

## Agenda – Y Pwyllgor Deisebau

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Lleoliad: I gael rhagor o wybodaeth cysylltwch a:  
Ystafell Bwyllgora 1 – y Senedd Gareth Price – Clerc y Pwyllgor  
Hybrid 0300 200 6565  
Dyddiad: Dydd Llun, 24 Mawrth 2025 [Deisebau@senedd.cymru](mailto:Deisebau@senedd.cymru)  
Amser: 14.00

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### 1 Cyflwyniad, ymddiheuriadau, dirprwyon a datgan buddiannau

(Tudalennau 1 – 22)

### 2 Deisebau newydd

2.1 P-06-1491 Rydym yn mynnu bargaen deg i drigolion yr effeithir arnynt gan y cynllun Arbed/y Rhaglen Arbed Ynni Cymunedau

(Tudalennau 23 – 31)

2.2 P-06-1498 Cyflwyno gwasanaeth bws o Orsaf Fysiau'r Fenni i Ysbyty'r Faenor

(Tudalennau 32 – 37)

### 3 Y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am ddeisebau blaenorol

3.1 P-06-1352 Cymeradwyo adeiladu trydedd bont dros y Fenai

(Tudalennau 38 – 39)

3.2 P-06-1464 Caniatáu i deuluoedd Cymru sydd wedi colli baban cyn 24 wythnos gael tystysgrif colli baban

(Tudalennau 40 – 41)

3.3 P-06-1463 Parhau i ariannu swyddogion heddlu ysgolion sy'n addysgu plant ac yn cefnogi ysgolion

(Tudalennau 42 – 47)

3.4 P-06-1475 Gwella diogelwch yr A458, Treberfedd, Powys ar frys yn sgil gyrru peryglus parhaus

(Tudalennau 48 – 51)



3.5 P-06-1476 Clustogfa orfodol 1000 metr ar gyfer yr holl chwareli newydd a phresennol

(Tudalennau 52 – 90)

3.6 P-06-1332 Ariannu ymchwil brechlyn i amddiffyn gwiwerod coch rhag feirws marwol brech y gwiwerod.

(Tudalennau 91 – 95)

## **4 Papurau i'w nodi**

4.1 P-06-1479 Stopio cadw plant, pobl ifanc ac oedolion ag anableddau dysgu ac awtistiaeth mewn ysbytai

(Tudalen 96)

4.2 P-06-1489 Deddfu i sicrhau bod briciau gwenoliaid duon yn cael eu gosod ym mhob adeilad newydd yng Nghymru

(Tudalennau 97 – 98)

4.3 P-05-1447 Atal Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru rhag cau'r ganolfan ymwelwyr yng Ngwarchodfa Natur Genedlaethol Ynyslas

(Tudalennau 99 – 100)

4.4 P-06-1474 Atal Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru rhag cau canolfannau ymwelwyr Bwlch Nant yr Arian, Coed y Brenin ac Ynyslas

## **5 Cynnig o dan Reol Sefydlog 17.42(ix) i benderfynu gwahardd y cyhoedd o weddill y cyfarfod**

## **6 Adroddiad byr drafft: P-06-1380 Bathodyn glas gydol oes i unigolion sydd â diagnosis gydol oes**

(Tudalennau 101 – 103)

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

## Rydym yn mynnu bargaen deg i drigolion yr effeithir arnynt gan y cynllun Arbed/y Rhaglen Arbed Ynni Cymunedau

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau | 24 Mawrth 2025  
Petitions Committee | 24 March 2025

Cyfeirnod: SR24/10372-3

**Rhif y Ddeiseb:** P-06-1491

**Teitl y ddeiseb:** Rydym yn mynnu bargaen deg i drigolion yr effeithir arnynt gan y cynllun Arbed/y Rhaglen Arbed Ynni Cymunedau

**Geiriad y ddeiseb:** Ym mis Medi 2012, ymunodd trigolion Caerau ac ardaloedd eraill yng Nghymru â chynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni a gynhaliwyd gan Lywodraeth y DU a Llywodraeth Cymru.

Darparodd y cynllun inswleiddio wal fewnol ac allanol i'r tai dan sylw ac, ers i'r inswleiddio gael ei osod, mae tai cyfranogwyr wedi dioddef o leithder a llwydni. Mae hyn yn ei dro wedi bod yn dreth ar gyllid preswylwyr ac mae wedi effeithio'n negyddol ar iechyd meddwl preswylwyr.

Fe wnaethon ni ymuno â'r cynlluniau hyn gyda phob ewyllys da, ac rydym nawr am i'r ewyllys da honno gael ei had-dalu.

Rhagor o fanylion:

Roedd y gwaith yn cynnwys insiwleiddio mewnol ac allanol, boeleri newydd, fentiau ar yr eiddo, a gwaith rendro.

Ers i'r gwaith gael ei wneud, mae trigolion wedi gorfod byw gydag achosion eithafol o leithder a llwydni. Oherwydd hyn, mae trigolion yn gorfod talu am waith i unioni pethau, fel talu am geginau newydd, carpedi newydd, paent newydd, bleindiau newydd. Mae hyn wedi bod yn broblem barhaus ers dros ddegawd bellach. Yn anffodus, mae rhai trigolion wedi marw heb weld y materion hyn yn cael eu datrys. Ceir isod lincs i straeon newyddion sy'n rhoi rhagor o wybodaeth:

<https://oggybloggyogwr.com/2021/11/the-caerau-insulation-scandal-a-timeline-of-shame/>



<https://oggybloggyogwr.com/2021/11/welsh-government-unenthusiastic-about-supporting-arbed-scandal-clean-up-in-caerau/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-politics-60765932>

Rhaid unioni'r difrod i'r eiddo, a rhaid digolledu'r trigolion am y miloedd o bunnoedd maen nhw wedi eu talu o'u pocedi eu hunain i ddad-wneud y difrod.

## 1. Y cefndir

Roedd **Arbed** yn gynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni ar sail ardal a ariannwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru a ddechreuodd yn 2009, ac a gynhaliwyd mewn sawl cam. I ddechrau, roedd Llywodraeth Cymru yn bwriadu i ran olaf y cynllun gael ei gynnal o fis Mai 2018 hyd fis Mai 2021, gyda chyfanswm cyllideb o £46 miliwn ac opsiwn i ymestyn y cytundeb am hyd at ddwy flynedd arall. Cafodd y cynllun ei ymestyn tan fis Tachwedd 2021 ond mae'r cytundeb bellach wedi dod i ben.

Rhwng mis Hydref 2018 a mis Mawrth 2021, gosododd Arbed **fesurau** mewn 3,108 o gartrefi, gyda 2,095 (67%) ohonynt yn cael system wresogi newydd, 1,777 (57%) o gartrefi yn cael paneli solar a 415 (13%) yn cael insiwleiddio eu hatig.

Roedd y **Rhaglen Arbed Ynni Cymunedau (CESP)** yn cael ei chynnal rhwng 1 Hydref 2009 a 31 Rhagfyr 2012. Roedd CESP yn rhan o Raglen Arbed Ynni Cartref Llywodraeth y DU. Cynlluniwyd CESP i hyrwyddo dull 'tŷ cyfan' ac i drin cynifer o eiddo â phosibl mewn ardaloedd daearyddol diffiniedig a ddewiswyd gan ddefnyddio Parth Incwm y Mynegeion Amddifadedd Lluosog (IMD) yng Nghymru, Lloegr a'r Alban.

### 1.1. Caerau

Yn 2012-2013, gwnaeth llawer o drigolion yng Nghaerau, Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr gais i gymryd rhan mewn rhaglen effeithlonrwydd ynni genedlaethol a oedd â'r nod o ddarparu gwell inswleiddio waliau mewnol ac allanol ar gyfer cartrefi lleol, o leihau allyriadau carbon, a lleihau biliau tanwydd ac ynni ar gyfer cartrefi.

Cyflawnwyd y gwaith hwn fel rhan o **ddau gynllun**. Cafodd cyfanswm o 79 eiddo waith o dan y CESP, a noddwyd gan Lywodraeth y DU gan ddefnyddio cyllid gan y prif gyflenwyr ynni, tra bod gwaith wedi'i wneud ar 25 eiddo drwy gynllun Arbed Llywodraeth Cymru.

Yn fuan ar ôl cwblhau'r gwaith, dechreuodd rhai cartrefi brofi problemau fel lleithder a llwydni du ar waliau mewnol. Yn 2019, comisiynodd Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr y cwmni Nuvision Energy (Wales) Cyf. i gynnal **astudiaeth** ar sampl cynrychioliadol o gartrefi, ac i gynhyrchu adroddiad yn amlinellu'r problemau a oedd wedi codi. Arolygwyd 32 o gartrefi – a chanfuwyd bod problemau gyda'r gwaith a wnaed ym mhob un ohonynt.

## 1.2. Archwilio mewnol

Yn 2018, adolygodd Gwasanaeth Archwilio Mewnol Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr i ba raddau yr oedd polisïau a gweithdrefnau'r Cyngor wedi'u cymhwyso neu heb eu cymhwyso mewn cysylltiad â chynllun Arbed rhwng mis Medi 2012 a mis Ebrill 2013.

Roedd **canfyddiadau'r adran Archwilio Mewnol** yn amlygu nifer o faterion gweithdrefnol mewnol yn ymwneud â llywodraethu, gwneud penderfyniadau, caffael, ac agweddau ar fonitro a rheoli'r cyllid yr oedd y Cyngor yn ei weinyddu ar gyfer y Cynllun ar y pryd.

## 2. Camau gweithredu gan Lywodraeth Cymru

Ysgrifennodd Jane Bryant AS, Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Lywodraeth Leol a Thai, at y Pwyllgor ar 26 Chwefror 2025. Mae hi'n dweud bod insiwleiddio waliau allanol a osodwyd o dan y CESP wedi methu mewn 104 o gartrefi perchen-feddianwyr yng Nghaerau a bod y contractwyr gwreiddiol "wedi rhoi'r gorau i fasnachu ac ni roddwyd unrhyw warantau pan gwblhawyd y gwaith".

Dywedodd fod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi dyfarnu £2.65 miliwn o gyllid grant cyfalaf i Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr rhwng 1 Ebrill 2022 a 31 Mawrth 2025 i wneud gwaith adfer ar 79 o gartrefi, ac y byddai 25 arall yn cael eu hariannu gan y Cyngor.

Mae Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet hefyd yn nodi'r camau y mae Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yn eu cymryd i ymgysylltu â'r gymuned leol. Mae hyn yn cynnwys sesiynau galw heibio wythnosol i breswylwyr, a chyfathrebu rheolaidd ar

gynnydd y gwaith adfer. Mae hi'n dweud bod Cyngor Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr wedi tynnu deunydd inswleiddio waliau allanol o dros hanner y cartrefi, a "chaiff dyluniadau ar gyfer ailosod y deunydd hwn eu hawdurdodi yn yr ychydig wythnosau nesaf".

Nid yw llythyr Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet yn sôn am gynllun Arbed Llywodraeth Cymru.

### 3. Camau gweithredu gan Senedd Cymru

Yn ystod y Cyfarfod Llawn ym mis Tachwedd 2024, gofynnodd Tom Giffard AS i Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet ynglŷn â "gweithredu cynllun Arbed yng Nghaerau" a pha wersi a ddysgwyd. Amlinellodd Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet gyllid grant Llywodraeth Cymru i Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr a ddisgrifir uchod. Dywedodd fod problemau yn y gorffennol wedi llywio'r gwaith o ddylunio Rhaglen Cartrefi Clyd newydd Llywodraeth Cymru sy'n cynnwys "sicrwydd ansawdd o safon uwch". Fe wnaeth Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet ymhelaethu ymhellach ar gamau sicrwydd yn y cynllun newydd yn dilyn datganiad gerbron y Senedd ym mis Ionawr 2025.

Gofynnodd Luke Fletcher AS am y problemau sy'n gysylltiedig â chynllun Arbed yn ystod y Cyfarfod Llawn ym mis Medi 2024. Dywedodd y Prif Weinidog:

Nid oedd hwn yn fodel o'r ffordd yr oeddem ni eisiau i'r prosiect penodol hwn weithio. Mae'n fecanwaith o inswleiddio waliau allanol; effeithiwyd ar 104 o gartrefi. Roedd hynny oherwydd crefftwaith gwael, ac nid yw hynny'n dderbyniol. Rwy'n credu ei bod hi'n werth tanlinellu, fel Llywodraeth, nad oes cyfrifoldeb ffurfiol na chyfreithiol arnom i ni gywiro'r sefyllfa, ond y gwir amdani yw ein bod ni wedi cyfrannu £2.6 miliwn i helpu cyngor Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr er mwyn gwneud yn siŵr bod pobl yn gallu cywiro'r gwaith hwnnw. Felly, rwy'n gwybod bod y gwaith eisoes wedi dechrau a bod cyfleoedd i bobl weithio gyda'r Cyngor i wneud yn siŵr eu bod nhw'n cael y cywiriadau sydd eu hangen arnyn nhw i'w cartrefi.

Mae'r Pwyllgor Cydraddoldeb a Chyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ar hyn o bryd yn cynnal ymchwiliad dilynol i dlodi tanwydd a'r Rhaglen Cartrefi Clyd newydd. Er nad yw'r ymchwiliad yn canolbwyntio ar achosion penodol, fel testun y ddeiseb hon, mae'r Pwyllgor wedi clywed pryderon am enghreifftiau o grefftwaith gwael yn y gorffennol. Mae hefyd wedi clywed galwadau am gynllun newydd ar sail ardal, i gymryd lle Arbed. Disgwylir i'r Pwyllgor gyhoeddi adroddiad maes o law.

Gwneir pob ymdrech i sicrhau bod y wybodaeth yn y papur briffio hwn yn gywir adeg ei gyhoeddi. Dylai darllenwyr fod yn ymwybodol nad yw'r papurau briffio hyn yn cael eu diweddarau o reidrwydd na'u diwygio fel arall i adlewyrchu newidiadau dilynol.



Eich cyf/Your ref P-06-1491  
Ein cyf/Our ref JB/10570/24

Carolyn Thomas  
Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau

Deisebau@senedd.cymru

26 Chwefror 2025

Annwyl Carolyn,

Diolch am eich llythyr ynglŷn â deiseb 5 Rhagfyr ar ddeunydd insiwleiddio waliau allanol (EWI) yng Nghaerau, Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr.

Cafodd EWI ei osod yn flaenorol o dan gynllun Rhaglen Arbed Ynni Cymunedol Llywodraeth y DU (CESP) yn 2012. Wedi hynny mae'r EWI wedi methu mewn 104 o gartrefi perchen-feddianwyr yn ardal Caerau ac wedi arwain at leithder sy'n ymdreiddio a llwydni sy'n tyfu'n eang. Mae'r contractwyr a wnaeth y gwaith gwreiddiol wedi rhoi'r gorau i fasnachu ac ni roddwyd unrhyw warantau pan gafodd y gwaith ei gwblhau.

Mae crefftwaith gwael wrth osod deunydd insiwleiddio waliau allanol ar yr eiddo hyn wedi achosi gofid ac afiechyd i rai preswylwyr ac roedd yr holl lwybrau i berchnogion tai droi atynt gyda gosodwyr wedi'u dihyssbyddu.

O ganlyniad i hyn, camodd Llywodraeth Cymru i'r adwy i gynorthwyo, er nad oedd ganddi unrhyw rwymedigaeth gyfreithiol i'r preswylwyr, ac ymrwymo i ariannu'r gwaith adfer gofynnol i'r EWI.

Rydym wedi dyfarnu cyllid grant cyfalaf i Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr (CBSC). Roedd hyn yn £2.65m rhwng 1 Ebrill 2022 a 31 Mawrth 2025 i wneud gwaith adfer ar 104 o gartrefi perchen-feddianwyr yng Nghaerau. Mae 79 o'r rhain yn cael eu hariannu gan Lywodraeth Cymru ac mae'r 25 sy'n weddill wedi cael eu hariannu gan Gyngor Sir Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr.

Mae gwaith yn cael ei wneud yn unol â safonau PAS 2035 fel bod y mesurau mwyaf priodol yn cael eu rhoi ar waith i bob cartref. Mae hyn yn golygu bod pob prosiect ôl-osod yn destun gwaith monitro a gwerthuso i benderfynu a yw canlyniadau arfaethedig y prosiect ôl-osod wedi'u gwireddu. Mae cyflymder y gwaith i fynd i'r afael â'r problemau yn dibynnu ar dywydd ffafriol.

(Safon PAS 2035 yw'r fframwaith swyddogol ar gyfer ôl-osod tai cyfan yn y DU, gan amlinellu'r prosesau a'r arferion gorau ar gyfer y diwydiant).

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

**Tudalen y pecyn 28**  
We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Ochr yn ochr â chontractwr sy'n dechnegol gymwys, mae'r awdurdod lleol wedi cydnabod yr angen am waith ymgysylltu cryf â'r gymuned. Mae sesiynau galw heibio wythnosol yn rhoi cyfleoedd i breswylwyr roi adborth a gwneud ymholiadau neu godi unrhyw bryderon am gynnydd. Mae rheolwr cyswllt cymunedol ar y safle yn ystod oriau gwaith. Mae preswylwyr lleol yn cael gwybod am y cynnydd. Yn ogystal, mae Warmworks (y gosodwyr) wedi cynnal sesiwn 'Cwrdd â'r Gosodwr' i berchnogion tai ym mis Rhagfyr, gydag un arall wedi'i gynllunio ar gyfer mis Chwefror.

Yn ddiweddar, cyfarfu fy swyddogion â Chyngor Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr ac maent yn cadarnhau eu bod wedi gwneud cynnydd da o ran cael gwared ar yr EWI o dros hanner y cartrefi. Mae dylunwyr ôl-osod a chydlynwyr ôl-osod ar y safle ar hyn o bryd yn cynnal gwiriadau ansawdd mewnol. Bydd y cynlluniau ar gyfer ailosod EWI yn cael eu hawdurdodi yn yr ychydig wythnosau nesaf.

Fy nealltwriaeth i yw bod adborth ar y safle yn gadarnhaol ar y cyfan er bod lleiafrif bach iawn wedi bod yn llafar dros yr amser a gymerwyd i gwblhau'r gwaith a'r angen am iawndal i berchnogion tai.

Unwaith eto, diolch am ysgrifennu ataf a gobeithiaf y bydd yr wybodaeth hon yn ddefnyddiol i chi.

Yn gywir,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jayne Bryant". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Jayne Bryant AS/MS**

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Lywodraeth Leol a Thai  
Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government

**P-06-1491 We demand a fair deal for residents affected by the Arbed CESP scheme - Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 18 March 2025**

I'll update you on the background of our plight. Back in 2012, I and many other residents in Caerau were enticed into a government-backed scheme, which was funded by Arbed and Cesp. This scheme was sold to residents as the best thing since sliced bread, and it would make our homes energy-efficient and more economical to run. This involved installing external wall insulation, and where not possible on the outside, it would be installed internally. There were also boilers replaced in properties where the boilers were over a certain age.

The installers were Green Renewable Wales, a company set up by a councillor of BCBC and a subcontractor, Tower Energy. The tender for the job was handed to GRW without due process; this has been investigated by Audit Wales. Details of which can be found here : [arbed-scheme-caerau-findings-of-internal-audit.pdf](#)

Residents encountered multiple problems during the installation, including terrible workmanship, rude contractors, and misuse of people's properties.

When the contractors had apparently finished the project, issues started to appear, and multiple complaints were made to the company. Unfortunately, no resolution to these issues was made, and ultimately, GRW went into liquidation. Multiple residents kept on complaining and continued to complain to MP's Senedd Members, BCBC, and trading standards.

