

Agenda – Y Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus a Gweinyddiaeth Gyhoeddus

Lleoliad:	I gael rhagor o wybodaeth cysylltwch a:
Ystafell Bwyllgora 5 a Fideo Gynhadledd ar Zoom	Fay Bowen Clerc y Pwyllgor
Dyddiad: Dydd Iau, 14 Gorffennaf 2022	0300 200 6565
Amser: 09.00	SeneddCCGG@senedd.cymru

Caiff y cyfarfod hwn ei ddarlledu'n fyw ar www.senedd.tv

(Rhag-gyfarfod preifat)

(09:00 – 10:45)

1 Adfywio Canol Trefi: Papur Cwmpasu diwygiedig

(09:15–09:30) (Tudalennau 1 – 4)

2 Briff cyfreithiol ar y Cynnig Cydsyniad Deddfwriaethol ar y Bil Caffael

(09:30–10:00) (Tudalennau 5 – 36)

3 Blaenraglen waith: Diweddariad

(10:00–10:15) (Tudalennau 37 – 105)

4 Comisiynu Cartrefi Gofal: Ystyried yr adroddiad

(10:15–10:45)

(Egwyl)

(10:45–11:00)

5 Cyflwyniad, ymddiheuriadau a dirprwyon

(11:00)

6 Sesiwn dystiolaeth gyda Llywodraeth Cymru: Pryniant Fferm Gilestone

(11:00–12:00)

(Tudalennau 106 – 140)



Andrew Slade - Cyfarwyddwr Cyffredinol - Grŵp yr Economi, y Trysorlys a'r Cyfansoddiad, Llywodraeth Cymru

Jason Thomas - Cyfarwyddwr - Diwylliant, Chwaraeon a Thwristiaeth, Llywodraeth Cymru

Gerwyn Evans - Dirprwy Gyfarwyddwr - Cymru Greadigol

Tim Howard - Dirprwy Gyfarwyddwr - Eiddo, Llywodraeth Cymru

7 Cynnig o dan Reol Sefydlog 17.42 i benderfynu gwahardd y cyhoedd o'r cyfarfod ar gyfer y busnes a ganlyn:

(12:00)

Eitem 8

8 Sesiwn dystiolaeth gyda Llywodraeth Cymru: Pryniant Fferm Gilestone: Trafod y dystiolaeth ddaeth i law

(12:00–12:30)

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

Mae cyfngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

Eitem 3

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

Cronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector

Memorandwm ar gyfer y Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus a Gweinyddiaeth Gyhoeddus

Dyddiad cyhoeddi: Gorffennaf 2022

Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn i'w gyflwyno i'r Senedd o dan adrannau 135 o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006.

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth a galwadau ffôn yn Gymraeg a Saesneg Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi. We welcome correspondence and telephone calls in Welsh and English. Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to delay.

This document is also available in English.

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Cyflwyniad

- 1 Mae'r memorandwm hwn yn canolbwyntio ar y £41.79 miliwn a ddyrannwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru drwy ei Chronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector yn ystod 2020–21 a 2021–22, ac mae'n ystyried:
 - pam, yn 2020–21, y rhoddodd Llywodraeth Cymru gymorth ychwanegol i'r Trydydd Sector¹ yng Nghymru – drwy roi mwy o hyblygrwydd dros y cyllid presennol a rhywfaint o gyllid newydd hefyd – i ymateb i heriau uniongyrchol pandemig COVID-19;
 - faint o gymorth parhaus a ddarparwyd yn ystod 2021–22 i helpu i ymdrin ag effeithiau parhaus y pandemig ac i gynyddu cadernid y Trydydd Sector;
 - sut y gweinyddodd Llywodraeth Cymru ei chymorth;
 - sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cydbwyso gofynion er mwyn sicrhau bod cronfeydd cyhoeddus yn cael eu rheoli'n briodol â'r angen i ymateb yn gyflym; a
 - faint o sefydliadau a gafodd gymorth, ar gyfer pa weithgareddau, ac a yw gwerthusiadau cychwynnol yn dangos canlyniadau llwyddiannus.
- 2 Nid ydym wedi archwilio'n bersonol yr effaith ar ddefnyddwyr gwasanaethau nac effeithiolrwydd unrhyw un o'r dyfarniadau unigol, nac wedi ceisio llunio safbwyt cyffredinol ynghylch gwerth am arian. Nid ydym wedi cynnal profion manwl ar reolaethau ychwaith. Fodd bynnag, rydym wedi adolygu adroddiadau a dogfennau eraill sy'n darparu dystiolaeth bod rheolaethau ar waith sydd â'r bwriad o dargedu cyllid, rheoli risglau ariannol, a sicrhau gwerth am arian. Mae **Atodiad 1** yn rhoi trosolwg o'r gwahanol elfennau a oedd yn ffurio'r gronfa gyffredinol a'r dyraniadau i wahanol elfennau. Mae **Atodiad 2** yn darparu amserlen y digwyddiadau allweddol.

¹ Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn defnyddio'r term 'Trydydd Sector' mewn cysylltiad â sefydliadau annibynnol, gwirfoddol, cymunedol a dielw amrywiol; y mae rhai ohonynt yn elusennau.

Pam y rhoddodd Llywodraeth Cymru gymorth ychwanegol i'r Trydydd Sector yng Nghymru?

- 3 Wrth i lywodraethau gwledydd y DU roi cyfyngiadau symud ar waith ym mis Mawrth 2020, daeth yn amlwg bod y Trydydd Sector, gan gynnwys elusennau a sefydliadau dielw yng Nghymru, yn wynebu pwysau ariannol a gweithredol enfawr. Yn nodedig:
- roedd ffynonellau cyllid arferol drwy siopau, digwyddiadau a chasgliadau wedi dod i ben;
 - roedd cyfyngiadau teithio a chyswllt yn effeithio ar y staff a oedd ar gael, ac yn cyfyngu ar y gweithgareddau a'r gwasanaethau a ddarperid;
 - roedd mwy o bobl yn dod yn agored i niwed neu eisoes yn dioddef caledi ac roedd angen mwy o gymorth ar ddefnyddwyr gwasanaeth presennol; ac
 - roedd y seilwaith presennol yn ei chael hi'n anodd symud llawer o wirfoddolwyr parod ac roedd y staff mewn perygl o gael eu gorlethu.
- 4 Daeth Llywodraeth Cymru yn fwyfwy pryderus y byddai sefydliadau'r Trydydd Sector yn methu wrth wynebu galw digynsail am eu gwasanaethau; gan adael pobl mewn angen heb fynediad at gymorth. Mewn ymateb, ar 27 Mawrth 2020, cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth Cymru y byddai'n gweithredu'n gyflym i:
- ddefnyddio pwerau argyfwng presennol i ganiatáu mwy o hyblygrwydd o ran sut y gellid defnyddio rhai cronyfeiddi parhaus; a
 - sefydlu cronfa newydd o £24 miliwn â chyfyngiad amser at ddibenion penodol yn gysylltiedig â'r pandemig.
- 5 Ar 8 Ebrill 2020, cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth y DU becyn cymorth gwerth £750 miliwn ar gyfer elusennau rheng flaen, i'w ddosbarthu drwy amrywiaeth o ffurdd². Roedd y pecyn, a gynyddwyd yn ddiweddarach, yn cynnwys rhagdybiaeth bod o leiaf £60 miliwn yn cael ei darparu i lywodraethau datganoledig yr Alban, Cymru a Gogledd Iwerddon o dan Fformiwla Barnett.
- 6 Cafodd Llywodraeth Cymru bron i £18 miliwn, a roddwyd yn ei chronfeydd wrth gefn ac y tynnodd arian ohonynt yn ddiweddarach i gefnogi'r Trydydd Sector yng Nghymru. Nid oedd Llywodraeth Cymru yn gwybod y byddai Llywodraeth y DU yn darparu'r cyllid hwn pan gyhoeddodd ei chymorth ei hun.

² Ym mis Mawrth 2021, cyhoeddodd y Swyddfa Archwilio Genedlaethol ei hadroddiad, Investigation into government funding to charities during the COVID-19 pandemic, sy'n nodi ffeithiau allweddol mewn cysylltiad â dosbarthiad a goruchwyliaeth yr Adran dros Dechnoleg Ddigidol, Diwylliant, y Cyfryngau a Chwaraeon o'r pecyn cyffredinol hwn gwerth £513 miliwn yn Lloegr.

Faint o gyllid y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi ei ddarparu ers mis Ebrill 2020 ac at ba ddibenion?

Arian a ddargyfeiriwyd neu a dynnwyd o'r cronfeydd wrth gefn ar gyfer cymorth amser cyfyngedig yn ystod 2020–21

- 7 Er mwyn creu pecyn cymorth ar gyfer y Trydydd Sector yng Nghymru, a elwir ar y cyd yn Gronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector, yn ogystal â'r £24 miliwn gychwynnol o arian newydd, a dynnwyd o gronfeydd wrth gefn (gweler **paragraff 4**), dargyfeiriodd Llywodraeth Cymru £5.3 miliwn o fentrau eraill y Trydydd Sector a gyllidir gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Daeth £4.7 miliwn arall o gronfeydd wrth gefn Llywodraeth Cymru (£0.5 miliwn ym mis Rhagfyr 2020 a £4.2 miliwn ym mis Ionawr 2021) â'r cyfanswm a roddwyd i Gronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector yn 2020–21 i £34.05 miliwn.

Cyllid ychwanegol ar gyfer 2021–22

- 8 Rhwng mis Mawrth 2021 a diwedd mis Rhagfyr 2021, roedd Llywodraeth Cymru wedi darparu £7.74 miliwn arall o gronfeydd wrth gefn, gan ddod â'r cyfanswm a neilltuwyd i Gronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector ers mis Ebrill 2020 i £41.79 miliwn.

Mwy o hyblygrwydd dros y cyllid presennol

- 9 Y tu allan i'w phecyn cymorth penodol, caniataodd Llywodraeth Cymru fwy o hyblygrwydd o ran defnyddio rhywfaint o'r cyllid presennol a ddarperid drwy ei Rhaglen Cyfleusterau Cymunedol a Grant Cymorth y Trydydd Sector:
- gweithredir y Rhaglen Cyfleusterau Cymunedol gan Lywodraeth Cymru, sy'n cynnig grantiau cyfalaf am wella cyfleusterau cymunedol o dan £25,000 a grantiau mwy hyd at £250,000. Ehangwyd gwariant cymwys ar gyfer y grantiau llai am gyfnod o dri mis fel y gellid prynu neu ddisodli cyfarpar, er enghraifft, cyfarpar TGCh i ganiatáu i staff a gwirfoddolwyr weithio o bell. Yn 2020–21, derbyniodd y Rhaglen Cyfleusterau Cymunedol £150,000 o arian ychwanegol a oedd wedi ei addasu at ddibenion gwahanol. Dyfarnodd Llywodraeth Cymru £5 miliwn o'r Rhaglen i sefydliadau'r Trydydd Sector yn 2020–21.
 - mae Cyngor Gweithredu Gwirfoddol Cymru (CGGC)³ a'r rhwydwaith o 19 o Gynghorau Gwirfoddol Sirol yn gweinyddu Grant Cymorth y Trydydd Sector ar ran Llywodraeth Cymru. Mae dyfarniadau grant unigol i sefydliadau'r Trydydd Sector yn darparu cymorth ar gyfer cyllid refeniu; roedd cyfanswm y rhain bron yn £4.5 miliwn yn 2020–21. Mewn ymateb i'r pandemig, rhoddodd

³ Corff aelodaeth cenedlaethol ar gyfer y Trydydd Sector yng Nghymru yw CGGC

Llywodraeth Cymru fwy o hyblygrwydd, am dri mis i ddechrau, ym mhedair colofn weithgarwch bresennol y grant, sef gwirfoddoli, llywodraethu da, cyllid cynaliadwy, ac ymgysylltu a dylanwadu.

