

## Agenda – Y Pwyllgor Deisebau

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Lleoliad:	I gael rhagor o wybodaeth cysylltwch a:
Fideo gynadledda drwy Zoom	Graeme Francis – Clerc y Pwyllgor
Dyddiad: Dydd Gwener, 17 Gorffennaf 2020	Ross Davies – Dipwrwy Glerc 0300 200 6565
Amser: 09.00	<a href="mailto:Deisebau@senedd.cymru">Deisebau@senedd.cymru</a>

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Yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 34.19, mae'r Cadeirydd wedi penderfynu gwahardd y cyhoedd o gyfarfod y Pwyllgor at ddibenion diogelu iechyd y cyhoedd. Bydd y cyfarfod hwn yn cael ei ddarlledu'n fyw ar [www.senedd.tv](http://www.senedd.tv)

- 1 **Cyflwyniad, ymddiheuriadau, dirprwyon a datganiadau o fuddiant**  
(Tudalennau 1 – 47)
- 2 **Deisebau COVID-19**
  - 2.1 P-05-975 Ailystyriwch y codiad i'r dreth gyngor ar gyfer ail gartrefi tra'i bod yn anghyfreithlon i deithio i ail gartrefi  
(Tudalennau 48 – 60)
  - 2.2 P-05-976 Caniatáu priodasau sy'n cynnwys 5 o bobl yn ystod COVID 19 yng Nghymru  
(Tudalennau 61 – 67)
  - 2.3 P-05-977 Ailagor gwasanaethau deintyddol cyffredinol llawn yng Nghymru fel sydd wedi digwydd yn Lloegr  
(Tudalennau 68 – 72)
  - 2.4 P-05-978 Caniatáu i'r holl swau ac atyniadau bywyd gwyllt ailagor gyda chamau cadw pellter cymdeithasol ar waith ledled Cymru  
(Tudalen 73)



2.5 P-05-979 Mabwysiadu polisïau llywodraeth y DU o ran llacio'r cyfyngiadau symud

(Tudalen 74)

2.6 P-05-980 Ymestyn grantiau ar unwaith i fusnesau bach yng Nghymru nad ydynt yn cael eu cynnwys yn y Rhyddhad Ardrethi Busnesau Bach

(Tudalennau 75 – 77)

### **Bydd y ddwy eitem a ganlyn yn cael eu trafod ar y cyd (2.7 a 2.8)**

2.7 P-05-981 Caniatáu i gampfeydd a chanolfannau hamdden ailagor

(Tudalennau 78 – 82)

2.8 P-05-986 Allow small gyms and personal training spaces to open sooner during COVID restrictions

(Tudalennau 83 – 87)

2.9 P-05-982 Dylid ail-agor cyrtiau tenis awyr agored a hyfforddiant yn unol â gweddill y DU ac Ewrop

(Tudalen 88)

2.10 P-05-983 Rhowch gymorth grant i fusnesau Gwely a Brechwast yng Nghymru sy'n talu'r dreth gyngor ac nid ardrethi busnes

(Tudalennau 89 – 92)

2.11 P-05-984 Dylid rhoi'r gorau i ymgynghoriadau o bell sy'n gwahaniaethu o ran ceisiadau llosgyddion yn ystod y pandemig Covid-19

(Tudalennau 93 – 98)

2.12 P-05-985 Darparu gofal plant i weithiwr allweddol sy'n cyfateb i'r hyn a oedd ar gael cyn pandemig Covid-19

(Tudalennau 99 – 107)

2.13 P-05-988 Rhowch fynediad cyfartal at eu hysgolion a'u hathrawon i blant gweithwyr allweddol

(Tudalennau 108 – 117)

2.14 P-05-990 Agor ysgolion ym mis Medi. Cael gwared ar ddysgu cyfunol

(Tudalennau 118 – 120)

### **3 Deisebau newydd**

- 3.1 P-05-954 Ymchwiliad cyhoeddus gan Lywodraeth Cymru i gam-drin plant hanesyddol ar Ynys Byr

(Tudalennau 121 – 143)

### **4 Y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am ddeisebau blaenorol**

#### **Addysg**

- 4.1 P-05-931 Eli haul mewn ysgolion

(Tudalen 144)

- 4.2 P-05-958 Penderfyniadau Diweddar Ynglyn â Graddau UG 2020

(Tudalennau 145 – 149)

- 4.3 P-05-962 Diwygiad brys i ymestyn yr oedran y ceir hawl i gymorth addysgol ychwanegol o 25 i 26 ac i ddiffinio pandemig Covid-19 yng nghanllawiau'r Llywodraeth fel amgylchiad eithriadol

(Tudalennau 150 – 152)

#### **Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol**

- 4.4 P-05-906 Achub Ward Sam Davies yn Ysbyty y Barri

(Tudalennau 153 – 160)

- 4.5 P-05-914 Mynediad Cyfartal i Ofal Iechyd ar gyfer yr Anabl

(Tudalennau 161 – 168)

- 4.6 P-05-926 Dylid Darparu Adran Blinder Cronig yng Nghymru

(Tudalennau 169 – 180)

- 4.7 P-05-960 Dylid talu costau angladdau pob un o staff y GIG sy'n marw o Covid-19 neu gyda'r feirws

(Tudalennau 181 – 184)

4.8 P-05-964 Dylid ymestyn absenoldeb â thâl a chymorth ariannol a ddarperir mewn ymateb i Covid-19 i staff cronfa GIG Cymru

(Tudalennau 185 – 187)

## **Economi a Thrafnidiaeth**

4.9 P-05-934 Trafnidiaeth Gyhoeddus ym Mlaenau Gwent

(Tudalennau 188 – 192)

4.10 P-05-955 Gwrthwynebu cynnig Costain i weithredu Opsiwn B ar gyfer dargyfeirio'r A465 ym Mryn-mawr

(Tudalen 193)

4.11 P-05-968 Talu grantiau Coronafeirws i bob busnes sy'n gymwys i gael Rhyddhad Ardrethi i Fusnesau Bach, yr un fath â gweddill y DU

(Tudalennau 194 – 195)

4.12 P-05-973 Ailagor siopau barbwyr a siopau trin gwallt cyn belled â'u bod yn gosod mesurau cadw pellter cymdeithasol llym

(Tudalennau 196 – 197)



Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

# Eitem 2.1

**P-05-975 Ailystyriwch y codiad i'r dreth gyngor ar gyfer ail gartrefi tra'i bod yn anghyfreithlon i deithio i ail gartrefi**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Ann Cooke, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 68 lofnodion.

## **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Mae codiad o 50% ar y dreth gyngor ar berchnogion ail gartrefi yn Sir Benfro. Yn ystod yr achosion o coronafeirws mae'n anghyfreithlon i deithio i ail gartref, ac felly ni ellir defnyddio'r cartrefi. Mae hwn yn benderfyniad derbyniol, gan ei fod yn lleihau'r posibilrwydd o lethu'r gwasanaethau iechyd gwladol. Ymddengys felly nad yw ond yn deg, o leiaf, y dilëir y codiad yn y dreth gyngor yn ystod yr amser y bydd yr heddlu yn dirwyo unrhyw un sy'n teithio i ail gartref.

## **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

- Gorllewin Caerfyrddin a De Sir Benfro
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru

# Ailystyriwch y codiad i'r dreth gyngor ar gyfer ail gartrefi tra'i bod yn anghyfreithlon i deithio i ail gartrefi

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau | 17 Gorffennaf 2020  
Petitions Committee | 17 July 2020

Cyfeirnod: RS20/12961-4

Rhif y ddeiseb: P-05-975

**Teitl y ddeiseb:** Ailystyriwch y codiad i'r dreth gyngor ar gyfer ail gartrefi tra'i bod yn anghyfreithlon i deithio i ail gartrefi.

**Geiriad y ddeiseb:** Mae codiad o 50% ar y dreth gyngor ar berchnogion ail gartrefi yn Sir Benfro. Yn ystod yr achosion o coronafeirws mae'n anghyfreithlon i deithio i ail gartref, ac felly ni ellir defnyddio'r cartrefi. Mae hwn yn benderfyniad derbyniol, gan ei fod yn lleihau'r posibilrwydd o lethu'r gwasanaethau iechyd gwladol. Ymddengys felly nad yw ond yn deg, o leiaf, y dilëir y codiad yn y dreth gyngor yn ystod yr amser y bydd yr heddlu yn dirwyo unrhyw un sy'n teithio i ail gartref.



# 1. Y cefndir

## Premiymau'r dreth gyngor

Gwnaeth Deddf Tai (Cymru) 2014 ddiwygio Deddf Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol 1992 ('Deddf 1992') i ganiatáu i awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru godi cyfraddau uwch o dreth gyngor ar anheddau sy'n wag ers tro (sydd wedi bod yn wag am o leiaf flwyddyn) ac anheddau y preswylir ynddynt o bryd i'w gilydd, neu ail gartrefi fel y'u gelwir yn fwy cyffredin.

Cyfeirir at y Dreth Gyngor ychwanegol hon fel premiwm. Y cynnydd mwyaf y gall awdurdod lleol ei wneud yw **100% ychwanegol** o'r tâl treth cyngor safonol, hynny yw premiwm treth gyngor o 100%. Mae hyn yn golygu y gall yr awdurdod godi hyd at ddwbl cyfradd safonol y Dreth Gyngor ar berchnogion ail gartrefi ar gyfer yr eiddo hwnnw.

Y tro cyntaf y bydd awdurdod lleol yn dewis codi premiwm o'r fath, rhaid iddo wneud ei benderfyniad o leiaf blwyddyn cyn dechrau'r flwyddyn ariannol y codir y premiwm ynddi. Mae awdurdodau lleol wedi gallu codi premiwm ers mis Ebrill 2017.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cyhoeddi canllawiau i awdurdodau lleol ar ddefnyddio'r pwerau hyn.

## Eiddo sy'n cael eu heithrio

Ni ellir codi premiwm Treth Gyngor ar eiddo sydd naill ai heb ei fandio at ddibenion Treth Gyngor, sydd wedi'i eithrio rhag talu unrhyw Dreth Gyngor, neu lle mae Gweinidogion Cymru wedi dweud yn benodol na chaniateir codi premiwm.

Mae Rheoliadau'r Dreth Gyngor (Eithriadau rhag Symiau Uwch) (Cymru) 2015 yn rhagnodi saith dosbarth o anheddau lle na cheir codi premiwm. Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys eithriadau ar gyfer lleiniau a feddiennir gan garafanau (lle maent yn wag ar hyn o bryd, ond pan fydd unigolyn yno, dyna fydd ei unig breswylfa neu ei brif breswylfa) a hefyd ar gyfer cartrefi tymhorol lle na chaniateir eu meddiannu trwy gydol y flwyddyn. Mae'r eithriad hwnnw'n berthnasol i anheddau sy'n ddarostyngedig i amodau cynllunio sy'n atal meddiannaeth am gyfnod parhaus o 28 diwrnod o leiaf mewn unrhyw gyfnod o 12 mis.

Ar yr amod y bydd rhai amodau yn cael eu bodloni, gallai rhai perchnogion ail gartrefi fod yn atebol am ardrethi busnes, yn hytrach na Threth Gyngor. Yn yr achosion hynny, ni ellid codi premiwm y Dreth Gyngor ar gyfer ail gartrefi.

## Lleihau'r atebolrwydd dros bremymau'r dreth gyngor ar gartrefi a fu'n wag ers tro ac ail gartrefi

Yn yr un modd ag y mae gan awdurdodau lleol bwerau dewisol i godi premiymau ar y gyfradd dreth gyngor safonol ar eiddo penodol, mae ganddynt bwerau dewisol i leihau premiymau hefyd.

Mae adran 13A o Ddeddf 1992 yn rhoi pwerau i awdurdodau lleol leihau atebolrwydd o ran y dreth gyngor i'r fath raddau y mae'n eu hystyried yn addas. Mae canllawiau Llywodraeth Cymru yn nodi y gellir defnyddio'r pŵer i 'leihau atebolrwydd am dreth gyngor mewn amgylchiadau lle y byddai awdurdod lleol fel arall yn codi premiwm'.

Fodd bynnag, mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn nodi yn glir yn y canllawiau mai '**mater i awdurdod lleol** yw p'un a yw pwerau dewisol 13A yn cael eu defnyddio i leihau atebolrwydd am dreth gyngor o ran y premiwm'. Mae'r canllawiau yn mynd ymlaen i nodi y bydd trafodaethau awdurdodau lleol ynghylch y pwerau dewisol yn 13A yn debygol o fod yn wahanol 'pan gânt eu hystyried i leihau atebolrwydd am dreth gyngor sy'n ganlyniad premiwm o gymharu â lleihau atebolrwydd am raddfa safonol y dreth gyngor'.

## 2. Camau gweithredu Llywodraeth Cymru a Senedd Cymru

Tua dechrau'r cyfyngiadau symud (1 Ebrill 2020), [cyflwynodd Joyce Watson AS gwestiwn](#) i Weinidogion Cymru ar y mater hwn: Yng ngoleuni'r cyngor presennol i bobl allu aros yn eu prif breswylfa, a yw'r Gweinidog wedi cael trafodaethau gyda llywodraeth leol ynghylch taliadau treth gyngor ar gyfer perchnogion ail gartrefi?

Roedd yr ymateb gan y Gweinidog Cyllid a'r Trefnydd yn nodi:

The powers for local authorities to apply council tax premiums to second homes are discretionary. It is for individual authorities to determine whether to apply a premium and the level at which this will apply.

Roedd rheoliadau a wnaed gan Weinidogion Cymru yn gwahardd teithio nad oedd yn hanfodol yng Nghymru. Roedd hyn yn cynnwys teithio i ail gartrefi.

Wrth ymateb i Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau, pwysleisiodd y Gweinidog Cyllid a'r Trefnydd unwaith eto fod premiymau treth gyngor yn fater i awdurdodau lleol, gan nodi:

The decision to apply a premium, and the level at which to apply it, sits with each local authority enabling them to take account of their community needs and circumstances. Local authorities also have discretionary powers to apply discounts to the council tax bills for second homes and empty properties.

Mae'r ymateb yn parhau trwy nodi nad 'mesur codi refeniw' oedd cyflwyno premiwm, ond ailddefnyddio cartrefi gwag a chartrefi sy'n cael eu tanddefnyddio i helpu i reoli'r cyflenwad tai lleol.

Mae'r Gweinidog hefyd yn nodi **nad oes gan Lywodraeth Cymru gynlluniau i addasu natur ddewisol y pwerau hyn.**

### 3. Camau gweithredu'r awdurdodau lleol

Awdurdodau lleol sy'n penderfynu a ydynt am godi premiwm ai peidio yn eu hardal. Mae sawl awdurdod yn codi premiwm ychwanegol o 25-50% ar ail gartrefi yn eu hardal, gyda rhai yn codi'r premiwm uchaf, sef 100%. Fodd bynnag, nid yw rhai awdurdodau yn codi unrhyw breimiwm o gwbl.

Mae rhai awdurdodau lleol wedi rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf ar eu gwefan ynghylch y premiwm sy'n ymateb i Covid-19. Er enghraifft, mae **Cyngor Sir Ceredigion** a Chyngor Sir Penfro yn nodi **nad oes newid** i Breimiwm y Dreth Gyngor a godir ar hyn o bryd ar berchnogion ail gartrefi yn sgil pandemig y coronafeirws.

Mae **gwefan Cyngor Sir Penfro** yn nodi'r hyn a ganlyn am y mater:

Mae'r Awdurdod wedi wynebu beirniadaeth gan rai perchenogion ail gartrefi sy'n hawlio na ddylid codi'r taliad ychwanegol am nad ydynt yn gallu defnyddio eu heiddo yn Sir Benfro oherwydd cyfyngiadau teithio'r coronafeirws

Ond dywed y Cyngor **nad yw haint COVID-19 yn effeithio dim** ar y rheswm dros gyflwyno'r premiwm yn y lle cyntaf dair blynedd yn ôl.

Ailystyriwch y codiad i'r dreth gyngor ar gyfer ail gartrefi tra'i bod yn anghyfreithlon i deithio i ail gartrefi

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-05-975  
Ein cyf/Our ref: RE/00403/20

Janet Finch-Saunders MS  
Chair, Petitions Committee  
Senedd Cymru  
Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

29 June 2020

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your letter regarding Petition P-05-975 on council tax premiums and second homes.

The application of council tax premiums is a matter for individual local authorities. Local authorities in Wales have discretionary powers, under the Local Government Finance Act 1992, to apply premiums of up to 100% to the council tax bills for second homes and long-term empty properties. The decision to apply a premium, and the level at which to apply it, sits with each local authority enabling them to take account of their community needs and circumstances. Local authorities also have discretionary powers to apply discounts to the council tax bills for second homes and empty properties.

The powers to apply council tax premiums on second homes and long-term empty dwellings were introduced as a tool to help local authorities in Wales in bringing underused homes back into use and in managing issues affecting local housing supply. They were not introduced as a revenue-raising measure. The Welsh Government has no plans to alter the discretionary nature of these powers.

Local authorities in Wales also have powers to reduce council tax bills for households experiencing hardship. We are working with them to consider what support they can offer during this difficult time to ease the financial strains being faced by people across the country. Anyone experiencing difficulty in paying their council tax bill should check whether they might be eligible for support and contact their local authority. Our website provides information on the range of support available: <https://gov.wales/pay-less-council-tax>

The restrictions on movement which have been put in place in response to the coronavirus pandemic are an important part of our approach to controlling the spread of the virus in Wales.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

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

[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 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 and any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.



We keep these restrictions under continuous review and will continue to announce easements as and when the evidence indicates that it is safe to do so.

Yours sincerely,

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

**Rebecca Evans AS/MS**  
Y Gweinidog Cyllid a'r Trefnydd  
Minister for Finance and Trefnydd

**P-05-975 Reconsider second home council tax uplift while illegal to travel to second homes, Correspondence – Petitioner to Committee, 05.07.20**

## **Submission:**

The Welsh Government, totally appropriately, asked second home owners not to use their second homes from March to July.

This was to avoid the risk of increasing transmission of coronavirus, and to reduce the risk of overwhelming local NHS facilities, should there be an increase of patients with Covid-19. This was the correct decision, and second home owners have respected that.

It was illegal to travel more than five miles away from your home in Wales. People were turned back by the police, and some I understand it were fined and possible prosecution discussed. The five mile travel rule was also a totally reasonable action by the Welsh Government, again in order to contain and manage this pandemic.

Making it illegal to travel to a second home effectively made it illegal to use a second home. It is unlikely that a second home owner would live within 5 miles of their second home.

In those months when second home owners could not visit, they were required to continue to pay the 50% uplift on council tax. Councils need base level council tax to maintain all their services. This petition is not about the cessation of council tax payments for that period but for consideration of the 50% uplift, at a time when owners simply could not use their second homes.

I would ask the Petitions Committee to consider whether the fact that it was illegal to travel to your second home effectively made it illegal to use your second home.

### **General Comments and Observations:**

The monies from the uplift were intended, as from the correspondence from Rebecca Evans AS/MS, to address issues around local housing supply and bringing unused homes back into supply, and not as a revenue raising measure (in your notes). I have no issue with that approach and concur with the need to support an increase in social housing through the whole of Wales.

Pembrokeshire County Council uses 50% of the uplift (Appendix 1) to aid with local housing, and the other 50% to enhance community activities through the Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant.(Appendix 2) . Local societies and organisations bid for this money annually. For this round into 2020 this is £974,950. The projects are varied, and range from supporting community booklets to refurbishing buildings for multipurpose use, and indeed repairing

broken fences. The suggestion is that because of the volume of second homes the community is adversely affected, and the community should be “compensated”. The issues that are addressed are issues that are common to communities country wide – rural isolation, and broken fences exist throughout Wales.

How this money is used is possibly irrelevant to this petition, but for second home owners who are unable to use their properties, it has been interesting to read about exactly how this money is used.

Pembrokeshire is ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in Wales for average house prices in Wales,(appendix 3) despite the perception that second home owners push up property prices. Locals sell their houses at a premium, and contribute to the increasing costs for local people. However key workers in Pembrokeshire are paid the same as key workers in the Vales of Glamorgan, but property on average in Pembrokeshire remains much less expensive in Pembrokeshire than in the Vale, and six other counties in Wales, so Pembrokeshire remains much more affordable than many other areas of Wales

There are numbers of affordable properties empty in Pembrokeshire.

It is entirely likely that second home owners will increase their philanthropy in the direction of Pembrokeshire if, as a matter of principle, the 50% uplift is reconsidered for this period.

[Appendix 1](#)

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**Authority says second home Council Tax premium will stay**

# **Newsroom**

## **Authority says second home Council Tax premium will stay**



Pembrokeshire County Council has justified its decision to continue to charge a 50 per cent Council Tax premium on second homes.

The Authority has faced criticism from some second home owners who claim the extra charge should not be levied as they are unable to use their properties in Pembrokeshire because of the coronavirus travelling restrictions.

But the Council say that the Covid-19 outbreak has no bearing on the reason for introducing the premium in the first place three years ago.

“It was brought in simply to help increase the supply of affordable homes, particularly in our rural areas” said the Council Cabinet Member for Finance, Bob Kilmister.

“It is a fact that second homes can reduce the amount of housing available for local people. A holiday home in a village can mean one less property available for occupation by

a local family. That we are in the middle of this terrible pandemic does not alter that.”

There are around 3,600 second homes in Pembrokeshire.

Councillor Kilmister also pointed out that the extra cash generated by the Council Tax premium was being put to good use.

“Half of the proceeds go towards the provision of affordable housing and the remainder funds the Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant which gives money to help pay for community projects” he explained.

“To date we have paid out in excess of half a million pounds to scores of local projects which are making a huge difference in the day-to-day life of our communities.”

“Without the 50 per cent Council Tax premium, that money would not be forthcoming.”

Council Tax is collected on domestic properties and the money is raised to part-fund local services, such as the local authority, the police, and town and community councils.

Prior to the premium being introduced, the Authority’s policy was not to award any discounts to owners of second homes and they were liable for 100 per cent Council Tax, namely the standard rate.

The powers to apply council tax premiums on second homes and long-term empty dwellings were introduced as a tool to help local authorities in Wales in bringing underused homes back into use and in managing issues affecting local housing supply. They were not introduced as a revenue-raising measure. The Welsh Government has no plans to alter the discretionary nature of these powers.

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## Appendix 2

### The Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant

The Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant, using funds raised via the Second Homes Tax is available to provide funding for new projects that help address the negative impact of second homes and in doing so adds value to our communities.

Outcomes are structured around five Well-being objectives:

- Raising overall standards of achievement
  - Healthy communities: Communities supported by affordable and appropriate housing; improving social care
  - Increase the economy's productivity and address regeneration issues
  - Safeguarding our environment
  - Self-sustained and vibrant communities
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- Appendix 3
  - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-house-price-index-wales-january-2019/uk-house-price-index-wales-january-2019>

### **P-05-976 Caniatáu priodasau sy'n cynnwys 5 o bobl (cofrestrydd/y pâr/2 dyst) yn ystod COVID 19 yng Nghymru**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Brionni Townsend, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 979 lofnodion.

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

Er bod partion priodas, yn ddealladwy, yn cael eu gohirio am resymau cadw pellter cymdeithasol, mae gallu priodi'n gyfreithlon yn bwysig i lawer o bobl, ac yn bosibl heb risg sylweddol o ledaenu COVID-19.

Mae priodas yn darparu hawliau cyfreithiol o ran etifeddiaeth, plant, penderfyniadau meddygol perthnasau agosaf, a thai. Hefyd, oherwydd argyhoeddiadau ysbrydol a moesol ynghylch cyd-fyw cyn priodi, mae llawer o gyplau sydd wedi dyweddïo yn cael eu gorfodi i fyw ar wahân wrth i ddyddiad eu priodas basio heibio.

#### **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol:**

Byddai rhoi'r cyfle i gyplau roi'r hawliau hyn i'r naill a'r llall yn eu helpu yn ystod yr amser hwn sy'n llawn straen.

Mae Newyddion y BBC wedi bod yn adrodd am gynlluniau o ran caniatáu "priodasau bach yn yr awyr agored" yng Ngogledd Iwerddon o 8 Mehefin, 2020 ymlaen.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-5280997>

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

- Gorllewin Caerdydd
- Canol De Cymru

# Caniatáu priodasau sy'n cynnwys 5 o bobl yn ystod COVID-19 yng Nghymru

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau | 17 Gorffennaf 2020  
Petitions Committee | 17 July 2020

Cyfeirnod: RS20/12961-5

Rhif y ddeiseb: P-05-976

**Teitl y ddeiseb:** Caniatáu priodasau sy'n cynnwys 5 o bobl (cofrestrydd/y pâr/2 dyst) yn ystod COVID 19 yng Nghymru

**Geiriad y ddeiseb:** Er bod partïon priodas, yn ddealladwy, yn cael eu gohirio am resymau cadw pellter cymdeithasol, mae gallu priodi'n gyfreithlon yn bwysig i lawer o bobl, ac yn bosibl heb risg sylweddol o ledaenu COVID-19.

Mae priodas yn darparu hawliau cyfreithiol o ran etifeddiaeth, plant, penderfyniadau meddygol perthnasau agosaf, a thai. Hefyd, oherwydd argyhoeddiadau ysbrydol a moesol ynghylch cyd-fyw cyn priodi, mae llawer o gyplau sydd wedi dyweddïo yn cael eu gorfodi i fyw ar wahân wrth i ddyddiad eu priodas basio heibio.

Byddai rhoi'r cyfle i gyplau roi'r hawliau hyn i'r naill a'r llall yn eu helpu yn ystod yr amser hwn sy'n llawn straen.

Mae Newyddion y BBC wedi bod yn adrodd am gynlluniau o ran caniatáu priodasau bach yn yr awyr agored yng Ngogledd Iwerddon o 8 Mehefin, 2020 ymlaen.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-52809997>





## 1. Camau gan Lywodraeth Cymru

Ar 19 Mehefin 2020, cyhoeddodd y Prif Weinidog, Mark Drakeford AS, y mesurau diweddaraf i lacio'r cyfyngiadau ar symud ac ymgynnull yng Nghymru a gyflwynwyd o ganlyniad i bandemig COVID-19.

Mae Rheoliadau Diogelu Iechyd (Cyfyngiadau Coronafeirws) (Cymru) (Diwygio) (Rhif 6) 2020, a osodwyd gerbron Senedd Cymru ar 22 Mehefin 2020, yn diwygio Rheoliadau Diogelu Iechyd (Cyfyngiadau Coronafeirws) (Cymru) 2020 (fel y'i diwygiwyd). Mae'r rheoliadau diweddaraf, fel y'u disgrifir yn y Nodiadau Esboniadol, yn **diddymu cyfyngiadau ar briodasau a seremonïau partneriaeth sifil a gynhelir**, yn amodol ar ofnion i gadw pellter corfforol.

Fodd bynnag, mae'r Rheoliadau, fel y'u diwygiwyd, yn cyfeirio at briodasau a seremonïau partneriaeth sifil yng nghyd-destun 'addoldai' yn unig. Mae canllawiau Llywodraeth Cymru ar ailagor addoldai yn datgan:

Nid yw'r term "mannau addoli" yn cael ei ddiffinio yn y Rheoliadau. At ddibenion y cyngor hwn, mae'r term yn cynnwys man cyfyngedig neu gaeedig y tu mewn i adeiladau neu yn yr awyr agored, a gaiff eu defnyddio ar gyfer seremonïau crefyddol, cyd-weddïo ac addoli neu gynulladau tebyg, megis eglwys, gurdwara, mosg, teml, synagog, neuadd eglwys, weddïo neu gyfarfod.

Nid yw'r rheoliadau na'r canllawiau yn rhoi eglurder ynghylch statws swyddfeydd cofrestru, er bod enghreifftiau bellach o rai awdurdodau lleol yn cynnig gwasanaethau cofrestru ar gyfer priodasau a phartneriaethau sifil yng Nghymru.

### Y Rheoliadau

Gwnaeth Rheoliadau Diogelu Iechyd (cyfyngiadau coronafeirws) (Cymru) 2020 ddarpariaeth ar gyfer cyfyngiadau symud i unigolion ac ar gynulladau yn ystod yr argyfwng. Roedd hefyd yn darparu ar gyfer cyfyngiadau ar fannau addoli, busnesau, a gwasanaethau penodol eraill. O ganlyniad, nid oedd yn bosibl gweinyddu priodasau neu seremonïau partneriaeth sifil yng Nghymru.

Roedd y set flaenorol o Rheoliadau, Rheoliadau Diogelu Iechyd (Cyfyngiadau Coronafeirws) (Cymru) (Diwygio) (Rhif 5) 2020, a ddaeth i rym ar 1 Mehefin 2020, yn cynnwys eithriadau yn y darpariaethau sy'n gosod cyfyngiadau ar briodasau a

phartneriaethau sifil, ac yn caniatáu iddynt gael eu cynnal pan oedd gan un o'r cwpl salwch terfynol.

Mae'r diwygiadau diweddaraf i'r Rheoliadau yn diwygio Rheoliad 7, 8 ac 8B o Reoliadau Diogelu Iechyd (Cyfyngiadau Coronafeirws) (Cymru) 2020 (fel y'u diwygiwyd):

- Diwygiwyd Rheoliad 7 i ganiatáu i fannau addoli, yn amodol ar gydymffurfio â gofynion o ran cadw pellter corfforol o 2 fetr rhwng pob person, agor ar gyfer **gweinyddu priodasau neu ffurfio partneriaethau sifil**;
- Mae Rheoliad 8 bellach yn caniatáu, fel **esgus rhesymol**, i unigolion adael y man lle y maent yn byw i fynd i weinyddiad priodas neu seremoni partneriaeth sifil;
- Cafodd Rheoliad 8B ei fewnosod gan Reoliadau Diogelu Iechyd (Cyfyngiadau Coronafeirws) (Cymru) (Diwygio) (Rhif 5) 2020. Llaciodd y rheoliad hwn rai o'r cyfyngiadau ar ymgynnull yn yr awyr agored gyda phersonau eraill, a oedd yn cynnwys caniatáu ymgynnull ar gyfer angladd. Mae'r Rheoliadau diweddaraf (Rhif 6) yn diwygio'r eithriadau i gynnwys **mynd i briodas neu seremoni partneriaeth sifil**.

Ceir rhagor o wybodaeth am y rheoliadau ar wefan Llywodraeth Cymru.

Bydd yr adolygiad nesaf o'r rheolau yn cael ei gynnal ar 09 Gorffennaf 2020.

## 2. Cefndir

Cafodd yr holl briodasau a seremonïau partneriaeth sifil eu hatal o ganlyniad i bandemig y coronafeirws. Roedd y cyfyngiadau ar yr hawl i gyfarfod a'r cyfyngiadau symud, ynghyd â'r penderfyniad i gau lleoliadau a gwasanaethau sy'n gysylltiedig â gweinyddu priodasau, yn golygu nad oedd modd cynnal seremonïau yng Nghymru mwyach.

Ar 23 Mawrth 2020, cyhoeddodd Mark Drakeford AS, Prif Weinidog Cymru, "ni ddylai digwyddiadau cymdeithasol, gan gynnwys priodasau, gwasanaethau bedydd a seremonïau eraill, yn ogystal â chyfarfodydd o fwy na dau o bobl yn gyhoeddus, ddigwydd o gwbl." Yr unig eithriad i hyn oedd y gydnabyddiaeth o'r angen i fynd i angladdau mewn rhai amgylchiadau. Roedd gan aelodau agos o'r teulu yr hawl, felly, i fynd i angladdau. Fodd bynnag, gwnaeth y rhan fwyaf o awdurdodau lleol bennu uchafswm ar nifer y bobl fyddai'n cael bod yn bresennol

mewn angladd (5 neu 10 fel arfer). Gosodwyd yr uchafsymiau hyn er mwyn sicrhau diogelwch y staff a'r gweinyddwyr, ac i leihau lledaeniad y feirws.