Our fight has been ongoing for many, many years. We are now 13 years later, and the condition of our homes that have been left in due to this insulation is absolutely disgusting! I alone have spent close to £20k or more over the 13 years trying to rectify issues and thrown money away. To put it in perspective, I replaced my kitchen in 2017 at a cost of £9k due to the previous one being ruined by the dampness, and this kitchen has gone the same way. I can't have open foods in the cupboards; tins rust. I've gone through multiple small kitchen electrical items due to rusting and failing. I am not the only one in this predicament. Other residents have also spent unscrupulous amounts of money trying to rectify the faults, and we cannot keep doing it. Some residents do not have the money at all to try to do this, and they live in derelict homes.

I appreciate that finally, after 12 years, work started to remove the faulty insulation; however, that is all that is being done. No rectification work is being done to our homes; walls are not being replastered, carpets and some furnishings are not being replaced, and there is no compensation!

After all we have been through as residents, such an arrangement is an insult. We are being left to recuperate the costs of a badly mismanaged energy scheme that should have been overseen correctly. Additionally, a while back, I requested information on Arbed, the contracts between WG and BCBC and the conditions that BCBC was meant to adhere to. There were significant failings.

I would also like there to be a public inquiry into what took place and how this was allowed to happen.

I want to thank you for taking the time to consider our petition, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Rhiannon Goodall

# P-06-1498 Cyflwyno gwasanaeth bws o Orsaf Fysiau'r Fenni i Ysbyty'r Faenor

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau | 24 Mawrth 2025  
Petitions Committee | 24 March 2025

Cyfeirnod: SR25/10746-1

Rhif y ddeiseb: P-06-1498

Teitl y ddeiseb: Cyflwyno gwasanaeth bws o Orsaf Fysiau'r Fenni i Ysbyty'r  
Faenor

Geiriad y ddeiseb: Pan mae pobl wedi'u cynhyrfu, yn bryderus, neu'n wynebu  
straen enfawr, naill ai fel claf neu anwylyn, nid yw opsiynau eraill yn ddiogel.  
Hefyd dylem fod yn lleihau defnydd o geir er mwyn brwydro yn erbyn newid  
hinsawdd. Byddai cyflwyno gwasanaethau hanfodol fel hyn yn gam cyntaf da.



## 1. Y cefndir

Mae'r deisebydd yn galw am wasanaeth bws rhwng gorsaf fysiau'r Fenni ac ysbyty'r Faenor. Mae Bws Casnewydd yn gweithredu gwasanaeth ar hyn o bryd sy'n cysylltu'r ysbyty â gorsafoedd trenau a bysiau Cwmbwrân, yn ogystal â chanol dinas Casnewydd lle gellir gwneud cysylltiadau â'r Fenni.

Rhoddir mwy o fanylion isod am sut mae'r rhwydwaith bysiau yn cael ei gynllunio a'i ariannu ar hyn o bryd.

### 1.1. Cynllunio gwasanaethau bws

Mae gwasanaethau bysiau yng Nghymru ar hyn o bryd yn gweithredu o fewn marchnad sydd wedi ei dadreoleiddio. Felly, er bod gweithredwyr yn cael rhywfaint o gefnogaeth gan y Llywodraeth, mae hyn yn golygu bod mwyafrif y gwasanaethau bysiau lleol yn gweithredu ar sail fasnachol.

Er bod gweithredwyr bysiau trwyddedig yn rhydd i gofrestru unrhyw wasanaeth y maent yn dymuno ei weithredu, mae gan awdurdodau lleol ddyletswydd o dan adran 63(1) o Ddeddf Trafnidiaeth 1985 (y Ddeddf) i sicrhau bod gwasanaethau ar gael i fodloni gofynion trafndiaeth gyhoeddus na fyddent fel arall yn cael eu bodloni drwy'r farchnad fasnachol. Gelwir y rhain yn 'wasanaethau cymdeithasol angenrheidiol'. Mae'r Ddeddf hefyd yn galluogi awdurdod lleol i ymrwymo i gontract i dalu cymhorthdal am wasanaethau pe na bai'r gwasanaeth yn cael ei ddarparu o gwbl fel arall, neu'n cael ei ddarparu i safon benodol.

### 1.2. Cymorth gan Lywodraeth Cymru

Y Grant Cynnal Gwasanaethau Bysiau yw prif fecanwaith Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer darparu cyllid / cymorthdaliadau ar gyfer gwasanaethau bysiau. Mae'r Grant Cynnal Gwasanaethau Bysiau yn cynnwys yr elfen Grant Cymorth Cilomedr Byw, sy'n cael ei dalu i'r holl weithredwyr am bob cilomedr a gaiff ei yrru wrth ddarparu gwasanaeth cofrestredig ac mae'n cyfrif am tua dau draean o'r Grant hwnnw. Mae'r gweddill yn cael ei ddefnyddio gan awdurdodau lleol, ynghyd â'u cyllidebau eu hunain, i gefnogi gwasanaethau sy'n angenrheidiol yn gymdeithasol.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru hefyd yn darparu cyllid ychwanegol, er enghraifft drwy gymorth ar gyfer cynlluniau tocynnau teithio rhatach a'r rhwydwaith bysiau pellter hir TrawsCymru.

## Cyllid brys

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Yn dilyn [gostyniad yn nifer y teithwyr](#) o ganlyniad i bandemig Covid-19, mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi bod yn darparu cymorth brys i'r diwydiant bysiau drwy [gyfres o grantiau](#). Yr iteriad diweddaraf o'r cymorth hwn yw'r Grant Rhwydwaith Bysiau ar gyfer awdurdodau lleol i "sicrhau gwasanaethau bysiau y maent o'r farn eu bod yn angenrheidiol yn gymdeithasol na fydd y farchnad fasnachol yn eu darparu".

[Wrth gyhoeddi'r Grant Rhwydwaith Bysiau ym mis Mawrth 2024](#), dywedodd Llywodraeth Cymru y bydd yn "gweithredu fel pont rhwng yr arian brys a ddarparwyd i fasnachfreinio bysiau".

### 1.3. Cynlluniau ar gyfer masnachfreinio bysiau

Mae [Llywodraeth Cymru yn bwriadu cyflwyno deddfwriaeth](#) sy'n gofyn am fasnachfreinio bysiau ledled Cymru a chaniatáu i sefydlu cwmnïau bysiau trefol newydd. Byddai'r cyfrifoldeb dros gynllunio'r rhan fwyaf o wasanaethau bysiau yn cael ei drosglwyddo i ofal Trafnidiaeth Cymru a Gweinidogion Cymru.

Cyhoeddodd Trafnidiaeth Cymru a Llywodraeth Cymru [Ein Map Ffordd i Ddiwygio'r Bysiau](#) sy'n amlinellu sut y byddai masnachfreinio yn cael ei roi ar waith. O dan y cynlluniau hyn, byddai'r awdurdod masnachfreinio (Gweinidogion Cymru) yn pennu'r gwasanaethau a sut y byddant yn rhedeg, gan gynnwys llwybrau, safonau cerbydau, amserlenni a phrisiau tocynnau. Byddai gweithredwyr wedyn yn cynnig am gontractau i redeg y gwasanaethau hyn.

Dywedodd [Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Drafnidiaeth a Gogledd Cymru, Ken Skates AS](#) ei fod yn bwriadu cyflwyno'r Bil ym mis Mawrth 2025.

## 2. Camau gan Lywodraeth Cymru

Yn ei lythyr at y Cadeirydd ar 25 Chwefror dywedodd Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet, "Nid yw bob amser yn bosibl nac yn ymarferol darparu cysylltiadau bws uniongyrchol i Ysbyty y Faenor o bob cymuned".

Mae Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet yn awgrymu ar wahân i'r gwasanaethau sy'n gweithredu ar hyn o bryd, "nid oes diddordeb amlwg gan gwmnïau bysiau i gyflwyno gwasanaethau bysiau eraill [i'r ysbyty] yn fasnachol".

Mae'r llythyr hefyd yn nodi'r canlynol:

Dywedodd Cyngor Sir Fynwy eu bod wedi cynnig tendr yn ddiweddar i gaffael gwasanaeth bws rhwng Y Fenni a Phont-y-pŵl, oedd yn cynnwys opsiwn i gwmnïau ymestyn teithiau i Ysbyty y Faenor. Fodd bynnag, ni gyflwynodd unrhyw gwmnïau geisiadau i ymestyn y llwybr i'r ysbyty.

Llynedd, fe wnaethom ariannu gwasanaeth bws arbrofol yn cysylltu Ysbyty y Faenor â Phont-y-pŵl, Trecelyn a Choed-duon am gyfnod o chwe mis, ond cymedrol oedd nifer y teithwyr, a oedd yn dangos yr heriau wrth geisio sicrhau bod cysylltiadau bws uniongyrchol newydd â'r Faenor yn gynaliadwy.

Mae Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet hefyd yn dweud ei fod wedi gofyn i Trafnidiaeth Cymru (gan weithio gydag awdurdodau lleol a Chyd-bwyllgorau Corfforaethol) ystyried cysylltiadau ag ysbytai a chyfleusterau gofal iechyd allweddol wrth ddatblygu cynlluniau ar gyfer y rhwydwaith bysiau o dan fasnachfreinio.

### 3. Camau gweithredu gan Senedd Cymru

Mae mater gwasanaethau bws yn cysylltu cymunedau ag ysbyty'r Faenor wedi cael ei godi sawl gwaith yn y Cyfarfod Llawn, yn enwedig yn y cyfnod yn arwain at agor yr ysbyty yn 2020 ac mewn ymateb i dorri'r gwasanaeth arbrofol y mae llythyr Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet yn cyfeirio ato (gweler uchod).

Ym mis Hydref 2024, gofynnodd Laura Anne Jones AS i Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet ynghylch y gwasanaethau rhwng yr ysbyty a'r Fenni yn benodol. Mewn ymateb, cyfeiriodd Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet at y ddeiseb hon a dywedodd ei fod wedi "gofyn i fy swyddogion edrych felly ar ddichonoldeb llwybr o'r fath, yng nghydestun argaeledd cyllidebau".

Gwneir pob ymdrech i sicrhau bod y wybodaeth yn y papur briffio hwn yn gywir adeg ei gyhoeddi. Dylai darllenwyr fod yn ymwybodol nad yw'r papurau briffio hyn yn cael eu diweddarau o reidwydd na'u diwygio fel arall i adlewyrchu newidiadau dilynol.



Eich cyf P-06-1498  
Ein cyf MA/KSNWT/00210/25

Carolyn Thomas AS  
Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau

25 Chwefror 2025

Annwyl Gadeirydd,

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 03 Chwefror, ar ran Kathryn Lynch, ynghylch Deiseb P-06-1498 *Cyflwyno gwasanaeth bws o Orsaf Fysiau'r Fenni i Ysbyty y Faenor*, yr ydych wedi'i ddarparu cyn ei hystyried gan y Pwyllgor.

Rwy'n awyddus i weithio gyda Trafnidiaeth Cymru (TrC), awdurdodau lleol a chwmnïau bysiau i wella cysylltiadau gwasanaethau bysiau â safleoedd ysbytai allweddol a chyfleusterau gofal iechyd. Y flwyddyn ariannol hon rydym wedi darparu £39m i awdurdodau lleol drwy'r Grant Rhwydwaith Bysiau i'w galluogi i gynnal a gwella gwasanaethau bws. Wrth i ni fwrw ymlaen â'r cynlluniau ar gyfer masnachfreinio bysiau, mae TrC yn cydweithio ag awdurdodau lleol a Chyd-bwyllgorau Corfforedig i ddatblygu cynlluniau y rhwydwaith bysiau ym mhob rhanbarth. Rydym wedi gofyn iddynt edrych ar yr achos dros ddarparu gwell cysylltiadau ag ysbytai a chyfleusterau gofal iechyd allweddol.

Mae ysbytai mawr, fel Ysbyty y Faenor, yn denu cleifion a staff o dalgylch eang. Nid yw bob amser yn bosibl nac yn ymarferol darparu cysylltiadau bws uniongyrchol i Ysbyty y Faenor o bob cymuned. Ar hyn o bryd, mae Newport Bus yn gweithredu'r gwasanaeth masnachol rheolaidd 29 sy'n cysylltu'r ysbyty â gorsafoedd rheilffordd a bysiau Cwmbrân, yn ogystal â chanol dinas Casnewydd. Nid oes diddordeb amlwg gan gwmnïau bysiau i gyflwyno gwasanaethau bysiau eraill yn fasnachol.

Dyweddodd Cyngor Sir Fynwy eu bod wedi cynnig tendr yn ddiweddar i gaffael gwasanaeth bws rhwng Y Fenni a Phont-y-pŵl, oedd yn cynnwys opsiwn i gwmnïau ymestyn teithiau i Ysbyty y Faenor. Fodd bynnag, ni gyflwynodd unrhyw gwmnïau geisiadau i ymestyn y llwybr i'r ysbyty. Ar hyn o bryd, mae angen i bobl sy'n byw yn ardal Y Fenni deithio i Ysbyty'r Faenor drwy ddal naill ai fws neu drên i Gwmbrân a chysylltu â gwasanaeth Bws 29 Casnewydd.

Llynedd, fe wnaethom ariannu gwasanaeth bws arbrofol yn cysylltu Ysbyty y Faenor â Phont-y-pŵl, Trecelyn a Choed-duon am gyfnod o chwe mis, ond cymedrol oedd nifer y teithwyr, a oedd yn dangos yr heriau wrth geisio sicrhau bod cysylltiadau bws uniongyrchol newydd â'r Faenor yn gynaliadwy.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg. Bydd unrhyw ohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn cael ei hateb yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

**Tudalen y pecyn 36**  
We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Mae rheolwyr bysiau rhanbarthol De-ddwyrain Cymru wedi trafod cyfleoedd i wella mynediad i Ysbyty y Faenor yn ddiweddar, a byddant yn parhau i edrych ar wahanol opsiynau i helpu i wella trafndiaeth gyhoeddus yn seiliedig ar dystiolaeth o angen a gwerth am arian.

Gobeithio fod yr wybodaeth hon yn ddefnyddiol.

Yn gywir,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ken', written in a cursive style.

**Ken Skates AS**

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Drafndiaeth a Gogledd Cymru

# Eitem 3.1

## P-06-1352 Cymeradwyo adeiladu trydedd bont dros y Fenai

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Emyr Owen, ar ôl casglu 362 o lofnodion.

### Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Mae Panel Adolygu Ffyrdd Llywodraeth Cymru wedi dod i'r casgliad o'r diwedd na ddylai trydedd bont dros y Fenai gael ei hadeiladu oherwydd pryderon ynghylch newid hinsawdd. Er ein bod i gyd yn deall ac yn gwerthfawrogi'r materion ynghylch yr hinsawdd, mae'r penderfyniad hwn yn ergyd drom i drigolion Ynys Môn ac i unrhyw un sy'n cymudo'n rheolaidd dros y Fenai.

### Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:

Mae trydedd groesfan dros y Fenai wedi bod yn gynnig prosiect ers blynyddoedd lawer yn y gobaith y byddai'n cael ei hadeiladu o'r diwedd ar ôl i ganlyniad ymgynghoriad ar y cynlluniau gael ei gyhoeddi yn 2018. Fodd bynnag, yn 2021, cafodd y prosiect hwn (fel prosiectau ffyrdd eraill yng Nghymru) ei rewi er mwyn i'r Panel Adolygu Ffyrdd graffu arno.

Cafwyd llawer o ddadleuon ynghylch gwydnwch, yn fwyaf diweddar pan gafodd Pont y Borth ei chau am dri mis. Dangosodd hynny faint o hunllef yw croesi Pont Britannia oherwydd y cynnydd yn y traffig, a phe bai'n rhaid i'r bont honno gau am gyfnod, byddai Pont y Borth yn sicr yn methu â delio â'r cynnydd mewn traffig.

Gwnaeth yr adolygiad hyd yn oed ddweud y byddai cefnogi'r drydedd groesfan yn gwella diogelwch, gwydnwch a theithio llesol, ond serch hynny daeth i'r casgliad na ddylai'r prosiect fynd yn ei flaen, sy'n gwneud y penderfyniad yn fwy dryslyd fyth.

Dylid cymeradwyo adeiladu trydedd groesfan dros y Fenai, gan y gall gwneud hynny fod yn gatalydd gwych i brosiectau sy'n llesol i'r hinsawdd yn y dyfodol.

### Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad

- Wreccsam

- Gogledd Cymru

## Eitem 3.2

**P-06-1464 Caniatáu i deuluoedd Cymru sydd wedi colli baban cyn 24 wythnos gael tystysgrif colli baban**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Angharad Cousins ôl casglu 749 o lofnodion.

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi cyflwyno tystysgrifau colli baban i deuluoedd yn Lloegr sydd wedi colli babanod cyn 24 wythnos. Nid yw hyn yn gymwys i deuluoedd Cymru. Gadewch i ni newid hyn!!

### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

- Caerffili
- Dwyrain De Cymru

**Sarah Murphy AS/MS**  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd Meddwl a Llesiant  
Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-06-1464  
Ein cyf/Our ref SM/00130/25

Carolyn Thomas MS  
Chair - Petitions committee

03 Mawrth 2025

Annwyl Carolyn

Diolch ichi am eich llythyr ynghylch Deiseb P-06-1464 Caniatáu i deuluoedd Cymru sydd wedi colli babi cyn 24 wythnos gael tystysgrif colli baban.

Mae fy swyddogion yn gweithio'n agos gyda'u cymheiriaid yn Llywodraeth y DU i ymestyn y cynllun i Gymru, ac ar hyn o bryd maent yn aros am gynigion terfynol gan yr Adran Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol ynghylch yr opsiynau a chostau cysylltiedig.

Yn gywir,

**Sarah Murphy AS/MS**  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd Meddwl a Llesiant  
Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Tudalen y pecyn 41

## Eitem 3.3

### **P-06-1463 Parhau i ariannu swyddogion heddlu ysgolion sy'n addysgu plant ac yn cefnogi ysgolion**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Cai Gleaves ôl casglu 5,717 o lofnodion.

#### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Caniaaodd School Beat Cymru i 68 o swyddogion heddlu ysgolion o'r pedwar heddlu yng Nghymru gyflwyno gwersi ar gamddefnyddio sylweddau, diogelwch personol, materion diogelu ac ymddygiad.

Ond mae Llywodraeth Cymru am roi'r gorau i ariannu'r cynllun er mwyn arbed £2m y flwyddyn o fis Ebrill ymlaen.

#### **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol:**

Bydd hyn yn cael effaith niweidiol ar adnoddau ysgolion a'r heddlu, sydd eisoes dan bwysau sylweddol. Yn ogystal ag addysgu disgyblion, mae swyddogion heddlu ysgolion yn ymateb i helyntion mewn ysgolion. Maent wedi datblygu sgiliau a gwybodaeth benodol i ymdrin â phroblemau mewn ysgolion ac wedi meithrin perthynas waith dda gyda staff a disgyblion. Heb swyddog heddlu penodedig, bydd yn rhaid i ysgolion ffonio 101, a gallai hynny hefyd orlethu'r ganolfan gyfathrebu a rhoi pwysau ychwanegol ar swyddogion ymateb cyffredinol. Bydda hyn yn lleihau ymhellach yr adnoddau i ymateb i alwadau eraill. Mae helyntion yn codi'n rheolaidd mewn ysgolion, yn enwedig ysgolion uwchradd, ac mae cael swyddog penodedig yn ffordd fwy effeithiol ac effeithlon o ymdrin â sefyllfaoedd o'r fath.

#### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

- Dwyrain Caerfyrddin a Dinefwr
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru



Plismona  
yng Nghymru  
Policing in Wales



Carolyn Thomas MS  
Chair of the Petitions Committee  
Welsh Parliament

Dear Carolyn

**Re: P-06- P-06-1463 Continue to fund school police officers who educate children and support schools**

Thank you for your letter dated 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024, regarding the Petitions Committee considering the above petition. You stated that the Committee noted that these school programmes had been running for 21 years, and members had questions that relate to both the funding and operational outcomes. Therefore, contact was made with both the Chief Constables and Police and Crime Commissioners for the four police forces in Wales, to ask:

1. Clarity on if and how your schools programme has changed.
2. The outcomes of the investment made over the past 21 years.
3. Views on the impact of the cut to Welsh Government funding.

Given that your correspondence was issued to all Chief Constables and Police and Crime Commissioners, it was agreed that a collective response from Policing in Wales would be appropriate. The most significant issue was the lack of any notice being provided to Chief Constables and Police and Crime Commissioners, of Welsh Governments decision to step back from the partnership and cease their funding commitment. This placed Policing in Wales in an extremely challenging position in having to make short term financial decisions that impacted on other areas of service delivery that could have been avoided by earlier engagement and discussion.

I would like to reassure you that all four forces are committed to providing the best possible response to supporting children, young people and schools across Wales and have continued to deliver a service since the funding for this key area was stopped.

**1. Clarity on if and how your schools programme has changed.**

The purpose of the funding for the Wales Police School Programme (WPSP) over many years has been to support primary and secondary schools, as well as Pupil Referral Units (PRU) across Wales to:

- a. Educate children and young people about the harm substance misuse can cause to their health, their families and wider community.

- b. Promote the principles of positive citizenship through the medium of education.
- c. Achieve a reduction in the level of crime and disorder within our young communities.

Since the announcement of funding withdrawal by Welsh Government, all forces have had to implement new initiatives. The sudden removal of the funding negatively impacted policing and left little to no time for stakeholder engagement and consultation, resulting in surprise and disappointment.

**North Wales Police** – have continued to deliver the ‘As was’ WPSP programme with all their 16 School Police Officers (SPOs). This has been subject to force review (supported by Force Optimisation Team) and through Force Budget Setting. A proposal was given to retain all SPO posts going forward but to revise the SPO role and responsibilities for modern day policing and to support the force vision. The proposal outlined how the 16 SPOs would continue to support ‘in school visibility and educational inputs’ but evolve to include responsibility for expanding the Mini Police Initiative and focused community engagement activity into their role.

**Dyfed Powys Police** – the WPSP was a highly valued and widely used service across the force. During an already challenging financial environment, the force has continued to provide a service to their schools. A decision to retain the 14 SPOs was approved by the Chief Constable and Police and Crime Commissioner, which provides a designated single point of contact for every educational establishment. A schools Service Manager police staff post oversees the tactical operational delivery of the SPO team, whilst collaborating with key partner agencies and stakeholders. Dyfed Powys Police are operating a new Police School Service based on local challenges, needs, and policing demands. Crime Prevention Education in primary and secondary schools reinforces the Chief Constables priorities and the Police and Crime Commissioners Crime plans.

**South Wales Police** – The service is now known as South Wales Police Youth Engagement Services (YES). The role of the SPO has been superseded by the new role of the Youth Engagement Officer (YEO). The force has retained the 25 officers that work within the education context and now more broadly with young people in the community who are at risk of criminalisation, exploitation and working with vulnerable families who are at risk of harm, delivering targeted interventions in line with policing priorities. These officers are divided across the 3 geographical areas, aligned to the Community Safety Partnership department, and play integral role in supporting our police youth volunteers. The force has additionally retained the WPSP Regional Manager, now known as Youth Engagement Services Manager (YESM), who has oversight of the work of the YEOs across the force and works at a strategic level with a range of partners around Policing Priorities as they pertain to the young. The South Wales YESM retains communication with the former WPSP managers in Dyfed Powys and North Wales Police to share best practice and resource materials being used by officers in schools and the community.

**Gwent Police** – have used the change in funding to develop a future school provision program facilitated by Neighbourhood Officers embedded within their communities. Gwent has retained guidance from former school liaison funded officers who are now operating in a coordinator role to ensure that Neighbourhood Officers are adequately trained to conduct this function. All schools have been appropriately risk assessed regarding the frequency of engagement required, and the force is monitoring this new model and will seek feedback throughout the academic year.

## 2. The outcomes of the investment made over the past 21 years.

The Youth Justice Blueprint for Wales (2019) sets out a strategy preventing children from entering the Criminal Justice System, minimising their contact with it and maximising opportunities for diversion to support them to lead crime free lives. The vision for the Youth Justice in Wales adopts a 'children first' rights approach, ensuring that efforts are child-centred rather than service-focused. Recognising that responding in this way is in the best interests of the child, to best meet their individual need.

School Police Officers (SPO) have been focused on building relationships with children as they progress through the school system. Previous reviews highlighted, Police Officers operating in schools were paramount in establishing productive and positive contact and was found to break down barriers particularly for hard-to-reach groups and communities which may have an inherent mistrust of authority.

The role of the SPO goes far beyond the delivery of crime prevention education in the classroom. During the 2022/23 academic year, officers reported to have collectively dealt with 4,826 crime incidents in schools across Wales involving children and young people. 1,067 Restorative Justice sessions were delivered, and 830 Safeguarding referrals were submitted by our Police operating in schools across Wales to protect and safeguard children and vulnerable families at risk.

All Wales Statistics, 2022/23:

- 17,816 Crime Prevention deliveries / lessons.
- 85% of schools accessed.
- 556,564 Number of Learner Contacts.

Over the past 21 years, every child in education within Wales has had access to this vital service and has given the children and young people a voice to report directly to the Police if they needed to. It has enabled public trust and confidence in the Police to develop from a young age and encouraged children to learn about the Law and consequences of breaking the Law through engaging inputs within their school environment.

Positive interventions have been delivered throughout Wales which are aimed at preventing the criminalisation of children. To deliver this effectively, police officers have worked with Education and multiple agencies to identify and support children and young people at risk of harm. The programme, has long provided dedicated SPOs, delivered crucial educational and wellbeing support to students aged 5-16 through a bilingual curriculum. It has ensured not only pupil and student safety but also contributed significantly to their development and pastoral care.

The key performance indicators, set by Welsh Government and reported regularly, highlight the impact the SPOs have across Wales, from Education Access, Safeguarding and Policing, Educational, and WPSP Core Delivery, and those figures have remained consistent throughout the past 10 years.

### **3. Views on the impact of the cut to Welsh Government funding.**

There was no consultation with Policing in Wales prior to the announcement to withdraw Welsh Government funding effective from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, nor was there any consideration of the impact this decision would have on Policing, Education, or other Strategic Partners. The Wales Police School Programme (WPSP) was firmly established within all four Welsh forces and very well respected by the school communities.

Stakeholders therefore had no opportunity to express how they might be affected by the loss of the services in the WPSP format. The removal of funding left policing with a collapsing time frame in which to conduct relevant stakeholder consultation to better understand the impact to schools and what kind of service was possible to be supplied by policing alone.

Schools throughout Wales had benefited from the quality and consistency in Crime Prevention and safety inputs delivered by specialist police experts. Teachers in their feedback to policing did not feel competent to deliver on such specialist topics and noted that they did not carry the gravitas necessary to have such a positive impact as that generated by police officers in classrooms.

The WPSP was jointly funded by Welsh Government and the four Welsh Police forces. Previous reviews of the Programme evidenced the value and positive impact of Police engaging with children in schools. The Schools Police Officer (SPO) role focused on fostering a safe and engaging environment that served as an outlet for young people to learn, share opinions and ask questions on important issues and topics affecting their lives and communities.

At the time of the Welsh Government announcement, the Programme was implementing the recommendations from the, 'Implementing the Vision of Wales Police Schools Programme' review (2023). This review was commissioned by Welsh Government and Policing in Wales, for the purpose of modernising and ensuring that the strategic aims were more aligned to strategic objectives and priorities. A National Change Manager had been appointed and was coordinating the delivery plan across Wales.

During the final review of the WPSP, the recommendations (which were in the process of being implemented before Welsh Government announced the finding withdrawal) had recommended that a more effective and rigorous Performance Framework be established, which better captured outcomes with regards to our service users, schools and children. Section 6 of the 'Implementing the Vision of the Wales Police Schools Programme Report', was dedicated to the proposed development of a new Outcome Performance Framework post its 2023 review. In this section it noted that this well-established programme had undergone five reviews, between 2006 and 2019 and that the Programme has been received positively. The reviews gathered qualitative evidence which indicated that the presence of SPOs in schools is welcome, positive and adds value. The challenge, however, was to evidence the positive contribution the programme made within the complete system. The report noted that there 'is a complexity of measuring the attribution of outcomes due to the environment in which the Schools Programme operates. SPOs did not of course work in isolation, there are other partners involved and there is the potential for joint enterprise and endeavour to influence results.'

It also, therefore, helps to identify key outcomes that partners themselves (schools) attribute to the existence of the WPSP, from more recent stakeholder's consultation. With a focus on how they as the recipients of the service identify and view the outcomes. Stakeholder's views were sought during the final term of the academic year, 2024. This was during a period where although the WPSP had ceased to exist, the four Welsh forces still delivered the same service up to the end of the summer term 2024.

Schools attested that the relationship between the SPOs and the school was invaluable in support of them as a community, and that collaboration was at the heart of the effectiveness of what they perceived was achieved through these services. Schools reported satisfaction with services performed by competent police officers regarding both crime prevention education engagement and supportive policing services. SPOs were credited for their collaborative approach to working with schools, and reciprocity was recognised as an important feature of the relationship between the partners. Schools recognised a raft of positive outcomes that were generated by the involvement of SPOs in their schools, and they experienced an alignment from these police services with their values and priorities, which they also recognised they often shared with policing.

Many case studies have been supplied over the years to Welsh Government with the quarterly reports with examples of specific outcomes for young people from Police interactions in the classroom and through the supportive policing services.

One of the key strengths of the Wales Police Schools Programme was its collaborative approach which ensured parity of services to schools. As a result of the withdrawal of funding and individual force choices there no longer exists consistent service across Wales.

Police forces in Wales now operate differing models of school engagement. All forces provide designated School Police Officer roles which continue to offer crime prevention education to schools based on policing priorities. These officers also provide a supportive schools policing service. Whilst some current approaches have been well supported, there also is not any security in the service long term should there be a change of direction from a new Chief Constable or Police and Crime Commissioners.

Yours Sincerely



**PCC Dafydd Llywelyn**

**Chair, Policing in Wales  
Group**



**CC Amanda Blakeman**

**Chair, Welsh Chief Officer**

## Eitem 3.4

### **P-06-1475 Gwella diogelwch yr A458, Treberfedd, Powys ar frys yn sgil gyrru peryglus parhaus**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Amanda Jenner, ar ôl casglu 311 lofnodion ar lein a 107 lofnodion ar bapur, sydd yn wneud cyfanswm o 418 lofnodion.

#### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Yn dilyn nifer o ddamweiniau a marwolaeth drasig preswlydd lleol ar yr A458, Treberfedd (y tu allan i Bank Farm), mae'r Cyngor Cymuned a'r Cyngorydd Lleol wedi galw am welliannau diogelwch brys ar y rhan hon o'r ffordd i helpu i atal ceir rhag goddiweddyd yn beryglus lle mae dau bant cudd. Mae ymateb diweddar gan y Gweinidog Trafnidiaeth yn dweud nad oes unrhyw gynlluniau ar hyn o bryd ar gyfer gwelliannau diogelwch ar y ffyrdd yn y lleoliad hwn. Ni allwn aros am farwolaeth arall. Rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i weithredu.

#### **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol:**

Mae trigolion lleol, yn ogystal â llawer o aelodau eraill o'r cyhoedd sy'n teithio ar y ffordd hon yn rheolaidd, wedi'u tristáu ac yn rhwystredig nad oes unrhyw beth arall yn cael ei ystyried ar hyn o bryd gan Lywodraeth Cymru i wella diogelwch y ffyrdd yn yr ardal hon. Dylai Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet fod yn bresennol mewn cyfarfod ar y safle i drafod y pryderon ymhellach.

Er mwyn gwella'r rhan hon o'r ffordd, mae angen rhoi ystyriaeth frys i ddarparu'r canlynol:

- Camera cyflymder parhaol
- Ymestyn y llinellau 'dim goddiweddyd' gwyn dwbl i'r ddau gyfeiriad
- Rhoi wyneb newydd ar y ffordd, yn benodol yr ardaloedd tarmac coch.

- Golau sy'n fflachio sy'n dangos cyflymder gyrrwr ac yn dweud na ddylid goddiweddyd ceir eraill.

- Golau sy'n fflachio i dynnu sylw at y ffaith bod car yn y pant cudd o'u blaenau.

Fel rhan o'r adolygiad o ddiogelwch ar y ffyrdd, hoffem i gyflymder y ffordd gael ei ystyried, ac a fyddai lleihau'r cyflymder yn helpu i atal unrhyw ddamweiniau yn y dyfodol

### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

- Sir Drefaldwyn
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru



Eich cyf P-06-1475  
Ein cyf KSNWT/11003/24

Carolyn Thomas AS  
Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau

25 Chwefror 2025

Annwyl Carolyn,

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 13 Rhagfyr ynglŷn â Deiseb P-06-1475: Gwella diogelwch yr A458, Treberfedd, Powys ar frys yn sgil gyrru peryglus parhaus. Hoffwn ymddiheuro am yr oedi wrth ymateb.

Mae'r arolwg CCTV wedi cael ei gynnal, ac rydyn ni bellach wedi derbyn data sy'n cadarnhau'r hyn mae'r deisebydd wedi tynnu sylw ato.

O ganlyniad i hyn, byddwn yn comisiynu astudiaeth i ymchwilio i'r mesurau sydd eu hangen i atal pobl rhag goddiweddyd. Byddwn hefyd yn rhannu'r data hwn â Heddlu Dyfed Powys a GanBwyll, er mwyn iddyn nhw ystyried a oes angen presenoldeb ychwanegol at ddibenion gorfodi.

Yn gywir,

**Ken Skates AS/MS**  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Drafnidiaeth a Gogledd Cymru

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

**Tudalen y pecyn 50**  
We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

**P-06-1475 Urgently improve the safety of the A458, Middletown, Powys in light of continuous dangerous driving – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 17 March 2025**

We are grateful for the further letter provided from the Cabinet Secretary.

I would like to ask the petitions committee to request the following from the Cabinet Secretary:

Can the time frames for the completion of the study be provided to the community and myself. Also will the public, myself and the community council be consulted as part of the study? Will the results/options which are then considered be shared with us? Is there an ultimate timeframe for implementing any proposed recommendations/ measures?

Kind regards

Amanda

## Eitem 3.5

**P-06-1476 Clustogfa orfodol 1000 metr ar gyfer yr holl chwareli newydd a phresennol**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Monika Golebiewska, ar ôl casglu 1,585, lofnodion ar lein a 9,888 lofnodion ar bapur, sydd yn wneud cyfanswm o 11,473 lofnodion.

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Sicrhau clustogfa orfodol ar gyfer yr holl chwareli newydd a phresennol yng Nghymru. Rydym yn cynnig clustogfa o 1,000.00 metr o leiaf oddi wrth yr holl ardaloedd preswyl, ysgolion, ysbytai a chyfleusterau gofal. Ar hyn o bryd mae'r gyfraith yn caniatáu i chwareli gael eu lleoli mor agos â 200 metr i ffwrdd o ardaloedd preswyl ac ysgolion. Mae hyn yn effeithio ar iechyd pobl ac yn achosi difrod i eiddo. Gorau po fwyaf maint y glustogfa y gallwn ei chael.

### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

- Cwm Cynon
- Canol De Cymru



Carolyn Thomas MS  
Chair of Petitions Committee  
Welsh Parliament  
Cardiff Bay  
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CF99 1SN

**Heidelberg Materials UK**

Craig-yr-Hesg Quarry  
Berw Road  
Pontypridd  
Mid Glamorgan  
CF37 3BG

27 November 2024

**Craig-yr-Hesg quarry**

Dear Carolyn

Following last week's Petition Committee at which our Craig-yr-Hesg quarry was discussed (Petition P-06-1476), I wanted to provide reassurance that Heidelberg Materials is committed to being a good neighbour and that we work hard to comply with the strict regulatory regime under which our sector operates.

We appreciate the work of the Petitions Committee is to consider petitions received, however, we would like to highlight that on-going quarrying at Craig-yr-Hesg is underpinned by a scrutinous planning process, as well as a Public Inquiry. The approvals granted also include detailed permitting conditions set to ensure that people, property and the environment are protected.

We recognise that many in the community are disappointed that the quarry extension was given the greenlight. Since 2015 we have taken numerous steps to form a local liaison group, but these have been widely and publicly rebuffed – including by invited local elected representatives. This year, ahead of work starting on the approved extension area, we stepped up direct engagement activity with the community with the aim of resetting relationships and developing dialogue going forward. We have hosted a drop-in event, developed a website with extensive FAQs, door-dropped information and set up a WhatsApp blasting notification service. We have also responded to over 100 separate residents' queries received via our 0800 number and email inbox.

We remain committed to setting up a liaison group and have been working with Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council in this regard. Our aim is to ensure a better flow of information with the local community as well as ensuring that our neighbours and stakeholders have a voice on issues such as quarry community support and donations, shaping amenity access etc. as well as being able to provide feedback on our operations which could help inform possible further mitigation where feasible.

We remain proud of our operations at Craig-yr-Hesg and the contribution it has made for over 100 years in supplying vital construction material for use in the building and maintenance of infrastructure,

homes and roads in south Wales and beyond. We understand that the Petitions Committee will be writing to us with specific queries, and we will be happy to respond to these in full. In the meantime, I attach a copy of the handout we shared at our June community drop-in as this sets out the strict regulations for Craig-yr-Hesg as well as the extensive mitigation measures in place to manage potential impacts.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards



**Astrid Dahl**  
**Area General Manager**  
**Aggregates - South Wales**



Carolyn Thomas MS  
Chair of Petitions Committee  
Welsh Parliament  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

**Heidelberg Materials UK**

Craig-yr-Hesg Quarry  
Berw Road  
Pontypridd  
Mid Glamorgan  
CF37 3BG

28 January 2025

**Craig-yr-Hesg quarry**

Dear Carolyn

Thank you for your letter following the Senedd's Petitions Committee's consideration of Petition P-06-1476 re mandatory buffer zones for all new and existing quarries. We respect the work of the committee and the role it plays within the Welsh Parliament and are pleased to respond to your request for further information about our approach at Craig-yr-Hesg quarry.

For ease I have used the same headings below in responding to the points you raise in your letter. However, firstly I want to stress that Heidelberg Materials is committed to being a responsible operator and we operate in full accordance with the strict regulatory regime that underpins modern quarrying. As you will be aware, mineral extraction at all our quarries in Wales is predicated on the detailed planning and permitting conditions in place. These have been shaped by statutory policy as well as the work of regulators and NGOs over many years – with the resulting regulations that we and others in our sector work to set to ensure that people, property and the environment are protected.

At Craig-yr-Hesg quarry, where approval for the 10 million tonne extension was granted by the Minister for Climate Change in 2022 following a Public Inquiry, our operations are subject to a comprehensive set of **57 modern planning conditions**. These have been set to mitigate the impact of quarrying and measures include extensive dust suppression activities, the construction of bunds to provide natural screening and noise attenuation, the planting of over 3,200 trees as well as both a Species Protection and Habitat Management Plan and a Tree and Woodland Management Plan, approved by the local authority - Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council (RCTCBC). Our operations are also subject to regular compliance reviews by the regulators.

