resolving the problems of economic inactivity is one of the major challenges facing Wales today. The committee understands that there is no quick fix. We need to tackle cultural and attitudinal changes across a wide range of areas. In the report, we recommend practical measures which will support this. I look forward to the debate, and to the response of the Welsh Assembly Government to this issue.

Janet Davies: The committee found economic inactivity rates to be of extreme concern, and it admits itself that it has made pragmatic proposals which could make a small but significant contribution to tackling the problem. While the Assembly Government should run with these recommendations, it is up to it to tackle the more fundamental causes of economic inactivity.

Employment rates are rising and official unemployment rates are falling, which is very good news, but these figures disguise the high numbers who are economically inactive. As the committee report says, there is no simple answer—there are many barriers to overcome for people to return to work, not the least being those of local culture and attitude.

gref bod ymyriad cynnar ym mywyd plentyn yn hanfodol i atal anfantais ddiweddarach, a'i fod yn debygol o gael effaith fawr ar anweithgarwch yn y tymor hir. Gwnaethom argymhellion penodol sydd yn cydnabod y ffactorau hyn, gan gynnwys argymhell darparu canolfannau plant, sicrhau bod gofal cofleidiol ar gael yn haws, lleihau'r fiwrocratiaeth sy'n atal pobl rhag sefydlu'u hunain fel darparwyr gofal plant—clywsom dystiolaeth rymus ar y pwynt hwnnw—a chefnogi'r sector gwirfoddol.

Un o'r meysydd allweddol eraill yr edrychasom arno oedd effaith iechyd gwael ar dynnu pobl allan o'r gweithle, a'r angen i wella gwasanaethau meddygol a chwrsela, yn enwedig mewn perthynas â gorbryder ac iselder. Cawsom dystiolaeth a alwai am well gwasanaethau iechyd galwedigaethol, ac am sicrhau bod y rhain ar gael yn haws i bobl mewn busnesau bach. Gwnaethom nifer o argymhellion yn y maes hwn.

Mae datrys problemau anweithgarwch economaidd yn un o'r heriau mawr sydd yn wynebu Cymru heddiw. Mae'r pwyllgor yn deall nad oes ateb rhwydd. Mae angen mynd i'r afael â newid agweddau a diwylliant ar draws amrediad eang o feysydd. Yn yr adroddiad, argymhellwn gamau ymarferol a wnaiff gefnogi hyn. Edrychaf ymlaen at y ddadl, ac at ymateb Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i'r mater hwn.

Janet Davies: Canfu'r pwyllgor fod cyfraddau anweithgarwch economaidd yn destun pryder eithriadol, ac mae'n cyfaddef ei hun ei fod wedi gwneud cynigion pragmataidd a allai wneud cyfraniad bach ond arwyddocaol at fynd i'r afael â'r broblem. Tra dylai Llywodraeth y Cynulliad gyd-fynd â'r argymhellion hyn, mater iddi hi yw mynd i'r afael ag achosion mwy sylfaenol anweithgarwch economaidd.

Mae cyfraddau cyflogaeth ar i fyny a chyfraddau diweithdra swyddogol ar i lawr, sydd yn newyddion da iawn, ond mae'r ffigurau hyn yn cuddio'r niferoedd uchel sydd yn economaidd anweithgar. Fel y dywed adroddiad y pwyllgor, nid oes ateb syml—mae sawl rhwystr i'w goresgyn i bobl i ddychwelyd i waith, ac nid y lleiaf o'r rheini yw agweddau a diwylliant lleol.

We are six years into the existence of the National Assembly, but Wales is falling behind the rest of the UK in gross value added levels. Members on this side of the Chamber have seen with horror the loss of high numbers of manufacturing jobs over the years. On average, these jobs were better paid and more secure than the replacement jobs that have arrived.

The economic inactivity rate for people of working age in Wales was 25.8 per cent in 2003—3 per cent higher than in the UK. The highest rates were seen in Merthyr Tydfil and Blaenau Gwent. After some improvement in 2002 and 2003, the position worsened again during the last part of 2004. Short-term tinkering has achieved improvements, but, lacking clear and planned strategies, they have not been sustainable.

Since 1997, the gross domestic product or gross value added levels have decreased per head both in Wales as a whole and in west Wales and the Valleys, despite the European money piled into the latter areas. The money has gone in, but what about the outcomes?

The committee will, tomorrow, consider a report on a Heads of the Valleys strategy, following a presentation from the Bevan Foundation. This area is crucial to raising gross value added levels and making progress, so I am shocked that local Members have had to fight so hard to get the attention that this area needs, particularly as the constituency Members are Labour Members.

4.40 p.m.

Economic activity is directly related to the existence of poverty and inequality. The Westminster Government has invested billions of pounds in tax credits and incentives to help lone parents into work, but once again we see money going in, and little in the way of outcomes. The Westminster Government is about to miss its child anti-poverty target. Its own exclusion unit says that 'the groups who seem to benefit least

Mae'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ar ei chweched flwyddyn erbyn hyn, ond mae Cymru'n colli tir i weddill y DU o ran lefelau gwerth ychwanegol crynswth. Mae'r Aelodau ar yr ochr hon i'r Siambr wedi cael eu brawychu wrth weld niferoedd mawr o swyddi gweithgynhyrchu yn cael eu colli dros y blynnyddoedd. Ar gyfartaledd, yr oedd y swyddi hyn yn talu'n well ac yn fwy diogel na'r swyddi a ddaeth yn eu lle.

Yr oedd cyfradd anweithgarwch economaidd pobl o oedran gweithio yng Nghymru yn 25.8 y cant yn 2003—3 y cant yn uwch nag yn y DU. Ym Merthyr Tudful a Blaenau Gwent yr oedd y cyfraddau uchaf. Wedi rhyw gymaint o welliant yn 2002 a 2003, gwaethygodd y sefyllfa eto yn ystod rhan olaf 2004. Mae mân newidiadau tymor byr wedi sicrhau gwelliannau, ond, heb strategaethau eglur a chynlluniedig, nid ydynt wedi bod yn gynaliadwy.

Ers 1997, mae lefelau cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth neu werth ychwanegol crynswth y pen wedi disgyn yng Nghymru yn gyffredinol ac yn y Gorllewin a'r Cymoedd, a hynny er gwaethaf yr arian Ewropeaidd a dywalltwyd i'r ardaloedd hynny. Mae'r arian wedi mynd i mewn, ond beth am y canlyniadau?

Yfory, bydd y pwyllgor yn ystyried adroddiad ar strategaeth i Flaenau'r Cymoedd, ar ôl cyflwyniad gan Sefydliad Bevan. Mae'r ardal hon yn allweddol o ran codi lefelau gwerth ychwanegol crynswth a gwneud cynnydd, felly syndod i mi yw bod Aelodau lleol wedi gorfod ymladd mor galed i gael y sylw y mae ei angen ar yr ardal hon, yn enwedig gan mai Aelodau Llafur yw Aelodau'r etholaeth.

Mae cysylltiad uniongyrchol rhwng gweithgarwch economaidd a bodolaeth tlodi ac anghydraddoldeb. Buddsoddodd Llywodraeth San Steffan sawl biliwn o bunnoedd mewn credydau treth a chymhellion i helpu unig rieni i fynd i weithio, ond unwaith eto gwelwn arian yn mynd i mewn, heb fawr ddim o ran canlyniadau. Mae Llywodraeth San Steffan ar fin methu ei tharged gwrth-dlodi plant.

from policies also seem to be those who suffer persistent disadvantage’.

Yesterday’s *Financial Times* reported that the UK has become much less competitive, entirely due to

‘Labour’s failure to bridge the gap between its strongest and weakest regions’.

Lynne Neagle: Will you take an intervention?

Janet Davies: No; I have been told that I only have three minutes.

The UK has a highly polarised economy, which makes it unable to keep up with changes in world markets, which is pivotal in tackling economic inactivity. In 1998, Peter Mandelson said that New Labour is relaxed about people being filthy rich. Is New Labour in Wales equally as relaxed about some people in Wales being painfully poor?

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Thank you. I should have said that I will hold people to three minutes exactly to the second.

Irene James: It is appropriate that we have this crucial debate now, following a review undertaken through the period that marked the twentieth anniversary of the miners’ strike, which, for many in south Wales, defines and encapsulates the movement against Thatcherism, the fight for the identity of the coalfields, unionised labour, and the right to work.

Economic inactivity and its consequences are the deepest enduring legacy of Thatcherism. Over the last year, a number of reports and articles have tried to lock the complicated path from unemployment to inactivity into an underclass that resides outside labour market statistics. Recently, a report from Sheffield Hallam University estimates that 100,000 men may make up the hidden unemployed of the economically inactive.

Dywed ei huned allgáu ei hun mai ‘y grwpiau sydd i’w gweld yn elwa leiaf ar bolisiau yw’r sydd sydd hefyd i’w gweld yn dioddef anfantais barhaus’.

Adroddodd *Financial Times* ddoe fod y DU wedi mynd yn llawer llai cystadleuol, a hynny’n gyfan gwbl oherwydd

methiant Llafur i bontio’r gagendor rhwng ei rhanbarthau cryfaf a gwannaf.

Lynne Neagle: A wnewch dderbyn ymyriad?

Janet Davies: Na wnaif; dywedwyd wrthyf mai dim ond tri munud sydd gennyf.

Mae gan y DU economi sydd wedi’i pholareiddio’n ofnadwy, sydd yn golygu na all gadw i fyny â newidiadau ym marchnadoedd y byd, sydd yn hanfodol i fynd i’r afael ag anweithgarwch economaidd. Ym 1998, dywedodd Peter Mandelson nad oedd ots gan Lafur Newydd fod pobl yn drewi o arian. A yw Llafur Newydd yng Nghymru yr un mor ddi-hid bod rhai pobl yng Nghymru’n boenus o dlawd?

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Diolch. Dylwn fod wedi dweud y byddaf yn cyfyngu pobl i dri munud union, i’r eiliad.

Irene James: Mae’n briodol ein bod yn cael y ddadl hollbwysig hon yn awr, yn sgîl adolygiad a wnaethpwyd ugain mlynedd ar ôl streic y glowyr, sydd, i lawer yn y De, yn diffinio ac yn crynhoi’r symudiad yn erbyn Thatcheriaeth, y frwydr dros hunaniaeth y meysydd glo, undebau llafur, a’r hawl i weithio.

Anweithgarwch economaidd a’i ganlyniadau yw cymynrodd barhaol ddyfnaf Thatcheriaeth. Dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, ceisiodd nifer o adroddiadau ac erthyglau gloi’r llwybr cymhleth o ddiweithdra i anweithgarwch i mewn i is-ddosbarth sydd yn byw y tu allan i ystadegau’r farchnad lafur. Yn ddiweddar, amcangyfrifodd adroddiad o Brifysgol Hallam Sheffield y gall diweithdra cudd yr economaidd anweithredol gyfrif am 100,000 o ddyinion.

Of greater concern is the analysis that, despite the fact that the majority of the coalfields are well on their way to recovery—with perhaps another 12 years needed to replace jobs lost and accumulated job shortfall—the large south Wales coalfield has made slow progress, and is likely to take rather longer. The same authors argue that job losses have worked through the labour market to produce higher recorded sickness, not higher recorded unemployment, citing the Valleys as the probable epicentre of the phenomenon.

In a full employment economy, job vacancies reach out to those on the fringes of the labour market. Before that, they target the official unemployed. In this respect, we have brought those who are economically active much closer to the employment market. Since 1997, a Labour administration has presided over a stable economy and sustained economic growth. Unemployment has been halved, and continues to fall fastest in the Objective 1 region.

Our attention must now turn more directly to stubborn inactivity figures, defeating the barriers to employment and healing the deepest wounds of Thatcherism. A quick glance at the index of multiple deprivation, the chief medical officer's report, or any number of statistical documents, highlights how sustained generational poverty has destroyed lives, families and communities in south Wales.

The importance of the report's recommendations for labour market intermediary partnerships, integrating social and economic deprivation factors into Government funding, of building confidence, experiencing work, of better medical and counselling services, or of funding for a children's centre in every deprived community, cannot be overstated.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. Your time has run out.

Mark Isherwood: How do you follow that? In Blair's banana republic, the Labour Welsh Assembly Government has chucked all of the

Testun pryder mwy yw'r dadansoddiad, er gwaethaf y ffaith bod y rhan fwyaf o'r meysydd glo wedi cymryd camau breision tuag at adferiad—a bod angen efallai 12 mlynedd arall i gymryd lle'r swyddi a gollwyd a'r diffyg swyddi cronedig—mai araf fu'r cynnydd ym maes glo mawr de Cymru, a'i bod yn debygol o gymryd mwy o amser. Dadleua'r un awduron fod y swyddi sydd wedi eu colli wedi gweithio drwy'r farchnad lafur i roi cofnodion salwch uwch, nid cofnodion diweithdra uwch, gan gyfeirio at y Cymoedd fel canolbwynt tebygol y ffenomen.