Cymorth arall Llywodraeth Cymru a Llywodraeth y DU i'r Trydydd Sector

- 10 Yn ogystal â Chronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector Llywodraeth Cymru, gallai'r Trydydd Sector yng Nghymru gael gafael ar ffynonellau cymorth eraill, a ddarperir trwy:
- ddyraniad grant Gwirfoddoli Cymru sy'n ceisio annog mwy o bobl i wirfoddoli, gan adeiladu ar y cynnydd a wnaed yn ystod y pandemig. Mae grantiau o hyd at £20,000 ar gael i brosiectau cymwys sy'n cefnogi Deddf Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol (Cymru) 2015 drwy bwysleisio camau atal yn hytrach nag ymateb.
 - roedd sefydliadau gwirfoddol yng Nghymru yn cael manteisio ar gynlluniau eraill Llywodraeth Cymru a ddarparai gymorth yn ystod y pandemig, gan gynnwys grantiau a benthyciadau busnes, yn amodol ar gymhwysedd a gwiriadau, er mwyn osgoi dyblygu cyllid.
 - roedd Cynllun Cadw Swyddi drwy gyfnod y Coronafeirws Llywodraeth y DU – y 'cynllun ffyrlo' – a gyhoeddwyd ym mis Mawrth 2020 ac a gynhaliwyd hyd at fis Medi 2021, ar gael i sefydliadau'r Trydydd Sector yng Nghymru i dalu cyfran o gyflogau eu staff. Trwy ei Chronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector, a ddarparodd gymsgedd o grantiau a benthyciadau, cynigiodd Llywodraeth Cymru fenthyciadau pontio o hyd at £25,000 i ddechrau, i gynorthwyo sefydliadau gwirfoddol Cymru wrth iddynt aros am ad-daliadau y cynllun ffyrlo gan Lywodraeth y DU. Roedd y benthyciad hwn ar gael yn ogystal â dyfarniad Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector o hyd at £75,000. Fodd bynnag, yn ymarferol, oherwydd bod taliadau Cynllun Cadw Swyddi drwy gyfnod y Coronafeirws wedi eu prosesu'n gyflym, dim ond dau fenthyciad pontio Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector a wnaed ac felly cafodd gweddill yr £1 miliwn a ddyrannwyd iddynt ei defnyddio at ddibenion gwahanol yng Nghronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector.

Sut y gwnaeth Llywodraeth Cymru weinyddu elfennau allweddol ei chymorth ychwanegol?

- 11 Cyn cyhoeddi Cronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector, roedd Llywodraeth Cymru eisoes wedi cydgysylltu ei gweithredoedd â phrif gyllidwyr eraill o aelodau Fforwm Cyllidwyr Cymru⁴. Ceisiodd Llywodraeth Cymru a'r grŵp hwn:
- sicrhau'r cyrhaeddiad cyfunol mwyaf posibl, o ran daearyddiaeth a chymunedau;
 - darparu cymorth yn gyflym i gynifer â phosibl o fudiadau gwirfoddol; a
 - mynd i'r afael ag effeithiau penodol y pandemig ar grwpiau penodol sy'n agored i niwed
- 12 Roedd gan Lywodraeth Cymru berthynas hirsefydlog eisoes â CGGC, a oedd yn rheoli grantiau'r Trydydd Sector ar ei rhan. Roedd gan CGGC brofiad hefyd o fodloni gofynion gweinyddu a llywodraethu cynlluniau cyllid Llywodraeth Cymru a'r Undeb Ewropeaidd. Roedd Llywodraeth Cymru yn dymuno rhoi Cronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector ar waith yn sydyn, felly dewisodd CGGC yn gorff cyfryngol ar gyfer elfennau allweddol o'r Gronfa (gweler **Atodiad 1**), gan ddefnyddio ei gysylltiadau, ei wybodaeth a'i brofiad ar lawr gwlad, a'r seilwaith presennol ar gyfer gweinyddu grantiau.
- 13 Er mwyn gweithredu'n gyflym oherwydd y sefyllfa frys, defnyddiodd Llywodraeth Cymru hyblygrwydd yn y rheolau caffaol presennol gan ei chaniatáu, mewn argyfwng, i ddyfarnu contract uniongyrchol heb hysbysebu'n agored na chystadleuaeth. Ar 9 Ebrill 2020, yn dilyn proses ymgeisio un tendr, dyfarnodd Llywodraeth Cymru y gwaith o weinyddu'r £10 miliwn gychwynnol o Gronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector, i CGGC. Mae'r llythyr cynnig grant yn nodi amodau'r cyllid; gan gynnwys dibenion y gronfa, y gofynion monitro a'r angen i hawlio cyllid erbyn 15 Mawrth 2021. Pan gaeodd Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector, cytunodd Llywodraeth Cymru i sefydlu iteriad newydd o Gronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector ar gyfer 2021-22. Roedd y contract ar gyfer gweinyddu hyn yn ddarostyngedig i dendr cystadleuol agored, gan arwain at ddau gais, ac fe'i henillwyd gan CGGC.
- 14 Sefydlwyd Cronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol, a Chronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol a'i disodlodd hi, ar sail amrywiadau i ddyfarniadau cyllid presennol i CGGC gan Lywodraeth Cymru, ac felly nid oedd yn ddarostyngedig i dendr newydd.
- 15 Mae CGGC yn codi llog ar fenthyciadau Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector, ac mae hyn yn talu am ei gostau gweinyddol. Mae CGGC wedi gweithio gyda swyddogion Llywodraeth Cymru a Banc Datblygu Cymru i gyfrifo'r costau a'r gyfradd llog. Roedd Cam 3 Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector yn cynnwys £0.53

⁴ Roedd Fforwm Cyllidwyr Cymru, rhwydwaith cyllidwyr anwleidyddol, yn cysylltu'r canlynol yn anffurfiol: Llywodraeth Cymru; CGGC; Sefydliad Cymunedol Cymru; Cronfa Gymunedol y Loteri Genedlaethol (Cymru); Sefydliad Lloyds Bank; a Moondance Foundation.

miliwn ar gyfer costau gweinyddu grantiau CGGC. Ni chymerodd CGGC ran o Gronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol na Chronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol. Yn hytrach, er mwyn cryfhau ei allu i weinyddu'r cronfeydd hyn, derbyniodd CGGC £343,000 o'r Gronfa Galluogi Seilwaith yn 2020–21.

16 Galluogodd deialog barhaus rhwng Llywodraeth Cymru a CGGC y trefniadau i gael eu monitro a'u hadolygu. Hwylusodd hyn y dasg o ddysgu mewn amser real ac, yn ei dro, gwnaeth hynny lywio gwelliannau i brosesau, gan dargedu cronfeydd yn well, er enghraifft:

- roedd yn ymddangos bod Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector yn eithrio rhai grwpiau, yn enwedig sefydliadau anghorfforedig,⁵ lle byddai ymddiriedolwyr yn atebol yn bersonol am fenthyciadau. Er mwyn mynd i'r afael â hyn, gallai sefydliadau a oedd yn ystyried ymgorffori wneud cais i Gronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector ac, os oeddent yn cael eu cymeradwyo, gallent godi arian grant ar ôl iddynt gael eu hymgorffori. Roedd Cam 3 Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector yn blaenoriaethu sefydliadau corfforedig a oedd yn rhoi cymorth i bobl â nodweddion gwarchodedig nad oeddent wedi derbyn cyllid Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector o'r blaen.
- er mwyn symud y pwyslais o argyfwng i adferiad, a mynd i'r afael ag anghydraddoldeb a waethygwyd gan y pandemig, yn enwedig mewn cysylltiad â materion fel iechyd meddwl, ym mis Awst 2020, disodlodd Llywodraeth Cymru Gronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol â Chronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol, a fu'n agored tan ddiwedd mis Mawrth 2021.

⁵ Proses gyfreithiol pan fo sefydliad yn caffael hunaniaeth a statws ar wahân i'w berchenogion, y mae eu rhwymedigaeth am ddyledion wedyn yn gyfyngedig i werth eu cyfranddaliadau yw ymgorffori. I'r gwrrhwyneb, mae gan ymddiriedolwyr cyrrf trydydd sector anghorfforedig atebolrwydd personol a rennir am swm llawn unrhyw fenthyciadau.

Sut y gwnaeth Llywodraeth Cymru gydbwys o gofynion i sicrhau bod cyllid cyhoeddus yn cael ei reoli'n briodol â'r angen i ymateb yn gyflym?

- 17 Agorwyd pecynnau cymorth cychwynnol Llywodraeth Cymru yng Nghronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector yn sydyn, i ddyfarnu cyllid â chyfyngiad amser i ymgeiswyr cyn 31 Mawrth 2021 at ddibenion penodol. Er mwyn gweithredu'n gyflym wrth geisio sicrhau bod y gwariant yn cael ei lywodraethu'n dda, dibynnai Llywodraeth Cymru ar fframweithiau presennol o reolaethau cydgysylltiedig. Roedd y rheolaethau hyn yn cynnwys gwirio ac adrodd ar lefelau:
- Llywodraeth Cymru;
 - CGGC; ac
 - ymgeiswyr a derbynwyr.

Rheolaethau Llywodraeth Cymru

- 18 Derbyniodd Llywodraeth Cymru gyngor gan ei Chanolfan Ragoriaeth Grantiau ac adeiladodd ar ei threfniadau presennol gyda CGGC i roi ystod o fesurau ar waith ar gyfer elfennau'r Gronfa a reolwyd gan CGGC, gan gynnwys:
- canllawiau i'r Trydydd Sector ar y meinu prawf cymhwysedd a'r cymorth a oedd ar gael, a ddiweddarwyd o bryd i'w gilydd;
 - gwirio bod ceisiadau am daliadau gan CGGC i Lywodraeth Cymru, am gyllid y mae CGGC yn ei ddosbarthu yn ddiweddarach, wedi eu cwblhau'n briodol a bod tystiolaeth ohonynt;
 - gwirio i sicrhau bod ceisiadau gan sefydliadau'r Trydydd Sector yn dod o fewn cwmpas a gofynion y gronfa berthnasol;
 - gofynion ar gyfer monitro, adrodd a gwerthuso ceisiadau, dyfarniadau ac effeithiau yn rheolaidd;
 - rhannu gwybodaeth â CGGC am fuddiolwyr ffrydiau cyllid eraill, er mwyn osgoi dyblygu; ac
 - amodau'r cyllid, gan gynnwys telerau a oedd yn caniatáu i Lywodraeth Cymru fonitro gwariant ac adenill unrhyw gyllid dwbl, gan gynnwys unrhyw ryddhad ar dreithi busnes a chymorthdaliadau cyflog.
- 19 Er enghraift, ni ellid darparu cyllid o gynlluniau Cronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol na Chronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector yn gyffredinol pe byddai sefydliadau eisoes wedi derbyn cyllid o Gronfa Cadernid Economaidd Llywodraeth Cymru. Hefyd, cynhaliodd swyddogion wiriadau i sicrhau nad oedd Cronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol yn dyblygu cymorth gan Lywodraeth y DU na gan y Gronfa Galedi Frys i Awdurdodau Lleol.
- 20 Ym mis Mehefin 2020, cyn y byddai Llywodraeth Cymru yn rhyddhau cyllid i CGGC ar gyfer Cronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol, a agorwyd ym mis Awst 2020 ac a ddisodlodd Gronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol, roedd yn ofynnol i

CGGC lunio adroddiad gwerthuso Cronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol. Ni wnaeth yr adroddiad archwilio'n uniongyrchol yr effaith ar unigolion sy'n agored i niwed, oherwydd eu bod yn debygol o fod wedi cael cymorth o amrywiaeth o ffynonellau. Yn hytrach, edrychodd ar ddangosyddion a werthusodd Gronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol mewn cysylltiad â mynd i'r afael ag angen.