We remain committed to playing our role within the local community at Craig-yr-Hesg. In addition to supplying local customers, supporting the local economy and contributing to local business rates, we also support community initiatives. This has previously included us enabling the part-funding of Glyncoch Community Centre via the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund, as well as donating land for the Craig-yr-Hesg Nature Reserve. Going forward we will continue efforts to ensure the benefits of our operations to the local community are fully realised.

**Our response to requests for further information on quarry mitigation:**

- **Engaging with the local community**

Heidelberg Materials is committed to building a safe and inclusive future and this includes developing local community engagement plans at all our sites. Developing effective community liaison groups at key sites is also a priority and existing groups have not only led to our involvement in local schemes and community initiatives, including providing financial support, volunteering and material donations, but have also resulted in us responding to feedback by adapting operational practices, such as blast design, HGV routing etc.

As my colleague Astrid Dahl set out in her letter to you of 27 November 2024, since 2015 we have taken numerous steps to reform a liaison group for Craig-yr-Hesg quarry. Indeed the 2022 planning approval includes the requirement to develop a strategy for the setting up of a Community Liaison Group (CLG) and take steps for its implementation. However, our attempts until recently were unsuccessful – including being publicly rebuffed by invited local elected representatives. In recent months we have been fortunate to be able to draw on the support of RCTCBC in helping to shape a CLG. Ahead of the Christmas break an initial meeting hosted by RCTCBC took place – including participation from community representatives, us and other stakeholders. This marks a major milestone in this area, and we look forward to being able to build on this.

In addition to this, and as Astrid also detailed in her letter, last year also saw us stepping up direct engagement activity with the community with the aim of developing further dialogue. Activity included hosting a drop-in event, developing a website with extensive FAQs, door-dropping information and setting up a WhatsApp blasting notification service. Since June 2024 we have also responded to over 130 separate items of correspondence from 42 residents, received via our newly set up 0800 number and email inbox.

Last month we also door-dropped a further letter to the local community. This provided an update on the first phase of the quarry extension, including groundworks and soil stripping, which is now nearing completion. We'll continue to keep the community informed about developments at Craig-yr-Hesg quarry going forward and are hopeful that the new CLG will also work to ensure a better flow of information with local people.

- **Air quality**

The potential air quality and dust hazards from quarries are well understood and addressed through the stringent regulatory controls that are integral to a quarry's planning and permitting conditions. At our local community drop-in at Craig-yr-Hesg and via the FAQ section on our website we have sought to provide information to reassure the local community about this topic.

As set out above, fugitive, or nuisance dust, is managed by a range of measures. These include the use of bowsers, sprinklers and wheel washes to minimise dust, the creation of screening bunds and new woodland along the extension area boundary. These measures were agreed with RCTCBC as part of a Dust and Particulate Management Plan and Dust Monitoring Plan for the whole site and which will be reviewed by the council at regular intervals during our operations.

In addition, RCTCBC carries out air quality monitoring beyond the quarry boundary. Part-funded by Heidelberg Materials, this covers the measurement of levels of fine air-borne particulates, including PM10s and PM2.5s. The data is collected from a location in Garth Avenue, Glyncoch, and is available for public review in real time at: [www.airquality.gov.wales/air-pollution/site/RHD7#latestdata](http://www.airquality.gov.wales/air-pollution/site/RHD7#latestdata). It shows, in a full transparent way that annual average readings are well within the safe levels mandated by the UK's Air Quality Standards.

We recognise that some in the local community have expressed concern re potential links between quarrying with possible health risks including Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS) dust and/or silicosis. To provide reassurance a handout distributed at our June 2024 drop-in, and still available on our website, sets out information from the [IMA-Europe AISBL safe silica website](#). This states that:

“The body is only impacted by inhaling high levels of RCS over many years, meaning that only people working in the direct vicinity of industrial processes are at risk. There is a natural background level of RCS in the air, but the levels are so low that it poses no risk – and a quarry/factory/plant near you does not increase levels of RCS beyond that natural background level.

“Living near a quarry does not put you at any risk of getting cancer. Independent studies conducted notably in the UK by the government health and safety laboratory, HSL, on behalf of the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) confirm that quarrying does not have any significant impact on air quality outside the quarry boundary. Furthermore, there is no evidence to suggest any link between quarrying and lung disease among members of the general public who live nearby.”

- **Noise Pollution**

Quarry noise conditions have been developed over many years in line with extensive primary and secondary legislation as well as guidance from the Health and Safety Executive's (HSE) and other specialist NGOs. In Wales quarrying permitting conditions, including noise limits, are also informed by guidance from the Welsh Government (Minerals Technical Advice Note 1 [MTAN1]).

At Craig-yr-Hesg quarry limits on noise from our operations are set at six selected locations, also known as receptor sites. The daytime limits relate to background noise levels, with a maximum limit of 55 dB LAeq (average sound level over one hour) at any of these receptors. At night, between 19.00-07.00, the noise level from quarry operations cannot exceed 42 dB LAeq at any of these receptor properties.

On-going compliance with these regulations is regularly checked by the regulator, RCTCBC, with no concerns raised. The development of screening bunds and planting (as detailed above) around the quarry extension area will help to provide noise mitigation for near neighbours for the approved quarry extension area. (Please note information pertaining to quarry blasting is set out under the Risk of structural damage section below).

- **Protection of water resources**

Water management from Craig-yr-Hesg quarry forms part of the extensive quarry operating conditions and compliance with these are assessed by the regulator, Natural Resources Wales (NRW).

NRW conduct routine site monitoring, which involves testing water samples to assess the quality of the water discharged. In addition, NRW carries out periodic site inspections to ensure our compliance with all the relevant consents.

As in standard practice in the quarrying sector, any issues or concerns raised by the regulators during assessments are followed up by the site team and appropriate remedial steps taken – if any are required. In addition, you will be interested to know that Heidelberg Materials is committed to sustainable water management, and we have committed to a 10 per cent reduction in freshwater consumption by 2030 (on a 2020 baseline).

- **Preserving Property values**

Craig-yr-Hesg quarry has helped shape and support the development of the local area for over 130 years. We believe that there is no significant impact because of the approved scheme that would materially change the character of the neighbouring community or impact on the value of housing.

- **Ecosystem conservation**

Working sustainably is at the heart of everything we do. Our 2030 commitments set out our approach, including to being nature positive – contributing positively through our biodiversity programmes and sustainable water management (see our [website](#) for details).

As referenced above, our planning conditions at Craig-yr-Hesg quarry, require both a Species Protection and Habitat Management Plan and a Tree and Woodland Protection Management Plan, approved by the local authority, RCTCBC. These approved schemes along with the construction of the screening bunds have been designed to provide natural screening, noise attenuation, a physical barrier and, importantly, a wildlife/ecological corridor. As mentioned above, over 3,200 new trees will be planted on the main screen bund and around the eastern and northern boundaries of the extension area and this work has already begun. We have also already put up 20 bat boxes and 20 bird boxes as well as 50 dormice nesting boxes to increase the nesting and roosting opportunities across the site. Soils and overburden removed during the phased extraction of the extension area have either been used to create the perimeter screen bund or will be stored for use throughout the progressive restoration, which will see quarry faces in worked out areas restored to enhance the ecological and landscape value of the site.

Our overarching objective is to deliver biodiversity uplift through the positive management of the habitats currently found on site within the quarry and our wider landholding and the creation of a mosaic of woodland, grassland and heathland, reflective of the area's character.

Our site Biodiversity Action Plan is available to view in the documents section of our Craig-yr-Hesg community [website](#). You may also be interested to know that we have annual meetings with the County ecologist to review progress and future activity.

- **Community wellbeing and quality of life**

Heidelberg Materials places the health and wellbeing of employees, communities, and suppliers at the core of our business operations. This includes working to empower the communities where we operate.

As referenced above, many of our other quarries around the UK have well established liaison groups which have helped nurture dialogue and the implementation of meaningful action to the benefit of host communities. Unfortunately, our efforts at Craig-yr-Hesg quarry have previously been rejected, though we continue to work to set one up.

At Craig-yr-Hesg, in addition to actively supporting the development of the local community hall, activity in the community has also included staff volunteering and the donation of materials. For example, earlier this month we agreed to donate some fence posts to a local allotment group so that members can repurpose them to repair their fences after a series of break-ins. We recognise that there is more we can do in this area and our Craig-yr-Hesg community website contains details about our community assistance programme and how local people can make [applications for community support](#).

We are aware that some residents have expressed concerns about the perceived loss of amenity space. However, we should point out that there have never previously been any public rights of access over the quarry extension area, and it was 'first identified in the local authority's 2011 Local Development Plan which would have been consulted on. Nevertheless, to ensure local connectivity and amenity access we are creating a permissive path over land to the north of the extension area to provide pedestrian access from Glyncoch to the Lan Woods to the west.

In addition, as part of our planning application, we offered to gift 11.4 acres of land to extend Coed Craig-yr-Hesg woodland which forms the Local Nature Reserve (LNR). The 40- acre LNR was gifted by us to RCTCBC 1993, together with a sum to manage the woodlands. Although the council did not take us on this, we would be happy to revisit this offer.

- **Risk of structural damage**

As set out at our June 2024 drop-in and in the FAQ section on our website, the way in which a quarry blast is experienced can be shaped by a number of factors including geology, blast design, vibration, air pressure, frequency, distance from the blast quarry face and even the weather.

Quarry blasting in the UK is highly regulated: it has well-defined limits on ground vibration, based on peak particle velocity (PPV). Operating within these standards means that there is no risk of structural damage to nearby homes or buildings.

British Standard 7382: part 2 1993 underpins the stringent blasting regulations that we, like all operators work to. This standard is informed by research that blast vibration values in excess of 50mm/s PPV would be necessary to cause structural damage to homes. The permitted levels for Craig-yr-Hesg quarry allow blasts up to the regulatory limit of 6mm/s Peak Particle Velocity (PPV), at 95% confidence. This reflects planning guidance in Wales.

We are also required to monitor blast vibration in line with a Blast Monitoring Scheme approved by RCTCBC. The average PPV recorded for all blasts at Craig-yr-Hesg quarry since 2018 is below 3 mm/s PPV – so well within the permitted levels on this logarithmic scale. For reference, research has indicated people will generally become aware of blast induced vibration at around 1.5mm/s PPV, so this indicates that people can be aware of blast vibration even when associated vibration levels are low.

Details of forthcoming blasts at Craig-yr-Hesg quarry are posted on signage at the quarry gate and on our community website. Last year we also introduced a free blast notification service via WhatsApp for residents.

- **Planning and zoning consistency**

I am sure you are aware that every local authority is required to maintain supplies of minerals and local mineral plans are developed to ensure that minerals are extracted and used in a way that balances the needs of the economy and society with the impact on the environment. And, of course, minerals can only be extracted where they exist, and this is shaped by geology.

The Regional Technical Statement for Aggregates identifies a need for a minimum Local Plan allocation of 9.5 million tonnes of new crushed rock reserves over nearly 25 years. This was recognised in the adopted RCTCBC 2011 Local Development Plan (LDP) by the inclusion of an area of land adjacent to Craig-yr-Hesg quarry as ‘a preferred area of known minerals resources’. This was the only area identified within the LDP for new aggregates supply.

In May 2015 Heidelberg Materials UK (known as Hanson UK until October 2023) submitted a planning application for a 10 million tonne extension to Craig-yr-Hesg, located within this ‘preferred area’ referenced above. The application took over five years to get to planning committee but, despite policy support and a firm recommendation for approval from planning officers, the planning committee refused the application in July 2020.

An appeal was lodged against that refusal which was ‘called in’ for determination by the Minister for Climate Change and examined at a public inquiry held in June 2022. The Inspector concluded that the proposals, with their associated mitigation measures, would comply with the development plan and relevant Welsh planning policy. In making her recommendation that the appeal be allowed, the Inspector made it clear that she considered her decision to be in accordance with the sustainable development principle of the Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Minister for Climate Change agreed with the Inspector and, as you are aware, allowed the appeal, granting planning permission in October 2022.

With regards to zoning, the creation of screening bunds and planting at Craig-yr-Hesg quarry will further help to provide clear delineation between the site and the surrounding area. It is also worth highlighting that we will continue to adhere to all the stipulated conditions, including, noise and blast vibration, regardless of the distance between the quarry extraction area and the key receptor sites within the community.

To conclude this point, the extension at Craig-yr-Hesg quarry was determined on the basis that it would operate within the existing planning regulatory framework with extensive measures and modern planning conditions in place to mitigate impact and ensure the community and

environment are protected. We are of course aware of proposals to change future and existing buffer zones around quarries debated both in Westminster and more recently in the Senedd. Our response to this reflects those of the Mineral Products Association in that, if imposed, this would be detrimental to ensuring secure supplies of aggregates in Wales. It would also lead to a loss of jobs and inward investment as well as the need to import materials for use in Welsh construction and maintenance projects.

I appreciate that is a lengthy reply to your letter – somewhat reflecting the extensive regulatory and planning regime in place for mineral extraction – and I hope that the above goes some way to providing reassurance. We would of course be happy to answer any further questions you may have.

Kind regards

*Simon Willis*

**Simon Willis**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Heidelberg Materials UK**



deunyddiau hanfodel  
atebion cynaliadwy

essential materials  
sustainable solutions

February 12, 2025

Carolyn Thomas MS  
Chair of the Petitions Committee  
Welsh Parliament  
Cardiff Bay  
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CF99 1SN

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Dear Chair

**Petitions Committee debate on buffer zones**

Following the debate in the Senedd on 16 October last year, on proposals for a 1,000m buffer zone for quarries, and subsequent correspondence between the Petitions Committee and one of our members, we would like to address some of the general policy issues raised. MPA Wales represents the bulk of an industry that operates around 200 sites across Wales providing around 4,000 jobs. Very few quarries would not be affected by the proposed limit.

Members of the Senedd raised a range of concerns, including biodiversity, dust and silica, blasting impact and vehicular traffic. These are issues which are all regulated and controlled either through the planning system, through planning permissions and respective planning conditions, or through separate permits issued by Natural Resources Wales.

We welcome the recognition by some Members of the Senedd of the importance of the materials supplied by our members. Most aggregates quarries supply local or regional demand, so restrictions on quarrying in Wales would have serious impacts throughout the country affecting any aspirations for new housing, schools, hospitals, transport or green energy infrastructure and wider economic growth.

**Biodiversity**

The quarrying industry's biodiversity track record is outstanding and should be seen as a template for other industries. The MPA's Biodiversity Strategy<sup>1</sup> sets out the industry's commitments going forward, while our Fifty-Year celebration document showcases some of the best restorations done to date.<sup>2</sup> MPA members across Great Britain have created 83 square kilometres of priority habitat, with a further 110 square kilometres planned.

<sup>1</sup> [https://mineralproducts.org/MPA/media/root/Publications/2020/MPA\\_Biodiversity\\_Strategy\\_2020.pdf](https://mineralproducts.org/MPA/media/root/Publications/2020/MPA_Biodiversity_Strategy_2020.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://mineralproducts.org/Publications/Natural-Environment/Quarries\\_and\\_Nature\\_50\\_Year\\_Success\\_Story.aspx](https://mineralproducts.org/Publications/Natural-Environment/Quarries_and_Nature_50_Year_Success_Story.aspx)

The progressive restoration of quarries for nature creates incredible habitat, as part of the business-as-usual planning and permitting process. This is overseen by local authorities and Natural Resources Wales. MPA members work closely with environmental NGOs including the Wildlife Trusts and RSPB to restore and manage sites post extraction.

### **Dust and Silica**

Silica dust is tightly controlled and is strictly a workplace hazard affecting those working closely with the cutting and processing of extracted materials. To quote the UK Health and Safety Executive:

*“Silicosis is a disease that has only been seen in workers from industries where there is a significant exposure to silica dust, such as in quarries, foundries, the potteries etc. No cases of silicosis have been documented among members of the general public in Great Britain, indicating that environmental exposures to silica dust are not sufficiently high to cause this occupational disease.” (Our underlining)<sup>3</sup>*

We would hope that the debate in Wales on quarrying would reflect both the type of extraction done here, and the regulatory and planning systems in place. The debate cited the Environmental Working Group’s advocacy and research into open sand mines as operated in Wisconsin and Minnesota. These represent very different operations to the majority of quarries under consideration in Wales, comprising large scale extraction of shallow industrial sand deposits. It is further worth noting that an independent Health impact Assessment conducted by the Institute for Wisconsin’s Health concluded that:

*“Health effects from the impact of industrial sand mining on community-level air quality related to PM10 are unlikely. In addition, it is unlikely that community members will be exposed to respirable crystalline silica from industrial sand mining as currently regulated; therefore, health effects from exposure are unlikely.”<sup>4</sup>*

We would further add that both the environmental conditions and the regulatory and legal controls on operations in the UK are completely different.

### **Blasting**

Blasting is controlled through the planning system, following long-established principles. The levels of permitted ground vibration routinely stipulated in planning conditions are significantly below what would cause structural damage at a distance. The air pressure associated with blasting can rattle windows, depending upon the climatic conditions at the time of the blast, but at a strength similar to a strong wind. These planning conditions are also regularly reviewed through the statutory Mineral Review process. We would be happy to try to arrange a briefing for Senedd Members, as this is a highly technical area.

### **Vehicle movement and community engagement**

Vehicle movements to and from quarries are essential but their effects can be an issue for local communities. Again, where concerns have been raised vehicle movements are managed through the planning process, with the industry applying controls such as wheel washing to reduce inconvenience. We expect a high level of safety standards from the industry working with a range of partners including

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.hse.gov.uk/quarries/silica.htm>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.pewtrusts.org/-/media/assets/external-sites/health-impact-project/iwhi-2016-sand-mining-report.pdf>

Construction Logistics and Community Safety (CLOCS) and standards including FORS. MPA supports the work of the Mineral Products Qualification Council to ensure appropriate standards in the industry and publishes the Driver Handbook.

We expect local quarry operators, the local authorities and community representatives to liaise closely to minimise the impact of traffic movements. This usually works well where each side works openly and transparently, however, we are aware of a very small number of instances, where despite the quarrying company's best efforts, some communities or their local representatives will not engage in local community liaison groups. The industry works hard to use rail and water options where possible and would welcome the Senedd's support for growing our use of rail freight to reduce lorry movements where this is feasible.

### **Evidence and essentiality**

It was disappointing to see elected representatives allege health impacts and examples of structural damage without substantiating evidence. We are aware that fears may be whipped up in communities to oppose planning applications that are unpopular for other reasons, but this is not a basis for national policy formulation. The minerals industry invests millions of pounds in Wales providing essential materials for roads, houses, public services, transport, water and energy infrastructure, and provides thousands of well-paid, high-productivity jobs. Without local supplies of aggregates Wales would be reliant on external supplies, with higher carbon emissions from transport.

Great Britain as a whole is not replenishing its supplies of construction aggregates fully; over the last decade, for every 100 tonnes of crushed rock sold permission was granted for only 33 tonnes.<sup>5</sup> A functioning planning and permitting system is needed to make sure that the demand for construction aggregates for homes, infrastructure, public services, commercial and industrial uses can continue to be met in the long term.