Mewn economi cyflogaeth lawn, mae'r swyddi gweigion yn cyrraedd at y rhai ar gyrion y farchnad lafur. Cyn hynny, targedant y di-waith swyddogol. Yn hyn o beth, yr ydym wedi dod â'r rhai sydd yn economaidd weithredol yn llawer nes at y farchnad waith. Ers 1997, mae gweinyddiaeth Lafur wedi llywodraethu dros economi sefydlog a thwf economaidd di-ball. Hanerwyd diweithdra, ac mae'n parhau i gwmpo gyflymaf yn ardal Amcan 1.

Rhaid troi ein sylw bellach yn fwy uniongyrchol at ffigurau anweithgarwch ystyfnig, trechu'r rhwystrau i gyflogaeth a iacháu archollion dyfnaf Thatcheriaeth. Mae cipolwg ar y mynegai amlamddifadedd, adroddiad y prif swyddog meddygol, neu unrhyw nifer o ddogfennau ystadegol, yn tanlinellu'r modd y mae tloidi di-ball o genhedlaeth i genhedlaeth wedi difetha bywydau, teuluoedd a chymunedau yn y De.

Ni ellir gorbwysleisio pwysigrwydd argymhellion yr adroddiad ynghylch partneriaethau corff cyswllt y farchnad lafur, gan integreiddio ffactorau amddifadedd cymdeithasol ac economaidd yn nhrefn ariannu'r Llywodraeth, pwysigrwydd adeiladu hyder, profi gwaith, gwell gwasanaethau meddygol a chwrsela, ac ariannu canolfan i blant ym mhob cymuned ddifreintiedig.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Daeth eich amser i ben.

Mark Isherwood: Sut y mae dilyn hynny? Yng ngweriniaeth fananas Blair, mae Llywodraeth Lafur Cynulliad Cymru wedi

banana skins at the people of Wales. I therefore welcome the belated acknowledgement in this report that the case for a people-based approach to the problems of economic inactivity is overwhelming, and that this Labour Government must be more proactive in targeting this group. In other words, Labour is tackling symptoms not causes, and it is putting itself, rather than the people, first, by hiding the unemployed behind dodgy employment statistics and crocodile tears.

John Griffiths *rose*—

Mark Isherwood: I only have three minutes, and I do not have time to take an intervention.

After eight years of hard Labour in London and five in Cardiff, independent reports confirm the shameful truth that Wales now has lower productivity and poorer basic skills than any other nation or region in the United Kingdom. The number of working-age Welsh people who are jobless but not registered as unemployed has risen again this month to almost one in four people of working age in Wales. This equates to nearly 450,000 economically inactive people in Wales, and it is equivalent to two thirds of the population of north Wales and almost one in six of the Welsh population. Of these, 78 per cent are not even seeking a job, and some 65,000 are under 25, with only 11,000 of them classed as students.

Shockingly, the Office for National Statistics states that in 156,000, or 17.9 per cent, of Welsh working-age households, there is no-one in employment, and that 87,000 Welsh children are being brought up in households where no-one works. That is the real Labour record.

Irene James *rose*—

Mark Isherwood: I am sorry, I do not have time to take an intervention.

taflu'r crwyn bananas i gyd at bobl Cymru. Felly croesawaf y gydnabyddiaeth hwyr braidd yn yr adroddiad hwn fod dadl ysgubol o blaid mynd i'r afael â phroblemau anweithgarwch economaidd mewn dull sydd yn seiliedig ar bobl, a bod yn rhaid i'r Llywodraeth Lafur hon fod yn fwy rhagweithiol wrth dargedu'r grŵp hwn. Mewn geiriau eraill, mae Llafur yn trin y symptomau yn hytrach na'r achosion, ac mae'n ei roi ei hun, yn hytrach na'r bobl, yn gyntaf, drwy guddio'r di-waith y tu ôl i ystadegau cyflogaeth amheus a dagrau gwneud.

John Griffiths *a gododd*—

Mark Isherwood: Nid oes gennyf ond tri munud, ac nid oes gennyf ddigon o amser i dderbyn ymyriad.

Ar ôl wyth mlynedd o Lafur caled yn Llundain a phum mlynedd yng Nghaerdydd, mae adroddiadau annibynnol yn cadarnhau'r gwir cywilyddus bod cynhyrchiant is a sgiliau sylfaenol gwaeth yng Nghymru nag mewn unrhyw wlad neu ranbarth arall yn y Deyrnas Unedig. Mae nifer y bobl o oedran gweithio yng Nghymru sydd heb swydd ond sydd heb eu cofrestru'n ddi-waith wedi codi eto y mis hwn i bron un o bob pedwar o'r rhai o oedran gweithio yng Nghymru. Mae hynny'n cyfateb i bron 450,000 o bobl economaidd anweithgar yng Nghymru, ac i ddwy ran o dair o boblogaeth gogledd Cymru a bron un o bob chwech o boblogaeth Cymru. O blith y rhain, ceir 78 y cant nad ydynt hyd yn oed yn chwilio am swydd, ac mae tua 65,000 o dan 25 oed, a dim ond 11,000 o'r rheini sydd yn cael eu cyfrif yn fyfyrwyr.

Peth cywilyddus yw gorfod nodi bod y Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol yn dweud nad oes neb mewn gwaith mewn 156,000, neu 17.9 y cant, o'r teuluoedd o oedran gweithio yng Nghymru, a bod 87,000 o blant Cymru'n cael eu magu mewn teuluoedd lle nad oes neb yn gweithio. Dyna yw gwir record Llafur.

Irene James *a gododd*—

Mark Isherwood: Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, nid oes gennyf ddigon o amser i dderbyn ymyriad.

In fact, statisticians estimate that if Welsh economic inactivity was at the same level as it is in the rest of the United Kingdom, 100,000 more Welsh people would now be in real jobs. Worryingly, Welsh academics warn that Wales has lost a disproportionate share of its highly qualified labour force, and that this will continue unless serious policy changes are made.

The Prime Minister's economic adviser was right when he said that Gordon Brown's economic inheritance in 1997 was better than that of any previous Chancellor in living memory. Gordon Brown's structural budget deficit now smacks of economic incompetence, and the pain will be felt when the economy tips into recession and the Government has to cut spending.

Since 1997, 1 million UK manufacturing jobs have been lost, and the unemployment count—of those registered or not—would have been even higher had it not been for the creation of 583,000 public-sector jobs during the same period, with 60,000, or 10 per cent, of them in Wales. Almost two thirds of these have been unproductive non-jobs and not teachers, doctors, nurses or police officers. Public-sector productivity has fallen by 1.3 per cent under Labour. The bottom line is that this Government must at last start listening—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. I am afraid that the bottom line is that time has run out.

Huw Lewis: I welcome the Economic Development and Transport Committee's report. There are, to my mind, two key points here. The first is that economic inactivity is not spread evenly across the country, but is predominantly a burden on former coalfield areas. The second point is that the response to this must be integrated across all Assembly departments and agencies. That integrated response must be delivered in the wider context of existing Assembly Government programmes like the Wales spatial plan,

Mewn gwirionedd, mae ystadegwyr yn amcangyfrif, pe byddai'r anweithgarwch economaidd yng Nghymru ar yr un lefel ag y mae yng ngweddill y Deyrnas Unedig, y byddai 100,000 yn fwy o bobl Cymru mewn swyddi go iawn. Yr hyn sydd yn peri gofid yw bod academwyr yng Nghymru'n rhybuddio bod Cymru wedi colli nifer anghymesur o weithwyr sydd â chymwysterau uchel, ac y bydd hynny'n parhau os na cheir newidiadau sylweddol mewn polisi.

Yr oedd cynghorydd economaidd y Prif Weinidog yn iawn wrth ddweud bod yr economi a etifeddodd Gordon Brown yn 1997 yn well na'r hyn a etifeddodd unrhyw Ganghellor blaenorol o fewn cof. Mae'r diffyg strwythurol yng nghyllideb Gordon Brown bellach yn sawru o fwnglereiddiwch economaidd, a theimlir y boen pan fydd yr economi'n dechrau mynd i ddirwasgiad a'r Llywodraeth yn gorfod cwtdogi gwariant.

Ers 1997, collwyd 1 filiwn o swyddi gweithgynhyrchu yn y DU, a buasai nifer y di-waith—boed hwy wedi'u cofrestru neu beidio—yn uwch byth oni bai fod 583,000 o swyddi wedi'u creu yn y sector cyhoeddus yn ystod yr un cyfnod, a 60,000, neu 10 y cant, ohonynt yng Nghymru. Mae bron dwy ran o dair o'r rhain wedi bod yn swyddi di-ddim ac anghynhyrchiol, nid yn swyddi athrawon, meddygon, nyrsys neu heddweision. Mae cynhyrchiant y sector cyhoeddus wedi disgyn 1.3 y cant o dan Lafur. Diwedd y gân yw bod rhaid i'r Llywodraeth hon ddechrau gwranddo o'r diwedd—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Mae arnaf ofn mai diwedd y gân yw bod yr amser wedi dod i ben.

Huw Lewis: Croesawaf adroddiad y Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth. Mae dau bwynt allweddol yn codi yn hyn o beth, i'm tyb i. Y cyntaf yw nad yw anweithgarwch economaidd wedi'i rannu'n gyfartal ledled y wlad, a'i fod yn faich ar ysgwyddau ardaloedd oedd gynt yn feysydd glo yn bennaf. Yr ail bwynt yw bod rhaid integreiddio'r ymateb i hyn yn holl adrannau ac asiantaethau'r Cynulliad. Rhaid rhoddi'r ymateb integredig hwnnw yng nghyd-destun ehangach rhaglenni presennol

Communities First and the Heads of the Valleys strategic framework.

I am pleased that the report recognises that skills and childcare are just as important to economic regeneration as roads, factories and railways are. Thanks to Labour, that investment in people is being made. I am sorry that Mark is leaving the Chamber because I was just about to attempt to answer some of the ludicrous points that he made in his contribution.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. Mark, you cannot stand in the Chamber.

Huw Lewis: Where once UK unemployment reached 3 million, where one in five families had no-one in work, and one in three children lived in poverty, unemployment is now at a 30-year low. Long-term youth unemployment has virtually disappeared, and over 2 million children have been lifted out of absolute poverty. That is a record to be proud of.

Mark and his colleagues can keep on trying to sell it, but the truth is that nobody is buying. The Conservative and Unionist Party is the reason why we are having this debate; it created the situation that the committee has been discussing. It is not as if it made a few mistakes in its management of the Welsh economy or—

Laura Anne Jones: Will you take an intervention?

Huw Lewis: I only have three minutes and do not have the time. Sorry.

It is not as if it occasionally dropped the ball in terms of its management of the economy. The truth is that the Conservatives systematically gutted these communities, particularly coalfield communities, both socially and economically, and would, by now, be dancing on their graves were they still in power. We have this report and we are having this debate because of the Tory Party in Wales.

Labour's record is good, but we are not

Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, fel cynllun gofodol Cymru, Cymunedau yn Gyntaf a fframwaith strategol Blaenau'r Cymoedd.

Yr wyf yn falch bod yr adroddiad yn cydnabod bod sgiliau a gofal plant yr un mor bwysig ar gyfer adfywio economaidd ag yw ffyrdd, ffatrïoedd a rheilffyrdd. Diolch i Lafur, mae buddsoddi o'r fath mewn pobl yn digwydd. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf fod Mark yn mynd o'r Siambr gan fy mod ar fin ceisio ateb rhai o'r pwyntiau chwerthinllyd a wnaeth yn ei gyfraniad.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Mark, ni chewch sefyll yn y Siambr.

Huw Lewis: Pryd yr oedd diweithdra yn y DU wedi cyrraedd 3 miliwn, un teulu o bob pump heb neb mewn gwaith, ac un o bob tri o blant yn byw mewn tlodi, mae diweithdra ar ei isaf bellach er 30 mlynedd. Mae diweithdra hirdymor ymysg pobl ifanc wedi diflannu bron, ac mae mwy na 2 filiwn o blant wedi'u codi allan o dlodi llwyr. Mae honno'n record y gellir ymfalchio ynddi.

Caiff Mark a'i gyd-Aelodau ddal i geisio haeru hyn, ond y gwir yw nad oes neb yn ei dderbyn. Y Blaid Geidwadol ac Unoliaethol yw'r rheswm dros y ddadl hon; hi a greodd y sefyllfa y bu'r pwyllgor yn ei thrafod. Nid wedi gwneud ychydig o gangymeriadau wrth reoli economi Cymru y mae neu—

Laura Anne Jones: A wnewch chi dderbyn ymyriad?

Huw Lewis: Nid oes gennyf ond tri munud ac nid oes gennyf ddigon o amser. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf.

Nid wedi methu ambell waith wrth reoli'r economi y mae. Y gwir yw bod y Ceidwadwyr wedi diberfeddu'r cymunedau hyn yn systematig, yn enwedig cymunedau'r meysydd glo, yn gymdeithasol ac yn economaidd, ac y byddent, erbyn hyn, yn dawnsio ar eu beddau pe byddent yn dal i fod mewn grym. Mae'r adroddiad hwn gennym ac yr ydym yn cael y ddadl hon oherwydd y Blaid Doriaidd yng Nghymru.