Fodd bynnag, y gofyniad cyfreithiol allweddol ar gyfer angladdau, fel y nodwyd yn y [canllawiau](#), yw 'y cymerir **pob cam rhesymol** i sicrhau y cedwir **pellter o 2 fetr** rhwng y rheini sy'n mynd. Mae hyn yn golygu pellter o 2 fetr rhwng aelodau o aelwydydd gwahanol, nid o angenrheidrwydd rhwng pob person unigol.'

Serch hynny, er y gwnaed eithriadau o'r fath ar gyfer angladdau, nid oedd y rhain yn cynnwys priodasau na seremonïau partneriaeth sifil. At hynny, ers pasio Deddf y Coronafeirws 2020, mae'r mwyafrif llethol o'r busnesau a lleoliadau trwyddedig a allai fod wedi cynnal priodas wedi gorfod cau. Mae hyn yn cynnwys lleoliadau cymeradwy fel gwestai, yn ogystal â swyddfeydd cofrestru. Gwaharddwyd pob priodas a gwasanaeth partneriaeth sifil gan awdurdodau lleol nes y nodwyd yn wahanol.

Ar 29 Mai 2020, cyhoeddodd Prif Weinidog Cymru fod rhai cyfyngiadau wedi'u llacio yng Nghymru, ond nid oedd hyn yn ymestyn i gynnwys priodasau a seremonïau partneriaeth sifil. Yr unig eithriad i'r cyfyngiad hwn oedd pan oedd gan un o'r cwpl salwch terfynol.

### **Gwasanaethau cofrestru**

Darperir gwasanaethau cofrestru gan awdurdodau lleol, a fydd yn dehongli ac yn gweithredu'r Rheoliadau a'r canllawiau yn eu hardal ac yn eu gwasanaethau. Mae pob awdurdod lleol wedi newid neu atal gwasanaethau cofrestru dros dro at ddibenion cynnal priodasau a seremonïau partneriaeth sifil. Fodd bynnag, ceir arwyddion bod rhai awdurdodau bellach yn darparu gwasanaethau cofrestru, a chafwyd [adroddiad gan BBC Wales \(1 Gorffennaf 2020\)](#) ynglŷn â phriodas cwpl yng ngogledd Cymru lle roedd cofrestrydd yn bresennol ar gyfer y briodas mewn eglwys.

Mewn [erthygl ddiweddar arall ar BBC Wales \(16 Mehefin 2020\)](#), nodwyd bod gan y rhan fwyaf o gynghorau yng Nghymru offer diogelu personol erbyn hyn i'w defnyddio gan gofrestryddion, a bod ystafelloedd seremoni wedi eu haildrefnu i ganiatáu ar gyfer cadw pellter cymdeithasol. Nodwyd hefyd bod rhai cynghorau yn ystyried y posibilrwydd o ffrydio seremonïau ar-lein yn y dyfodol.

### 3. Camau gweithredu Senedd Cymru

Ar 2 Mehefin 2020, cyflwynodd Nick Ramsay AS gwestiwn ysgrifenedig at y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol: 'A wnaiff y Gweinidog egluro ar ba sail y barnwyd ei bod yn dderbyniol i angladdau barhau gyda niferoedd cyfyngedig yn bresennol, o safbwynt iechyd cyhoeddus, a pham na ddefnyddiwyd yr un canllawiau ar gyfer seremonïau priodas?'

Nid yw'r Gweinidog wedi ateb eto.

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 reidrydd na'u diwygio fel arall i adlewyrchu newidiadau dilynol.



Ein cyf/Our ref VG/03891/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AS  
Cadeirydd  
Y Pwyllgor Deisebau

Government.Committee.Business@llyw.cymru

14 Gorffennaf 2020

Annwyl Janet,

Rwyf yn falch o allu dweud wrthyfch fod Rheoliadau Diogelu Iechyd (Cyfyngiadau Coronafeirws) (Cymru) 2020 wedi eu diwygio (gydag effaith o 22 Mehefin) i ganiatáu i addoldai agor at ddibenion gweinyddu priodasau a ffurfio partneriaeth sifil ac i gyfranogwyr a gwahoddedigion deithio, ymgynnull a mynd i mewn i adeilad at y diben hwnnw. Mae hyn yn golygu ei bod bellach yn bosibl cynnal seremonïau mewn addoldai a Swyddfeydd Cofrestru.

Nid yw lleoliadau eraill sy'n cynnal priodasau fel arfer yn gallu cynnal seremonïau gan fod gofyn iddynt barhau i fod ar gau o dan y rheoliadau presennol. Mae'r newid hwn i'r Rheoliadau yn adlewyrchu'r pwyntiau yr ydych yn eu codi ynghylch pwysigrwydd gallu priodi neu ffurfio partneriaeth sifil am resymau cyfreithiol ac ysbrydol. Mae'n golygu bod pawb sy'n dymuno yn gallu priodi neu ffurfio partneriaeth sifil mewn lleoliad crefyddol neu leoliad nad hyw'n grefyddol.

Rydym wedi bod yn gweithio gyda Chofrestryddion a'r gymuned ffydd i ddatblygu canllawiau y byddwn yn eu cyhoeddi cyn bo hir. Bydd y canllawiau hyn yn pwysleisio'r gwahaniaeth rhwng y seremoni ffurfiol sy'n sefydlu sail gyfreithiol y briodas neu'r bartneriaeth sifil a'r cynulliad cymdeithasol y mae llawer yn dymuno ei fwynhau fel rhan o'u priodas. Nid yw ystyriaethau iechyd y cyhoedd yn caniatáu inni fynd ymhellach a chaniatáu i'r cynulliad cymdeithasol ddigwydd ar hyn o bryd, felly bydd yr oddefeb yn caniatáu digwyddiadau cyfyngedig gyda mesurau pellter wrth eu craidd.

Yn gywir,

**Vaughan Gething AS/MS**  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services

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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.

## Eitem 2.3

### **P-05-977 Ailagor gwasanaethau deintyddol cyffredinol llawn yng Nghymru fel sydd wedi digwydd yn Lloegr**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Andrew Bartley, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 7,583 lofnodion.

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

Ar 23 Mawrth, caewyd gwasanaethau deintyddol cyffredinol ar gyfer popeth heblaw am gyngor, gwrthfotigau, poenladdwyr ac echdyniadau syml.

Ar 8 Mehefin 2020, caniatwyd i bractisau yn Lloegr ailagor ac roedd lefel y gwasanaeth yn seiliedig ar eu gallu i gydymffurfio â phrotocolau gweithredu diogel.

Gwrthodir y cyfle hwn i gleifion a deintyddion yng Nghymru ac amcangyfrifir y bydd y gwasanaeth "arferol" yn ailddechrau ym mis Ionawr 2021.

Gwrthodir y cyfle i gleifion gael mynediad at driniaeth briodol yng Nghymru. Gwahaniaethu yw hyn ac mae'n rhaid iddo ddod i ben.

#### **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol:**

Bydd practisau mor ddiogel â phosibl. Hefyd, mae pwysau ariannol anferth arnynt a all olygu y bydd yn rhaid i lawer ohonynt gau, gan waethygu problemau mynediad.

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

- De Caerdydd a Phenarth
- Canol De Cymru



Ein cyf/Our ref VG/04075/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AS  
Cadeirydd,  
Y Pwyllgor Deisebau  
Senedd Cymru

7 Gorffennaf 2020

Annwyl Janet,

Diolch ichi am eich e-bost 15 Mehefin ynghylch y ddeiseb P-05-977 i ailagor gwasanaethau deintyddol cyffredinol llawn yng Nghymru yn unol â phractisau deintyddol yn Lloegr.

Yn dilyn y cyhoeddiad yn Lloegr y byddai practisau deintyddol ar agor am y tro cyntaf o 8 Mehefin bu diddordeb sylweddol mewn deintyddiaeth ac mae'r sylw a gafwyd yn y cyfryngau yn sgil hynny heb gyfleu'n llawn y sefyllfa gywir o ran gwasanaethau deintyddol yng Nghymru.

Yn wahanol i Loegr, drwy gydol y pandemig hwn, mae deintyddion yng Nghymru wedi bod 'ar agor' yn wedi llwyddo i weld cleifion wyneb yn wyneb yn eu practisau lle bo angen ar gyfer gofal brys er nad yw deintyddiaeth arferol nad yw'n ddeintyddiaeth frys yn cael ei darparu am y tro. Fel pob gwlad arall yn y DU, sefydlwyd hefyd 5 o ganolfannau deintyddol brys i drin achosion argyfwng a brys sy'n gofyn am driniaeth fwy cymhleth.

Nid wyf yn derbyn y syniad bod Cymru rywsut yn llusgo y tu ôl i Loegr o ran ailagor gwasanaethau. Yn ystod y pandemig, mae deintyddion a'u timau wedi gweld dros 16,000 o bobl mewn practisau ac wedi darparu dros 175,000 o ymgynghoriadau o bell, drwy wasanaethau ffôn neu fideo. Yn ogystal, mae'r canolfannau deintyddol brys wedi darparu triniaeth i ryw 7,000 o bobl.

Mae'n flaenoriaeth gennym fod ein cynllun ar gyfer adfer gwasanaethau yn bwyllog ac yn raddol yn unol â dull gweithredu Llywodraeth Cymru o ran llacio'r cyfyngiadau symud. Nid ydym yn dilyn yr arfer yn Lloegr. Yn hytrach, yng Nghymru rydym yn mynd ati i i adfer gwasanaethau deintyddol yn ddiogel, yn raddol ac mewn ffordd sy'n seiliedig ar risg. Mae angen cydbwysu anghenion iechyd geneuol cleifion yn erbyn y gofyniad i barhau i ystyried cyd-destun ehangach Covid-19 er mwyn lleihau'r risg o'i drosglwyddo yn y gymuned er mwyn diogelu cleifion, timau deintyddol a'r gymuned ehangach.

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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.

Ar 22 Mai cyhoeddodd Prif Swyddog Deintyddol Cymru Gynllun Llacio'r Cyfyngiadau Pandemig ar gyfer Deintyddiaeth yng Nghymru a nododd fod gwasanaethau deintyddol yn cael eu hailsefydlu'n raddol i ddiwallu anghenion y boblogaeth. Ar 10 Mehefin, cyhoeddwyd Proses Weithredu Safonol Cymru Gyfan (SOP) a ddsbarthwyd i bob practis deintyddol fel rhan o'r cynllun adfer ar gyfer deintyddiaeth yng Nghymru. Nododd hon y broses o aildddechrau'r gwasanaethau deintyddol a bydd cynlluniau ar gyfer cam cyntaf llacio'r cyfyngiadau'n dod i rym o 1 Gorffennaf pan fyddai mwy o bractisau deintyddol yng Nghymru yn gallu dechrau cyflwyno triniaethau ychwanegol ac ystod ehangach o ofal.

Ar hyd yr amser, mae'r holl gynlluniau ar gyfer adfer gwasanaethau deintyddol wedi'u hadolygu'n barhaus er mwyn sicrhau bod deintyddiaeth yn gysylltiedig â'r cynlluniau adfer ar gyfer meysydd eraill o ofal sylfaenol a gwasanaethau ehangach.

Ochr yn ochr â chyhoeddiad y Prif Weinidog ar 19 Mehefin ynghylch lleddfu pellach ar y cyfyngiadau symud, gwnaethom godi'r Rhybudd Coch mewn deintyddiaeth yng Nghymru o ddydd Llun 22 Mehefin. Erbyn hyn, gall gwasanaethau deintyddol symud i'r cyfnod Oren o ran llacio'r cyfyngiadau. Mae'r rhan fwyaf o bractisau a byrddau iechyd yn debygol o fod angen yr amser sydd ar gael cyn 1 Gorffennaf i baratoi, ac rydym yn cefnogi'r gofyniad hwnnw yn llwyr. Er hynny, gall practisau deintyddol sy'n barod i wneud hynny agor yn llawnach a llacio'r meini prawf ar gyfer asesu gofal brys, i weld a thrin mwy o'u cleifion cyn y dyddiad a gynlluniwyd yn gynharach sef 1 Gorffennaf.

Bydd amseriad y gwahanol gyfnodau'n parhau i gael ei adolygu'n barhaus. Bydd gwasanaethau'n dychwelyd yn raddol ac rydym wedi cydnabod y bydd y capasiti ar gyfer gofal deintyddol mewn rhai practisau yn cael ei gyfyngu gan fesurau ffisegol ac argaeledd PPE priodol (a phroffion ffit masgiau). Mae angen i bractisau deintyddol barhau i ddilyn mesurau llym o ran rheoli haint, gan gynnwys trwy gadw pellter cymdeithasol, er mwyn amddiffyn staff practis, cleifion a'r gymuned ehangach. Mae'r dull gweithredu rydym yn ei gymryd yn cynnig darparu gwasanaethau deintyddol i'r rhai sydd â'r angen mwyaf, gyda'r triniaethau a ddarperir yn cynyddu wrth i'r risg o Covid-19 leihau.

Gobeithio bod hyn o gymorth.

Yn gywir,



**Vaughan Gething AS/MS**

Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services



**P-05-977 Re-open full general dental services in Wales as has happened in England, Correspondence – Petitioner to Committee, 07.07.20**

Fortunately, we do appear now FINALLY to moving in a positive direction.

I do have a comment to Mr Gethings view that practices have been "open and able to see face to face patients".

This is in my opinion a little disingenuous.

Technically yes, they/we could physically open.

However, we were only able to offer extractions as an interventional treatment.

This is akin to allowing Tesco to "open" but only permitting the sale of bottled water. They may well be open but you cannot buy much of value.

Treatment options to actually prevent conditions worsening and conservative pain relief options were not permissible

The UDCs were only able to offer (in the main barring some exceptions) dressings to inflamed nerves for front teeth and latterly premolar teeth.

This again denied access to conservative pain relief measures to back teeth.

I appreciate the political answer is all dental practices were open but the reality of the situation was rather different to that promoted by Mr Gething. I have been a dentist for quite some time now and as such I can safely say most of my patients are NOT happy to only be offered an extraction.

Regards lagging behind England. Well we were and indeed are lagging.

England were offered a complete return to NHS and private practices alike (and mixed who in reality equate to a majority) a couple of weeks before Wales. This was extended to all practices who were able to meet SOPs.

In Wales we were delayed in offering this return to a wider range of treatment options; causing our patients to have to wait longer and meaning we were further behind England in accessing essential PPE and RPE to allow safe opening. So, we were disadvantaged.

We now are able to offer more to our patients thankfully.

However, with regards to NHS dentistry we in Wales still have a phased return as we are in "Amber". This means we cannot return to routine dentistry even if safely able to do so. This is not the case in England where they are only restricted by the ability of the practice to conform with guidance.

There ARE differences with England.

As we gradually emerge from this and help our patients more. I would urge the committee to avoid this situation happening in the future.

Wales appears to have some of the most stringent restrictions applied to dentistry. Although like England we also have a 1-hour fallow time for our surgeries in place which has limited evidence to support its use.

We CAN and ARE able to operate safely. To my knowledge there have been no documented cases of transmission between patients and dental staff or vice versa.

During the height of the pandemic in Wales the UDCs operated safely and again with no transmission. Their protocols of operation are the same as those recommended for general practice.

NHS services must indeed support the practices as the funding mechanism is not able to manage such reduced throughput of patients and loss of charge revenue.

But NHS and private alike, If we are able to source and implement the appropriate protocols we must be able to continue to help our patients free of the threat of closure and referral to governing bodies.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

### **P-05-978 Caniatáu i'r holl sŵau ac atyniadau bywyd gwyllt ailagor gyda chamau cadw pellter cymdeithasol ar waith ledled Cymru**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Susan Stuart, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 248 lofnodion.

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

Mae'n hanfodol bod sŵau ac atyniadau bywyd gwyllt, gyda'u herwau o dir a mannau agored eang, yn cael caniatâd ar unwaith i ailagor. Gyda chamau cadw pellter cymdeithasol ar waith, gallai'r cyfleusterau hyn fod yn fwy diogel na chyfleusterau eraill, megis marchnadoedd awyr agored, sydd eisoes wedi cael caniatâd i ailagor.

#### **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol:**

Mae sŵau â rhan hanfodol ym maes cadwraeth, yng Nghymru a ledled y byd. Mae sefydliadau'n gwario miliynau bob blwyddyn yn ariannu gwaith cadwraeth sy'n helpu i ddiogelu cynefinoedd ac anifeiliaid mewn perygl difrifol.

Mae'r gwaith cadwraeth hwn wedi dod dan fygythiad oherwydd bod sŵau wedi parhau i fod ar gau oherwydd diffyg cymorth gan y llywodraeth.

Nid yw'r gost o ofalu am anifeiliaid yn diflannu pan nad yw ymwelwyr yno ac mae'n hanfodol y cânt ailagor ar unwaith.

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

- Llanelli
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru

# Eitem 2.5

## **P-05-979 Mabwysiadu polisïau llywodraeth y DU o ran llacio'r cyfyngiadau symud**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Georgina Stanger, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 96 lofnodion.

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Mae llawer o Gymry yn teimlo eu bod yn cael eu cadw dan glo yn annheg ar adeg pan mae pobl sy'n byw yn Lloegr yn cael mwy o ryddid. Maent yn poeni hefyd am eu swyddi a'u busnesau bach ac yn teimlo y bydd y safbwynt a gymerir gan lywodraeth Cymru yn rhwystro ymdrechion y llywodraeth ganolog i ddatgloi'r economi.

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

- Mynwy
- Dwyrain De Cymru

**P-05-980 Ymestyn grantiau ar unwaith i fusnesau bach yng Nghymru nad ydynt yn cael eu cynnwys yn y Rhyddhad Ardrethi Busnesau Bach**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Paul Deverson, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 130 lofnodion.

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Dylid rhoi disgrisiwn i awdurdodau lleol i ddyfarnu grant rhyddhad ardrethi busnesau bach i fusnesau sy'n talu ardrethi drwy eu rhent, gan roi'r un cymorth iddyn nhw ag a roddir i bob busnes arall.

### **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol:**

Cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth Geidwadol Lloegr fod busnesau sy'n talu eu hardrethi drwy rent yn cael cam, felly aed i'r afael â hyn drwy roi disgrisiwn i awdurdodau lleol ddyfarnu'r grant a helpu i'w hachub. Hyd yma, mae Llywodraeth Lafur Cymru wedi gwrthod gwneud hyn.

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

- Gorllewin Caerfyrddin a De Sir Benfro
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru



Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-980  
Ein cyf/Our ref RE/00429/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AS  
Cadeirydd, y Pwyllgor  
Deisebau

10 Gorffennaf 2020

Annwyl Janet,

Diolch ichi am eich llythyr, yn rhinwedd eich swydd fel Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau, ynglŷn â chymorth grant ardrethi annomestig i fusnesau.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn darparu cymorth gwerth £1.7 biliwn i helpu busnesau yng Nghymru yn ystod argyfwng y coronafeirws. Mae'r pecyn yn cynnwys dros £350m i helpu busnesau gyda'u biliau ardrethi annomestig yn ystod y flwyddyn ariannol hon. Ochr yn ochr â'r rhyddhad ardrethi ychwanegol hwn, mae dros £875m ar gael ar gyfer cynllun grantiau sy'n ymwneud ag ardrethi annomestig, sef grantiau i fusnesau a sefydliadau nid-er-elw.

Yng Nghymru, mae'r Gronfa Cadernid Economaidd, a gafodd ei lansio ar 30 Mawrth, wedi darparu cymorth ychwanegol i fusnesau nad ydynt yn gymwys i gael grantiau sy'n ymwneud ag ardrethi annomestig, yn ogystal â darparu amrywiaeth o gymorth busnes arall. Mae'r gronfa hon yn cefnogi cwmnïau o bob maint, gan ganolbwyntio ar y rheini nad ydynt wedi elwa ar ryddhad ardrethi a grantiau i'w helpu i ymdopi ag effeithiau'r coronafeirws. Roedd y cymorth hwn yn ei le cyn i Lywodraeth y DU gyhoeddi cronfa yn ôl disgrisiwn yr awdurdodau lleol.

Cafodd Cam 2 y Gronfa Cadernid Economaidd ei gyhoeddi ar 22 Mai. Bydd hyn yn golygu y bydd yn bosibl cael mynediad at y £100m sy'n weddill o'r £300m sydd eisoes wedi cael ei gymeradwyo a'i ddyrannu i gefnogi microfusnesau, busnesau bach a chanolig, a busnesau mawr. Bydd cwmnïau cyfyngedig, nad ydynt wedi eu cofrestru ar gyfer TAW, bellach yn gallu cael mynediad at gyllid y gronfa.

Yn y cyfamser, rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth y DU i ymestyn ei chymorth, gan ddarparu'r cyllid hanfodol y mae ei angen ar fusnesau Cymru, er mwyn iddynt allu goroesi, ac adfer o effeithiau'r coronafeirws.

Rydym wedi ail-flaenoriaethu cyllidebau i greu'r cynnig cymorth mwyaf hael i fusnesau yn y DU, er mwyn cefnogi busnesau cynaliadwy a'r swyddi y maent yn eu darparu. Mae'r pecyn

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[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 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 and correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

£1.7bn yr ydym wedi ei neilltuo yn fwy na'r cyllid cysylltiedig yr ydym wedi ei gael gan Lywodraeth y DU, er mwyn inni allu cynnig y cymorth gorau posibl yn ystod yr argyfwng hwn.

Yn gywir,

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

**Rebecca Evans AS/MS**  
Y Gweinidog Cyllid a'r Trefnydd  
Minister for Finance and Trefnydd

# Eitem 2.7

## P-05-981 Caniatáu i gampfeydd a chanolfannau hamdden ailagor

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Susan Stuart, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 964 lofnodion.

### Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Y nod yw annog y Llywodraeth i ailystyried y penderfyniad i gau campfeydd a chanolfannau hamdden, ac i ddod i gytundeb i'w hailagor. Mae nifer o bobl yn defnyddio'r cyfleusterau hyn i hybu eu hiechyd meddwl a'u lles a byddai'n fuddiol eu hailagor gyda chyfyngiadau.

### Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol:

Mae rhai prosesau y gellid eu rhoi ar waith i wneud yn siŵr bod y cyfleusterau hyn yn cadw at bolisiâu cadw pellter cymdeithasol a pholisiâu hylendid. Byddai modd gwneud hynny mewn ffordd fwy diogel ac mewn ffordd sy'n haws ei rheoli na'r hyn sy'n digwydd yn y siopau sydd ar agor ar hyn o bryd ac yn sicr yn haws i'w rheoli na'r hyn sy'n cael ei ystyried ar hyn o bryd ar gyfer siopau 'nad ydynt yn hanfodol'.

### Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad

- Pontypridd
- Canol De Cymru





Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-981  
Ein cyf/Our ref DET/01209/20

Janet Finch-Saunders MS  
Y Pwyllgor Deisebau  
Ty Hywel  
Bae Caerdydd  
Caerdydd  
CF99 1NA  
SeneddDeisebau@cynullaid.cymru

25 June 2020

Annwyl Janet Finch-Saunders MS,

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 17 Mehefin ynghylch deiseb P-05-981 i ganiatáu i gampfeydd a chanolfannau hamdden ailgor.

O dan y canllawiau presennol, mae stiwdios ffitrwydd, campfeydd, pyllau nofio neu ganolfannau hamdden dan do eraill wedi'u rhestru fel safleoedd y mae'n rhaid iddynt aros ar gau. Fodd bynnag, caniateir hyfforddiant a hyfforddi personol un-i-un, ar yr amod ei fod yn digwydd yn yr awyr agored, a bod yr holl gamau cymdeithasol a mesurau hylendid presennol yn cael eu dilyn.

Rydym yn dysgu mwy am y firws bob dydd ac rydym yn gwybod bod y risg o drosglwyddo yn is yn yr awyr agored na dan do a dyna pam ein bod wedi gallu lliniaru'r cyfyngiadau yn dilyn yr adolygiad diwethaf, ar 18 Mehefin, i ganiatáu i'r rhan fwyaf o gyfleusterau awyr agored ail-agor. Fodd bynnag, nid yw risg is yn golygu dim risg. Hyd yn oed yn yr amgylchiadau hyn mae'n hanfodol ein bod i gyd yn cynnal ymbellhau cymdeithasol fel y gallwn barhau i fynd i'r afael â lledaeniad y firws hwn.

Parhawn i drafod dychweliad chwaraeon ac ymarfer corff gyda'n partneriaid a rhanddeiliaid yn y sector, ac mae awdurdodau lleol ac ymddiriedolaethau hamdden yn aelodau allweddol o'r grwpiau a sefydlwyd i gyflwyno cynigion ar gyfer pob arolwg o'r rheoliadau coronafeirws.

Yn gywir,

**Yr Arglwydd Elis-Thomas AS/MS**  
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Diwylliant, Chwaraeon a Thwristiaeth  
Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism

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[Correspondence.Dafydd.Elis-Thomas@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Dafydd.Elis-Thomas@gov.wales)

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.

## **P-05-981 Allow gyms and leisure centres to reopen, Correspondence – Petitioner to Committee, 07.07.20**

### **P-05-981 Pwyllgor Deisebau 17.07.20 / Petitions Committee 17.07.20**

Whilst I appreciate that the provision for one to one coaching and personal training is allowed if it takes place outdoors, this only covers a small amount of the population who have the privilege of being able to train in this kind of way. Whilst I also understand the risk of the virus and transmission is not 100% understood, or transmission being risk free in any environment, it doesn't appear to be logical to allow large non-essential shops, fast food premises and now pubs and restaurants with outdoor areas to open and easily managed training facilities to not.

From visiting small essential shops, it is apparent that the necessary processes and practices are not being adhered to by the public or enforced by store owners in the slightest; the outside queuing systems are the only form of adherence to the rules there is. With the risk of transmission being thought to be higher and increased indoors, the risk of spending a possibly unlimited time in a store or outside area in relative close proximity to other people, and in a lot of cases surrounded by people, seems a higher risk than training indoors (with possible increased ventilation), for a limited time with increased distancing and sanitation measures. Particularly if you compare this to areas where people will be consuming alcohol and likely to lose their inhibitions, thus even more likely to flout and disregard the distancing rules and regulations that should be in place (but rarely enforced by traders/retailers).

Hopefully you'll have seen that Paralympian Tanni Grey-Thompson has recently called on the First Minister to name a date to reopen such facilities, again because now, as well as non-essential shops and pubs can reopen/have a date to re-open. I can imagine the leisure sector is already suffering, as well as those who can't access facilities that are an essential and vital part of their health and mental wellbeing. From speaking to several gym owners, it appears that with stringent and sensible measures, such as limiting overall membership numbers, increased hygiene and imposing distancing measures they can open and operate safely.

It appears illogical to many that it is deemed safer for people to be allowed to congregate with strangers in shops, restaurants and pubs albeit outdoors and that it is deemed safer than a properly regulated gym/training facility. As Baroness Thompson expressed in her letter, gyms also have the names and addresses of everyone who comes through the door, can limit numbers, move equipment, have sanitation at every station, and there are already very strict rules on ventilation. The same cannot be said for shops, non-essential or otherwise and particularly not for pubs. There's even the case that people are also now able to book haircuts and other beauty treatments, which means coming into extremely close contact for potentially prolonged periods of time – again seemingly higher risk than the measures that can be put in place at training facilities.

As Thompson's recent letter and comments also point out, there is also the 'social value' in losses that could incur should the closure of these facilities carry on. There is also consideration needed for those who are of a particular disadvantage from closures such as the BAME community and those from less socially economic areas who make up the majority of users. It is a shame for such communities to be disproportionately affected by these measures, especially with no end in sight.

There is also the point around lifting the restrictions around fast-food and not consider businesses who help the health and wellbeing of local populations, who have a far greater and positive impact than 'unhealthy' food options that can be argued are a detriment to society.

I understand the cautiousness of allowing areas to open up at once, but it would be useful to have proper consideration of the above, particularly the rationalisation when comparing it to the decisions to open non-essential shops and pubs/restaurants with outdoor areas (and taking into account the recent scenes in the likes of SoHo when pubs were allowed to open), or at the very least, consideration to provide a date when this issue will have a resolution date. Even if consideration is given to the smaller privately-owned gyms initially rather than large leisure centres as these premises can very much easily control members, distancing and sanitation and impose safe spaces for people to train and exercise again.

## **P-05-981 Allow gyms and leisure centres to reopen, Additional Correspondence – Petitioner to Committee, 07.07.20**

Grateful if you could also take the below into consideration, this information has come following conversations with the private gym I am a member of:

We are keen to open as soon as possible and believe we can do this safely if we follow the safety measures other industries have adopted.

We have already implemented extra measures in addition to our pre-covid high levels of cleanliness.

These measures include:

- \* Forehead temperatures taken before entry
- \* Members only facility for ease of track and trace
- \* Significantly reduced number of members (40% of pre-covid membership)
- \* Extra cleaning and sanitising during the day (in addition to our normal cleaning protocols)
- \* All windows and doors open for ventilation
- \* We have 15 hand sanitising stations throughout gym
- \* Gym rules insist that members clean their machines after use using the Antibacterial spray and blue roll provided.
- \* Machines are put as 'Out of Use' to adhere to social distancing
- \* We have purchased an Electro Static Sanitising Sprayer machine especially for high contact touch points like dumbbells/barbells/kettlebells/etc

The WHO have declared that Covid is not transmitted through sweat. The risk of aerosol transmission will be reduced by reducing the number of people on site at any given time, plus extra cleaning measures and increased ventilation.

Another point gym owners need to consider is the Corona Job Retention Scheme (CJRS). As of August businesses must pay the Employers NI contributions. In September employers must contribute 10% towards staff furlough payment, and 20% in October. Without a date to re-open, gym owners will be thinking of making their staff redundant as they could be in a position where they have no income yet MUST contribute towards the CJRS.

### **P-05-986 Caniatáu i gampfeydd bach a safleoedd hyfforddi personol agor yn gynt yn ystod cyfyngiadau COVID**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Andrew Starling, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 3,181 lofnodion.

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

Gall campfeydd bach neu fannau hyfforddi personol, fel campfeydd Crossfit, reoli'r pellter rhwng aelodau a'u trefniadau glanhau'n well na'r campfeydd masnachol mwy. Rwy'n cynnig system ar gyfer gweithio ddiogel, sef neilltuo 16 metr sgwâr (4 wrth 4) i bob cwsmer, gan sicrhau na fyddant yn symud o'r sgwâr hwnnw. Glanhau'r cyfarpar a'r llawr a ddefnyddiwyd yn drylwyr a sicrhau bod digon o amser rhwng y sesiynau. Mesur tymheredd pawb wrth iddynt gyrraedd. Neu, gellid cynnal sesiynau hyfforddi yn yr awyr agored (mae hyn yn digwydd eisoes yn Lloegr).

#### **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol:**

Wrth i'r cyfyngiadau presennol gael eu llacio, a chan fod siopau diangenrhaid a siopau bwyd brys yn cael agor rydym ni, fel busneses sydd wedi buddsoddi yn y diwydiant iechyd, yn credu a byddai o fwy o fudd i'r cyhoedd, ac yn llai o rig, pe bai campfydd sy'n dilyn y model hwn yn agor yn hytrach na'r busnesau a nodir uchod. Yn wahanol i'r siopau bwyd brys, mae'n amlwg ein bod yn gwneud mwy o les na niwed i iechyd cyffredinol.