- 21 Rhoddodd yr adroddiad wybodaeth fanwl am ddyfarniadau a chwmpas themâu/grwpiau defnyddwyr yn ogystal â dadansoddiad fesul ardal awdurdod lleol, yn gysylltiedig â ffactorau fel poblogaeth, nifer yr achosion o'r feirws, mynegeion amddifadedd a chategorïau o weithgarwch prosiectau. Canfu berthynas gref rhwng dyraniadau cyllid i ardaloedd awdurdodau lleol a nifer yr achosion o COVID-19, ond perthynas wannach rhwng cyllid ac amddifadedd cymdeithasol ac economaidd, a gwendidau penodol; gan nodi'r angen i sicrhau bod cyllid yn canolbwytio ar fynd i'r afael ag effeithiau penodol y pandemig ar grwpiau targed. Llywiodd yr adroddiad y trefniadau a roddwyd ar waith gan Lywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer Cronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol a chamau dilynol Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector.
- 22 Ym mis Ionawr 2021, cyflwynodd Gwasanaeth Archwilio Mewnol Llywodraeth Cymru adroddiad ar ddyluniad a gweithrediad trefniadau Llywodraeth Cymru er mwyn sicrhau trefn lywodraethu, rheolaeth risg a rheolaeth fewnol mewn cysylltiad â chymorth COVID-19 i'r Trydydd Sector. Mae'r adolygiad yn canolbwytio ar elfennau gwerth uwch Cronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector, sef Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector a Chronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol. Ceisiodd adolygiad y Gwasanaeth Archwilio Mewnol gadarnhau a oedd y cynlluniau'n cael eu gweinyddu'n effeithiol, ac roedd y rheolwyr wedi nodi a rheoli risgiau i gyflawni eu canlyniadau. Casgliad yr adolygiad oedd: 'Gall y Gwasanaeth Archwilio Mewnol roi sicrwydd sylweddol am yr oruchwyliaeth a'r rheolaethau sydd ar waith i roi cymorth i sefydliadau'r trydydd sector. Yn ein barn ni, mae'r cynlluniau wedi bod yn llwyddiannus, maent wedi cael derbyniad da ac maent ar y trywydd iawn i gyflawni eu hamcanion cyffredinol.'

Rheolaethau CGGC

- 23 Mae CGGC wedi gweithredu fel corff cyfryngol ers blynnyddoedd lawer, gan weithio gyda'r rhwydwaith o Gynghorau Gwirfoddol Sirol a rheoli grantiau Llywodraeth Cymru i'r Trydydd Sector. Roedd ganddo systemau a rheolaethau ar waith eisoes ac felly roedd yn gallu paratoi'n gyflym i gyrraedd y safonau llywodraethu sy'n ofynnol ar gyfer elfennau Cronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector y byddai'n eu gweinyddu ar ran Llywodraeth Cymru, gan gynnwys:
- Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector; a
 - Chronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol a'r Gronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol a'i disodlodd.
- 24 Cytunodd CGGC a Llywodraeth Cymru ar le y gellid symleiddio'r prosesau presennol i gyflymu ceisiadau, asesiadau a dyfarniadau er mwyn sicrhau bod cyllid yn cael ei ddosbarthu'n gyflym, gan reoli risgiau. O ganlyniad i hynny, roedd

prosesau wedi eu haddasu i fodloni gofynion y cronfeydd penodol. Ar gyfer Cronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol a Chronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol, cafodd cwestiynau ceisiadau eu cwtogi, gan gadw dim ond y rhai yr ystyriwyd eu bod yn ychwanegu gwerth. Fodd bynnag, gan fod Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector yn cynnwys cyllid benthyciadau, roedd yn cynnwys prosesau gam fwy trylwyr, gyda chwestiynau manwl: yn gyntaf, i sefydlu cymhwysedd; ac yna i sicrhau llywodraethu da, gwerth am arian, a'r gallu i ad-dalu.

- 25 Ar gyfer y cronfeydd a weinyddwyd gan CGGC yn ystod cyfnod brig 2020–21, cyflwynwyd ceisiadau a dogfennau ategol – fel cyfrifon, cyfriflenni banc a dogfennau llywodraethu – i CGGC ar gyfer gwiriadau diwydrwydd dyladwy drwy un porth ar-lein, gan eu brysbenner er mwyn asesu brys yr angen. Cyfarfu panel, gan gynnwys aelodau annibynnol, yn rheolaidd i asesu a sgorio ceisiadau, ac yna gwnaeth argymhellion. Dim ond ar ôl hynny y cafodd dyfarniadau eu cymeradwyo gan Brif Weithredwr CGGC. Anfonwyd llythyrau cynnig grant yn electronig drwy borth llofnodi dogfennau er mwyn osgoi oedi, a rhoddwyd gwybod i Lywodraeth Cymru am ddyfarniadau.
- 26 Roedd mynediad uniongyrchol i gronfa ddata fawr a oedd eisoes yn cwmpasu sefydliadau'r Trydydd Sector yn galluogi CGGC i gynnal gwiriadau sgrinio cychwynnol ar y ceisiadau am gyllid i weld a oeddent yn dod o gyrrf a oedd eisoes yn hysbys iddo. Adolygodd Llywodraeth Cymru a CGGC wybodaeth am geisiadau a dyfarniadau yn brydlon er mwyn rheoli'r risg o dwyll, ac osgoi dyblygu unrhyw gronfeydd, neu fylchau o ran cwmpas daearyddol neu ddiben. Roedd gwybodaeth wythnosol yn darparu dadansoddiad manwl o'r sefydliadau a gafodd gyllid, y buddiolwyr arfaethedig; y gwirfoddolwyr a ddefnyddiwyd; y symiau a gynigiwyd ac a gymeradwywyd. Dywedodd swyddogion Llywodraeth Cymru wrthym fod y crynodebau gwybodaeth a'r adroddiadau a gawsant gan CGGC yn fanylach na'r hyn a fyddai wedi bod yn bosibl pe byddai Llywodraeth Cymru wedi rheoli'r Gronfa ei hun, o ystyried cyfyngiadau capaciti a thrwy adeiladu ar systemau presennol CGGC.

Rheolaethau ymgeiswyr a derbynwyr

- 27 Roedd ceisiadau am gyllid i CGGC yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i ymgeiswyr ddarparu gwybodaeth am eu trefniadau llywodraethu a gwerth am arian. I ymgeiswyr llwyddiannus, roedd llythyrau dyfarnu grantiau neu fenthyciadau yn nodi'n glir y diben y bwriadwyd y cyllid ar ei gyfer yn ogystal â'r gofynion gwybodaeth a oedd yn angenrheidiol i gefnogi hawliadau ac i godi taliadau.
- 28 Gofynnwyd i'r rhai a oedd yn derbyn cyllid ddarparu gwybodaeth wedi ei diweddar ar incwm a gwariant i CGGC ar ddiwedd y chwarter cyntaf yn dilyn y taliad cyllid cyntaf, yn ogystal â darparu tystiolaeth o gynnydd tuag at yr amcanion a nodwyd yn eu cynnig. Roedd darparu'r wybodaeth hon yn rhag-amod ar gyfer rhyddhau'r ail daliad. Roedd angen diweddarriad arall ar ddiwedd cyfnod y cyllid er mwyn bodloni amodau'r cyllid. Roedd yr adroddiadau ar ôl hynny ar sail dangosyddion y cytunwyd arnynt.

29 Er nad ydym wedi archwilio'r trefniadau'n fanwl, roedd y gofynion gwybodaeth hyn yn sicrhau monitro parhaus gan dderbynwyr ac yn hwyluso goruchwyliaeth gan CGGC, ac adrodd ymlaen i Llywodraeth Cymru.

Faint o sefydliadau a gafodd gymorth, ar gyfer pa weithgareddau, ac a oes unrhyw arwyddion o lwyddiant?

30 Rhwng mis Ebrill 2020 a mis Rhagfyr 2021, gweinyddodd CGGC £35.2 miliwn o Gronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector, Cronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol a Chronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol ar ran Llywodraeth Cymru. Mae CGGC yn cyhoeddi gwybodaeth sydd ar gael i'r cyhoedd fel mater o drefn am yr holl ddyfarniadau grant y mae'n eu gwneud, gan gynnwys y derbynnydd a'r swm, drwy wefan, '360 Giving', sy'n cynnwys gwybodaeth gan ddyfarnwyr grantiau y DU⁶. Mae gwybodaeth CGGC ar wefan '360 Giving' yn cwmpasu gweithgarwch gweinyddu grantiau arferol CGGC, yn ogystal â'r cronfeydd penodol sy'n gysylltiedig â COVID-19 yng Nghronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector y mae CGGC yn ei rheoli ar ran Llywodraeth Cymru.

Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector

31 Sefydlwyd Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector ym mis Ebrill 2020 i dalu biliau a chefnogi llif arian, gyda £10 miliwn gychwynnol. Ychwanegwyd £2.5 miliwn arall ym mis Rhagfyr 2020 ar gyfer Cam 2 a £7.23 miliwn ar gyfer Cam 3 a agorodd ym mis Medi 2021. Roedd Camau 2 a 3 yn ehangach eu pwyslais na Cham 1 (gweler hefyd **Atodiad 1**). Dywedodd CGGC, yn ystod 2020–21, ei fod wedi:

- ar gyfer Cam 1:
 - derbyn 148 o geisiadau;
 - cymeradwyo 111 o ddyfarniadau, yn gyfanswm o £4.7 miliwn;
 - diogelu 1,784 o swyddi a 7,690 o swyddi gwirfoddoli; a
 - chefnogi 255,256 o ddefnyddwyr gwasanaeth ar gost gyfartalog o £18.64 y defnyddiwr.
- ar gyfer Cam 2:
 - derbyn 136 o geisiadau;
 - cymeradwyo 126 o ddyfarniadau, yn gyfanswm o £7.9 miliwn; a
 - rhagwelwyd y byddai'r gwobrau hyn yn creu 246 o swyddi newydd, ynghyd â 122,775 o ddefnyddwyr gwasanaeth neu fuddiolwyr newydd; a 10,222 o gyfleoedd gwirfoddoli newydd.

⁶ Mae gwybodaeth a gyhoeddwyd gan CGGC ar wefan 360 Giving yn dyddio'n ôl i fis Hydref 2015.

- nid oedd Cam 3 ar gyfer 2021–22 wedi ei adrodd ar adeg paratoi'r memorandwm hwn.

Cronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol

- 32 Gyda'r nod o gefnogi gwaith gwirfoddoli, agorodd Cronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol ym mis Ebrill 2020 gyda £7.5 miliwn gychwynnol, a gynyddwyd i £9 miliwn yn ddiweddarach. Yn 2020-21, cafodd y 19 o Gynghorau Gwirfoddol Sirol ledled Cymru, sy'n cwmpasu'r 22 o ardaloedd awdurdod lleol, gyllid Cronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol (yn ogystal â'u dyraniad cyllid craidd blynyddol arferol gan CGGC), sy'n gyfanswm o £550,000, i gefnogi eu gweithgareddau ar lawr gwlaid gyda sefydliadau'r Trydydd Sector yn eu hardaloedd.
- 33 Ar 1 Mai 2020, cyhoeddodd CGGC ei fod eisoes wedi cefnogi 14 o sefydliadau gyda Chronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol a bod ganddo enghreifftiau o brosiectau astudiaethau achos a oedd yn esbonio sut yr oedd y cyllid yn cefnogi gweithgareddau a oedd yn cynnwys gwirfoddolwyr. Pan gaeodd Cronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol i geisiadau newydd ym mis Gorffennaf 2020, nododd CGGC ei fod wedi:
- cael diddordeb gan 500 o sefydliadau, gan arwain at 239 o geisiadau yn gyfanswm o £10.3 miliwn;
 - cymeradwyo 156 o geisiadau, yn cynnwys 6,262 o wirfoddolwyr, a dyfarnu £7.0 miliwn iddynt; a
 - rhoi cymorth i oddeutu 764,073 o bobl drwy brosiectau cymeradwy, ar gost gyfartalog o £9.23 y buddiolwr.
- 34 Nododd Llywodraeth Cymru y dylid trosglwyddo unrhyw falans o Gronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol nas defnyddiwyd i'r Gronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol a'i disodloedd. Cyn i Gronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol gau, dyfarnwyd £7.5 miliwn i sefydliadau, gan gefnogi'r canlynol:
- iechyd, gofal cymdeithasol a lles – £2.55 miliwn;
 - cymunedau – £1.28 miliwn;
 - anabledd – £0.98 miliwn;
 - pobl hŷn – £0.59 miliwn;
 - plant a theuluoedd – £0.57 miliwn;
 - trais yn erbyn menywod, cam-drin domestig, a thrais rhywiol – £0.55 miliwn;
 - dosbarthu bwyd – £0.54 miliwn;
 - lleiafrifoedd ethnig – £0.42 miliwn; ac
 - arall – £0.05 miliwn.

Cronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol

- 35 Disodlodd Cronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol Gronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol ym mis Awst 2020, gyda £3.5 miliwn gychwynnol, i ganolbwytio ar fynd i'r afael ag anghydraddoldeb a amlygwyd neu a waethygwyd gan y pandemig. Yn ystod 2021–22, darparodd CGGC £507,000 o Gronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol i'r Cynghorau Gwirfoddol Sirol i'w dosbarthu i sefydliadau'r Trydydd Sector yn eu hardaloedd (gweler hefyd **baragraff 32**).
- 36 Ym mis Rhagfyr 2020, derbyniodd Gronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol £1.5 miliwn ychwanegol a £1.5 miliwn arall ym mis Ionawr 2021. Erbyn diwedd mis Mawrth 2021, adroddodd CGGC ei fod wedi:
- cael diddordeb gan 427 o sefydliadau, gan arwain at 237 o geisiadau Cronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol yn gyfanswm o £8.9 miliwn;
 - cymeradwyo 182 o ddyfarniadau i brosiectau yn gyfanswm o £6.9 miliwn, gan gynnwys oddeutu 6,702 o wirfoddolwyr; a
 - rhoi cymorth i oddeutu 242,163 o bobl drwy brosiectau cymeradwy, ar gost gyfartalog o £28.45 y buddiolwr.
- 37 O'r £6.9 miliwn a ddyfarnwyd hyd ddiwedd mis Mawrth 2021, aeth £4.98 miliwn i sefydliadau, gan gefnogi'r canlynol:
- cymunedau – £1.26 miliwn;
 - anabledd – £0.64 miliwn;
 - lleiafrifoedd ethnig – £0.50 miliwn;
 - plant a theuluoedd – £0.43 miliwn;
 - pobl hŷn – £0.35 miliwn;
 - dosbarthu bwyd – £0.30 miliwn;
 - cyngor ac eiriolaeth – £0.27 miliwn; a
 - arall – £1.23 miliwn.
- 38 Gwahoddwyd prosiectau Cronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol gweithredol a oedd wedi dangos dechrau llwyddiannus i gyflawni gweithgareddau i wneud cais am gyllid am chwe mis arall. Adroddodd CGGC ei fod wedi:
- derbyn 51 o geisiadau am estyniad gwerth £1.7 miliwn;
 - cymeradwyo 33 o estyniadau a dyfarnu £1.3 miliwn i brosiectau presennol, gan gynnwys oddeutu 689 o wirfoddolwyr ychwanegol; a
 - rhoi cymorth i oddeutu 26,526 o bobl ychwanegol⁷.

⁷ Daw ffigurau Cronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol a Chronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol o grynodebau CGGC.

Yr hyn sy'n hysbys am effaith y cymorth

- 39 Roedd gofynion monitro ac adrodd ar effaith yn rhan annatod o weinyddiaeth Cronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector o'r cychwyn cyntaf. Cwmpesir holl gymorth ariannol Llywodraeth Cymru i'r Trydydd Sector, gan gynnwys yr hyn a ddarparwyd drwy Gronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector, drwy drefniant gyda Cefnogi Trydydd Sector Cymru (gweler **Atodiad 1**). Mae'r trefniant hwn yn cynnwys fframwaith monitro effaith y cytunwyd arno ym mis Ebrill 2018. Mae'r fframwaith monitro yn nodi dangosyddion perfformiad, dulliau casglu tystiolaeth a gofynion adrodd gan gynnwys:
- diweddfiadau cynnydd misol;
 - adroddiadau dangosyddion perfformiad allweddol chwarterol;
 - adroddiadau ystadegol chwech misol; ac
 - adroddiad goruchwyliau blynnyddol.
- 40 Roedd yr amodau y darparodd Llywodraeth Cymru gyllid Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector oddi tanynt i CGGC yn cynnwys cydymffurfio â'r fframwaith monitro effaith, er mwyn hwyluso gwaith gwerthuso. Roeddent hefyd yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i CGGC anfon llythyrau grant at dderbynwyr yn cydymffurfio â thempled sy'n adlewyrchu'r fframwaith.
- 41 Roedd y trefniadau monitro ac adrodd yn galluogi Llywodraeth Cymru a CGGC i nodi'r galw, y nifer sy'n manteisio ar gyllid, bylchau yn y cyllid presennol a diffygion cyllid posibl, a phenderfyniadau gwybodus yngylch dyrannu rhagor o gyllid a thargedu anghenion (gweler hefyd **baragraff 16**).
- 42 Canfu CGGC fod Cam 1 Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector wedi bod yn fuddiol wrth helpu sefydliadau a oedd yn gynaliadwy fel arall i aros ar eu traed, a hyd at y pwynt hwnnw, nid oedd yr un o'r sefydliadau a gafodd gymorth wedi methu (gweler hefyd **baragraff 31**), er bod dau ohonynt wedi methu ers hynny. Fodd bynnag, mewn cysylltiad â Chronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol a ddaeth i ben ym mis Gorffennaf 2020, noda'r adroddiad gwerthuso (gweler **paragraff 20**):
'Gyda'i gilydd, mae'r canfyddiadau hyn yn awgrymu ei bod yn ymddangos bod cyllid Cronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol wedi ei lywio hyd yma gan rinweddau ceisiadau unigol gyda hawl gyfyngedig i gael gwybodaeth am anghenion cymunedol penodol sy'n codi o bandemig COVID-19. Mae canlyniadau'r dadansoddiad aml-haen hwn yn darparu'r data i ganolbwytio'n fwy penodol ar grwpiau targed ac anghenion penodol yng ngham nesaf y penderfyniadau cylrido.'
- 43 Trwy werthuso Cronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol hysbyswyd Cronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol, a'i disodlodd, a oedd yn agored tan ddiwedd mis Mawrth 2021 ac a oedd yn ddarostyngedig i werthusiad parhaus (gweler **paragraffau 35 i 38**).

- 44 Ym mis Chwefror 2021, cyhoeddodd Pwyllgor Cydraddoldeb, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau y Senedd adroddiad ar Effaith Covid-19 ar y sector gwirfoddol⁸. Mae'r adroddiad yn cydnabod cryfderau'r Trydydd Sector a'i gydweithrediad â Llywodraeth Cymru i lunio a chyflwyno ymatebion i'r pandemig. Tynnodd y Pwyllgor sylw at werth cydweithio sefydledig, sy'n galluogi Llywodraeth Cymru i gryfhau a gweithio drwy strwythurau presennol yn hytrach na'u creu neu eu disodli. Pwysleisiodd y Pwyllgor hefyd bwysigrwydd cynnal a gwella gallu'r Trydydd Sector i wrthsefyll heriau yn y dyfodol.
- 45 Nid edrychodd y Pwyllgor yn fanwl ar effeithiolrwydd cymorth ariannol Llywodraeth Cymru, ond dywedodd fod y cyllid wedi ei groesawu'n fawr a'i fod wedi helpu'r sector i oroesi misoedd cyntaf yr argyfwng, gan ei alluogi i ddarparu cymorth hanfodol i gymunedau ledled Cymru. Nododd y Pwyllgor y canlynol:
- yn baradocsaidd, sefydliadau'r Trydydd Sector a oedd yn gwbl ddibynnol ar gyllid grant a brofodd effaith ariannol leiaf y pandemig, gyda'r effaith ariannol fwyaf ar y rhai a fu'n llwyddiannus wrth arallgyfeirio eu ffynonellau incwm yn y gorffennol;
 - wrth i'r pandemig barhau, byddai rhagor o gymorth ariannol a mwy o hyblygrwydd o ran sut y defnyddir cronfeydd yn hanfodol i gynnal y Trydydd Sector, gan sicrhau ei fod yn gallu parhau i gyfrannu at ymateb ac adferiad; ac
 - os nad oes gan y Trydydd Sector ddigon o adnoddau, mae'n debygol y bydd hyn yn tanseilio ei allu i gyflawni gwaith atal (yn gysylltiedig ag egwyddorion Deddf Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol (Cymru) 2015), a fyddai'n cynyddu'r pwysau ar wasanaethau statudol.
- 46 Ym mis Mehefin 2021, cyhoeddodd CGGC adroddiad ymgynghori allanol ar effeithiolrwydd cyffredinol cymorth ariannol y Trydydd Sector ar draws yr holl ffynonellau cyllid yn ystod y pandemig, gan gynnwys cynlluniau Llywodraeth Cymru. Mae'r adroddiad yn cydnabod gwerth gweithio drwy'r cysylltiadau a'r seilwaith presennol; nodir lefelau uchel o fodhad ymhliith buddiolwyr â phrosesau grant; canmolir y cydlyniad, yr ymarferoldeb a chyflymder gweithredu y cyllidwyr, a thynnir sylw at y gwersi a ddysgwyd, a fwriedir i sicrhau bod cryfderau a phrofiadau cadarnhaol yn cael eu dwyn ymlaen i lywio cynlluniau cydweithredol neu gynlluniau a gyllidir ar y cyd yn y dyfodol.

⁸ Cynhaliodd y Pwyllgor sesiynau tystiolaeth lafar, derbyniodd gyflwyniadau ysgrifenedig a chynhaliodd arolwg o sefydliadau'r trydydd sector.

Atodiad 1: Dyraniad Cronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector rhwng mis Ebrill 2020 a mis Rhagfyr 2021

Cyllid	Y cyfanswm a ddyrannwyd	Sylwadau
Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector	£19.7 miliwn	<p>Derbyniodd y Gronfa hon £12.5 miliwn yn 2020–21 a £7.23 miliwn yn 2021–22.</p> <p>Darparwyd y cymorth drwy gyfuniad o grant 75% a chyllid benthyciad 25% a oedd yn ddi- log i ddechrau, fel arfer hyd at derfyn cyfunol o £75,000, i helpu i dalu biliau a hwyluso llif arian drwy ddisodli refeniw a gollwyd drwy godi arian.</p> <p>Cam 2 y Gronfa, cyhoeddwyd ym mis Rhagfyr 2020, ehangwyd y pwyslais gwreiddiol ar oroesi, drwy ychwanegu elfennau o wella ac amrywio, a chydweithrediad.</p> <p>Cam 3 y Gronfa, cyhoeddwyd ym mis Mehefin 2021, agorwyd i geisiadau ym mis Medi 2021. Darparodd grantiau o hyd at £50,000 i gefnogi gweinyddiaeth sefydliadau yn hytrach na gwaith rheng flaen, gan ganolbwytio ar elfennau goroesi, a ffynnau.</p>
Cronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol	£9.0 miliwn	<p>Roedd £7.5 miliwn gychwynnol y Gronfa hon yn cynnwys £0.85 miliwn o gyllid presennol a ddefnyddiwyd at ddibenion gwahanol, a £6.65 miliwn o gyllid newydd. Yna cafodd hwb o £1.5 miliwn ychwanegol gan Gronfa Gynaliadwyedd Llywodraeth Cymru¹.</p> <p>Gweithredodd y Gronfa o fis Ebrill i fis Gorffennaf 2020, gan wneud grantiau o £10,000 i £100,000² yn gyffredinol i annog mwy o bobl i wirfoddoli, i gefnogi gwasanaethau gwirfoddoli, i gydlyn gwirfoddolwyr ac i dalu treuliau y mae gwirfoddolwyr yn eu talu o'u poced eu hunain.</p>

Cyllid	Y cyfanswm a ddyrannwyd	Sylwadau
Cronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol	£6.5 miliwn	<p>Disodlodd hon y Gronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol. Rhwng mis Awst 2020 a mis Mawrth 2021, cynigiodd grantiau rhwng £10,000 a £100,000 yn bennaf i fynd i'r afael ag anghydraddoldeb a ddaeth i'r amlwg oherwydd COVID-19.</p> <p>Rhoddwyd hwb o £5 miliwn i'r dyraniad cychwynnol yn ddiweddarach o'r Gronfa Gynaliadwyedd.</p>
Cronfa Galluogi Seilwaith y Trydydd Sector	£4.7 miliwn	<p>Cynyddu capaciti Cefnogi Trydydd Sector Cymru dros dro i gefnogi'r sector, gan gynnwys datblygu <u>gwefan Gwirfoddoli Cymru</u> a chyfeirio at ffynonellau cyllid lleol, cenedlaethol a rhyngwladol.</p> <p>Menter gan Lywodraeth Cymru i gydlyn u gwirfoddoli ac i gefnogi gwirfoddolwyr, a weithredir drwy Cefnogi Trydydd Sector Cymru, yw Gwirfoddoli Cymru.</p>
Gwirfoddoli Cymru	£0.75 miliwn	Cymorth ar gyfer prosiectau gwirfoddoli yn 2021–22.
Cefnogi Trydydd Sector Cymru	£0.74 miliwn	Mae Cefnogi Trydydd Sector Cymru yn cynnwys CGGC a'r 19 o Gynghorau Gwirfoddol Sirol ac mae'n darparu rhwydwaith cymorth ar gyfer y Trydydd Sector cyfan yng Nghymru.
Prosiect 'Adfywio Ymddiriedolaethau' y Comisiwn Elusennau	£0.23 miliwn	<p>Helpu i ryddhau oddeutu £20 miliwn o ymddiriedolaethau a sefydliadau elusennol segur.</p> <p>Oherwydd y gohiriwyd ei ddechreuaad o ganlyniad i faterion gweithredol yn ystod y cyfngiadau symud, bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn parhau i gefnogi'r prosiect yn 2022–23.</p>

Cyllid	Y cyfanswm a ddyrannwyd	Sylwadau
Cronfa Benthyciadau Asedau Cymunedol	£0.15 miliwn	<p>Defnyddiodd Llywodraeth Cymru £150,000 i sefydlu Cronfa Benthyciadau Asedau Cymunedol (a gefnogir ymhellach gan gyllid arall y tu allan i Gronfa Ymateb y Trydydd Sector).</p> <p>Mae Cronfa Benthyciadau Asedau Cymunedol, a weinyddir gan CGGC drwy ddilyn proses gaffael agored lle mai CGGC oedd yr unig ymgeisydd, yn cynnig benthyciadau hyd at £300,000 i sefydliadau gwirfoddol gymryd perchnogaeth o ased eiddo er budd y gymuned.</p>
Cyfanswm	£41.81 miliwn	Mae hyn yn wahanol i'r dyraniad o £41.79 miliwn oherwydd talgrynnu.