Mae gan Lafur record dda, ond nid ydym yn

complacent about it. Spreading prosperity to those remaining in poverty must be our next and most urgent task. The economic inactivity figures for Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney speak for themselves. That is why I particularly welcome our new initiatives in the Heads of the Valleys strategic framework to regenerate those communities along that A465 corridor, as has been successfully done along the M4 corridor. We need that kind of emphasis from all agencies, as well as from the Assembly Government, to make that success a reality.

4.50 p.m.

Jenny Randerson: I endorse the committee's report. I will draw attention to several important issues. The first is the need for more proactive targeting of help for economically inactive people and the need to eliminate the benefits trap, as it is usually called, which prevents people from taking up work. Two examples of this were brought to my attention in my surgery last week. The first was the case of a single mother who had been through a period of homelessness following the break-up of a violent marriage, and who had three children. She wept as she told me of her frustration—at the brick wall she had repeatedly met—as she tried to get her life back together. She was frustrated at her failure to take the step from benefits into training and work. She told me of her attempts to find a way through the maze of what was on offer, and to no avail. She was verbally offered a grant to enable her to buy new clothes to attend job interviews. However, when she tried to follow this up, her calls were not returned, and no money has ever been sent to her, yet we know that that grant is available.

That same afternoon, a second constituent also cried—I think that it was their circumstances, not my presence, that was causing them to burst into tears that afternoon. She came with enormous knowledge and understanding of the benefits system and told me of the problems that she and her family had encountered because her husband was on long-term sick leave, and of the vagaries of the tax credit system. She came armed with two years' worth of well-

hunanfodlon yn ei chylch. Lledaenu ffyniant ymysg y rhai sydd yn dal i fod mewn tlodi yw ein tasg nesaf a'n tasg bwysicaf. Mae'r ffigurau am anweithgarwch economaidd ym Merthyr Tudful a Rhymni yn siarad drostynt eu hunain. Dyna pam y croesawaf yn benodol ein mentrau newydd yn fframwaith strategol Blaenau'r Cymoedd i adfywio'r cymunedau hynny ar hyd coridor yr A465, fel y gwnaethpwyd yn llwyddiannus ar hyd coridor yr M4. Mae arnom angen pwyslais o'r fath gan yr holl asiantaethau, yn ogystal â Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, i sicrhau'r llwyddiant hwnnw.

Jenny Randerson: Cymeradwyaf adroddiad y pwyllgor. Tynnaf sylw at sawl mater pwysig. Y cyntaf yw'r angen i dargedu cymorth ar gyfer pobl economaidd anweithgar yn fwy rhagweithiol a'r angen i ddileu'r fagl budd-daliadau, fel y'i gelwir fel arfer, sydd yn atal pobl rhag ymgymryd â gwaith. Ducpwyd dwy enghraifft o hynny i'm sylw yn fy nghymhorthfa yr wythnos diwethaf. Y gyntaf oedd achos mam sengl a fu'n ddigartref am gyfnod wedi i'w phriodas dreisgar ddod i ben, a chanddi dri o blant. Yr oedd yn wylo wrth ddweud wrthyf am ei rhwystredigaeth—am y wal ddiadlam yr aeth yn ei herbyn dro ar ôl tro—wrth geisio rhoi trefn ar ei bywyd. Teimlai'n rhwystredig am ei bod wedi methu â chymryd y cam o dderbyn budd-daliadau at hyfforddiant a gwaith. Soniodd wrthyf am ei hymdrechion i ganfod ffordd drwy ddrysfa yr hyn a gynigid, a hynny'n ofer. Cafodd gynnig grant ar lafar i'w galluogi i brynu dillad newydd i fynd i gyfweiliadau am swydd. Fodd bynnag, pan geisiodd fynd ynghylch hynny, nid atebwyd ei galwadau, ac nid anfonwyd arian iddi o gwbl, er y gwyddom fod y grant hwnnw ar gael.

Yr un prynhawn, bu un arall o'm hetholwyr yn wylo—credaf mai eu hamgylchiadau, ac nid fy mhresenoldeb i, a oedd yn peri iddynt wylo y prynhawn hwnnw. Yr oedd ganddi wybodaeth a dealltwriaeth helaeth o'r system budd-daliadau a soniodd wrthyf am y problemau yr oedd hi a'i theulu wedi'u profi am fod ei gŵr wedi cael absenoldeb salwch hirdymor, ac am natur fympwyol y system credydau treth. Yr oedd ganddi ffrwyth dwy flynedd o ddogfennau, a'r rheini wedi'u

filed documents. She understood far better than me every nook and cranny of the benefits system. For example, she could tell me the average waiting times for new benefits, and so on. However, she faced repeated problems because her type of work meant that she was in work for short periods, and then, following an assignment, was out of work again. She consistently had to take up and drop benefits, which she found enormously difficult.

Another point is the issue that Chris raised about jobs created by renewable energy. We have far too tame an approach to renewable energy, and I regret to say that there is no evidence yet of large numbers of jobs being created in that sector. Today, it is reported that 22,000 recruits are needed by the Welsh construction industry. I draw the Minister's attention in particular to the need for skills training on the job, which is referred to in recommendation 6.

Finally, the Government has been successful in bringing down unemployment levels. However, inactivity levels remain stubbornly high, and have drifted upwards in recent months. That is the serious nut to crack—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. I apologise, I was so engrossed in what Jenny was saying that she has got away with extra time. [ASSEMBLY MEMBERS: 'Oh dear.'] Order. It is not a question of 'oh dear', it is a question of being fair to everyone. If I say that it is three minutes, then I want to be fair to everyone and not show any favouritism whatsoever. I regret when I slip up and do not allow that to happen.

Jeff Cuthbert: I trust that my contribution will be equally engrossing.

I will focus my contribution on the employment challenges that we face. Wales has two key hurdles—creating job opportunities in our most deprived communities, and tackling the skills gap that hinders our progress. Valleys communities have historically high levels of economic

trefnu'n dda. Gwyddai'n llawer gwell na mi am bob twll a chornel o'r system budd-daliadau. Er enghraifft, gallai ddweud wrthyf am yr amseroedd aros cyfartalog am fudd-daliadau newydd, ac yn y blaen. Er hynny, wynebodd y naill broblem ar ôl y llall gan ei bod mewn gwaith am gyfnodau byr ar y tro oherwydd y math o waith a wnâi, ac allan o waith wedyn ar ôl gorffen y dasg. Yr oedd yn gorfod cymryd budd-daliadau a rhoi'r gorau iddynt drwy'r amser, ac yr oedd yn cael hynny'n beth anodd dros ben.

Pwynt arall yw'r cwestiwn a gododd Chris ynghylch swyddi sy'n cael eu creu drwy ynni adnewyddadwy. Mae gennym ymagwedd ry ddiniwed o lawer at ynni adnewyddadwy, ac mae'n ofid gennyf ddweud nad oes dim tystiolaeth eto i ddangos bod niferoedd mawr o swyddi'n cael eu creu yn y sector hwnnw. Heddiw, adroddir bod angen recriwtio 22,000 i'r diwydiant adeiladu yng Nghymru. Tynnaf sylw'r Gweinidog yn benodol at yr angen am hyfforddiant mewn sgiliau yn y gweithle, y cyfeirir ato yn argymhelliad 6.

Yn olaf, mae'r Llywodraeth wedi llwyddo i ostwng lefelau diweithdra. Er hynny, mae lefelau anweithgarwch yn dal i fod yn ystyfnig o uchel, ac maent wedi codi yn y misoedd diwethaf. Hynny yw'r broblem anodd ei datrys—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Ymddiheuraf, yr oeddwn wedi ymgolli cymaint yn yr hyn yr oedd Jenny yn ei ddweud fel ei bod wedi llwyddo i gael amser ychwanegol. [AELODAU'R CYNULLIAD: 'O diar.'] Trefn. Nid mater o 'o diar' ydyw, mater o fod yn deg â phawb ydyw. Os dywedaf mai tri munud sydd ar gael, yr wyf am fod yn deg â phawb a pheidio ag amlygu dim ffafriaeth o gwbl. Mae'n ofid imi pan fyddaf yn llithro ac yn methu â chaniatáu hynny.

Jeff Cuthbert: Hyderaf y bydd fy nghyfraniad innau yr un mor ddiddorol.

Canolbwyntiaf yn fy nghyfraniad ar yr heriau a wynebwn o ran cyflogaeth. Mae dau rwystr allweddol yn wynebu Cymru—creu cyfleoedd i gael swyddi yn ein cymunedau mwyaf difreintiedig, ac ymdrin â'r bwlbh o ran sgiliau sydd yn rhwystro ein cynnydd. Bu lefelau uchel o anweithgarwch economaidd

inactivity. The rapid and harsh closures of the mines led to untold social and economic hardship, tearing at the very fabric of our local communities, and questioning the very rationale of the communities' existence. In plain economic terms, this was a result of devastating failure by the then Conservative Government to replace lost jobs with sustainable alternative industries that are in step with the global economy.

Economic inactivity does not appear overnight, and nor can it disappear overnight. As the committee's report states, a local community with high rates of economic inactivity will also suffer from a range of social conditions that have developed over time. These might include a low skills base, lack of the so-called soft skills, the absence of good childcare facilities, lack of experience in the labour market, and dependency on benefits or grants. All act as barriers to full employment in the labour market, and all must be tackled for the individuals in local communities to become active citizens once more.

Labour in Westminster and in Wales have worked together to drive down economic inactivity. An unparalleled period of economic stability has enabled the Assembly to fund a sustained programme of public investment, and the Assembly's strategic policies for economic development and growth have helped to tackle economic inactivity at its root cause. That is why unemployment in Wales is at an historic low of 4.1 per cent, with a consequent reduction in the number of those claiming benefits. Macro-economic stability is, obviously, crucial, but it is really the micro-economic reform—the way in which our labour market and out welfare state work—that will be most responsible for our continued growth in driving up skills and attacking the skills gap in our ever-changing domestic labour market.

Tackling skills shortages, especially among

yng nghymunedau'r Cymoedd ers amser maith. Arweiniodd y cau cyflym a diarbed ar y pyllau glo at galedi aruthrol yn gymdeithasol ac yn economaidd, gan rwygo gwedd ein cymunedau lleol, a bwrw amheuaeth ar y sail resymegol i fodolaeth y cymunedau hynny. Mewn cyd-destun economaidd syml, yr oedd hynny'n ganlyniad i fethiant affwysol ar ran y Llywodraeth Geidwadol ar y pryd i roi diwydiannau eraill cynaliadwy sydd yn cyd-fynd â'r economi fyd-eang yn lle'r swyddi a gollwyd.

Nid yw anweithgarwch economaidd yn codi dros nos, ac ni all ddiflannu dros nos ychwaith. Fel y dywed adroddiad y pwyllgor, bydd cymuned leol a chanddi gyfraddau anweithgarwch economaidd uchel hefyd yn dioddef gan amryw o anhwylderau cymdeithasol sydd wedi datblygu dros amser. Gallai'r rhain gynnwys sylfaen sgiliau isel, prinder sgiliau meddal, fel y'u gelwir, diffyg cyfleusterau gofal plant da, diffyg profiad yn y farchnad lafur, a dibyniaeth ar fudd-daliadau neu grantiau. Mae'r holl bethau hyn yn rhwystrau i gyflogaeth lawn yn y farchnad lafur, a rhaid mynd i'r afael â phob un ohonynt fel y gall yr unigolion mewn cymunedau lleol ddod yn ddinasyddion gweithgar eto.

Mae Llafur yn San Steffan ac yng Nghymru wedi cydweithio i ostwng anweithgarwch economaidd. Mae'r cyfnod o sefydlogrwydd economaidd digyffelyb a gafwyd wedi galluogi'r Cynulliad i ariannu rhaglen estynedig o fuddsoddi cyhoeddus, ac mae polisiau strategol y Cynulliad ar gyfer datblygu economaidd a thwf wedi helpu i fynd i'r afael â'r hyn sydd wrth wraidd anweithgarwch economaidd. Dyna pam y mae diweithdra yng Nghymru ar ei isaf ers cyfnod maith, sef 4.1 y cant, gyda gostyngiad o ganlyniad i hynny yn y nifer sydd yn hawlio budd-daliadau. Mae sefydlogrwydd macro-economaidd yn hollbwysig, wrth gwrs, ond y diwygiadau micro-economaidd—y modd y mae ein marchnad lafur a'n gwladwriaeth les yn gweithio—fydd yn bennaf cyfrifol am ein cynnydd parhaus wrth wella sgiliau a mynd i'r afael â'r bwch o ran sgiliau yn ein marchnad lafur fewnwladol sydd yn newid yn barhaus.