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

- Llanelli
- Canolbarth a Gollewin Cymru



Eich cyf P-05-986  
Ein cyf DET/01405/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AS  
Cadeirydd, y Pwyllgor Deisebau

8 Gorffennaf 2020

Annwyl Janet

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 25 Mehefin ynghylch deiseb P-05-986 i ganiatáu i gampfeydd bach a safleoedd hyfforddi ailagor.

Er mwyn gallu dychwelyd i chwaraeon a gweithgarwch corfforol yn ddiogel, mae Chwaraeon Cymru a Chymdeithas Chwaraeon Cymru wedi sefydlu nifer o grwpiau cynllunio ar ein cychwyniad ni. Mae'r grwpiau, gyda chynrychiolwyr o weithgareddau chwaraeon eang, wedi cael y dasg o ystyried heriau mwy penodol ynghylch y themâu canlynol:

- Chwaraeon elít a phroffesiynol;
- Chwaraeon awyr agored;
- Chwaraeon dan do; a
- Cyfleusterau chwaraeon a hamdden.

Pwrpas pob grŵp yw datblygu dull i ddychwelyd yn raddol ac ystyried cyfleoedd y gellir eu cyflwyno i Lywodraeth Cymru fel rhan o bob adolygiad 21 diwrnod. Mae'r grwpiau hyn hefyd wedi ystyried y canllawiau sydd eu hangen i gefnogi'r sector ac rwy'n falch bod cynrychiolydd o ukactive wedi bod yn rhan o drafodaethau'r grŵp hwyluso chwaraeon a hamdden.

Trwy weithio gyda'i gilydd, nododd y sector fframwaith sylfaenol ar gyfer dychwelyd yn raddol a amlinellwyd yn y cynllun 'Llacio'r cyfyngiadau ar ein Cymdeithas a'n Heconomi' gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Bydd amseriad a graddau'r gweithgarwch a ailgychwynwyd ar draws y pedwar thema yn y cynllun yn amrywio wrth inni symud ymlaen drwy'r camau ar gyfer codi'r cyfyngiadau. Fodd bynnag, mae'r neges yn glir: mae rhai gweithgareddau - oherwydd y cyfyngiadau sy'n gysylltiedig â phellterau cymdeithasol - yn eu cael i ailddechrau'n gynt nag eraill, ac mae angen dull gweithredu cyd gysylltiedig.

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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.

Drwy weithio gyda'i gilydd, mae'r grwpiau wedi chwarae rhan allweddol yn y gwaith o ddatblygu canllawiau ar gyfer dychwelyd yn raddol i chwaraeon, a gyhoeddwyd gennym fis diwethaf. Mae linc i'r canllawiau wedi'i nodi isod, a'i nod yw cefnogi ailagor cyfleusterau pan fo'r amodau'n iawn.

<https://gov.wales/sport-recreation-and-leisure-guidance-phased-return-html>

Byddwn yn adolygu'r holl gyfyngiadau yn rheolaidd. Rydym wedi mabwysiadu dull cam wrth gam i leddfu'r cyfyngiadau a byddwn yn dysgu o bob cam a gymer i wneud newidiadau pellach. Hyd yn hyn, rydym wedi canolbwyntio ar agor cyfleusterau awyr agored gan fod y risg o drosglwyddo yn is yn yr awyr agored ac mae llawer o gyfleusterau awyr agored bellach ar agor. Rydym yn parhau i weithio'n agos gyda'r sector i drafod opsiynau ar gyfer ailagor cyfleusterau pellach yn ddiogel mor gyflym ac mor ddiogel â phosibl.

Yn gywir,



**Yr Arglwydd Elis-Thomas AS/MS**

Y Dirprwy Weinidog Diwylliant, Chwaraeon a Thwristiaeth  
Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism

**P-05-986 Allow small gyms and personal training spaces to open sooner during COVID restrictions, Correspondence – Petitioner to Committee, 12.07.20**

Dear Petitions Committee,

I refer to the above petition being discussed on Friday the 17th July 2020.

I'd like to include the email I sent directly to Mark Drakeford, that hasn't received a reply to begin with and then expand from there.

*"Hi Mark,*

*I'm sure you have noticed my tweets and my current petition*

<https://petitions.senedd.wales/petitions/200102>

*I'm just reaching out again as you said you were in talks with the gym industry about reopening and the potential of outdoor training.*

*Crossfit is the biggest group of gyms (we are all affiliated but run independently) in the UK, by some distance. I'd love to open some dialogue and educate the government on how we work, how we can socially distance and how we don't share equipment like a commercial gym.*

*Now, you may be sitting there thinking this is about income for me and getting the business back open, but you'd be wrong. Owning a CrossFit gym is a labour of love and is about the bigger picture for me. I have another full time job that supports my hobby of owning a CrossFit gym and haven't taken a penny from the gym business since owning it. I can also say that my community of members have all insisted to carry on paying memberships in order to keep the gym afloat so clearly it has nothing to do with that.*

*We are the ONLY answer to this pandemic. There is heaps of research showing that being overweight or suffering underlying health issues related to to being overweight puts you at a much higher risk of dying from COVID. Yet, you open pubs (outside), fast food chains and non-essential retail first, where if we're all honest, social distancing isn't and will not be happening. We are a solution to the issue. These are causes. Think of us as swimming teachers and the NHS as the lifeguards. You've stopped swimming lessons for a substantial period of time and when the hypothetical swimming pool re-opens, the lifeguards will be overrun. I thought we were trying to save the NHS? This is going to put a huge demand on it with a future pandemic of obesity and obesity-related disease.*

*COVID-19 will go and there will be a vaccine that will only be effective on COVID-19. What happens when the next, new 'COVID-19' comes along? We spend our lives preparing our bodies to deal with whatever gets thrown our way and I believe that is the only solution. Unfortunately, we are being prevented by your government.*

*I would also love to read the research you spoke about earlier when you mentioned gyms are a 'coronavirus hotspot'. Is there evidence here to support this? And is it of a high level, I wonder?*



*I look forward to hearing from you."*

I think this sums up the majority of my feelings on the governments response and on their current restrictions in place. Although since it has changed and outdoor fitness classes with up to 30 participants have been allowed, this has slightly altered and so have my views, until finding out that close-contact services including nail and beauty salons and piercing and tattoo businesses will be allowed to open on the 27th July, before indoor gyms. It has also been discussed that indoor hospitality might open from the 3rd August, yet no mention of gyms other than brief discussions with the industry. Again at this point I would like to highlight that CrossFit gyms make up the majority of UK gyms and are nothing to do with UK Active. We operate considerably differently from your average gym, but are not being included in these discussions.

I would also like to add that I am disgusted, disappointed and completely confused as to how the sale of alcohol at a premises has become more important in society than health and fitness. Alcohol, as your health advisors will inform you, is a depressant and probably not the best mix with the current social situation of lockdown. I should probably add that I do love a beer and am probably not the 'fitness freak' you may be imagining. Alcohol is very high in sugar and calories and will lead to many long term underlying health issues and issues with weight, the two largest contributors to death from COVID-19. It also inhibits peoples' behaviour and as you have seen from the scenes in England, has altered everyones perception of social distancing.

I'd further like to reiterate the issue of Mr Drakeford stating that "gyms are emerging as a source of coronavirus infections". This is unsubstantiated nonsense, with absolutely no reasoning or research to support it. In fact, the only research presented so far has confirmed the complete opposite and I do believe a First Minister should be held accountable for false accusations or slander and should be more responsible with his words.

Lastly, I would just like to point out again that in this discussion I have absolutely no financial gain to be made and feel that I may well be the only person who can say this. I am doing this all because I whole heartedly believe in it and know it is the the only way to reduce the effects of chronic disease, from diabetes to coronavirus. I have never taken a penny from the CrossFit business I own.

I thank the petition committee for discussing my petition and for presenting it to the Welsh government.

Many Thanks

Andrew Starling

Petition author, Owner of Crossfit Llanelli, L2 Crossfit Coach

## Eitem 2.9

**P-05-982 Dylid ail-agor cyrtiau tenis awyr agored a hyfforddiant yn unol â gweddill y DU ac Ewrop**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Georgina Hawkey, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 214 lofnodion.

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Mae tenis ymhlith yr ychydig iawn o chwaraeon lle mae modd cadw pellter cymdeithasol, ac mae'n fath rhagorol o ymarfer corff. Mae hyn yn golygu ei fod yn ddewis arbennig o dda i bobl sydd am ymarfer corff mewn modd diogel yn ystod cyfnod y coronafeirws, gan gefnogi iechyd meddwl a lles corfforol llawer o bobl ifanc ac oedolion. Mae'r Alban, Lloegr a Gorllewin Ewrop wedi ailagor cyrtiau tenis awyr agored a hyfforddiant. Mae'r canlyniadau yn dangos bod ailagor cyrtiau tenis awyr agored wedi bod yn llwyddiannus.

### **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol:**

Mae tenis yn addas ar gyfer cadw pellter cymdeithasol ac mae tystiolaeth yn y DU a gweddill Ewrop yn dangos bod y gamp yn ddiogel. Bydd oedi pellach yn rhoi straen ariannol ar hyfforddwyr a bydd yn rhoi chwaraewyr o Gymru sy'n cystadlu dan anfantais sylweddol o gymharu â chwaraewyr eraill yn y DU ac Ewrop. Mae hyfforddwyr yn Lloegr, drwy ddilyn rheolau penodol, wedi gallu dechrau hyfforddi'n ddiogel eto, sy'n eu galluogi i gael incwm eto ac yn eu helpu i ddychwelyd i normalrwydd. Os bydd rhagor o oedi, bydd chwaraewyr sy'n cystadlu ymhlith y rhai yr effeithir arnynt fwyaf. Bydd yr oedi pellach hwn yn golygu eu bod yn bell ar ei hôl hi o'u cymharu â chwaraewyr eraill ledled y DU ac Ewrop o ran dychwelyd i ffitrwydd cystadlu, a bydd yn cael effaith ar eu dyfodol o ran cael lle mewn twrnameintiau.

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

- De Clwyd
- Gogledd Cymru

### **P-05-983 Rhowch gymorth grant i fusnesau Gwely a Brechwast yng Nghymru sy'n talu'r dreth gyngor ac nid ardrethi busnes**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Louise Grice, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 86 lofnodion.

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

Nid yw rhai busnesau yng Nghymru yn cael unrhyw gymorth grant o gwbl. Dyma ail flwyddyn fy musnes, ac aeth elw fy mlwyddyn gyntaf yn ôl i fuddsoddi yn fy musnes. Nid wyf wedi cofrestru ar TAW nac yn gwmni cyfyngedig, nid wyf yn cyflogi neb, ac nid oes dim grantiau ar gael i mi. Mae'r dreth gyngor yn cael ei chyfrif fel ail gartref. Rwy'n talu premiwm er bod y busnes 10 metr i ffwrdd o'm cartref. Nid ydym wedi cael gwesteion ers 20 Hydref. Nid oes gennym ddim syniad pryd y gallwn ailagor, ond mae gennym rent ac ati i'w dalu o hyd. Mae angen help arnom nawr ac ar gyfer y dyfodol.

#### **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol:**

Mae talwyr ardrethi busnes ar ail gartrefi yn cael grant o naill ai £10,000 neu £25,000 a gall hyn fod ar eiddo nad ydyn nhw o reidrwydd yn cael eu defnyddio fel llety hunanarlwyo. Fy musnes Gwely a Brechwast yw fy unig ffynhonnell incwm, ac fel y mwyafrif o bobl mae'r incwm hwn wedi diflannu.

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

- Ynys Môn
- Gogledd Cymru



Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-983  
Ein cyf/Our ref RE/00433/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AS  
Cadeirydd, y Pwyllgor  
Deisebau

8 Gorffennaf 2020

Annwyl Janet,

Diolch ichi am eich llythyr, yn rhinwedd eich swydd fel Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau, ynglŷn â chymorth grant ardrethi annomestig i fusnesau.

Bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn darparu cymorth gwerth £1.7 biliwn i helpu busnesau yng Nghymru yn ystod argyfwng y coronafeirws.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cydnabod na fydd pob busnes yn elwa ar y rhyddhad ardrethi a'r cymorth grant sy'n cael eu darparu. Mae'r pecyn wedi cael ei gynllunio mewn modd sy'n sicrhau ei fod yn fforddiadwy o fewn y cyllid sydd ar gael.

Fodd bynnag, mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi creu pecyn cymorth arall i helpu busnesau nad ydynt yn gymwys i gael rhyddhad ardrethi na grantiau busnes sy'n ymwneud ag ardrethi. Ar 30 Mawrth, cyhoeddodd y Prif Weinidog becyn cymorth gwerth £500 miliwn i'w ddarparu drwy ein Cronfa Cadernid Economaidd newydd. Mae'r gronfa hon yn cefnogi cwmnïau o bob maint, gan ganolbwyntio ar y rheini nad ydynt wedi elwa ar ryddhad ardrethi a grantiau i'w helpu i ymdopi ag effeithiau'r coronafeirws.

Fe ail-agorodd gwiriwr cymhwysedd y Gronfa Cadernid Economaidd ddydd Mawrth 9 Mehefin, ac mae'r gronfa bellach ar agor i gael ceisiadau newydd. Mae'r gwiriwr cymhwysedd ar gael yn: <https://fundchecker.businesswales.gov.wales/cy>

O dan gam nesaf y gronfa, bydd busnesau'n gallu cael mynediad at £100m arall. Bydd y cyllid hwn yn cael ei dargedu at ficrofusnesau, busnesau bach a chanolig, a busnesau mawr, sydd o bwys economaidd critigol ond nad ydynt wedi cael cymorth ariannol gan y gronfa hyd yn hyn.

Yn y cyfamser, rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth y DU i ymestyn ei chymorth, gan ddarparu'r cyllid hanfodol y mae ei angen ar fusnesau Cymru, er mwyn iddynt allu goroesi, ac adfer o effeithiau'r coronafeirws.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
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Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
0300 0604400

[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 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 and correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Tudalen y pecyn 90

Rydym wedi ail-flaenoriaethu cyllidebau i greu'r cynnig cymorth mwyaf hael i fusnesau yn y DU, er mwyn cefnogi busnesau cynaliadwy a'r swyddi y maent yn eu darparu. Mae'r pecyn £1.7bn yr ydym wedi ei neilltuo yn fwy na'r cyllid cysylltiedig yr ydym wedi ei gael gan Lywodraeth y DU, er mwyn inni allu cynnig y cymorth gorau posibl yn ystod yr argyfwng hwn.

Yn gywir,

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

**Rebecca Evans AS/MS**  
Y Gweinidog Cyllid a'r Trefnydd  
Minister for Finance and Trefnydd

**P-05-983 Give grant aid to Bed and Breakfast businesses in Wales that pay council tax and not business rates, Correspondence – Petitioner to Committee, 08.07.20**

We have been on the eligibility checker for the resilience fund many times and as we don't employ any staff and are not VAT registered we do not qualify for this fund either. Nowhere on any of the checkers does it ask if our income has decreased by 100% which it has.

If we want to reopen in the next week we have to put in place measures to make our building COVID safe. Which we do not have the funding to do.

Money was given to the Welsh Assembly from England to cover our kind of business but this was spent elsewhere and big businesses are still getting extra funding where small family run businesses like ours are falling through all of the gaps.

All we want is some help as we find it unfair that our taxes will go up in the future to help repay all of the grants that other people have managed to receive. People with second homes have managed to receive at least £10,000 as they say they are renting it out for a small portion of the year but this is not their main source of income.

Many thanks

Louise Grice

### **P-05-984 Dylid rhoi'r gorau i ymgynghoriadau o bell sy'n gwahaniaethu o ran ceisiadau llosgyddion yn ystod y pandemig Covid-19**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Cyngorydd Amanda Jenner, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 392 lofnodion.

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

Cyhoeddwyd, oherwydd COVID-19, bod ymgeisydd am losgydd mawr yn bwriadu cynnal ymgynghoriad cynllunio "o bell". O dan ddeddfwriaeth Datblygiadau o Arwyddocâd Cenedlaethol, caniateir hyn. Oherwydd Covid-19, ni fydd y Cyngorydd Sir na'r Cyngor Cymuned yn gallu cynnal cyfarfodydd cyhoeddus na chyfarfodydd wyneb yn wyneb â thrigolion. Mae hwn yn gais technegol ac arwyddocaol iawn i nifer. Mae'n annheg / gwahaniaethu yn erbyn yr henoed, pobl anabl a phobl sy'n cael eu gwarchod rhag y feirws i ymgynghori o bell yn ystod y cyfnod hwn.

#### **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol:**

Efallai na fydd rhai preswylwyr oedrannus yn defnyddio'r rhyngwryd nac yn gallu cael mynediad ato. Efallai na fydd rhai yn teimlo'n gyfforddus yn cymryd rhan yn yr ymgynghoriad hwn dros y ffôn. Mae ceisiadau o ran llosgyddion yn dechnegol iawn eu natur, felly roedd y Cyngorydd Sir a'r Cyngor Cymuned wedi bwriadu cynnal cyfarfodydd cyhoeddus i sicrhau bod yr holl breswylwyr yn gallu deall a chymryd rhan yn yr ymgynghoriad. Roedd yr ymgeisydd am y llosgydd hefyd wedi nodi o'r blaen y byddai'n cynnal cyfarfod cyhoeddus a digwyddiadau 'galw heibio'. Ni chaniateir hyn oherwydd Covid-19.

Ymhellach, mae'r mater hwn wedi bod ar y gweill ers nifer o flynyddoedd. Ni fyddai'n afresymol i Arolygiaeth Cynllunio Llywodraeth Cymru ohirio'r ymgynghoriad hwn nes bod cyfarfodydd cyhoeddus a chyfarfodydd wyneb yn wyneb yn cael eu caniatáu ac yn ddiogel eto. Byddai hyn er budd y cyhoedd. Byddai'n sicrhau bod gan breswylwyr oedrannus a'r rheini sydd ag anableddau neu a allai fod yn cael eu gwarchod rhag y feirws fynediad teg i gyfrannu at yr ymgynghoriad hwn pe dymument.

## **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

- Sir Drefaldwyn
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru





Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-984  
Ein cyf/Our ref JJ/01340/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AS  
Cadeirydd, y Pwyllgor Deisebau

23 Mehefin 2020

Annwyl Janet,

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 17 Mehefin ynglŷn â Deiseb P-05-984: 'Stopiwch ymgynghoriadau o bell gwahaniaethol ar gyfer ceisiadau llosgydd yn ystod Pandemig Covid-19'.

Nodir y gofynion sylfaenol ar gyfer ymgynghori mewn perthynas â cheisiadau Datblygiadau o Arwyddocâd Cenedlaethol ("DAC") yn y Gorchymyn DAC (Gweithdrefn) (Cymru) 2016 a Rheoliadau DAC (Gweithdrefn) (Cymru) 2016 ("y gweithdrefnau DAC").

Cyn gwneud cais am ganiatâd cynllunio ar gyfer DAC, mae'r gweithdrefnau DAC yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i ymgeiswyr darpar ymgynghori â ymgynghorwyr cymunedol ac arbenigol penodol, cyflwyno rhybudd ysgrifenedig i berchnogion neu ddeiliaid tir sy'n ffinio â'r safle, arddangos hysbysiadau safle mewn o leiaf un lle ar y safle neu'n agos ato a rhoi hysbysiad mewn papur newydd lleol.

Ni ragnodir cyfarfodydd cyhoeddus na digwyddiadau galw heibio fel gofynion sylfaenol yn y gweithdrefnau DAC gan nad yw'n gymesur ar gyfer pob cais. O ganlyniad, nid oes unrhyw sail i atal cais am ganiatâd cynllunio rhag cael ei ddilysu lle na all yr ymgeisydd gynnal cyfarfod cyhoeddus neu ddigwyddiad galw heibio.

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

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
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CF99 1SN

[Gohebiaeth.Julie.James@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Julie.James@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Julie.James@gov.Wales](mailto:Correspondence.Julie.James@gov.Wales)

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.

Er bod yr uchod yn wir mewn perthynas ag ymgynghori cyn-ymgeisio, cyhoeddwyd canllawiau i Awdurdodau Cynllunio Lleol gan y Prif Gynlluniwr ar 27 Mawrth i fynd i'r afael â'r sefyllfa ar ôl cyflwyno cais cynllunio DAC. Mae'r canllawiau'n cydnabod efallai na fydd partiön yn gallu ymateb i geisiadau i gyflwyno Adroddiadau Effaith Lleol na chymryd rhan yn yr ystyriaeth o geisiadau DAC, yn gyffredinol, mewn modd amserol. Mae'r gweithdrefnau DAC yn galluogi Gweinidogion Cymru i ymestyn yr amserlenni sy'n gysylltiedig ag unrhyw ofyniad ymgynghori neu gyflwyno, a bydd yr Arolygiaeth Gynllunio yn arfer y pwerau hynny yn briodol ar gais. Pan ganiateir estyniad o'r fath ac fydd yn debygol o fynd â'r cais y tu hwnt i'r amserlen 36 wythnos y mae'n rhaid penderfynu ar y cais DAC ynddo, bydd Gweinidogion Cymru yn atal y cyfnod penderfynu o 36 wythnos.

Yn gywir,



**Julie James AS/MS**

Y Gweinidog Tai a Llywodraeth Leol  
Minister for Housing and Local Government

**P-05-984 Stop discriminatory remote consultations for incinerator applications during the Covid-19 Pandemic, Correspondence – Petitioner to Committee, 09.07.20**

Dear Committee,

Thank you for the email below together with its attachments. I would like to make the following additional comments and respond to some of the points in the Minister's letter to the Chair of the Petitions Committee.

1. Firstly, please note that I have been informed by some of my residents that they are aware of other residents/neighbours and family etc, who would have liked to have signed this petition, but who do not have internet access. Due to COVID-19, visiting them to obtain such a signature would have been against government guidance and handing over physical documentation could have put them at risk. This really goes to the heart of why I have brought forward this petition. The fact that many residents do not have access to remote internet systems and that an applicant has decided to hold a 'remote' consultation during this period, is felt by many residents to be extremely unfair.
2. It may be helpful to provide you with some further background which highlights why so many of my residents are concerned about their being a 'remote consultation'.

For a number of years, we have known that a developer is planning to submit a planning application for a large-scale incinerator in our area. Due to the scale of the development, this is considered a "Development of National Significance" and the application will be submitted directly to the Welsh Government Planning Inspectorate, rather than to the Local Planning Authority. The DNS reference for this matter is DNS/3214813. Under the relevant and recently amended legislation, the applicant is allowed to hold their statutory public consultation as a "remote consultation" and the applicant has since announced that it intends to proceed in this way and that they will be consulting using webinars, telephone surgeries and information packs sent out in the post.

If the consultation takes place within the timescales that the incinerator applicant has indicated, then due to the Covid-19 pandemic, neither the Community Council nor myself will be able to hold public meetings, nor have face-to-face meetings with our residents about this matter. Many elderly people in my area are digitally excluded, they may not use, nor have access to the Internet and they may not feel comfortable taking part in a telephone consultation. The nature of this incinerator is highly technical, especially the matters concerning air quality, waste management and the environmental impact. Both the Community Council and I had planned and previously communicated to our residents, that during any consultation we would hold public and face-to-face meetings so that we could talk people through the complicated process and documents, and do everything we could to ensure that all residents understand the application and how to make their comments known. Indeed, the incinerator applicant had also previously indicated that they would hold a public meeting and that they would have 'drop-in' events so that people could ask questions and understand the nature of the application. The concern that residents will not be able to meet face-to-face with either their elected representatives nor the applicant to discuss the consultation, adds to the loneliness and isolation that many of them feel already. It leaves many people in my area feeling that they are without a voice.

3. I am grateful to the Minister for the time she has taken to consider this petition and for writing back to the Chair of the Petitions Committee. In the letter the Minister comments that “the DNS procedures enable the Welsh Minister to extend the timetables associated with any consultation or submission requirement” and that “The Planning Inspectorate shall exercise those powers appropriately upon request”. This incinerator application has been in the pipeline for a number of years now; extending the timetable by a period which would allow for public and face-to-face meetings during both the pre-application consultation and the following DNS statutory consultation, would be reasonable and highly appreciated by my residents. I request that the Minister exercises the powers referred to in her letter and that once notice for this consultation is given by the applicant, the Planning Inspectorate allows a rolling extension to the timetable until Welsh Government guidelines allow for public and face-to-face meetings to occur. This would be in the public interest and would ensure that elderly residents, those who may have disabilities and those shielding, would have fair access to feed into this and the subsequent DNS consultation should they wish to.
4. Myself and my residents would be hugely grateful if the Petitions Committee could consider this and highlight to the Minister my request in in paragraph 3 above.

Thank you for the time you have taken to consider this matter which is of such significance to my residents.

Kind regards,

Amanda

Councillor Amanda Jenner

### **P-05-985 Darparu gofal plant i weithiwr allweddol sy'n cyfateb i'r hyn a oedd ar gael cyn pandemig Covid-19**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Adam Calcutt, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 719 lofnodion.

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

Mae'r Gweinidog Addysg, Kirsty Williams, wedi cyhoeddi y bwriedir ailagor ysgolion ar 29 Mehefin. O ddydd Llun 22 Mehefin, bydd oriau agor ysgolion hyb sy'n darparu gofal plant i blant gweithwyr allweddol yn cael eu lleihau, mewn rhai ardaloedd, o 0800 – 1800 i 0830 – 1600. Bydd hyn yn cosbi gweithwyr allweddol nad ydynt yn gallu cael mynediad at y lefelau o ofal plant a oedd ar gael cyn pandemig Covid-19; ni fydd gweithwyr allweddol yn gallu cyflawni eu horiau gwaith arferol gan arwain at effaith niweidiol ar wasanaethau hanfodol.

#### **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol:**

Ar ôl darparu gwasanaeth gofal i blant gweithwyr allweddol rhwng 8.00 a 18.00, mae methiant Senedd Cymru i ddarparu trefniadau pellach ar gyfer gofal plant o fewn yr oriau hyn, neu o leiaf cyfwerth â'r oriau o ofal a ddarparwyd mewn ysgolion unigol yn union cyn argyfwng Covid-19, yn cosbi gweithwyr allweddol sy'n gweithio'n galed. Heb ymdrech, ymroddiad ac aberth aruthrol y gweithwyr allweddol hyn i gynnal gwasanaethau hanfodol drwy'r pandemig byddai'r effeithiau ar y cyhoedd yn gyffredinol a chenedl falch Cymru wedi arwain at fwy fyth o farwolaethau, caledi arswydus ac amddifadedd o'r fath a fyddai wedi ac a allai achosi goblygiadau difrifol o hyd i'n cenedlaethau i ddod. Dylai mynediad at y lefel o ofal plant a oedd ar gael o'r blaen, gan gynnwys, ond heb fod yn gyfyngedig i, clybiau brecwast a chlybiau ar ôl ysgol ar lefel y gost a dalwyd gan rieni cyn Covid-19, fod yn gynnig sylfaenol.

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

- Mynwy
- Dwyrain De Cymru



Ein cyf/Our ref KW/03229/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AS  
Cadeirydd, y Pwyllgor Deisebau

Annwyl Janet Finch-Saunders AS,

30 Mehefin 2020

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 18 Mehefin parthed deiseb P-05-985 i ddarparu gofal plant sy'n cyfateb i'r ddarpariaeth a oedd ar gael cyn pandemig COVID-19.

Rwy'n ddiolchgar am y cyfle i rannu fy marn ar y mater hwn â'r Pwyllgor Deisebau. Deallaf fod y sefyllfa yn peri pryder i lawer o deuluoedd ledled Cymru ac y bydd angen i'r trefniadau ar gyfer cam nesaf y broses o weithredu ysgolion o 29 Mehefin sicrhau cydbwysedd rhwng y canllawiau cenedlaethol ac anghenion ac amgylchiadau lleol cymunedau.

Wrth ystyried y ddeiseb, mae nifer o faterion y byddaf yn awyddus i'w hystyried yn unol â'm portffolio ac mae rhai materion sy'n mynd y tu hwnt i'm cylch gwaith ond y bydd angen sylw arnynt. Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys, er enghraifft, rôl fynych y teulu ehangach, gan gynnwys neiniau a theidiau, a'r ffordd y mae'r cyfyngiadau cymdeithasol sydd ar waith yn effeithio ar y rhwydwaith cymorth y mae llawer o deuluoedd wedi dod i ddibynnu arno.

Rhaid i ni gydnabod bod Cymru yn destun cyfyngiadau symud o hyd. Er gwaethaf yr ymateb eithriadol gan boblogaeth Cymru, gan deuluoedd ac unigolion, gan bob un o'n gwasanaethau a'n gweithwyr hanfodol, a'r cynnydd aruthrol a wnaed gennym, mae'r coronafeirws yn fgythiad gwirioneddol o hyd, a bydd yn parhau i effeithio ar ein bywydau am gyfnod estynedig.

Wrth ystyried y ddeiseb, rhaid i ni barhau'n ymwybodol o hynny. Wrth i ni barhau i fynd i'r afael â'r coronafeirws a chynllunio ar gyfer ail frig posibl, mae'r Prif Weinidog wrthi ar yr un pryd yn ymdrechu'n ofalus ac yn y ffordd orau bosibl i fanteisio ar yr hyblygrwydd sydd ar gael i wneud mân addasiadau er mwyn llacio'r cyfyngiadau cymdeithasol sydd ar waith. Credaf fod pob un ohonom yn croesawu'r mesurau llacio hynny, gan gynnwys y mesur diweddaraf i lacio'r cyfyngiadau ar fanwerthu nad yw'n hanfodol, addoldai a gweithgareddau awyr agored. Ond mae'n amlwg iawn bod y sefyllfa drawsnewidiol hon, nad yw'n mynd y naill ffordd na'r llall, yn cymhlethu'r materion sy'n ein hwynebu.

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

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
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[Gohebiaeth.Kirsty.Williams@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Kirsty.Williams@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales)

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 100**  
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.

Rwy'n siŵr bod awduron y ddeiseb hon yn cydnabod y pwynt hwn a byddwn yn falch cael cydnabyddiaeth ac eglurder o ran p'un a yw'r ddeiseb yn gofyn i ni ddychwelyd at drefniadau gofal plant arferol nawr, o ystyried ein bod yn destun cyfyngiadau symud o hyd a'n bod yn parhau i ymdrin ag amgylchiadau digynsail, neu'n ddiweddarach pan gaiff y cyfyngiadau cymdeithasol eu diddymu ac y gall ysgolion a lleoliadau ddychwelyd at drefniadau mwy normal.

Rwy'n cytuno'n llwyr â'r ganmoliaeth yn y ddeiseb at ymdrech, ymroddiad ac aberth eithriadol ein gweithwyr hanfodol yn ystod pandemig y coronafeirws. Mae ein gweithwyr yn y GIG a'n gweithwyr gofal cymdeithasol, ein cadwyni cyflenwi a'n gwasanaethau hanfodol, ein gwasanaethau brys, a'n hathrawon a staff ein hysgolion, wedi chwarae rhan allweddol fel gweithwyr hanfodol wrth leihau effaith y pandemig, diogelu yn erbyn marwolaethau ac osgoi caledi gwaeth.

Ers cau sefydliadau addysg statudol ar 20 Mawrth, mae ein hysgolion wedi parhau i gefnogi ein plant a'n pobl ifanc ac rwy'n falch nodi bod mwy na 700 o hybiau wedi parhau ar agor er mwyn darparu gofal plant i'n dysgwyr mwy agored i niwed a phlant ein gweithwyr hanfodol yr oedd angen y ddarpariaeth honno arnynt. Wrth ymgymryd â'r rôl wahanol hon a chyfrannu at yr ymdrech genedlaethol i fynd i'r afael â'r feirws, mae ein staff addysgu a staff ein hysgolion wedi gallu helpu i sicrhau y gall miloedd o weithwyr hanfodol ymgymryd â'u rolau allweddol, cefnogi'r wlad ar adeg o angen cenedlaethol ac, yn y pen draw, achub bywydau. Fel gwlad, mae ein dyled yn fawr i bob un o'n gweithwyr hanfodol.