Nodiadau:

¹ I ddechrau, cadwodd Llywodraeth Cymru £5 miliwn nad oedd wedi ei dyrannu o Gronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector fel ‘Cronfa Gynaliadwyedd’ y gellid ei defnyddio i gryfhau cronfeydd eraill pe byddai angen wrth i'r pandemig ddatblygu.

² Mae **Atodiad 3** yn disgrifio'r cymorth a roddwyd i elusen Mind Cymru a ragorodd ar y trothwy nodweddiadol hwn.

Ffynhonnell: Dadansoddiad Archwilio Cymru

Atodiad 2: Amserlen y digwyddiadau allweddol

Mawrth 2020

- Rhoddwyd y cyfyngiadau symud cyntaf ar waith ar draws holl wledydd y DU mewn ymateb i'r pandemig, gan gynnwys cau ysgolion, cyfleusterau manwerthu diangen, lletygarwch a hamdden, ac ystod eang o fusnesau.
- Cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth Cymru y byddai'n darparu £24 miliwn o gronfeydd wrth gefn i sefydlu Cronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector newydd. Cafodd £5.35 miliwn ychwanegol o gyllid a oedd eisoes wedi ei ddyrannu i gynlluniau cyllid amrywiol y Trydydd Sector ei ddefnyddio at ddibenion gwahanol a'i ychwanegu at y Gronfa, a oedd yn cwmpasu is-gronfeydd at ddibenion penodol.

Ebrill 2020

- Cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth y DU becyn cymorth ar gyfer elusennau rheng flaen yn Lloegr a chyllid ychwanegol hefyd ar gyfer gwledydd datganoledig. Derbyniodd Cymru £18 miliwn ganlyniadol, a ddefnyddiodd Llywodraeth Cymru i gyllido ei hymrwymiadau i Gronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector yn rhannol.
- Lansiwyd Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector gyda £10 miliwn gychwynnol, a dynnwyd o Gronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector, ac a weinyddid gan CGGC.
- Yn sgil hynny, cynyddwyd Cronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol, a weinyddid gan CGGC, a lansiwyd gyda £7.5 miliwn gychwynnol a dynnwyd o Gronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector, i £9 miliwn.

Mehefin 2020

- Caniatawyd i gyfleusterau manwerthu diangen a chwaraeon awyr agored ailagor yn amodol ar ofynion cadw pellter cymdeithasol. Ni chaniatawyd chwaraeon tîm.

Gorffennaf 2020

- Caeodd Cronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol ar ôl dyfarnu £7 miliwn.
- Roedd llety twristiaeth hunangynhwysol, safleoedd gwersylla, atyniadau dan do, siopau harddwch, parlyrau tatŵ, siopau trin gwallt a siopau barbwr yn cael ailagor. Ail-agorodd sinemaâu, amgueddfeydd ac orielau a thafarndai a bwytau awyr agored. Caniatawyd gweithgareddau awyr agored a chwaraeon tîm.

Awst 2020

- Disodlodd Cronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol Gronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol gyda £5 miliwn gychwynnol, ac fe'i gweinyddid gan CGGC.

- Ail-agorodd dafarndai a bwyta dan do, agorodd lleoliadau priodas trwyddedig ar gyfer seremoniau, ond cyfyngid derbyniadau priodas ac angladdau i 30 o bobl. Ail-agorodd byllau nofio, campfeydd dan do a stiwdios ffitrwydd.

Medi 2020

- Gosodwyd cyrffyw o 10 o'r gloch gyda'r hwyr ar fusnesau lletygarwch. Gosodwyd cyfyngiadau symud lleol yn ystod mis Medi yng Nghaerffili, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Blaenau Gwent, Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, Merthyr Tudful, Casnewydd. Llanelli, Caerdydd, Abertawe, Bro Morgannwg, Torfaen, a Chastell-nedd Port Talbot.
- Cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth Cymru Gam 2 Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector, gyda phwyslais ehangach, gan gwmpasu gwydnwch yn ogystal â goroesi.

Hydref 2020

- Gosodwyd cyfyngiadau symud lleol yn Wrecsam, Sir y Fflint, Sir Ddinbych, Conwy a Bangor.
- Gosodwyd cyfyngiadau cyfnod atal byr ledled Cymru.

Tachwedd 2020

- Caniatawyd i gampfeydd, caffis, tafarndai a bwyta ailagor i grwpiau o hyd at bedwar o bobl heb gynnwys plant o dan 11 oed.

Rhagfyr 2020

- Ni châi tafarndai, bwyta na chaffis weini alcohol ac roedd yn ofynnol iddynt gau am 6pm. Roedd atyniadau ymwelwyr awyr agored yn cael aros yn agored, ond roedd atyniadau ymwelwyr dan do a lleoliadau adloniant wedi cau.
- Ychwanegwyd £0.5 miliwn arall, a dynnwyd o gronfeydd wrth gefn, at Gronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector.
- O 6pm ar Noswyl Nadolig, caewyd pob safle lletygarwch, hamdden a manwerthu diangen. Roedd yn rhaid i bobl aros gartref, ac eithrio at ddibenion penodol iawn.

Ionawr 2021

- Ychwanegwyd £4.2 miliwn arall, a dynnwyd o gronfeydd wrth gefn, at Gronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector.

Mawrth 2021

- Disodlwyd cyngor i 'aros gartref' gydag 'aros yn lleol'. Ail-agorodd gyfleusterau chwaraeon awyr agored. Ail-agorodd siopau trin gwallt a siopau barbwr drwy apwyntiad.

- Cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth Cymru y byddai £3.0 miliwn ychwanegol o gronfeydd wrth gefn yn cael ei dyrannu i Gronfa Ymateb COVID-19 y Trydydd Sector ar gyfer 2021–22.
- Caniatawyd teithio y tu allan i Gymru i'r rhai a oedd â rheswm rhesymol dros wneud hynny. Ail-agorodd ganolfannau garddio, lletyau gwyliau hunangynhwysol, llyfrgelloedd ac archifau. Ailddechreuodd chwaraeon a gweithgareddau awyr agored i bobl dan 18 oed.

Ebrill 2021

- Ail-agorodd atyniadau awyr agored a'r cyfleusterau manwerthu diangen a oedd yn weddill. Ailddechreuodd gyfleusterau lletygarwch awyr agored. Caniatawyd gweithgareddau awyr agored trefnedig, priodasau ac angladdau ar gyfer hyd at 30 o bobl. Caniatawyd canfasio gwleidyddol.

Mai 2021

- Ail-agorodd gyfleusterau lletygarwch dan do ar gyfer grwpiau o hyd at chwech o bobl. Ail-agorodd yr holl lety gwyliau, lleoliadau adloniant, atyniadau dan do. Caniatawyd hyd at 30 o bobl mewn digwyddiadau dan do a hyd at 50 mewn digwyddiadau awyr agored, gan gynnwys priodasau a gwylnosau. Caniatawyd teithio rhwng wladol i wledydd eraill, yn unol â system goleuadau traffig.

Mehefin 2021

- Cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth Cymru Gam 3 Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector, a agorodd ar gyfer ceisiadau ym mis Medi 2021, i gefnogi gweinyddiaeth yn hytrach na gweithgareddau rheng flaen, gan ganolbwytio ar elfennau 'goroesi' a 'ffynnu'.
- Roedd hyd at 30 o bobl yn cael cyfarfod yn yr awyr agored. Caniateid digwyddiadau awyr agored mwy wedi'u trefnu, fel rhagleni chwaraeon, yn amodol ar asesiad risg a mesurau addas, fel cadw pellter cymdeithasol. Gohiriwyd newidiadau ychwanegol i'r rheolau oherwydd dyfodiad amrywiolyn Delta.

Gorffennaf 2021

- Caniateid digwyddiadau dan do wedi'u trefnu ar gyfer hyd at 1,000 o bobl yn eistedd neu 200 o bobl yn sefyll. Roedd hyd at chwech o bobl yn cael cwrdd dan do mewn cartrefi preifat a llety gwyliau.

Awst 2021

- Dim cyfyngiadau ar nifer y bobl a gâi gwrdd dan do nac yn yr awyr agored. Roedd pob busnes yn cael ailagor. Nid oedd angen gorchuddion wyneb mwyach mewn manau lle bo bwyd neu ddiod yn cael eu gweini, ond anogwyd pobl i'w defnyddio

yn gyffredinol pryd bynnag y bo hynny'n ymarferol. Dylid cymryd camau rhesymol i atal lledaeniad mewn mannau cyhoeddus a gweithleoedd.

Medi 2021

- Cyflwynwyd pàs COVID ar gyfer mynediad i glybiau nos, digwyddiadau dan do ac awyr agored nad oedd pobl yn eistedd ynddynt, unrhyw ddigwyddiad yr oedd mwy na 10,000 o bobl yn bresennol ynddynt.
- Darparodd Llywodraeth Cymru £1.74 miliwn arall o gronfeydd wrth gefn i gynyddu cyllid Cam 3 Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector.

Rhagfyr 2021

- Darparodd Llywodraeth Cymru £3 miliwn arall o gronfeydd wrth gefn i gynyddu cyllid Cam 3 Cronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector.

Atodiad 3: Astudiaeth achos

I Mind Cymru, yr elusen iechyd meddwl, y gweinyddwyd y dyfarniadau cyfunol mwyaf gan CGGC ar ran Llywodraeth Cymru. Derbyniodd:

- grant o £537,316 o Gronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol, a ddyfarnwyd ar 19 Mai 2020; a
- grant o £99,980 o Gronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol, a ddyfarnwyd ar 12 Ionawr 2021.

Roedd y ddau ddyfarniad am gyllid â chyfyngiad amser i gyflwyno rhaglen cymorth iechyd meddwl hunangyfeiriedig 'Monitro Gweithredol' genedlaethol, gan ddarparu un pwynt cyswllt canolog a fyddai'n cyfeirio pobl sy'n agored i niwed ag anghenion iechyd meddwl yng Nghymru i'r gwasanaethau Mind lleol hynny a oedd yn rhan o'r prosiect a fyddai wedyn yn darparu pecynnau cymorth unigol iddynt.

Nid oedd dyfarniadau Cronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol yn arfer bod yn fwy na £100,000, er i CGGC egluro wrth hysbysebu'r cyllid y gellid rhoi dyfarniadau mwy. Cytunodd swyddogion CGGC a Llywodraeth Cymru y byddai nifer o geisiadau ar wahân o dan y lefel hon gan wasanaethau Mind lleol wedi bod yn feichus ac yn hirfaith pe byddent wedi eu trin yn unigol. Felly, cafodd cais a dyfarniad Mind Cymru eu hagregu. Gweithiodd CGGC gyda Llywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau na fyddai'r grant yn dyblygu unrhyw gyllid uniongyrchol presennol gan Lywodraeth Cymru ac ni dderbyniodd Mind unrhyw beth o Gronfa Gwydnwch y Trydydd Sector i ddigolledu refeniw a gallwyd.