Yours sincerely

**David Harding**  
**Secretary**  
**MPA Wales**

<sup>5</sup> Mineral Products Association: Annual Mineral Products Supply Survey 2023: [https://mineralproducts.org/MPA/media/root/News/2024/AMPS\\_Report\\_2023.pdf](https://mineralproducts.org/MPA/media/root/News/2024/AMPS_Report_2023.pdf)

**Dewiswch iaith a diwyg eich dogfen | Available in alternative formats and languages**

Croesawn ohebu yn Gymraeg a fydd gohebu yn y Gymraeg ddim yn arwain at oedi. Rhowch wybod inni beth yw'ch dewis iaith e.e. Cymraeg neu ddwyieithog.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh and corresponding with us in Welsh will not lead to a delay. Let us know your language choice if Welsh or bilingual



Carolyn Thomas AS,  
Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau  
Senedd Cymru  
Bae Caerdydd  
Caerdydd  
CF99 1SN

**CC:** Heledd Fychan AS; Rhys ab Owen AS; Andrew RT Davies AS; Joel James AS; Vikki Howells AS; Mick Antoniw AS; Hefin David AS; Llyr Gruffydd AS; Mark Isherwood AS; Delyth Jewell AS.

14 Chwefror 2025

Annwyl Carolyn,

**Parthed: Deiseb P-06-1476 Clustogfa orfodol 1000-metr ar gyfer yr holl chwareli newydd a phresennol**

Diolch am eich llythyr, dyddiedig 9 Rhagfyr 2024, ynghylch y ddeiseb uchod, a drafodwyd gan y Pwyllgor Deisebau yn ei gyfarfod ar 18 Tachwedd 2024.

Mae'r ddeiseb yn cynnig clustogfa orfodol o 1000 metr o leiaf rhwng yr holl chwareli newydd a phresennol a phob ardal breswyl, ysgol, ysbyty a chyfleusterau gofal. Mater o bolisi cynllunio yw hwn, a chaiff ei neilltuo i Lywodraeth Cymru benderfynu arno. Gan nad yw hwn yn fater i'r Cyngor yma, byddaf yn cyfyngu fy sylwadau i'ch cais am wybodaeth fanwl ynghylch y camau y mae'r Cyngor yn eu cymryd i ymdrin â phryderon trigolion, ymgysylltu â gweithredwr y safleoedd a'r trefniadau ar gyfer ymgysylltu â'r gymuned.

Un o rolau allweddol y Cyngor o ran ymdrin â phryderon trigolion sy'n byw yng nghyffiniau chwarel Craig yr Hesg yw sicrhau y cedwir at yr amodau a nodir yn y caniatâd cynllunio a roddwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Cafodd nifer o'r amodau hynny eu nodi'n benodol i liniaru effaith y chwarel ar amodau byw trigolion. Mae'r amodau hyn yn cynnwys materion yn ymwneud â byndiau sgrinio, lefelau sŵn, llygredd golau, sut a phryd y gellir cynnal gwaith ffrwydro a chloddio, sut a phryd y mae cerbydau nwyddau trwm yn mynd i mewn i'r safle ac yn gadael, cynlluniau rheoli llwch, ble a sut y gall peiriannau gwasgu a sgrinio weithio, ac ati.

Mae'r Cyngor wedi bod yn monitro'r safle, a byddwn ni'n parhau i wneud hynny, yn ogystal â gweithio'n agos gyda'r ymgynghorwyr perthnasol a benodwyd gan weithredwyr y chwarel i sicrhau y cydymffurfir â'r holl amodau. Hyd heddiw, nid oes unrhyw achosion o dorri rheolau cynllunio wedi digwydd yn y chwarel, ac mae'r holl amodau perthnasol yn destun cydymffurfiaeth.

Mae hefyd yn bwysig bod trigolion yn teimlo'n hyderus bod y chwarel yn cydymffurfio â'r amodau hyn, ac mae swyddogion y Cyngor wedi cyfarfod yn rheolaidd â thrigolion i ddeall eu pryderon a darparu gwybodaeth a sicrwydd ynghylch sut yr ymdrinnir ag amodau'r caniatâd cynllunio.

Roedd un o'r ceisiadau gan drigolion yn y cyfarfodydd yma'n ymwneud â'r posibilrwydd o gyflwyno rhyw fath o borth ar-lein a fyddai'n caniatáu iddynt weld yr wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am yr amodau a materion cynllunio eraill. Mewn ymateb i hyn, rydym wedi datblygu tudalen we bwrpasol sy'n ymwneud â datblygiad y chwarel y gall trigolion gael mynediad iddi unrhyw bryd. Mae'r wybodaeth ar y tudalennau gwe wedi'i datblygu drwy ymgynghoriad â thrigolion ac maen nhw bellach yn barod i gael ei lansio. Dangosir enghreifftiau o'r hyn sydd wedi'i gynnwys ar y tudalennau yn yr atodiad i'r llythyr hwn. Yn ogystal â hynny, mae'r Cyngor wedi rhoi cyfeiriad e-bost pwrpasol i drigolion fel bod modd iddyn nhw godi unrhyw ymholiadau sydd ganddyn nhw am Graig yr Hesg. Mae'r cyfrif yma wedyn yn cael ei fonitro gan swyddogion perthnasol.

Yn ogystal â'i rôl o ran cydymffurfio â chaniatâd cynllunio'r Chwarel, mae gan y Cyngor hefyd rôl reoleiddio i sicrhau bod gweithredwr chwarel Craig yr Hesg yn cydymffurfio â'i drwydded amgylcheddol. Mae hyn yn cyd-fynd â chyfrifoldeb ehangach i fonitro ansawdd aer lleol i ddeall yr effaith y mae'r chwarel yn ei chael ar ansawdd aer Glyn-coch.

O ran ei rwymedigaethau rheoli ansawdd aer lleol, mae'r Cyngor yn cyflawni gwaith monitro, yn adrodd ac yn cynnal asesiad statudol o lefelau amgylchynol o Faterion Gronynnol (PM)<sub>10</sub> mewn aer allanol. Roedd buddsoddiad gan y Cyngor yn 2023 wedi golygu bod modd monitro PM<sub>10</sub> a PM<sub>2.5</sub> mewn lleoliad o fewn Glyn-coch. Mae'r Cyngor yn monitro ac yn adrodd ar lefelau PM<sub>2.5</sub> yn yr awyr allanol yng Nglyn-coch, ond mae'r asesiad statudol o PM<sub>2.5</sub> yn cael ei wneud gan Lywodraeth Cymru.

Ar hyn o bryd mae'r Cyngor yn monitro PM mewn lleoliad ar hyd Coedlan Garth, Glyn-coch (safle 130), gyda chanlyniadau parhaus o lefelau PM<sub>2.5</sub> a PM<sub>10</sub> yn cael eu nodi mor agos â phosibl at amser real yma: <https://www.airquality.gov.wales/cy/air-pollution/site/RHD7>. Mae'r Cyngor yn gwerthuso ac yn asesu ei ddata monitro ansawdd aer fel mater o drefn er mwyn gallu ystyried cydymffurfiaeth â'r Amcan Ansawdd Aer perthnasol ar gyfer PM<sub>10</sub>. Mae'r Cyngor yn llunio adroddiad ansawdd aer blynyddol sy'n cynnwys dadansoddiad o waith monitro a wnaed yng Nglyn-coch ac mae'r adroddiad cyhoeddedig diweddaraf ar gael ar wefan y Cyngor:

<https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Business/LicencesandPermits/Pollutionrelatedlicences/RelatedDocuments/RCTCBC2023ProgressReport.pdf>. Mae Adroddiad Cynnydd 2024 yn mynd drwy broses gymeradwyo'r Cyngor ar hyn o bryd, ac rydym ni'n bwriadu cynnal ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus yn y misoedd nesaf.

Cafodd y broses ddethol ar gyfer yr offer monitro ansawdd aer yng Nghoedlan Garth ei chynnal yn unol â dyletswydd y Cyngor i ystyried cydymffurfiaeth â'r Amcanion Ansawdd Aer perthnasol ar gyfer PM<sub>10</sub>, fel sydd wedi'u nodi yn neddfwriaeth Ansawdd Aer/y Canllawiau Statudol perthnasol a osodwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru. O ran lleoliad y safle monitro RCTCBC/130, nodwyd bod Coedlan Garth yn ardal sy'n debygol o gynrychioli amodau lleol sy'n cael eu heffeithio'n fwyaf cyson gan weithgarwch perthnasol yn ymwneud â Chwarel Craig yr Hesg, yn enwedig gweithrediad y prif beiriant mathru. Wrth ddewis y lleoliad hwn, rhoddwyd ystyriaeth i nifer o ffactorau a nodir yn y canllawiau statudol, gan gynnwys presenoldeb poblogaeth berthnasol, pellter ac uchder oddi wrth ffynonellau posibl o PM<sub>10</sub>, topograffeg yr amgylchedd trefol, y tywydd ar y pryd, trefniadau logistaidd, a gofynion mynediad.

O ran safonau'r offer monitro a ddefnyddir, mae'r cyfarpar a'r dull wedi'u hardystio gan Mcerts. Maen nhw hefyd wedi'u cynnwys ar restr 'Cymeradwyaeth y DU o Offerynnau Monitro Mater Gronynnol', fel dull monitro sy'n cyfateb i'r Dull Cyfeirio Ewropeaidd, sy'n ofyniad yr oedd angen i'r Cyngor ei ystyried hefyd. Mae'r data monitro diweddaraf yn dangos cydymffurfiaeth â'r Amcan Ansawdd Aer cyfredol. Er gwaethaf hyn, bydd y Cyngor yn parhau i fonitro'r lefelau yng Nglyn-coch ac yn adolygu ei rwydwaith monitro ansawdd aer yn rheolaidd er mwyn galluogi unrhyw newidiadau gofynnol i'r sefyllfa ansawdd aer sy'n datblygu, tra'n ystyried ei ddyletswyddau statudol hefyd.

Mewn perthynas â gofynion trwyddedu a osodwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru, mae'r Cyngor yn rheoleiddio allyriadau llygredd i aer o weithgareddau prosesu penodol yn chwarel Craig yr Hesg trwy Drwydded Amgylcheddol Rhan B. Mae'r Drwydded yn bodoli ar wahân i unrhyw ganiatâd cynllunio, a gellir ei diwygio o bryd i'w gilydd i adlewyrchu arferion cyfredol a chanllawiau statudol. Mae'r Cyngor yn parhau i ymgysylltu â Gweithredwr chwarel Craig yr Hesg ynghylch ei berfformiad amgylcheddol. Mae modd i'r ymgysylltiad hwn ddigwydd oherwydd pryder penodol a dderbyniwyd drwy law'r Gymuned neu'r Gweithredwr. Yn ogystal â hynny, cynhelir ymweliadau yn rhan o raglen o arolygiadau wedi'u hamserlennu i wirio cydymffurfiaeth ag amodau'r drwydded amgylcheddol.

Mae'r sefyllfa yng Nglyn-coch ac effaith Chwarel Craig yr Hesg ar ansawdd aer lleol yn parhau i fod o ddiddordeb sylweddol i'r Cyngor a chydnyddir y gwaith y mae aelodau'r gymuned wedi gallu ei wneud i'w galluogi i ffurfio eu dealltwriaeth annibynnol eu hunain o'r sefyllfa. Pe bai trigolyn yn credu ei fod yn profi aflonyddwch llwch uniongyrchol o ganlyniad i ddigwyddiad penodol neu o ganlyniad i weithgarwch parhaus, byddai o gymorth pe bai cymaint o fanylion â phosibl yn cael eu hanfon at [LlygreddyAmgylchedd@rctcbc.gov.uk](mailto:LlygreddyAmgylchedd@rctcbc.gov.uk). Wedyn, gall y Cyngor ystyried y mater ymhellach i benderfynu a oes cymryd unrhyw gamau gorfodi perthnasol.

Fel yr ydych chi wedi cyfeirio ato yn eich llythyr, mae un o amodau'r caniatâd cynllunio yn gofyn am ffurfio pwyllgor/grŵp cyswllt safle. Nid yw sefydlu grŵp o'r fath wedi bod yn broses rhwydd. Yn gyntaf, roedd rhaid ail-feithrin ymddiriedaeth rhwng y gymuned, gweithredwyr y chwarel, a'r Cyngor hwn.

I fynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn, ac ar gais y Cynghorydd ward lleol, mae'r Cyngor wedi cynnal cyfres o gyfarfodydd gyda chynrychiolwyr y gymuned i ymateb i'w pryderon ac i weithio tuag at sefyllfa lle gellir sefydlu grŵp cyswllt cymunedol. Arweiniwyd y cyfarfodydd hyn gan Brif Weithredwr y Cyngor, gyda chefnogaeth uwch swyddogion perthnasol ac Ymgynghorydd Iechyd Cyhoeddus o Fwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Cwm Taf Morgannwg. Yn ogystal â chynrychiolwyr o'r gymuned, mae Aelodau Etholedig ac Aelodau'r Senedd wedi cymryd rhan hefyd.

Mae cynnydd sylweddol wedi'i wneud. Ar 18 Rhagfyr 2024, cynhaliodd y Cyngor gyfarfod ar y cyd gyda chynrychiolwyr y gymuned ac, am y tro cyntaf, swyddogion gweithredwr y chwarel. Mae cylch gorchwyl drafft ar gyfer sefydlu grŵp cyswllt safle yn ffurfiol bellach wedi'i gytuno. Felly, rydym yn disgwyl y bydd cyfres o gyfarfodydd grŵp cyswllt safle yn cael eu cynnal bob chwarter wrth symud ymlaen, ac mae trefniadau'n cael eu gwneud ar hyn o bryd i benodi cadeirydd annibynnol a chynnal cyfarfod ffurfiol cyntaf y grŵp cyswllt cymunedol.

Hyderaf fod yr wybodaeth uchod yn rhoi sicrwydd i'r pwyllgor bod y Cyngor yn cymryd ei rwymedigaethau statudol o ddifrif wrth gyflawni ei rôl reoleiddiol yn briodol. Mae'r Cyngor yn cydnabod y trallod a'r pryder y mae ehangu'r chwarel wedi'i achosi i gymuned Glyn-coch, ac yn gwneud popeth o fewn ei allu i weithio gyda'r gymuned, gweithredwr y chwarel, arweinwyr cymunedol a rhanddeiliaid eraill i fynd i'r afael â'u pryderon a sefydlu trefniadau cyswllt cymunedol effeithiol cyn gynted â phosibl.

Yn gywir,

*A. Morgan*

**Andrew Morgan, OBE**

**Arweinydd ac Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Isadeiledd a Buddsoddi**

Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Investment

**Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol dros Ward Aberpennar**

County Borough Councillor for the Mountain Ash Ward

Swyddfa'r Cabinet, 2 Llys Cadwyn, Stryd y Taf

Cabinet Office, 2 Llys Cadwyn, Taff Street, Pontypridd, CF37 4TH

Ebost/Email: [Andrew.Morgan2@rctcbc.gov.uk](mailto:Andrew.Morgan2@rctcbc.gov.uk)



**MAE EICH DATA O BWYS** [www.rctcbc.gov.uk/diogeludata](http://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/diogeludata)  
**YOUR DATA MATTERS** [www.rctcbc.gov.uk/dataprotection](http://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/dataprotection)



## ATODIAD 1 Tudalennau Gwe Chwarel Craig yr Hesg

Gweler sgrinlun isod. Mae pob tudalen yn cynnwys:

- Ffrwydro – trosolwg o'r hyn a ganiateir o ran ffrwydro a chopi o'r daenlen ffrwydro a ddarparwyd gan Heidelberg Materials
- Amodau cynllunio – trosolwg o'r hyn sydd wedi'i gynnwys yn yr Hysbysiad o Benderfyniad Byw a dolenni i adroddiad yr Arolygydd, penderfyniad Gweinidogion Cymru a manylion Mynediad Cyhoeddus, lle gall trigolion weld pob cais Rhyddhau Amodau a Hysbysiad Penderfyniad Byw.
- Diweddariadau am ymchwiliadau – bydd y dudalen hon yn cynnwys manylion y materion a godwyd gan drigolion, yr hyn rydym wedi'i wneud o ran ymchwilio a statws y mater.
- Ansawdd Aer - Dolenni: <https://www.airquality.gov.wales/cy/air-pollution/site/RHD7> a [https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/CY/Business/LicencesandPermits/Pollutionrelatedlicences/AirQuality.aspx?\\_gl=1\\*prqzwx\\*\\_qcl\\_au\\*MTI3Nzc1OTg5My4xNzMxMzI3NzMz](https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/CY/Business/LicencesandPermits/Pollutionrelatedlicences/AirQuality.aspx?_gl=1*prqzwx*_qcl_au*MTI3Nzc1OTg5My4xNzMxMzI3NzMz)
- Grŵp Cyswilt Cymunedol – Dyddiadau ac amseroedd cyfarfodydd a chofnodion (lle mae cofnodion ar gael)

### Craig Yr Hesg

Mae Chwarel Craig yr Hesg yn chwarel sydd wedi sefydlu ers yr 1890au.

Mae'r chwarel tua 1 cilometr i'r gogledd o Bontypridd, ger pentref Glyn-coch.

Mae gyda'r safle fynediad dwy-ffordd ar hyd y B4273 Heol Ynysybwl ger Teras Rogart. Ar hyn o bryd, mae'r chwarel yn bennaf yn gweithredu ar ei ochr orllewinol, ond mae gweithrediadau'n digwydd i gyfeiriad y gogledd-orllewin hefyd. Mae'r safle prosesu yn rhan ddwyreiniol y chwarel.

Cafodd y cynnig i barhau â'r gwaith yn y safle presennol yn ogystal â'r caniatâd ar gyfer ymestyn y chwarel eu cymeradwyo gan Weinidogion Llywodraeth Cymru ar 11 Hydref 2022 yn dilyn Ymchwiliad Cyhoeddus.



#### Ffrwydro

Information about the monitoring of blasting at the quarry.

Blasting



#### Amodau Cynllunio

Gweld amodau cynllunio sydd wedi'u bodloni a'u rhyddhau.

Cynllunio



#### Diweddaraŵ ar Ymchwiliadau

Gweld y diweddariadau diweddaraŵ ar ymchwiliadau a manylion am sut i roi gwybod am bryderon.

Diweddaraŵ



#### Air Quality

Provisional results of local air quality monitoring from Air Quality Wales along with The Council's annual air quality progress report.

Reports



#### Grŵp Cyswilt Cymunedol

Gweld cofnodion o gyfarfodydd blaenorol a manylion cyfarfodydd cyswilt sydd ar y gweill.



#### Dadl ar Gynnig Deddfwriaethol gan Aelod

Bli yn ymwneud â phrosesu cynllunio ar gyfer datblygu chwarel - Y Cyfarfod Llawn - Dydd Mercher, 16 Hydref 2024 13.30

Cysylltwch â ni:

E-bost: [Craigyrhesg.Cynllunio@rctcbc.gov.uk](mailto:Craigyrhesg.Cynllunio@rctcbc.gov.uk)

## Ffrwydro

O ran cymeradwyo gweithrediadau parhaus y chwarel, roedd Gweinidogion Llywodraeth Cymru yn fodlon bod modd rheoli'r gwaith ffrwydro er mwyn iddo gydymffurfio â'r cyfyngiadau sydd wedi'u nodi yn y polisi cynllunio cenedlaethol cyfredol, Nodyn Cyngor Technegol Mwynau (MTAN) 1: Agregau. Mae hyn yn cael ei gyflawni trwy gyflwyno amodau cynllunio sy'n nodi terfynau mwyaf derbyniol o ran sain a dirgrynu. Dyma'r amodau:

Dim ond rhwng 10am a 4pm o ddydd Llun i ddydd Gwener y bydd ffrwydradau yn cael eu cynnal yn y chwarel. Ni fyddan nhw'n cael eu cynnal o gwbl ar ddydd Sadwrn, dydd Sul na Gwyliau'r Banc, (ac eithrio argyfyngau).