### **Cam nesaf y broses o weithredu ysgolion o 29 Mehefin**

Rydym yn ymwybodol y bydd effaith y coronafeirws i'w themlo am gryn amser. Wrth benderfynu ailagor ysgolion i fwy o ddysgwyr, rwy'n defnyddio'r hyblygrwydd sydd ar gael i ni er mwyn sicrhau y caiff y mwyafrif helaeth o blant rywfaint o amser cyswllt hanfodol â'u hysgolion a'u lleoliadau ar ddiwedd tymor yr haf hwn. Bydd yr amser hwn yn canolbwyntio'n bennaf ar lesiant ein plant a'u dysgu. Mae'n cynnig man diogel i ddod i'r ysgol, dal ati i ddysgu a pharatoi ar gyfer mis Medi. Heb gael y cyfle hwn cyn mis Medi, byddai'r mwyafrif o ddysgwyr yn treulio chwe mis heb fynd i'r ysgol. Mae effaith hyn ar eu llesiant a'u dysgu yn destun pryder mawr i mi. O'r wythnos nesaf, bydd y mwyafrif helaeth o ddysgwyr yn gallu gweld eu ffrindiau mewn ffordd ddiogel, gweld eu hathrawon yn eu hysgolion arferol, ymgysylltu â'u hysgolion a threfn yr ysgol, ailgydio yn eu dysgu a chanolbwyntio ar eu llesiant.

Ar ôl rhoi cyfarwyddyd i gyfran sylweddol o'n hathrawon a staff ein hysgolion ddarparu gofal plant a chymorth yn ein hybiau dros y misoedd diwethaf, ac ailgyfeirio eu hymdrechion nawr tuag at agor pob ysgol ar gyfer diwedd tymor yr haf a'u prif swyddogaeth, ni allwn barhau â'r un lefel o gymorth gofal plant gan ein hathrawon a staff ein hysgolion. Nid wyf o'r farn y dylid disgwyl hynny ganddynt ychwaith yn ystod y cyfnod hwn, o ystyried y rôl y mae angen iddynt ei chwarae, y rôl y maent yn y sefyllfa orau i'w chwarae, sef cefnogi addysg ein plant a'n pobl ifanc. Rwyf wedi derbyn cryn dipyn o ohebiaeth gan deuluoedd sy'n teimlo eu bod yn ei chael hi'n anodd ymdopi â dysgu gartref neu sy'n sôn am anghenion ychwanegol eu plant a'r cymorth ychwanegol sydd ei angen arnynt. Mae llawer yn pryderu am iechyd meddwl a llesiant eu plant wrth iddynt gael eu gwahanu oddi wrth eu ffrindiau, eu hathrawon a'u trefn arferol am gyfnod estynedig.

Yn fy rôl fel Gweinidog Addysg, rhaid i mi roi blaenoriaeth i addysgu a dysgu ein plant a'n pobl ifanc. Mae ein gweithlu yn llai gan fod nifer o staff yn gwarchod neu'n wynebu problemau â'u trefniadau gofalu eu hunain ac mae heriau mewn perthynas â'r cyfyngiadau o ran gofod ffisegol. Ymhlith yr heriau sy'n gysylltiedig ag ailagor ysgolion i fwy o ddysgwyr, mae dwy her allweddol. Yn gyntaf, sut i ddiwallu'r angen hwnnw, ac yn ail, y ffaith na allwn

gynnal lefel y cymorth gofal plant a ddarparwyd dros dro yn yr hybiau lleol a sut y gall llywodraeth genedlaethol a lleol a chyflogwyr yng Nghymru helpu ein gweithwyr hanfodol i barhau â'u rôl hollbwysig.

O dydd Llun yr wythnos hon, 22 Mehefin, fel rhan o'r addasiadau a'r trefniadau i lacio'r cyfyngiadau cymdeithasol, gall lleoliadau gofal plant a chwarae ailagor. Gall lleoliadau sydd wedi parhau ar agor ofalu am fwy o blant a gall y lleoliadau hynny a fu ar gau dros dro ailagor. Bwriedir i'r ddarpariaeth hon barhau drwy weddill y tymor hwn a dros yr haf. Bydd lleoliadau gofal plant yn chwarae rhan hanfodol ac yn cynnig cymorth gwerthfawr i'r plant a'r teuluoedd sydd ei angen. Bydd yn cymryd cryn dipyn o amser i'r capasiti gynyddu a rhaid i ni gofio y bydd angen i'r lleoliadau hyn barhau i weithio o fewn y cyfyngiadau a'r paramedrau sydd ar waith, gan gadw pellter cymdeithasol, rheolaethau ychwanegol dros hylendid a rheoli heintiau a'r canllawiau llawn ar gyfer lleoliadau gofal plant yn ystod y cyfnod hwn.

Yn ogystal â'n lleoliadau gofal plant a chwarae, bydd ein hysgolion hefyd yn parhau i gynnig cymorth ychwanegol i'n dysgwyr agored i niwed a phlant ein gweithwyr hanfodol. Rydym yn disgwyl i blant sy'n mynychu'r hybiau ddychwelyd i'w hysgol neu eu lleoliad eu hunain lle bynnag y bo'n bosibl. O ran y dysgwyr hynny sy'n defnyddio'r hybiau ar hyn o bryd, rydym yn disgwyl i ysgolion a lleoliadau barhau i gynnig darpariaeth ychwanegol i'r dysgwyr hynny, ochr yn ochr â'r dysgu y mae ganddynt yr hawl iddo am weddill tymor yr haf. Mae hyn yn golygu y bydd cymorth gofal plant ar gael o hyd i'n gweithwyr hanfodol yn ychwanegol at yr amser cyswllt y gall ysgolion ei gynnig yn lleol ar gyfer diwedd tymor yr haf.

Mae awdurdodau lleol yn gweithio'n agos â'r ysgolion a'r lleoliadau sy'n gweithredu fel hybiau er mwyn rheoli'r cyfnod pontio. Rwy'n cydnabod na fydd hyn yn hawdd a bod gan wahanol gymunedau ledled Cymru wahanol anghenion y mae'n rhaid i ni geisio eu diwallu. Ar ôl darparu canllawiau cenedlaethol i ysgolion a lleoliadau gofal plant a thrwy gytundeb â CLILC a'n hawdurdodau lleol ac undebau llafur ysgolion, mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cydnabod yn llwyr nad ni sy'n cyflogi staff ysgolion. Bydd awdurdodau lleol yn rhoi trefniadau gofal plant lleol ac opsiynau eraill ar waith gan mai nhw sydd yn y sefyllfa i helpu gan ystyried y capasiti o fewn pob ysgol a lleoliad, gan gynnwys o ran nifer y staff a'r gofod ffisegol, y modelau gweithredu a ddefnyddir gan yr awdurdod, y galw am leoedd ym mhob ardal ac anghenion dysgwyr. Mae ysgolion wedi bod yn cyfathrebu â chymunedau eu hysgol, gan egluro'r trefniadau y gallant eu rhoi ar waith yn lleol, sut y byddant yn gweithredu a pha ddarpariaeth sydd ar gael. Byddwn yn annog rhieni, gofalwyr a gwarcheidwaid i barhau i ymgysylltu â'u hysgolion a'u lleoliadau a'u hawdurdodau lleol er mwyn deall pa ddarpariaeth arall sydd o bosibl ar gael yn lleol.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru a llywodraeth leol yn parhau i fonitro lledaeniad y feirws yng Nghymru. Rhaid i ni fod yn barod i ymateb i ddatblygiadau mewn perthynas â'r feirws, gan gynnwys manteisio i'r eithaf ar yr hyblygrwydd sydd ar gael neu roi mesurau ychwanegol ar waith os bydd angen cyflwyno cyfyngiadau pellach. Rydym wedi cadarnhau nad oes unrhyw ddisgwyliad y bydd ysgolion yn parhau i weithredu fel hybiau yn ystod gwyliau'r haf. Gall lleoliadau gofal plant a chwarae agor a gall awdurdodau lleol gynnig darpariaeth amgen ar gyfer y cyfnod hwn.

Rwy'n deall yn llawn bod yn rhaid i deuluoedd gydbwyso eu horiau gwaith a'u gwyliau blynyddol yn ystod gwyliau'r ysgol fel arfer. I lawer, mae clybiau brechwast neu glybiau ar ôl ysgol yn hanfodol i'r plant sy'n mynychu ac er mwyn i'r rhieni allu cyflawni eu hymrwymadau gwaith neu ymrwymadau eraill. Un o'r materion allweddol, yn fy marn i, yw os na fydd ysgol ran amser yn cynnig darpariaeth gofleidiol a gofal plant ddigonol, y bydd rhieni o bosibl yn defnyddio eu gwyliau blynyddol yn gyflym ac mae'n rhaid i ni barhau i annog cyflogwyr i gefnogi trefniadau gweithio hyblyg lle bynnag y gallant yn ystod y cyfnod



hwn, gan gynnwys trefniadau gweithio gartref lle y bo'n bosibl i'r rheini ag ymrwymadau gofalu ac, wrth gwrs, i'r rheini sy'n gwarchod.

Yn Gywir,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kirsty Williams'.

**Kirsty Williams AS/MS**

Y Gweinidog Addysg  
Minister for Education

Kirsty Williams AS/MS  
Y Gweinidog Addysg/Minister for Education

Adam Calcutt

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
4<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Ms Williams,

Thank you for your response to my petition: P-05-985 to provide childcare equivalent to what was available prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. I am pleased that it will be discussed at the Petitions Committee meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> July.

I am glad to have the opportunity to respond to the points you raise in your letter and to clarify my arguments.

To give you some background: my wife and I are both clinical NHS staff, working for the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board; we have amassed a total of 43 years of NHS service between us. As lockdown restrictions commenced back in March, our major concern, along with the obvious worries regarding the health of loved ones, was how we would be able to continue to work when schools shut. We have two young children aged five and seven, who clearly cannot be left at home on their own. Thankfully, our local authority (Monmouthshire County Council) provided childcare for the children of those designated key workers at school "hubs" and so we were able to continue to work every day as usual throughout this period of national crisis, reassured that our children were safe and happy. The school hubs have provided an invaluable service, allowing key workers to continue their essential roles, and we are very grateful for this provision.

However, we were informed by Monmouthshire County Council late in the evening of 15<sup>th</sup> June that from the following Monday (22<sup>nd</sup> June) hub childcare provision would be substantially cut with hubs open only from 8.30am to 4.00pm, as opposed to the previous hours of 8.00am to 6.00pm. These reduced hours make it impossible for anyone to work a standard eight-hour day. We were given less than a weeks' notice of the impending changes. No explanation for the change was given. No alternative options were offered. By initially offering childcare for the extended period of 8.00am to 6.00pm, the requirement for this to counteract the loss of the usual mechanisms of care has obviously been recognised; how, suddenly, are key workers expected to be able to manage without this resource?

We lobbied Monmouthshire County Council to reverse this decision but, as they refused to relent, I decided to launch my online petition. We are well aware of how these changes have adversely affected the key workers using the hub our children attend at Llanfoist Fawr Primary School, but also wanted to represent the wider community of key workers across Wales who will also be facing difficulties with this change in hours. It is for this reason that I launched my petition: to support the key workers of Wales in asking for childcare to be maintained during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

As you rightly state in your response, breakfast and after school club provision are essential for parents to meet their work commitments under "normal" circumstances. We have based our working days around childcare being available between the hours of 8.00am and 5.00pm. Working families throughout the country require these extended hours. At the point the hours of the school hubs were reduced, no alternative childcare arrangements were available due to the restrictions in place. Families could not help and most other childcare providers were closed. This has made it impossible for critical workers to fulfil their essential roles.



You request clarity as to when we wish to see a return to "normal" childcare hours; we did not want the hub school childcare hours to be reduced to below those of a normal extended school day. We wanted childcare to remain available for a minimum of 8.00am to 5.00pm until such a point as "normal" schooling, incorporating breakfast and after school clubs as usual, resumes.

Unfortunately, as time has gone on, this means that my petition will not be discussed until your meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> July which is now the end of the summer term as our local authority has failed to provide the additional week of term directed by you in your announcement on 3<sup>rd</sup> June. This means key worker families will have struggled over the last four weeks to drop off and collect their children in time while still fulfilling their work commitments – which have not changed. To this end, my campaign now has to focus on ensuring that at the start of the next academic year in September, schools will provide childcare for their normal extended days, not just the hours children attend lessons.

You state that "we cannot sustain the same level of childcare support from our teachers and school staff... this should not be expected of them at this current time if we consider the role they need to play". However, without adequate childcare in place, key workers cannot fulfil the roles *they* need to play. We were defined as "key workers" because the services we provide are deemed essential to maintain the health, safety, security and wellbeing of the nation. The services we deliver have not altered; they remain just as necessary now as they did at the height of the crisis. The message is clear and simple: key workers cannot work without adequate childcare. If longer hours of childcare were necessary to support key workers before, they are still needed now; nothing has changed. If we, as a nation, want essential services to continue, adequate childcare must be in place.

We understand that the teaching workforce may be depleted by staff illness and shielding, but this is no different in key worker roles. We are told that background NHS sickness levels have decreased recently, as staff make the extra effort to maintain services, but levels of stress-related absence have increased. Putting extra strain on working families by removing childcare will only add to this burden. You raise school staff's own issues with caring responsibilities; of course we appreciate that school staff have childcare concerns as well, but surely ensuring adequate provision would benefit school staff, too, as they also constitute key worker roles.

Breakfast and after school clubs were mainly staffed by teaching assistants and lunchtime supervisors. With school sessions being restricted to just a few children at any one time, these support staff are not necessary for lessons, thus freeing them up to provide care within the hubs. The majority of schools have sufficient of these support workers to allow a rota system for staffing the extended hours and, given that they usually staff breakfast and after school clubs, it would make no difference to their usual working hours. Just a few school support staff providing extended hours childcare would enable far greater numbers of key workers to continue to fulfil their roles to the benefit of us all. Working families are already used to paying for this wrap-around childcare. We are happy to return to this, which may well affect willingness to deliver provision.

Alternatively, childcare at hubs over the school holidays was provided by local authority leisure staff; could this additional resource not be utilised instead?

I must also take issue with our assertion that "we expect schools and settings to continue to make available additional provision for those learners [key worker children], alongside the learning that they are entitled to for the remainder [sic] of the summer term". Key worker children are not being allowed to access hub childcare on either side of the "Check in, Catch up, Prepare" school sessions currently being offered, a stance that effectively excludes them from accessing education. These children have already missed out on home learning and so are further penalised by this measure. A recent survey conducted at Stranmillis University College in Northern Ireland by Dr Noel Purdy reported key workers had "particular difficulties in home-schooling their children". We accept they have had opportunities while attending hubs to see and play with their friends, to spend time with teaching staff and to be engaged in many varied and interesting activities, but they



have received no formal age-appropriate teaching throughout this entire period and will therefore be falling substantially behind their peers in academic attainment. How can this be considered fair? We all joined in with the weekly “clap for carers”, but is this how key workers should now be “rewarded” with their children receiving sub-standard education as a thanks for all their hard work?

School sessions are currently running for, on average, three hours only. In order to accommodate caring for their children around these hours key workers would have to take annual leave for the full day. Working families struggle to provide childcare during school holidays at the best of times; annual leave does not cover the length of time children are off school. We dare not take any leave at the moment as, despite numerous requests and with less than two weeks until the end of term, there has still been no confirmation of what childcare provision will be available over the summer holidays. We do not have enough leave to cover a six-week break. It is also not only just a matter of having leave available, that leave has to be negotiated with colleagues. In order for essential services to keep running a certain number of staff need to be present in work. Critical services cannot just shut down for six weeks. The children of key workers have been disadvantaged over the past few months as their parents have not been at home with them to enable them to participate in home learning. Any learning key worker families have managed has had to be squeezed into days off, not at all comparable with the opportunities for daily educational activities other children have been able to undertake. Key worker children are, therefore, already at risk of falling behind their peers. To discriminate against them when there is no evidence that by accessing the hub for wrap-around care they would pose any more of an infection risk than that families with multiple siblings accessing different year groups or even different schools would be exposed to, is discriminatory. Alun Davies, MS for Blaenau Gwent, has kindly taken forward our concerns on behalf of his key worker constituents and the local population who will suffer as a result of reduced critical services and has informed us that when he approached Public Health Wales regarding key worker children accessing school sessions and wrap-around hub childcare he was told that “so long as the WG guidance is being adhered to as much as possible in both mainstream school setting and hub setting, then I see no reason why pupils could not attend both settings and I can see nothing in the WG guidance to say that they should not do so”, but this guidance is not being followed by local authorities. It unfairly penalises the children of key workers who are unable to take time off work to manage a much-reduced school day.

Our concern is that should, as expected, this situation with shortened school hours and reduced attendance days with a focus on home learning, persist into the new academic year we will not be able to manage at all. You acknowledge that “parents may quickly exhaust the option to use annual leave” but fail to provide a viable alternative. Homeworking is simply not an option for the vast majority of key workers. Key workers include clinical NHS staff, hospital domestics and porters; refuse collectors; home carers and care home staff; police officers and firefighters; supermarket workers and delivery drivers – none of whom can utilise the option of homeworking. You suggest that employers should be encouraged to support flexible working, but this often does not work in practice even when it could be a possibility. Staff within our Health Board who perform office-based roles and who believe they could work from home are having this opportunity refused; indeed, our Health Board has recently placed an embargo on new VPNs, thereby removing an avenue for homeworking.

While some alternative childcare settings may now be starting to open, accessing these is not an option for many. As you say, they will have their own restrictions in place and capacity will be limited. Now is not an appropriate time for parents to be seeking out new childcare arrangements. Before feeling confident with sending their children somewhere new, parents first need to visit facilities and meet staff, whether that be childminders in their own homes or larger-scale childcare providers; this is not feasible at present. If it is considered too much of an infection risk for children to access school hubs before and after school sessions, how can children attending alternative providers for wrap-around care be a safer option? Changing site necessitates transport arrangements which surely create an additional level of exposure.



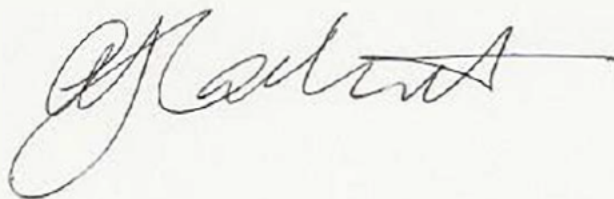
We are now allowed to "bubble" with just one other family which may help some with informal childcare arrangements, but for many this will make no difference at all and this option was not in place when hub childcare was first reduced. Family assistance relies on, as you point out, usually grandparents and is only an option when they live close by. By definition, grandparents will fit into the older age category and many will be shielding due to various health issues and therefore unable to assist with childcare. Others may be physically well but, given the well-publicised greater effects and poorer outcomes of covid-19 for older people, they may be concerned about the prospects of taking on childcare on a regular, lengthy basis. Many older people have hardly left their homes over the past few months and will have their own fears to contend with. It is unfair to put working families in a position whereby they have to request elderly grandparents to look after their children, knowing that grandparents may be (justifiably) too frightened to do so. Children need to be cared for in an environment which is safe and familiar. Moving between settings surely creates a much greater infection risk than remaining on a school site which already has safe social distancing measures in place.

In addition to more informal care with friends and relatives, working parents rely on childcare schemes run in centres such as local leisure centres (for example the Mon Games) over the long summer holidays. With leisure centres in Wales remaining closed and no date yet set for reopening, it is highly unlikely this resource will be available in two weeks' time when the holidays commence. We desperately need confirmation of what childcare will be available over the holiday period to enable us to negotiate leave from work, whilst maintaining services and remaining fair to other hard-working colleagues.

The key workers of Wales have worked tirelessly throughout the last few highly troubled months. We want to keep working to provide the essential services we deliver, but cannot do this without adequate childcare in place. We are asking, therefore, for childcare to be provided at schools, as previously, for the usual extended school day hours or 8.00am to 5.00pm. Additionally, we need provision for childcare over the school holidays and for the children of key workers to be able to access childcare at school either side of attendance of lessons to prevent further disruption to their education.

Please do contact me should any of the points I have made require further clarification.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Calcutt', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Adam Calcutt

## Eitem 2.13

**P-05-988 Rhowch fynediad cyfartal at eu hysgolion a'u hathrawon i blant gweithwyr allweddol**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Catherine Evans, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 508 lofnodion.

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Mae plant gweithwyr allweddol mewn rhai rhannau o Gymru wedi'u heithrio o'r sesiynau 'Ailgydio, Dal i Fyny, Paratoi' yn eu hysgolion. Nid ydynt yn cael dim cyswllt wyneb yn wyneb â'u hathrawon na'u cyfeillion os oes hefyd angen i'w rhieni drefnu gofal plant ar eu cyfer er mwyn i'r rhieni hynny wneud gwaith hanfodol. Byddant yn cael gofal mewn canolfannau hamdden sydd heb ddigon o wybodaeth am ddarpariaeth o ran eu hiechyd, eu llesiant emosiynol a'u haddysg.

Dylai ysgolion gynllunio i gynnwys pob dysgwr y tymor hwn ac ym mis Medi.

### **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol:**

Mae canllawiau gan Lywodraeth Cymru ynghylch ailagor ysgolion yn datgan 'y bydd yr holl ddysgwyr sy'n gallu gwneud hynny yn cael cyfle i fynd i'w hysgol neu eu lleoliad ar gyfer amser wyneb yn wyneb dros weddill tymor yr haf'.

<https://llyw.cymru/diolgeu-addysg-canllawiau-gweithredol-i-ysgolion-leoliadau-addysg-covid-19>

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

- Sir Drefaldwyn
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru

**P-05-988 Give key worker children equal access to their schools and teachers,  
Correspondence – Petitioner to Committee, 09.07.20**



9<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Janet Finch-Saunders (Chair)  
Senedd Petitions Committee  
Welsh Parliament  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff CF99 1SN

Dear Ms Finch-Saunders

In March this year, key workers in Wales were asked only to use childcare hubs if absolutely necessary. Like many families, I was working from home apart from my own key worker session (I am a teacher in England) and my husband was furloughed until mid-May. As schools over the border increased operations in June, my husband began to use annual leave to be at home with our children while I went out to work. We did all we could to avoid using overstretched key worker childcare.

We were all relieved at the prospect of children returning to school after the announcement made by Kirsty Williams in early June, and planned to use a blend of childcare and 'check in, catch up, prepare sessions' to facilitate our own work and to enable our children to access the social and academic provision they sorely needed. Less than a week before this was due to start, however, we were told that they could not access both and wouldn't be allowed to socialise with friends. Key worker childcare in my children's school was restricted to supervision by a TA to complete online learning. This news in itself was very damaging to my children's emotional well-being.

On the evening of Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June, Powys County Council wrote to parents, informing us that key worker provision would, in fact, be provided in a local leisure centre and the school advised us that we could access this provision or 'check in' but not both. No information was provided about measures to promote key worker children's health, well-being or education; unlike children attending check in, who were made aware of what to expect. It later transpired that these sessions would be run by CIW-registered childcare workers, not teachers. Key worker children in Powys were, therefore, excluded from their schools, peer groups and teaching and learning. A caveat was later added, that children of school staff could be looked after at school but still not attend check in sessions.

As a family, we decided to put our children's well-being first, and my husband has used the remainder of his annual leave to look after them at home, so they can go to school one day a week. My own employer has also been accommodating thus far. There will be no more annual leave in September and my own school will be fully open. We also have the additional problem of an extra

week's half term in October to cover with unpaid parental leave at a time of increased risk of redundancy. There is no benefit to our family of adding a week's school in July as we are unable to use it due to long-standing prior commitments.

I have talked to numerous parents, teachers and Local Authorities while my petition has been running, and have realised that this situation affects a minority of families. I understand that key worker children can, in fact, attend childcare most of the week and also go to their check in session, but this is at the discretion of individual schools (I believe Powys may have issued a county-wide directive requiring schools not to mix groups at all, but have yet to see this). Welsh Government and indeed Powys's own guidance on the reopening of schools advocates for the inclusion and entitlement of key worker children to check in sessions (see attached commentary) but this is not happening in practice.

I believe that schools should be required, as a minimum, to provide classroom-based teaching for all pupils on roll; distributed equally. Scientific evidence published in the BMJ (attached) states that children are unlikely to be super-spreaders and all should be allowed back to school' – a position that I support as a teacher. There is no need to separate key worker children from their peers – please see also my comments (point 6) on Welsh Government's guidance on the reopening of schools (attached).

At present, I believe some schools are looking at what can't be done as opposed to what can and should. My children's school is operating at about 22% capacity; yet key worker children weren't included in their catch up planning. I understand that this process has been rushed and logistically challenging, but it concerns me that inclusive practice has not been the starting point for reopening schools.

I believe that a statutory requirement needs to be put in place for schools to include all learners in classroom-based teaching equally, with no segregation of pupils whose parents are key workers.

Yours sincerely

Catherine Evans



**P-05-988 Give key worker children equal access to their schools and teachers,  
Correspondence -Petitioner to Committee: Additional information, 09.07.20**

**Commentary: Welsh Government operational guidance on reopening of schools.**

1. It is expected that all learners who are able to, have the opportunity to attend their school or setting for face to face time over the remainder of the summer term. In practice, this means schools accommodating reduced number of learners each day according to their capacity while ensuring appropriate social distancing is in place.

In most schools in Powys (and anecdotally, Cardiff, Flintshire and Monmouthshire), face to face time for key worker children with teachers and friends is not being offered, if their parents use childcare to enable them to do critical work. Where children are being looked after in leisure centres, they are not even allowed on school premises.

Again anecdotally, children in the same position in Swansea, Pembrokeshire, Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Denbighshire and Vale of Glamorgan are able to access the same number of 'check in' classroom-based sessions as their peers, while attending childcare for the rest of the week.

Key worker families have no choice but to send their children to childcare as their employers know it is available to them. Headteachers, however, refer to the 'choice' between childcare and attending school.

*'all learners who are able to' do not currently have the opportunity to attend their school and many are not receiving teaching. Will this be allowed to continue into September? With social distancing in place (my children's school is operating classes of just 5-6) there should be no need to segregate key worker children.*

2. Minister for Education's 5 key principles for the next phase [include:]

- The safety and mental, emotional and physical well-being of learners and staff.
- The confidence of parents and carers, staff and learners – based on evidence and information – so that they can plan ahead.

The emotional well-being of key worker children who are being excluded from their settings has not been considered. My daughter (10) and my son (7) are the only ones in their friendship groups who will have to attend key worker childcare in September. Their emotional well-being will suffer, as will their academic progress.

As parents, we are unable to plan ahead as our children's school will not assure us that they will teach our children in September. Powys's plan to introduce leisure centre hubs was announced on the evening of 24<sup>th</sup> June, again impacting parents' ability to plan ahead. We had to change our plans to request 'catch up' sessions, using annual leave to do so – we will have no annual leave left in September. We don't know if one of us will have to request part time working so that our children can be educated in school.

3. In practice, it is expected that a school or setting's capacity will mean that overall, at most, a third of learners present at any one time.

It is our expectation that in most schools learners would have the opportunity to attend school on 3 occasions before the summer holidays, however in some schools it may be more.

Our children's school is operating at around 22% capacity with just five or six learners per room. It is open four days per week and non-childcare children are offered four days over four weeks. Key worker children could and should have been accommodated. Schools should be providing education to all children on roll (and by education I don't mean undifferentiated online tasks aimed at classes of combined year groups).

4. For learners who are currently using of hubs provision, the expectation is that schools and settings should continue to make additional provision for those learners, alongside the learning that they are entitled to for the remainder of the summer term.

In a number of Local Authorities, schools are being supported in not providing the learning that keyworker children are entitled to. Many don't have access to a teacher. They are either supervised by TAs doing online work or in external hubs looked after by CIW childcare workers.

5. Schools and settings should also keep in mind that provision for critical workers and vulnerable children may be required in the event of a second peak in transmission and lockdown. Further guidance on this will be provided.

In the event of a second peak and lockdown, key worker children must not continue to be disadvantaged while their parents carry out critical work, as schools begin to reopen again.

6. To reduce the risk of transmission, where possible the same staff should interact with the same group of learners over time.

Schools have not taken account of the conditional 'where possible' in their planning. It is not possible for key worker children to receive the education they are entitled to if they are excluded from their classrooms and teachers. If key workers are to continue in their jobs, inclusion of their children in their school, with their peer group is necessary. Many, like me, will have to consider leaving those jobs if our children are to pay the price with their emotional well-being and learning.

7. The operation of a school or setting will have an important impact on learners' physical, mental and emotional and social well-being. When planning to increase operations, schools and staff should consider how this has an impact on well-being.

Some schools have not taken the mental, social and emotional well-being of key worker children into account at all. While all other children were provided with information about what to expect, what school would look like and how they would be kept safe, none of this was provided for families using key worker childcare. Powys County Council is yet to explain what to expect from leisure centre-based childcare. Those children are expected to adapt to unfamiliar faces and spaces with no preparation.





Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-988  
Ein cyf/Our ref KW/03594/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AS  
Cadeirydd, y Pwyllgor  
Deisebau

9 Gorffennaf 2020

Annwyl Janet,

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 1 Gorffennaf ynghylch deiseb P-05-989 i sicrhau y caiff plant gweithwyr allweddol gyfle cyfartal i fanteisio ar sesiynau '*ailgydio, dal i fyny, paratoi*' yn eu hysgolion.

Rwy'n ddiolchgar am y cyfle i gynnig rhywfaint o eglurder i'r Pwyllgor Deisebau o ran y mater hwn. Deallaf fod hyn yn peri pryder i lawer o deuluoedd ledled Cymru nawr fod y trefniadau ar gyfer gweithredu ysgolion a lleoliadau yng Nghymru hyd at ddiwedd tymor yr haf bellach ar waith.

Ers cau sefydliadau addysg statudol ar 20 Mawrth, mae ein hysgolion wedi parhau i gefnogi ein plant a'n pobl ifanc ac rwy'n falch o nodi bod mwy na 700 o hybiau wedi parhau ar agor er mwyn darparu gofal plant i'n dysgwyr mwy agored i niwed a phlant ein gweithwyr hanfodol yr oedd angen y ddarpariaeth honno arnynt. Wrth ymgymryd â'r rôl wahanol hon a chyfrannu at yr ymdrech genedlaethol i fynd i'r afael â'r feirws, mae ein staff addysgu a staff ein hysgolion wedi gallu helpu i sicrhau y gall miloedd o weithwyr hanfodol barhau i ymgymryd â'u rolau allweddol, cefnogi'r wlad ar adeg o angen cenedlaethol ac, yn y pen draw, achub bywydau. Fel gwlad, mae ein dyled yn fawr i bob un o'n gweithwyr hanfodol.

Fodd bynnag, mae'n rhaid i ni gydnabod bod Cymru yn destun cyfyngiadau symud o hyd, a bod y coronafeirws yn fygythiad gwirioneddol o hyd ac y bydd yn parhau i effeithio ar ein bywydau am gyfnod hwy. Wrth i ni barhau i fynd i'r afael â'r coronafeirws a chynllunio ar gyfer ail frig posibl, mae'r Prif Weinidog wrthi ar yr un pryd yn ymdrechu'n ofalus ac yn y ffordd orau bosibl i fanteisio ar yr hyblygrwydd sydd ar gael i wneud mân addasiadau er mwyn llacio'r cyfyngiadau cymdeithasol sydd ar waith, ac mae'n amlwg iawn ein bod yn wynebu sefyllfa drosiannol. Wrth benderfynu ailagor ysgolion i fwy o ddysgwyr, rwyf wedi gwneud y defnydd gorau o'r hyblygrwydd sydd ar gael i ni i sicrhau y caiff y mwyafrif helaeth

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

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
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[Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales)

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 114

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.

o blant rywfaint o amser cyswllt hanfodol â'u hysgolion a'u lleoliadau ar ddiwedd tymor yr haf hwn, gan gynnwys plant ein gweithwyr allweddol.

Fy nod allweddol yw sicrhau y caiff cymaint o blant â phosibl gyfle i weld eu ffrindiau mewn ffordd ddiogel, gweld eu hathrawon yn eu hysgolion arferol, ymgysylltu â'u hysgolion a threfn yr ysgol, ailgydio yn eu dysgu a chanolbwyntio ar eu llesiant. Mae'n cynnig man diogel i ailgydio, dal i fyny a pharatoi ar gyfer mis Medi. Yn ystod y cyfnod byr hwn, bydd ysgolion a lleoliadau yn canolbwyntio'n bennaf ar lesiant ein plant a'u dysgu. Heb gael y cyfle hwn cyn mis Medi, byddai'r mwyafrif o ddysgwyr yn treulio chwe mis heb fynd i'r ysgol. Mae effaith hyn ar eu llesiant a'u dysgu yn destun pryder mawr i mi.

Wrthi i allu ysgolion i weithredu gynyddu dros dymor yr haf, byddem yn disgwyl i'r plant hynny sy'n mynychu'r ddarpariaeth hybiau ar hyn o bryd (o bosibl mewn ysgol wahanol) ddychwelyd i'w hysgol neu eu lleoliad eu hunain. O ran y dysgwyr hynny, rydym yn disgwyl i ysgolion a lleoliadau barhau i gynnig darpariaeth ychwanegol iddynt, ochr yn ochr â'r dysgu y mae ganddynt yr hawl iddo am weddill tymor yr haf. Mae hyn yn golygu y bydd ein hysgolion hefyd yn parhau i gynnig cymorth gofal plant ychwanegol i'n dysgwyr agored i niwed a phlant ein gweithwyr hanfodol.

Fodd bynnag, ar ôl darparu canllawiau cenedlaethol i ysgolion a lleoliadau gofal plant a thrwy gytundeb â CLILC, ein hawdurdodau lleol ac undebau llafur ysgolion, mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cydnabod yn llwyr nad ni sy'n cyflogi staff ysgolion. Mae awdurdodau lleol wedi rhoi trefniadau lleol ar waith gan ystyried capasiti pob ysgol a lleoliad, nifer y staff a'r gofod ffisegol; y modelau gweithredu a ddefnyddir gan yr awdurdod; y galw am leoedd ym mhob ardal ac anghenion dysgwyr. Maent hefyd wedi ystyried trefniadau gofal plant lleol ac opsiynau eraill y gallant eu cefnogi. Mae awdurdodau lleol wedi gweithio'n agos gydag ysgolion a lleoliadau sy'n gweithredu fel hybiau er mwyn rheoli'r cyfnod pontio, ac mae ysgolion wedi bod yn cyfathrebu â'u cymunedau er mwyn esbonio'r trefniadau a roddwyd ar waith yn lleol, sut y byddant yn gweithredu a pha ddarpariaeth sydd ar gael.

Rwy'n cydnabod na fu hyn yn hawdd a bod gan gymunedau gwahanol ledled Cymru anghenion gwahanol y mae'n rhaid i ni geisio eu diwallu. Yn anochel, mae ysgolion yn gweithredu mewn ffordd hyblyg. Er mwyn croesawu nifer cynyddol o blant a phobl ifanc yn ôl, mae'n rhaid i'r amodau fod yn ddiogel ac mae'n rhaid i'r risg y caiff y feirws ei drosglwyddo fod yn isel. Felly, bu'n rhaid cyflwyno mesurau glanhau a hylendid caeth ar gyfer ysgolion a lleoliadau sy'n bodloni canllawiau cenedlaethol a lleol, mesurau ar gyfer cadw pellter cymdeithasol a threfniadau sy'n golygu mai dim ond nifer cyfyngedig o staff a phlant sy'n bresennol ar unrhyw un adeg. Mae cyfyngu cysylltiadau cymdeithasol hefyd yn bwysig i leihau'r tebygolrwydd y ceir achosion sylweddol o'r feirws. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn parhau i leihau achosion o gymysgu rhwng grwpiau o blant. Mae cadw pobl mewn grwpiau bach a chyson o oedolion a dysgwyr, gan barhau yn y grwpiau hynny drwy gydol yr wythnos, ac ar wahân i grwpiau eraill, yn helpu i wneud hyn ac yn osgoi achosion lle caiff cadwyni trosglwyddo eu creu.

Wrth ddychwelyd i'r ysgol, rydym yn cynghori y dylai plant fynychu un lleoliad yn unig lle bynnag y bo'n bosibl, ac y dylent barhau yn yr un grŵp bach a chyson yn y lleoliad hwnnw cyhyd ag y bo'n bosibl, er mwyn helpu i leihau'r tebygolrwydd y bydd y feirws yn symud rhwng grwpiau yn y lleoliad unigol hwnnw, neu'n symud rhwng grwpiau mewn gwahanol lleoliadau. Felly, os bydd plentyn yn mynychu mwy nag un lleoliad, dylai barhau yn yr un grŵp bach yn y ddau lleoliad lle bynnag y bo hynny'n bosibl. Nid yw cymysgu plant o wahanol grwpiau, neu wahanol ysgolion, yn gydnaws â'r angen i leihau lefelau cyswllt cyffredinol.

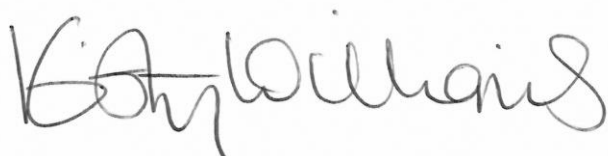
Mae'n bosibl y bydd angen i rieni a lleoliadau drafod y risgiau hyn ac ystyried sut i'w rheoli er mwyn lleihau lledaeniad y feirws, gan gydweithio'n unol â'r canllawiau a ddarparwyd.

Cyfrifoldeb pob ysgol yw cyflwyno a chyfleu'r trefniadau lleol hyn a, lle bynnag y bo'n bosibl, roi cyfle i bob un o'i dysgwyr fynychu er mwyn ailgydio, dal i fyny a pharatoi ar gyfer mis Medi. Byddwn yn annog rhieni, gofalmwr a gwarcheidwaid i barhau i ymgysylltu â'u hysgolion a'u lleoliadau, a'u hawdurdodau lleol, er mwyn deall pa ddarpariaeth sydd ar gael yn lleol hyd at ddiwedd tymor yr haf sy'n gweddu orau i'w hamgylchiadau.

Rwy'n siŵr bod awduron y ddeiseb hon yn cydnabod y pwynt hwn, ac rwy'n falch o weld bod y ddeiseb yn gofyn i ni ddychwelyd at ddarparu trefniadau addysgol arferol ar gyfer plant gweithwyr allweddol yn ddiweddarach pan gaiff y cyfyngiadau cymdeithasol eu diddymu ac y gall ysgolion a lleoliadau ddychwelyd at drefniadau mwy normal. Byddaf yn gwneud cyhoeddiad pellach maes o law ar y cynlluniau ar gyfer mis Medi.

Rwy'n parhau i fod yn hynod falch o ymdrech, ymroddiad ac aberth eithriadol ein gweithwyr hanfodol yn ystod pandemig y coronafeirws. Mae ein gweithwyr yn y GIG a'n gweithwyr gofal cymdeithasol, ein cadwyni cyflenwi a'n gwasanaethau hanfodol, ein gwasanaethau brys, a'n hathrawon a staff ein hysgolion, wedi chwarae rhan allweddol fel gweithwyr hanfodol wrth leihau effaith y pandemig, diogelu rhag marwolaethau ac osgoi caledi gwaeth. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru a llywodraeth leol yn parhau i fonitro lledaeniad y feirws yng Nghymru. Rhaid i ni fod yn barod i ymateb i ddatblygiadau mewn perthynas â'r feirws, gan gynnwys rhoi mesurau ychwanegol ar waith os bydd angen cyflwyno cyfyngiadau pellach.

Yn gywir



**Kirsty Williams AS/MS**

Y Gweinidog Addysg

Minister for Education

**P-05-988 Give key worker children equal access to their schools and teachers,  
Correspondence – Petitioner to Committee, 09.07.20**

Thanks for forwarding this letter to me. Unfortunately it doesn't really address the disparity between the ability of key worker children to access both childcare and lessons in different parts of Wales. I really think the discretionary element needs to be removed: while some non-key worker children might only have received two, two hour check in sessions, others will have received four full days. In another scenario, key worker children might not have any check in opportunity while non-key worker children have all the available time (as has been the case in Powys). This enormous variation needs to be addressed and shouldn't be dependent on the perceptions of individual schools.

I'm very pleased about the news that all children in Wales will be able to go back to school in September; I am a teacher and am very keen to welcome my own classes back. My only concern is that, should there be a second spike leading to further lockdowns, all children will need equal access to their classroom and social opportunities in the event of another phased reopening. I'm very keen to ensure that the children of key workers would be able to attend school with their peers if this were the case.

I would also like to check that contact groups or bubbles in September will not in any way exclude the children of key workers, or any parents who need to access wraparound childcare.

Best wishes

Catherine

## Eitem 2.14

### **P-05-990 Agor ysgolion ym mis Medi. Cael gwared ar ddysgu cyfunol**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Martha Ogunremi, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 9,266 lofnodion.

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

Bydd ysgolion mewn rhannau eraill o'r DU yn agor yn llawn ym mis Medi. Nid oes gan Lywodraeth Cymru gynlluniau cadarn ar gyfer hyn ac mae'n siarad yn gynyddol am weithredu dysgu cyfunol yn y tymor hwy. Mae angen i'n plant ddychwelyd i'r ysgol ym mis Medi er mwyn sicrhau nad yw plant yng Nghymru yn disgyn y tu ôl i rannau eraill o'r DU, a chaniatáu i rieni weithio a rhoi'r hawl i'w plant gael addysg go iawn. Nid yw Kirsty Williams wedi meddwl sut y bydd dysgu cyfunol yn gweithio os bydd angen i rieni weithio. Ni fydd neb am gyflogi rhieni.

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

- Dwyrain Casnewydd
- Dwyrain De Cymru





Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

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## DATGANIAD YSGRIFENEDIG GAN LYWODRAETH CYMRU

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**TEITL** Trefniadau ar gyfer ysgolion ym mis Medi  
**DYDDIAD** 9 Gorffennaf 2020  
**GAN** Kirsty Williams, Gweinidog Addysg

Rwyf wedi cadarnhau heddiw y bydd pob disgybl yn gallu dychwelyd i'r ysgol ym mis Medi.

Roedd Grŵp Cynghori Technegol Cymru, sy'n rhoi cyngor gwyddonol a thechnegol i'r Llywodraeth yn ystod argyfyngau, yn argymhell bod ysgolion "yn bwriadu agor ym mis Medi gyda 100% o ddisgyblion yn cyflwyno'n gorfforol ar safleoedd ysgolion, yn amodol ar ddirywiad cyson a graddol ym mhresenoldeb covid-19 yn y gymuned."

Mae'r papur sy'n cynnwys y cyngor hwn wedi'i gyhoeddi heddiw.

<https://llyw.cymru/y-grwp-cyngor-technegol-cyngor-ar-ddychwelyd-ir-ysgol>

Bydd tymor yr Hydref yn dechrau ar 1<sup>af</sup> Medi a dylai ysgolion sy'n gallu darparu ar gyfer pob disgybl o ddechrau'r tymor wneud hynny.

Bydd cyfnod o hyblygrwydd o ran cydnabod y bydd ysgolion o bosibl am ganolbwyntio ar grwpiau blwyddyn blaenoriaeth, megis y rhai sy'n newydd i ysgolion uwchradd, y rhai sy'n sefyll arholiadau yr haf nesaf neu'r rhai mewn dosbarthiadau derbyn. Bydd hyn hefyd yn caniatáu amser, hyd at bythefnos, ar gyfer unrhyw gynllunio ac ad-drefnu.

Byddaf yn cyhoeddi'r canllawiau gweithredol a dysgu diwygiedig ar gyfer mis Medi yr wythnos nesaf. Mae swyddogion addysg y Llywodraeth yn cael eu cefnogi yn y gwaith hwn gan awdurdodau lleol, penaethiaid, swyddogion iechyd y cyhoedd, undebau athrawon ac ymarferwyr addysg.

Rwyf hefyd wedi amlinellu cynlluniau i sicrhau bod £ 29m ar gael i 'recriwtio, adfer a chodi safonau' yn ysgolion Cymru mewn ymateb i'r effaith y mae'r pandemig yn dal i'w gael.

Mae fy swyddogion hefyd yn gweithio gyda cholegau Addysg Bellach i gefnogi dychweliad ym mis Medi. Bydd manylion pellach yn cael eu cyhoeddi maes o law.

**P-05-990 Open schools in September. Scrap blended learning, Correspondence – Petitioner to Committee, 10.07.20**

UsForThemCymru welcomes school announcement

The campaign group UsForThem Cymru, which was set up to call for full time school with no social distancing from September for all children in Wales, has welcomed today's news that all children will be returning to school full-time in September.

Martha Ogunremi, Spokesperson for UsForThem Cymru, said "We are delighted that Kirsty Williams, Welsh Government's Minister for Education, has listened to parents, teaching staff and experts and announced that all children will have their right to a full time education reinstated in September, however, we need reassurance that repeat closures will only occur as a last resort and children will now be prioritised in during this crisis. As the Minister has clarified, evidence has shown that children are at low risk from COVID-19 and are the least likely people to spread the disease."

"Most children will not have been in school since March except up to three short sessions and this cannot continue. We know that nearly three quarters of children have accessed an hour or less of learning each day and parents tell us that they are unable to give more time as they juggle the demands of work, school and home. Teachers tell us that they want to get back to teaching their classes and this news brings welcome clarity. This simply cannot continue."

"Following this morning's announcement of additional funding, we look forward to the detail of how the Welsh Government will ensure that children are not disadvantaged from their time away from the classroom. There will need to be will need comprehensive action to make sure that children's education level, wellbeing and physical health is returned to the level it would have been without this crisis. Sadly safeguarding service may need a similar level of investment."

"We particularly welcome the news that children will not need to social distance from peers. We know that children learn through play and it is vital for their wellbeing, as well as their social and emotional development. Over 120 leading experts agree that It is crucial to remove social distancing measures so that children can interact with each other and re-establish friendships to help them recover."

## **P-05-954 Deiseb yn galw am ymchwiliad cyhoeddus gan Lywodraeth Cymru i gam-drin plant hanesyddol ar Ynys Byr**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Kevin O'Connell, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 5,088 lofnodion ar bapur.

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Fel dioddefyr o gam-drin ar Ynys Byr, rwy'n ymrwngyn i gael Llywodraeth Cymru i gynnal ymchwiliad cyhoeddus i camdrin Hanesyddol ar yr ynys. Mae angen y gwir ag atebion at y dioddefwyr, pam bod ymchwiliad sydd dal yn perhausers 29 mlynodd wedi ffeili y dioddefwyr. Mae'n bwysyg i gael ymchwiliad i ddiogeli plant y dyfodol.

### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd**

- Ceredigion
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru

# Ymchwiliad cyhoeddus i gam-drin plant hanesyddol

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau | 2020

Petitions Committee | 2020

## Papur briffio gan Ymchwil y Senedd:

Rhif y ddeiseb: P-05-954

Teitl y ddeiseb: Deiseb yn galw am ymchwiliad cyhoeddus gan Lywodraeth Cymru i gam-drin plant hanesyddol ar Ynys Bŷr

Cynnwys y ddeiseb: Fel dioddefwr o gam-drin ar Ynys Byr, rwy'n ymrwngyn i gael Llywodraeth Cymru i gynnal ymchwiliad cyhoeddus i camdrin Hanesyddol ar yr ynys. Mae angen y gwir ag atebion at y dioddefwyr, pam bod ymchwiliad sydd dal yn perhausers 29 mlynnoedd wedi ffeili y dioddefwyr. Mae'n bwysyg i gael ymchwiliad i ddiogeli plant y dyfodol.

### Y cefndir

Ym mis Tachwedd 2017, cafwyd adroddiad ym [mhapur newydd \*The Guardian\*](#) yn nodi bod chwe menyw wedi dechrau achos sifil yn erbyn yr Urdd Sistersaidd yn honni bod mynach, y Tad Thaddeus Kotik o Abaty'r Forwyn Fair a Sant Samson ar Ynys Bŷr, wedi eu cam-drin yn rhywiol yn ystod y 1970au a'r 1980au. Nododd yr erthygl yn *The Guardian* fod y plant wedi dweud wrth eu rhieni am y cam-drin ac i'r Abad gael ei hysbysu. Yn dilyn hynny, cafodd y menywod iawndaliadau.

Ar ôl yr adroddiad yn *The Guardian*, cafwyd [adroddiad gan BBC Cymru](#) yn nodi bod Heddlu Dyfed-Powys wedi cadarnhau eu bod wedi cael adroddiadau o gamdriniaeth, ac er y bu ymchwiliadau yn 2014 a 2016 nid oedd modd erlyn gan y bu farw'r mynach ym 1992. Galwodd y [Grŵp Goroeswyr Cam-drin Rhywiol gan Weinidogion a Chlerigwyr](#) am ymchwiliad annibynnol ar y pryd, a chafwyd [adroddwyd gan y BBC](#) yn nodi bod Comisiynydd Plant Cymru wedi dweud nad oedd digon o wybodaeth ar gael i lansio ymchwiliad.

### Diben ymchwiliad cyhoeddus

Mae [Canllawiau Ymchwiliadau](#) Swyddfa'r Cabinet yn datgan y caiff ymchwiliad ei sefydlu am un neu fwy o resymau. Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys:

- Darganfod beth sydd wedi achosi trychineb, damwain neu ddigwyddiad arall o bwys sy'n gysylltiedig â difrod sylweddol neu farwolaethau;
- Gwneud argymhellion o ran sut i ddysgu gwersi yn sgil digwyddiad o'r fath;
- Ymchwilio i honiadau difrifol sy'n destun pryder i'r cyhoedd lle mae angen cynnal ymchwiliad diduedd, a lle nad yw'r prosesau sifil neu droseddol arferol yn ddigonol nac yn briodol.

## Ymchwiliad Annibynnol i Gam-drin Plant yn Rhywiol

Sefydlwyd yr Ymchwiliad Annibynnol i Gam-drin Plant yn Rhywiol (IICSA) yn 2014 yn dilyn achosion difrifol, proffil uchel o gam-drin plant yn rhywiol yn y gorffennol. Mae'r Ymchwiliad wedi lansio 15 o ymchwiliadau i ystod eang o sefydliadau a ddewiswyd ar sail [meini prawf y Panel ar gyfer dewis ymchwiliadau](#). Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys ymchwiliadau ar wahân i Sefydliadau a Lleoliadau Crefyddol; yr Eglwys Anglicanaidd; a'r Eglwys Gatholig Rufeinig.

Yn ei llythyr at y Pwyllgor, mae Julie Morgan, y Dirprwy Weinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, yn dweud bod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi rhoi gwybod i'r Ymchwiliad Annibynnol am y digwyddiadau ar Ynys Bŷr. Mae IICSA wedi dweud bod hwn yn fater o ddiddordeb iddynt.

## Y Prosiect Gwirionedd

Mae'r [Prosiect Gwirionedd](#) yn rhan o IICSA. Ei nod yw cynnig cyfle i ddiodefwr a goroeswyr cam-drin plant yn rhywiol rannu eu profiadau a chael eu clywed a'u trin â pharch. Gellir rhannu profiadau yn ysgrifenedig, dros y ffôn neu wyneb yn wyneb (mae'r opsiwn hwn wedi cael ei atal dros dro yn unol â chanllawiau cadw pellter cymdeithasol).

Nid yw gwasanaeth cymorth y Prosiect Gwirionedd yn darparu therapi nac yn gwneud atgyfeiriadau at therapyddion, ac nid yw'n helpu gydag adferiad tymor hir. Gall gynnig:

- cymorth emosiynol ac ymarferol wrth rannu profiadau, a help gydag unrhyw gwestiynau neu bryderon sydd gan ddiodefwr neu oroeswr, a
- chynghor ar wasanaethau eraill a all roi mwy o gymorth yn y dyfodol.

**Nid yw rhannu eich profiad â'r Prosiect Gwirionedd yn rhan o broses gyfreithiol ac ni fydd IICSA yn ymchwilio i achos unigolyn.**

## Camau gweithredu Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

Ar [29 Tachwedd 2017](#), gofynnodd Darren Millar AC i'r Gweinidog Gofal Cymdeithasol a Phlant ar y pryd, Huw Irranca-Davies, a roddwyd unrhyw ystyriaeth i gomisiynu ymchwiliad annibynnol i honiadau o gam-drin ar Ynys Bŷr. Mewn ymateb, dywedodd y Gweinidog fod Llywodraeth Cymru yn cynghori unrhyw un a ddiodefodd gamdriniaeth i'w hadrodd i'r heddlu, ac i gysylltu â gwasanaethau cymdeithasol awdurdodau lleol neu'r Prosiect Gwirionedd. Dywedodd hefyd fod Heddlu Dyfed-Powys, bryd hynny, yn ymchwilio i'r honiadau, ac o'r herwydd, ni fyddai'n briodol rhoi sylwadau pellach. Nododd hefyd fod y Comisiynydd Plant

wedi ysgrifennu at abaty Ynys Bŷr i geisio sicrwydd. Dywedodd ei bod yn rhy gynnar i alw am ymchwiliad oherwydd y manylion a oedd yn dal i ddod i'r amlwg a'r ymchwiliad byw gan yr heddlu.

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

Julie Morgan AC/AM  
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-954

Ein cyf/Our ref JM/00186/2

Janet Finch-Saunders AC  
Cadeirydd, y Pwyllgor Deisebau  
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru Tŷ  
Hywel  
Bae Caerdydd  
Caerdydd  
CF99 1NA

6 Ebrill 2020

Annwyl Janet Finch-Saunders AC

Diolch yn fawr ichi am eich llythyr dyddiedig 11 Mawrth.

Mae mater Ynys Bŷr wedi bod gerbron Siambr y Cynulliad nifer o weithiau ers 2017.

Mae'r Gweinidogion i gyd wedi ffeiddio at y cam-drin hanesyddol a ddigwyddodd ar yr ynys. Rydym wedi parhau i annog pob unigolyn sydd â gwybodaeth ynglŷn ag unrhyw gam-drin a ddigwyddodd ar Ynys Bŷr, Sir Benfro, i gysylltu â'r heddlu. Rwyf innau hefyd yn ailadrodd y cais hwn.

Mae rhai o'r dioddefwyr/goroeswyr wedi cael iawndal eisoes, a dylai'r rheini sydd heb ei gael geisio cyngor cyfreithiol os ydynt am ddod ag achos.

Os yw dioddefwyr/goroeswyr am rannu eu profiadau, rwy'n eu hannog i gysylltu â Phrosiect Gwirionedd yr IICSA (*Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse*); mae swyddfa'r ymchwiliad yng Nghymru yn awyddus i dderbyn datganiadau gan bobl sydd am rannu eu profiad o gam-drin gyda'r ymchwiliad. Cynhelir y sesiynau hyn yn breifat.

Mae'r adborth a gafwyd gan ddioddefwyr a goroeswyr sydd wedi mynychu'r sesiynau hyn wedi bod yn gadarnhaol iawn.

Mae'r ddeiseb yr ydych yn ei hystyried yn dweud:

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

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

[Gohebiaeth.Julie.Morgan@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Julie.Morgan@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Julie.Morgan@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Julie.Morgan@gov.wales)

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.

Fel dioddefwr cam-drin plant gan offeiriaid a mynachod Catholig, rwyf yn dymuno gweld Llywodraeth Cymru yn cynnal ymchwiliad cyhoeddus i gam-drin plant hanesyddol ar Ynys Bŷr. Mae angen i ddioddefwyr gael y gwirionedd ac atebion i pam mae ymchwiliad sydd wedi parhau am 29 o flynyddoedd wedi methu'r dioddefwyr. Bydd yr ymchwiliad yn helpu i ddiogelu plant yn y dyfodol.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi ystyried y mater hwn nifer o weithiau. Hyd yn hyn, mae wedi gwrthod galwadau i gynnal ymchwiliad, ac nid yw o'r farn bod achos wedi ei wneud dros hynny.

Fel Llywodraeth, ymddiriedir ynom i gyflawni dyletswyddau a chyfrifoldebau, ac i wneud penderfyniadau diduedd yn seiliedig ar dystiolaeth. Rydym felly wedi pwysu a mesur wrth benderfynu a fyddai ymchwiliad yn arwain at ganlyniadau y gellid dysgu ohonynt er mwyn gwella canlyniadau diogelu yn y dyfodol.

Fe wnaethom edrych ar y camau a gymerwyd gan yr heddlu. Ymchwiliodd yr heddlu i'r honiadau yn 2014 a 2016, ac yn y ddau achos fe wnaethant benderfynu peidio â dilyn y mater ymhellach. Daethpwyd â'r honiadau i sylw'r heddlu gyntaf yn 2014, ac nid yw'r ddeiseb yn gywir gan nad oes gennym dystiolaeth o unrhyw ymchwiliad parhaus sydd wedi para 29 o flynyddoedd.

Mae dau ffactor hanfodol wedi effeithio ar benderfyniad yr Heddlu i beidio â bwrw ymlaen â'r materion dan sylw.

Yn gyntaf, nid yw dau unigolyn allweddol ar gael i roi tystiolaeth mewn perthynas ag unrhyw honiadau. Mae'r cyflawnwr, Kotik, a hefyd yr Abad, wedi marw. Ni fyddai'n bosibl dod â chyhuddiadau yn eu herbryn na'u gorfodi i roi tystiolaeth.

Ni fyddai cynnal ymchwiliad cyhoeddus neu beidio yn dod ag unrhyw wybodaeth newydd naill ai o ran eu cymhelliant, nac ychwaith sut y llwyddodd y cyflawnwr i osgoi cael ei ddal am gyfnod mor hir, rhywbeth y byddai disgwyl iddo fod yn un o ganlyniadau allweddol ymchwiliad o'r fath. Ni fyddai gan yr heddlu lawer i'w gynnig i'r ymchwiliad o ran gwybodaeth o'u hymchwiliadau. Rydym hefyd wedi ystyried bod ymchwiliad annibynnol (*the Independent Inquiry in to Child Sexual Abuse - IICSA*) yn parhau i fynd rhagddo gyda'r nod o edrych ar fethiannau sefydliadol er mwyn gwella'r gallu i ddiogelu plant a phobl ifanc. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi rhoi gwybod am y digwyddiadau ar Ynys Bŷr i'r ymchwiliad annibynnol hwnnw, ac mae'r IICSA wedi dweud eu bod yn fater o ddiddordeb iddo. Nid ydym o'r farn y byddai dyblygu gwaith yr IICSA yn ddefnydd doeth o'n hadnoddau cyfyngedig.

Yn ail, rhoddwyd ystyriaeth i'r ffaith bod yr heddlu wedi cyfweld â rhieni yr oedd eu plant wedi dweud am y cam-drin wrthynt, ac a ddewisodd beidio â rhoi gwybod i'r awdurdodau.

Buom yn ystyried a fyddai ymchwiliad o'r fath yn galluogi'r bobl a oedd wedi cael eu cam-drin i gael cyfiawnder a/neu iawndal yn gyflym. Fel yr adroddwyd yn y Western Mail yn 2017, cafodd chwe menyw iawndal gan abaty'r ynys ar ôl cymryd camau cyfreithiol i dynnu sylw at y ffaith eu bod wedi cael eu cam-drin gan y Tad Thaddeus Kotik. Gan fod cymryd y camau hyn wedi arwain at gael cyfiawnder ac iawndal i'r menywod hynny, heb i ymchwiliad gael ei gynnal, nid ydym yn argyhoeddedig y byddai ymchwiliad yn ychwanegu unrhyw beth nad yw wedi ei gyflawni eisoes drwy'r llwybrau sydd ar gael i hawlio cyfiawnder ac iawndal.

Fe wnaethom ystyried y byddai dysgu gwersi am ymddygiad sefydliadau yn un o ddibenion eraill cynnal ymchwiliad. Yn gyntaf dyma'r prif reswm dros gynnal yr ymchwiliad annibynnol (IICSA), a phe baem ni'n cynnal ymchwiliad yn yr achos hwn byddem yn dyblygu gwaith yr



ymchwiliad hwnnw. Yn ail, cafodd ei nodi gennym mai barn y Comisiynydd Plant oedd nad oedd digon o fanylion inni allu cynnal ymchwiliad.

Yn olaf, fe wnaethom gymryd i ystyriaeth y camau cyfreithiol sy'n parhau i gael eu cymryd gan Kevin O'Connell a ddioddefodd cam-drin rhywiol hanesyddol ar Ynys Bŷr pan oedd yn blentyn. Cymerodd Mr O'Connell ran mewn rhaglen deledu yn ddiweddar, ac mae wedi galw am ymchwiliad cyhoeddus i'r digwyddiadau ar yr ynys, ac mae wedi dechrau cymryd camau cyfreithiol drwy ei gyfreithiwr Michael Imperato. Ni fyddai'n briodol cyhoeddi a fyddai Llywodraeth Cymru yn lansio ymchwiliad i'r digwyddiadau hyn, na chyhoeddi i'r gwrthwyneb, tra bo'r camau cyfreithiol hynny'n disgwyl penderfyniad.

Rydym o'r farn bod rhesymau cryf, nad ydynt yn ymwneud â chostau, i beidio â bwrw ymlaen â chynnal ymchwiliad. Mae'n annhebygol y bydd y Llywodraeth yn newid ei meddwl oni bai bod tystiolaeth newydd yn dod i'r golwg.

Yn gywir,



**Julie Morgan AC/AM**

Y Dirprwy Weinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

Yn rhinwedd paragraff(au) vii o Reol Sefydlog 17.42

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon



## **Ben Lake AS/MP**

Aelod Seneddol dros Geredigion/Member of Parliament for Ceredigion

Tŷr Cyffredin/House of Commons  
Llundain / London  
SW1A 0AA

Bryndulais  
67 Heol y Bont/67 Bridge Street  
Llanbedr Pont Steffan/Lampeter  
Ceredigion  
SA48 7AB

Janet Finch Saunders MS  
Chair, Petitions Committee  
Welsh Parliament,  
Cardiff,  
CF99 1SN

28th May 2020.

Annwyl Janet,

### **RE: Petition P-05-954**

#### **Petition for a public inquiry by the Welsh Government into the historic child abuse on Caldey Island**

I hope this finds you well in these uncertain times. I am writing in support of the above petition, and in the hope that you will be able to consider this letter when the Committee meets to discuss the petition on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June.

In addition to conveying my support for the petition, I would also like to make the following points in response to the letter the Committee received from the Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services dated the 6<sup>th</sup> of April.

In her letter the Minister outlined the Welsh Government's view that the case for an inquiry has not been made. In particular, the Government argues that an inquiry would not be a good use of limited resources due there being an ongoing Independent Inquiry (the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse – IICSA) which is looking at institutional failure to protect children and young people, and that IICSA has said that the allegations of child sexual abuse on Caldey Island is a matter of interest to them.

I am afraid that the Government is mistaken on this point. Whilst IICSA is undertaking important work in investigating a wide range of institutions, including the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales, it confirmed in May 2019 that it will not be considering the concerns raised in relation to Caldey Island.

In correspondence from August 2019, IICSA explained that although it recognises the concerns that have been raised about Caldey Island by a number of people, it “is not possible for the Inquiry to consider every institution about which concerns have been raised.”

Although regrettable, such a position is understandable, and indeed, IICSA's inability to consider the concerns about Caldey Island was a key development that prompted this petition. The Welsh Government would not, therefore, be duplicating the work of IICSA if it were to initiate its own inquiry.

The Government also notes the decision taken by the police not to progress matters further, and in particular the unavailability of the perpetrator Kotik, and the Abbot, who are both deceased. This is indisputable. However, it has not yet been established whether or not there are other potential perpetrators or persons of interest who could give evidence in regard to any allegations, and from whom important learning could be realised.

Should there be no further police investigation, and given that the IICSA inquiry will not be considering the allegations of abuse on Caldey Island, it would appear that an inquiry initiated by the Welsh Government is the only route left to victims of historical child sexual abuse on the island. I concede that death may have made impossible for the perpetrators to be brought to justice, but the victims still deserve the truth to be established, their suffering to be acknowledged, and lessons to be learnt.

I hope that the committee will be able to consider these points at the meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June, and look kindly on the petition's request.

Yn gywir,

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

**Ben Lake AS/MP**  
**Ceredigion**

**P-05-954 Petition for a public inquiry by the Welsh Government into the historic child abuse on Caldey Island, Correspondence – Dyfed Powys Police to Caldey Island Victims Campaign Coordinator, 01.06.20**



Heddlu Police  
**DYFED  
POWYS**

Mark Collins QPM  
Prif Gwnstabl – Chief Constable.  
Rhif Ffôn/Tel.No. [REDACTED]  
E-Bost/E-Mail: [REDACTED]

1<sup>ST</sup> June, 2020.

Ms. Dinah Mulholland  
On behalf of Kevin and [REDACTED] O'Connell  
Caldey Island Victims Campaign.

Sent via e-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Ms Mullholland,

In response to your e-mail dated 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2020, I provide the following information.

The first report in relation to allegations of abuse at Caldey Island was made to Dyfed Powys Police in May 2014. This report originated from Father Daniel, the Abbott at Caldey Island. The report outlined that civil litigation had commenced against the Caldey Island monastery in connection with the abuse carried out by Father Tadeuz Kotik.

A Police investigation was therefore undertaken in relation to the reported abuse. It was quickly confirmed that Kotik had died in November 1992. A total of six complainants were identified and spoken to by the investigation team, with all explaining that no previous reports had been made to Police. It was established that one of the complainants had corresponded with Father Daniel in 2010. The abuse was outlined by the complainant and there was subsequent engagement between both parties. Father Daniel did not report this to Police at that time, as he stated he didn't believe that anything could be achieved as Kotik had died many years previously. This same complainant also reported sending a letter to the previous Abbott at Caldey, Father Stephen, in 1991, a year before Kotik had died in 1992. Father Stephen had died in April 2014. Father Daniel could not



[www.dyfed-powys.police.uk](http://www.dyfed-powys.police.uk)

Prif Gwnstabl Chief Constable Mark Collins, BSc

Pencadlys Heddlu, Blwch SB 99, Llangunnor, Sir Gâr. SA31 2PF

Police Headquarters, PO BOX 99, Llangunnor, Carmarthen. SA31 2PF

Mae Heddlu Dyfed-Powys yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Byddwn ni'n sicrhau ein bod ni'n ymateb yn eich dewis iaith ac ni fydd oedi mewn perthynas ag unrhyw ohebiaeth drwy'r Gymraeg.  
Dyfed-Powys Police welcomes correspondence in Welsh and in English, and we will ensure that we respond to any correspondence through the language of your choice. Corresponding via the medium of Welsh will not endure any delay.

Tudalen y pecyn 135

confirm this and explained that no record of such a letter was held at Caldey. The investigation team attended at the Monastery to examine the archived records, and were unable to locate this letter or any verification that Father Stephen had received it. The 2014 Police investigation concluded that no prosecution could be taken, due to Kotik being deceased. Also, there was no evidence to suggest any abuse by other persons at Caldey Island, nor any ongoing risk of harm.

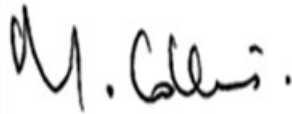
The civil litigation against the Cisterian Order at Caldey was subsequently successful, and the outcome broadly publicised in the local and national media. As a result of the publicity, additional complainants came forward to report abuse to Police. This resulted in a further investigation, 'Operation Slate'.

During Operation Slate, officers again attended Caldey Island to review the Monastery's archived records. Enquires were commenced with each complainant to document the nature of Kotik's offending and to identify whether any person in a position of responsibility had failed to act to protect children. With the exception of the one person in 2014 referred to above, complainants confirmed that they did not formerly report Kotik's offending to either church or police authorities. A small number described making disclosures to parents. Enquires carried out with parents who were alive revealed they had elected not to act on the disclosures and did not report Kotik to the authorities. A number of complainants confirmed only making disclosures to a friend or family member in adulthood and a number only did so after seeing news articles concerning the civil action against the Monastery. The Operation Slate investigation found no evidence of organisational failures by the Cistercian Order and there is no clear evidence, beyond reasonable doubt, that they failed to act to protect children or intentionally suppressed evidence of Kotik's offending behaviour. The investigation did identify substantial similarities in complainants' accounts. It is likely that if Kotik were alive, there would have been sufficient evidence for consideration of a criminal prosecution.

The last question you pose is in relation to the investigation of abuse reported by Mr O'Connell. This included reports of abuse committed by other persons. It has not been possible to identify or corroborate any abuse by other persons within the Monastery at Caldey. During the investigation into the reports, Mr O'Connell disengaged from Police. However, within the last week, we have been provided with details of a representative of Mr O'Connell who is being informed of the finalisation of the Police investigation, which is as follows - the identified suspects are deceased; there is insufficient

information to identify any other named suspects; there is insufficient information to prove that persons in authority failed to act to safeguard O'Connell, prevent offences, or that they concealed offences committed at Caldey Island.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Collins.', enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

Mark Collins,  
Chief Constable.



Our Ref: MI/RL/O'C0024-1  
Your Ref:

05 June 2020

Please reply to:

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Llandaff  
Cardiff  
CF5 2DT

Janet Finch Saunders MS  
Chair Petitions Committee  
Welsh Parliament  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

Dear Ms Saunders,

### **Kevin O'Connell and Caldey Island Inquiry Petition**

I am writing further to the letter of Julie Morgan MS, Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services to the Committee of the 6<sup>th</sup> April last in which I am named as the solicitor of Mr. O'Connell. Mr O'Connell has been represented by another solicitor in respect of his civil compensation claim arising out of the abuse he suffered. I am acting for him (and other victims) solely in respect of the demand for a full Public Inquiry. In that respect, I would like to make some observations in respect of the aforesaid letter.

I have had the opportunity of speaking to several victims of the abuse that, it is not disputed, took place on Caldey Island. Mrs. Morgan's letter refers to compensation payments for such victims. Such payments have been made without matters being heard in Court. The priority for victims at this time is seeking the truth as to what was happening on Caldey Island and ensuring that those responsible are taken to account and lessons are learnt for the future. The Deputy Minister appears to confuse compensation payments with the obtaining of justice.

The Deputy Minister states that the matter is more properly considered by the Independent Inquiry into Sexual Abuse (IICSA). However, the IICSA specifically stated to ITV Wales last year that;

*The Inquiry is not currently considering matters related to Caldey Island within its investigation into the Roman Catholic Church.*

That was stated in the subsequent ITV documentary so the IICSA's position would have been well known to the Welsh Government. Further, it is apparent from even a cursory

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consideration of the IICSA website that its investigation into the Roman Catholic Church has now finished, and was limited to England.

The second inaccuracy in the Deputy Minister's letter, is the suggestion that I have commenced some sort of legal action. That is not correct.

There are a number of reasons why a Public Inquiry is the only proper process that should be followed:

1. The Deputy Minister refers on a number of occasions to police investigations. The police are one of the bodies who would be significantly scrutinised by any such inquiry. There are various allegations by victims, which may or may not be unfounded, as to police complicity in "turning a blind eye" or subsequent "cover ups". Numerous inquiries take place where there have been previous police investigations (Saville, Orgreave, IICSA, Infected Blood, Shipman) – often the investigation undertaken by the police is proved to be wholly inadequate. This is not a reason against a public inquiry.
2. Child safeguarding is a critical issue and is of course devolved. It was common during the time that the sexual abuse was being undertaken, for Catholic schools in Wales and in England to send children to the island and for the Local Authority to allow – even to actively promote – holidaying families (with of course young children) to visit the island. Many of those children will then have been victims of abuse. Therefore, issues arise as to what schools and Local Authorities actually knew as to what was happening on Caldey, what steps did they take – or more pertinently - not take? Lessons must be learnt to ensure children are properly protected today.
3. The Catholic church is quite obviously culpable and has a case to answer. What did the church authorities in Wales know of the abuse that was taking place on Caldey Island? How did they interact with other authorities/public bodies in Wales?

The fact that the Inquiry is touching on matters from some time ago, should not be a deterrent. I am currently acting for several hundred Welsh victims from the Infected Blood Scandal, which concerns a time period, primarily, in the late 1970s and early 1980s. It could be argued that the fact that the matter concerns events some years ago, means that it is even more urgent that such events are scrutinized at this time. Indeed, one of the terms of reference of the Infected Blood Inquiry is why it has taken so long for there to be a thorough investigation, what happened and why? Just because there has been no investigation to date does not mean that it should not be investigated now.

## Welsh Statutory Inquiry

The Inquiries Act 2005 s1 provides that “A Minister may cause an inquiry to be held under this Act in relation to a case where it appears to him that– (a) particular events have caused, or are capable of causing, public concern, or (b) there is public concern that particular events may have occurred.” Minister includes a Welsh Minister.

Section 27 provides (insofar as is relevant):

“(1) This section applies to an inquiry for which a United Kingdom Minister is responsible.

(2) The Minister may not, without first consulting the relevant administration, include in the terms of reference anything that would require the inquiry to determine any fact that is wholly or primarily concerned with a Scottish matter or a Welsh matter”

Section 29 provides (insofar as is relevant):

“(1) This section applies to an inquiry for which the Welsh Ministers are responsible.

(2) The terms of reference of the inquiry must not require it to determine any fact or to make any recommendation that is not wholly or primarily concerned with a Welsh matter.

...(5) In this section “Welsh matter” means a matter in relation to which the Welsh Ministers have functions.”

The abuse at Caldey Island concerns Welsh matters – education, social services and safeguarding of children. Under s37 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 local authorities have a duty to children at risk of abuse. Section 28 of the Children Act 2004 requires local authorities to promote the well-being of children. Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 imposes a duty on local authorities to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Article 3 ECHR imposes on the state a duty to take all reasonable steps to prevent inhuman and/or degrading treatment where it knows or ought to know that there is a real and immediate risk of such treatment. Article 3 ECHR also imposes an investigative duty on the State where an arguable breach of the article has taken place including where the perpetrator is a private individual. It will be a breach of article 3 ECHR if there are serious failings in the investigation; *Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis v DSD* [2018] UKSC 11, [2019] AC 196.

The 2005 Act gives the Welsh Ministers a discretion to hold an inquiry even when the criteria are met, although such criteria are statutory considerations and will carry more weight in the decision-making process than non-statutory considerations. The discretion is converted into a duty if it is the only effective means by which the procedural duty under article 3 ECHR can

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be met.

It is clear that the statutory test is met – there is public concern regarding the events that took place at Caldey Island. It is equally clear that there has been no investigation that would discharge the investigative duty under article 3 ECHR. Therefore, there is a duty on the Welsh Ministers to hold a statutory inquiry into the abuse at Caldey Island. If an inquiry is not held, the Welsh Ministers would have to explain why not bearing in mind that the UK Government set up IICSA for reasons that would appear to be indistinguishable from those relied upon in this request.

If there was any consultation between the UK Ministers and the Welsh Ministers in relation to Caldey Island, as required by section 27(2), the details of that consultation have not been made known.

The Welsh Ministers must exercise their discretion under the 2005 Act either way. As the Supreme Court held in *R (Keyu) v Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs* [2015] UKSC 69; [2016] AC 1355 per Lord Neuberger PSC at §§ 117-121, the duties to hold investigations into deaths, as required by article 2 ECHR, are now legislated for and there is no free-standing duty under the common law.

## Conclusion

From what I have been told from victims, the sexual abuse on Caldey Island was undertaken at something of an industrial scale. To borrow a phrase from the Jimmy Saville abuse, it was done “in plain sight”. It is clear from my instructions that the Island became something of a hub for perpetrators of child abuse. With the settlement payments being made to victims and with the IICSA concentrating on issues in England, the victims from Caldey Island continue to be overlooked and ignored, and lessons from this terrible abuse on Welsh soil, risk never be learnt. Victims are surprised and distressed as to the Welsh Government’s apparent vehement opposition to any such inquiry, which of course only further fuels their suspicions as to institutional ‘cover up’ and their determination to try to seek proper justice.

Yours faithfully



**Watkins and Gunn**

[Redacted contact information]

## **P-05-954 Petition for a public inquiry by the Welsh Government into the historic child abuse on Caldey Island, Correspondence – Caldey Island Victims Campaign Coordinator to Committee, 29.06.20**

Dinah Mulholland: Caldey Island Victims Campaign Coordinator

Supporting Statement for Petition P-05-954 calling for a public inquiry by the Welsh Government into historic child abuse on Caldey Island.

I was the Labour Parliamentary Candidate for Ceredigion in the General Elections of 2017 and 2019. In that capacity I have been working with Kevin and Carol O'Connell, and with Ben Lake MP, in support of the Caldey Island Victims Campaign since June 2019. For the last 6 months I have had the voluntary role of coordinator for the campaign.

I believe that in acting to protect children and other vulnerable groups from harm it is necessary to act on the precautionary principle. I do not consider that the Abbot and monks of Caldey Island, despite acknowledging that abuse did take place, and do not appear to have an accountable, independent and transparent safeguarding system in place. I would therefore like to add a few short points about this in addition to those already raised within the other supporting statements for the petition.

1. Caldey is promoted and marketed, by the Island itself and via wider media, tourist websites and platforms, as a family & child friendly destination. A quick google search for Caldey throws up the following website listings for Caldey:
  - a. Letsgowiththechildren.com
  - b. Dayoutwiththekids.com
  - c. Kiddieholidays.com
  - d. The Tenby Visitor Guide listing categorises Caldey within their 'younger children' and 'older children' listings.
2. The Caldey Island website itself promotes an impression of a family & child friendly place, with photos of children feeding ducks, swings in the background of shots etc.
3. As well as children visiting the island on boat trips, children can also stay on the island at the St Philomena Retreat House which is available for short term holiday lets and retreats. The website however does say 'children must always be accompanied and supervised by an adult'.
4. In addition, properties on the island are available for longer term rentals to tenants.
5. The IICSA witness statement of the Archbishop of Wales outlined their 'in-house' safeguarding and other policies of the Catholic Church. These include:
  - a. Standards of conduct
  - b. Risk assessments
  - c. Peer support and appraisal
  - d. Disciplinary procedures and tribunals
  - e. Safeguarding
6. Of great concern is that there is no requirement for previous good conduct to enter the church as a monk.
7. Also of concern is that the Catholic Church also independently 'ministers to and manages individuals alleged to have caused harm'.
8. However, even within these guidelines the Catholic Church does not appear to have sufficient control over Caldey to ensure effective safeguarding on the island. In May 2019

ITV Wales reported that the Diocese of Menevia stated that Caldey was not their responsibility, however they had been advising the Abbey on their safeguarding policies and practices for the last 18 months. There has also been liaison between Pembrokeshire County Council and Dyfed Powys Police with the Abbey in order to improve safeguarding on the island. Bishop Tom Burns has commented on this process that “the Abbey has insisted on retaining its oversight of any specific cases, past, present, or in the future.”

<https://www.itv.com/news/wales/2019-05-14/calls-for-public-inquiry-into-historical-child-abuse-on-caldey-island-as-another-victim-comes-forward/>

9. During the last 14 years, 3 convicted child sex offenders have stayed or lived on Caldey Island.
  - a. Fr. John Shannon from 2008 to 2009
  - b. John Cronin in 2009
  - c. Paul Ashton from 2004 to 2011
10. I would also like to add that there may be a need to act with urgency if an inquiry into historic abuse on Caldey Island is to take place. IICSA received evidence of the destruction of records at Ampleforth and Downside Schools, and destruction of records may already have taken place on Caldey Island.

Dinah Mulholland 29.06.20

# Eitem 4.1

## **P-05-931 Eli haul mewn ysgolion**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Leigh O'Connor, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 120 lofnodion.

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Mae pob plentyn mewn perygl o losg haul yn yr ysgol neu ar daith ysgol. Mae hyn yn achosi problemau iechyd tymor byr ond mae hefyd yn achosi problemau hirdymor fel canser croen. Gellid osgoi hyn yn hawdd drwy ganiatáu i ysgolion roi eli haul arnynt gyda chydsyniad eu rhieni. Mae llawer o opsiynau ar gyfer gwneud hyn heb i'r athrawon orfod cyffwrdd y plant os yw hyn yn broblem.

### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd**

- Caerffili
- Dwyrain De Cymru

### P-05-958 Penderfyniadau Diweddar Ynglŷn â Graddau UG 2020

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Sian Williams, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 219 lofnodion.

#### Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Gwnaed penderfyniad yn ddiweddar gan y Gweinidog Addysg, Kirsty Williams, ynghylch cymwysterau Lefel UG 2020. Yn ôl datganiad a gyhoeddwyd ganddi:

“Yn haf 2021, bydd gan y dysgwyr UG presennol ddau ddewis ar gyfer eu dyfarniad Safon Uwch. Gallant ddewis a ydynt am:

- sefyll yr unedau U2 yn unig, gyda'r radd Safon Uwch yn cael ei dyfarnu ar eu perfformiad yn yr unedau U2 yn unig;
- neu sefyll yr unedau UG ac U2. Byddant yn derbyn y radd orau o'r naill lwybr neu'r llall.”

Fodd bynnag, nid yw hyn yn cymryd i ystyriaeth fyfyrwyr sydd wedi gweithio'n galed iawn i gael rhagolygon am raddau da trwy gydol Blwyddyn 12, ac a oedd felly'n barod ar gyfer yr arholiadau; roedd y cyntaf o'r arholiadau hynny i ddechrau ymhen dim ond pedair wythnos o'r adeg y gwnaed y penderfyniad hwn.

Byddai Blwyddyn 12 fel arfer yn cyfrannu at 40 y cant o'r radd Safon Uwch gyffredinol.

Os yw myfyriwr yn dewis sefyll Unedau U2 yn unig, yn unol â'r opsiwn cyntaf uchod, bydd myfyrwr wedi gweithio'n ddiflino yn ystod Blwyddyn 12 am 0 y cant o'u gradd Safon Uwch, sydd erioed wedi digwydd o'r blaen. Mae hyn yn cynyddu'r pwysau aruthrol ar fyfyrwyr sy'n parhau i Flwyddyn 13 ac yn gwrth-ddweud gobaith y Gweinidog o gael “system deg” sy'n cynorthwyo “lles” myfyrwyr. At hynny, ni roddir cyfrif am y pwysau ychwanegol hwn yn y dyfodol pan fydd carfan myfyrwyr 2021 yn cystadlu am swyddi gyda myfyrwyr a gredydwyd gan y system lawer tecach a oedd ar waith o'r blaen.

Mae'r ail lwybr o gymryd unedau UG ac U2 yn 2021 nid yn unig yn golygu nad yw Blwyddyn 12 eto'n cyfrannu dim at y radd Safon Uwch yn gyffredinol, ond nad yw ychwaith yn lleihau'r pwysau aruthrol sydd eisoes ar Flwyddyn



13. Yn lle hynny, mae'n cymryd holl bwysau'r ddwy flynedd ac yn eu cyfuno ar gyfer arholiadau yng nghyfres arholiadau Haf 2021.

Nid yw hyn yn deg, ac ni ddylem gael ein drysu gan y datganiadau a ryddhawyd i gredu ei fod yn deg.

### **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol**

Mae addysg yn agwedd hanfodol ar fywyd myfyriwr, yn enwedig y rhai sydd wedi penderfynu parhau â Safon Uwch, y mae angen dyfalbarhad a gwaith caled ar bob un ohonynt, yn y gobaith o gyflawni'r graddau sydd eu hangen ar gyfer y cynlluniau at y dyfodol.

Mae'r hwn eisoes yn gyfnod o straen mawr ar fyfyrwr.

Y peth olaf sydd ei angen arnom yw penderfyniad brysiog sydd yn y pen draw yn niweidiol i'n cynlluniau ar gyfer y dyfodol.

Bydd y ddau lwybr a gynigir yn anfanteisiol i fyfyrwr.

Gofynnwn i'r penderfyniad hwn gael ei addasu i gymryd pob myfyriwr i ystyriaeth.

### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd**

- De Clwyd
- Gogledd Cymru



Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-958  
Ein cyf/Our ref KW/01684/20

Janet Finch-Saunders MS  
Chair, Petitions Committee  
Welsh Parliament  
Ty Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

1<sup>st</sup> June 2020

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your letter of 28 May regarding Petition P-05-958 Recent Decisions Regarding AS Grades 2020.

In my letter of 21<sup>st</sup> April, I responded in detail to the matters raised in the petition and the concerns of the learner who launched the petition that you recap at the start of your letter.

I feel it is important to reiterate that work already completed by Year 12 learners will not have been wasted, as it will have informed the AS grade that is calculated for the learner and this grade can subsequently be used for UCAS applications. This is why Qualifications Wales has prioritised calculation of a grade for these learners. The learning undertaken in Year 12 will also have served as important preparation for Year 13, allowing learners to develop knowledge, understanding and skills which will support A2 level work. My previous letter also outlined in detail why AS grades calculated this year cannot be used in the final A level determination, so I will not repeat those points again here.

In terms of the two specific additional questions you have raised following consideration of this petition;

**Why it is not possible to use the ranking of students within each grade that is being produced to assign marks, in a similar way to the Universal Mark Scale?**

Assigning a number to the rank order produced when all learners for one qualification are collected into one rank order and aligning it to a scale such as the Uniform Mark Scale (UMS) assumes that the distribution of positions in the rank order is linear, when they may not be. The rank order tells us about the relative position of learners in relation to one another but it does not measure how far apart those learners are from one another. Therefore, there is

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[Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales)

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.

still no way of accurately estimating the marks that learners would have received just from the rank order.

### **What the views of teachers are on the measures that have been decided?**

As you will appreciate, due to pandemic situation and the need to respond urgently to provide clarity to anxious learners, when the initial decisions on the approach to AS and A levels were made, there was limited time to engage with stakeholders. Although Qualifications Wales did test aspects of the decisions taken with several stakeholder groups such as Headteachers, Estyn and Unions. Since this time discussions have taken place with small groups of stakeholders and, whilst there are a variety of views, there is general support for this approach.

Responses to Qualifications Wales' recent consultation on arrangements for the 2020 examinations are currently being analysed. Although there was not a specific question related to this issue, some views have been shared which relate to the proposed methods and will be considered.

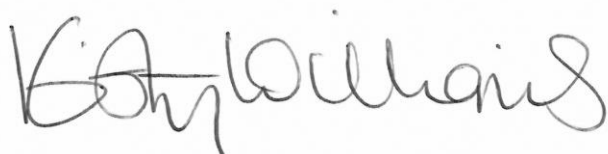
I am aware that learners in Year 10 and Year 12 who are halfway through their GCSE and A level courses are worried about how they will cover the work ahead of summer 2021. Understandably, teachers share these concerns and want to do their best for their learners. For these reasons we think adjustments to exams next summer may be needed.

We hope to share more information about summer 2021 as soon as possible. This will still be at a high level, but I want to reassure you that we are working hard to find answers to some very difficult questions.

I am sorry the learners signing the Petition are disappointed with the options we have arrived at in terms of AS Levels. I would of course have preferred that examinations went ahead in the normal way but clearly under the circumstances this was not a possibility and therefore my priority has been on ensure arrangements are in place to ensure the progression of learners.

To achieve this, I have worked very closely with Qualifications Wales and the WJEC to develop what we believe to be the most equitable and sensible approach under difficult circumstances to give certainty for learners at a time when it is most required.

Yours sincerely



**Kirsty Williams AS/MS**

Y Gweinidog Addysg  
Minister for Education

**P-05-958 Recent Decisions Regarding AS Grades 2020, Correspondence –  
Petitioner to Committee, 09.07.20**

Thank you for this response. Although it is not the outcome that was desired, I understand the difficult situation facing the Education Minister.

The main concern that Year 12 learners now have is of exams and learning for Year 13. We want to feel that we will have sufficient time to be taught (and learn) the significant volume of content for the A2 units, and that measures will be taken to ensure that we are not disadvantaged from inconsistencies in online learning across the country e.g. time in school learning, internet access, private schools being taught despite the situation.

Thank you,

Sian

## Eitem 4.3

**P-05-962 Diwygiad brys i ymestyn yr oedran y ceir hawl i gymorth addysgol ychwanegol o 25 i 26 ac i ddiffinio pandemig Covid-19 yng nghanllawiau'r Llywodraeth fel amgylchiad eithriadol**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Mike Charles, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 537 lofnodion.

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i gyfarwyddo ein Llywodraeth i ddiwygio'r Ddeddf Dysgu a Sgiliau ar frys er mwyn caniatáu i gyllid mewn colegau arbenigol gael ei ymestyn o 25 oed i 26 i'r rhai y mae pandemig Covid19 yn effeithio arnynt ac i ddileu neu ddiwygio ar frys ei dogfen ganllaw, rhif: 221/2017 Tachwedd 2017 fel y caiff argyfwng Covid19 ei ddiffinio fel amgylchiad eithriadol.

### **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol**

Ymhen amser, bydd Deddf ADY 2018 yn newid y gyfraith, ond ni all pobl ifanc ag anghenion cymhleth aros. Mae penderfyniadau ynghylch pa mor hir y gellir eu cefnogi mewn colegau arbenigol yn cael eu gwneud heddiw. Mae ysgolion a cholegau sydd wedi cau neu'n gweithredu mewn ffordd gyfyngedig iawn yn colli amser hollbwysig. O ran y rhai ag anghenion cymhleth, cyfyngir ar eu gallu anhepgor i gael mynediad at adnoddau dysgu. Mae pobl ag anghenion cymhleth yn aml yn dysgu drwy fod allan yn yr amgylchedd i ddatblygu annibyniaeth bywyd a sgiliau cyflogadwyedd hanfodol. Mae'r ystafell ddosbarth y tu allan ond mae hyn bellach yn cael ei gyfyngu i raddau helaeth. Mae Covid19 yn newid y gallu hwn i ddysgu mewn ffordd sylweddol.

Mae llawer o rieni a phobl ifanc yn ofni bod hyn yn un flwyddyn o'r ddwy sy'n agored iddynt. Er bod y canllawiau yn caniatáu ar gyfer amgylchiadau eithriadol, cânt eu dehongli'n ymarferol fel cyfyngiad o ddwy flynedd ar y ddarpariaeth ac nid ydynt yn diffinio'n ddigonol yr hyn a fyddai'n gyfystyr ag amgylchiad eithriadol. Fodd bynnag, dim ond hyd at 25 oed y mae'r gyfraith yn caniatáu cymorth ac mae angen newid hyn ar frys er mwyn rhoi cyfle arall i'r rhai yr effeithir arnynt yn ystod y pandemig hwn. Cyfle am flwyddyn arall â llai o ymyriad.

Bydd hyn, fel arall, yn arwain at golli sgiliau a mwy o ddibyniaeth ar y wladwriaeth yn sgil hynny. Nid yw hynny'n ddymunol am gynifer o resymau, yn enwedig y ffaith y byddai colli sgiliau hanfodol yn drychinebus i'r unigolyn dan sylw.

Rydym yn galw ar ein Llywodraeth i helpu'r rhai sydd fwyaf agored i niwed. I'w cefnogi am yr hyn y maent wedi'i golli a rhoi cyfle arall iddynt. Cyfle na ddylid ei golli. I lawer, dyma'r gwahaniaeth rhwng bywyd o ddibyniaeth ac annibyniaeth.

### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd**

- De Caerdydd a Phenarth
- Canol De Cymru

**Kirsty Williams AS/MS**  
**Y Gweinidog Addysg**  
**Minister for Education**



**Llywodraeth Cymru**  
**Welsh Government**

Ein cyf/Our ref KW/03386/20  
Janet Finch-Saunders AS  
Cadeirydd, y Pwyllgor Deisebau

Annwyl Janet Finch-Saunders AS,

30 Mehefin 2020

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 23 Mehefin yn dilyn fy ymateb i'ch llythyr blaenorol ynghylch y ddeiseb sy'n gofyn i Lywodraeth Cymru ddiwygio'r gyfraith i ymestyn yr oedran y ceir hawl i gymorth addysgol ychwanegol o 25 i 26, ac i ddiffinio pandemig COVID-19 yng nghanllawiau'r Llywodraeth fel amgylchiad eithriadol.

Yng ngoleuni'r ohebiaeth ynghlwm i'ch llythyr oddi wrth y Deisebwr, rwyf wedi gofyn i'm swyddogion ystyried y materion a godwyd yn fanylach er mwyn i mi ddarparu ateb llawnach. Byddaf felly yn ymateb cyn y toriad oni bai eich bod yn rhoi gwybod i mi bod angen yr ymateb erbyn dyddiad penodol.

Yn y cyfamser, efallai yr hoffech wybod bod pedwar cais am estyniad i raglenni astudiaeth a gytunwyd wedi'u cyflwyno hyd yma, sy'n cynnwys rhesymau yn ymwneud ag effaith COVID-19. Mae'r ceisiadau hyn wedi cael eu hystyried fesul achos unigol ac yn unol â'r polisi, ac fe allaf gadarnhau eu bod wedi cael eu cymeradwyo.

Yn gywir,

**Kirsty Williams AS/MS**  
**Y Gweinidog Addysg**  
**Minister for Education**

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

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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 152**  
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-05-906 Achub Ward Sam Davies yn Ysbyty y Barri**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan UNISON, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 1,858 lofnodion ar-lein a 11,407 ar bapur, sef cyfanswm o 13,265 o lofnodion.

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

Rydym ni, sydd wedi llofnodi isod, yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru, sef y prif gorff sy'n gyfrifol am ddarparu gofal iechyd yng Nghymru, i atal cynnig Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Caerdydd a'r Fro i gau Ward Sam Davies, ward adsefydlu aciwt pobl hŷn gyda 23 o welyau yn Ysbyty y Barri, ac i sicrhau bod Ysbyty y Barri yn parhau i ddarparu gwasanaethau iechyd i'r cyhoedd yn y Barri, y dref fwyaf yng Nghymru.

#### **Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:**

Mae Ward Sam Davies yn ward adsefydlu aciwt pobl hŷn gyda 23 o welyau. Mae'r gwasanaeth yn cynnwys adsefydlu strôc, adsefydlu orthopedig, ac adsefydlu meddygol ymhlith gwasanaethau iechyd allweddol eraill. Mae gan y ward ddau wely seibiant hefyd.

#### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd**

- Canol Caerdydd
- Canol De Cymru





DE MORGANNWG | SOUTH GLAMORGAN

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Canolfan Fusnes Pro Copy (Cefn)  
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Llanishen, Caerdydd  
CF14 5DU

South Glamorgan Community Health Council  
Pro Copy Business Centre (Rear)  
Parc Tŷ Glas  
Llanishen, Cardiff  
CF14 5DU

01 April 2020

Janet Finch-Saunders AM  
Chair  
Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff

Dear Janet Finch-Saunders,

**Re: Petition P-05-906 save Sam Davies Ward at Barry Hospital**

Firstly, thank you for allowing the CHC additional time to provide you with information regarding the petition. This is appreciated especially at this difficult time.

Thank you for asking me to provide you with the background to the above which was part of a wider Cardiff & Vale University Health Board service change proposal, Frail Older People in the Vale of Glamorgan.

It may be helpful outlining the role of the Community Health Council when the NHS wants to change services.

Local health boards must plan, design and develop NHS services with local people, from the start. This helps to make sure local health services meet the existing and future needs of the people and communities they serve.

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South Glamorgan CHC is the operational name of Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan CHC  
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Cadeirydd / Chair: Mr Malcolm Latham, BA, MSc, MCMI, FIBMS

Ffôn/Tel: [REDACTED]

Prif Swyddog / Chief Officer: Mr Stephen Allen, CSt, MSc, CIPM

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Health boards must tell their local CHC when they want to make a change that affects people. CHCs must work with their health board whenever it considers making a change.

CHCs represent the interests of public and patients. CHCs make sure that NHS organisations ask people for their views and listen to what they have to say.

What do we do when health boards tell us they want to make changes?

We ask the health board to show people:

- why it thinks things need to change;
- what it thinks will be better for patients if things change;
- who will be affected if things change; and
- How much it will cost.

We agree with our health board what they should do to help make sure people:

- know about their ideas for change; and
- Can easily share their views and ideas or ask questions.

What do we do once people have shared their views and ideas?

We look carefully at what people have said. Often, people have different views and ideas about what is best.

We make sure the health board:

- Has thought carefully about what everyone has said;
- Uses what people have said to change its plans where it needs to; and
- Answers the questions and any concerns people have raised.

Once we have done this, we need to decide if we agree with the changes the health board wants to make.

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When we decide, we must think about:

- the good and bad effects on all communities;
- how any particular groups of people may be affected;
- how services may be affected if things change or if they don't;
- whether there are things the health board can do to limit any bad effects; and
- How much things cost.

If we do not think the health, board has:

- given people enough chance to have their say;
- thought properly about what people have said;
- answered people's concerns; and
- come up with the best way forward

We will tell them and ask them to put it right.

If this does not work, we will ask the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services to decide what should happen.

Within South Glamorgan CHC, we have an agreed process with the Cardiff & Vale University Health Board on how to manage requests for service change. This uses a service change flowchart, setting out and following the Welsh Government guidance on engagement and consultation.

South Glamorgan CHC initially received the Service Change proforma, which was presented to our Service Planning Committee in 20 June 2019. Clinicians and Health Board managers were present at this this meeting to discuss the proposals. These proposals would see a change in the patient pathway for Frail Older People in the Vale of Glamorgan with services channelled into the University Hospital Llandough (UHL), and the subsequent closure of Barry Hospitals' Sam Davies Ward.

This service change was noted and sent to our CHC's Oversight, Scrutiny and Performance Group (OSPG), where our volunteer members would review the Health Boards proposal and engagement plan in more detail.

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This went to the OSPG on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019 for review, comment and amendment, in discussion with the Health Board's Medicine Clinical Board who were leading the service change.

It was agreed that public engagement on these proposals would run for eight weeks between 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019 and 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019. This included a mid-point review to see if any additional actions were needed based upon initial engagement feedback. The CHC was aware that engagement had started slightly earlier than was originally agreed. This was to ensure scheduled meetings and advisory forums could review and feedback their findings.

Based upon initial engagement feedback, a list of frequently asked questions was published and circulated. During this period, it had become clear that there were very strong local concerns about Sam Davies ward. Local politicians, elected Assembly Members and Members of Parliament with these concerns, had contacted the CHC.

It became very clear that the focus was now on the future of the Sam Davies ward. This meant the other significant changes were being lost in the engagement process and subsequent discussions.

Previously, we had agreed with the Health Board to hold an open workshop for the public to hear about the proposals and provide their views. It is a well-known that some people feel uncomfortable putting their views forward in a large traditional public meeting. To overcome this, in the workshop there would be round table discussions allowing the public to engage in small groups with key Health Board staff, so everyone's voice could be heard.

During engagement, Unison had launched a petition calling upon the Welsh Government to intervene and were planning a mass rally in Barry to "Save Sam Davies Ward". It was now very clear that the proposed changes were controversial, and that many NHS staff were not supporting the change. The CHC wanted to ensure during the engagement process,

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that all those responding to the proposals were fully sighted of what was being proposed. To help with this, the public including staff were signposted to key organisations, on the Cardiff & Vale UHB website.

The CHC also visited the Sam Davies Ward with a local Assembly Member and spoke to several patients and staff. We listened and fed their concerns back to the Health Board. We also attended a local MP's meeting to answer questions on the process and urge people to respond as part of the engagement process.

The planned public workshop took place at the Memo Arts Centre Barry on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019. The Health Board with the CHC attending led this. This workshop started well, and then the Health Board presentation went on too long (nearly 57 minutes). Consequently, by the time the public asked to be involved many had lost patience with the Health Board. The workshop then turned into a question and answer session with the Health Board in the public's view failing to adequately answer most questions. It was during this workshop that the Health Board suggested holding an additional evening meeting and would work with the CHC to facilitate this. At this stage, the Health Board had not discussed the proposal with the CHC.

Subsequently, a meeting was agreed with the CHC and this was held on the 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020 attended by 57 members of the public, this was one day before the engagement process closed. Considering the previous workshops problems, the CHC agreed to chair the meeting to ensure individuals were heard and their concerns answered. The local AM and CHC then asked for an extension to the closing date to allow people to send in responses, and a further week was given. The Health Board held its weekly Executive briefing session on the 4<sup>th</sup> November 2019 where they discussed possible ways forward.

The CHC requested the Health Board to provide copies of any correspondence, and feedback relating to the engagement. This would help the CHC to form a view based on the comments of the public and

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other key stakeholders. We received the requested documents although the Health Board did not provide a copy of the public petition.

The CHC internal OSPG met earlier than planned at 2pm the 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019, which was the earliest possible date due to CHC volunteer member availability. The OPSG did form a view on the proposals. Members felt the process was flawed because of the focus on the Sam Davies ward closure and not the complete Frail Older People in the Vale of Glamorgan pathway. To overcome this, the OSPG recommended further engagement or public consultation on the full proposals.

The Health Board met in Barry on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2019, where it announced that they were going ahead with the changes but removed the Sam Davies ward closure from their proposals. While this decision addressed local concerns and kept the ward open, the CHC immediately raised a serious concern that it had not been given the chance to formally respond to the engagement period as laid out in the Welsh Government guidance. In addition, if the patient pathway was changing, how would the Sam Davies ward now fit into the new plans? While the Health Board recognised our concerns, it went on to approve the change. The Health Board would only revisit this decision if the CHC had alternative proposals.

The CHC Executive Committee met in public on the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019 in Barry and based upon public feedback and our own concerns decided the Health Board appeared to be circumnavigating engagement guidelines and the agreed process.

In our letter to the Health Board following the meeting, the CHC called for a full public consultation on the published proposals. This would allow the Health Board to further reflect and obtain public approval for their revised proposals. The Health Board rejected our request to move to public consultation. This was because in their view they thought most respondents supported the direction of travel for this service change, because the Sam Davies ward closure had now been removed completely

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from the proposals. The CHC has seen no little evidence to support this assumption.

The CHC wrote to the Health Board again on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020, seeking assurance on some of the key issues. The Health Board response suggests patients who would normally have gone to Sam Davies ward to access services would still be seen at the University Hospital Llandough. This was in the Health Board's original proposals and at that time would see the closure of Sam Davies ward or its role substantially changed.

The CHC is concerned about the patients who would normally access services via the Sam Davies ward and once directed to UHL, how these services would be delivered for them. We still have concerns about the long-term role of the ward and how any patient on the ward would be kept in the new pathway and receive timely care. The CHC is of the view that despite the concerns of the public and NHS staff, this could still lead to the closure of Sam Davies ward by stealth, because it is no longer used or part of the Frail Older People in the Vale of Glamorgan pathway.

I am very happy to provide the Petitions Committee with copies of all relevant documentation covering this service change. The CHC would be willing to meet the committee if this would help with your discussions.

Yours sincerely



**Stephen Allen**  
**Chief Officer**

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### **P-05-914 Mynediad Cyfartal i Ofal Iechyd ar gyfer yr Anabl**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Tracy Locke, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 121 lofnodion.

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

Rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau ei fod yn ofyniad cyfreithiol i bob meddygfa teulu gael gwelyau triniaeth a theclynnau codi llydan y gellir eu haddasu at ddefnydd cleifion anabl, fel y gellir eu harchwilio pryd bynnag fo angen.

Cefais fy ngeni â Spinabifida ym 1970 ac, fel goroeswr y clefyd hwn, rwyf wedi fy mharlysu o uwchben y wast i lawr ac yn defnyddio cadair olwyn llawn amser. Yn 2017 cefais ddiagnosis o ganser y bledren cam 4. Ni all gael ei brofi'n gyfreithiol, ond rwy'n credu'n gryf pe bawn i wedi cael fy archwilio yn gynharach yn y blynyddoedd cynt yn fy meddygfa teulu ar wely triniaeth llydan y gellir ei addasu, efallai gyda chymorth teclyn codi, yna ni fyddai'r diagnosis o ganser wedi dod mor hwyr. Ers i mi fod yn edrych ar y mater hwn, mae nifer o fenywod anabl wedi siarad â mi ynglŷn â sut nad oes ganddynt fynediad cyfartal i brofion ceg y groth oherwydd y broblem hon hefyd. Yn aml, mae pobl yn credu bod cael mynediad i'r anabl yn golygu lifftiau a rampiau yn unig, ond, ym maes gofal iechyd, mae'n llawer mwy cymhleth. Beth am ymuno ynghyd i wneud mynediad i ofal iechyd yn gyfartal i bawb.

#### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd**

- Preseli Sir Benfro
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru



Vaughan Gething AC/AM  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref VG/01865/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AM  
Chair  
Petitions Committee

Government.Committee.Business@gov.wales

4 May 2020

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your further letter of 1 April regarding Petition P-05-914; Equal Access to Health Care for the Disabled. This is a follow up to my letter of 20 February.

As stated in my previous reply, guidance recommends a treatment room with a combined Changing Places Toilet and the facility to treat bariatric patients. The reason for the combined room is to maximize room utilisation. The design guidance sets out room requirements and sets out the best practice requirements.

Legislation to increase the provision of Changing Places Toilets is being considered by the Minister for Housing and Local Government. NHS facilities will need to consider compliance with any requirements that are introduced. As stated, this would be the best way to cover the requirements.

Yours sincerely,

**Vaughan Gething AC/AM**  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services

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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 162  
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-05-914 Equal Access to Health Care for the Disabled, Correspondence –  
Petitioner to Committee, 02.07.20**

To Whom It may Concern,

Thank you for forwarding Mr Gethings response to me about the availability of wide adjustable treatment beds and hoists in GP surgeries. I feel that the recommendation that bariatric treatment beds being available with a changing places toileting facility is a great idea.

However, I would be interested to know whether this facility would allow for a hoist to be made available? It is the lack of hoisting equipment and lack of a treatment bed that could be raised and lowered according to the needs of each disabled person that is important.

I hoped to hear Mr Gething mention the hoist and the ability to raise and lower the beds more specifically. These issues are life saving and can not be under estimated in terms of their importance.

The width of a bariatric treatment bed successfully allows for disabled people with paralysis to roll or be rolled as part of their examination and that is covered by Mr Gething's response. My question is, are mobility issues being catered for in the function of the bed and in the availability of hoisting equipment?

I am disappointed to think that this facility might only be kept for disabled and bariatric use too because I feel it could be utilised more flexibly. The facilities could be used for able bodied people most of the time and then switched to disabled or bariatric use as and when needed. In my opinion, the rigidity of this provision causes more problems for the GP surgeries than it solves but I'm open to being wrong about that.

I feel that anything other than such flexibility will cause there to be resistance in taking on such measures due to lack of space and money. I hope you will find my reflections helpful.

Kind Regards,

Tracy Locke BEd (Hons) PG Dip Couns MBACP (Accred) Adv Dip Counselling Supervision (NCS Accred)



Janet Finch Saunders MS  
Chair of the Petitions Committee  
Senedd Cymru/Welsh Parliament

Wednesday 08 July 2020

Dear Janet,

**Subject: Petition P-05-914 Equal access to healthcare for disabled people**

I write in response to your letter to June Milligan on 31 March in relation to the above petition that the Petitions Committee is considering. Please accept my apologies for the delay in coming back to the Committee with our response. Please also note that June Milligan is no longer the Wales Commissioner and we have an Interim Chair in post until the appointment of a new Commissioner.

Equal access to health care for disabled people is an ongoing concern for the Commission. Our *Is Wales Fairer? 2018* report highlighted the unequal access to healthcare of disabled people, particularly for people with mental health conditions, Deaf people and people with a learning disability. In our recent submission to the Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee inquiry into the impact of Covid-19 on people on equality we raised concerns

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Bydd y Comisiwn yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg.

The Commission welcomes correspondence in Welsh or English.

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Tudalen y pecyn 164

about the disproportionate impact on access to healthcare for disabled people due to cancellation of treatments and backlogs created by the pandemic.

With specific reference to the issues raised in Petition P-05-914 please find our advice below.

GP surgeries already have a number of legal duties in relation to equality legislation and the subject of the petition would fall under those existing duties.

GP surgeries provide a service and therefore must comply with the duty to make reasonable adjustments found in section 20 of the Equality Act 2010. Our Code of Practice provides more detail and examples of how service providers may meet the duty and states:

*“The duty to make reasonable adjustments requires service providers to take positive steps to ensure that disabled people can access services. This goes beyond simply avoiding discrimination. It requires service providers to anticipate the needs of potential disabled customers for reasonable adjustments.”*

GPs surgeries are part of NHS Health Boards and therefore they must comply with the general public sector equality duty and specific Welsh duties. In summary, those subject to the equality duty must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:

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Bydd y Comisiwn yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg.

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- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

These are sometimes referred to as the three aims or arms of the general equality duty. The Act explains that having due regard for advancing equality involves:

- Removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by people due to their protected characteristics.
- Taking steps to meet the needs of people from protected groups where these are different from the needs of other people.
- Encouraging people from protected groups to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low.

The Equality Act 2010 states that meeting different needs involves taking steps to take account of disabled people's disabilities. It describes fostering good relations as tackling prejudice and promoting understanding between people

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Bydd y Comisiwn yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg.

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**Ff/T:** 029 2044 7710

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[equalityhumanrights.com](http://equalityhumanrights.com)



from different groups. It states that compliance with the duty may involve treating some people more favorably than others.

Guidance to support public bodies in Wales to comply with the public sector equality duty is available on our [website](#).

I hope that provides the information that your Committee requires in considering the petition. Should you require further information or advice please do not hesitate to come back to us.

Yours sincerely,

**Rev Ruth Coombs**

**Head of Wales | Pennaeth Cymru**

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Bydd y Comisiwn yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg.

The Commission welcomes correspondence in Welsh or English.

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**P-05-914 Equal Access to Health Care for the Disabled, Correspondence –  
Petitioner to Committee, 09.07.20**

I don't know that I would amend what I said about Vaughan Gethings response as a result of reading Ruth Coombs response but her response indicates that GP's surgeries have a duty to take into consideration the specific issues that make accessing their services difficult for disabled people, into account.

The use of bariatric beds as I've said covers one aspect of my concerns, in that it allows for wide treatment beds to be provided. But hoists and the beds being adjustable in their height must be a feature in order for paralysed people to access essential physical examinations.

There are many different disabilities, that cause many different difficulties and I wonder whether if there were a way for all disabled people to feedback to their surgeries about their needs, then this would be the most effective way for this guidance to be fully complied with.

This could be very time-consuming and expensive but I feel there must be an openness for surgeries to listen to those needs and act upon them where they arise and become a problem.

I feel that Ruth Coomb's response was very helpful indeed and gives me hope for the quest towards full equality in health care in the future as long as needs are spoken, heard and met.

Tracy Locke

### **P-05-926 Dylid Darparu Adran Blinder Cronig yng Nghymru**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Marjorie Ann Lasebikan, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 155 lofnodion.

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

Nid oes Adran Blinder Cronig o gwbl yng Nghymru! Mae Blinder Cronig yn cael ei anghofio neu ei ystyried fel iselder. Hoffwn weld adran yn cael ei sefydlu gyda'r bwriad y bydd unigolion yn cael eu hasesu yn iawn. Dywed meddygon teulu 'nid oes gwellhad' neu 'nid ydych chi wedi cael eich asesu'. Heb adran Blinder Cronig, ni ellir cynnal ymchwil i ddod o hyd i iachâd llwyr na ffordd o gynnal asesiad.

Rwy'n dioddef gan y cyflwr hwn ers 23 mlynedd. Dechreuodd ar ôl wythnos o dwymyn boeth, gyda gwres o 104 ar y pumed diwrnod. Ychydig a wyddys am Flinder Cronig. Ysgrifennais Ddeiseb yn ddiweddar a gasglodd 65 llofnod yn gofyn am i adran gael ei sefydlu yng Nghymru; dangosodd fod gan 20 ohonynt aelodau teulu neu ffrindiau sy'n dioddef gan y cyflwr. Mae mor wanychol ac mae'n wastraff o fywyd. Ni ellir meddwl, canolbwyntio na gwneud dim byd corfforol heb orfod mynd i'r gwely wedyn. Gall gymryd dyddiau i ddod dros yr ymdrech leiaf.

Gwelais fenyw yn cael ei chyfweld ar y teledu. Roedd hi mewn Clinig Blinder Cronig ac yn dweud ei bod wedi cael trwyth Myers, sy'n cynnwys fitaminau a mwynau, ac roedd yn teimlo mor dda, fel hi ei hunan eto. Nid yw'r driniaeth hon ar gael ar y GIG. Rwyf am roi cynnig arni i weld ai dyma'r ateb, ond mae angen dod o hyd i glinig preifat i weinyddu'r trwyth Myers. Y llynedd, cefais 'gyfnod o bum diwrnod' o feddwl clir ac egni. Nid wyf yn gwybod a oedd hyn oherwydd fy mod yn cymryd capsiwl o fitamin B-gymhlyg bob dydd am ychydig. Gwelais ddoctor Meddygaeth Gyffredinol yn Ysbyty Llandochau yn ddiweddar [mae'n gweld llawer o bobl ac arnynt flinder cronig]. Dywedais wrtho am y trwyth hwn ac mae ganddo ddiddordeb mewn clywed am ganlyniad y driniaeth. Byddaf yn adrodd yn ôl iddo. Yn y cyfamser, a wnewch chi gefnogi'r ddeiseb hon? Mae bach o obaith yn hanfodol, a'r unig ffordd yw sicrhau bod yr help cywir ar gael yn y lle cyntaf. Gan beidio â byw bywyd anghyflawn. Diolch.



### **Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:**

Mae canolbwyntio yn wael; mae'n anodd amgyffred gwybodaeth yn llawn. Mae'n amhosibl cynllunio neu drefnu pethau. Mae cynhyrfu yn lluddedig. Ni ellir gwneud gwaith corfforol heb orfod mynd i'r gwely wedyn. Gall gymryd ychydig ddyddiau i fwrw blinder ar ôl gwneud unrhyw beth egniïol, ac mae cerdded unrhyw bellter yn broblem. Gall eistedd o flaen cyfrifiadur am 30 munud fod yn dreth ar egni rhywun. Mae siopa yn broblem fawr oni bai bod bygi y gellir ei ddefnyddio i fynd o amgylch y siop. Yn aml bydd rhaid siopa ar-lein, sy'n flinedig iawn. Rwyf wastad wedi bod yn berson gweithgar gyda llawer o ddiddordebau. Mae dyddiau lle na allaf wneud dim ond eistedd. Nid yw bywyd ond rhwystredigaeth.

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

- De Caerdydd a Phenarth
- Canol De Cymru

**P-05-926 To Provide a Chronic Fatigue Department in Wales, Correspondence - Welsh Association for ME & CFS Support (WAMES) to Chair, 27.04.20**

Jan Russell, Chair,  
Welsh Association for  
ME & CFS Support (WAMES)  
27<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Janet Finch-Saunders AM  
Chair, Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
[SeneddPetitions@assembly.wales](mailto:SeneddPetitions@assembly.wales)

Dear Janet,

Thank you for seeking the views of WAMES on Petition P-05-926. We have a number of concerns and comments about the petition, the information supplied by the Health Minister and the current NHS service status.

## **1. Chronic Fatigue**

Chronic fatigue is a symptom which is experienced by people with a wide range of illnesses. The petitioner is correct that if GPs, after doing basic blood tests, cannot find an obvious cause for the fatigue, they might assume the patient is depressed, even if they are not, leaving the patient to feel ignored & frustrated. Some patients with co-morbid depression will equally feel frustrated that their physical issues are being ignored. Some GPs have seen 'Chronic Fatigue Syndrome' as a convenient label to give patients complaining of excessive fatigue. This has sometimes led to people with MS, Parkinson's, MND etc. experiencing a delay in getting a diagnosis and beginning treatment.

I am unclear whether the petitioner believes they suffer from idiopathic chronic fatigue, Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) or Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME). Usually people with ME don't like to talk about chronic fatigue because it is only one symptom, may not be the most debilitating and can be misleading. ME is a debilitating chronic multi system disease that affects the neurological, autonomic, immune, endocrine, cardiac and energy metabolism systems. The key characteristic of ME is Post Exertional Malaise (PEM) though this may not be the best terminology for it. Basically it is an abnormal physiological response to normal activity. Patients experience a significant and prolonged worsening of ME symptoms, and a reduction in the ability to function. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TGIo1v7KVJQ> ). Because of the presence of PEM, treatment for chronic fatigue in ME is significantly different than treatments for chronic fatigue in other medical conditions. It is therefore difficult to treat fatigue in ME in clinics set up to treat fatigue in e.g. pain conditions.

## **2. Diagnosis**

GPs are often wary of giving a diagnosis for a condition they do not understand and cannot treat. We find they prefer to refer to a consultant, but unfortunately most consultants do not have the knowledge or interest to make a diagnosis of CFS or ME either. In addition the controversial *NICE guideline* for CFS/ME does not give a clear

picture of ME, making it difficult for doctors to accurately distinguish ME from other fatiguing conditions. The *NICE Guideline* is currently being revised, hopefully to recognise PEM as a defining feature and to recommend treatments & management strategies which acknowledge exercise or activity intolerance. The current guideline's treatment recommendations were based on research which has since been discredited (PACE trial). Unfortunately due to the Covid-19 crisis the completion date will inevitably be postponed well into 2021. There are a number of more evidence based diagnostic guides available, but none has the standing in the UK medical community that NICE has, though the *BMJ Good Practice guide* for CFS/ME does acknowledge the defining characteristic of PEM and the potential dangers of exercise programmes.

### **3. Current healthcare services for ME & CFS**

**Complementary therapies & alternative remedies** - In the absence of understanding and advice from doctors we find that a number of patients are driven to seeking out alternative remedies for symptoms. Some of these can be very expensive, and while having some effect for some people with ME, are unlikely to treat the underlying dysfunction, so the patient continues to feel unwell, and financially poorer. The petitioner mentions the Myers Infusion, a cocktail of vitamins and minerals, as a potential treatment, which is not available on the NHS. A 2009 trial of Myers-type IV cocktail v placebo in Fibromyalgia patients found that no statistically significant differences were seen between *Intravenous micronutrient therapy* (IVMT) and placebo. I am not aware of any research trials in ME or chronic fatigue, but I suspect that it is unlikely it will become an option for the NHS in the foreseeable future.

**ME/CFS Clinic** - The ME/CFS clinic in North East Wales, mentioned by the Health Minister, offers management strategies based on the ACT protocol (Acceptance and Commitment Therapy). You need a diagnosis before referral, and I understand that not all people referred do in fact have an accurate diagnosis. The clinic is helpful for some mobile patients who can travel without causing a deterioration in symptoms. It has no medical input which means that medical problems can be overlooked. There is no follow up service and we know of one patient who went on to commit suicide. There is also no known outreach service, so it cannot help the many housebound patients in the area. The clinic is run by a part time clinical psychologist, who is heading for retirement, so it is uncertain how long it will be able to offer help to the small numbers it currently caters for.

**Pain clinics** - There are a few pain/ fatigue clinics that accept a small number of ME patients: Bronllys hospital (Powys), Llanfairfechan (Conwy), Cardiff and possibly the Swansea Bay pain service. Unfortunately they do not cater for people with exercise intolerance and PEM, so patients have to participate with care. The graded exercise/activity approach offered by some is the approach found to be unhelpful for people with ME. We have received a number of reports from people with ME who deteriorated markedly following attendance at the Llanfairfechain clinic. It has been impossible to find anyone within Betsi Cadwalladr UHB to take this seriously and the clinic continues to operate. We understand that pain clinics in Cardiff and Swansea Bay would like to extend their services to people with ME but do not have the capacity to do so, and have not received financial support for people with ME from their Health Boards. In addition the Bronllys hospital site is not accessible and

cannot accept people with limited function or in wheelchairs. The inpatient service is unsuitable for anybody who is not able to self-care or cook for themselves. The service's outreach fatigue and pain classes in different parts of Powys require a patient to be well enough to travel, so even *if* patients wished to attend, most couldn't.

**Neuro clinics** - Some years ago I asked Powys Neuro Clinics to accept patients with ME as it appeared to offer a suitable approach to helping patients by maximising function without causing harm, but I was told there was already provision for ME & CFS at the Bronllys pain & fatigue clinic!

**EPP** – some mobile people with ME have benefitted from attending Chronic Conditions Self-management courses, but as with the Pain clinics, fluctuating symptoms and travel induced relapses have meant not all can complete the course. Suitability is also dependent on the volunteer leader of each course understanding that exercise isn't good for everyone, so that pressure isn't applied on participants. There is an online self-management course in north Wales but we have received no reports of people with ME accessing it, maybe because people are wary, particularly in North Wales, of the NHS approach to ME. In 2018 Christine Roach, the programme manager for EPP, asked me to meet her to discuss setting up an ME specific self-management course, which I thought would be worthwhile, but that meeting has not materialised.

**Technology** – the pilot work done by Powys & AB HBs into digital support highlighted that those ME patients with acceptable broadband, technological know-how and ability to cope with screen time could benefit from online and video consultations, *if* there were experienced and/or sympathetic health professionals to interact with.

**Patient information** – I did some preparatory work on patient leaflets for the Implementation/ Advisory Group last year, but eventually was told that unless they followed the current *NICE guidelines* the leaflets would not be passed by the WG. This would not have been helpful for patients, so I stopped working on them.

### **Future Service Development for ME & CFS**

The petitioner would like to see a Chronic Fatigue Department set up 'with a view to individuals being assessed properly.' Getting an accurate diagnosis is critical, but the *NICE guideline* and other sources suggest that diagnosis is possible in primary care, with only complex cases being referred on. Setting up a condition-specific service requires that GPs will refer people to it and HBs are convinced of the need. Also there would need to be many such services around Wales as travel can be highly detrimental for moderately and severely affected patients. There would also need to be equivalent paediatric services as the condition affects a significant number of children and young people as well.

For years WAMES has been asking for a commitment Wales-wide to:

- **Set up a rolling programme of training and awareness raising for GPs, paediatricians and other health professionals.** There have been many attempts by WAMES and others to encourage the existing training schemes to include ME, with little success.

- **Ensure that the trainers have experience of ME**, and are not just interested professionals sharing partial information or even misinformation. Also, it would be important to ensure that patient stories are included so a better understanding of the debilitating impact of the disease is communicated. [At the beginning of March *Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW)* hosted a GP training session in Cardiff led by Dr Nina Muirhead, a dermatology surgeon in Buckinghamshire. Nina also has a part time role at Cardiff Medical School and has had ME for a few years. This was very well received by participants. There was no plan for further sessions to be offered elsewhere in Wales.]
- **Develop an e-learning programme for GPs.** Although the RCGP developed one some years ago ME specialists find it misrepresents ME as a psycho-social fatigue condition and is not based on the growing body of research which points to the presence of multi-system dysfunction. At the request of the HEIW Dr Muirhead is currently developing an e-learning module, although it is uncertain when this might be ready, or even *if* it will be acceptable to the Welsh Government, as it won't follow the *NICE guideline*.
- **Ensure people with a diagnosis of ME are recorded via SNOMED** so HBs can plan appropriate local services and make a case for a specialist service. It is estimated, based on studies by the ME/CFS Biobank at the *London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine*, that there could be between 13,000 and 14,000 people of all ages in Wales with ME/CFS, 25% of whom are house or bed bound. It is clearly important to know where they are, what age and how severely affected they are (bed or housebound, or capable of part time work, with support).
- **Simple patient information, accessible online.** One of the plans for the patient info that I was writing for the *Advisory Group* was to put it online so patients could access it, even if their local GPs were not willing or able to advise them. It would appear that the only website where this could be done was as a link from the NHS Direct page on CFS/ME, and it was unclear who would be responsible for 'owning' and updating the leaflets. Individual HB websites are organised differently to each other and sometimes the only place they could host such patient leaflets would be on the pages of a specific service (if there were services for ME & CFS). Alternatively a charity could do it with NHS Wales endorsement, but WAMES doesn't unfortunately have the capacity to do this and we are not the only ME charity whose financial future is uncertain.
- **Identify GPs, paediatricians and consultants with a 'special interest' in ME and CFS**, provide them with training and support so they can establish a development strategy and services in their areas. Health Boards have named Clinical Leads in accordance with the 2014 *Task & Finish Group Report* but these are mostly therapists working in pain, or Board members with a largely administrative oversight of a range of conditions. Until there are 'clinical champions' in the Health Boards, speaking up for ME patients it is hard to see how services can develop in an appropriate way for each area of Wales.

### Welsh Government initiatives for ME

WAMES has been involved with all the Welsh Government initiatives for ME & CFS over the years: the *Masterclasses* with poor uptake in 2002; the first *Task & Finish Group Report* in 2010; the second *Task & Finish Group Report* in 2014, the *T&FG*

*Report Implementation Group 2014-2019.* The *T&F Groups* covered ME, CFS, & Fibromyalgia (FM), which is a pain condition. While individual health professionals got involved in the initiatives, many had experience only of FM. Not all Health Boards have been consistently represented on the groups and most have not been prepared to commit any money or resources to help the ME/CFS/FM leads implement the recommendations of the 2014 Report.

The *Implementation Group* (renamed *Advisory Group*) has consisted of Welsh Government staff, therapists, patient reps and a few doctors. The doctors' experience has been largely in Fibromyalgia. The decision to merge the *Implementation/ Advisory Group* with other pain groups into a *Long Term Pain and Musculoskeletal Conditions Advisory Group* was mooted by Kevin Francis of the *Health Policy Directorate*, who has responsibility for all these conditions and was concerned about the lack of headway the ME, CFS & FM group had made with Health Boards.

The Health Minister is mistaken that 'this approach has received an overwhelmingly positive response from members of all the groups affected'. WAMES, Action for ME and the North East Wales ME/CFS clinic all expressed grave reservations that ME would get lost in a group of pain conditions, particularly if the name focuses on them. Kevin assures me that the name is a 'working title', but it is hard to see how the serious shortcomings in care for ME will be addressed alongside conditions that already have significant medical and clinical support.

Over the last 20 years the CE of the NHS and successive health ministers have requested feedback from Health Boards on the progress in implementing services. Not all Health Boards have responded and those that have, in my opinion, have shown little understanding of the reports' recommendations and little commitment to making service improvements. Unlike the Delivery Groups, the ME/CFS & FM Advisory Group has not been able to give directives, just recommendations, and has provided HBs with no money to fund any changes.

### **WAMES' role in future Welsh Government initiatives**

Before Covid-19, WAMES was aware that we would have to make difficult decisions about what was a good use of our very limited finances and we have debated whether travelling to the new *Advisory Group* meetings would be worthwhile. What will happen to our financial situation and the launch of the new *LTP&MC Advisory Group* in the 'new Covid-19 world' remains to be seen. There may still be some value in having an input into developing strategies that encourage Health Boards to develop 'patient and professional education, effective diagnosis, self-management techniques' etc. but without the medical expertise supporting us it could be an uphill struggle to get noticed by health boards and persuade them to apply those strategies to ME.

In a world where shielding will have to continue for 'at risk' groups for an unknown length of time, it will not be possible for most of the WAMES team to leave home, let alone travel to meetings. Unfortunately video conferencing at the Welsh Government offices has not been very successful in the past. So there are a number of questions surrounding WAMES' continued involvement in Welsh Government initiatives for ME. What would make that worthwhile would be for ME to be taken seriously by the NHS

and Welsh Government as a condition in its own right and one which has more in common with some neurological conditions, than pain conditions.

I will be happy to supply more information about anything I have mentioned.

Yours sincerely,

Jan Russell

**P-05-926 To Provide a Chronic Fatigue Department in Wales, Correspondence: Welsh Association of ME & CFS Support (WAMES) to Minister for Health and Social Service, 12.05.20**

WAMES  
The Coach House,  
Frongôg  
Aberystwyth  
Ceredigion  
12 May 2020

Minister for Health & Social Care

cc Deputy Minister for Health & Social Care  
Chief Executive for NHS  
Chair Petitions Committee  
Kevin Frances, Directorate for Health Policy

Dear Vaughan Gething,

Today, 12th May 2020 is International ME Awareness day. The WAMES blog and social media this week contains stories of the devastating effect ME has on people's lives. <sup>(1)</sup>

**On behalf of people with ME and Covid-19 survivors WAMES asks that Wales develops a strategy to recognise and treat illnesses triggered by *all* viruses.**

Today is also Day 51 of the Covid-19 lockdown in Wales. 2 months ago we could not have imagined that we would be drawing your attention to Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME) in the middle of a pandemic!

We do so because over the last few weeks media and research reports <sup>(2,3,4, )</sup> have made it clear that a number of people who survived the SARS and MERS pandemics a few years ago did not recover, but went on to develop neurological and post-viral symptoms. For some this led to full blown neurological ME.

Concern has been raised by the NHS in Wales that "a national strategy for [Covid-19] rehab would be required. They claim provision is "patchy" and without help people's lives will be harmed.' <sup>(6)</sup> WAMES agrees, and has been calling for a national strategy for caring for ME and post-viral sufferers for many years.

Fortunately the professional group physios4me <sup>(7)</sup> have been quick to produce clear guidelines to enable doctors and therapists to identify and support patients with ongoing problems, to avoid the long term chronic condition of ME developing.

Many people with ME wish their doctors in the past had done this for them!

The physiotherapists have been guided by international research evidence on the nature of the dysfunction in ME and particularly the Workwell Institute's findings on exercise intolerance in ME. They have also drawn on the long clinical experience of Dr Charles Shepherd of the ME Association.

Unfortunately NICE has still to catch up, and due to the Covid-19 crisis the publication of the revised NICE guidelines for ME/CFS has been delayed, possibly well into next year.



It is good that the Welsh Government has 'announced an extra £10m to help people recovering from coronavirus.' It would also be good if money could be dedicated to ensuring that other people with post viral symptoms are well supported. It is too late for many who have already been harmed by neglect, disbelief, inappropriate advice and exercise therapy in Wales' fatigue and pain clinics, but future patients could be spared that. The paucity of testing for Covid-19 means that many in Wales could have had the virus and be unaware they might face a backlash in the future and won't be recognised as needing specialised advice.

People who already have ME are finding that catching Covid-19 leads to a relapse in symptoms. As people with ME have not been placed on the 'at risk' from Covid-19 list, this can cause added difficulties in gaining support as they continue to shield. **Is there a way that people with ME who are very ill can be placed on the 'at risk' list?**

Currently the Welsh Government has placed ME and CFS in an advisory group with pain syndromes, hoping to find ways to improve NHS handling of common issues: 'the need for patient and professional education, effective diagnosis, self-management techniques.'

WAMES believes this could mislead the health community into believing ME is a pain syndrome, and lead to ME being over looked, or worse, included in pain rehabilitation programmes, which have already caused such setbacks (and distress) for people with ME in the past. This approach fails to address the most pressing issues, that of the unique characteristic of ME - exercise intolerance and the post-exertional response (PEM) - and the lack of medical expertise in post viral conditions in general and specifically neurological ME, in Wales.

**WAMES calls on the Welsh Government to lead the way in caring for ALL survivors of viruses, without discrimination.**

**Best wishes,**

*Jan*

**Jan Russell**

Chair/ Cadeirydd,  
Welsh Association of ME & CFS Support  
Cymdeithas Cefnogi ME a CFS Cymru

■■■■■■■■■■ ■■■■■■■■■■

Refs

1. [www.wames.org.uk](http://www.wames.org.uk)
2. <https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg24632783-400-could-the-coronavirus-trigger-post-viral-fatigue-syndromes/>
3. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/global-health/science-and-disease/coronavirus-could-cause-secondary-illnesses-including-chronic/?fb>
4. [https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/coronavirus-could-leave-you-with-symptoms-of-post-viral-fatigue\\_uk\\_5eb3e88dc5b6526942a29dfc](https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/coronavirus-could-leave-you-with-symptoms-of-post-viral-fatigue_uk_5eb3e88dc5b6526942a29dfc)
5. <https://le.ac.uk/news/2020/may/coronavirus-me-risk>
6. Coronavirus: NHS faces 'massive' challenge helping patients recover.  
[www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-52475139](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-52475139)
7. [www.physios4me.com](http://www.physios4me.com)

**P-05-926 To Provide a Chronic Fatigue Department in Wales, Correspondence –  
Petitioner to Committee, 10.07.20**

I am still not satisfied that the problem is being treated as a separate case to the ME/CFS but am hopeful that future individuals will be looked at and taken seriously. I feel that I was not. Please see paragraph 1.

1. *1. 'It would also be good if money could be dedicated to ensuring that other people with post viral symptoms are well supported. It is too late for many who have already been harmed by neglect, disbelief, inappropriate advice and exercise therapy in Wales' fatigue and pain clinics, but future patients could be spared that.'* I would like to remind you that I have had chronic Fatigue for the past 23 years with no offer of help or referral to a Consultant. I reported to my GP with a very high temperature which I'd had for 5 days [31st May 1996] and it was noted that my temperature was 104!!! There would appear to be nowhere in Wales to send a patient to: or that is the case for those in South Wales. I feel that I have been badly let down. A new acquaintance says that she was!! Where? Why wasn't I?

2. *'On behalf of people with ME and Covid-19 survivors WAMES asks that Wales develops a strategy to recognise and treat illnesses triggered by all viruses.'*

I would think that as I did not show any signs of infection at the time [31st May 1996] that my high fever was due to a virus.

3. *'Concern has been raised by the NHS in Wales that "a national strategy for [Covid-19] rehab would be required. They claim provision is "patchy" and without help people's lives will be harmed.'* (6) *WAMES agrees, and has been calling for a national strategy for caring for ME and post-viral sufferers for many years.*

It has to be! To avoid the long term chronic condition of ME developing.

4. *'Fortunately the professional group physios4me (7) have been quick to produce clear guidelines to enable doctors and therapists to identify and support patients with ongoing problems. Many people with ME wish their doctors in the past had done this for them!*

With CFS [my case was not diagnosed as I am frequently told by my GP] you live a life that is an existence. The inability to function, think or concentrate is hard. To say you are not well and are unable to help with certain things is difficult for people to understand. I was always an active person and this inability to do anything for any length of time without suffering extreme tiredness for 3 to 4 days is an absolute misery. *I have not suffered with pain.*

5. *'WAMES believes this could mislead the health community into believing ME is a pain syndrome, and lead to ME being over looked, or worse, included in pain rehabilitation programmes, which have already caused such setbacks (and distress) for people with ME in the past. This approach fails to address the most pressing issues, that of the unique characteristic of ME - exercise intolerance and the post-exertional response (PEM) - and the lack of medical expertise in post viral conditions in general and specifically neurological ME, in Wales.*

This is exactly the problem!

I looked up PEM and this is the outcome.

*What does PEM feel like?*

**PEM** is not just **a feeling** of severe fatigue; it is **a full-body assault**. **A** physician with CFS says, "My **PEM feels like a** worsening of my baseline CFS symptoms - more fatigue, headaches, neck/ back muscle achiness (but not outright pain), problems concentrating/ reading

### **PEM Series - Solve ME/CFS initiative**

*Post-exertional malaise (**PEM**) is the worsening of symptoms following even minor physical or mental exertion, with symptoms typically worsening 12 to 48 hours after activity and lasting for days or even weeks.*

### **P-05-960 Dylid talu costau angladdau pob un o staff y GIG sy'n marw o Covid-19 neu gyda'r feirws**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Profs Jane Henderson & Karin Wahl-Jorgensen, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 414 lofnodion.

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

Rhoesant eu bywydau i achub ein bywydau ni.

Rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i dalu costau angladdau holl staff y GIG sy'n marw o Covid-19 neu gyda'r feirws

Mae angladd syml yn costio £4,000 ar gyfartaledd.

Rydym yn gofyn i Lywodraeth Cymru sicrhau bod teuluoedd sydd wedi cael profedigaeth yn cael mynediad at arian ar unwaith i dalu costau angladdau.

#### **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol**

Ffynhonnell cost yr angladd

<https://www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk/en/articles/help-paying-for-a-funeral>

#### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd**

- Gorllewin Caerdydd
- Canol De Cymru

Vaughan Gething AS/MS  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref VG/03453/20

Janet Finch-Saunders MS  
Chair  
Petitions Committee

[Government.Committee.Business@llyw.cymru](mailto:Government.Committee.Business@llyw.cymru)

29 June 2020

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your letter of 27 May 2020 and sharing with me the further comments the committee received from the petitioners and their personal stories referred to.

You have asked me to comment on a further three points. I believe the comments made by the petitioners about entitlements for families of locum and agency staff and non-British citizens refer to their eligibility for this scheme. I can confirm that the eligibility criteria drafted for the Death in Service Scheme I announced, have been drafted to be as inclusive as possible so locum, agency and non-British citizens working in the NHS will be able to put forward a claim.

In relation to your second point I am of the view that the Welsh Government should not specifically set aside a specific expense for funeral costs from the £60,000 as this should be for the discretion of bereaved families on how the money should be used.

Finally, I have agreed that the funding being made available from the UK Government will fund a death in service scheme for health and social care in Wales. Whilst it is not within my gift to consider how such a scheme can be extended or funded for other key workers in Wales you may wish to contact my fellow Ministers to seek their views.

Yours sincerely,

**Vaughan Gething AS/MS**  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
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[Correspondence.Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales)

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 182  
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-05-960 Fund the funeral costs of all NHS staff who die from or with Covid-19, Correspondence – Petitioner to Committee, 07.07.20**

Dear Petitions Committee

Can I thank you first for the time and care you put into your initial deliberations and for asking the minister to further consider the situation.

I can see from The Minister's response that he has confirmed that 'families of locum, agency and non-British citizens working in the NHS will be able to put forward a claim.' I am assuming that also means their claim will be considered which is very good news and thank you, this does indeed address one point of the petition.

The second issues addresses the £60k death in service benefit and the request in the petition for a separate fund to be created to pay for funerals. I appreciate how, from a ministerial position, it is easy to assume that the £60,000 should leave a family assured about funeral expenses. However I remain of the opinion that these matters should be considered as distinct issues. For any family who loses a loved one, the time and ability that they have to think and act is curtailed by their bereavement. It may be hard for families to decide how best to allocate the death in service benefit straight away, for example considering a single parent who was the victim of covid there might be issues for the family of moving house and or school, having to find transport for children, additional childcare as well as all the loss of income down the line and the consequent impact on a family's chances and opportunities. This is a very difficult point in life for people to compare short and long term decisions: will they be able to afford the funeral, what other costs, might they need to cover from the sum? If think it is highly unlikely most families will be able to make the application for the £60,000 and receive it in time to pay for a funeral. If you don't have much money then you are not able to just carry costs of three to four thousand pounds forward in the hope you will successfully get the grant later.

The point of the petition is that although the sum of money being asked for is miniscule in government expenditure terms it would have a massive impact on people's lives at a critical moment. We the public don't know how many NHS staff have died in Wales: in April the HSJ journal for health care leaders estimated the number at nine. Each life lost is one too many. For people who have lost their loved ones from covid whilst working for the NHS this petition aims to offer a guarantee that the government will cover the cost of a funeral with no complex applications and no waiting for a decision, they can grieve and put their energy into coping. These staff have died protecting us, their funeral costs are a direct cost of protecting us. We are not in England we don't have to be limited by their rules in this area, we can and should show that Wales is a compassionate place.

The minister states that the petition committee can contact fellow ministers to support death in service benefit scheme (and funeral costs), for health and social care workers. It would be good if he would add his support to such a claim.

I have come back again and ask the petition committee to support me on this, this is a chance for Wales to do better. This is not a huge cost for the government, but a huge support for families.

Thanks you for visiting this issue again

Jane Henderson

On behalf of the petitioners

**P-05-964 Dylid ymestyn absenoldeb â thâl a chymorth ariannol a ddarperir mewn ymateb i Covid-19 i staff cronfa GIG Cymru sy'n agored i niwed a staff sy'n feichiog**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan David Adam Clarke, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 174 lofnodion.

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Mae'n bosibl na fydd staff cronfa GIG Cymru sy'n agored i niwed, sydd angen cael eu diogelu neu sydd wedi bod yn feichiog am gyfnod o dros 28 wythnos yn elwa ar yr un cymorth ariannol na'r un mesurau diogelu ag a ddarperir gan fyrddau iechyd i staff amser llawn y GIG. Mae rhai o staff cronfa GIG Cymru, fel cynorthwyr iechyd, nyrsys a bydwagedd ac eraill, wedi bod yn gweithio yn y GIG ers blynyddoedd, a dyma yw prif ffynhonnell eu hincwm. Mae'n bosibl y bydd staff cronfa sy'n agored i niwed neu'n feichiog yn wynebu dewis rhwng gweithio neu beidio ag ennill cyflog, a hynny ar yr amod bod gwaith amgen yn cael ei gynnig iddynt beth bynnag. Os gwelwch yn dda, cefnogwch staff cronfa'r GIG.

### **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol**

Mae Deddf Cydraddoldeb 2010 yn gwarchod pobl agored i niwed rhag gwahaniaethu (o dan y pennawd anabledd), yn ogystal â phobl sy'n feichiog neu ar gyfnod mamolaeth.

O dan Ddeddf Iechyd a Diogelwch yn y Gwaith 1974, yn ogystal â Rheoliadau Rheoli Iechyd a Diogelwch yn y Gwaith 1999, mae'n rhaid cynnal asesiadau risg mewn perthynas â staff cronfa'r GIG mewn perthynas ag argyfwng Covid-19. Mewn sefyllfaoedd lle nad oes modd i'r staff cronfa dan sylw weithio, neu lle na ellir cynnig gwaith arall iddynt, mae'n bosibl y bydd y staff hynny yn cael eu gadael heb incwm.

Yn y cyfnod digynsail hwn, dylai Senedd Cymru, GIG Cymru a'r byrddau iechyd perthnasol ymestyn cymorth ariannol a mesurau diogelu i staff cronfa'r GIG. Ar hyn o bryd, mae'n bosibl y bydd staff cronfa'r GIG yng Nghymru yn wynebu dewis rhwng gweithio neu aros gartref heb gymorth ariannol.



<https://www.rcn.org.uk/get-help/rcn-advice/bank-workers>

<https://www.rcm.org.uk/media/3896/2020-04-21-occupational-health-advice-for-employers-and-pregnant-women.pdf>

<https://www.bristolpost.co.uk/news/bristol-news/nhs-southmead-hospital-furlough-coronavirus-4082655>

### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd**

- De Clwyd
- Gogledd Cymru



Ein cyf/Our ref VG/03028/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AS  
Cadeirydd  
Pwyllgor Deisebau

29 Mehefin 2020

Annwyl Janet,

Diolch ichi am eich llythyr 11 Mai, ar ran y Pwyllgor Deisebau ynghylch cymorth ariannol ac absenoldeb â thâl i weithwyr banc GIG Cymru sy'n agored i niwed neu'n feichiog.

Diolch ichi am dynnu fy sylw at y mater hwn. Rwyf yn cydnabod bod y canllawiau presennol gan Gyflogwyr y GIG i'r gweithwyr banc hynny y gofynnir iddynt warchod yn cael effaith andwyol ar y grŵp bach hwn o weithwyr. Rwyf wedi gofyn i'm swyddogion ymchwilio i hyn a'i ystyried ymhellach.

Gobeithio bod yr wybodaeth hon yn ddefnyddiol.

Yn gywir,

**Vaughan Gething AS/MS**  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services

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.

## Eitem 4.9

### **P-05-934 Trafnidiaeth Gyhoeddus ym Mlaenau Gwent**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Ebbw Fawr Business Community, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 1,332 lofnodion ar bapur.

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

Hoffai'r bobl isod fynegi pryder ynghylch y drafnidiaeth gyhoeddus wael sy'n cael ei darparu ym Mlaenau Gwent. Mae'r sefyllfa hon wedi arwain at drigolion yn dioddef anawsterau wrth geisio teithio i'r gwaith. Maent hefyd yn cael problemau wrth geisio teithio i ysbytai ac apwyntiadau doctor er mwyn cael sylw meddygol. Mae'r toriadau hefyd wedi gwneud y broses o deithio ar yr amseroedd gorau yn llafurus ac, mewn rhai achosion, yn amhosibl.

#### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd**

- Blaenau Gwent
- Dwyrain De Cymru



**TRAFNIDIAETH  
CYMRU  
TRANSPORT  
FOR WALES**

Llawr 5, Tŷ South Gate,  
Stryd Wood,  
Caerdydd CF10 1EW



5<sup>th</sup> Floor, South Gate House  
Wood Street  
Cardiff CF10 1EW



Janet Finch-Saunders AC  
Cadeirydd - Y Pwyllgor Deisebau  
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Caerdydd  
Bae Caerdydd  
CAERDYDD  
CF99 1NA

19 Mawrth 2020

Annwyl Janet,

Diolch am eich llythyr diweddar ynghylch y ddeiseb am drafnidiaeth gyhoeddus ym Mlaenau Gwent.

Mewn perthynas â gwasanaethau ar Linell Glyn Ebwy, rydym wedi ymroi i gynyddu gwasanaethau trên a gweithio gyda rhanddeiliaid i adfer y cysylltiad trên rhwng Glynebwy a Chasnewydd. Mae gosod y cysylltiad hwn yn gofyn am welliannau seilwaith er mwyn galluogi mwy o drenau i deithio i'r naill gyfeiriad a'r llall ar y llinell. Bydd sicrhau 2 wasanaeth yr awr ar hyd llinell Glyn Ebwy'n gofyn am welliannau seilwaith a gwaith gosod arwyddion newydd gan Network Rail er mwyn i fwy o drenau redeg yn ôl a blaen ar y llinell. Rydym yn ymgysylltu'n agos â phob parti ynghylch yr agweddau hyn.

Yn unol â chyfarwyddiadau Llywodraeth Cymru, rydym yn cynnal astudiaeth ar hyn o bryd sy'n canolbwyntio ar yr ymrwymadau hyn, sy'n ceisio deall y cyfleoedd a'r rhwystrau i redeg hyd at bedwar trên yr awr ar y llinell hon, a phwy all eu gwireddu. Daeth yr astudiaeth gychwynnol hon i ben yn ddiweddar ac mae wedi'i chyflwyno i Lywodraeth Cymru a'i phartneriaid i'w hadolygu.

Mae'r holl wasanaethau rhwng Glyn Ebwy a Caerdydd Canolog wedi cael trenau wedi'u hadnewyddu gyda gwybodaeth electronig a bydd socedi trydan arnynt erbyn 2020. Bydd Cerbydau DEMU Newydd yn cael eu cyflwyno yn ystod 2022 gyda lle i 425 o bobl. Bydd y trenau newydd sbon hyn hefyd yn cynnwys esgyn a disgyn gwastad, aerdymheru a mwy o le i feiciau.



Mae Trafnidiaeth Cymru yn eiddo i  
**Lywodraeth Cymru**  
Transport for Wales is owned by the  
**Welsh Government**

Cwmni Cyfyngedig drwy Warrant. Cofrestrwyd yng Nghymru. Rhif Cwmni 09476013. Cyfeiriad Swyddfa Gofrestredig: Llawr 5, Tŷ South Gate, Stryd Wood, Caerdydd, CF10 3EW  
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Tudalen y pecyn 189

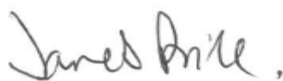
Bydd cynnydd mewn capasiti rhwng Glyn Ebwy a Caerdydd Canolog gyda lle i 180 yn fwy o deithwyr ar y trenau i Gaerdydd ar adegau prysur y bore o fis Rhagfyr 2022 ymlaen.

Bydd cynnydd mewn capasiti rhwng Glyn Ebwy a Chasnewydd hefyd, gyda 150 yn fwy o seddi ar y trenau i Gasnewydd ar adegau prysur y bore o fis Rhagfyr 2022 ymlaen, a 300 yn fwy o seddi o Gasnewydd ar yr adegau prysur fin nos o fis Rhagfyr 2022 ymlaen.

Bydd gorsafoedd yn cael eu hadnewyddu a'u glanhau, a bydd Wifi am ddim erbyn mis Rhagfyr 2020 a gwell CCTV erbyn mis Rhagfyr 2022.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru a TrC wedi bod yn gweithio gyda chydweithwyr ym Mlaenau Gwent i sefydlu peilot gwasanaeth Trafnidiaeth Ymatebol Integredig. Mae Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Blaenau Gwent yn gweithio gyda grwpiau cymunedol a gweithredwyr trafndiaeth cymunedol a masnachol i asesu sut gallai trafndiaeth sy'n ymateb i alw helpu i fynd i'r afael ag ynysu cymdeithasol a helpu pobl i gyrraedd cyflogaeth yn gost-effeithiol. Er bod gwasanaeth bws da ar hyd llwybrau allweddol yn ystod oriau craidd, gallai gwasanaeth a fyddai'n ymateb i alw helpu i gysylltu pobl mewn ystadau nad ydynt o fewn cyrraedd hawdd i wasanaethau bws, a'r rhai sydd angen trafndiaeth y tu allan i oriau craidd, er enghraifft i weithio ar shift gynnar neu hwyr. Mae'r cyngor wedi cael ymateb gwych gan y gymuned, ac rydym yn gobeithio dechrau ymgynghori ar gynigion ar gyfer gwasanaethau maes o law i'w rhoi ar waith yn fyw tua diwedd 2020.

Yn gywir,



James Price  
Prif Weithredwr

## **P-05-934 Public Transport in Blaenau Gwent, Correspondence – Petitioner to Committee, 08.07.20**

I welcome the improvements to the Train Service into Blaenau Gwent Stations. But this response does not address the Public Transport issues that the Petition raised. The concept of a Integrated Responsive Transport system to my knowledge was first raised in 2019 and is not due to be in operation until late 2020.

I would like to draw the Petition Committee attention to the following:

### **A4046 Cwm to Aberbeeg Road**

This road now has a weight restriction due to a landslip earlier in the year. All Buses now have to detour via Brynmawr to make the journey to Ebbw Vale and Cwm.

### **Heads of the Valleys : Isolation Fear over road widening plan**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-51723736>

This will mean Beaufort near Brynmawr could see more traffic as drivers try to get on the Heads of the Valley road at Rassau and off it at Garnylan.

### **Historically.**

I have read a number of Reports \ Strategies dating back to the early 1980's all of these Reports \ Strategies highlight Infrastructure (Public Transport) as being one of the main requirements to Economic Regeneration, so we are 40 Years on with no improvement.

### **Economic Regeneration**

I have read all the documents produced by all bodies involved in Economic Regeneration within Blaenau Gwent. All of these bodies highlight Infrastructure (Public Transport) as being one of the main requirements to Economic Regeneration.

I am also rather concerned to the number of Bodies involved in Regeneration:

Valleys Taskforce.

Blaenau Gwent Enterprise Board

Town Centre Regeneration Taskforce

Blaenau Gwent Economic and Regeneration Department

.....

to name a few.

**Blaenau Gwent Council**

I am disappointed that Blaenau Gwent Council have not responded to the request for information.

**Finally**

Could the Petition Committee tell us who are ultimately responsible for Public Transport within Blaenau Gwent.

Many thanks  
Steven Roberts

## **P-05-955 Gwrthwynebu cynnig Costain i weithredu Opsiwn B ar gyfer dargyfeirio'r A465 ym Mryn-mawr**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Heads Of the Valley Petition Group, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 1,128 lofnodion.

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Am y rhesymau a roddir isod, rydym ni sydd wedi llofnodi isod yn gwrthwynebu cynnig Costain i weithredu Opsiwn B ar gyfer dargyfeirio'r A465 ym Mryn-mawr. Mae Costain yn ffafrio opsiwn B a'r bwriad yw iddi gael ei gweithredu ym mis Ebrill 2020.

Ni fydd mynedfa i Fryn-mawr nac allanfa ohoni o'r cwm gorllewinol.

Bydd Opsiwn B yn peri cynnydd dramatig yn y traffig mawr sydd eisoes yn mynd trwy Gendl a Bryn-mawr gan na fydd gan yrwyr sy'n teithio tua'r gorllewin ffordd o ddefnyddio'r A465 o ardaloedd y cwm gorllewinol, e.e. Nant-y-glo, y Blaenau, Abertyleri, Aber-big, Llanhilledd, Blaenafon ac ati.

Bydd goblygiadau i fasnachwyr yn nhrefi Cendl a Bryn-mawr, sydd eisoes yn ei chael yn anodd, gan y bydd traffig sy'n teithio o'r dwyrain yn osgoi'r trefi hyn.

Hefyd, bydd yr effaith amgylcheddol ar y ddwy dref yn annerbyniol oherwydd y cynnydd mewn allyriadau carbon o draffig araf sydd, yn ystod yr oriau brig, yn sefyll yn stond.

Mae cyfyngiad pwysau o 7.5 tonnau ar y ffordd trwy Gendl; fodd bynnag, ni fydd traffig trwm dros 7.5 tonnau yn gallu cyrraedd A465 heb deithio trwy Gendl a Bryn-mawr.

Bydd trafniadaeth gyhoeddus yn wynebu gwyrriad o hyd at chwe milltir i ddefnyddio'r A465.

### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd**

- Blaenau Gwent
- Dwyrain De Cymru



## Eitem 4.11

**P-05-968 Talu grantiau Coronafeirws i bob busnes sy'n gymwys i gael Rhyddhad Ardrethi i Fusnesau Bach, yr un fath â gweddill y DU**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Simon Hill, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 360 lofnodion.

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Ar 17 Mawrth 2020 cyhoeddodd y Canghellor y byddai pob busnes bach â llai na 9 o weithwyr ac sy'n gymwys i gael Rhyddhad Ardrethi i Fusnesau Bach yn cael grant o £10,000 (y Gronfa Grantiau i Fusnesau Bach).

Ar 8 Ebrill, cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth Cymru ganllaw diwygiedig o ran llety hunanarlwyo. Mae'r newid hwn mewn polisi wedi eithrio miloedd o fusnesau dilys rhag cael cyllid grant sydd ei angen arnynt yn druenus, gan nad oes ganddynt incwm yn ystod argyfwng y Coronafeirws.

### **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol**

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi gorfodi pob busnes llety gwyliau i gau oherwydd argyfwng y Coronafeirws, ac mae'r holl leoedd a gadwyd wedi'u canslo. Erbyn hyn, nid oes gan y busnesau hynny unrhyw incwm ond maent yn dal i orfod gwario ar ariannu a chynnal a chadw'r eiddo, a gallai hynny beri caledi ariannol mawr.

Yng ngweddill y DU, mae pob awdurdod lleol wedi talu'r cyllid grant i fusnesau gosod gwyliau hunanarlwyo. Mae'n annheg iawn nad yw'r grantiau hyn a ariennir yn ganolog yn cael eu cymhwyso'n gyfartal ledled y wlad, ac yn groes i addewid y Canghellor.

Mae'r newid hwn mewn polisi eisoes yn achosi problemau yn yr ardal, fel y gwelir yn yr erthygl hon yn y wasg leol:

<https://www.dailypost.co.uk/news/north-wales-news/second-home-crackdown-hitting-genuine-18139173>

Llofnodwch i ofyn i Lywodraeth Cymru ddiddymu'r newid polisi hwn a dosbarthu'r Gronfa Grantiau i Fusnesau Bach yn deg fel y gwnaed yng ngweddill y DU.

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

- Dwyfor Meirionnydd
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru

## Eitem 4.12

**P-05-973 Ailagor siopau barbwyr a siopau trin gwallt cyn belled â'u bod yn gosod mesurau cadw pellter cymdeithasol llym**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Siobhan King, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 118 lofnodion.

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Mae'r cyfyngiadau symud bellach wedi bod arnom ers dau fis. Mae'r cyfnod hwn wedi bod hyd yn oed yn hwy i'r rhai a ddewisodd hunan-ynysu yn gynnar. Gydag agor canolfannau garddio yn ddiweddar, dylem nawr fod yn trafod ailagor siopau barbwyr a siopau trin gwallt, cyn belled â bod mesurau cadw pellter cymdeithasol yn cael eu cymryd o ddifrif.

### **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol:**

Mae ymddangosiad wastad wedi bod yn bwysig iawn, ond mae'n bwysicach fyth yn yr oes sydd ohoni. Nid yw pobl yn teimlo'n dda pan nad ydyn nhw'n edrych yn dda, a chan fod pawb yn gorfod aros i mewn, y peth lleiaf i ofyn amdano yw ein bod yn teimlo'n dda amdanom ni ein hunain. Mae materion iechyd meddwl wedi tyfu'n aruthrol dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf ac un rheswm pam yw'r angen cynyddol i edrych yn dda er mwyn teimlo'n dda, a chyda'r cyfyngiadau symud presennol mae materion iechyd meddwl yn sicr o fod yn fwy cyffredin.

Dylai'r mesurau cadw pellter cymdeithasol yn y lleoliadau hyn gynnwys apwyntiad yn unig, a dim ond caniatáu nifer gyfyngedig o staff bob y dydd. Dylai fod nifer gyfyngedig o bobl i mewn ar unrhyw adeg, ac ni ddylid caniatáu ymgynnull na chiwio y tu allan. Dylai'r holl offer a chadeiriau gael eu glanhau'n drylwyr rhwng pob cwsmer, dylid gwisgo menyg a masgiau, a dylid cadw cadeiriau ddwy fetr oddi wrth ei gilydd. Gellid rhoi unrhyw fesurau eraill ar waith i sicrhau diogelwch, ond mae'n rhaid rhoi stop ar y pennau blêr yma.

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

- Gorllewin Casnewydd

- Dwyrain De Cymru