Bu'n rhaid i Mind Cymru werthuso Cronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol cyn cael gafaol ar Gronfa Adfer y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol ac felly lluniodd adroddiadau gwerthuso cipolwg misol ar y rhaglen Monitro Gweithredol drwy gydol cyfnod ei grant Cronfa Argyfwng y Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol. Mae'r ddau grant wedi eu monitro yn unol ag amodau'r cyllid gan Mind a CGGC. Maent wedi adrodd yn gadarnhaol ar y nifer a fanteisiodd ar y gwasanaeth, nifer y gweithgareddau a boddhad y defnyddwyr, ac mae rhywfaint o waith gwerthuso ehangach yn mynd rhagddo. Rhwng mis Mehefin 2020 a mis Ionawr 2021, cofrestrodd 3,997 o bobl ddiddordeb yn y gwasanaeth drwy hunangyfeirio ar-lein ac roedd 2,753 yn bresennol yn eu sesiwn gyntaf, yn dilyn asesiad cychwynnol. Y llwybrau cymorth a ddefnyddiwyd amlaf gan ddefnyddwyr oedd gorbryder (32%), straen (18%) ac iselder (13%), a defnyddiodd 17% o'r defnyddwyr lluosog. Yn gyffredinol, nid oedd angen atgyfeirio 62% o'r defnyddwyr ymlaen o'r rhaglen Monitro Gweithredol i fathau eraill o gymorth iechyd meddwl lleol.

Roedd yr un pwynt cyswllt canolog ar gyfer Monitro Gweithredol yn galluogi cyllid lleol i gael ei gysylltu'n uniongyrchol â gweithgareddau lleol o dan gytundebau partneriaeth a oedd yn adlewyrchu nifer y gwasanaethau, fel bod cronfeydd yn dilyn y defnyddiwr. Wrth i 'fannau problemus' COVID-19 ddod i'r amlwg, gyda chynnydd mewn pryder a galw, ond lleihad mewn capasiti gwasanaethau lleol wrth i staff a gwirfoddolwyr fynd yn sâl, dargyfeiriwyd y galw i ardaloedd lle'r oedd capasiti.



Archwilio Cymru
24 Heol y Gadeirlan
Caerdydd CF11 9LJ

Ffôn: 029 2032 0500
Ffacs: 029 2032 0600
Ffôn testun: 029 2032 0660

E-bost: post@archwilio.cymru

Gwefan: www.archwilio.cymru

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth a
galwadau ffôn yn Gymraeg a Saesneg
We welcome correspondence and
telephone calls in Welsh and English.

Mr Mark Isherwood MS
Committee Chair
Public Accounts and Public Administration

Sent via email to:
SeneddPAPA@senedd.wales

24 Cathedral Road / 24 Heol y Gadeirlan
Cardiff / Caerdydd
CF11 9LJ
Tel / Ffôn: 029 2032 0500
Fax / Ffacs: 029 2032 0600
Textphone / Ffôn testun: 029 2032 0660
info@audit.wales / post@archwilio.cymru
www.audit.wales / www.archwilio.cymru

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Dear Mark

The Welsh Community Care Information System

I published my report on the Welsh Community Care Information System (WCCIS) in October 2020. WCCIS has been developed as a single system and a shared electronic record for use across a wide range of adult and children's services. The intention being that all 22 local authorities and seven health boards would implement it.

My report found that implementation and roll-out of WCCIS was taking much longer and proving more costly than expected. Despite efforts to accelerate the process, the prospects for full take-up and benefits realisation remained uncertain. Some important issues around the functionality of the system, data standards and benefits reporting were still to be fully resolved.

At the time of my report, 19 organisations were using WCCIS or had signed deployment orders, with four in active negotiation and six yet to commit. Of the 19 organisations, 13 local authorities and two health boards had gone live. However, 'live' meant different things. Differences in how organisations were choosing to deploy WCCIS limited opportunities for integrated working and raised other value for money issues.

I noted in my report that the potential benefits of a shared electronic record across health and social care were clear to see; even more so given some of the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the Welsh Government's ambitious vision for WCCIS was still a long way from being realised. I emphasised that the

Welsh Government needed to work with the various organisations involved to take stock of expectations for the remainder of the contract term and resources and wider commitment to support progress.

The previous Public Accounts Committee (PAC) did not have time to undertake any detailed inquiry work on WCCIS. However, the Welsh Government provided a response to my recommendations, all of which were accepted as part of correspondence with the PAC in February 2021. The PAC had requested a wider update on matters arising from its November 2018 report on Informatics Systems in NHS Wales and my predecessor's January 2018 report on the same topic.

Since my report, the functions previously undertaken by the NHS Wales Informatics Service (NWIS) have moved from its previous structure, as part of Velindre University NHS Trust, to the new 'Special Health Authority' – Digital Health and Care Wales (DHCW). DHCW plays a key role in national programme management for WCCIS, although since my report staff turnover has seen two changes in previous temporary appointments to the role of WCCIS programme director. From early 2022, the role of WCCIS programme director has become a permanent position.

The WCCIS programme is now at a critical juncture. The Welsh Government has taken several actions in response to my recommendations, most notably an independent 'Strategic Review' which reported in February 2022. The review found that while support for the vision of an integrated health and social care system remained, there was also widespread frustration.

Many of the issues highlighted by my report were mirrored in the Strategic Review findings. The Strategic Review has recommended a series of actions to 'reset' and 'course correct' the programme. The Welsh Government has also recently announced further funding for national programme management to take this work forward. It will also provide further financial support to health boards and local authorities to support implementation.

The Annex to this letter provides a more detailed update on the main actions so far in response to my recommendations and on progress generally against key issues raised by my report. By way of summary:

- Relevant to my specific recommendations, the Welsh Government commissioned research to gather views from users and others about the performance and functionality of the system. The survey findings in June 2021 highlighted the system was having a more negative than positive impact on most users' ability to do their work. Preceding the Strategic Review mentioned above, there was also a programme assurance review which concluded in November 2021 and a further one scheduled for November 2022. DHCW also completed an exercise to learn lessons from the contracting approach for WCCIS.

- Ongoing rollout has seen two more local authorities ‘go live’ with the system since my report while one further health board has now signed a ‘deployment order’. However, it remains the case that patchwork approaches to implementation mean that even where the system is live, it is not being used to its full potential or on a consistent basis. We have updated our interactive data tool which provides further detail on the overall roll-out position across the 29 organisations.
- Central support costs for the period to 31 March 2022 – excluding local costs to individual organisations and other opportunity costs – remain at around the £30 million expected at the time of my report, although the profile of those costs has changed. The Welsh Government has now committed a further £8.31 million for national programme support and support for health board and local authorities in accelerating implementation for 2022-23 to 2024-25. The Welsh Government has agreed that this figure may increase to up to £12 million if required. The overall business case for WCCIS has not yet been updated, something that I recommended should happen in advance of committing more funding. The Strategic Review has also now recommended that the business case be updated.
- Key aspects of functionality continue to be delayed. Areas where work continues to be needed include Welsh-language requirements, mobile functionality and interfaces with other NHS Wales systems. As of June 2022, all these areas of functionality remain outstanding although mobile functionality is due to be piloted later this calendar year and most of the interfaces are also now expected by the end of 2022. When I reported previously, it had been estimated that the remaining updates would be delivered through to the end of 2021.
- System performance issues became particularly acute during Autumn 2021 but overall system performance has since stabilised. Several organisations have identified specific risks to service delivery around the stability of the system at different points. Significant performance issues during a planned upgrade to the underlying platform for the system resulted in the system being unavailable altogether for certain periods during October and November 2021. These issues continued to some extent into early 2022 before being resolved in February 2022. Since this time, both the system suppliers and the National Programme Team have reported the system performance and stability has been good.
- National data standards work has continued but is still not complete. Development of these standards is key to realising some of the benefits of WCCIS.

- The overall arrangements for reporting the benefits from WCCIS implementation, which have been the subject of discussion and review from the outset, have still not been resolved. Work is still ongoing to develop a suitable reporting framework. Annual reporting on the progress of the WCCIS programme has also not been completed as expected to date, although the Welsh Government has been receiving quarterly updates from the National Programme Team. The National Programme Team produced a benefits realisation report in November 2021, although its key findings largely mirrored my own, that the ‘patchwork’ nature of implementation has resulted in difficulties realising some of the key information sharing and integrated benefits that the system was expected to support.

Following considerable diagnosis of the difficulties that have affected the WCCIS programme, strong leadership is now required to ensure value for money from the £30 million investment to date and future spending and to determine the overall future of the programme in partnership with those organisations currently using the system and those who are not. As part of this, a decision will be needed on the future contracting strategy and whether to retain the commitment to a single system solution or allow for different ‘interoperable’ systems using the same standards and ensure the development of those standards moves at a quicker pace than it has to date.

Time is now of the essence, with the strategic review identifying that at least two local authorities that had signed deployment orders have been reviewing whether to stay with the current system and some key contractual milestones not far ahead. There is added complexity from the fact that those organisations currently using the system have moved to it at different times, meaning their deployment orders will also expire at different times. My report set out details about the contractual framework. This included a Master Services Agreement (MSA), which expires in March 2023, but can be extended on a 1+1+1+1 basis until March 2027. Local deployment orders may run beyond March 2027 but must end by March 2030. Again, these deployment orders include opportunity for extension on a 1+1+1+1 basis but the first deployment order, signed by Bridgend County Borough Council, comes to the end of its initial 8-year period at the same as the MSA in March 2023.

The National Programme Team has pointed to various factors that have impacted on overall progress of the WCCIS programme since my report. These have included the ongoing impact of the pandemic, the transition from NWIS to DHCW and the significant attention that needed to be given to addressing performance issues that emerged in Autumn 2021. However, they have also emphasised their view that with stability to the system and clearer direction following the Strategic Review, the programme is in a better place to progress other key actions.

The Committee has signalled interest in returning to consider wider issues around digital health and care in the autumn. Any such scrutiny would provide an opportunity to explore matters arising from this letter and my previous report in more detail.

Yours sincerely



ADRIAN CROMPTON
Auditor General for Wales

Annex:

My previous recommendations and action taken in response

- 1 In my October 2020 report I recommended that:
 - Before committing any further central funding, the Welsh Government works with the WCCIS National Programme Team, health boards, local authorities and the supplier to:
 - produce an updated business case that takes account of local, regional and national costs and sets out expectations for further roll-out of the system, its use over the remainder of the contract term, the development of national data standards and planning for any successor arrangements;
 - ensure the organisations involved have the necessary capacity to support implementation and are giving enough priority to the programme against a clearly agreed plan; and
 - pull together a clear national picture on feedback from front-line users about the performance and general functionality of the system.
 - The Welsh Government works with the National Programme Team to consider:
 - how the WCCIS contract might have been strengthened to support and incentivise delivery and manage risk; and
 - how relevant lessons can be applied to any successor contracting arrangements and wider public procurement.
- 2 The Welsh Government accepted the recommendations. Progress towards addressing them has included a programme assurance review which concluded in November 2021. There has also been a 'Strategic Review' carried out by external independent consultants. The consultants began their work in November 2021 and produced their final report in February 2022. The Strategic Review raised

- several recommendations, all of which have been accepted by the Senior Responsible Officers (SROs) for the programme¹.
- 3 The Welsh Government also commissioned independent researchers to carry out surveys and workshops with users and non-users of the system in June 2021. The purpose was to gather genuine and independently assessed views of the performance and functionality of the system.
 - 4 Meanwhile, DHCW completed an internal Lessons Learned review in October 2021 that considered how the WCCIS contracting framework could have been strengthened.
 - 5 An updated business case for WCCIS has not yet been produced but the Welsh Government has nevertheless committed some further central funding. The Strategic Review has also now recommended that the business case be updated. The National Programme Team has noted that further work is now needed following the Strategic Review to set out the technical and commercial strategy and associated costs and benefits to inform a revision of the business case.
 - 6 The remainder of this update provides further detail about the actions set out above.