Mae'n hollbwysig mynd i'r afael â phrinder

our younger generation, is vital for the sustainability of our Valleys communities. The overall impact of skills shortages is clear for all to see, particularly in construction, transport, tourism and hospitality. It is essential that, in designing long-term solutions, the Assembly Government continues to work in partnership with businesses, the unions and the new sector skills councils to ensure that we meet the modern and ever-changing needs of businesses in Wales.

Lisa Francis: Recommendation 6 of the report recommends that ELWa, wherever it may be in future, undertakes a programme to encourage employers in the care, tourism and construction sectors and provides and supports skills training for their employees through workplace learning programmes. With regard to technical skills in tourism, strides have already been taken through organisations such as the Tourism Training Forum for Wales, which advocated and helped to provide in-house training, mentoring skills and so on. However, there is now a problem of confusion from a political perspective in that we do not know how the Wales Tourist Board and its agencies will be run after April 2006. The detail given to us thus far in 'Making the Connections' is scanty and uncertain, and time is running on. The fear is that certain aspects of this important training and knowledge and people development could be lost and forgotten forever. Indeed, should that happen, it would be counterproductive to recommendation 6.

Recommendations 14 to 17 deal with childcare provision. They are significant recommendations that are important not just to deprived south Wales Valleys communities. Recommendation 17 recognises the importance of after-school and school holiday childcare facilities such as Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs. While I am sure that clybiau will find the additional one-off payment that it will receive this year from this administration an invaluable aid, it has been told that it can no longer expect to have core running costs met by the Welsh Assembly Government. In future, clybiau will have to ask the children and young

sgiliau, yn enwedig ymysg y genhedlaeth iau, i sicrhau cynaliadwyedd cymunedau'r Cymoedd. Mae effaith gyffredinol y prinder sgiliau'n amlwg i bawb, yn enwedig ym meysydd adeiladu, trafniadaeth, twristiaeth a lletygarwch. Mae'n hollbwysig y bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, wrth ddyfeisio atebion hirdymor, yn dal i weithio ar y cyd â busnesau, yr undebau a'r cynghorau sgiliau sector newydd i sicrhau y byddwn yn diwallu anghenion cyfoes a chyfnewidiol busnesau yng Nghymru.

Lisa Francis: Yn argymhelliad 6 yn yr adroddiad, argymhellir y dylai ELWa, ym mhle bynnag y bydd yn y dyfodol, ymgymryd â rhaglen i annog cyflogwyr yn y sectorau gofal, twristiaeth ac adeiladu ac y dylai ddarparu a hyrwyddo hyfforddiant mewn sgiliau ar gyfer eu gweithwyr drwy raglenni dysgu yn y gweithle. Gyda golwg ar sgiliau technegol mewn twristiaeth, cymerwyd camau mawr eisoes drwy gyrff fel Fforwm Hyfforddi Twristiaeth yng Nghymru, sydd wedi hyrwyddo a helpu i ddarparu hyfforddiant yn y gweithle, sgiliau mentora ac yn y blaen. Er hynny, ceir problem yn awr o ran dryswch o safbwynt gwleidyddol gan na wyddom ym mha fodd y bydd Bwrdd Croeso Cymru a'i asiantaethau'n cael eu rhedeg ar ôl Ebrill 2006. Mae'r manylion a roddwyd inni hyd yma yn 'Creu'r Cysylltiadau' yn brin ac yn amhendiant, ac mae amser yn cerdded ymlaen. Yr ofn yw y gallai rhai agweddau ar yr hyfforddiant a'r wybodaeth a'r datblygu ar bobl gael eu colli a'u hanghofio am byth. Yn wir, pe bai hynny'n digwydd, byddai'n mynd yn groes i argymhelliad 6.

Mae argymhellion 14 i 17 yn delio â'r ddarpariaeth o ran gofal plant. Maent yn argymhellion pwysig, a hynny nid yn unig i gymunedau difreintiedig yng Nghymoedd y De. Mae argymhelliad 17 yn cydnabod mor bwysig yw cyfleusterau gofal plant ar ôl ysgol ac yn ystod gwyliau ysgol fel Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs. Er fy mod yn siŵr y bydd clybiau yn cael bod y taliad ychwanegol untro a gaiff eleni gan y weinyddiaeth hon yn gymorth amhrisiadwy, dywedwyd wrtho na all ddisgwyl bellach y bydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn talu am ei gostau rhedeg craidd. Yn y dyfodol, bydd clybiau'n gorfod gofyn i'r

people's framework partnerships in each local authority to fund its development workers from the Cymorth fund. As well as 22 separate applications to the local authorities for core costs that were previously met by one payment—

Huw Lewis: Lisa, this is all very worthy, but is it not the case that your party has always believed childcare to be the responsibility of the family and not of the state?

Lisa Francis: It is important that families have choices in childcare, Huw. In fact, that is what this report is all about. In a report that stresses that childcare must be at the forefront of a political and economic agenda, unfortunately, this just does not make sense.

5.00 p.m.

Recommendation 23 highlights the need for the Department for Work and Pensions to increase its capacity for occupational health professionals to assess sick people, and provide the necessary expertise and advice to help them to return to work. We had some stunning evidence on that and it is an important recommendation. However, I would like to know how this administration intends to apply pressure on the Department for Work and Pensions to see that through.

Karen Sinclair: First, I welcome this report and its contribution to the debate about improving economic activity levels in Wales. The bedrock of any social reforms that we seek to make, here in the Assembly, depends on having a fully functioning and effective economy that maximises the resources and talents at our disposal, for example, ensuring that female employment levels are as high as possible to allow us to have an economy that is responsive to the challenges of the twenty-first century.

A key element in building this type of economy, as set out in a number of the recommendations in this report, is the importance of childcare, both in allowing those who want to the ability to have children and to contribute to the national economy.

partneriaethau fframwaith plant a phobl ifanc ym mhob awdurdod lleol ddyrannu arian ar gyfer ei weithwyr datblygu o gronfa Cymorth. Yn ogystal â'r 22 o geisiadau ar wahân i'r awdurdodau lleol ar gyfer costau craidd y telid amdanynt o'r blaen drwy un taliad—

Huw Lewis: Lisa, mae hyn i gyd yn glodwiw iawn, ond onid yw'n wir mai cred eich plaid erioed yw mai cyfrifoldeb i'r teulu yw gofal plant ac nid i'r wladwriaeth?

Lisa Francis: Mae'n bwysig bod teuluoedd yn cael dewis o ran gofal plant, Huw. Mewn gwirionedd, dyna holl ddiben yr adroddiad hwn. Mewn adroddiad sydd yn pwysleisio bod rhaid i ofal plant fod ar ben yr agenda wleidyddol ac economaidd, yn anffodus, nid yw hyn yn gwneud synnwyr.

Mae argymhelliad 23 yn pwysleisio'r angen i'r Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau gynyddu ei gapasiti i weithwyr iechyd galwedigaethol proffesiynol asesu pobl sâl, a darparu'r arbenigedd a'r cyngor angenrheidiol i'w galluogi i ddychwelyd i'r gwaith. Cawsom dystiolaeth syfrdanol ynghylch hynny ac mae'n argymhelliad pwysig. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn wybod sut y bwriada'r weinyddiaeth hon roi pwysau ar yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau i sicrhau bod hynny'n digwydd.

Karen Sinclair: Yn gyntaf, croesawaf yr adroddiad hwn a'i gyfraniad i'r ddadl ynghylch gwella lefelau gweithgarwch economaidd yng Nghymru. Mae carreg sylfaen unrhyw ddiwygiadau cymdeithasol y ceisiwn eu gwneud, yma yn y Cynulliad, yn dibynnu ar gael economi effeithiol yn gweithio'n iawn sy'n defnyddio hyd yr eithaf yr adnoddau a'r talentau sydd gennym wrth law, er enghraifft, drwy sicrhau bod lefelau cyflogaeth menywod cyn uchod ag y bo modd i ganiatáu inni gael economi sydd yn ymateb i heriau'r unfed ganrif ar hugain.

Elfen allweddol wrth adeiladu'r math hwn o economi, fel yr amlinellir yn nifer o'r argymhellion yn yr adroddiad hwn, yw pwysigrwydd gofal plant, o ran caniatáu i'r rhai a fyn hynny y gallu i gael plant ac i gyfrannu at economi'r genedl. Mae'r

The Labour Government, both in Westminster and in Cardiff, has begun to shift the emphasis towards increasing the availability and quality of childcare in Wales. That has begun to tackle the inflexibility that has become embedded into our labour markets during the post-war years and to help to assist the economy and its workers in becoming more mobile.

Good initiatives such as those included in the Cymorth funding stream, and in others, such as the Genesis Wales Project, will improve the mobility of our economy, allowing those who have not entered the labour market before the chance to do so.

Lisa Francis: Will you give way?

Karen Sinclair: Certainly.

Lisa Francis: You mentioned the Cymorth stream, which is fine. However, are you not concerned that Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs, which I mentioned earlier, will now have to dip into its reserves? Also, are you not worried about the future, because it provides an important childcare facility for out-of-school hours?

Karen Sinclair: I will touch on that subject a little later. However, there is no doubt that, when there are substantial reserves, you have to look at what you are doing. We have done a great deal to 'make good' that source of finance.

It also ensures that our children's development is of the highest and most appropriate standard. I fully support the goal of having one integrated children's centre in every local authority. It will make such a difference to those parents who need help from the state when returning to work. However, there is still much to be done.

A recent Bevan Foundation report highlighted that only one childcare place exists for every seven children under eight years old. These figures become even more pronounced in areas of the greatest deprivation. Lately, I have been involved in

Llywodraeth Lafur, yn San Steffan ac yng Nghaerdydd, wedi dechrau symud y pwyslais tuag at gynyddu'r gofal plant sydd ar gael yng Nghymru a gwella'i ansawdd. Mae hynny wedi dechrau mynd i'r afael â'r anhyblygrwydd a ymwreiddiodd yn ein marchnadoedd llafur yn ystod y blynyddoedd wedi'r rhyfel ac wedi dechrau helpu i gynorthwyo'r economi a'i gweithwyr i fod yn fwy symudol.

Bydd mentrau da fel y rhai sydd wedi'u cynnwys yn ffrwd ariannu Cymorth, ac mewn eraill, fel prosiect Genesis Cymru, yn gwella symudedd ein heconomi, gan roi cyfle i ymuno â'r farchnad lafur i rai na wnaethant hynny o'r blaen.

Lisa Francis: A wnewch ildio?

Karen Sinclair: Siŵr iawn.

Lisa Francis: Soniasoch am ffrwd Cymorth, sydd yn iawn. Fodd bynnag, onid ydych yn pryderu y bydd yn rhaid i Glybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs, y soniais amdano yn gynharach, bellach durio i'w adnoddau wrth gefn? Hefyd, onid ydych yn poeni am y dyfodol, oherwydd y mae'n darparu cyfleuster gofal plant pwysig ar gyfer oriau y tu allan i oriau ysgol?

Karen Sinclair: Cyffyrddaf â'r pwnc hwnnw ychydig yn ddiweddarach. Fodd bynnag, nid oes dwywaith, lle y ceir adnoddau sylweddol wrth gefn, nad oes rhaid edrych ar yr hyn yr ydych yn ei wneud. Yr ydym wedi gwneud llawer iawn i 'gyflawni' y ffynhonnell gyllid honno.

Mae'n sicrhau hefyd fod datblygiad ein plant o'r safon uchaf a mwyaf priodol. Llwyf gefnogaf y nod o gael un ganolfan blant integredig ym mhob awdurdod lleol. Gwnaiff gymaint o wahaniaeth i'r rhieni hynny sydd angen cymorth gan y wladwriaeth pan ddychwelant i'w gwaith. Fodd bynnag, mae llawer i'w wneud o hyd.

Mewn adroddiad diweddar gan Sefydliad Bevan tynnwyd sylw at y ffaith nad oes ond un lle gofal plant ar gyfer pob saith plentyn dan wyth mlwydd oed. Mae'r ffigurau hyn yn waeth byth yn yr ardaloedd mwyaf difreintiedig. Yn ddiweddar, bwm yn

ensuring that funding for children's groups—Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs—was adequate and secure, so that they could continue their good work in providing some 26,000 childcare places in Wales. Recently, the organisation was faced with a cut in its future funding, following the end of a fixed-term contract.

Jenny Randerson: Will you give way?

Karen Sinclair: No, I will not take another intervention. Sorry Jenny.

Until this was reconsidered and measures taken to rectify the future funding, many childcare places were in danger.

When reading this report, it becomes clear that there is an indisputable link between the availability of adequate childcare and economic activity levels and prosperity. As a mother, I know that to be true. Therefore, it is crucial that we have the stability and funding arrangements for childcare groups. The Assembly must take the lead in ensuring that the complex network of European and other funding sources, which childcare groups draw from, is effectively co-ordinated to achieve consistency of funding. In this way, childcare groups can attain the maximum benefit and security from their funding arrangements.

I congratulate the committee and officials for producing this report, and I hope that it will serve as part of the foundation upon which we can tackle economic activity in Wales, and take forward childcare that is focused.