Bydd pob ffrwydrad unigol yn cael ei fonitro yn unol â'r cynllun monitro ffrwydradau wedi'i gytuno arno a bydd yr holl fonitro'n cael ei wneud yn unol â thelerau'r cynllun.

Ni ddylid cynnal ail ffrwydradau ar y safle.

Dylid cynllunio a rheoli'r holl ffrwydradau unigol, gan weithredu i leihau graddau'r gorbwysedd aer o ganlyniad i'r ffrwydrad. Os bydd gorbwysedd aer yn fwy na 120db, mewn unrhyw eiddo preswyl sensitif gerllaw, dylid rhoi gwybod i'r Awdurdod Cynllunio Lleol o fewn 7 diwrnod ac adolygu camau rheoli a dylunio gweithriad y ffrwydradau cyn i unrhyw ffrwydro pellach ddigwydd. Dylai ffrwydradau yn y dyfodol gael eu cynnal yn unol â chanfyddiadau'r adolygiad

### Yn ychwanegol:

- Dylid hysbysebu amseroedd y ffrwydradau yn amlwg yn y chwarel
- Bydd rhybudd sy'n glywadwy ar ffin y safle yn cael ei seinio cyn ac ar ôl cynnal ffrwydrad
- Bydd amseroedd ffrwydro yn cael eu hysbysebu'n glir ar wefan y gweithredwr o leiaf 24 awr cyn cynnal ffrwydrad
- Cyn i ffrwydrad gael ei gynnal, bydd yn cael ei hysbysebu ar y cyfryngau cymdeithasol o leiaf 24 awr ymlaen llaw.

## Craig Yr Hesg Blasting Database (redacted)

Sylwch fod y daflen ddata ffrwydro isod wedi'i darparu gan Heidelberg Materials a bydd yn cael ei lanlwytho cyn gynted ag y bo'n ymarferol ar ôl iddi gael ei derbyn, ei golygu a'i chyfieithu.



Gewld ein Cronfa Ddata Ffrwydro Craig Yr Hesg 578 Kb

## Amodau Cynllunio

Mae'r hysbysiad Penderfyniad Byw ar gyfer Craig yr Hesg yn manylu ar amodau gwreiddiol penderfyniad yr apêl ac yn cynnwys manylion ynddo am bob amod sydd wedi'i fodloni ac felly wedi'i ryddhau.

Bydd manylion y cyflwr ym edrych fel y tabl isod a'y'n dangos:

Cytunwyd ar y manylion: Geirnod yr amod a'y'n cael ei ryddhau.

- Rhif y cais dyma'r cyfeirnod cynllunio ar gyfer y cais rhyddhau amod (gallwch ddefnyddio 8 digid cyntaf y cyfeirnod hwn i chwilio am y cais ar y gofrest ar-lein - Chwiliad Symil ([nctcbc.gov.uk](https://nctcbc.gov.uk))).
- Dyddiad penderfynu: y dyddiad y rhyddhawyd yr amod.
- Awdurdod a'y'n Penderfynu: yr awdurdod a'y'n cymeradwyo rhyddhau amod.
- Rhif Diwygiad: v.1 yw'r caniatâd gwreiddiol. Bydd v.2, v.3 ac ati yn dilyn wrth i amodau goel eu cyflawni.
- Nodiadau: ni fydd hyn yn ymddangos ar bob ochor o gyflawni amodau ond gall ymddangos fel pe bai'n rhoi gwybodaeth ychwanegol neu eglurhad.

Manylion wedi eu cytuno	Cynllun bodu a phlannu cais ar gyfer Tirfurf Sgrinio'r Gogledd a pharatol llwng Sgrin y Gorllewin
Rhif Cais	20/0000/20
Dyddiad Penderfyniad	25/03/2024
Awdurdod Penderfynu	Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC
Rhif adolygu	v.2

Coiff Penderfyniadau Byw eu tanlytho i'r cais gwreiddiol (yn yr ochor hwn 15/0000) ac i'r cyfeirnod cynllunio penodol ar gyfer rhyddhau amod.

	<a href="#">Hysbysiad penderfyniad byw (cyfeirnodau cynllunio 240487D05, 240180D05 a 240388D05)</a>	238 Kb
	<a href="#">Llythyr penderfyniad Gweinidogion Cymru</a>	451 Kb
	<a href="#">Adroddiad yr Analygydd</a>	1.42 Mb
	<a href="#">Gwrthod Caniatâd Cynllunio Llawn</a>	116 Kb

# Diweddaraaf ar Ymchwiliadau

## Nadroedd Defaid

Mae Ecolegydd y Cyngor wedi bod yn ymweld â'r safle i weld cynnydd y gwaith clirio llystyfiant, dymchwel waliau a dechrau'r gwaith clirio'r safle. Mae hyn am eu bod nhw'n ymwneud â gwaith lliniaru ymlusgiaid angenrheidiol mewn perthynas â'r amod cynllunio sydd wedi'i gymeradwyo.

O ganlyniad i hyn, mae Ecolegydd y Cyngor wedi derbyn e-bost yn nodi diweddariad cynnydd gan Heidelberg Materials (mae cyfrif e-bost Craig yr Hesg RhCT a chydweithwyr wedi derbyn yr un e-bost hefyd). Yn seiliedig ar ei ymweliad â'r safle a'r e-bost yn nodi diweddariad cynnydd, mae'n hyderus bod y mesurau lliniaru ymlusgiaid a oedd wedi'u cymeradwyo yn unol â'r amod cynllunio wedi'u rhoi ar waith mewn modd addas, ond byddwn ni'n parhau i fonitro lles y nadroedd defaid (a rhywogaethau eraill) drwy gydol y datblygiad

**Statws: achos ar gau Awst 2024**

## Bwndiau

Rydyn ni'n ymwybodol bod gwaith adeiladu'r bwndiau ger ffin y safle wedi bod yn peri pryder i drigolion. Rydyn ni'n ymchwilio i'r mater yma ar hyn o bryd. Mae pryder wedi'i fynegi hefyd bod deunydd o'r chwarel bresennol wedi'i ddefnyddio er mwyn adeiladu'r bwndiau. Fodd bynnag, yn dilyn archwiliad, rydyn ni wedi canfod bod hyn yn cydymffurfio â thelerau'r caniatâd a gafodd ei gymeradwyo.

Mae Heidelberg Materials wedi rhoi gwybod y bydd gwaith adeiladu'r bwndiau yn golygu bod mynediad i'r tir cyfagos wedi'i gyfyngu am oddeutu pedair wythnos.

**Statws: Yn agored. Gwiriadau i'w cynnal unwaith y bydd y byndiau wedi'u hadeiladu**

## Sut i roi gwybod am doriad cynllunio?

Il roi gwybod am achos o fethu cydymffurfio â chaniatâd cynllunio, ewch i:

[Edrychwch Ar Ein Tudalen Gorfodi Cynllunio I Gael Gwybod Mwy](#)

## Ansawdd Aer

[Cynllun Rheoli a Monitro Lluch](#)

### [AnsawddAerCymru.gov.wales](#)

Canlyniadau monitro ansawdd aer lleol cyfredol dros dro ar wefan allanol Ansawdd Aer Cymru. (Sylwer mai data dros dro yw hwn, a all goel ei newid wrth iddo gael ei ddilysu a'i gadarnhau wedi hynny)

### [Tudalen Gwe Ansawdd Aer Rhondda Cynon Taf](#)

Adroddiad cynnydd ansawdd aer blyneddol y Cyngor

## Dolenni cyswllt defnyddiol

- Tudalen gymunedol chwarel Craig yr Hesg | Heidelberg Materials UK
- <https://www.cleanairhub.org.uk/>
- Statutory nuisance
- Environmental permitting

### Y cais cynllunio a gyflwynwyd i Adran Gynllunio Rhondda Cynon Taf

- 15/0666/FUL – Estyniad gorllewinol i'r chwarel bresennol, i gynnwys echdynnu 10 millwn tunnell ychwanegol o dywodfaen pennant yn raddol, adeiladu byndiau sgrinio, gwaith cysylltiedig, a chydgrynhoi pob caniatâd cynllunio mwynau blaenorol yn Chwarel Craig yr Hesg, gan gynnwys estyn y dyddiad gorffen ar gyfer chwarella a chynllun adfer cyffredinol (gwybodaeth ychwanegol wedi'i nodi yn yr adroddiad "Materion Ues ac Iechyd yr Amgylchedd") Chwarel Craig yr Hesg, Heol Berw, Pontypridd CF37 3BG ([rctcbc.gov.uk](http://rctcbc.gov.uk))

### Ceisiadau Rhyddhau Amodau

- 24/1123/DIS | Discharge of condition 23(d) Blasting, | Craig Yr Hesg Quarry Berw Road Pontypridd Rhondda Cynon Taf CF37 3BG
- 24/0487/DIS | Rhyddhau Amod 15 manylion adeiladu'r llwybr (15/0666/10) | Chwarel Craig yr Hesg, Heol Berw, Pontypridd CF37 3BG ([rctcbc.gov.uk](http://rctcbc.gov.uk))
- 24/0190/DIS | Rhyddhau Amodau 31 Cynllun Rheoli a Monitro Sŵm Diwygledig, 37 Cynllun Ymchwilio Ysgrifenedig Archaeoleg a 49 Cynllun ar gyfer hadu a rheoli byndiau storio pridd yn unol â chaniatâd cynllunio blaenorol 15/0666/10 | Chwarel Craig yr Hesg, Heol Berw, Pontypridd CF37 3BG ([rctcbc.gov.uk](http://rctcbc.gov.uk))
- 23/0388/DIS | Rhyddhau Amod 7 Cynllun Gwarchod Rhywogaethau a Rheoli Cynefin, 38, 38 (a) a 38(b) Cynllun Gwarchod Cynefin cyf EC1, Cynllun Rheoli Coed a Choetiroadd, 51 Cynllun Adfer Dros Dro, 56 Strategaeth Cyfathrebu ac Ymgysylltu Cymunedol (15/0666/ 10) | Chwarel Craig yr Hesg, Heol Berw, Pontypridd CF37 3BG ([rctcbc.gov.uk](http://rctcbc.gov.uk))

Rebecca Evans AS/MS  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi, Ynni a Chynllunio  
Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-06-1476  
Ein cyf/Our ref RE/10551/24

Carolyn Thomas AS  
Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau  
Senedd Cymru  
Bae Caerdydd  
Caerdydd  
CF99 1SN

5 Mawrth 2025

Annwyl Carolyn,

Diolch am eich llythyr ynglŷn â'r ddeiseb am glustogfa orfodol 1,000 metr ar gyfer pob chwarel newydd a chwareli presennol.

Fel yr amlinellais yn ystod y ddadl ar gynnig deddfwriaethol yn ôl ym mis Hydref 2024, nid wyf yn cytuno y byddai deddfwriaeth newydd yn briodol nac yn effeithiol gan fod amgylchiadau'n amrywio fesul achos. Mae polisi cynllunio yn fwy cynnil na deddfwriaeth ac mae'n gallu bod mewn sefyllfa fwy lleol, a sensitif, gan adlewyrchu amgylchiadau lleol. Pe bai tystiolaeth yn awgrymu nad yw polisi neu gyngor bellach yn effeithiol byddai adolygu canllawiau yn cael ei ystyried. Ni fyddai hyn mor hawdd ei gyflawni drwy'r llwybr deddfwriaethol.

Gallai parth clustogi gorfodol o 1,000 metr arwain at ganlyniadau anfwriadol gan atal defnydd tir at ddibenion eraill; gwahardd neu effeithio'n andwyol ar ddarparu seilwaith allweddol, er enghraifft.

Isafswm pellter ar gyfer parthau clustogi a nodir ar hyn o bryd yn Nodyn Cyngor Technegol Mwynau 1: Cyrhaeddwyd at agregau (MTAN1) o 200 metr ar gyfer creigiau caled a 100 metr ar gyfer tywod a graean trwy ystyriaeth ac ymgynghoriad gofalus.

Pe bai isafswm pellter parth byffer yn cael ei ymestyn, byddai defnydd tir sensitif fel tai yn dal i fodoli o fewn y parth byffer. Gallai cynnydd cyffredinol yn isafswm maint parth clustogi gael goblygiadau ehangach trwy sterileiddio'r defnydd o'r tir at ddibenion eraill. Y parth clustogi 200m a amlinellir mewn polisi cenedlaethol yw'r pellter gwahanu lleiaf sy'n ofynnol, a dylid diffinio'r parth clustogi o ymyl allanol yr ardal lle mae'r gwaith cloddio a phrosesu yn digwydd, gan gynnwys y ffyrdd cludo ar y safle, yn hytrach nag o ffin y safle. Byddai terfyn pellaf y parth clustogi yn dibynnu ar nifer o ffactorau: ar y math o waith, ac ar ei faint a'i leoliad; topograffi'r ardal gyfagos; y lefelau presennol a disgwylidig o sŵn a llwch; y lefelau presennol a disgwylidig o ddirgrynu oherwydd y gwaith ffrwydro; ac unrhyw fesurau lliniaru.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

[Correspondence.Rebecca.Evans@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Rebecca.Evans@gov.wales)  
[Gohebiaeth.Rebecca.Evans@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Rebecca.Evans@llyw.cymru)

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg. Bydd unrhyw ohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn cael ei hateb yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

**Tudalen y pecyn 74**  
We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Mae'n bwysig deall y bydd parthau clustogi o reidrwydd yn amrywio o ran maint yn dibynnu ar y mwynau sy'n cael eu cloddio a natur y llawdriniaeth. Rhaid diffinio a nodi pob parth clustogi yn glir ar fap cynigion y cynllun datblygu lleol.

Fel yr amlinellir ym Mholisi Cynllunio Cymru, mae yn bwysig hefyd darparu polisiau sy'n gwarchod mwynau posibl rhag datblygiadau parhaol eraill a fyddai naill ai yn eu sterileiddio neu'n rhwystro gwaith cloddio, naill ai nawr neu yn y dyfodol wrth i dechnoleg newid.

Pan roddir caniatâd cynllunio, bydd yn ddarostyngedig i amodau cynllunio sy'n cael eu monitro, ac os bydd angen ei orfodi gan yr awdurdod cynllunio lleol. Gall amodau cynllunio orfodi, er enghraifft, gynllun monitro digonol a phriodol o ganlyniadau amgylcheddol cloddio am agregau. Mewn rhai achosion, efallai y bydd gwiriadau cyfnodol yn ddigonol, ond mewn eraill, efallai y bydd angen monitro parhaus ac adroddiadau archwilio rheolaidd. Rhaid i fynediad at leoliadau monitro fod ar gael i'r gweithredwr, a lleoliad ffynonellau allyriadau llwch i ffwrdd o ddatblygiadau sensitif.

Pan ganfyddir nad yw cwmnïau chwareli yn cadw at neu yn torri'r amodau sydd ynghlwm wrth ganiatâd cynllunio mewn ffordd arall, mae gan ACLlau nifer o bwerau i gymryd camau gorfodi i sicrhau bod gweithrediadau mwyngloddio yn dod yn ôl o fewn y paramedrau a nodir yn y caniatâd.

Gall Hysbysiad Tor Amod roi rhybudd i weithredwyr y pyllau glo y byddai peidio cadw at amodau cynllunio eto yn arwain at erlyniad troseddol a gallai torri amodau rheolaeth gynllunio yn ddifrifol arwain at orchymyn Llŷs.

Ymdrinnir â'r rhan fwyaf o achosion o dorri rheolaeth gynllunio trwy gyflwyno Hysbysiad Gorfodi. Y mater tyngedfennol i'r awdurdod yw a fyddai torri rheolaeth gynllunio yn effeithio'n annerbyniol ar amwynder cyhoeddus neu'r defnydd presennol o dir ac adeiladau sy'n haeddu cael eu diogelu er lles y cyhoedd.

Yn gywir,



**Rebecca Evans AS/MS**

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi, Ynni a Chynllunio  
Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning

Petitions Committee.

I would like to make a short statement on some concerns regarding the current expansion of Craig-Yr-Hesg quarry in response to the letters received of the relevant parties.

First of all, with regards to the response off RCT stating that as of (14/02/2025) no breaches of planning controls at the quarry, I would like to mention that on Feb 2025 the AOP (Air over pressure) which has a planning condition limit of 120 db was independently measured at 124, which triggered RCT to notify Heidelberg and issue them a notice to review current blasting conditions to ensure the limits are not broken again, if continued to be broken then this could trigger other actions as detailed in their own correspondence.

I would like to state that independent monitoring of blasting was only started on 25/10 2024 and since then has seen one AOP above the limit.. Looking at past data supplied by RCT, it is evident that AOP has gone above the 120 limit a further 9 occasions from 16/08/2018. With this data now evident, how confident can we be with all breaches being reported and acted on.

DATE	AOP
16/08/18	127
10/09/18	126
04/01/19	127
08/01/20	125
27/01/20	125
25/08/20	125
24/10/22	121
20/12/22	125
11/01/25	120
28/02/25	124

Traffic Controls,

Whilst I appreciate controls are in place for vehicle movements, the data given is an the limit expected over 12 months and then averaged out, what it doesn't take into consideration is the influx of vehicles in a short space of time during early mornings and school transport hours, This is having a significant impact on the safety of pedestrians and fellow road users. On monitoring from members of the community we can now confirm that 40% of the vehicle movement allowance arrives between 07:00 & 09:00 Mon-Fri. Would also like to republish the fact that pavements along the route to the quarry, in places only reach a width of 39 cms where the

recommended safe width is 100cms, This is increasing the risk to public safety as far as pedestrians run the risk of travelling to Pontypridd by foot and passing a blind corner of a bridge at its narrowest point, We have had assurances in the past that this would be looked at but nothing went further and was found to be broken promises.

### Flooding

The recent events of flooding in Pontypridd yet again reached the media, I personally have been down to Berw Road on both occasions to help the people in need, to be honest with you, when I see people on their hands and knees trying to put garden chippings in recycling bags to use as sandbags is heartbreaking, During the floods, we saw several areas of the quarry flooding with water flowing down from the bunds at a fast rate and flooding the rugby pitch and nearing houses, This has never happened to this scale before. With quarry management stating that some parts of the bunds were 7 meters high but yet they advertise its only 3-5 meters high in Heidelberg's publications, it also begs the question???? Are we being told the truth?

The flooding also exposed a lot of dust material that went onto the public Darren ddu raod that RCT and NRW are looking at. We are starting to have issue after issue and when its stated that we cant have a road drainage plan because "they don't have one" is quite frankly worrying.

I welcome anyone to come up to the areas in question and I will gladly escort you around physically showing the communities concerns.

We need re-assurances that all is ok and the community will not be remembered as "Why didn't we listen to the community" if a devastating event happens in future.

Thanks very much

Chris Whiles

(Concerned Glyncoch resident)

## **Correspondence from an interested party**

I hope you could bring the attached letter to the attention of the Petition Committee considering the matter concerning boundary limits for quarry operations. I note that the current regulations stipulate 200 meters and would remind the committee that, at CraigrHesg, the quarry operations will be within 165 meters of schools and homes. I'd also point out that silica dust doesn't recognize boundaries and the wind direction and strength at the junction of two valleys (Taff and Rhondda) is somewhat different that what may occur in the safe confines of, let's say, Cardiff Bay.