General update on progress since my report

Strategy and contracting

DHCW Lessons Learned review – the WCCIS contracting framework

- 7 The key lessons learned identified by DHCW's review were:
 - a phased approach should have been built into the contract at the outset as a default aspect for health boards to allow them flexibility for them to implement at their own pace.
 - a clear plan should have set out the approach to service and contract management arrangements during the procurement

¹ The SROs are the Chief Executive of Powys Teaching Health Board and the Director of Social Services and Housing at Caerphilly County Borough Council.

along with a review process built in. This would have ensured roles and responsibilities were clearly understood across the programme.

- national standards could have been agreed at the contract specification stage.
- all organisations with contractual obligations should have had access to the contractual agreement and documentation.
- an overview of the contract and training should have been provided to all key stakeholders so that the key terms, obligations and relationships set out in the contract were understood.
- all parties should have had read access to contractual documentation in a central location. There should have been a flow of information between the National Programme Team and local organisations to ensure consistency and transparency to support management of contract delivery and supplier relationships.
- although a financial discount had been achieved on the large-scale purchase of licences to use the system, delays in implementing the system mean that the full benefit of that discount has not been achieved to date. This reflects some of my own observations about value for money risks in the contractual framework, which I noted had also needed to evolve over time for various reasons.

The programme assurance review

- 8 The programme assurance review found that while the overall objective of the original March 2015 business case for WCCIS remained valid – to achieve a shared electronic record across health and social care – it was unclear how the objective would be realised. The review recognised that much of the challenge facing successful delivery of the programme’s overall objective was drawn out by my own report in October 2020. The review recommended that the SROs should consider a formal review and ‘reset’ for the programme.

The Strategic Review

- 9 The Strategic Review's recommendations, which the programme SROs have accepted and that reflect many of the challenges set out in my report, concerned:
- stabilising the system so that performance and user experience is improved.
 - 'descoping' some areas of the current programme such as the work on national data standards and considering transferring responsibility for its delivery to other programmes within Digital Health and Care Wales.
 - simplifying the programme by transitioning the operational service management of the system away from the National Programme Team to other DHCW functions.
 - 'course correcting' the programme to enable it to focus on its key aim. This will include reviewing contractual and commercial arrangements and updating the business case.
 - resetting the programme so that all documentation, ways of working and governance are reviewed and refreshed.
 - creating a 'technology road map' that supports standards based inter-operability between WCCIS and other systems within health and social care.
 - standardising the approach to the roadmap by signing up to an agreed set out governing design principles so all work has a common objective and design correlates with relevant national digital architectures and standards.
 - improving collaboration between stakeholders.
- 10 A programme of work is now underway to deliver on the recommendations. The programme SROs have also initiated a further programme review process scheduled for November 2022.

Roll out

- 11 I reported previously that estimated dates from the March 2015 business case, which were also reflected in the original contractual documents, suggested all 22 local authorities and 7 health boards would be using the system by December 2018. At the time of my report, 19 organisations were using WCCIS or had signed deployment orders, with four in active negotiation and six yet to commit. Of the 19 organisations, 13 local authorities and two health boards had gone live.
- 12 Deployment orders for individual organisations include common elements but can be tailored and with organisations having been able to commission additional functionality beyond that provided for in the original contract. However, even within the common elements, it remains the case that 'live' can mean different things as organisations can choose which elements of the available functionality they use and how widely they deploy the system. My report emphasised that the different approaches to implementation mean that it is difficult to realise some of the information sharing and integrated working benefits that the system was expected to support.
- 13 As of 31 May 2022, a further two local authorities that had signed deployment orders at the time of my report have gone live – Swansea Council and Conwy County Borough Council. We have updated our [interactive data tool](#) which provides further detail on the roll-out position across all 29 organisations. However, the Strategic Review highlighted that there are also at least two local authorities that are actively seeking to end their WCCIS contracts.
- 14 No further health boards have gone live since my report, although Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board signed a deployment order in November 2021. The estimated go-live date now that the deployment order has been signed is yet to be agreed. While not yet live, some health board staff are accessing the system via local authority user licenses. As at the time of my report, the Health Board intends to implement the system in mental health services first.

- 15 At the time of my report, two health boards had signed deployment orders but were still working towards go live dates.
- Aneurin Bevan University Health Board signed a deployment order in March 2018. The first phase of implementation in mental health services was scheduled for June 2019 but this date was not met. A revised date for mental health services, along with the addition of learning disabilities, was scheduled for November 2021. This date was not met due to ongoing stability issues with the system. A further revised date for mental health services and learning disabilities, which was also expected to include mobile functionality, was scheduled for the end of March 2022. However, this date was also not met. The current target for first phase implementation is August 2022, but this will not include mobile functionality at that point.
 - After signing a deployment order in March 2016, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board had an initial go-live date of April 2017 for a phased implementation starting with mental health services. The date was not met, and the health board then discussed with the supplier an initial small-scale prototype implementation in its community nursing and therapies teams with a planned start date in November 2021, but this has now been delayed until September 2022.

Costs

The overall picture

- 16 My report provided an overview of the £30.16 million in central support costs spent or committed through to March 2022. This figure comprised of:
- £8.41 million – capital costs for software development, licenses, hardware and network infrastructure.
 - £8.62 million – national programme management support.
 - £13.13 million – support for health boards and local authorities for implementation and roll-out and related service transformation.

- 17 The final outturn figure to March 2022 has remained at around £30 million, but with some changes in the profile of these costs and some of the software development costs rolling forward beyond March 2022. The Welsh Government has also now committed at least a further £8.31 million in total for national programme support (£7.15 million) and support for health board and local authorities (£1.16 million) to accelerate implementation for 2022-23 to 2024-25. The Welsh Government has agreed that this figure may increase to up to £12 million if required.
- 18 The central support costs figure excluded local implementation costs and service charges met from organisations' own budgets and wider opportunity costs associated with the overall governance arrangements for WCCIS implementation and roll-out. We had been unable to arrive at a reliable overall estimate of local implementation costs met from organisations' own budgets, although it was apparent that these ran into several millions of pounds.
- 19 To the end of June 2020, those organisations that had progressed with implementation to the point of paying service charges had paid a total of £2.56 million to the system supplier. The overall extent to which this was new expenditure compared with the cost of previous systems was not clear. However, some organisations were realising modest savings compared with the cost of previous systems. By the end of March 2022, overall service charge payments had increased to £4.82 million.

Capital costs

- 20 My report set out that the capital costs included the Welsh Government's approval, in December 2019 of additional capital grant funding from its Digital Priorities Investment Fund. The Welsh Government allocated £1.0 million for a planned central hardware refresh and £0.8 million for software development. The final cost for the central hardware refresh was £1.93 million, which the Welsh Government met from the Digital Priorities Investment Fund.
- 21 The £0.8 million approved for software development included £0.47 million to cover development costs within the original scope of the business case and contract. The remainder was for enhancements that were not within the original scope. At the time of my report, the latest estimate of those costs following commercial negotiation was £1.12 million. My report set out the expectation that deploying organisations would need to decide on the affordability and value for

money of the remaining enhancements not covered by the Welsh Government funding.

- 22 Since my report, the National Programme Team has advised that some of the software requirements from the original scope are no longer needed/or have been overtaken by other developments or cannot be delivered. Work is still ongoing to finalise what the final cost for delivery of the remaining developments costs and additional enhancements will be. The work was due to be completed by end the of March 2022 but will now be incorporated into the programme of work flowing from the Strategic Review.
- 23 As of February 2022, £0.72 million of the £0.80 million previously approved for software development had been spent, mostly covering enhancements outside of the original contract scope.
- 24 Due to the additional cost associated with the central hardware refresh, the Welsh Government had committed a total of £9.34 million of capital grant funding to the end of March 2022. While this is still within the original March 2015 business case estimate of £9.89 million, the total costs have not yet been finalised. There is no further Welsh Government capital funding currently planned between 2022-23 and 2024-25.

National programme support costs

- 25 The £8.62 allocated for national programme management support to March 2022 came from a mix of direct Welsh Government funding and existing budgets for NWIS (and now Digital Health and Care Wales). This figure was around £1.7 million higher than estimated in the March 2015 business case for the same period.
- 26 Actual reported expenditure to March 2022 was £8.27 million, although as noted above the Welsh Government has committed at least a further £7.15 million for the period 2022-23 to 2024-25.

Support to health boards and local authorities

- 27 My report set out the sorts of costs organisations might incur to support local implementation including, for example: data cleansing, testing and migration; tablets/laptops to support mobile working; additional/upgraded hardware and software; local support desks and staff costs. My report noted that the March 2015 business case had estimated that these costs would total £2.58 million, compared with the £13.13 million that the Welsh Government had committed at the

time of my report² to support local implementation and roll-out and related service transformation³.

- 28 In February 2021, the Welsh Government allocated a further £2 million from its Digital Priorities Investment Fund to support local authority implementation during 2021-22. As at March 2022, a total of £12.44 million had been spent by local authorities and health boards. Despite the additional £2 million, this figure has come in below the £13.13 million commitment I reported previously because of an underspend by health boards.
- 29 As noted above, the Welsh Government has also committed at least a further £1.16 million for health boards and local authorities for the period 2022-23 to 2024-25 for health boards and local authorities.

Outstanding functionality

- 30 My report highlighted that, under the contract, full system functionality was expected to have been delivered before the end of 2015 but that key aspects of the expected functionality had been significantly delayed. This included certain enhancements to the original contractual requirements. The estimate at the time of my report was that the remaining updates would be delivered on a phased basis through to the end of 2021. Areas where work was still needed included Welsh-language requirements, mobile functionality and interfaces with other NHS Wales systems.
- 31 A pilot for mobile functionality was scheduled before the end of 2020. Following the publication of my report, the Welsh Government reported to the Public Accounts Committee that the pilot had been delayed by the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and would be available by March 2021. However, due to issues with the stability of the system, the pilot was cancelled. There was then a revised plan to rollout mobile functionality as a national product by the end of

² This included committed funding for health boards to March 2022 but for local authorities only up to March 2021.

³ My report noted that the National Programme Team had emphasised that the activity that this funding supports extends beyond the scope of the original business case, including wider service transformation work related to WCCIS. The funding has been distributed through Regional Partnership Boards.

February 2022, but this date was also not met. Testing is underway and the plan is now for a staggered release, starting with a pilot phase in Hywel Dda University Health Board and Aneurin Bevan University Health Board in October 2022 before the mobile functionality is made more widely available. The staggered release is intended to help manage the additional load on the system and prevent further performance issues. We now understand that only 11 out of 29 organisations intend to use the mobile functionality when it is available.

- 32 Some of the required interfaces with other NHS Wales systems were identified in the original scope of the contract, while others were agreed in 2019 as enhancements to the 2015 contract. In October 2020, of the 16 interfaces agreed, only two were live. It was estimated that the remaining interfaces would be delivered on a phased basis by the end of December 2021.
- 33 The latest position is that 12 of the 14 remaining national interfaces are currently being developed with Aneurin Bevan University Health Board. Some are scheduled for implementation in October 2022 and others by the end of December 2022. Once they have been successfully implemented in the Health Board, they will be available for all other organisations to use. Discussions on timescales for the remaining two interfaces have not yet begun.
- 34 Some key aspects of the functionality expected to meet Welsh-language requirements set out in the original contract that were not available when I reported also continue to remain unavailable. Currently there is no timescale for when this will be delivered, and it has not been a recent priority for the programme ahead of other issues.

System performance

- 35 My report outlined that there had been significant ongoing performance issues with the system. Concerns due to system performance issues, including risks to staff and service users, had also been raised in some local reporting by Care Inspectorate Wales and Healthcare Inspectorate Wales.
- 36 I recommended that the Welsh Government should pull together a clear national picture on feedback from front-line users about the performance and general functionality of the system. In response, the Welsh Government commissioned a user survey, a non-user survey⁴ and held a national workshop in June 2021.
- 37 Although the response rate for the user survey was not as high as the Welsh Government would have liked, it accepted that the findings were broadly representative of the WCCIS user base⁵ and recognised there were some serious performance issues that needed to be addressed.
- 38 Overall, the system was found to be having a more negative, rather than a positive, impact on most users' ability to do their work. For a large proportion of users, the system was not able to support integrated working between health and social care and realise its intended benefits.
- 39 There were further significant performance and stability problems following planned migration to a new version of the underlying platform for the system, resulting in the system being unavailable altogether for certain periods during October and November 2021. These issues continued to some extent into early 2022 before being resolved in February 2022. We understand that since this time the system has stabilised and there have not been any significant performance issues or outages. The National Programme Team plans regular user surveys as part of future programme engagement work but no dates for this have yet been set.

⁴ The Welsh Government also commissioned a separate non-user survey but received only 20 responses.

⁵ 1,252 people completed the user survey based on a total population of 13,803 potential users in May 2021.

Data standards

- 40 My report highlighted how changes to programme governance structures, including a new national Information Management Board, had been intended to accelerate progress on national data standards which are key to realising some of the benefits of WCCIS. Work on developing national data standards has continued but is still not complete. As noted above, DHCW's contracting lessons learned review, suggested that local authorities and health boards could have agreed a set of common data standards before the contracting tendering process. This may have strengthened support for the programme and incentivised adoption.
- 41 Recognising the complexity of developing national data standards, the Strategic Review recommended that the data standards work is 'descoped' from the WCCIS programme. Discussions are currently ongoing with Digital Health and Care Wales to decide where this work would best sit.

Benefits realisation and reporting

- 42 The arrangements for reporting the benefits from WCCIS roll-out have been the subject of discussion and review from the start of the WCCIS programme. At the time of my report, work was still ongoing to develop a suitable reporting framework. This remains the case.
- 43 As part of the expectations that went with some of its funding support, the Welsh Government was expecting the National Programme Team to produce a comprehensive annual report on the progress of the programme, starting with the period to the end of March 2020. The first report had been due by the end of April 2020, but at the time of writing my report completion was delayed by the impact of COVID-19. To date no annual reports have been produced, although the Welsh Government has been receiving quarterly updates from the National Programme Team. The Welsh Government has now commissioned the consultants who completed the Strategic Review to prepare broader annual reports, but for 2020-21 and 2021-22 only.
- 44 In November 2021, the National Programme Team finalised a benefits realisation report. The report recognised that to date the organisations that had commissioned WCCIS had done so largely to replace older systems that were reaching their contract end dates. It noted that while this has provided benefits of efficiency in procurement costs and timescales and laid the foundation to enable

integration as other organisations deploy WCCIS, the ‘patchwork’ implementation means that realisation of benefits from integration across service and organisational boundaries has been slower than anticipated. This largely corresponds with the conclusions in my own report.

- 45 The benefits realisation report made several recommendations. In summary, they included ensuring that the benefits of the programme align with any refreshed vision or purpose for the programme following the Strategic Review. It also recommended that a review and updating of the benefits roadmap, definitions, metrics and baselines be undertaken in the context of the outcomes of the Strategic Review along with the establishment of a Benefits Management Community of Interest.

Eitem 6

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Mae cyfngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee
Evidence Paper - Gilestone Farm
Committee Session 14 July 2022

Introduction

For a number of years, the Welsh Government (WG) has been in discussions with Green Man about the potential to support the growth of the festival brand in and for Wales. The Green Man Festival is one of five remaining large independent UK festivals with a social media following of 230,000 and a media reach of 6.9 billion. Green Man has won a number of major festival awards over a number of years including being shortlisted for Best Festival in the World in the recent New Musical Express Awards which took place at the Brixton Academy in March 2022. Green Man is a major employer in mid-Wales, making a significant contribution to the local economy and employing a large number of people both in its main festival business and in an increasing number of related ventures, which place a strong emphasis on sustainable development.

Since 2019, discussions have focussed on the need for Green Man to identify and establish a permanent base in Wales. In doing so, this will secure its future here whilst widening the influence of the Green Man brand by developing new businesses which will include new live experiences. Proposals under discussion have centred around acquiring more land to enable the continued growth of the brand. Doing so would allow Green Man to hold more events, separate from and in addition to the main annual festival at Glanusk, and allow the business to diversify with suitable premises to locate the growing number of related businesses associated with the brand.

A search of WG-owned land was undertaken in 2019, but nothing proved appropriate. Since then, the market has been kept under constant review for suitably sized premises in the best locations to support the ambitions to grow the brand and accommodate the related businesses.

As the Covid pandemic continued, on 1 October 2021, Green Man submitted to WG an outline business plan setting out both an overview of the company's ambitions for a sustainable future, and further details of what future site requirements entailed. The main ambitions set out were to :

- Secure Green Man's long-term future in Wales;
- Provide premises to incubate SMEs;
- Extend community engagement in Wales;
- Create jobs in Wales;
- Enhance Green Man's ability to act as a cultural bridge for Wales;
- Support Green Man's ethical business objectives;
- Run new live and tourism experiences in Wales;
- Grow Green Man's wellness business; and
- Create the first carbon-neutral event site, including the continued farming of the land of any future sites

In February 2022, Green Man notified WG that a suitable agricultural holding in the desired locality would potentially become available. Green Man did not possess the resources to fund the acquisition. This led to the acquisition by WG of the Gilestone Farm property.

Strategic Context

Economic Development

The Green Man Festival currently attracts over 25,000 visitors to the locality and generates an annual £10.37 million (equivalent of 185 jobs) to the regional Welsh Economy annually. Tickets for the 2022 event sold out in just 3 days, ensuring a sold-out event for August 2022 which is expected to exceed the economic outputs noted above.

The creative industries do not just create jobs and wealth – they contribute to the strong *Cymru Wales* brand and help to promote Wales and its culture and talent to the world. As a fast-paced growing industry in Wales, it is important that WG is able to continue to invest in effective interventions and provide support both direct to business and to activities that contribute to the development of a nurturing and supportive environment for the creative sector in Wales.

Culture and Events

The proposed end-use for the site, in becoming an events and tourism destination supports Ministers' aim in the Programme for Government to "do all we can to help our tourism, sports and arts industries recover from the pandemic. Our programme outlines how we will make our local communities more rewarding and vibrant places to live and work in, whilst ensuring we also play our part on the global stage."

Guiding principles within the current Major Events Strategy for Wales includes a commitment to support 'Growth' events which "demonstrate the ambition and potential to evolve and grow to become Major or Signature events for Wales" and to also "create and nurture home-grown events". Green Man also align with our ambitions in the new strategy, currently being drafted, for events in Wales to be authentic and have a distinct 'Welshness' regardless of size, scale or location. Under this priority, Welsh Government has supported a number of festivals and events in Wales, including the provision of financial support.

Welsh Government will shortly launch its new Events Strategy. The full business plan will be assessed against the priorities of the new strategy.

Agriculture

In Sustainable Farming and Our Land (2019) and the Agriculture (Wales) White Paper (2020) we set out how the principles of Sustainable Land Management will provide the long-term framework for future agricultural policy and support.

The outline business plan indicated that development would be undertaken with "the environment at its core". Information contained within the outline business indicated that the development could support WG's Sustainable Land Management objectives of:

- producing food in a sustainable manner
- mitigating and adapt to climate change
- maintaining and enhancing the resilience of ecosystems and the benefits they provide
- conserving and enhancing the countryside and cultural resources, promoting public access and engagement with them.

Well-being of Future Generations Act

The proposed end use of the site strongly aligns to the principles in the Well-being of Future Generations Act, in particular the goal of 'a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language'. Investment in events at a local, national and global level also supports the following Programme for Government well-being objectives:

- Build an economy based on the principles of fair work, sustainability and the industries and services of the future.
- Push towards a million Welsh speakers, and enable our tourism, sports and arts industries to thrive.
- Make our cities, towns and villages even better places in which to live and work.
- Embed our response to the climate and nature emergency in everything we do.

The Green Man Brand

The annual Green Man Festival is held at the Glanusk estate, which is close to Gilestone Farm, and which currently attracts over 25,000 visitors to the locality and generates an annual £10.37 million (equivalent of 185 jobs) to the regional Welsh Economy. The Green Man Festival is already a major success in the calendar of events held in Wales and will remain at Glanusk under any future development. The full business plan submitted by Green Man seeks to harness the potential to expand the company and the brand further and to enhance its reputation in the UK Festival arena. Ms Fiona Stewart of Green Man, whose corporate business is registered as Plant Pot Ltd (PPL), currently operates the Green Man event. A separate company, CwningarLtd, has been established by Fiona Stewart for this development.

The Green Man festival is one of five remaining large outdoor independent festivals in the UK. PPL has outlined there have been numerous approaches by various corporations to buy the brand in which case it could end up in moving from Wales. However, Green Man has been in discussion with WG for a number of years and it is our view that supporting Green Man to this site would secure its future in Wales.

The Green Man brand offers significant additional benefits to the *Cymru Wales* brand, both domestically and internationally. The combined social media audience for Green Man is circa 230k, an engaged audience which exceeds that of most other Wales-based events and venues.

In addition to the commercial activities, the Green Man Trust, the charitable arm of Green Man, has supported 10,000 individuals since it started 14 years ago, raised

£18,000.00 for the victims of flooding in Powys. During the past year Green Man Trust has also donated £16,000.00 to food banks in Wales.

Powys County Council is supportive in principle of the proposal to continue to build on its ambition to position the locality as the 'events county' in Wales.

Subject Property

The Subject Property is Gilestone Farm, which located in Talybont-on-Usk. The property comprises a Grade II listed farmhouse and other associated farm buildings within 241 acres of arable, pasture and woodland. The freehold interest in the property was purchased by WG in March 2022 from the previous owners, namely, Charles Weston and CWW Farming Ltd (a company wholly owned by Charles Weston).

At present around 126 acres of the farm is predominately used for agricultural use including cereal production, some grassland for silage and grazing land for animals. The farmhouse itself along with the four lodges and three tents are used for self-catering holiday lets. The remaining farm buildings on the site are used by small local traders including carpenters, electricians, a landscape gardener, a tree surgeon and a market gardener.

The farm also hosts a small number of weddings over the year and has recently hosted a running event and a small camping event for a local school.

The property was purchased by WG on 31st March 2022 for £4.25m (no VAT to be charged) which was slightly below the market value independently certified by our consultant surveyors [Knight Frank] at £4.35m (ex VAT). As part of the overall transaction, the previous owner has leased back the Subject Property from WG to end-October 2022 at a peppercorn rent in order to maintain and manage the property, harvest existing crops and honour existing bookings. The Lessee is also required to appropriately yield up the property at the end of the term and to ensure that all necessary Tenancies at Will are in place. The peppercorn rent has been independently certified as reflecting value for money in these circumstances. Officials are working on management arrangements for the farm and the wider property from end of October without prejudice to the outcome of the ongoing discussions with Green Man.

There have been claims made on social media around potential of "tax avoidance" around the purchase of the property. As a Crown Body, Welsh Government does not pay Land Transaction Tax (LTT). Were the property to be sold by Welsh Government at a later date, then the purchaser of the property would be liable for LTT at the point of purchase. At no point would the Welsh Government purchasing the property affect the LTT implications for any future purchaser.

Welsh Government Considerations

There are two distinct aspects to WG's consideration of this matter, namely the acquisition of Gilestone Farm by the WG and its subsequent use.

In relation to the first, advice was put to Ministers in accordance with the process and guidance followed by WG for the proposed acquisition of any property.

In respect of the second, Ms Fiona Stewart of Green Man, whose corporate business for the Gilestone Farm property is registered as CwningarLtd (CL), has, as required, developed a full Business Plan that was submitted to WG on 29 June 2022. The aim of the plan is to provide the rationale and basis upon which the expanded activities and related business activities (food and drink and tourism) and retained agricultural uses will be financed, operated and expanded in due course. The Plan aims to explore the aim of making the event the first carbon neutral event in the UK and with a focus on decarbonisation and encouraging the use of tree planting in association with the National Forest. Green Man have provided assurances that the land would continue to be farmed and information on these plans has been included in the full business plan.

This Plan, which is commercially sensitive, is currently undergoing full due diligence and assessment by WG officials in line with normal practice and will include an assessment of the agricultural future of the property. Only after this process, which will involve appropriate consultation with relevant interested parties, has concluded and advice put to Ministers can a decision be made on whether Gilestone Farm, now a WG-owned property, is a suitable asset to support the aims and ambitions set out in the plan.

Any future leasing or purchasing transactions with CL would be in accordance with the guiding principles set out in Managing Welsh Public Money, our own governance processes and our Corporate Asset Management Strategy. Initial terms discussed with CL remain subject to approval and ‘subject to contract’.

In the event that the Plan does not meet WG requirements or CL does not enter into a prospective lease or purchase of the property, WG will be able to market the property for either sale or letting in the open market. In the event of any sale by WG, it will be able to recover the market value at that time. On the basis of the current valuation WG’s initial investment in the site would be substantially recovered (after accounting for purchase, holding and disposal costs).