William Graham: I commend this report. It takes forward two particular points that many commentators on employment have made: first, in order to get people back into work, they must have the confidence that they can do it and, secondly, it must be economically attractive. The report begins to address that, particularly by suggesting that counselling could be made available, but that must be made available to those who wish to start work, as well as to existing employees.

gweithio ar sicrhau bod y cyllid ar gyfer grwpiau plant—Clybiau Plant Cymru—yn ddigonol ac yn ddiogel, fel y gallent ddal ati gyda'u gwaith da o ddarparu rhyw 26,000 o leoedd gofal plant yng Nghymru. Yn ddiweddar, wynebodd y corff hwn gwtogiad yn ei gyllid ar gyfer y dyfodol, wedi i gontract tymor sefydlog ddod i ben.

Jenny Randerson: A wnewch ildio?

Karen Sinclair: Na wnaaf, ni dderbyniaf ymyriad arall. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, Jenny.

Hyd nes i hyn gael ei ailystyried a hyd nes i gamau i unioni'r cyllid i'r dyfodol gael eu cymryd, yr oedd llawer o leoedd gofal plant mewn perygl.

Wrth ddarllen yr adroddiad hwn, daw'n amlwg bod perthynas ddiymwad rhwng bod â gofal plant digonol ar gael a lefelau gweithgarwch economaidd a ffyniant. Fel mam, gwn fod hynny'n wir. Felly, mae'n hollbwysig inni gael y sefydlogrwydd a'r trefniadau ariannu ar gyfer grwpiau gofal plant. Rhaid i'r Cynulliad arwain y ffordd i sicrhau y caiff y rhwydwaith cymhleth o ffynonellau cyllid Ewropeaidd a ffynonellau eraill, y bydd grwpiau gofal plant yn dibynnu arnynt, ei gydlynu'n effeithiol i sicrhau cysondeb o ran ariannu. Fel hyn, gall grwpiau gofal plant gael y budd a'r sicrwydd mwyaf o'u trefniadau ariannu.

Llongyfarchaf y pwyllgor a'r swyddogion am lunio'r adroddiad hwn, a gobeithiaf y bydd yn rhan o'r sylfaen inni fynd i'r afael â gweithgarwch economaidd yng Nghymru, a datblygu gofal plant sydd â ffocws iddo.

William Graham: Cymeradwyaf yr adroddiad hwn. Mae'n symud ymlaen ar ddau bwynt penodol y mae sawl sylwebydd ar ddiweithdra wedi'u gwneud: yn gyntaf, er mwyn cael pobl yn ôl i waith, rhaid iddynt gael yr hyder y gallant ei wneud, ac, yn ail, rhaid iddo fod yn ddeniadol yn economaidd. Mae'r adroddiad yn dechrau mynd i'r afael â hynny, yn enwedig drwy awgrymu y gellid darparu gwasanaeth cwnsela, ond rhaid i hwnnw fod ar gael i rai sydd yn dymuno dechrau gweithio, yn ogystal ag i weithwyr presennol.

Jenny referred to personal anecdotal evidence, and I think that we are all aware of the almost insuperable barriers to those who are keen to get into work but who are, quite rightly, in receipt of substantial benefits. They have difficulty in making that adjustment, and that does not seem to be helped by officialdom. The underlying emphasis in many of the recommendations is that that should be acknowledged. I am sure that the committee Chair is well aware that that occurs, particularly in terms of housing benefit.

Huw Lewis: You are generous to give way, given the time limit. How do you square that comment with your commitment as a party to scrap the New Deal, just as it is about to be extended to those on incapacity benefit?

William Graham: We believe that that particular policy has been discredited, and it will be replaced with a much better one, effectively covering what we have been discussing today.

In view of the limited time, I wish to refer particularly to the worrying increase in the number of people of working age who have debilitating and limiting long-term illnesses. I appreciate that the committee is aware of this, but when you consider the statistics, which are unfortunately not very recent as they go back to the 2001 census, it is worrying to see that so many people have such illnesses. This report alone cannot address that issue, but it can address the issue regarding the families of such people who want to work.

The report does not sufficiently address the problems faced by disabled people, and the way in which they wish to work. I am sure that Members have received the paper published by the Leonard Cheshire Foundation, which I commend. It is extraordinarily well produced, and brings home the difficulties faced by those who are not physically able-bodied. Employers must be made to accommodate such people—by law if necessary. Vast numbers of disabled people wish to work. Unfortunately, the cost is high, and I ask the committee to consider

Cyfeiriodd Jenny at dystiolaeth anecdotaidd bersonol, a chredaf ein bod i gyd yn ymwybodol o'r rhwystrau na ellir eu goresgyn bron i'r rhai sydd yn awyddus i ddechrau gweithio ond sydd, yn gwbl deg, yn derbyn budd-daliadau sylweddol. Cânt anhawster i wneud y newid hwnnw, ac nid yw'n ymddangos bod y byd swyddogol yn helpu yn hynny o beth. Y pwyslais gwaelodol yn llawer o'r argymhellion yw y dylid cydnabod hynny. Yr wyf yn siŵr bod Cadeirydd y pwyllgor yn ymwybodol iawn bod hynny'n digwydd, yn enwedig o ran budd-dal tai.

Huw Lewis: Yr ydych yn garedig yn ildio, o gofio'r cyfyngiad amser. Sut yr ydych yn cysoni'r sylw hwnnw â'ch ymrwymiad fel plaid i gael gwared â'r Fargen Newydd, a honno ar fin cael ei hystemyn i bobl sydd ar fudd-dal analluogrwydd?

William Graham: Credwn fod amheuaeth wedi'i bwrw ar y polisi arbennig hwnnw, a chaiff ei ddisodli gan un llawer gwell, a fydd yn ymdrin i bob pwrpas â'r hyn y buom yn ei drafod heddiw.

Yn wyneb yr amser cyfyngedig, hoffwn gyfeirio'n arbennig at y cynnydd, sydd yn peri pryder, yn nifer y bobl o oed gweithio sydd yn dioddef o salwch hirdymor gwanychol a chyfyngol. Sylweddolaf fod y pwyllgor yn ymwybodol o hyn, ond pan ystyriwch yr ystadegau, nad ydynt, ysywaeth, yn ddiweddar iawn gan eu bod yn mynd yn ôl i gyfrifiad 2001, mae'n peri pryder bod gan gynifer o bobl salwch o'r fath. Ni all yr adroddiad hwn ar ei ben ei hun ymdrin â'r mater hwnnw, ond gall ymdrin â chwestiwn teuluoedd pobl o'r fath sydd eisiau gweithio.

Nid yw'r adroddiad yn rhoi sylw digonol i'r problemau a wynebir gan bobl anabl, a'r modd y maent yn dymuno gweithio. Mae'n siŵr bod yr Aelodau wedi cael y papur a gyhoeddwyd gan sefydliad Leonard Cheshire, ac a gymeradwyaf. Mae wedi'i gynhyrchu'n anghyffredin o dda, ac mae'n tanlinellu'r anawsterau a wynebir gan bobl nad ydynt yn gorfforol abl. Rhaid gorfodi cyflogwyr i wneud lle i bobl o'r fath—drwy gyfraith os oes angen. Mae niferoedd aruthrol o bobl anabl yn dymuno gweithio. Yn anffodus, mae'r gost yn uchel, a gofynnaf i'r

providing some form of grant aid, which will be provided with regard to various other aspects of legislation, so that as many people as possible who want to work can work. This report facilitates that.

Christine Chapman: I welcome this report. As Jeff and others have reminded us, the Welsh economy is performing well, with unemployment in Wales at its lowest level for 30 years and falling at a rate that is substantially better than the UK average. However, to some extent, the progress made in reducing unemployment masks the deeper problem of economic inactivity.

We have a changing economy in Wales, and this relates to my first point, namely that many of the problems in terms of economic inactivity have been caused and exacerbated by the painful transition from a heavy-industry-based economy to one that is services-driven and makes use of more sophisticated technology. This cycle of second or even third-generation, unemployment and its associated symptoms is one that we must break if we are to raise economic inactivity rates. Therefore, I welcome the recommendations in the report that deal with the barriers to economic activity as well as addressing the personal effects on the long-term unemployed.

We are now building a knowledge-based economy with an emphasis on skills, innovation and enterprise, and we need to get the balance right between supply and demand. Once we arm people with the qualifications, skills and attributes for employment, we must ensure that opportunities are available. I know that this is happening in Wales, and we have evidence of this, for example, in the Heads of the Valleys strategy, which the Minister launched recently in my constituency and in others.

My second point concerns low pay, which is not always a good incentive to encourage people to come off benefits. Opposed by the Conservatives, and called 'extreme, dangerous and absurd' by Michael Howard, it

pwylgor ystyried rhoi rhyw fath o gymhorthdal, a fydd yn cael ei roi gyda golwg ar amryfal agweddau eraill ar ddeddfwriaeth, fel y bydd cynifer ag y bo modd o bobl sydd yn dymuno gweithio yn gallu gweithio. Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn hyrwyddo hynny.

Christine Chapman: Croesawaf yr adroddiad hwn. Fel y mae Jeff ac eraill wedi ein hatgoffa, mae economi Cymru'n gwneud yn dda, ac mae diweithdra yng Nghymru ar ei lefel isaf ers 30 mlynedd ac yn cwmpo ar raddfa sydd gryn dipyn yn well na chyfartaledd y DU. Fodd bynnag, i ryw raddau, mae'r camau a gymerwyd i leihau diweithdra'n cuddio problem ddyfnach anweithgarwch economaidd.

Mae gennym economi sy'n newid yng Nghymru, ac mae a wnelo hyn â'm pwynt cyntaf, sef bod llawer o'r problemau o ran anweithgarwch economaidd wedi'u hachosi a'u gwaethygu gan y trawsnewid poenus o economi seiliedig ar ddiwydiant trwm i un sy'n seiliedig ar wasanaethau ac sydd yn defnyddio technoleg fwy soffistigedig. Mae'r cylch hwn o ddiweithdra ail neu hyd yn oed trydedd genhedlaeth a'i symptomau cysylltiedig yn un y mae'n rhaid inni ei dorri os am gynyddu cyfraddau gweithgarwch economaidd. Felly, croesawaf yr argymhellion yn yr adroddiad sydd yn delio â'r rhwystrau i weithgarwch economaidd yn ogystal ag ymdrin â'r effeithiau personol ar y di-waith hirdymor.

Yr ydym yn awr yn adeiladu economi seiliedig ar wybodaeth gyda phwyslais ar sgiliau, arloesi a mentergarwch, ac mae angen inni gael y cydbwysedd yn iawn rhwng y cyflenwad a'r galw. Wedi inni arfogi pobl â'r cymwysterau, y sgiliau a'r priodoleddau i weithio, rhaid inni sicrhau bod cyfleoedd ar gael. Gwn fod hyn yn digwydd yng Nghymru, ac mae gennym dystiolaeth o hyn, er enghraifft, yn strategaeth Blaenau'r Cymoedd, a lanswyd gan y Gweinidog yn ddiweddar yn f'etholaeth i ac eraill.

Mae a wnelo fy ail bwynt â chyflogau isel, nad ydynt bob amser yn gymhelliant da i annog pobl i roi'r gorau i fudd-daliadau. Y Llywodraeth Lafur a gyflwynodd yr isafswm cyflog cenedlaethol, a wrthwynebwyd gan y

was the Labour Government that introduced the national minimum wage, raising the income of some of the poorest people in Wales. I am pleased that it will rise again in October, and I do not believe that helping the plight of the working poor is extreme, dangerous or absurd. However, the problem of low pay remains a reality for many people. Deciding to take the plunge of exchanging benefits for low pay is not always an easy choice. Many people worry when they leave the safety net of receiving benefits, and I welcome the report's recommendations on taking some of the risk out of the transition between benefits and employment.

I recently met a constituent whose heating had broken down; she was unable to pay for the electricity to run the storage heaters provided by the council. Her husband was in work, but on a low level of pay. Low pay goes beyond the still-modest level at which the minimum wage is set, which is why I support the living wage campaign.

5.10 p.m.

In conclusion, I welcome this report, the spirit of which I consider to be about proposing action to remove the barriers to employment, replacing them with the tools and vehicles for people to lead economically productive lives, which, as well as benefiting themselves, will have great advantages for the Welsh economy as a whole.

Christine Gwyther: I thank all those who have spoken this afternoon. It has been a lively debate and I was not sure whether it would be, but some interesting points were made. The issues are clearly important to our constituents, whether they are seeking work or training, or whether they are employers looking for a skilled local workforce. That came through powerfully.