There is also a perverted trust in the safety guidance given by the single air monitor situated far from the quarry operations - much further from the boundary than homes, childcare facilities and shops. In addition, analysis of weather patterns indicate that the wind generally travels in the opposite direction to the wind monitor. Dust has been collected from window sills on the edge of the boundary and have indicated levels of up to 51% silica dust. In addition, R-C-T's own studies in 2014 demonstrated 2.4 times more dust in the community at sites closer to the quarry than those several hundred meters away. Although this didn't seem to deter them from hastily agreeing to sell the 27 acres needed for the quarry extension for just £4k in that same year.

Finally, R-C-T have refused to investigate this further (as have PHW) both indicating that they rely primarily on a single air monitor to satisfy themselves on the safety of the air breathe - R-C-T have also stated that they are not legally obligated to evaluate the risks from PM2.5 sized dust particles (the most dangerous kind) and that's the responsibility of the Welsh Government. They have also suggested that anyone who believes they have suffered ill-health for the effects of the dust should report this to their health professionals. When you consider that these illnesses include kidney failure, COPD, cancer and heart failure - that's asking the local population to act as canaries - do we have to wait a generation before taking action ?

Regards,

Rob Peterson

## The Glyncoch Quarry and Community Health Crisis

The situation in Glyncoch exemplifies how vulnerable and underrepresented communities are often overlooked when it comes to holding local and national authorities accountable for public health concerns. Despite mounting evidence of health risks, regulatory bodies have failed to provide adequate oversight, leaving residents exposed to potential harm.

Pennant stone is undeniably a valuable resource, prized for its skid-resistant properties and its proximity to markets in South England. However, this stone contains approximately 70% silica, a substance known to pose severe health risks when airborne in fine particulate form.

Evidence confirms that silica dust from the quarry is infiltrating nearby homes. A 2014 study by the University of the West of England found that silica-based dust concentrations were nearly 2.4 times higher in homes close to the quarry boundary compared to those situated several hundred meters away. A 2024 dust analysis further revealed that up to 50% of dust samples collected near residential areas consisted of silica dust.

### Regulatory Indifference

Despite the overwhelming evidence, the seriousness of this risk is in question. The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) maintains workplace exposure limits using time-weighted averages, yet does not consider monitoring general population exposure its responsibility. Quarry workers operate with protective measures, and facilities are strategically distanced from rock-crushing activities—yet many homes bordering the quarry are positioned closer than these protected facilities.

**Public Health Wales** presented a favorable air quality assessment during the appeal process but has since admitted to not retaining the data that supported their conclusions. The agency relied on local authorities for their information and has declined further involvement in evaluating the health risks.

**Rhondda Cynon Taf** (R-C-T) Council approved the sale of land for the quarry's expansion in 2014, despite being aware of the high silica dust concentrations near homes. In the 2022 appeal hearing, neither silica nor silicosis were even mentioned. The council now claims its hands are tied, deferring any health-related concerns from the 2024 study to public health professionals. Furthermore, R-C-T asserts that ensuring compliance with PM2.5 particulate matter regulations falls under the jurisdiction of the Welsh Government.

The **Welsh Government**, in turn, approved the quarry expansion while shifting regulatory oversight back to R-C-T. This bureaucratic deflection has left residents in a cycle of inaction, with no authority willing to take responsibility for comprehensively safeguarding public health.

### A Known Hazard Ignored

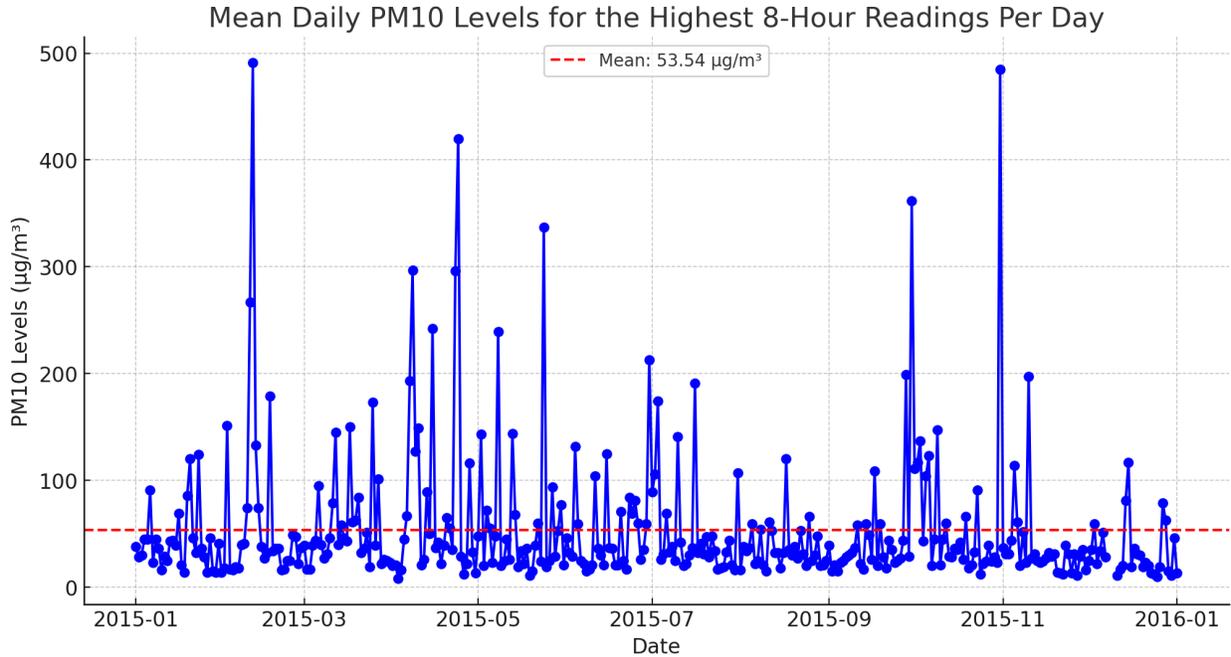
The dangers of silica dust exposure have been recognized for decades. The first recorded quarry-related silicosis fatality occurred at the quarry in 1947. Many nations, including Canada, Australia, India, Nigeria, and the United States, have enacted legislation to protect the general public by regulating proximity to quarry operations. The UK, however, has no such legislation—silicosis is not even classified as a recordable cause of death, meaning the actual mortality rate due to silica exposure remains unknown.

Wales, the world's first industrialized nation, frequently champions its green credentials and commitment to climate action. Yet, just 12 miles from its capital, children are being exposed to a deadly dust known to have afflicted their ancestors. The assumption that such occupational hazards ended with the closure of coal mines has proven dangerously naive.

## **A Community Under Siege**

The residents of Glyncoch have lived alongside quarry operations since the late 1950s. Over time, the quarry has expanded, encroaching ever closer to the community. Officials have long assured the public that dust mitigation measures have improved since the 1990s. However, with no historical data available, the true extent of past exposure remains unknown.

The first recorded dust monitoring data, collected since June 2014 by R-C-T, is unreliable—functional only 50% of the time, lacking PM2.5 measurements until 2023, and positioned upwind of quarry operations and further from the site than affected homes and businesses. It is unsurprising that R-C-T claims the air is safe, given that its monitoring system has been inoperative for significant periods, at times functioning for as little as six weeks in an entire year. The permitted levels of pollution (regardless of source) are also very favourable - keep in mind that the limits are based on a 24 hour average of pollution levels, but the quarry doesn't operate 24 hours a day so they can easily exceed certain limits during peak down but then rely on the remaining 16 hours of the day to allow the average to fall. This is what the maximum levels of dust looks like if only the top 8 hours of each day were recorded in 2015.



The community collected dust from doorsteps and windowsills in late 2024. The results were analyzed by an independent laboratory for silica content. The results are below, please allow yourself to imagine how this would feel if you had such accumulations on your own homes. Doesn't this deserve immediate action - R-C-T's response was less than convincing that they take these matters seriously and rely far too much on the flawed data of the single monitoring station.



CONTRACT NO: S44119  
DATE OF ISSUE: 22.10.24

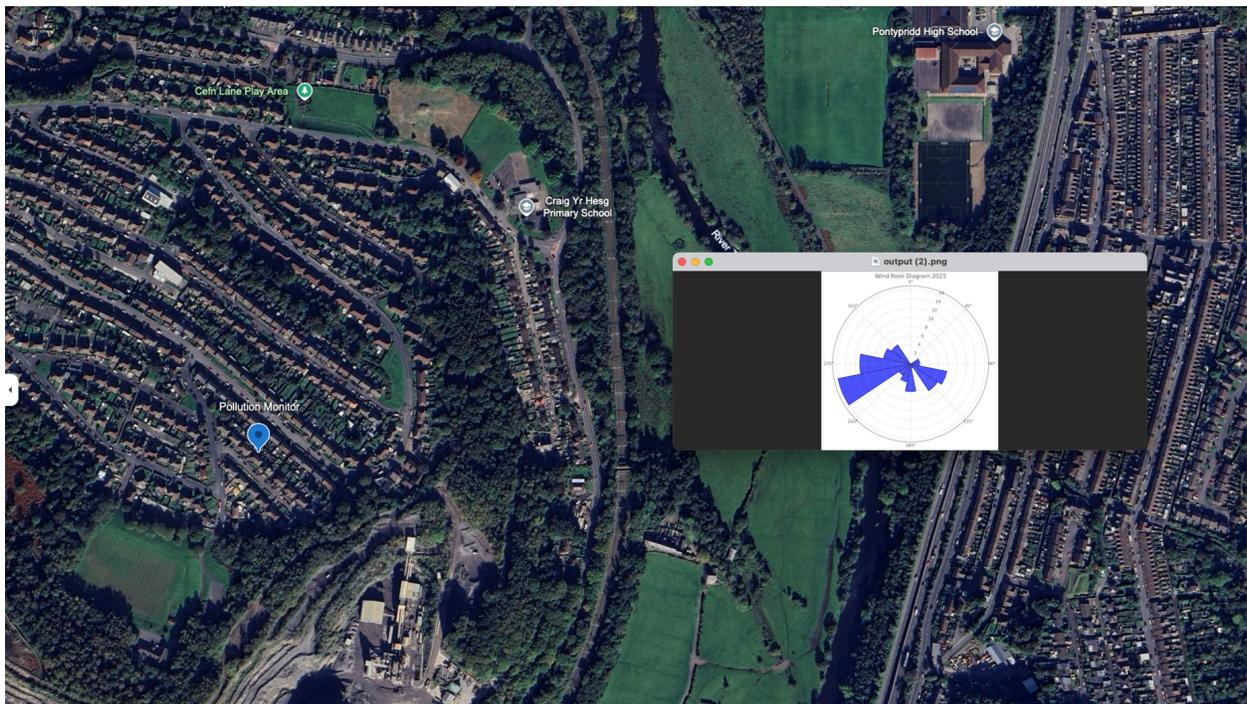
**RESULTS:**

Sample Number	Quartz %	Cristobalite %
MP5 – 5 & 6 Darren Court, Glyncoch	51.0	<0.3
MP6 – 113 Garth Avenue, Glyncoch	24.4	<0.3
MP7 – 129 & 133 Garth Avenue, Glyncoch	40.3	<0.3

Our detection limit for quartz and cristobalite in bulk samples by XRD is 0.3%.

## Wind Direction

Based on samples collected from local weather stations it appears that the wind is predominantly traveling to the east - that is away from the single pollution monitor - the one heavily relied upon to give the green thumbs up on the air quality in the area. In fact, it's traveling directly towards the site of the new "super" school, regardless of the risk to the children.



**View of Dust from Quarry operations (moving away from single pollution monitor)**



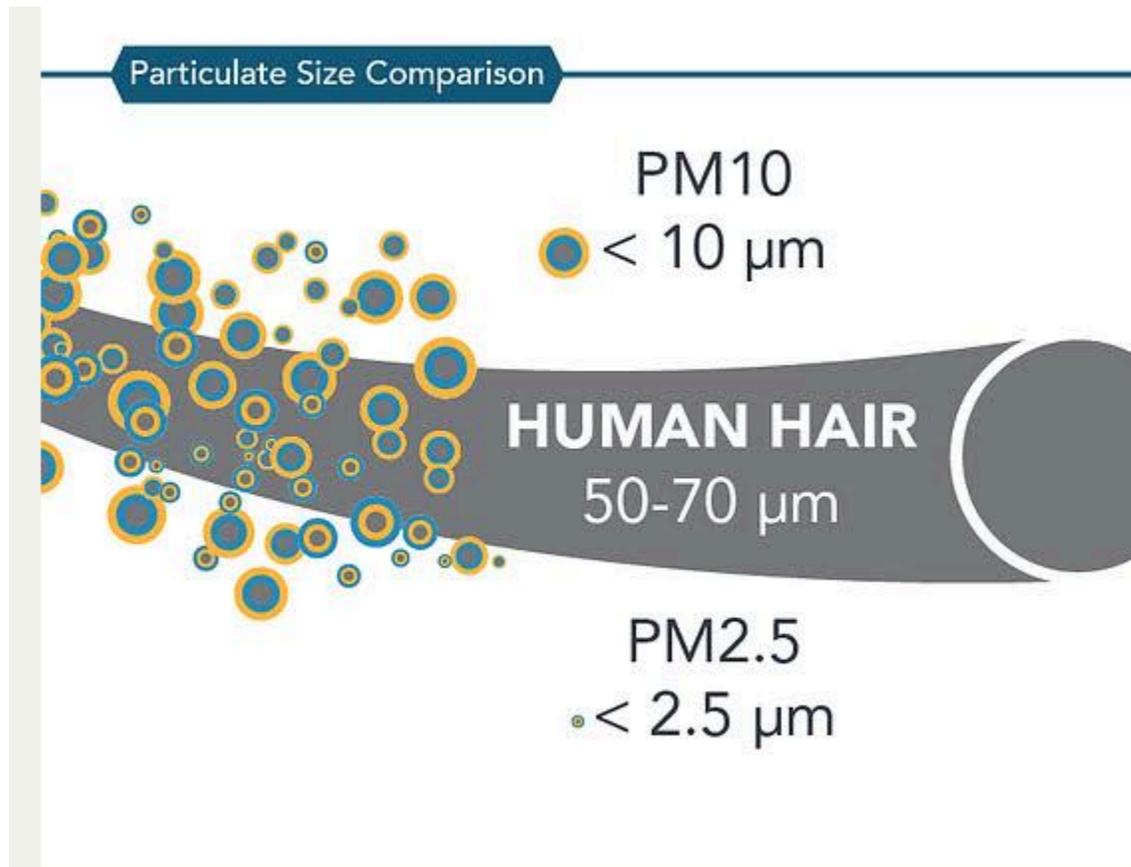
**View from Pontypridd High School**



## Conclusion

The health hazards of silica dust are well-documented, yet Glyncoch residents continue to be exposed to unacceptable risks due to governmental inaction. Regulatory bodies must take immediate steps to monitor and mitigate silica dust exposure before the next generation suffers the same fate as those before them. This quarry has been in operation since 1885 - hasn't this once pristine area given enough ? Incidentally, the quarry was established by the Crawshay family. Perhaps this current Welsh Government will go down in history with the same reputation as that infamous dynasty. Finally, once this situation is resolved, the Welsh Government can investigate the economics of R-C-T agreeing to sell the 27 acres of land for the quarry extension to the quarry company for £4k .

## Appendix: The Health Consequences of Silica Dust Exposure



Respirable crystalline silica (RCS) is a hazardous airborne contaminant linked to multiple life-threatening diseases, including:

1. **Silicosis** – A progressive lung disease caused by silica inhalation, leading to lung inflammation and scarring.
  - Chronic Silicosis: Develops over 10–20 years of low to moderate exposure.
  - Accelerated Silicosis: Develops within 5–10 years of heavy exposure.
  - Acute Silicosis: Occurs within months to a few years of extreme exposure.
  - Symptoms: Shortness of breath, coughing, fatigue, chest pain, and respiratory failure.

2. **Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)** – Silica exposure increases the risk of chronic lung disease.
  - Symptoms: Persistent cough, mucus production, shortness of breath, wheezing.
3. **Lung Cancer** – Long-term exposure to silica dust is a known carcinogen.
  - Symptoms: Persistent cough, weight loss, chest pain, difficulty breathing.
4. **Tuberculosis (TB)** – Silicosis weakens the immune system, increasing TB risk.
  - Symptoms: Chronic cough, weight loss, night sweats, fever.
5. **Silica-Related Kidney Disease** – Long-term exposure has been linked to kidney failure.
  - Symptoms: Fatigue, swelling, high blood pressure, decreased urine output.
6. **Autoimmune Disorders** – Silica exposure is associated with lupus and rheumatoid arthritis.
  - Symptoms: Joint pain, skin rashes, inflammation-related complications.
7. **Respiratory Infections** – Increased susceptibility due to lung damage from silica dust.
8. **Silica-Related Pneumoconiosis** – A lung disease caused by inhaling mineral dusts.
9. **Chronic Bronchitis** – Long-term exposure leads to inflammation of bronchial tubes.
  - Symptoms: Persistent coughing, mucus production, difficulty breathing.

## Heledd Fychan

Aelod o'r Senedd dros

Ganol De Cymru

—

Member of the Senedd for

South Wales Central

## Senedd Cymru /Welsh Parliament

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01443 853214 

Dyddiad | Date: 18.3.2025

### **Pwnc | Subject: NDM8687 A bill relating to planning processes for quarry development**

Dear Petitions Committee members

#### **The Legislative Proposal**

This legislative proposal echoes similar proposals brought forward in Westminster by the Labour MP, Matt Western, in 2021, and the Conservative MP, Paul Holmes, in 2023. Both had similar experiences to many of us in this Senedd of supporting residents in their fight against either the opening of, or the extension, of a quarry near residential homes, schools and community facilities. Both also came to realise how inadequate and outdated planning legislation was when deciding on such developments. Communities are left having to fight against large multinationals with plentiful resources at their disposal to quash any local opposition. What's abundantly clear is that it isn't a fair fight.

The proposal aims to legislate a presumption against approving quarry development near settlements and establish a mandatory buffer zone of 1,000 m for all new and existing quarries. This would shift the burden of proof from residents having to make a case for objecting to quarry development to the planning process having different standards that would set new expectations.

These proposals aim to address the inadequacies and outdated nature of planning legislation regarding quarry developments near residential areas, schools, and community facilities.

#### **Case Study: Craig-yr-Hesg Quarry**

Craig-yr-Hesg quarry in Glyncoch has operated since 1885, providing high-quality skid-resistant surfacing aggregates. Despite promises to end operations by December 2022, the company sought to extend both the area and the life of the quarry. Over 400 objections were received, and the local planning authority rejected the applications due to health and well-being concerns. However, a planning appeal resulted in permission being granted by the Welsh Government.

The extraction and working of minerals or depositing mineral waste at the site was due to come to an end on 31 December 2022, followed by a restoration and aftercare programme. This was a commitment made to the local community when that planning application was made. However, that proved to be a broken promise. The company in charge of the quarry

subsequently put forward two planning applications, to extend both the area quarried as well as the life of the quarry.

Over 400 objections were received from local residents, Pontypridd Town Council, and many elected representatives – including myself and Vikki Howells. Indeed, so compelling were the arguments put forward that the local planning authority, Rhondda Cynon Taf Council, rejected both applications on the basis of the impact of blasting on people's health and well-being. The community breathed a sigh of relief. Sadly, this proved to be short-lived as a planning appeal was submitted to PEDW and in October 2022 the Minister for Climate Change Julie James upheld the appeal by Hanson Aggregates. (now Heidelberg Materials). The Minister cited the Future Generations Act in her ruling on the grounds that potential harms had been weighted against the 'likely' need for the minerals in construction, road building and maintenance and the plans wider 'economic benefits'.