Irene James talked about the miners' strike, and how our Welsh mining communities were decimated at that time. She also talked about people on long-term sickness benefit. During the review, we took some evidence from the British Medical Association about

Ceidwadwyr ac a alwyd yn 'eithafol, peryglus a hurt' gan Michael Howard, gan godi incwm rhai o'r bobl dlotaf yng Nghymru. Yr wyf yn falch y bydd yn codi eto ym mis Hydref, ac ni chredaf fod cynorthwyo stad y gweithiwr tlawd yn eithafol, peryglus na hurt. Fodd bynnag, mae problem cyflogau isel yn parhau'n realiti i lawer o bobl. Nid dewis hawdd bob amser yw penderfynu ei mentro hi a chyfnewid budd-daliadau am gyflog isel. Bydd llawer o bobl yn poeni pan adawant rwyd ddiogelwch derbyn budd-daliadau, a chroesawaf argymhellion yr adroddiad ynghylch tynnu rhywfaint o'r risg allan o'r trawsnewid rhwng budd-daliadau a chyflogaeth.

Yn ddiweddar cyfarfûm ag etholwraig yr oedd ei system wresogi wedi torri; yr oedd hi'n methu talu am y trydan i redeg y gwresogyddion cadw a ddarparwyd gan y cyngor. Yr oedd ei gŵr mewn gwaith, ond ar lefel isel o gyflog. Mae cyflogau isel yn mynd y tu hwnt i'r lefel gymharol fach lle y pennwyd yr isafswm cyflog, a dyna pam y cefnogaf yr ymgyrch dros gyflog y gellir byw arno.

I gloi, croesawaf yr adroddiad hwn, y barnaf fod a wnelo'i ysbryd â chynnig gweithredu i dynnu'r rhwystrau i gyflogaeth, gan roi yn eu lle yr arfau a'r cyfryngau i bobl allu byw bywydau economaidd gynhyrchiol a fydd, yn ogystal â bod o fudd iddynt hwy eu hunain, yn rhoi manteision mawr i economi Cymru yn gyffredinol.

Christine Gwyther: Diolch i bawb a siaradodd y prynhawn yma. Bu'n ddadl fywiog, a minnau heb fod yn siŵr ai felly y byddai hi, ond gwnaethpwyd rhai pwyntiau pwysig. Mae'r materion yn amlwg yn bwysig i'n hetholwyr, boed hwy'n chwilio am waith neu hyfforddiant, neu boed hwy'n gyflogwyr yn edrych am weithlu lleol medrus. Daeth hynny'n amlwg iawn yn ystod y ddadl.

Soniodd Irene James am streic y glowyr, a'r modd y chwalwyd ein cymunedau glofaol yng Nghymru bryd hynny. Soniodd hefyd am bobl ar fudd-dal salwch hirdymor. Yn ystod yr adolygiad, cymerasom dystiolaeth oddi wrth Gymdeithas Feddygol Prydain ynghylch

people on long-term sick leave, and it suggested that, as soon as someone is signed off on the sick, they should receive support to get them back into work; there should be a planned programme of re-ablement. I think that that also answers some of your points, William.

Huw Lewis talked about skills and childcare, and reminded us that unemployment in Wales is at an all-time low. Of course, that is good news for the Welsh economy, but it means that it is even more important for us to ensure that those people who find it hardest to get work are skilled and able to find employment. He also talked about the Heads of the Valleys strategy; the Economic Development and Transport Committee is taking a great interest in that and we will be discussing it tomorrow. As a local Member, whether he is on the committee or not, I know that Huw Lewis is always pushing the Heads of the Valleys strategy. He ensures that the voice of the Valleys is loud and clear.

Jenny talked about the benefits system, and how it needs to reflect the changing face of employment trends, including short-term contracts. I thought that that was a particularly interesting point and I am glad that she made it. I hope that the ongoing DWP pilots will look at that sort of thing but, if they do not, we will need to feed that information in through the Welsh Assembly Government.

Jeff Cuthbert talked about macro-economic stability and its importance, but also about micro-economic issues, such as the skills gap in construction, transport, tourism and hospitality—those points were also picked up by Lisa. Jeff talked about the unions and the role that they must play in skills programming, which was a particularly interesting contribution.

Support for the work of the Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs network came through loud and clear, and we would all support ongoing funding for our local fora, as well as here.

pobl ar absenoldeb salwch hirdymor, ac awgrymodd y dylai pobl, cyn gynted ag y byddant yn peidio â gweithio oherwydd salwch, gael cymorth i'w cael yn ôl i waith; dylai fod rhaglen gynlluniedig o ail-alluogi. Credaf fod hynny'n ateb rhai o'ch pwyntiau chithau hefyd, William.

Siaradodd Huw Lewis am sgiliau a gofal plant, ac atgoffodd ni fod diweithdra yng Nghymru yn is nag erioed o'r blaen. Wrth gwrs, mae hynny'n newyddion da i economi Cymru, ond mae'n golygu ei bod yn bwysicach fyth inni sicrhau bod y bobl hynny a gaiff yr anhawster mwyaf i gael gwaith yn cael sgiliau ac y gallant ganfod cyflogaeth. Soniodd hefyd am strategaeth Blaenau'r Cymoedd; mae'r Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth yn cymryd diddordeb mawr yn hynny a byddwn yn ei drafod yfory. Fel Aelod lleol, boed ar y pwyllgor neu beidio, gwn fod Huw Lewis yn hyrwyddo strategaeth Blaenau'r Cymoedd drwy'r amser. Mae'n sicrhau bod llais y Cymoedd i'w glywed yn uchel ac yn glir.

Soniodd Jenny am y system budd-daliadau, a sut y mae angen iddi adlewyrchu'r modd y mae'r tueddiadau o ran cyflogaeth, gan gynnwys contractau tymor byr, yn newid. Yr oeddwn yn meddwl bod hynny'n bwynt arbennig o ddiddorol ac yr wyf yn falch iddi ei wneud. Gobeithiaf y gwnaiff cynlluniau peilot yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau, sy'n mynd ymlaen ar hyn o bryd, yn edrych ar y math hwnnw o beth, ond os na wnânt, bydd angen inni fwydo'r wybodaeth honno i mewn drwy Lywodraeth y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol.

Soniodd Jeff Cuthbert am sefydlogrwydd macro-economaidd a phwysigrwydd hynny, ond hefyd am faterion micro-economaidd, fel y gagendor sgiliau mewn adeiladu, trafndiaeth, twristiaeth a lletygarwch—codwyd y pwyntiau hynny gan Lisa hefyd. Siaradodd Jeff am yr undebau a'r rôl y mae'n rhaid iddynt hwy ei chwarae o ran rhaglennu sgiliau, a oedd yn gyfraniad arbennig o ddiddorol.

Daeth cefnogaeth i waith rhwydwaith Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs i'r amlwg yn glir, a byddai pawb ohonom yn cefnogi cyllid parhaus i'n fforymau lleol, yn ogystal ag yn y fan hon.

William referred to debilitating long-term illness and I got the impression that he thought that we could have examined that issue a little more closely. I hope that he is reassured that we took evidence on it and have made recommendations. Chris Chapman brought up the issue of low pay and the national minimum wage. The only political point that I will make as Chair of the committee is that I am proud to be a member of the party that brought the national minimum wage to Britain. I will end on that note.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Thank you. I am obliged to the Assembly; a number of Members notified me that they no longer wished to speak as a result of the time pressure, and other Members were succinct in their remarks, so I thank them for that.

Cyfeiriodd William at salwch hirdymor gwanychol a chefais yr argraff ei fod yn meddwl y gallem fod wedi edrych ar y mater hwnnw ychydig yn fanylach. Gobeithio iddo gael sicrwydd ein bod wedi cymryd tystiolaeth ar hynny a'n bod wedi gwneud argymhellion. Cododd Chris Chapman gwestiwn cyflogau isel a'r isafswm cyflog cenedlaethol. Yr unig bwynt gwleidyddol a wna fel Cadeirydd y pwyllgor yw fy mod yn falch o fod yn aelod o'r blaid a ddaeth â'r isafswm cyflog cenedlaethol i Brydain. Diweddaf ar y nodyn hwnnw.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Diolch. Yr wyf yn ddyledus i'r Cynulliad; cefais wybod gan nifer o Aelodau na fynnent siarad mwyach oherwydd y pwysau o ran amser, a bu Aelodau eraill yn gryno yn eu sylwadau, felly diolch iddynt am hynny.

*Cynnig (NDM2381): O blaid 38, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2381): For 38, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen

Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

Cymeradwyo Adroddiad Grant Arbennig: Diogelwch ar Ffyrdd Lleol **Approval of a Special Grant Report: Local Road Safety**

The Deputy Minister for Economic Development and Transport (Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey): I propose that

the National Assembly, under section 88B of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 and in accordance with Standing Order No. 21.11, approves the Local Government Finance (Wales) Special Grant Report (No. 2) (Wales) 2005, which was laid in the Table Office and circulated to Assembly Members on 12 April 2005. (NDM2380)

William Graham: We welcome the £7.4 million expenditure gain, but are concerned about the guidance, which is to be advisory. In view of the expenditure, it would be wiser, perhaps, if that guidance were mandatory. We welcome the local road initiatives and strategies, particularly the 20 mph zones. The implementation is to be within the current financial year, and we ask that that money should be well spent and properly monitored.

John Griffiths: I also welcome this funding. There are very serious issues involved here—literally issues of life and death, as well as issues relating to injuries and quality of life. I will concentrate on children and deprived areas, and mention the Barnados and Transport 2000 report, ‘Reduce Speed Now’, which highlights many of the salient issues, and puts forward important recommendations. The statistics quoted in that report are alarming in many ways. The UK has one of the worst records in Europe on road safety, and, in 2003, for example, 3,224 children under 15 years of age were killed in the UK.

Deprivation is an undoubted factor in this,

Y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth (Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey): Cynigiau fod

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, o dan adran 88B Deddf Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol 1988 ac yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 21.11, yn cymeradwyo Adroddiad Grant Arbennig (Rhif 2) (Cymru) Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru) 2005, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ac a ddosbarthwyd i Aelodau'r Cynulliad ar 12 Ebrill 2005. (NDM2380)

William Graham: Yr ydym yn croesawu'r cynnydd o £7.4 miliwn yn y gwariant, ond yn poeni ynghylch y canllawiau, y bwriedir iddynt fod yn argymhellion. O ystyried y gwariant, byddai'n ddoethach, efallai, gwneud y canllawiau yn orfodol. Yr ydym yn croesawu'r cynlluniau a'r strategaethau ffyrdd lleol, yn enwedig y parthau 20 mya. Gweithredir y rhain o fewn y flwyddyn ariannol bresennol, a gofynnwn am wario'r arian hwnnw'n ddoeth a'i fonitro'n briodol.

John Griffiths: Yr wyf finnau hefyd yn croesawu'r cyllid hwn. Cyfyd rhai materion difrifol iawn yn y fan hyn—materion yn ymwneud â byw a marw yn llythrennol, yn ogystal â rhai yn ymwneud ag anafiadau ac ansawdd bywyd. Canolbwyntiaf ar blant ac ardaloedd difreintiedig, a sôn am adroddiad Barnados a Thrafnidiaeth 2000, ‘Arafwch Nawr’, sy'n tynnu sylw at nifer o faterion perthnasol, ac yn cynnig argymhellion pwysig. Mae'r ystadegau a ddyfynnir yn yr adroddiad yn frawychus ar sawl ystyr. Mae record y DU gyda'r gwaethaf yn Ewrop o ran diogelwch ar y ffyrdd, ac, yn 2003, er enghraifft, lladdwyd 3,224 o blant o dan 15 oed yn y DU.

Mae amddifadedd yn sicr yn ffactor yn y

and that is also highlighted in the report. For example, 25 per cent of child pedestrian injuries occur in the most deprived wards. The percentage is much less in more affluent areas. In addition, children from deprived wards are five times more likely to be killed on roads than children from wealthier households. So there is a clear picture there that is of concern to anyone concerned about social inclusion and social justice. Casualties and fatalities are also declining most slowly among those deprived socio-economic groups. All of us have experience of the fact that, in deprived residential areas, children are more likely to play on the street. In those areas, cars are often double-parked and children can run out into the road from between parked cars, chasing a ball, for example. If motorists are not keeping to a sensible speed, it is easy to see how fatalities and injuries can occur. So it is about speed, poor driving, a lack of safe places in which to play, and planning issues, and some of the recommendations in the report are about those factors.

We need to move towards a wider use of 20 mph speed limits in residential areas, and around schools. We need to give local authorities strong guidance about highlighting the dangers for vulnerable road users, and issues around deprived areas. There is much that can be done. As time is short, I would just like to say that I would like to see a wider spread of Safe Routes to School and home zones, and greater priority given to linking those with cycle ways and safe walking routes, providing good access to parks, residential areas, leisure centres and schools. If we can deliver that kind of approach to a greater extent, we will do children, especially children in our deprived communities, a great service, and greatly enhance their quality of life.

Jenny Randerson: The Welsh Liberal Democrat group supports this grant. History has shown that it has led to good and important work. Some extremely good

mater hwn, a thynnir sylw at hynny hefyd yn yr adroddiad. Er enghraifft, mae 25 y cant o'r anafiadau a achosir i blant sy'n cerdded yn digwydd yn y wardiau mwyaf difreintiedig. Mae'r ganran yn is o lawer yn yr ardaloedd mwy cyfoethog. Hefyd, mae plant o wardiau difreintiedig bum gwaith yn fwy tebygol o gael eu lladd ar y ffyrdd na phlant o gartrefi mwy cefnog. Felly, cyflwynir darlun clir sy'n achosi pryder i unrhyw un sy'n poeni am gynhwysiant cymdeithasol a chyfiawnder cymdeithasol. Mae anafiadau difrifol a damweiniau angheuol hefyd yn gostwng arafaf ymhlith y grwpiau economaidd-gymdeithasol difreintiedig hyn. Yr ydym i gyd wedi cael profiad o'r ffaith bod plant, mewn ardaloedd preswyl difreintiedig, yn fwy tebygol o chwarae ar y stryd. Yn yr ardaloedd hyn, mae ceir wedi eu dwbl-barcio yn aml a bydd plant yn rhedeg allan i'r ffordd rhwng dau gerbyd, ar ôl pêl er enghraifft. Os yw modurwyr yn goryrru, mae'n hawdd gweld sut y mae damweiniau angheuol ac anafiadau yn gallu digwydd. Felly mae a wnelo â chyflymdra, gyrru'n ddiotal, prinder manau diogel i chwarae, a materion cynllunio, ac mae rhai o'r argymhellion yn yr adroddiad yn rhoi sylw i'r ffactorau hyn.

Mae angen inni symud tuag at wneud mwy o ddefnydd o'r cyfyngiadau cyflymdra 20 mya mewn ardaloedd preswyl, ac o gwmpas ysgolion. Rhaid inni roi arweiniad cryf i'r awdurdodau lleol ynghylch tynnu sylw at y peryglon i ddefnyddwyr y ffordd sy'n agored i niwed, a materion yn ymwneud ag ardaloedd difreintiedig. Gellid gwneud llawer iawn. Gan fod amser yn brin, y cyfan yr hoffwn ei ddweud yw y byddwn yn dymuno gweld dosbarthiad ehangach o Lwybrau Diogel i'r Ysgol a pharthau cartref, a mwy o flaenoriaeth yn cael ei rhoi i gysylltu'r rhain â llwybrau beicio a llwybrau cerdded diogel, gan roi mynediad hwylus i barciau, ardaloedd preswyl, canolfannau hamdden ac ysgolion. Os gallwn ddarparu hyn oll ar raddfa ehangach, byddwn yn gwneud ffafr fawr â'n plant, yn enwedig rhai yn ein cymunedau difreintiedig, ac yn gwella ansawdd eu bywydau yn sylweddol.

Jenny Randerson: Mae Grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru yn cefnogi'r grant hwn. Mae hanes wedi dangos ei fod wedi arwain at waith da a phwysig. Mae rhai cynlluniau

schemes exist, some of which John has just mentioned. However, I want to raise the issue of the funding calculation, and how the money is allocated. There are two issues here. The first relates to the minimum percentage, which goes to certain areas. I would not argue with the concept that if the amount of money gets too small, then it probably is not useful, in terms of an authority being able to achieve something effective with it. However, in effect, that means that every local authority above that minimum is getting less. Therefore, the largest areas, which are, by definition, the conurbations with the greatest traffic congestion and some of the most complex road safety problems, are getting slightly less than a bald formula would allow.

5.20 p.m.

The calculation is based on road accident figures, which is sensible, and on the population. On the face of it, that seems fair, but given that large populations come into areas such as Wrexham, Swansea, Newport and Cardiff every day, that calculation does not reflect road usage and the amount of traffic in the area. In Cardiff, for example, which is the area that I know best, since I represent Cardiff Central, about 80,000 people a day come into the city, many of them in cars. They add to the road safety problems in the area. You can see that clearly reflected in some of the statistics. Although Cardiff does not have the worst statistics in most categories, it does have a high number of bicycle accidents. That worries me greatly and clearly reflects the need for more cycle lanes. Cardiff has a long way to go in terms of having good cycle lanes.

Therefore, I support this special grant, but I urge the Minister to consider a more sophisticated formula next year, which would reflect the actual road usage in the area.

Sandy Mewies: I agree with some of Jenny Randerson's comments. We perhaps need to look again at how the grant is calculated.

gwyb yn bodoli, ac mae John newydd sôn am rai. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn godi mater cyfrifo'r cyllid, a sut y dyrennir yr arian. Mae dau fater yn y fan hon. Mae'r cyntaf yn ymwneud â'r ganran leiaf, sy'n mynd i rai ardaloedd. Ni fyddwn yn dadlau â'r cysyniad os yw'n mynd yn rhy ychydig o arian, yna mae'n debyg na fyddai'n ddefnyddiol, o ran gallu'r awdurdod i'w ddefnyddio mewn modd effeithiol. Fodd bynnag, mewn gwirionedd, mae hyn yn golygu bod pob awdurdod lleol sydd uwchben y ganran leiaf honno yn derbyn llai. Felly, mae'r ardaloedd mwyaf sef, drwy ddiffiniad, y clymdrefi lle y ceir y tagfeydd traffig gwaethaf a rhai o'r problemau diogelwch mwyaf cymhleth ar y ffyrdd, yn derbyn ychydig yn llai nag a fyddent drwy fformiwla foel.

Cyfrifir hyn ar sail ffigurau damweiniau ffyrdd, sy'n synhwyrol, ac ar sail y boblogaeth. Ar yr olwg gyntaf, mae hyn yn ymddangos yn deg, ond, o ystyried bod poblogaethau mawr yn dod i mewn i ardaloedd fel Wrecsam, Abertawe, Casnewydd a Chaerdydd bob dydd, nid yw'r cyfrifiad hwnnw'n adlewyrchu defnydd o'r ffyrdd a faint o draffig sydd yn yr ardal. Yng Nghaerdydd, er enghraifft, sef yr ardal yr wyf yn ei hadnabod orau, gan fy mod yn cynrychioli Canol Caerdydd, daw tua 80,000 o bobl bob dydd i'r ddinas, llawer ohonynt mewn ceir. Maent yn gwaethgu'r problemau diogelwch ar ffyrdd yr ardal. Adlewyrchir hyn yn glir yn yr ystadegau. Er nad gan Gaerdydd y mae'r ystadegau gwaethaf yn y rhan fwyaf o gategoriâu, mae ganddi nifer uchel o ddamweiniau beic. Mae hyn yn fy mhoeni'n arw ac yn adlewyrchu'n glir fod angen rhagor o lonydd beicio. Mae gan Gaerdydd ffordd bell i fynd o ran bod â lonydd beicio da.

Felly, yr wyf yn cefnogi'r grant arbennig hwn, ond pwysaf ar y Gweinidog i ystyried fformiwla fwy soffistigedig y flwyddyn nesaf, a fyddai'n adlewyrchu'r defnydd gwirioneddol ar ffyrdd yn yr ardal.

Sandy Mewies: Cytunaf â rhai o sylwadau Jenny Randerson. Efallai fod angen inni edrych eto ar sut y cyfrifir y grant.

In my area of Flintshire, the county council uses the money that it receives innovatively, for local road safety schemes. It has a 'pass plus' scheme, which I commend, whereby newly qualified drivers in the county are offered the chance to take part in an advanced driving course approved by the Driving Standards Agency. This not only helps them to drive more safely, which has a knock-on effect for every road user, but it can mean a discount from insurance companies, so it is a win-win situation.

I hope that, in future, we will look at how this calculation is made so that innovative road safety schemes can be introduced throughout Wales.

Janet Davies: All Members are extremely concerned about road accidents and the related horrors of death and serious injury. Nobody is arguing about that. However, I think that I disagree with John Griffiths. The statistics that I have seen show that the UK and Finland are the safest countries in the European Union in terms of road accidents. I know that there are lies, damned lies and statistics, but I have seen those statistics in the Committee of the Regions. Nevertheless, anything more than one accident a year is unacceptable.

John Griffiths: I did say that I was talking specifically about child-pedestrian injuries.

Janet Davies: Okay, sorry.

I will raise a few points about education. Some of this money must be spent on education and I hope that that will include education on the dangers of drinking and driving, and taking drugs and driving, because driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs accounts for a large number of accidents.

The report mentions 20 mph zones and I understand that you have to have road bumps in 20 mph zones. I would like information on how effective they are, particularly when compared with the possible damage to cars,

Yn fy ardal i yn sir y Fflint, mae'r cyngor sir yn defnyddio'r arian a roddir iddo'n ddyfeisgar, ar gyfer cynlluniau diogelwch ffyrdd lleol. Mae ganddo gynllun gyrru ôl-brawf, 'pass plus', sy'n un da yn fy marn i, lle y mae gyrwyr sydd newydd basio eu prawf yn y sir yn cael cynnig dilyn cwrs gyrru safon uwch wedi'i gymeradwyo gan yr Asiantaeth Safonau Gyrru. Nid yn unig y mae hyn yn eu helpu i yrru'n fwy gofalus, sy'n cael effaith yn ei dro ar ein holl ddefnyddwyr ffyrdd, ond gall hefyd olygu derbyn disgownt gan gwmnïau yswiriant, felly mae'n sefyllfa lle y mae pawb yn ennill.

Gobeithiaf, yn y dyfodol, y byddwn yn edrych ar sut y cyfrifir hyn fel y gellir cyflwyno cynlluniau diogelwch ffyrdd arloesol ar draws Cymru.

Janet Davies: Mae'r holl Aelodau yn bryderus iawn ynghylch damweiniau ffyrdd a'r erchylltra sy'n gysylltiedig, sef marwolaethau ac anafiadau difrifol. Nid oes neb yn dadlau ynghylch hynny. Fodd bynnag, credaf fy mod yn anghytuno â John Griffiths. Mae'r ystadegau yr wyf wedi eu gweld yn dangos mai'r DU a'r Ffindir yw'r gwledydd mwyaf diogel yn yr Undeb Ewropeaidd o ran damweiniau ar y ffyrdd. Gwn fod celwyddau, celwyddau noeth ac ystadegau, ond yr wyf wedi gweld yr ystadegau hynny ym Mhwyllgor y Rhanbarthau. Wedi dweud hynny, mae unrhyw beth sy'n fwy nag un ddamwain y flwyddyn yn annerbyniol.

John Griffiths: Dywedais mai siarad yr oeddwn yn benodol am anafiadau i blant sy'n cerdded.

Janet Davies: Iawn, mae'n ddrwg gennyf.

Yr wyf am godi rhai pwyntiau ynghylch addysg. Rhaid i beth o'r arian hwn gael ei wario ar addysg ac yr wyf yn gobeithio y bydd hynny'n cynnwys addysg ynghylch peryglon yfed a gyrru, a chymryd cyffuriau a gyrru, gan fod gyrru o dan ddylanwad alcohol a chyffuriau yn gyfrifol am lawer iawn o ddamweiniau.

Mae'r adroddiad yn sôn am barthau 20 mya a deallaf fod yn rhaid i chi gael ponciau ffordd mewn parthau 20 mya. Hoffwn gael gwybodaeth ynghylch pa mor effeithiol ydynt, yn enwedig o'i gymharu â'r difrod

noise for neighbours, and what they do to ambulances and people with back injuries in those ambulances. The number of speed bumps that are sometimes used is a matter of concern.

Is there is any evidence that mini-roundabouts improve safety? I am aware of some roads where mini-roundabouts are scattered everywhere, and, as a result, people drive straight over them.

Plaid Cymru supports this motion.

The Deputy Minister for Economic Development and Transport (Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey): I am pleased to bring forward this special grant report for the Assembly's approval. It distributes nearly £7.5 million in funding directly to local authorities to help deliver road-safety projects and schemes in their areas. Since 2000, approximately £25 million has been distributed for this purpose. The Welsh Assembly Government is committed to improving road safety, and the local road safety grant provides an excellent opportunity for us to help local authorities progress with initiatives and schemes that complement our own programme of work to reduce casualties on the road network. Some excellent projects are already being undertaken by local authorities, which continue to play an important part in helping to meet our national targets of casualty reduction. There is no single solution to reducing the number of road casualties, and the right approach relies on a number of different measures. This grant gives local authorities the flexibility to put together the right package for their communities, which can include various other schemes such as 20 mph zones.

Safety on our roads is paramount to each and every one of us. We can all give examples of tragic deaths or injuries in our constituencies. The purpose of the special grant is to allow local authorities to act innovatively, and a number of people have specifically mentioned that today. I will pick up on a few of those specific points. William made the point about the advisory guidance and monitoring the use of the grant. We monitor

posibl a wneir i geir ganddynt, y sŵn i gymdogion, a'u heffaith ar ambiwlansiau a phobl sydd wedi anafu eu cefnau yn yr ambiwlansiau hyn. Mae nifer y ponciau cyflymdra a ddefnyddir weithiau yn peri pryder.

A oes unrhyw dystiolaeth bod cylchfannau bach yn gwella diogelwch? Gwn am rai ffyrdd lle y mae cylchfannau bach ar hyd y lle ymhob man, ac, o ganlyniad, mae pobl yn gyrru'n syth drostynt.

Mae Plaid Cymru o blaid y cynnig hwn.

Y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth (Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey): Yr wyf yn falch o gyflwyno'r adroddiad grant arbennig hwn ar gyfer cymeradwyaeth y Cynulliad. Mae'n dosbarthu bron i £7.5 miliwn mewn cyllid yn uniongyrchol i'r awdurdodau lleol ar gyfer darparu prosiectau a chynlluniau diogelwch ffyrdd yn eu hardaloedd. Ers 2000, dosbarthwyd tua £25 miliwn i'r pwrpas hwn. Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ymrwymedig i wella diogelwch ar y ffyrdd, ac mae'r grant diogelwch ffyrdd lleol yn gyfle gwych inni helpu awdurdodau lleol symud ymlaen gyda mentrau a chynlluniau sy'n cyd-fynd â'n rhaglen waith ein hunain i leihau damweiniau angheuol ar ein ffyrdd. Mae rhai prosiectau ardderchog eisoes ar y gweill gan awdurdodau lleol, sy'n parhau i chwarae rhan bwysig gyda helpu i gwrdd â'n targedau cenedlaethol ar gyfer lleihau damweiniau angheuol. Nid oes un ateb i leihau nifer y damweiniau angheuol ar y ffyrdd, ac mae'r dull cywir yn dibynnu ar amryw o wahanol fesurau. Mae'r grant hwn yn rhoi'r hyblygrwydd i awdurdodau lleol gyflwyno'r pecyn iawn i'w cymunedau hwy, a allai gynnwys nifer o gynlluniau eraill fel parthau 20 mya.

Mae diogelwch ar ein ffyrdd yn hollbwysig i bob un ohonom. Gallwn i gyd roi enghreifftiau o farwolaethau trasig neu anafiadau yn ein hetholaethau. Diben y grant arbennig yw rhoi cyfle i awdurdodau lleol weithredu'n ddyfeisgar, a soniwyd am hynny'n benodol gan sawl un heddiw. Soniaf ychydig yn fwy am rai o'r pwyntiau hynny. Dywedodd William am y canllawiau cynghori a monitro'r defnydd a wneir o'r

the use of the grant closely. We have worked closely with each of the local authorities and have visited all of them to ensure that they are using the grant in the most innovative or appropriate manner for their communities. The grant is over and above the existing funding that is available to them and it is hypothecated. In other words, it must be used for the purpose for which it is allocated. Local authorities provide further additional funding, which is unhypothecated, alongside that. As I said earlier, since 2000, we have assigned £25 million for this, and the £7.44 million is additional to that. It can be used for any of the traffic calming measures that authorities feel are most appropriate for their areas. I will come on to that with regard to John's points in a moment. Therefore, local authorities have flexibility in how they use the grant, but we monitor their use of the grant carefully. We evaluate their use of it for value for money and for the overall reductions in accidents and personal injury within the areas in which these road safety schemes have been implemented.

The schemes that demonstrate the most effective reduction in injuries are 20 mph zones, area-wide traffic-calming schemes, rural speed limits, cross-road improvements, new pedestrian crossings, and traffic signal installations. Footpaths and right-turn pockets on dual carriageways also have a significant effect. I can assure you that a monitoring and evaluation process is ongoing and will continue for the additional funding. On John's points about Barnardos and Transport 2000, we cover a number of the points made in the document, such as 20 mph zones, and the linking up of cycle routes and the Safe Routes to School scheme. I saw an example of that in north Wales recently, where schoolchildren can not only go to school safely, either walking or cycling, but can also access residential areas and the local leisure centre safely. When that is in situ, families use those routes, not just schoolchildren. That is a clear example of how joined-up Government is working in terms of using Safe Routes to School, as well as our walking and cycling strategy, and we work closely with Sustrans to ensure that. A key point that

grant. Yr ydym yn monitro'r defnydd o'r grant yn ofalus. Yr ydym wedi gweithio'n agos gyda phob un o'r awdurdodau lleol ac wedi ymweld â phob un i sicrhau eu bod yn defnyddio'r grant yn y dull mwyaf dyfeisgar neu briodol i'w cymunedau. Mae'r grant yn ychwanegol at y cyllid presennol a roddir iddynt, ac wedi'i glustnodi. Mewn geiriau eraill, rhaid ei ddefnyddio i'r pwrpas y dyrannwyd ef ar ei gyfer. Mae awdurdodau lleol yn darparu cyllid pellach, sydd heb ei glustnodi, at y grant hwn. Fel y dywedais yn gynharach, ers 2000 yr ydym wedi dyrannu £25 miliwn ar gyfer hyn, ac mae'r £7.44 miliwn yn ychwanegol at hynny. Gellir ei ddefnyddio ar gyfer unrhyw un o'r mesurau arafu traffig sydd fwyaf priodol, ym marn yr awdurdodau, i'w hardaloedd hwy. Dof at hynny yng nghyswllt pwyntiau John yn y munud. Felly, mae gan awdurdodau lleol hyblygrwydd wrth ddefnyddio'r grant, ond byddwn yn monitro'u defnydd ohono yn ofalus. Yr ydym yn gwerthuso eu defnydd ohono yng nghyswllt gwerth am arian ac o ran ei effaith ar leihau'n gyffredinol y damweiniau a'r anafiadau personol yn yr ardaloedd lle y rhoddwyd y cynlluniau diogelwch ffyrdd hyn ar waith.

Y cynlluniau sy'n dangos y lleihad mwyaf effeithiol yn nifer yr anafiadau yw parthau 20 mya, cynlluniau arafu traffig ar draws yr ardal, cyfyngiadau cyflymdra yng nghefn gwlad, gwelliannau croesffyrdd, croesfannau newydd i gerddwyr, a goleuadau traffig. Mae llwybrau troed a phocedi troi i'r dde ar hyd ffyrdd deuol hefyd yn cael cryn effaith. Gallaf eich sicrhau bod proses barhaus o fonitro a gwerthuso ar gyfer y cyllid ychwanegol ac y bydd yn parhau felly. Ynghylch pwyntiau John am Barnardos a Thrafnidiaeth 2000, yr ydym yn rhoi sylw i nifer o'r pwyntiau a wneir yn y ddogfen, fel y parthau 20 mya, a chysylltu llwybrau beicio a'r cynllun Llwybrau Diogel i'r Ysgol. Deuthum ar draws enghraifft o hynny yn y gogledd yn ddiweddar, lle y mae plant ysgol nid yn unig yn gallu mynd i'r ysgol yn ddiogel, naill ai drwy gerdded neu feicio, ond hefyd yn gallu cyrraedd ardaloedd preswyl a'r ganolfan hamdden leol yn ddiogel. Pan fydd y llwybrau hyn ar gael, nid plant ysgol yn unig sy'n eu defnyddio ond teuluoedd. Mae hynny'n enghraifft glir o sut y mae Llywodraeth gydgyssylltiedig yn gweithio

Barnardos raised, but no-one mentioned today, is about involving children in the schemes, and we propose that children should be directly involved in all of this.

Jenny raised a point about the funding calculation. Cardiff is in receipt of £850,000, compared with £134,000 for Merthyr. That is to try to take account of the points that Jenny highlighted. She also made the point that there are a greater number of cycle accidents in Cardiff, and we are working closely with Sustrans on that matter. Sandy gave an example of an innovative scheme, which is exactly the kind of scheme that we would encourage local authorities to adopt. We would expect local authorities to work on the basis of considering the kind of schemes that would best suit their own areas. On Janet's point, we have put a great deal of effort into publicity-raising. You will be aware that I launched a scheme for young men aged between 17 and 25, who are the most dangerous group of drivers, not only in terms of alcohol use, but in terms of mobile phones, over-confidence when driving, and not using seat belts. In addition, in terms of education, which you mentioned, I recently witnessed a scheme in north Wales called 'Kerbcraft', whereby primary schoolchildren are taught how to use roads and pavements correctly so that they do not put themselves at risk. They do not trust the driver; they themselves take action.

Finally, I will write to you about the data you requested on mini-roundabout schemes, because I do not have that information with me now. I commend the motion to Members.

*Cynnig (NDM2380): O blaid 39, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM2380): For 39, Abstain 0, Against 0*

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

Barrett, Lorraine

drwy ddefnyddio Llwybrau Diogel i'r Ysgol, yn ogystal â'n strategaeth cerdded a beicio, ac yr ydym yn gweithio'n agos gyda Sustrans i sicrhau hynny. Un pwynt allweddol a godwyd gan Barnardos, ond sydd heb ei godi heddiw, oedd ynghylch cynnwys plant yn y cynlluniau, a bwriadwn gynnwys plant yn uniongyrchol yn hyn oll.

Cododd Jenny bwynt ynghylch cyfrifo'r cyllid. Mae Caerdydd yn derbyn £850,000 o'i gymharu â £134,000 i Ferthyr. Mae hynny'n ymgais i ystyried y pwyntiau a wnaed gan Jenny. Gwnaeth y pwynt hefyd fod mwy o ddamweiniau beic yn digwydd yng Nghaerdydd, ac yr ydym yn gweithio'n agos gyda Sustrans ar y mater hwn. Clywsom gan Sandy am enghraifft o gynllun dyfeisgar, a dyma'r union fath o gynllun y byddem yn annog yr awdurdodau lleol i'w fabwysiadu. Byddem yn disgwyl i'r awdurdodau lleol weithio ar sail ystyried pa fath o gynlluniau a fyddai'n gweithio orau yn eu hardaloedd. Ynghylch pwynt Janet, yr ydym wedi ymdrechu'n galed i roi mwy o gyhoeddusrwydd i hyn. Byddwch yn ymwybodol fy mod wedi lansio cynllun i ddynion ifanc rhwng 17 a 25 oed, sef y gyrywyr peryclaf, nid yn unig o ran eu defnydd o alcohol, ond hefyd o ran ffonau symudol, eu gorhyder wrth yrru ac nad ydynt yn gwisgo gwregysau diogelwch. Yn ogystal, ynghylch addysg, fel y soniasoch, deuthum ar draws cynllun yn ddiweddar yn y Gogledd o'r enw 'Kerbcraft', lle'r oedd plant ysgol gynradd yn cael eu dysgu sut i ddefnyddio'r ffyrdd a'r palmentydd yn gywir fel nad ydynt yn peryglu eu hunain. Nid ydynt yn ymddiried yn y gyrrwr, ond yn cymryd camau eu hunain.

Yn olaf, byddaf yn ysgrifennu atoch ynglŷn â'r wybodaeth y gofynasoch amdani am gynlluniau cylchfannau bach, oherwydd nid yw'r data hwnnw gennyf ar hyn o bryd. Cymeradwyaf y cynnig i'r Aelodau.

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: That brings today's proceedings to a close.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Daw hyn â thrafodion heddiw i ben.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 5.31 p.m.
The meeting ended at 5.31 p.m.*

**Aelodau a'u Pleidiau:
Members and their Parties:**

Andrews, Leighton (Llafur – Labour)
Barrett, Lorraine (Llafur – Labour)
Bates, Mick (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
Black, Peter (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
Bourne, Nick (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
Burnham, Eleanor (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
Butler, Rosemary (Llafur – Labour)
Cairns, Alun (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
Chapman, Christine (Llafur – Labour)
Cuthbert, Jeff (Llafur – Labour)
Davidson, Jane (Llafur – Labour)
Davies, Andrew (Llafur – Labour)
Davies, David (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
Davies, Glyn (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)

Davies, Janet (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Davies, Jocelyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin (Llafur - Labour)
 Elis-Thomas, Dafydd (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Essex, Sue (Llafur – Labour)
 Francis, Lisa (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 German, Michael (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Graham, William (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Gregory, Janice (Llafur – Labour)
 Griffiths, John (Llafur – Labour)
 Gibbons, Brian (Llafur – Labour)
 Gwyther, Christine (Llafur – Labour)
 Hart, Edwina (Llafur – Labour)
 Hutt, Jane (Llafur – Labour)
 Idris Jones, Denise (Llafur – Labour)
 Isherwood, Mark (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 James, Irene (Llafur – Labour)
 Jones, Alun Ffred (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Ann (Llafur – Labour)
 Jones, Carwyn (Llafur – Labour)
 Jones, Elin (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Helen Mary (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Laura Anne (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Law, Peter (Annibynnol – Independent)
 Lewis, Huw (Llafur – Labour)
 Lloyd, David (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Lloyd, Val (Llafur – Labour)
 Marek, John (Annibynnol – Independent)
 Melding, David (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Mewies, Sandy (Llafur – Labour)
 Morgan, Jonathan (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Morgan, Rhodri (Llafur – Labour)
 Neagle, Lynne (Llafur – Labour)
 Pugh, Alun (Llafur – Labour)
 Randerson, Jenny (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Ryder, Janet (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Sargeant, Carl (Llafur – Labour)
 Sinclair, Karen (Llafur – Labour)
 Thomas, Catherine (Llafur – Labour)
 Thomas, Gwenda (Llafur – Labour)
 Thomas, Owen John (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Williams, Brynle (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Williams, Kirsty (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Wood, Leanne (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)