### **Proximity of Craig yr Hesg quarry to the local village of Glyncoch**

The quarry dominates the landscape next to the community of Glyncoch, and is in close proximity to a number of homes, a school and playing fields – in fact, a nearby estate is **less than the permitted 200m away from the boundary of the proposed extension area.**

Once a fortnight, the community suffers the impact of blasting on the site. For years, they have reported distress caused by the loud explosions to all members of the community but the children in particular. Recently a resident told me:

*“When the quarry blasts, movement can be felt in properties. It literally feels like an earthquake. Ornaments have been known to fall off shelves immediately during blasting. There is an astronomical amount of dust visible in properties which has resulted in people damp dusting. There are visible cracks internally and externally within the homes throughout the community.*

*Residents in the area have had issues with the drainage system. Pipes have cracked and collapsed. Welsh water is forever in the Glyncoch area carrying out repairs. The main area affected is bottom Garth Avenue the area in the vicinity of the Chinese Golden Dragon. Our major concern now is that there is every possibility a gas pipe could crack and cause an explosion and cause serious harm to members of the community”*

One resident, speaking at the appeal hearing stated the following:

*“My family has lived in the area for over 50 years. We have spent time and money on our home for it now to be damaged by blasting activities from the quarry. This includes damage to our boundary wall, the external walls of our house and internal walls. The floor in the lounge has also dropped leaving a large hole”.*

Many other residents provided similar testimony, accompanied by images. Yet, this was dismissed by PEDW as it had not been verified by experts.

### **Silica dust in the air - danger to health**

Dust is a major concern. Following blasting, huge clouds of dust can be seen travelling over the nearby community. This leaves a residue on homes and cars, and residents are concerned that the particles within the dust pose a risk to their health.

Aggregate quarrying, particularly when involving pendant stone, can produce silica dust. Silica is naturally present in rocks, sands, and clays. When these materials are drilled, cut, or chipped during quarrying operations, fine dust containing respirable crystalline silica (RCS) is generated. Inhalation of RCS can lead to silicosis, a serious and irreversible occupational lung disease.

According to the local councillor for the Glyncoch Ward, there are higher levels of cancers and poor health in the ward, which is one of the most deprived in Wales. He argues that this can only be explained by the dust from the quarry. The dust is seen on windows, solar panels and inside properties across worktops.

The current planning regime enabled barristers for the planning inspectorates to dismiss all evidence presented by local residents and elected representatives as 'unsubstantiated', overriding the overwhelming evidence presented by all who lived in this community.

*"Somewhat late in the day, it is now agreed that there is no risk to physical health. The assertion of mental health effects has not only been unsubstantiated, there has been no effort to substantiate it with evidence".*

The community has been priced out of providing evidence by a planning system weighted in favour of the multi-national developer.

The publication, the planner, covered this in an interesting article following the decision to allow the quarry to expand. They asked Estelle Dehon KC, a public law barrister at Cornerstone Chambers for her view on the issue of communities being priced out of providing evidence.

She stated: "It is the great difficulty in residents having to bring evidence to planning inquiry that a greater and greater standard is being required."

Glyncoch is in one of the 5% most deprived areas in the country and is made up of predominantly social housing. How is a community like Glyncoch able to compete with a multi-million-pound company?

### **Proximity of the quarry to children**

Cefn Primary School is only going to be **134 meters from the boundary line of the quarry**. The quarry will also be blasting **109 meters from Glyncoch Rugby field**.

This school has an additional learning needs unit contained within it. The staff at the school adhere to all the guidance and regulations of their profession to enable all children to access education. However, the disruption caused by the blasting at the quarry is significant. It is reported that the children are terrified when they hear the blasts and the earth shaking. The confusion is felt more by the children with greater additional needs and it takes a lot longer to calm them down after a blast has occurred.

One child asked a teacher if the dinosaurs had landed. Other children are distressed that the school is going to collapse or that it will fall into the big hole. Whilst the Cwriwawlwm i Gymru states that 'learning is for everyone, and that the 'learning environment should be well lit, comfortable, quiet and suitable for all the pupils learning needs'. The proximity of this school to the quarry and the impact of the explosions makes this impossible.

### **Transportation of the aggregates**

Large lorries travel off the A470 and over the old bridge in Pontypridd and down Berw Road. The impact on traffic is considerable, as the road is unsuitable for such heavy traffic. Residents must live with endless stream of large lorries passing within a few feet of the homes leaving a residue of dust in their wake and vibrating their homes and windows.

A survey conducted by local residents last in October 2024 found **70 HGVs**, used the road - 34 of them between 7 and 9 am, causing significant pressure on the roads during peak hours. The quarry itself acknowledged this danger, as outlined in their High Court injunction. The agreed limit is supposed to be **5 HGVs per hour**.

I have seen for myself the cracks in windows and walls, which residents insist is linked to the lorries. Given that the traffic has impacted the flood defence wall nearby, it is a likely explanation.

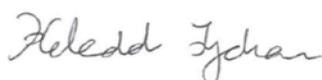
### **Nature and Biodiversity loss**

Possibly the most detrimental aspect of the development for the residents of Glyncoch has been the loss of their community green space, treasured by the whole community. Paths, trees, hide and seek dens, pet gravestones and childhood memories have been destroyed, fenced off and replaced with a black barren soil subjected to fortnightly explosions. This land had been used by the community for centuries. The trauma that this has caused the local community is unmeasurable. The loss of biodiversity habitats has also been upsetting, and the destruction of slow worms, bats, nesting birds and century old trees was not seen as a significant impediment to the quarry expansion by PEDW inspectors.

Glyncoch is not the only community in this position in Wales, and there are other communities fighting similar battles, all desperate to know if they are safe living in their homes. They should be supported in their efforts, and the Welsh Government should revise legislation and regulations to ensure that companies extracting minerals in Wales are held to the highest possible standards to ensure that people and nature cannot be harmed by the extraction of minerals in close proximity to homes.

It is time to prioritise future generations and protect people's rights to a safe home free from pollutants, as well as protect the vicinity of human habitation from the damaging effects of industrial extraction of minerals on their doorsteps.

Yours sincerely,



Heledd Fychan AS/ MS

### P-06-1332 Ariannu ymchwil brechlyn i amddiffyn gwiwerod coch rhag feirws marwol brech y gwiwerod

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Craig Shuttleworth, ar ôl casglu 11,306 o lofnodion.

#### Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Mae feirws brech y gwiwerod yn cael ei gario a'i ledaenu gan wiwerod llwyd. Nid yw'r feirws yn eu niweidio nhw. O gael eu heintio, mae gwiwerod coch yn datblygu briwiau agored dros eu croen ac yn dioddef marwolaeth boenus o fewn pythefnos

Yng ngogledd Cymru, collwyd rhwng 70 a 80 y cant o wiwerod coch Gwynedd mewn brigiad o achosion yn 2020/21:

<https://theconversation.com/squirrelpox-outbreak-detected-in-north-wales-without-a-vaccine-the-disease-will-keep-decimating-red-squirrels-196811>

Daeth cyllid Sefydliad Moredun ar gyfer ymchwil addawol i frechlyn i ben.

#### Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:

Mae Cynllun Diogelu'r Gwiwerod Coch yng Nghymru (tudalen 9) yn dangos bod y rhan fwyaf o wiwerod coch Cymru mewn coedwigoedd lle mae gwiwerod llwyd hefyd yn byw. Golyga hyn fod feirws y frech yn fygythiad mawr yng Nghymru.

<https://cdn.cyfoethnaturiol.cymru/media/691093/cym-cynllun-diogelu-r-wiwer-goch-yng-nghymru.pdf?mode=pad&rnd=132272074460000000>

Ym Mangor, cafwyd nifer o achosion o feirws brech y gwiwerod yn y cyfnod 2017-2022. Daethpwyd ar draws cyrff gwiwerod coch mewn coetir ger Pont Britannia a Phont Grog Telford. Yn hwyr neu'n hwyrach, bydd yr haint yn croesi'r Fenai a lledaenu i Ynys Môn. Mae'r ynys yn gartref i boblogaeth fwyaf Cymru o wiwerod coch.

Mae'r haint yn achosi symptomau erchyll:

<http://www.britishredsquirrel.org/red-squirrels/disease/>

Mae angen i Lywodraeth Cymru ymrwymo i ariannu ymchwil, megis yr ymchwil ohiriedig i frechlyn gan Moredun/Wildlife Ark Trust:

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/local-news/red-squirrel-vaccine-under-threat-2540293>.

### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

- Arfon
- Gogledd Cymru

Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS  
Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog ac Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros  
Newid Hinsawdd a Materion Gwledig  
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate  
Change and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf P-06-1332  
Ein cyf HIDCC/00213/25

Carolyn Thomas AS  
Cadeirydd – Y Pwyllgor Deisebau  
Senedd Cymru  
Bae Caerdydd  
Caerdydd  
CF99 1SN

10 Mawrth 2025

Annwyl Carolyn,

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 03 Chwefror 2025 mewn perthynas â Deiseb P-06-1332 'Ariannu ymchwil i frechlyn i amddiffyn gwiwerod coch rhag y firws marwol Brech y Gwiwerod.'

Bu fy swyddogion yn gweithio ar baratoi manyleb yn ôl y gofyn ar gyfer astudiaeth ddichonoldeb am frechlyn annibynnol Brech y Gwiwerod. Bydd yr astudiaeth yn asesu'r posibilrwydd o ymchwil, cynhyrchu, awdurdodi marchnata, a defnyddio'r brechlyn, yn ogystal â risgiau, buddion a chostau cysylltiedig.

Cyn bo hir, bydd fy swyddogion yn mynd at gyflenwyr posibl i geisio mynegi diddordeb yn y gwaith hwn.

Unwaith eto, diolch am ysgrifennu ataf ar y pwnc pwysig hwn. Rwy'n gobeithio y bydd yr wybodaeth hon o gymorth ichi neu yn ateb eich cwestiwn i ryw raddau.

Yn gywir,

**Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS**

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog ac Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Newid Hinsawdd  
a Materion Gwledig

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Tudalen y pecyn 93

Dr Craig Shuttleworth  
Honorary Visiting Research Fellow  
Bangor University

Carolyn Thomas MS Chair  
Petitions committee  
Senedd Cymru  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

Your ref P-06-1332

11th March 2025

Dear Carolyn,

**Petition P-06-1332 'Fund vaccine research to protect red squirrels from deadly Squirrelpox virus'**

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs letter (HIDCC/00213/25) to the Petitions Committee dated 10 March 2025.

It is to the credit of the Minister and the Welsh Government that they alone amongst the four UK administrations have had the courage to look seriously at this issue.

I would though like to raise some points for your consideration.

As you know, 11,300 people signed my petition from its launch in January 2023. The Senedd then debated the petition on 27<sup>th</sup> September of 2023. And almost eight months later the Cabinet Secretary announced on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024 [that they had],

*'... agreed to the recommendation to carry out a feasibility study to assess the prospect of the research, manufacture, marketing authorisation, and deployment of a squirrelpox vaccine for red squirrels, and associated risks, benefits and costs. The Cabinet Secretary also agreed to outsource the feasibility study to an external provider.'*

The additional nine months delay since suggests departmental officials are perhaps not fully aware of the growing urgency regarding the epidemic. Meanwhile squirrelpox is spreading north in Scotland and has obliterated key populations in northern England so that many at on the conservation front line are suggesting extinction without a vaccine.

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2024/nov/16/red-squirrels-to-vanish-from-england-unless-vaccine-against-squirrelpox-funded>

I'd ask the Petitions Committee to consider writing to the Deputy First Minister asking:

- (1) For much more detail regarding what is currently and vaguely described as a 'shortly' timeline.
- (2) To clarify whether the tendering process will be open to any party to express an interest or if it will be invitation only in which case how are invitees being selected?
- (3) To explain why, as is my understanding, to date no officials have contacted the Wildlife Ark Trust which own the intellectual rights to the earlier attenuated pox vaccine research 2012/13.

Kind regards

Craig

Dr Craig Shuttleworth  
Petitioner P-06-1332

<https://www.bangor.ac.uk/staff/sens/craig-shuttleworth-082156/en>

# Eitem 4.1

## **P-06-1479 Stop the detention of learning disabled and autistic children, young people and adults in hospitals - Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee - 6 March 2025**

Stolen Lives are human rights defenders.

We welcome that the Welsh Government 'supports the principle that a hospital bed is not a home.' However, the inclusion of the words 'whenever practical' gives health boards and local authorities the excuse they will be looking for to maintain the status quo.

People with learning disabilities are not detained in secure hospitals because of the Mental Health Act but because of inappropriate provision and poor care, as exemplified this week by the ITV news investigation which uncovered allegations of multiple failings at residential and supported-living homes run by Lifeways, which operate in England, Scotland and Wales.

People with learning disabilities from Wales are being held in secure hospitals in breach of their human rights and there is no evidence of a human rights-based approach to end this practice.

The minister says she 'committed to reducing the number of people receiving their care, long-term in a hospital setting and when they are admitted, their hospital stay is for no longer than is absolutely necessary.'

No person with a learning disability should be locked up in a hospital. To do so is a failure to uphold the right to independent living in terms of Article 19 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Furthermore, the failure of the State to provide social care support should not be considered appropriate criteria for admission and sustained detention. Allowing the detention of people with learning disabilities and/or who are autistic without therapeutic benefit places the Welsh Government at risk of breaches of the ECHR.

When the recommendations from the Task and Finish group are submitted, we urge the Welsh Government to focus on urgent progress and reform.

While Stolen Lives awaits change, our relatives continue to live in hospitals without choice and control.

Carolyn Thomas MS  
Chair of Petitions Committee  
Senedd  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1SN

6<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Dear Chair,

**Petition regarding mandating swift bricks in all new buildings in Wales  
(P-06-1489)**

As you will be aware, RSPB Cymru is supporting the petition (P-06-1489) which calls on the Welsh Government to mandate the instalment of Swift Bricks in new builds.

We have been advised that the petition is likely to be discussed imminently in the Committee and we wanted to take this opportunity to highlight the urgency of this issue with the Committee.

We welcome the Committee's consideration of this issue. Swifts are now the most steeply declining bird species in Wales. Populations have dropped by 76% since 1995, and although there are thought to be a number of contributing factors to their decline, the loss of suitable nesting sites is one we can and must address. Without more nesting options, Swifts will disappear from our skies. Swift Bricks are a simple and effective means of supporting Swifts when so many nesting sites have been lost. But there is a need for urgency in addressing

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Mae'r RSPB yn rhan o BirdLife International, rhwydwaith o gyrff angerddol, sy'n cydweithio i achub byd natur ledled y byd.

The RSPB is part of BirdLife International, a network of passionate organisations, working together to save nature across the world.

this issue for Swift populations, as each year of delay to implement this measure will leave more Swifts without nest sites. More than three-quarters of Wales' breeding Swifts have been lost since 1995.

In light of recent reports from the Climate Change, Environment & Infrastructure Committee and Audit Wales, highlighting the urgent need to prioritise action for Welsh biodiversity, and given the strong support for this petition from the public (10,934 signatures), we hope it will warrant debate in the wider Senedd.

We would welcome this letter being considered alongside the petition when the Committee next discusses the matter.

Yours sincerely,



Julian Hughes  
Head of Species

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Mae'r RSPB yn rhan o BirdLife International, rhwydwaith o gyrff angerddol, sy'n cydweithio i achub byd natur ledled y byd.

The RSPB is part of BirdLife International, a network of passionate organisations, working together to save nature across the world.

Eich Cyf: P-06-1447 a P-06-1474  
Ein Cyf: CX24-130 a CX24-154

Carolyn Thomas AS  
Senedd Cymru  
Bae Caerdydd  
Caerdydd  
CF99 1SN

Drwy e-bost yn unig: [deisebau@senedd.cymru](mailto:deisebau@senedd.cymru)

4 Mawrth 2025

Annwyl Carolyn,

**P-06-1447 Atal Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru rhag cau'r ganolfan ymwelwyr yng Ngwarchodfa Natur Genedlaethol Ynyslas**

**P-06-1474 Atal Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru rhag cau canolfannau ymwelwyr Bwlch Nant yr Arian, Coed y Brenin ac Ynyslas**

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 7 Chwefror ynghylch y deisebau uchod, sydd wedi cael eu hystyried gan y Pwyllgor Deisebau. Gwerthfawrogaf eich cadarnhad bod y Pwyllgor wedi penderfynu cau'r ddwy ddeiseb.

O ran ymchwiliad y Pwyllgor i ddyletswyddau staff ein canolfannau ymwelwyr, gallaf gadarnhau nad yw staff y canolfannau ymwelwyr yn gyfrifol am reoli'r tir o fewn ac o amgylch y safle, ac nad ydynt ychwaith yn gyfrifol am warchod unrhyw gynefinoedd bywyd gwyllt a nodweddion daearegol. Cyfrifoldeb ein staff Rheoli Tir yw hyn.

Fodd bynnag, rydym yn cydnabod bod rhai dyletswyddau a gyflawnir gan staff y canolfannau ymwelwyr nad ydynt yn ymwneud â manwerthu ac arlwyyo yn unig – er enghraifft, mae rhai aelodau staff ym Mwlch Nant yr Arian yn cynorthwyo i fwydo'r barcutiaid coch. Mae ein timau wrthi'n gweithio trwy broses i sicrhau bod yr holl swyddogaethau statudol a hanfodol yn cael eu cyflawni gan staff eraill ar draws ein timau Rheoli Tir a Chyfleusterau. Mae'n bosibl hefyd y gallai rhai o'r cyfrifoldebau ychwanegol sydd gan staff y canolfannau ymwelwyr ar hyn o bryd gael eu cynnwys yn y cytundebau prydles terfynol ar gyfer Bwlch Nant yr Arian a Choed y Brenin. Byddai trafodaethau ar hyn yn debygol o fod yn rhan o'r broses gaffael pan fydd yn digwydd. Ein nod yn y trafodaethau fydd sicrhau'r budd mwyaf i ddefnyddwyr, busnesau lleol a'r gymuned.

Bydd Ynyslas yn parhau i gael ei rheoli fel Gwarchodfa Natur Genedlaethol (GNG) yn unol â'r GNGau eraill rydym yn eu rheoli ledled Cymru nad oes ganddynt ganolfannau ymwelwyr. Mae ein timau Rheoli Tir a Masnachol yn edrych ar sut y gallwn ddarparu

gwasanaethau statudol yn y GNG yn y tymor hir, gyda'r newid hwn. Er bod y Swyddog GNG yn cael ei gefnogi'n fedrus gan dîm ehangach o arbenigwyr cadwraeth a rheoli tir, rydym wedi derbyn na fydd rhai pethau ar gael mwyach neu y bydd yn rhaid iddynt newid o ganlyniad i'r Achos dros Newid. Serch hynny, mae parhad y GNG a chadwraeth yr amgylchedd lleol, gan gynnwys y Prosiect Cwtiad Torchog, yn parhau i fod yn flaenoriaeth i ni.

Bydd yr holl lwybrau, y maes parcio a'r toiledau yn parhau ar agor yn Ynyslas, Bwlch Nant yr Arian a Choed y Brenin a byddwn yn parhau i gynnal a chadw'r safleoedd i sicrhau bod mynediad cyhoeddus yn parhau.

Hyderaf y bydd yr ymateb hwn o gymorth gydag ymholiad y Pwyllgor, ond os oes ganddo unrhyw gwestiynau pellach neu os hoffai gael eglurhad ar y mater hwn neu unrhyw fater arall, mae croeso i chi gysylltu â ni.

Yn gywir,



**Ceri Davies**

Prif Swyddog Gweithredol Dros Do  
Acting Chief Executive Officer

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a byddwn yn ymateb yn Gymraeg, heb i hynny arwain at oedi.  
Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon