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Cyfarfu'r Cynulliad am 13:30 gyda'r Dirprwy Lywydd (David Melding) yn y Gadair.

The Assembly met at 13:30 with the Deputy Presiding Officer (David Melding) in the Chair.

13:30

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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Trefn, trefn.

Order, order.

Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog Cyllid

Questions to the Minister for Finance

Portffolio Llywodraeth Leol a Busnes y Llywodraeth

The Local Government and Government Business Portfolio

13:30

Mohammad Asghar Bywgraffiad Biography

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1. Beth y gwnaeth y Gweinidog ei ystyried wrth ddyrannu'r gyllideb gyffredinol i bortffolio Llywodraeth Leol a Busnes y Llywodraeth? OAQ(4)0315(FIN)

1. What did the Minister take into consideration when allocating the overall budget to the Local Government and Government Business portfolio? OAQ(4)0315(FIN)

13:31

Jane Hutt Bywgraffiad Biography

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Y Gweinidog Cyllid / The Minister for Finance

We took into account the challenges and priorities across the full range of functions within the local government and Government business portfolio when determining the budget allocations.

Ystyriwyd yr heriau a'r blaenoriaethau ar gyfer holl swyddogaethau portffolio llywodraeth leol a busnes y Llywodraeth wrth bennu dyraniadau'r gyllideb.

13:31 **Mohammad Asghar** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Thank you very much, Minister. Over the past three years, hard-working families in Wales have faced higher council tax bills because the Welsh Government refused to pass on the Conservative council tax freeze. Will you work with the Minister for Local Government and Government Business to ensure that support is provided to protect Welsh families from the threat of excessive council tax rises in Wales?

Diolch yn fawr iawn, Weinidog. Dros y tair blynedd diwethaf, mae teuluoedd sy'n gweithio'n galed yng Nghymru wedi wynebu biliau treth gyngor uwch gan fod Llywodraeth Cymru yn gwrthod trosglwyddo penderfyniad y Ceidwadwyr i rewi'r dreth gyngor. A wnewch chi weithio gyda Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Busnes y Llywodraeth i sicrhau y rhoddir cymorth i amddiffyn teuluoedd yng Nghymru rhag perygl codiadau treth gyngor gormodol yng Nghymru?

13:31 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I say in response to Mohammad Asghar that, over the past three years, the Welsh Government's support for local government has increased in cash terms in Wales, while provision in England on a like-for-like basis has decreased.

Mewn ymateb i Mohammad Asghar, hoffwn ddatgan fod y cymorth a roddwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru i lywodraeth leol dros y tair blynedd diwethaf wedi cynyddu yn nhermau arian parod yng Nghymru, tra bod y ddarpariaeth yn Lloegr ar sail tebyg at ei debyg wedi gostwng.

13:32 **Rhodri Glyn Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Gyda'r Ceidwadwyr, wrth gwrs, rydym yn byw mewn byd ffantasi. Maent am leihau'r gyllideb ar gyfer pob portffolio heblaw iechyd. Byddai hynny'n golygu gostyngiadau sylweddol i lywodraeth leol. Maent am gadw pob gwasanaeth ac maent hefyd am rewi y dreth gyngor. Sut mae gwneud hynny i gyd, nid wyf yn gwybod, ac nid wyf yn credu bod y Ceidwadwyr yn gwybod ychwaith. Gadewch inni dderbyn bod y sefyllfa sy'n wynebu pob portffolio yn anodd a bod toriadau sydd yn rhaid eu gwneud. Fel y Gweinidog Cyllid, a ydych yn credu ar hyn o bryd y dylai llywodraeth leol edrych yn feirniadol ar benderfyniadau i benodi uwch-swyddogion ar gyflogau afresymol o uchel pan fod toriadau yn cael eu gwneud i wasanaethau hanfodol a hefyd bod gweithwyr ar gyflogau bach yn gorfod gweld eu cyflogau yn cael eu rhewi?

With the Conservatives, of course, we are living in a fantasy world. They want to reduce the budget for every portfolio other than health. That would mean significant cuts for local government. They want to retain every service but they also want to freeze council tax. How you do all of that, I have no idea, and I do not believe that the Conservatives have any idea either. Let us accept that the situation facing every portfolio is difficult and that there are cuts that have to be made. As the Minister for Finance, do you believe that, at present, local government should be looking critically at decisions to appoint senior officers on unreasonably high salaries when cuts are being made to crucial services and at a time when workers on low wages see their salaries being frozen?

13:32 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Rhodri Glyn Thomas, that is a very fair point. The settlement for local government over the past three years has taken into account the pressures on local government. We have cushioned local government over the past three years and, of course, only 80% of local government funding comes from the Welsh Government. Authorities have control over all of the other forms of income-raising through council tax, fees, charges and reserves as well. Clearly, local goverment now has to face up to the challenge and, indeed, look at its services, management and estblishments as part of that challenge.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas, mae hwnnw'n bwynt teg iawn. Mae'r setliad ar gyfer llywodraeth leol dros y tair blynedd diwethaf wedi ystyried y pwysau ar lywodraeth leol. Rydym wedi lliniaru'r effaith ar lywodraeth leol dros y tair blynedd diwethaf ac, wrth gwrs, dim ond 80% o gyllid llywodraeth leol a ddarperir gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Yr awdurdodau sy'n gyfrifol am yr holl ddulliau codi incwm eraill drwy dreth gyngor, ffioedd, taliadau a chronfeydd wrth gefn hefyd. Yn amlwg, rhaid i lywodraeth leol yn awr ymateb i'r her ac, yn wir, ystyried ei gwasanaethau, ei threfniadau rheoli a'i sefydliadau fel rhan o'r her honno.

Buddsoddiad Cyfalaf

Capital Investment

13:33 **Alun Ffred Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

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2. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am fuddsoddiad cyfalaf Llywodraeth Cymru? OAQ(4)0316(FIN)

2. Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Government's capital investment? OAQ(4)0316(FIN)

13:33 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I set out our spending plans for 2014-15 and 2015-16, including details of £617.5 million new capital investments, when I published the draft budget on 8 October.

Nodais ein cynlluniau gwariant ar gyfer 2014-15 a 2015-16, gan gynnwys manylion gwerth £617.5 miliwn o fuddsoddiadau cyfalaf newydd, pan gyhoeddais y gyllideb ddrafft ar 8 Hydref.

13:33 **Alun Ffred Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Diolch yn fawr iawn. Mae'r gyllideb cyfalaf yn dynn. Ddoe, bu i'r Comisiwn Ewropeaidd gyhoeddi map a oedd yn dangos y prif goridorau trafnidiaeth a oedd yn cysylltu Iwerddon ag Ewrop, ac, wrth gwrs, nid oes un filltir o'r cyswllt hwnnw yng Nghymru. Lerpwl, mae'n debyg, yw'r cyswllt rhwng cyfandir Ewrop ac Iwerddon. Felly, mae coridor y gogledd wedi ei anghofio ac mae coridor y de wedi'i anghofio. Pa drafodaethau fu rhwng Llywodraeth Cymru a Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig, lle mae'r prif gyfrifoldeb yn gorwedd, mae'n debyg, ar y mater hwn? A wnewch chi ymrwymo i geisio newid y penderfyniad hwn sy'n golygu na fydd arian Ewropeaidd ar gael ar gyfer uwchraddio'r coridorau trafnidiaeth pwysig hyn yn y de a'r gogledd?

Thank you very much. The capital budget is tight. Yesterday, the European Commission published a map that showed the main transport corridors linking Ireland and Europe, and, of course, there is not a single mile of those routes in Wales. Liverpool, apparently, is the contact point between the continent of Europe and Ireland. Therefore, the north Wales corridor has been forgotten, as has the south Wales corridor. What discussions took place between the Welsh Government and the United Kingdom Government, which is where the main responsibility for this matter lies, apparently? Will you commit to try to reverse this decision, which means that no European money will be available to upgrade these important transport corridors in south and north Wales?

13:34 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Fideo Video

Clearly, this is a huge concern for us and was a surprise to us. There was no forewarning of it. It is a matter for my colleague the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport, given her portfolio responsibilities. However, clearly, in terms of our structural funds, it does not bear out anyway, in terms of the £455 million that has been invested in transport initiatives. If we just look at the launch last week by the First Minister of the Harbour Way project, we will see that that was £245 million of EU funds. It is clear that we have to look at key routes in Wales to be included in the core network, and structural funds for the next programme period include strategic infrastructure as one of our investment proposals.

Yn amlwg, mae hyn yn bryder mawr inni ac roedd yn syndod inni. Nid oedd unrhyw rybudd ohono. Mater ydyw i'm cyd-Aelod, Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth, o ystyried ei chyfrifoldebau portffolio. Fodd bynnag, yn amlwg, o ran ein cronfeydd strwythurol, nid yw'n gwneud synnwyr beth bynnag, o ran y £455 miliwn a fuddsoddwyd mewn mentrau trafnidiaeth. Dim ond o edrych ar brosiect Ffordd yr Harbwr, a lansiwyd yr wythnos ddiwethaf gan y Prif Weinidog, gwelwn fod £245 miliwn o hwnnw yn arian gan yr UE. Mae'n amlwg bod yn rhaid inni ystyried cynnwys llwybrau allweddol yng Nghymru yn y rhwydwaith craidd, ac mae'r cronfeydd strwythurol ar gyfer cyfnod y rhaglen nesaf yn cynnwys seilwaith strategol fel un o'n cynigion buddsoddi.

13:35 **Paul Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Minister, can you tell us exactly what specific innovative financial models you will be establishing to lever in more capital investment, as far as the draft budget for 2014-15 is concerned?

Weinidog, a allwch ddweud wrthym yn union pa fodelau ariannol arloesol penodol y byddwch yn eu rhoi ar waith i ddenu mwy o fuddsoddiad cyfalaf, mewn perthynas â'r gyllideb ddrafft ar gyfer 2014-15?

13:36 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Fideo Video

Clearly, we are building on the innovative finance methods that we are already using in terms of our capital programme. There is the local government borrowing initiative, of course, which is a great boost to local government, and that was acknowledged when I met with leaders only last week in south-east Wales. Clearly, in terms of the opportunities that we have now in social housing, we are already committed to a £4 million annual funding stream through the new Welsh housing finance grant, and, again, we are recapitalising the Welsh housing partnership. However, finally, I would say that it is our intention to deliver sections 5 and 6 of the A465, using a non-dividend investment vehicle.

Yn amlwg, rydym yn datblygu'r dulliau cyllid arloesol a ddefnyddir gennym eisoes o ran ein rhaglen gyfalaf. Mae menter benthyca llywodraeth leol, wrth gwrs, sy'n hwb mawr i lywodraeth leol, a chydnabuwyd hynny yn ystod fy nghyfarfod gydag arweinwyr ddim ond yr wythnos diwethaf yn ne-ddwyrain Cymru. Yn amlwg, o ran y cyfleoedd sydd gennym yn awr ym maes tai cymdeithasol, rydym eisoes wedi ymrwymo i ffrwd ariannu flynyddol o £4 miliwn drwy grant cyllid tai newydd Cymru, ac, unwaith eto, rydym yn ail-gyfalafu partneriaeth tai Cymru. Fodd bynnag, i gloi, hoffwn ddatgan mai ein bwriad yw cyflawni adrannau 5 a 6 o'r A465, gan ddefnyddio cyfrwng buddsoddi nad yw'n gysylltiedig â difidendau.

13:36 **Paul Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I am grateful to the Minister for that answer. I note your statement two weeks ago, regarding the Wales infrastructure investment plan and additional capital allocations; can you tell us what innovative financial models you will be using with regard to those specific projects?

Rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog am yr ateb hwnnw. Nodaf eich datganiad bythefnos yn ôl, ynghylch y cynllun buddsoddi mewn seilwaith i Gymru a dyraniadau cyfalaf ychwanegol; a allwch ddweud wrthym pa fodelau ariannol arloesol y byddwch yn eu defnyddio o ran y prosiectau penodol hynny?

13:37 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Many of the investments that we are making, which I announced in the plan, of course, will be funded through direct capital funding. We are using our funds innovatively, where we can, in terms of the new non-dividend routes that I have described. However, I would also say that we are making use of the financial transactions that have been made available by the UK Government, which includes the Help to Buy Cymru scheme, the affordable housing land scheme, and the town centre property fund.

Caiff llawer o'r buddsoddiadau rydym yn eu gwneud, a gyhoeddais yn y cynllun, wrth gwrs, eu hariannu drwy arian cyfalaf uniongyrchol. Rydym yn defnyddio ein cyllid mewn ffyrdd arloesol, lle y gallwn, o ran y llwybrau newydd nad ydynt yn gysylltiedig â difidendau a ddisgrifiais. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn ddatgan hefyd ein bod yn defnyddio'r trafodion ariannol a gynigiwyd gan Lywodraeth y DU, sy'n cynnwys Cymorth i Brynu Cymru, y cynllun tir tai fforddiadwy a'r gronfa eiddo canol trefi.

13:37 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Mae cwestiynau 3 a 10 wedi cael eu grwpio.

Questions 3 and 10 have been grouped.

Portffolio'r Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi

The Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty's Portfolio

13:37 **Rhun ap Iorwerth** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

3. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am drafodaethau diweddar y mae wedi eu cael gyda'r Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi ynglŷn â chyllideb y portffolio hwnnw? OAQ(4)0314(FIN)

3. Will the Minister make a statement on recent discussions she has had with the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty regarding that portfolio's budget? OAQ(4)0314(FIN)

10. Beth oedd blaenoriaethau'r Gweinidog wrth ddyrannu cyllid i'r portffolio Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi? OAQ(4)0325(FIN)

10. What were the Minister's priorities when allocating funding to the Communities and Tackling Poverty portfolio? OAQ(4)0325(FIN)

13:37 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Diolch yn fawr. Thank you for grouping the questions, Deputy Presiding Officer; I know that you have given permission in terms of questions 3 and 10. I meet frequently with all Welsh Government Ministers, including the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty, to discuss the Welsh Government's budget priorities.

Diolch yn fawr. Diolch am grwpio'r cwestiynau, Ddirprwy Lywydd; gwn eich bod wedi rhoi caniatâd o ran cwestiynau 3 a 10. Rwy'n cyfarfod yn aml gyda holl Weinidogion Llywodraeth Cymru, gan gynnwys y Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi, i drafod blaenoriaethau cyllideb Llywodraeth Cymru.

13:38 **Rhun ap Iorwerth** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Mae mudiadau lleol yn y gogledd yn poeni y gallai fformiwla gyllido newydd Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer cynghorau gwirfoddol sirol Cymru arwain at doriadau o hyd at 20% i wasanaethau gwirfoddol yn y gogledd, gydag Ynys Môn yn dioddef yn fwy na neb. A yw'r Gweinidog yn derbyn bod y fformiwla newydd sy'n cael ei hystyried yn effeithio yn anghyfartal iawn ar wasanaethau yn y gogledd, o'i gymharu â gweddill Cymru?

Local organisations in north Wales are concerned that the new funding formula for the Welsh Government for the county voluntary councils in Wales could lead to cuts of up to 20% in voluntary services in north Wales, with Anglesey suffering more than anyone. Does the Minister accept that the new formula that is being considered has an inequitable effect on services in north Wales, compared with the rest of Wales?

13:38 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Diolch yn fawr am eich cwestiwn.

Thank you very much for your question.

In fact, I know that the Minister responded to a question on this point last week. He said that those claims were incorrect. Of course, there are far more than three options that are on the table that are being discussed with county voluntary councils. It is vital that we support the third sector across Wales fairly and efficiently, and, of course, that will include taking into account working in large, rural areas.

Yn wir, gwn fod y Gweinidog wedi ymateb i gwestiwn ar y pwynt hwn yr wythnos diwethaf. Dywedodd fod yr honiadau hynny yn anghywir. Wrth gwrs, mae llawer mwy na thri dewis wedi'u cynnig ac sy'n destun trafod gyda'r cynghorau gwirfoddol sirol. Mae'n hanfodol ein bod yn cefnogi'r trydydd sector ledled Cymru yn deg ac yn effeithlon, a bydd hynny, wrth gwrs, yn cynnwys ystyried gweithio mewn ardaloedd mawr, gwledig.

13:39 **Rhun ap Iorwerth** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Diolch. Yn dilyn ymlaen o hynny, o ystyried y pwysau cynyddol sydd ar y sector gwirfoddol oherwydd toriadau yn y sector cyhoeddus ac effaith y dirwasgiad a diwygio lles, yn ogystal â'r heriau ychwanegol mewn ardaloedd fel Môn—ardaloedd gwledig, fel y gwnaethoch chi gyfeirio ato—pa gymorth ychwanegol allwch chi ei gynnig i'r sector gwirfoddol, yn enwedig yn y gogledd, sy'n wynebu'r toriadau mawr hyn?

Thank you. Following on from that, given the increasing pressures on the voluntary sector because of cuts in the public sector and the impact of the recession and welfare reform, as well as the additional challenges in areas such as Anglesey—rural areas, as you referred to—what additional assistance can you provide to the voluntary sector, particularly in north Wales, which is facing these huge cuts?

13:39 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I had the opportunity of meeting with representatives from the voluntary sector on the tour of budget discussions that I had earlier in the summer. I met with representatives in Llandudno from the voluntary sector, particularly from those umbrella organisations that meet the needs of their communities of disadvantaged people. We looked at the opportunities that we have to support preventative spend through our budget, and we are mitigating the cuts to the Supporting People programme. That was one of the key points raised at that meeting.

Cefais gyfle i gyfarfod â chynrychiolwyr o'r sector gwirfoddol ar y daith trafodaethau cyllidebol yr euthum arni yn gynharach yn yr haf. Cyfarfûm â chynrychiolwyr yn Llandudno o'r sector gwirfoddol, yn enwedig o'r mudiadau mantell hynny sy'n diwallu anghenion eu cymunedau o bobl dan anfantais. Gwnaethom ystyried y cyfleoedd sydd ar gael inni ategu gwariant ataliol drwy ein cyllideb, ac rydym yn lliniaru'r toriadau i'r rhaglen Cefnogi Pobl. Dyna oedd un o'r pwyntiau allweddol a godwyd yn y cyfarfod hwnnw.

13:40 **Christine Chapman** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, the recent 'State of the Nation 2013' report by the UK Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission made for challenging reading, although it acknowledged the progress that the Welsh Government has made in tackling child poverty. We know that children and young people affected by poverty experience worse outcomes across all facets of life, and that the educational impact of poverty inflicts serious damage on the Welsh economy. What priority has been given to resolving this in your discussions regarding the communities and tackling poverty budget?

Weinidog, roedd adroddiad diweddar Comisiwn Symudedd Cymdeithasol a Thlodi Plant y DU, 'Cyflwr y Genedl 2013', yn cynnwys deunydd darllen heriol, er iddo gydnabod y cynnydd a wnaed gan Lywodraeth Cymru wrth drechu tlodi plant. Gwyddom fod plant a phobl ifanc y mae tlodi yn effeithio arnynt yn profi canlyniadau gwaeth ymhob agwedd ar eu bywyd, a bod effaith addysgol tlodi yn cael effaith andwyol ddifrifol ar economi Cymru. Pa flaenoriaeth a roddwyd i ddatrys hyn yn eich trafodaethau ynghylch y gyllideb cymunedau a threchu tlodi?

13:41 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Tackling child poverty is a priority, and the Deputy Minister for Tackling Poverty submitted evidence to the Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission, in which he outlined how the Welsh Government is addressing poverty by targeting resources. The examples that he gave were about how we are improving the skills of young people, particularly in low-income households, reducing the number of homes where no-one works, raising the educational attainment of those from the poorest backgrounds and investing in services that help children being brought up in deprived communities. Flying Start is key to that, of course. This is cross-portfolio action, as evidenced in our draft budget, and the additional £35 million to boost the pupil deprivation grant will increase support for pupils from disadvantaged areas.

Mae trechu tlodi plant yn flaenoriaeth, a chyflwynodd y Dirprwy Weinidog Trechu Tlodi dystiolaeth i'r Comisiwn Symudedd Cymdeithasol a Thlodi Plant, lle yr amlinellodd sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ymdrin â thlodi drwy dargedu adnoddau. Roedd a wnelo'r enghreifftiau a roddodd â sut rydym yn gwella sgiliau pobl ifanc, yn enwedig mewn cartrefi incwm isel, gan leihau nifer y cartrefi lle nad oes neb yn gweithio, codi cyrhaeddiad addysgol y rhai o'r cefndiroedd tlotaf a buddsoddi mewn gwasanaethau sy'n helpu plant sy'n cael eu magu mewn cymunedau difreintiedig. Mae Dechrau'n Deg, wrth gwrs, yn allweddol i hynny. Mae'n enghraifft o weithredu ar draws portffolios, fel y gwelir yn ein cyllideb ddrafft, a bydd y £35 miliwn ychwanegol i hybu'r grant amddifadedd disgyblion yn cynyddu'r cymorth i ddisgyblion o ardaloedd difreintiedig.

13:41 **Mark Isherwood** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

What provisions have you made in the draft communities and tackling poverty budget to support credit unions beyond 2013, and how will that correlate with the UK Government funding for the credit union expansion project being delivered by the Association of British Credit Unions Limited in Wales, as well as in England?

Pa ddarpariaethau a wnaed gennych yn y gyllideb cymunedau a threchu tlodi ddrafft i helpu undebau credyd y tu hwnt i 2013, a sut y bydd hynny'n cyd-fynd â chyllid Llywodraeth y DU ar gyfer y prosiect ehangu undebau credyd a gaiff ei roi ar waith gan Gymdeithas Undebau Credyd Prydain Cyfyngedig yng Nghymru, yn ogystal ag yn Lloegr?

13:42

Jane Hutt [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

In June, the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty announced an additional £2 million for the credit union movement in Wales. Across Wales, credit unions have benefitted from that to improve their resilience and financial products. This is a key priority in terms of the tackling poverty agenda.

Ym mis Mehefin, cyhoeddodd y Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi £2 filiwn ychwanegol i'r mudiad undebau credyd yng Nghymru. Ledled Cymru, bu hynny o fudd i undebau credyd wrth wella eu gwydnwch a'u cynhyrchion ariannol. Mae hon yn flaenoriaeth allweddol o ran yr agenda trechu tlodi.

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[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

13:42

Aled Roberts [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Yr wythnos diwethaf, Weinidog, clywodd y Pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc dystiolaeth—mae'r pwyllgor wedi ysgrifennu at y Gweinidog yn gofyn a oedd asesiad o dan y Mesur Hawliau Plant a Phobl Ifanc (Cymru) 2011 wedi ei gyflawni cyn i'r adran gyhoeddi ei chyllideb. A yw'n ofynnol yn eich prosesau chi fel adran cyllid bod yr holl adrannau yn cynnwys asesiad o hawliau plant cyn iddynt gyhoeddi eu cyllideb adrannol?

Last week, Minister, the Children and Young People Committee heard evidence—the committee has written to the Minister asking whether an assessment under the Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure 2011 had been undertaken before this department announced its budget. Is it a requirement in your processes as a finance department that all these departments include an assessment of children's rights before they publish their departmental budget?

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13:43

Jane Hutt [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I know that you will have acknowledged the impact assessments in our equality impact assessment document that was published alongside the draft budget, Aled Roberts. You will have seen that the Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure is recognised as part of the impact assessment, which also looks at socioeconomic issues. The impact assessment is also enabling us to focus on our priorities, which are the core values of fairness and social justice.

Gwn y byddwch wedi cydnabod yr asesiadau o effaith yn ein dogfen asesu'r effaith ar gydraddoldeb a gyhoeddwyd ochr yn ochr â'r gyllideb ddrafft, Aled Roberts. Byddwch wedi gweld bod y Mesur Hawliau Plant a Phobl Ifanc (Cymru) yn cael ei gydnabod fel rhan o'r asesiad o effaith, sydd hefyd yn ystyried materion economaidd-gymdeithasol. Mae'r asesiad o effaith hefyd yn rhoi cyfle inni ganolbwyntio ar ein blaenoriaethau, sef gwerthoedd craidd tegwch a chyfiawnder cymdeithasol.

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13:43

Aled Roberts [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Rwy'n derbyn bod y sefyllfa ariannol yn gymhleth a phoenus ar hyn o bryd, ond mae cwestiwn yn codi. Mae'r rhaglen Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf wedi cael ei chwtogi eleni heb iddi dderbyn asesiad a gwerthusiad llawn. Fodd bynnag, mae'r arian ar gyfer rhaglen Dechrau'n Deg wedi cael ei ddyblu. Roedd y Gweinidog blaenorol wedi addo y byddai gwerthusiad llawn erbyn mis Mawrth, ond yn ystod ein sesiwn wythnos diwethaf, clywsom na fydd yr asesiad hwnnw ar gael tan fis Rhagfyr. A ydych yn fodlon bod y penderfyniadau elfennol hyn yn cael eu cymryd heb i'r Llywodraeth werthuso'r rhaglenni hyn?

I accept that the financial situation is complex and painful at the moment, but a question does arise. The Families First programme has been reduced this year without it having a full assessment and evaluation. Yet, the funding for the Flying Start programme has been doubled. The previous Minister had promised a full evaluation by March, but during our session last week, we heard that that assessment will not be available until December. Are you satisfied that these fundamental decisions have been taken without the Government evaluating these programmes?

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13:44

Jane Hutt [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Clearly, very tough and painful decisions are having to be made as a result of the £1.7 billion cut to the Welsh Government budget by the UK coalition Government. It is important to recognise, as you say, Aled Roberts, that evaluation of our interventions is key. That is why the evaluation of Flying Start is so welcome. We want to make sure that the reach is as expanded as it is in this budget. The reductions to Families First, and I am sure that the Minister can respond to this, are about how they have been able to manage the development of new services with Families First. Clearly, the evidence as a result of evaluation is key for the budget setting for next year.

Yn amlwg, mae penderfyniadau anodd a phoenus yn gorfod cael eu gwneud o ganlyniad i'r toriad o £1.7 biliwn a wnaeth Llywodraeth glymblaid y DU i gyllideb Llywodraeth Cymru. Mae'n bwysig cydnabod, fel y dywedwch, Aled Roberts, fod gwerthusiad o'n hymyriadau yn allweddol. Dyna pam y dylid croesawu gwerthusiad Dechrau'n Deg yn fawr. Rydym am sicrhau bod y cyrhaeddiad mor eang â chyrhaeddiad y gyllideb hon. Mae'r gostyngiadau i raglen Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf, ac rwy'n siŵr y gall y Gweinidog ymateb i hyn, yn ymwneud â'r ffordd y gwnaethant lwyddo i reoli'r broses o ddatblygu gwasanaethau newydd gyda rhaglen Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf. Yn amlwg, mae'r dystiolaeth a geir yn sgîl gwerthuso yn allweddol o ran pennu'r gyllideb ar gyfer y flwyddyn nesaf.

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13:45 **Mick Antoniw** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, will you make a statement on any discussions that you have had with the Department for Communities and Tackling Poverty with regard to the impact of the bedroom tax on the people of Wales?

Weinidog, a wnewch ddatganiad am unrhyw drafodaethau a gawsoch gyda'r Adran Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi o ran effaith y dreth ystafell wely ar bobl Cymru?

13:45 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

The Welsh Government is particularly concerned about the impact of the welfare reform policies on some of the most vulnerable people in Wales and the economy as a whole. A total of 37,000 households are affected. I very much welcome the fact that the Archbishop of Wales has spoken out on this matter this week. We have a ministerial task and finish group on welfare reform, which has a three-stage programme of research, assessing the impact of the UK Government's welfare reforms. The bedroom tax is just one element of UK welfare reform policy that we are looking at. We are looking at how we can mitigate that. You know that I have made available £20 million of additional funding to support the building of one and two-bedroomed affordable homes by registered social landlords across Wales.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn pryderu'n arbennig am effaith y polisïau diwygio lles ar rai o'r bobl fwyaf agored i niwed yng Nghymru a'r economi yn gyffredinol. Effeithir ar gyfanswm o 37,000 o gartrefi. Croesawaf yn fawr y ffaith bod Archesgob Cymru wedi crybwyll y mater hwn yr wythnos hon. Mae gennym grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen gweinidogol ar ddiwygio lles, ac mae gan y grŵp hwnnw raglen dri cham o waith ymchwil, sy'n asesu effaith diwygiadau lles Llywodraeth y DU. Dim ond un elfen o bolisi diwygio lles y DU rydym yn ei hystyried yw'r dreth ystafell wely. Rydym yn ystyried sut y gallwn liniaru hynny. Gwyddoch fy mod wedi rhyddhau £20 miliwn o arian ychwanegol i gefnogi cynigion gan landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig ledled Cymru i adeiladu cartrefi fforddiadwy un a dwy ystafell wely.

Banc Buddsoddi Ewrop

The European Investment Bank

13:46 **Mike Hedges** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

4. A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu faint o arian y mae sefydliadau a gynorthwyir gan Lywodraeth Cymru yng Nghymru wedi'i fenthyg oddi wrth Fanc Buddsoddi Ewrop? OAQ(4)0313(FIN)

4. Will the Minister outline how much money has been borrowed from the European Investment Bank by Welsh Government supported organisations in Wales? OAQ(4)0313(FIN)

13:46 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

The European Investment Bank has invested significant sums in the Welsh economy over the past 20 years. More than €1.2 billion has been invested specifically in Welsh-based projects, with a share for Wales of a further €3.6 billion of investment at the UK level.

Mae Banc Buddsoddi Ewrop wedi buddsoddi symiau sylweddol yn economi Cymru dros yr ugain mlynedd diwethaf. Buddsoddwyd mwy na €1.2 biliwn yn benodol mewn prosiectau yng Nghymru, gyda Chymru hefyd yn cael cyfran o €3.6 biliwn ar lefel y DU.

13:46 **Mike Hedges** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

What is the Welsh Government doing to promote further borrowing from the European Investment Bank in Wales? How do the borrowing rates compare with that from the Public Works Loan Board?

Beth mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i hybu benthyca pellach gan Fanc Buddsoddi Ewrop yng Nghymru? Sut mae'r cyfraddau benthyca yn cymharu â chyfraddau'r Bwrdd Benthyciadau Gwaith Cyhoeddus?

13:46 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I thank Mike Hedges for that question. The Public Works Loan Board typically offers, as I am sure he knows, the cheapest financing rates for UK public authorities who want to borrow for investment. That is, of course, those that have the power to borrow. We do not yet have the power to borrow, although we anticipate that power being delivered as soon as possible. However, EIB rates reflect the specific risk profile of the deal being done. If you have borrowed through the European Investment Bank, it is a very strong signal to other investors. We are engaging with the EIB; I met the UK vice-president, Jonathan Taylor, last month, and he is coming to Wales in the spring. We will then be working with it to ensure that we can enhance EIB involvement.

Diolch i Mike Hedges am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Y Bwrdd Benthyciadau Gwaith Cyhoeddus fel arfer, fel y bydd mae'n siŵr yn ei wybod, sy'n cynnig y cyfraddau cyllido rhataf i awdurdodau cyhoeddus yn y DU sydd am fenthyca er mwyn buddsoddi. Hynny yw, wrth gwrs, y rhai sydd â'r pŵer i fenthyca. Nid oes gennym y pŵer i fenthyca eto, er ein bod yn rhagweld y caiff y pŵer ei roi cyn gynted â phosibl. Fodd bynnag, mae cyfraddau Banc Buddsoddi Ewrop yn adlewyrchu proffil risg penodol y ddêl dan sylw. Os byddwch wedi benthyca drwy Fanc Buddsoddi Ewrop, mae'n arwydd cryf iawn i fuddsoddwyr eraill. Rydym yn ymgysylltu â BBE; cyfarfûm ag is-lywydd y DU, Jonathan Taylor, fis diwethaf, ac mae'n dod i Gymru yn y gwanwyn. Byddwn yn gweithio gydag ef bryd hynny i sicrhau y gallwn wella cyfranogiad BBE.

13:47 **Nick Ramsay** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, this is a very pertinent and timely question from Mike Hedges. How do you intend to improve the rates of borrowing that we receive from the European Investment Bank? I hear what you are saying about money that is coming to Wales from the bank in a UK package, but if you look at the Welsh figures, I think I am right in saying that, between 2007 and 2011, we received around a quarter of the money that went to Scotland. This is clearly a deficit. When I was on the Finance Committee, in a previous role, we looked at the amount of funding that other countries have received from the EIB. If you look at Slovakia and Croatia—

Weinidog, mae hwn yn gwestiwn perthnasol ac amserol iawn gan Mike Hedges. Sut rydych yn bwriadu gwella'r cyfraddau benthyca a gawn gan Fanc Buddsoddi Ewrop? Deallaf yr hyn a ddywedwch o ran arian sy'n dod i Gymru o'r banc mewn pecyn i'r DU gyfan, ond os edrychwch ar ffigurau Cymru, credaf fy mod yn iawn dweud mai dim ond tua chwarter yr arian a gafodd yr Alban a gawsom yma yng Nghymru rhwng 2007 a 2011. Mae hyn yn amlwg yn ddiffyg. Pan oeddwn yn aelod o'r Pwyllgor Cyllid, fel rhan o rôl flaenorol, gwnaethom ystyried swm y cyllid y mae gwledydd eraill wedi'i gael gan BBE. Os edrychwch ar Slofacia a Croatia—

13:48 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I hope a question is coming.

Gobeithio bod cwestiwn ar ddod.

13:48 **Nick Ramsay** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

It certainly is. It is a very important point. Slovakia has had motorways built and bridges have been built in Croatia. Would you accept that we have not accessed enough funding from the EIB in the past? Will you please put policies into place to make sure that we access that full amount, so that we do not always talk about borrowing from other sources, when there is money there that we really could be receiving?

Ydy, yn sicr. Mae'n bwynt pwysig iawn. Adeiladwyd traffyrdd yn Slofacia ac adeiladwyd pontydd yn Croatia. A fyddech yn derbyn nad ydym wedi cael digon o arian gan BBE yn y gorffennol? A wnewch chi roi polisïau ar waith i wneud yn siŵr ein bod yn cael gafael ar y swm llawn hwnnw, fel na fyddwn bob amser yn trafod benthyca o ffynonellau eraill, pan fo arian ar gael y gallem fod yn ei ddefnyddio?

13:48 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I am sure that Nick Ramsay will not be surprised when I ask him to assist us by ensuring that we get our borrowing powers and making sure that that message goes back to his Government in Westminster. If we had borrowing powers, we would be making use of the European Investment Bank. At that meeting, we had an update on more recent investments, which included, for example, a £30 million-facility in support of the research and development programme of Norgine, a pharmaceutical company with research facilities at Hengoed.

Rwy'n siŵr na fydd Nick Ramsay yn synnu pan ofynnaf iddo ein helpu drwy sicrhau ein bod yn cael ein pwerau benthyca a gwneud yn siŵr bod y neges yn cael ei chyfleu i'w Lywodraeth yn San Steffan. Pe bai gennym bwerau benthyca, byddem yn defnyddio Banc Buddsoddi Ewrop. Yn y cyfarfod hwnnw, clywsom y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am fuddsoddiadau mwy diweddar, a oedd yn cynnwys, er enghraifft, cyfleuster gwerth £30 miliwn i gefnogi rhaglen ymchwil a datblygu Norgine, cwmni fferyllol gyda chyfleusterau ymchwil yn Hengoed.

13:49 **Simon Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Weinidog, yn ystod y misoedd diwethaf mae Rhodri Glyn a Phwyllgor y Rhanbarthau—a chithau, i fod yn deg—wedi bod yn hyrwyddo Banc Buddsoddi Ewrop llawer mwy. Mae'n dda gweld bod y banc nawr yn dod i Gymru i edrych ar y posibiliadau fan hyn. A allwch chi esbonio pa ddarpariaeth rydych wedi'i gwneud yn y gyllideb ddrafft ar gyfer defnydd posibl o'r banc yma? Pa fath o oblygiadau fydd yn codi os caiff—neu, yn hytrach, pan gaiff—Llywodraeth Cymru yr hawl i fenthyg, o safbwynt ymwneud â Banc Buddsoddi Ewrop?

Minister, over the past few months Rhodri Glyn and the Committee of the Regions—and you, to be fair—have been promoting the European Investment Bank far more. It is good to see that the bank is now coming to Wales to look at the possibilities here. Can you explain what provision you have made in the draft budget for possible use of the investment bank? What kind of implications would there be if—or, rather, when—the Welsh Government has the right to borrow, in terms of relations with the European Investment Bank?

13:50 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you for your recognition, Simon Thomas, of the action that we are taking. I have acknowledged the role that Rhodri Glyn Thomas has played in the Committee of the Regions, and following through with my recent meetings.

Diolch, Simon Thomas, am gydnabod y camau rydym yn eu cymryd. Rwyf wedi cydnabod y rôl a chwaraeodd Rhodri Glyn Thomas ym Mhwyllgor y Rhanbarthau, ac wrth wneud gwaith dilynol ar fy nghyfarfodydd diweddar.

One of the opportunities that we have in terms of the draft budget and, indeed, the next phase of European programmes, is to ensure that we can use opportunities through the European structural funds. We continue to engage with private sector match funders to explore potential options for the 2014-20 programme. Therefore, those financial instruments, like JEREMIE, are very important to us. On moving forward with the opportunities for borrowing as a result of the positive response—we hope—to the Silk commission, we can move forward in terms of our portfolio relating to our Wales infrastructure investment plan.

Un o'r cyfleoedd sydd gennym o ran y gyllideb ddrafft ac, yn wir, cam nesaf rhaglenni Ewrop, yw sicrhau y gallwn ddefnyddio cyfleoedd drwy'r cronfeydd strwythurol Ewropeaidd. Rydym yn parhau i ymgysylltu ag arianwyr cyfatebol yn y sector preifat i ystyried opsiynau posibl ar gyfer rhaglen 2014-20. Felly, mae'r offerynnau ariannol hynny, megis JEREMIE, yn bwysig iawn inni. O ran symud ymlaen â'r cyfleoedd ar gyfer benthyca yn sgil yr ymateb cadarnhaol—gobeithio—i gomisiwn Silk, gallwn symud ymlaen o ran y portffolio sy'n gysylltiedig â chynllun buddsoddi yn seilwaith Cymru.

13:50

Simon Thomas Bywgraffiad Biography

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Fideo Video

Wrth drafod gyda nifer o sefydliadau yn ddiweddar, yn y sector gyhoeddus yng Nghymru yn benodol, mae'n amlwg nad yw nifer ohonynt yn gweld Banc Buddsoddi Ewrop fel ffynhonnell iddynt hwy, ac efallai, weithiau, nad oes ganddynt yr uchelgais i estyn at y banc. Mae enghreifftiau da—mae Prifysgol Abertawe yn enghraifft ddiweddar o ddefnyddio'r banc hwnnw. Pa waith y mae'r Llywodraeth yn gallu ei wneud, wrth baratoi ar gyfer hawliau benthyg yn sgîl trafodaethau Silk a defnyddio'r banc, i sicrhau bod cyrff cyhoeddus Cymru yn ymwybodol o'r banc hwn a bod ganddynt ddigon o uchelgais i fentro benthyg gan y banc?

In recent discussions with a number of organisations, specifically in the public sector in Wales, it is clear that many of them do not see the European Investment Bank as a source of funding for them, and perhaps they do not always have the ambition to approach the bank. There are good examples—Swansea University is a recent example of making use of the bank. What work can the Government do, in preparation for borrowing rights as a result of Silk and for the use of the bank, to ensure that public bodies in Wales are aware of the bank and have sufficient ambition to take a chance and borrow from the bank?

13:51

Jane Hutt Bywgraffiad Biography

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Fideo Video

There are opportunities for local government, as well as for other public and private sector bodies in terms of the EIB. It is important that we go back to Mike's original point about the cost and the financing rates when going to the Public Works Loan Board or the EIB. However, we can use this opportunity now as a result of my initiative with the European Investment Bank to promote this with our partners in the public sector and to look to our own pipeline portfolio.

Mae cyfleoedd i lywodraeth leol, yn ogystal â chyrff eraill yn y sector cyhoeddus a phreifat o ran BBE. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn dychwelyd at bwynt gwreiddiol Mike am y gost a'r cyfraddau ariannu sy'n gysylltiedig â'r Bwrdd Benthyciadau Gwaith Cyhoeddus neu BBE. Fodd bynnag, gallwn achub ar y cyfle hwn yn awr o ganlyniad i'm menter gyda Banc Buddsoddi Ewrop i hyrwyddo hyn gyda'n partneriaid yn y sector cyhoeddus ac i ystyried ein portffolio piblinell ni ein hunain.

Portffolio Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol

Health and Social Services Portfolio

13:52

Paul Davies Bywgraffiad Biography

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5. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddyraniad cyffredinol y gyllideb i'r portffolio Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol? OAQ(4)0312(FIN)

5. Will the Minister make a statement on the overall budget allocation for the Health and Social Services portfolio? OAQ(4)0312(FIN)

13:52

Jane Hutt Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv
Fideo Video

The budget for 2014-15, as announced in the draft budget for health and social services, is nearly £6.4 billion, consisting of almost £6.1 billion revenue and £282 million capital.

Mae'r gyllideb ar gyfer 2014-15, fel y cyhoeddwyd yn y gyllideb ddrafft ar gyfer iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, bron yn £6.4 miliwn, sy'n cynnwys bron i £6.1 miliwn o refeniw a £282 miliwn o gyfalaf.

13:52 **Paul Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I am grateful to the Minister for that answer. The Minister will be aware that the NHS finances Bill is making its way through the legislative process. Given LHBs' substantial budgets, it might be appropriate that they are given the ability to borrow to finance some capital projects. The Minister for Health and Social Services has indicated that he can see the benefit of giving them this ability. In the circumstances, could the Minister tell us what discussions, if any, she has had with her colleague, the Minister for health on this particular issue?

Rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog am yr ateb hwnnw. Bydd y Gweinidog yn ymwybodol bod Bil cyllid y GIG ar ei hynt drwy'r broses ddeddfwriaethol. O ystyried cyllidebau sylweddol BILlau, gallai fod yn briodol iddynt allu benthyca i ariannu rhai prosiectau cyfalaf. Mae'r Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol wedi nodi y gall weld manteision rhoi'r gallu hwn iddynt. O dan yr amgylchiadau, a allai'r Gweinidog ddweud wrthym pa drafodaethau, os o gwbl, y mae wedi'u cael gyda'i chyd-Aelod, y Gweinidog iechyd ar y mater penodol hwn?

13:53 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Yes. We have held discussions already and will continue to do so, as we have to look at every flexibility and opportunity in terms of sustaining our NHS health finance.

Gallaf. Rydym eisoes wedi cynnal trafodaethau a byddwn yn parhau i wneud hynny, gan fod yn rhaid inni ystyried pob hyblygrwydd a chyfle o ran cynnal cyllid iechyd y GIG.

13:53 **Elin Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, do you consider it an efficient use of a scarce NHS resource when orthopaedic surgeons and surgical staff in the Hywel Dda area will be severely underutilised and underemployed with the postponement of elective operations for four months of this financial year, while waiting lists will continue to grow? How can you consider this an efficient use of your resources?

Weinidog, a ydych o'r farn bod y ffaith y caiff llawfeddygon orthopedig a staff llawfeddygol yn ardal Hywel Dda eu tanddefnyddio a'u tangyflogi yn ddifrifol yn sgil gohirio llawdriniaethau dewisol am bedwar mis o'r flwyddyn ariannol hon, tra y bydd rhestrau aros yn parhau i gynyddu, yn ddefnydd effeithlon o un o adnoddau prin y GIG? Sut y gallwch honni bod hyn yn ddefnydd effeithlon o'ch adnoddau?

13:53 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

The Hywel Dda health board is not cancelling all non-urgent, elective, orthopaedic surgery. It is an operational issue, but the Minister for health, I am sure, will respond in full in due course to clarify the position.

Nid yw bwrdd iechyd Hywel Dda yn canslo pob llawdriniaeth orthopedig ddewisol, nad yw'n achos brys. Mater gweithredol ydyw, ond gwnaiff y Gweinidog iechyd, rwy'n siŵr, ymateb yn llawn maes o law er mwyn egluro'r sefyllfa.

13:54 **Kirsty Williams** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Arweinydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru / The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats

Could the Minister update the Assembly on any discussions that she has had with the Minister for health to identify the £5 million-worth of capital investment that would allow for the refurbishment of Llandrindod Wells hospital, allowing more patients from Brecon and Radnor to be treated in-county and thus making savings on the revenue budget?

A allai'r Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i'r Cynulliad am unrhyw drafodaethau y mae wedi'u cael gyda'r Gweinidog iechyd er mwyn dod o hyd i'r buddsoddiad cyfalaf gwerth £5 miliwn a fyddai'n caniatáu i ysbyty Llandrindod gael ei adnewyddu, gan alluogi i fwy o gleifion o Frycheiniog a Maesyfed gael eu trin yn y sir ac felly wneud arbedion ar y gyllideb refeniw?

13:54 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I will certainly update with the Minister for health on that point.

Byddaf yn sicr yn rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y pwynt hwnnw ar y cyd â'r Gweinidog iechyd.

Portffolio Cyfoeth Naturiol a Bwyd

Natural Resources and Food Portfolio

13:54 **Llyr Gruffydd** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

6. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y dyraniad cyllideb drafft i'r portffolio Cyfoeth Naturiol a Bwyd ar gyfer 2014-15? OAQ(4)0328(FIN)

6. Will the Minister make a statement on the draft budget allocation for the Natural Resources and Food portfolio for 2014-15? OAQ(4)328(FIN)

13:54 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Dyraniad y gyllideb ddrafft ar gyfer cyfoeth naturiol a bwyd yn 2014-15 yw £419 miliwn.

The draft budget allocation for natural resources and food stands at £419 million in 2014-15.

13:54

Llyr Gruffydd Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Mae'r Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol a Bwyd heddiw wedi cyhoeddi Papur Gwyn ar y Bil amgylchedd ac, yn y Papur Gwyn hwnnw, mae argymhellion ynglŷn ag ychwanegu at gyfrifoldebau a phwerau Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru. Fodd bynnag, yn y gyllideb ar gyfer y flwyddyn pan fydd y Bil hwn, mae'n debyg, yn cael ei fabwysiadu, mae toriad yn y gyllideb refeniw o £8 miliwn, sydd yn 11.5% o doriad mewn termau real. A allwch chi roi gwybod i ni a yw'n fwriad gan y Llywodraeth i ddyrannu cyllideb ychwanegol i Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru er mwyn diwallu'r pwysau ychwanegol a fydd yn dod yn sgîl y cyfrifoldebau ychwanegol hyn?

The Minister for Natural Resources and food has today published a White Paper on the environment Bill and, in that White Paper, there are recommendations regarding adding to the responsibilities and powers of Natural Resources Wales. However, in the budget for the year when this Bill is likely to be adopted, there is a cut in the revenue budget of £8 million, which is an 11.5% cut in real terms. Can you tell us whether it is your Government's intention to provide an additional budget allocation to Natural Resources Wales to meet the additional pressures that will come as a result of these additional responsibilities?

13:55

Jane Hutt Bywgraffiad Biography

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The draft budget for natural resources and food stands at £419 million, as I have said, for 2014-15. That is a total resources DEL of £416 million in terms of revenue and capital and, of course, there is annually managed expenditure as well. Therefore, there is an increase in the DEL allocation for natural resources and food, and I would expect the Minister to manage within that MEG.

Fel y dywedais, pennwyd cyllideb ddrafft o £419 miliwn i gyfoeth naturiol a bwyd ar gyfer 2014-15, sef cyfanswm terfyn gwariant adnoddau adrannol o £416 miliwn yn nhermau refeniw a chyfalaf ac, wrth gwrs, gwariant a reolir yn flynyddol hefyd. Felly, mae cynnydd yn y dyraniad terfyn gwariant adrannol ar gyfer cyfoeth naturiol a bwyd, a byddwn yn disgwyl i'r Gweinidog ymdopi o fewn y prif grŵp gwariant hwnnw.

15:56

Antoinette Sandbach Bywgraffiad Biography

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The Minister for Natural Resources and Food has been very unclear as to where the £6 million for a wildlife management scheme, announced following on from the 'State of Nature' report, is to be sourced from within his portfolio. First, it was to come from headroom within the rural development plan budget, and then he confirmed that he had not had confirmation from you about this headroom. He then claimed that it was included on an unrelated BEL in the 2014-20 RDP. Minister, are you able to clarify where this £6 million is being sourced from, and have you now agreed with the Minister that the headroom identified within the rural development plan can be retained within the natural resources and food portfolio?

Bu'r Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol a Bwyd yn aneglur iawn o ran o ble y daw'r £6 miliwn ar gyfer cynllun rheoli bywyd gwyllt, a gyhoeddwyd yn dilyn adroddiad 'Sefyllfa Byd Natur' o fewn ei bortffolio. Yn gyntaf, roedd yn dod o arian ychwanegol wrth gefn o fewn cyllideb y cynllun datblygu gwledig, ac yna cadarnhaodd nad oedd wedi cael cadarnhad gennych chi am yr arian ychwanegol hwn. Wedyn honnodd ei fod wedi'i gynnwys o fewn llinell wariant amherthnasol yn y gyllideb o fewn Cynllun Datblygu Gwledig 2014-20. Weinidog, a allwch egluro o ble y daw'r £6 miliwn hwn, ac a ydych bellach wedi cytuno gyda'r Gweinidog y gellir cadw'r arian ychwanegol a nodwyd o fewn y cynllun datblygu gwledig o fewn y portffolio cyfoeth naturiol a bwyd?

13:56

Jane Hutt Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

These initiatives, which, of course, are part of the 'State of Nature' report, will be funded through the natural resources and food portfolio.

Caiff y mentrau hyn, sydd, wrth gwrs, yn rhan o'r adroddiad 'Sefyllfa Byd Natur', eu hariannu drwy'r portffolio cyfoeth naturiol a bwyd.

13:57

William Powell Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, word may have reached you of the considerable disappointment and dissatisfaction felt by the Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Committee and, indeed, my colleagues around the table at last week's meeting in terms of the timeliness and level of detail of the papers that were in front of us. Will you please reassure us that you work closely with departmental colleagues to ensure that such papers do not present a barrier to effective scrutiny, which we experienced last week?

Weinidog, efallai y byddwch wedi clywed am siom ac anfodlonrwydd sylweddol Cadeirydd Pwyllgor yr Amgylchedd a Chynaliadwyedd ac, yn wir, fy nghyd-Aelodau o gwmpas y bwrdd yn y cyfarfod yr wythnos diwethaf o ran amseroldeb a lefel manylder y papurau a oedd ger ein bron. A wnewch ein sicrhau eich bod yn gweithio'n agos gyda'ch cyd-Aelodau adrannol i sicrhau nad yw papurau o'r fath yn rhwystr i broses graffu effeithiol, fel y digwyddodd yr wythnos diwethaf?

13:57

Jane Hutt Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I am sure your points have been made.

Rwy'n siŵr eich bod wedi cyflwyno eich pwyntiau.

Y Cynllun Buddsoddi i Arbed | **Invest-to-save Scheme**

13:57 **Sandy Mewies** Bywgraffiad Biography

7. A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y cynllun Buddsoddi i Arbed? OAQ(4)0322(FIN)

7. Will the Minister provide an update on the Invest to Save scheme? OAQ(4)0322(FIN)

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

13:57 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

I opened round 8 of the fund on 8 October, with £19 million available for new public service improvement and efficiency projects. I also published the 'Investing-to-Save 4' report, including five new case studies and a full directory of projects supported by the fund to date.

Agorais rownd 8 o'r gronfa ar 8 Hydref, ac mae £19 miliwn ar gael ar gyfer gwelliannau newydd i wasanaethau cyhoeddus a phrosiectau effeithlonrwydd. Cyhoeddais hefyd adroddiad 'Buddsoddi i Arbed 4', gan gynnwys pump astudiaeth achos newydd a chyfeiriadur llawn o'r prosiectau a gefnogwyd gan y gronfa hyd yn hyn.

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

13:58 **Sandy Mewies** Bywgraffiad Biography

It is clear that the fund has already proved to be beneficial in supporting our public services and, of course, they have to be even more efficient and effective in view of the cuts to our budget by the UK coalition Government in Westminster. Therefore, it is effective, but, Minister, how are we ensuring that the bidding for the fund comes from all over Wales?

Mae'n amlwg bod y gronfa eisoes wedi bod o fudd wrth gefnogi ein gwasanaethau cyhoeddus ac, wrth gwrs, rhaid iddynt fod hyd yn oed yn fwy effeithlon ac effeithiol o ystyried y toriadau i'n cyllideb gan Lywodraeth glymblaid y DU yn San Steffan. Felly, mae'n effeithiol, ond, Weinidog, sut y gallwn sicrhau bod y gronfa yn cael ceisiadau o bob cwr o Gymru?

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

13:58 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

I thank Sandy Mewies for that question, because we have to take forward, and we are taking forward, the recommendations of the Finance Committee's review on invest to save. We are promoting the use of the fund across Wales through the finance leadership network and the north Wales regional partnership board, for example. I have used those opportunities recently when I have met with those key stakeholders. Also, we are having regional presentations and workshops around the country with local government and the NHS, and we are using other networks such as the finance leadership network and the national assets working group.

Diolch i Sandy Mewies am y cwestiwn hwnnw, oherwydd rhaid inni roi argymhellion adolygiad y Pwyllgor Cyllid ar fuddsoddi i arbed ar waith, ac rydym wrthi'n gwneud hynny. Rydym yn hyrwyddo'r defnydd o'r gronfa ledled Cymru drwy'r rhwydwaith arweiniad ariannol a bwrdd partneriaeth ranbarthol gogledd Cymru, er enghraifft. Defnyddiais yr enghreifftiau hynny yn ddiweddar mewn cyfarfodydd gyda'r rhanddeiliaid allweddol hynny. Hefyd, rydym yn cynnal cyflwyniadau a gweithdai rhanbarthol ledled y wlad gyda llywodraeth leol a'r GIG, ac rydym yn defnyddio rhwydweithiau eraill megis y rhwydwaith arweiniad ariannol a'r gweithgor asedau cenedlaethol.

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

13:59 **William Graham** Bywgraffiad Biography

The fund is to transform the operational efficiency of public services and generate significant cash-releasing efficiency savings, which are all very welcome. Minister, can you identify how the significant cash released has impacted on our public services?

Nod y gronfa yw trawsnewid effeithlonrwydd gweithredol gwasanaethau cyhoeddus a chreu arbedion effeithlonrwydd sy'n rhyddhau arian parod sylweddol, sydd oll yn dderbyniol iawn. Weinidog, a allwch nodi sut y mae'r arian parod sylweddol a ryddhawyd wedi effeithio ar ein gwasanaethau cyhoeddus?

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

13:59 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

The impact on our public services is very clear on a project-by-project basis, particularly looking at the ways in which, for example, there has been £5.92 million to pump-prime the new national procurement service, £354,000 to support Aneurin Bevan health board with the introduction of laundry linen tracking arrangements to reduce losses, and £90,000 towards establishing collaborative local government farm estate services. The impact of that, in terms of not just cash release, but the transformation of service delivery is clear.

Mae'r effaith ar ein gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yn eglur iawn ar sail prosiectau unigol, yn enwedig o ystyried sut y darparwyd, er enghraifft, £5.92 miliwn i ysgogi'r gwasanaeth caffael cenedlaethol newydd, £354,000 i helpu bwrdd iechyd Aneurin Bevan i gyflwyno trefniadau olrhain golch er mwyn lleihau colledion, a £90,000 tuag at sefydlu gwasanaethau ystadau fferm ar y cyd o fewn llywodraeth leol. Mae effaith hynny, nid yn unig o ran rhyddhau arian parod, ond hefyd o ran trawsnewid y ffordd y caiff gwasanaethau eu darparu yn eglur.

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:00 **Bethan Jenkins** Bywgraffiad Biography

Minister, given that you have already handed out over £70 million of this fund, could you tell us how many projects in my region have benefitted from it? I ask because when Bridgend County Borough Council was planning to transfer its sporting facilities to a private firm, I suggested that it looked at invest-to-save, but the council rejected that. I wonder whether you can make me understand why this is not an option for some schemes when it has been for other schemes.

Weinidog, o gofio eich bod eisoes wedi dosbarthu dros £70 miliwn o'r gronfa hon, a allech ddweud wrthym faint o brosiectau yn fy rhanbarth y bu o fudd iddynt? Gofynnaf hyn oherwydd pan oedd Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr yn cynllunio i drosglwyddo ei gyfleusterau chwaraeon i gwmni preifat, awgrymais y dylai ystyried buddsoddi-i-arbed, ond gwrthododd y cyngor yr opsiwn hwnnw. Tybed a allwch egluro pam nad yw hyn yn opsiwn i rai cynlluniau ond y bu'n opsiwn i gynlluniau eraill.

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:00 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Clearly, there have to be proposals and bids coming forward from local government, the health service or other public sector bodies. We have a number of pan-Wales schemes, which will benefit your constituency, but I will certainly share the beneficiaries from the invest-to-save fund so far in your constituency.

Yn amlwg, rhaid cael cynigion a cheisiadau gan lywodraeth leol, y gwasanaeth iechyd neu gyrff eraill yn y sector cyhoeddus. Mae gennym nifer o gynlluniau Cymru gyfan, a fydd o fudd i'ch etholaeth, ond yn sicr, gallaf eich hysbysu am fuddiolwyr y gronfa buddsoddi-i-arbed hyd yma yn eich etholaeth.

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Cyllido Prosiectau Cyfalaf

Funding Capital Projects

14:00 **Julie Morgan** Bywgraffiad Biography

8. Pa gynlluniau sydd gan y Gweinidog i gyflwyno dulliau arloesol o gyllido prosiectau cyfalaf? OAQ(4)0318(FIN)

8. What plans does the Minister have to introduce innovative methods of funding capital projects? OAQ(4)0318(FIN)

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:01 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Since the publication of the Wales infrastructure investment plan last year, I have announced over £900 million of innovative investment in our economic and social infrastructure priorities. I am examining the opportunities for further investment.

Ers cyhoeddi'r cynllun buddsoddi yn seilwaith Cymru y llynedd, rwyf wedi cyhoeddi dros £900 miliwn o fuddsoddiad arloesol yn ein blaenoriaethau seilwaith economaidd a chymdeithasol. Rwyf wrthi'n ystyried y cyfleoedd i fuddsoddi ymhellach.

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14:01 **Julie Morgan** Bywgraffiad Biography

I thank the Minister for that response. I was delighted to hear the Minister say in the budget announcement that she would be looking at innovative funding methods to build a new cancer centre at Velindre hospital in my constituency of Cardiff North. Could the Minister tell us what means could be used to raise the approximately £200 million that would be needed? Would she not agree that this would be a great news story for cancer patients and their families in south Wales?

Diolch i'r Gweinidog am yr ymateb hwnnw. Roeddwn yn falch iawn o glywed y Gweinidog yn dweud yng nghyhoeddiad y gyllideb y byddai'n ystyried dulliau ariannu arloesol i adeiladu canolfan ganser newydd yn Ysbyty Felindre yn fy etholaeth i, sef Gogledd Caerdydd. A allai'r Gweinidog ddweud wrthym pa ddulliau y gellid eu defnyddio i godi'r swm o tua £200 miliwn y byddai ei angen? Oni fyddai'n cytuno y byddai hyn yn newyddion da iawn i gleifion canser a'u teuluoedd yn y de?

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14:01 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Yes, I am very glad to respond to the question from Julie Morgan from Cardiff North, whose close engagement with Velindre hospital is renowned. Of course, this is an opportunity to fund a new centre—£200 million in costings are already being developed. The Minister for Health and Social Services has provided some resource to help develop a business case for the proposed investment, which enables us to look at a range of options, including on a non-dividend basis in terms of innovative finance. I hope that the business case will enable us to move forward on this, with a proposal in the early new year.

Ydy, mae'n bleser gennyf ymateb i'r cwestiwn gan Julie Morgan o Ogledd Caerdydd, y mae ei hymgysylltiad agos ag ysbyty Felindre yn glodfawr. Wrth gwrs, mae hwn yn gyfle i ariannu canolfan newydd—mae £200 miliwn mewn costau eisoes wrthi'n cael eu datblygu. Mae'r Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol wedi darparu rhywfaint o adnodd er mwyn helpu i ddatblygu achos busnes ar gyfer y buddsoddiad arfaethedig, sy'n ein galluogi i ystyried amrywiaeth o opsiynau, gan gynnwys sail nad yw'n gysylltiedig â difidendau o ran cyllid arloesol. Gobeithio y bydd yr achos busnes yn ein galluogi i symud ymlaen yn hyn o beth, gyda chynnig ddechrau'r flwyddyn newydd.

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14:02 **Suzy Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Financial partners tend to have greater freedom to work directly with Government-backed arm's-length organisations, rather than with the Government itself. What is your view, therefore, on the suggestion that Cadw should merge with the Royal Commission for Historical Monuments outside of Government rather than within it?

Yn gyffredinol, mae gan bartneriaid ariannol fwy o ryddid i weithio'n uniongyrchol â sefydliadau hyd braich a gefnogir gan y Llywodraeth, yn hytrach na chyda'r Llywodraeth ei hun. Felly, beth yw eich barn ar yr awgrym y dylai Cadw uno gyda Chomisiwn Brenhinol Henebion Cymru y tu allan i'r Llywodraeth yn hytrach nag o fewn iddi?

14:02 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

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That is certainly not a matter for me, as Minister for Finance. I am sure that you will raise it with the relevant Minister in due course.

Yn sicr, nid mater imi, fel y Gweinidog Cyllid, yw hynny. Rwy'n siŵr y gwnewch ei godi gyda'r Gweinidog perthnasol maes o law.

14:03 **Simon Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, Plaid Cymru welcomes the announcement of a capital allocation as a result of the HS2 spending in Westminster. That money will now come to you. It would be absurd, would it not, that money for a high-speed public railway was spent on the M4, for example? Therefore, will you undertake to use this new allocation of capital funds in your innovative non-dividend sharing model, for the hospitals that Julie Morgan mentioned or for schools throughout Wales?

Weinidog, mae Plaid Cymru yn croesawu'r cyhoeddiad y gwneir dyraniad cyfalaf o ganlyniad i wariant HS2 yn San Steffan. Bydd yr arian hwnnw bellach yn dod atoch chi. Oni fyddai'n wirion pe câi'r arian hwnnw ar gyfer rheilffordd gyhoeddus cyflymder uchel ei wario ar yr M4, er enghraifft? Felly, a wnewch ymrwymo i ddefnyddio'r dyraniad arian cyfalaf newydd hwn yn eich model rhannu arloesol nad yw'n gysylltiedig â difidendau, ar gyfer yr ysbytai y cyfeiriodd Julie Morgan atynt neu ar gyfer ysgolion ledled Cymru?

14:03 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I certainly welcome the fact that, in 'Investing in Britain's future' in June, a funding envelope for HS2 was identified. There is no question that, within that funding, we have no idea what our capital budget would be from 2015 to 2016 from the UK Government. The down side of it, as you well know, Simon Thomas, is that we also had cuts to our capital budget—negative consequentials. So, although there is this element attributed to HS2, the net impact of the spending was a reduction in our capital departmental expenditure limit of £48 million, when compared with 2014-15. I certainly have sympathy with the way in which we should use that money. I have identified ways, with Velindre hospital as one option.

Yn sicr, croesawaf y ffaith bod amlen ariannu ar gyfer HS2 wedi'i nodi yn 'Investing in Britain's future' ym mis Mehefin. Nid oes unrhyw amheuaeth, heb yr arian hwnnw, nad oes gennym unrhyw syniad beth fyddai ein cyllideb gyfalaf o 2015 i 2016 gan Lywodraeth y DU. Yr anfantais, fel y gwyddoch yn iawn, Simon Thomas, yw ein bod ni hefyd wedi dioddef toriadau i'n cyllideb gyfalaf—symiau canlyniadol negyddol. Felly, er bod gennym yr elfen sy'n gysylltiedig ag HS2, effaith net y gwariant oedd gostyngiad o £48 miliwn yn ein terfyn gwariant cyfalaf adrannol, o gymharu â 2014-15. Yn sicr, mae gennyf syniadau o ran sut y dylem ddefnyddio'r arian hwnnw. Rwyf wedi nodi opsiynau, ac mae ysbyty Felindre yn un ohonynt.

Grant Bloc

The Block Grant

14:04 **Jocelyn Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

9. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am baratoadau ar gyfer gostyngiadau pellach yn y grant bloc? OAQ(4)0320(FIN)

9. Will the Minister make a statement on preparations for further reductions in the block grant? OAQ(4)0320(FIN)

14:04 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Through our in-year financial management and the budget setting process, we continually assess the potential impact of a range of factors on the Welsh Government's spending plans, including the likelihood of further reductions to our budget as a result of the UK Government's fiscal policy.

Drwy ein rheolaeth ariannol yn ystod y flwyddyn a'r broses o bennu'r gyllideb, rydym yn asesu effaith bosibl ystod o ffactorau ar gynlluniau gwariant Llywodraeth Cymru yn barhaus, gan gynnwys y tebygolrwydd y bydd gostyngiadau pellach i'n cyllideb o ganlyniad i bolisi cyllidol Llywodraeth y DU.

14:04 **Jocelyn Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

I am sure that you have read the Institute for Fiscal Studies' recent report into scenarios for the Welsh block grant. It makes rather grim reading, predicting an unprecedented seven years of retrenchment in public service spend in Wales. I would be interested to hear what steps you are planning. As this country's Minister for Finance, do you think that it is time that you had powers over income as well as expenditure, or are we continually to be at the mercy of the UK Government?

Rwy'n siŵr eich bod wedi darllen adroddiad diweddar y Sefydliad Astudiaethau Cyllid i senarios ar gyfer grant bloc Cymru. Mae'n ddeunydd darllen llwm, gan ragweld cyfnod digynsail o saith mlynedd o doriadau o ran gwariant ar wasanaethau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru. Byddai diddordeb gennyf glywed pa gamau rydych yn bwriadu eu cymryd. Fel Gweinidog Cyllid y wlad, a gredwch ei bod yn bryd ichi gael pwerau dros incwm yn ogystal â gwariant, neu a fyddwn yn dibynnu'n barhaus ar drugaredd Llywodraeth y DU?

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:05 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

We certainly feel that we are at the mercy of fluctuations and changes in the continuing ill-advised austerity policies of the UK Government. We have always said that it has cut too deep and too fast. We have done everything that we can to protect our budget and to be very clear about our priorities. The IFS scenarios are indeed grim, in terms of future prospects. So, we need more control over our income source; that is absolutely clear. That is why we also need a speedy response on the Silk commission.

Yn sicr, rydym yn teimlo bod amrywiadau a newidiadau ym mholisïau caledi annoeth parhaus Llywodraeth y DU yn cael dylanwad parhaus arnom. Rydym wedi dweud erioed ei bod wedi gwneud toriadau yn rhy ddwfn ac yn rhy gyflym. Gwnaethom bopeth o fewn ein gallu i ddiogelu ein cyllideb ac i fod yn eglur iawn am ein blaenoriaethau. Mae senarios y Sefydliad Astudiaethau Cyllid yn wirioneddol llwm, o ran rhagolygon ar gyfer y dyfodol. Felly, mae angen mwy o reolaeth arnom dros ein ffynhonnell incwm; mae hynny'n gwbl eglur. Dyna pam bod angen ymateb cyflym arnom hefyd mewn perthynas â chomisiwn Silk.

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14:06 **Andrew R.T. Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid / The Leader of the Opposition

With the challenges that all public sector organisations face, it is incumbent on all of those organisations, particularly Welsh Government, to maximise the resources that they have available to them. Would you join me in commending my colleague Byron Davies on the work that he has done in bringing to the public's attention the work of the regeneration investment fund for Wales and what went on in RIFW? When will the Government make a statement that analyses exactly how such a massive public loss has occurred, and the revenue that could have been generated for Welsh Government to fund so many of our public services?

Gyda'r heriau y mae pob sefydliad yn y sector cyhoeddus yn eu hwynebu, mae dyletswydd ar bob un o'r sefydliadau hynny, yn enwedig Llywodraeth Cymru, i wneud y gorau o'r adnoddau sydd ar gael iddynt. A ymunwch â mi i ganmol fy nghyd-Aelod Byron Davies am y gwaith a wnaed ganddo wrth dynnu sylw'r cyhoedd at waith cronfa buddsoddi Cymru mewn adfywio a'r hyn a ddigwyddodd mewn perthynas â'r gronfa honno? Pryd bydd y Llywodraeth yn gwneud datganiad sy'n dadansoddi sut yn union y digwyddodd colled gyhoeddus mor aruthrol, a'r refeniw y gellid bod wedi'i gynhyrchu er mwyn i Lywodraeth Cymru ariannu cymaint o'n gwasanaethau cyhoeddus?

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14:06 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

I am pleased to respond to the Member for South Wales Central, and to say to him that the Minister for Housing and Regeneration, Carl Sargeant, has made a statement on RIFW. What is important, as far as I am concerned in terms of my financial responsibilities, is that we ensure that we can put the European funding that was going to be allocated to projects to good use on those projects that will benefit regeneration investment.

Mae'n bleser gennyf ymateb i'r Aelod dros Ganol De Cymru, ac i ddweud wrtho fod y Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio, Carl Sargeant, wedi gwneud datganiad ar y gronfa honno. Yr hyn sy'n bwysig, hyd y gwelaf i o ran fy nghyfrifoldebau ariannol, yw ein bod yn sicrhau y gallwn ddefnyddio'r arian Ewropeaidd y byddid wedi'i ddyrannu i brosiectau mewn ffordd ddoeth ar y prosiectau hynny a fydd o fudd o ran buddsoddi mewn adfywio.

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Adroddiad Cyntaf Comisiwn Silk

Silk Commission's First Report

14:07 **Alun Ffred Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

11. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am drafodaethau Llywodraeth Cymru gyda Llywodraeth y DU ynglyn â gweithredu'r argymhellion yn adroddiad cyntaf Comisiwn Silk? OAQ(4)0317(FIN)

11. Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Government's discussions with the UK Government regarding the implementation of the recommendations in the Silk Commission's first report? OAQ(4)0317(FIN)

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:07 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Y Gweinidog Cyllid / The Minister for Finance

Discussions with the UK Government are continuing. I am urging an ambitious response to the Silk commission's first report, and on early access to borrowing.

Mae trafodaethau gyda Llywodraeth y DU yn mynd rhagddynt. Anogaf ymateb uchelgeisiol i adroddiad cyntaf comisiwn Silk, ac ar fynediad cynnar i drefniadau benthyca.

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14:07 **Alun Ffred Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

Mae cytundeb rhwng y pleidiau yn y Cynulliad bod angen gweithredu argymhellion rhan gyntaf comisiwn Silk, ond nid oes gair gan Lywodraeth San Steffan. Mae hynny'n adlewyrchu'n wael ar y Torïaid a'r Rhyddfrydwyr Democrataidd, ond beth y mae'n ei ddweud am ddylanwad Llywodraeth Cymru? Pa mor gadarn fuoch chi yn gosod achos Cymru i'r Llywodraeth yn San Steffan, a pham nad ydych wedi llwyddo i gael y Llywodraeth i ymateb yn gadarnhaol hyd yn hyn?

There is cross-party agreement in the Assembly that the recommendations of part one of the Silk commission need to be implemented, but there is no word from the Westminster Government. That reflects badly on the Tories and the Liberal Democrats, but what does it tell us about the influence of the Welsh Government? How stridently have you set out the Welsh case to the Westminster Government, and why have you not succeeded in getting the Government to respond positively to date?

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14:08 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

I would say that there is not just agreement between these parties. We must promote and acknowledge today that there is agreement across this Senedd from all parties on the recommendations of Silk 1. There is also very strong agreement from business. I know that Members will have welcomed the statement from business organisations—the Federation of Small Businesses, Confederation of British Industry Wales, the Institute of Directors Wales—in the council for economic renewal communiqué, saying that they also, as an independent force and voice, are calling on the UK Government to respond to the Silk commission. It is a year ago tomorrow that Danny Alexander and the Secretary of State for Wales came to Wales to acknowledge that we had come to an agreement about early access to borrowing and on a fairer funding settlement for Wales. Throughout the past year, we have been pressing for it. It is not here that there are problems, as the First Minister said. It is the UK Government. We expect and hope for a response speedily.

Byddwn yn dweud nad dim ond cytundeb sydd rhwng y pleidiau hyn. Rhaid inni hyrwyddo a chydnabod heddiw fod cytundeb ar draws y Senedd hon o bob plaid ar argymhellion Silk 1. Mae cytundeb cryf iawn o du busnes hefyd. Gwn y bydd Aelodau wedi croesawu'r datganiad gan sefydliadau busnes—y Ffederasiwn Busnesau Bach, Cydffederasiwn Diwydiant Prydain yng Nghymru, Sefydliad Cyfarwyddwyr Cymru—yn hysbysiad cyngor adnewyddu'r economi, yn datgan eu bod hefyd, fel grym a llais annibynnol, yn galw ar Lywodraeth y DU i ymateb i gomisiwn Silk. Yfory, bydd blwyddyn ers i Danny Alexander ac Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru ddod i Gymru i gydnabod ein bod wedi dod i gytundeb ynghylch mynediad cynnar i drefniadau benthyca ac ar setliad ariannu tecach i Gymru. Drwy gydol y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, rydym wedi bod yn pwyso am ymateb. Nid fan hyn y mae'r problemau, fel y dywedodd y Prif Weinidog. Llywodraeth y DU yw'r broblem. Rydym yn disgwyl ac yn gobeithio am ymateb yn gyflym.

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14:09 **Andrew R.T. Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Minister for Finance, one of the key arguments that was put forward by Silk was around air passenger duty. I was very impressed when I went to Northern Ireland at the evidence that had been accumulated in support of the aviation industry, particularly flights out of Northern Irish airports. What work has the Welsh Government put together to support this recommendation from Silk, and are you in a position to disclose that, so that Members can see if it would have a real benefit in attracting new flights to Cardiff airport?

Weinidog Cyllid, roedd a wnelo un o'r dadleuon allweddol a gyflwynwyd gan Silk â'r doll teithwyr awyr. Pan euthum i Ogledd Iwerddon, fe'm trawyd gan y dystiolaeth a gasglwyd i gefnogi'r diwydiant awyrennau, yn enwedig llwybrau hedfan allan o feysydd awyr Gogledd Iwerddon. Pa waith y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'i gasglu ynghyd i gefnogi'r argymhelliad hwn gan Silk, ac a ydych mewn sefyllfa i ddatgelu hynny, fel y gall yr Aelodau weld y byddai o fudd gwirioneddol wrth ddenu llwybrau hedfan newydd i faes awyr Caerdydd?

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14:09 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

I am delighted that the leader of the opposition is coming out very clearly in support of one of the recommendations from the Silk commission, which was for long-haul APD, mirroring the settlement in Northern Ireland. I hope that you will now progress with that call for the devolution of power to Wales, because, quite clearly, we have already done the work to prove the benefits of long-haul APD. I hope that you will put on record your support for it.

Rwyf wrth fy modd bod arweinydd yr wrthblaid yn amlwg yn gadarn o blaid un o argymhellion comisiwn Silk, sef y dylid codi toll teithwyr awyr am deithiau hir, gan adlewyrchu'r setliad yng Ngogledd Iwerddon. Gobeithio y bwrwch ati yn awr gyda'r cais hwnnw i ddatganoli grym i Gymru, gan ein bod, yn amlwg, eisoes wedi gwneud y gwaith i brofi buddiannau toll teithwyr awyr am deithiau hir. Gobeithio y gwnewch roi ar gofnod eich cefnogaeth o blaid yr argymhelliad hwnnw.

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Portffolio Cyfoeth Naturiol a Bwyd

The Natural Resources and Food Portfolio

14:10 **Russell George** Bywgraffiad Biography

12. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddyrannu adnoddau i'r portffolio Cyfoeth Naturiol a Bwyd yn y gyllideb ddrafft ddiweddar? OAQ(4)0327(FIN)

12. Will the Minister make a statement on the allocation of resources to the Natural Resources and Food portfolio within the recent draft budget? OAQ(4)0327(FIN)

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:10 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Compared to indicative budgets for 2014-15, published in the final budget for 2013-14, the total resource DEL allocation for natural resources and food has increased by £20 million in 2014-15.

O'i gymharu â chyllidebau dangosol ar gyfer 2014-15, a gyhoeddwyd yn y gyllideb derfynol ar gyfer 2013-14, mae cyfanswm y dyraniad terfyn gwariant adnoddau adrannol ar gyfer cyfoeth naturiol a bwyd wedi cynyddu £20 miliwn yn 2014-15.

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:10 **Russell George** Bywgraffiad Biography

Thank you for your answer, Minister. There are going to be significant costs relating to legislation coming forward next year, and we are aware of those headline Bills. What capacity is there within the current budget to deal with any unforeseen legislation or subordinate legislation that might come along? Are you satisfied that there is enough headroom in the draft proposals?

Diolch am eich ateb, Weinidog. Bydd costau sylweddol yn gysylltiedig â deddfwriaeth a gaiff ei chyflwyno'r flwyddyn nesaf, ac rydym yn ymwybodol o'r prif Filiau hynny. Pa gapasiti sydd o fewn y gyllideb bresennol i ymdrin ag unrhyw ddeddfwriaeth neu is-ddeddfwriaeth nas rhagwelwyd a allai ddod i'r amlwg? A ydych yn fodlon bod digon o arian ychwanegol wrth gefn ar gael yn y cynigion drafft?

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:11 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

This is an issue that we discussed in the Finance Committee this morning. Clearly, we addressed in the draft budget not only the legislative programme, but the cost of the legislative programme. We actually drew attention to the work that we have done to assess the cost impact of three forthcoming Bills. Clearly, Ministers have to ensure that they can meet these costs within their main expenditure groups. It is the development and planning of the legislation that is key, before we get to the point of scrutiny, approval and, indeed, secondary legislation.

Trafodwyd y mater hwn yn y Pwyllgor Cyllid y bore yma. Yn amlwg, fel rhan o'r gyllideb ddrafft, ymdriniwyd nid yn unig â'r rhaglen ddeddfwriaethol, ond hefyd â chost y rhaglen ddeddfwriaethol. Gwnaethom dynnu sylw at y gwaith a wnaed gennym i asesu effaith y tri Bil arfaethedig o ran costau. Yn amlwg, rhaid i Weinidogion sicrhau y gallant dalu'r costau hyn o fewn eu prif grwpiau gwariant. Datblygu a chynllunio'r ddeddfwriaeth yw'r cam allweddol, cyn inni graffu arni, ei chymeradwyo ac, yn wir, lunio is-ddeddfwriaeth.

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Cronfeydd Strwythurol

Structural Funds

14:11 **Eluned Parrott** Bywgraffiad Biography

13. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y berthynas rhwng cronfeydd strwythurol a ffynonellau eraill o gyllid yr UE? OAQ(4)0324(FIN)

13. Will the Minister make a statement on the relationship between structural funds and other sources of EU funding? OAQ(4)0324(FIN)

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:11 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

The integration of the structural funds with other EU investment funds is a key objective to maximise the potential of EU investments for transformational change and an impact on growth and jobs in Wales.

Mae integreiddio'r cronfeydd strwythurol â chronfeydd buddsoddi eraill yr UE yn amcan allweddol er mwyn manteisio i'r eithaf ar botensial buddsoddiadau'r UE i sicrhau newid trawsffurfiol ac effaith ar dwf a swyddi yng Nghymru.

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14:12 **Eluned Parrott** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

The economic prioritisation framework is a potential tool to help to shape those relationships. On 14 May, you told Plenary that you had agreed with the Minister for Natural Resources and Food that we should go further than recommended and develop a framework that covers all our EU funding programmes, including the rural development and fisheries funds. On 8 October, however, when you gave us an update, it was not mentioned. Is that joint framework being developed, or has it hit the buffers?

Mae'r fframwaith blaenoriaethu economaidd yn adnodd posibl er mwyn helpu i lywio'r cydberthnasau hynny. Ar 14 Mai, dywedasoch wrth y Cyfarfod Llawn eich bod wedi cytuno gyda'r Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol a Bwyd y dylem wneud mwy na'r hyn a argymhellir a datblygu fframwaith sy'n cwmpasu pob un o raglenni ariannu'r UE sy'n berthnasol inni, gan gynnwys y cronfeydd datblygu gwledig a physgodfeydd. Fodd bynnag, ar 8 Hydref, pan wnaethoch roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf inni, ni chrybwyllwyd hynny. A yw'r fframwaith ar y cyd hwnnw wrthi'n cael ei ddatblygu, neu a roddwyd y gorau iddo?

14:12 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Absolutely not. The Minister for Natural Resources and Food and I are very clear about the fact that we have to integrate the four European structural and investment funds, and that will, of course, be reflected in our framework.

Naddo'n wir. Mae'r Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol a Bwyd a minnau yn gadarn o'r farn bod yn rhaid inni integreiddio'r pedair cronfa strwythurol a buddsoddi Ewropeaidd, a chaiff hynny, wrth gwrs, ei adlewyrchu yn ein fframwaith.

Dyraniad Cyllideb i'r Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Busnes y Llywodraeth

Budget Allocation for the Minister for Local Government and Government Business

14:12 **Lynne Neagle** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14. Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi eu cael gyda Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Busnes y Llywodraeth ynglyn â'r dyraniad cyllideb i'r portffolio hwnnw? OAQ(4)0323(FIN)

14. What discussions has the Minister had with the Minister for Local Government and Government Business regarding the budget allocation to that portfolio? OAQ(4)0323(FIN)

14:12 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I have regular meetings with the Minister for Local Government and Government Business to discuss a range of issues, including finance.

Rwy'n cynnal cyfarfodydd rheolaidd gyda'r Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Busnes y Llywodraeth i drafod amrywiaeth o faterion, gan gynnwys cyllid.

14:13 **Lynne Neagle** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I have been very struck, lately, by how much effort is going on at a local level to mitigate the seismic impact of welfare reform on communities like Torfaen, much of it led by the local authority. While I recognise that the Welsh Government faces its own pressures, there is a real danger that some of this incredibly important work will get lost as the latest cuts to face authorities begin to bite. Minister, what more can be done at the national level to support councils in that really valuable role, and will you join me in commending the work of local authorities like Torfaen, which are on the front line of the Tory Government's pernicious welfare reform agenda?

Fe'm trawyd yn ddiweddar gan faint o ymdrech sy'n cael ei gwneud ar lefel leol i liniaru effaith seismig y diwygiadau lles ar gymunedau fel Torfaen, gyda llawer o'r gwaith o dan arweiniad yr awdurdod lleol. Er fy mod yn cydnabod bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn wynebu pwysau penodol hefyd, mae perygl gwirioneddol y caiff rhywfaint o'r gwaith pwysig iawn hwn ei golli yn sgil y toriadau diweddaraf sy'n wynebu'r awdurdodau. Weinidog, beth yn rhagor y gellir ei wneud ar y lefel genedlaethol er mwyn helpu cynghorau yn y rôl hynod werthfawr honno, ac a wnewch ymuno â mi i ganmol gwaith awdurdodau lleol fel Torfaen, sydd yn rheng flaen agenda diwygio lles niweidiol Llywodraeth y Toriaid?

14:13 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I certainly do commend local authorities for the hard work that they have undertaken. A lot of that is reflected in the portfolio of case studies published by the Minister for Local Government and Government Business following her tour in the summer. The pressures on local government from the UK Government welfare reform are considerable, but I know that the partnership, particularly the pilot study that was undertaken with the registered social landlord in Torfaen, has proved the impact that welfare reform, particularly through the loss of housing benefit as a result of the bedroom tax, will have on the most vulnerable people in your constituency.

Yn sicr, rwy’n canmol awdurdodau lleol am y gwaith caled a wnaed ganddynt. Caiff llawer o hynny ei adlewyrchu yn y portffolio o astudiaethau achos a gyhoeddwyd gan y Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Busnes y Llywodraeth yn dilyn ei thaith yn ystod yr haf. Mae’r pwysau ar lywodraeth leol yn sgil diwygiadau lles Llywodraeth y DU yn sylweddol, ond gwn fod y bartneriaeth, yn enwedig yr astudiaeth beilot a gynhaliwyd gyda’r landlord cymdeithasol cofrestredig yn Nhorfaen, wedi profi’r effaith y bydd y diwygiadau lles, yn arbennig drwy golli budd-dal tai o ganlyniad i’r dreth ystafell wely, yn ei chael ar y bobl fwyaf agored i niwed yn eich etholaeth.

Portffolio Llywodraeth Leol a Busnes y Llywodraeth

Local Government and Government Business Portfolio

14:14 **Julie Morgan** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

15. Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi eu cael ynglyn â chyllido hirdymor y portffolio Llywodraeth Leol a Busnes y Llywodraeth? OAQ(4)0321(FIN)

15. What discussions has the Minister had regarding the long term financing of the Local Government and Government Business portfolio? OAQ(4)0321(FIN)

14:14 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

The Minister for Local Government and Government Business and I have regular discussions across a range of issues, including finance.

Caf drafodaethau rheolaidd gyda’r Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Busnes y Llywodraeth am amrywiaeth o faterion, gan gynnwys cyllid.

14:14 **Julie Morgan** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you for that response. Would the Minister consider giving additional flexibility for local authorities to manage their funding across three financial years, as is currently being proposed for local health boards under the National Health Service Finance (Wales) Bill?

Diolch am yr ymateb hwnnw. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ystyried rhoi hyblygrwydd ychwanegol i awdurdodau lleol reoli eu cyllid ar draws tair blwyddyn ariannol, fel y cynigir ar hyn o bryd ar gyfer byrddau iechyd lleol o dan Fil Cyllid y Gwasanaeth Iechyd Gwladol (Cymru)?

14:15 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

It is interesting that local government is in a different position to local health boards. It has significant flexibility—it can hold reserves, it is able to borrow, it is able to invest, and of course it can raise taxes. So, local government is in a different position. It is an important point to consider. It is not in the same place as local health boards, and of course it has, in terms of its indicative budgets, opportunities to plan and predict in terms of its budget settlement. I know that those flexibilities include the opportunity to return to the revenue support grant some previously hypothecated grants. I know that the Minister for local government was pleased to return what I think was at least £48 million this year.

Mae’n ddiddorol bod llywodraeth leol mewn sefyllfa wahanol i fyrddau iechyd lleol. Mae ganddi gryn hyblygrwydd—gall ddal cronfeydd wrth gefn, gall fenthyg, gall fuddsoddi, ac, wrth gwrs, gall godi trethi. Felly, mae llywodraeth leol mewn sefyllfa wahanol. Mae’n bwynt pwysig i’w ystyried. Nid yw yn yr un sefyllfa â byrddau iechyd lleol, ac wrth gwrs mae ganddi gyfleoedd, o ran ei chyllidebau dangosol, i gynllunio a rhagweld o ran ei setliad cyllidebol. Gwn fod yr enghreifftiau hynny o hyblygrwydd yn cynnwys y cyfle i ddychwelyd rhai grantiau a neilltuwyd yn flaenorol i’r grant cynnal refeniw. Gwn fod y Gweinidog llywodraeth leol wrth ei fodd wrth ddychwelyd o leiaf £48 miliwn, credaf, eleni.

Cwestiynau i’r Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Busnes y Llywodraeth

Questions to the Minister for Local Government and Communities

Yr Agenda Cydweithio i Gynghorau Lleol

The Collaboration Agenda for Local Councils

14:16

Peter Black Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

1. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am yr agenda cydweithio i gynghorau lleol yng Nghymru? OAQ(4)0323(LG)

1. Will the Minister make a statement on the collaboration agenda for local councils in Wales? OAQ(4)0323(LG)

14:16

Lesley Griffiths Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Y Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Busnes y Llywodraeth / The Minister for Local Government and Government Business

Collaboration is even more vital now, given the financial challenges local authorities face. It is a key part of our reform agenda, which is a practical programme of action to support the delivery of effective and efficient public services to meet the needs to people in Wales.

Mae cydweithio hyd yn oed yn fwy hanfodol nawr, o ystyried yr heriau ariannol y mae awdurdodau lleol yn eu hwynebu. Mae'n rhan allweddol o'n hagenda diwygio, sy'n rhaglen weithredu ymarferol i gefnogi'r gwaith o ddarparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus effeithiol ac effeithlon i ddiwallu anghenion pobl yng Nghymru.

14:16

Peter Black Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you for that answer, Minister. This year, you provided £10 million in your budget to pump-prime collaboration among local councils, and next year you are providing a similar amount. What monitoring have you carried out of how that money is being used? What evaluation have you made of its effectiveness?

Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Eleni, gwnaethoch ddarparu £10 miliwn yn eich cyllideb i ysgogi cydweithio ymhlith cynghorau lleol, a'r flwyddyn nesaf byddwch yn darparu swm tebyg. Pa waith monitro rydych wedi'i wneud i weld sut y caiff yr arian hwnnw ei ddefnyddio? Pa asesiad rydych wedi'i wneud o'i effeithiolrwydd?

14:16

Lesley Griffiths Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

That work is currently ongoing.

Mae'r gwaith hwnnw'n mynd rhagddo ar hyn o bryd.

14:16

Peter Black Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you for that answer, Minister. Given that you are providing this money again next year and you have indicated to committee that it is going to be a three-year programme, may I ask on what basis you have made that provision for subsequent years, given that you have not yet evaluated the effectiveness of the current year?

Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. O gofio eich bod yn darparu'r arian hwn unwaith eto y flwyddyn nesaf a'ch bod wedi awgrymu i'r pwyllgor y bydd yn rhaglen dair blynedd, a allaf ofyn ar ba sail y gwnaethoch y ddarpariaeth honno ar gyfer blynyddoedd dilynol, o gofio nad ydych wedi gwerthuso effeithiolrwydd y flwyddyn gyfredol eto?

14:17

Lesley Griffiths Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

When the regional collaboration fund was announced by my predecessor back in November of last year, many of the projects were for three years, so the business cases that were put forward were for three years. So, I felt it was important to reassure local authorities that that funding would be there for that period of time.

Pan gyhoeddwyd y gronfa cydweithredu ranbarthol gan fy rhagflaenydd nôl ym mis Tachwedd y llynedd, roedd llawer o'r prosiectau yn rhai am dair blynedd, felly roedd yr achosion busnes a gyflwynwyd yn rhai am dair blynedd. Felly, teimlais ei fod yn bwysig rhoi sicrwydd i awdurdodau lleol y byddai'r cyllid hwnnw ar gael ar gyfer y cyfnod hwnnw o amser.

14:17

Janet Finch-Saunders Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Good afternoon, Minister. In evidence taken during the collaboration inquiry, much evidence talked of slow progress, duplication of process, lack of accountability and a lack of meaningful joint scrutiny. The Centre for Public Scrutiny said that,

'effective scrutiny of both individual and collective partners across areas is crucial to the transparency, effectiveness and accountability of collaborative arrangements.'

We know that your department does not keep any data on the effectiveness of collaboration, the efficiencies or the shared posts. How can you be certain that collaboration is actually working?

Prynhawn da, Weinidog. Yn y dystiolaeth a gafwyd yn ystod yr ymchwiliad cydweithio, soniodd llawer o'r dystiolaeth am gynnydd araf, dyblygu proses, diffyg atebolrwydd a diffyg proses graffu ystyrlon. Dywedodd y Ganolfan Craffu Cyhoeddus,

mae craffu'n effeithiol ar bartneriaid unigol a chyfunol ym mhob maes yn hollbwysig i dryloywder, effeithiolrwydd ac atebolrwydd trefniadau cydweithio.

Gwyddom nad yw eich adran yn cadw unrhyw ddata ar effeithiolrwydd cydweithio, yr arbedion effeithlonrwydd na'r swyddi a rennir. Sut y gallwch fod yn sicr bod cydweithio'n gweithio mewn gwirionedd?

14:17 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Effective scrutiny is obviously very important in all aspects of our public services, and whilst we are seeing effective collaboration in place across some areas, it is patchy, and it is something that I have asked my officials to look at very closely. Certainly, when I undertook my summer tour of local authorities I did see some excellent examples of collaboration.

Mae craffu'n effeithiol yn amlwg yn bwysig iawn ym mhob agwedd ar ein gwasanaethau cyhoeddus, ac er fod cydweithio effeithiol ar waith mewn rhai meysydd, mae'n dameidiog, ac mae'n rhywbeth yr wyf wedi gofyn i'm swyddogion ei ystyried yn ofalus iawn. Yn sicr, pan gynhaliais fy nhaith haf o amgylch awdurdodau lleol gwelais rai enghreifftiau rhagorol o gydweithio.

14:18 **Janet Finch-Saunders** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

With respect to you, I think that some of the collaboration examples that you saw—some of them—were informal partnerships. Trowers and Hamlins says that collaboration has been—as you rightly say—at best patchy, and councils have not got to grips with the essence of legal frameworks. Furthermore, Cardiff Business School has attributed a lack of leadership on the part of the Welsh Government to the slow progress of the collaboration agenda. Minister, would you agree that you really need to refocus your priorities as regards the collaboration agenda?

Gyda phob parch, credaf fod rhai o'r enghreifftiau cydweithio a welsoch—rhai ohonynt—yn bartneriaethau anffurfiol. Dywed Trowers a Hamlins bod cydweithio ar y gorau—fel y dywedwch, a hynny'n briodol —wedi bod yn dameidiog, ac nid yw cynghorau wedi llwyddo i fynd i'r afael â hanfod fframweithiau cyfreithiol. At hynny, mae Ysgol Fusnes Caerdydd wedi priodoli diffyg arweinyddiaeth i gynnydd araf yr agenda cydweithio. Weinidog, oni fyddech yn cytuno bod gwir angen ichi ailgyfeirio eich blaenoriaethau o ran yr agenda cydweithio?

14:18 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

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No.

Na.

14:18 **Rhodri Glyn Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Weinidog, yng nghyd-destun yr agenda hwn o gydweithredu a phartneriaethau, a ydych yn credu, ar yr adeg arbennig hon—pan mae cyflogau'r bobl sy'n ennill lleiaf mewn awdurdodau lleol yn cael eu rhewi, ac mae gwasanaethau'r bobl fwyaf bregus yn ein cymdeithas yn cael eu dileu, neu y mae ystyriaeth yn cael ei rhoi i hynny—y dylai cynghorau edrych ar uwch-swyddogion sy'n ennill cyflogau afresymol o uchel? Mae degau ohonynt yng Nghymru sy'n ennill mwy na Phrif Weinidog y Cynulliad. A ydych yn meddwl y dylai awdurdodau lleol edrych ar y swyddi hynny a'u rhannu gydag awdurdodau eraill, neu edrych ar ddosbarthu'r cyfrifoldebau yn fewnol o fewn y cyngor?

Minister, in the context of this collaboration agenda and partnerships, do you believe, at this time—when the salaries of those people who earn the least in local authorities are being frozen, and when services for the most vulnerable people in our society are being abolished, or their abolishment is being considered—that councils should be looking at their top officers who earn unreasonably high salaries? There are tens of them in Wales who earn more than the First Minister. Do you think that local authorities should be looking at those posts and sharing them with other authorities, or looking at sharing the responsibilities internally within the council?

14:19 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

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The provisions of the Local Government Democracy (Wales) Act 2013—and you obviously had an important part in this—mean that no principal council will be able to vary significantly the pay of its top officers, including the chief executive, without first consulting with the independent remuneration panel. That is a really important point to stress.

Mae darpariaethau Deddf Democratiaeth Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru) 2013—ac yn amlwg roedd gennych ran bwysig i'w chwarae yn hyn—yn golygu na fydd un prif gyngor yn gallu amrywio'n sylweddol gyflog ei brif swyddogion, gan gynnwys y prif weithredwr, heb ymgynghori yn gyntaf â'r panel cydnabyddiaeth annibynnol. Mae'n bwysig iawn pwysleisio'r pwynt hwnnw.

14:20 **Rhodri Glyn Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Rwy'n ddiolchgar am hynny, Weinidog. Rydych wedi mynd rhan o'r ffordd i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem arbennig hon. Ond, mae swyddi gwag ar hyn o bryd mewn llywodraeth leol, ac eto mae'r awdurdodau hynny yn dal i hysbysebu i recriwtio swyddogion newydd pan allent edrych ar rannu'r cyfrifoldebau hynny gydag awdurdod cyfagos neu yn fewnol rhwng uwch swyddogion presennol, yn hytrach na thorri nôl ar wasanaethau hanfodol. Gan mai swyddogion, gan amlaf, sy'n dod â'r cynlluniau cwtogi ymlaen, mae'r gymhariaeth â thyrcwn y Nadolig yn amlwg iawn; nid ydynt yn mynd i awgrymu y dylid torri nôl ar eu swyddi nhw. A ydych chi fel Gweinidog yn mynd i gynnig rhyw arweiniad ar y mater hwn?

I am grateful for that, Minister. You have gone part of the way towards addressing this particular issue. But, there are empty posts at present in local government and yet those authorities are still advertising to recruit new officers when they could be looking at sharing those responsibilities with nearby authorities, or sharing those responsibilities internally between the senior officials that are already there, rather than cutting back on vital services. As officials usually bring these plans forward, the comparison with Christmas turkeys is quite obvious; they are not going to suggest reducing their posts. Are you, as Minister, going to offer some leadership on this issue?

14:20 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Yes, certainly, and it is something that I have encouraged. I meet regularly with leaders and chief executives and it is a point that I raise with them frequently. It is disappointing that we have not seen more shared posts over the past few years. Given the financial challenges they have—obviously, I recognise that we have given them a very difficult settlement; I understand how difficult it is for local authorities—perhaps now they will look more closely at that point.

Ydw, yn sicr, ac mae'n rhywbeth rwyf wedi ei annog. Rwy'n cyfarfod yn rheolaidd ag arweinwyr a phrif weithredwyr ac mae'n bwynt yr wyf yn ei godi â hwy yn aml. Mae'n siomedig nad ydym wedi gweld rhagor o swyddi a rennir dros yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf. O gofio'r heriau ariannol sydd ganddynt—yn amlwg, rwy'n cydnabod ein bod wedi rhoi setliad anodd iawn iddynt; deallaf pa mor anodd ydyw i awdurdodau lleol—efallai y byddant yn edrych yn fanylach yn awr ar y pwynt hwnnw.

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Cronfeydd Wrth Gefn Llywodraeth Leol

Local Government Reserves

14:21 **Russell George** Bywgraffiad Biography

2. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y defnydd o gronfeydd wrth gefn llywodraeth leol? OAQ(4)0337(LG)

2. Will the Minister make a statement on the use of local government reserves? OAQ(4)0337(LG)

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:21 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

I expect local authorities to consider how they can best invest their reserves and use them imaginatively to help to kick-start the transformational change our public services need. It is not sustainable for local authorities to use reserves to fund ongoing commitments instead of making savings.

Rwy'n disgwyl i awdurdodau lleol ystyried y ffordd orau o fuddsoddi eu cronfeydd wrth gefn a'u defnyddio mewn ffordd greadigol er mwyn helpu i sbarduno'r gweddnewid sydd ei angen ar ein gwasanaethau cyhoeddus. Nid yw'n gynaliadwy i awdurdodau lleol ddefnyddio cronfeydd wrth gefn i ariannu ymrwymiadau parhaus yn lle gwneud arbedion.

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14:21 **Russell George** Bywgraffiad Biography

Thank you for that, Minister. You want local authorities to creatively use their reserves and utilise them to meet shortfalls, but, as you said, reserves can only be used once. To what extent have you taken into account the reserves of local government organisations that are not earmarked when determining the budget, not just for next year, but for the forecasted budget for 2015-16?

Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Rydych am i awdurdodau lleol ddefnyddio eu cronfeydd wrth gefn yn greadigol a'u defnyddio i ateb y diffygion, ond, fel y dywedasoch, dim ond unwaith y gellir defnyddio cronfeydd wrth gefn. I ba raddau yr ydych wedi ystyried cronfeydd wrth gefn sefydliadau llywodraeth leol nad ydynt wedi'u clustnodi wrth benderfynu ar y gyllideb, nid yn unig ar gyfer y flwyddyn nesaf, ond ar gyfer y gyllideb a ragwelir ar gyfer 2015-16?

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14:22 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

I do not think that their reserves are an issue in relation to the budget settlement.

Nid wyf yn credu bod eu cronfeydd wrth gefn yn broblem mewn perthynas â setliad y gyllideb.

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14:22 **Llyr Gruffydd** Bywgraffiad Biography

We all recognise that local government reserves and contingencies will see increasing pressure over coming years. Recently, Denbighshire County Council has committed some of its contingency reserves to fund flood defence works at the Glasdir estate in Ruthin. In terms of generally using local government reserves to fund those kinds of contingencies, what is the process for local authorities to come to you or other Ministers to leverage extra money to complement whatever they are drawing down from reserves?

Rydym i gyd yn cydnabod y bydd cronfeydd wrth gefn a chynlluniau wrth gefn llywodraeth leol yn wynebu pwysau cynyddol dros y blynyddoedd i ddod. Yn ddiweddar, mae Cyngor Sir Ddinbych wedi ymrwymo rhai o'i gronfeydd wrth gefn i ariannu gwaith amddiffyn rhag llifogydd ar ystad Glasdir yn Rhuthun. O ran defnyddio cronfeydd wrth gefn cyffredinol llywodraeth leol i ariannu'r mathau hynny o gynlluniau wrth gefn, beth yw'r broses o ran trefnu i awdurdodau lleol ddod atoch chi neu i Weinidogion eraill fanteisio ar arian ychwanegol i ategu beth bynnag y maent yn ei hawlio o'r cronfeydd wrth gefn?

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14:22 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

They can write to the appropriate Minster and ask.

Gallant ysgrifennu at y Gweinidog priodol a gofyn.

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Dioddefwyr Cam-drin Domestig

Victims of Domestic Abuse

14:22 **Mohammad Asghar** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

3. Pa gamau y bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu cymryd yn 2014 i gefnogi dioddefwyr cam-drin domestig yng Nghymru? OAQ(4)0325(LG)

3. What action will the Welsh Government take in 2014 to support victims of domestic abuse in Wales? OAQ(4)0325(LG)

14:23 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

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We will bring forward legislation on violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence in June 2014, and continue to progress the 10000 Safer Lives programme for government commitment, and other key work streams to support victims of domestic abuse.

Byddwn yn cyflwyno deddfwriaeth ar drais yn erbyn menywod, cam-drin domestig a thrais rhywiol ym mis Mehefin 2014, ac yn parhau i ddatblygu ymrwymiad y rhaglen lywodraethu 10000 o Fywydau Diogelach, a ffrydiau gwaith allweddol eraill i gefnogi dioddefwyr cam-drin domestig.

14:23 **Mohammad Asghar** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you very much for that reply, Minister. Rape Crisis England and Wales has recommended that the probation service must be actively engaged in sharing information with other bodies to ensure that victims of sexual violence and domestic abuse are told when perpetrators are released and what the conditions of their release are. Does the Minister agree that victims should have this right and will it be contained in the forthcoming Bill?

Diolch yn fawr iawn am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Mae Rape Crisis Lloegr a Chymru wedi argymell y dylid cynnwys y gwasanaeth prawf yn weithredol er mwyn rhannu gwybodaeth â chyrff eraill i sicrhau y dywedir wrth ddioddefwyr trais rhywiol a cham-drin domestig pryd y caiff y rhai a gyflawnodd y trais eu rhyddhau a beth yw amodau eu rhyddhau. A yw'r Gweinidog yn cytuno y dylai dioddefwyr gael yr hawl hon ac a gaiff ei chynnnwys yn y Bil arfaethedig?

14:23 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

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The policy within the Bill is now being drawn up following the responses that we received to the White Paper. Information sharing is very important, but you will realise that it is difficult to share some information. However, that is something that we can look at within the Bill.

Mae'r polisi yn y Bil yn cael ei lunio yn awr yn dilyn yr ymatebion a gawsom i'r Papur Gwyn. Mae rhannu gwybodaeth yn bwysig iawn, ond byddwch yn sylweddoli ei bod yn anodd rhannu rhywfaint o wybodaeth. Fodd bynnag, mae hynny'n rhywbeth y gallwn ei ystyried yn y Bil.

14:24 **Jocelyn Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Of course, you can take information sharing too far, Minister. I recently read a news report about a victim of domestic abuse who was seeking a non-molestation order; she had relocated and had a safe home, but that safety net was removed when the court documents sent to her ex-partner included her new address. A campaign has been launched, Eve's law, that would allow the protection of victims through courts withholding new addresses from violent partners. Will you support this campaign and make representations to the Ministry of Justice?

Wrth gwrs, gallwch fynd dros ben llestri wrth rannu gwybodaeth, Weinidog. Yn ddiweddar darllenais adroddiad newyddion am ddioddefwr cam-drin domestig a oedd yn gwneud cais am orchymyn peidio ag ymyrryd; yr oedd wedi symud i ardal newydd ac roedd ganddi gartref diogel, ond collodd y rhwyd ddiogelwch honno pan gafodd ei chyfeiriad newydd ei gynnwys ar ddogfennau llys a anfonwyd at ei chyn-bartner. Mae ymgyrch wedi cael ei lansio, cyfraith Eve, a fyddai'n caniatáu i ddioddefwyr gael eu diogelu drwy sicrhau bod llysoedd yn atal rhag rhoi cyfeiriadau newydd i bartneriaid treisgar. A wnewch chi gefnogi'r ymgyrch hon a gwneud sylwadau i'r Weinyddiaeth Gyfiawnder?

14:24 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Certainly, I will look into Eve's law. I am very happy to write to the Ministry of Justice if it is appropriate. You raise a very important point, which is what I was trying to say in my answer to Mohammad Asghar, which is that you have to be very careful about information sharing.

Yn sicr, byddaf yn ymchwilio i gyfraith Eve. Rwy'n hapus iawn i ysgrifennu at y Weinyddiaeth Gyfiawnder os yw'n briodol. Rydych yn codi pwynt pwysig, sef yr hyn yr oeddwn i'n ceisio ei ddweud yn fy ateb i Mohammad Asghar, sef bod yn rhaid ichi fod yn ofalus iawn ynglŷn â rhannu gwybodaeth.

Mesurau Arbed Costau mewn Llywodraeth Leol

Cost-saving Measures in Local Government

14:24

Lindsay Whittle [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

4. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am arfer gorau ar gyfer mesurau arbed costau mewn llywodraeth leol? OAQ(4)0331(LG)

4. Will the Minister make a statement on best practice for cost saving measures in local government? OAQ(4)0331(LG)

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14:25

Lesley Griffiths [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Welsh Ministers have made it clear that local government and the wider public service must seize the opportunities available to them to improve the way that they deliver services. This applies whether it is within their own organisation or collaboratively with others to deliver savings, or to protect and improve services.

Mae Gweinidogion Cymru wedi nodi'n glir bod yn rhaid i lywodraeth leol a'r gwasanaeth cyhoeddus ehangach achub ar y cyfleoedd sydd ar gael iddynt wella'r ffordd y maent yn darparu gwasanaethau. Mae hyn yn berthnasol p'un a ydyw o fewn eu sefydliad eu hunain neu ar y cyd ag eraill i sicrhau arbedion, neu i ddiogelu a gwella gwasanaethau.

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14:25

Lindsay Whittle [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, would you agree with me that local authorities are not making smart choices when it comes to putting their financial houses in order? In this very city, Cardiff Council announced a council tax freeze last year, put up senior pay and is advertising for more senior staff, yet it now requires an emergency budget. Minister, do you think that this is acceptable? Would you agree with me that certain authorities in Wales are cutting libraries, day centres and front-line services, but perhaps they should look a little bit closer to home first?

Weinidog, a fyddech yn cytuno â mi nad yw awdurdodau lleol yn gwneud dewisiadau doeth pan ddaw'n fater o roi trefn ar eu materion ariannol eu hunain? Yn yr union ddinas hon, cyhoeddodd Cyngor Caerdydd ei fod yn rhewi'r dreth gyngor y llynedd, cynyddodd gyflogau uwch swyddogion ac mae'n hysbysebu am fwy o uwch aelodau staff, ac eto mae angen cyllideb frys arno nawr. Weinidog, a ydych yn credu bod hyn yn dderbyniol? A fyddech yn cytuno â mi bod rhai awdurdodau yng Nghymru yn cwtogi ar wasanaethau llyfrgelloedd, canolfannau dydd a rheng flaen, ond y dylent efallai edrych ychydig yn agosach gartref yn gyntaf?

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14:25

Lesley Griffiths [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I do not think that we can make sweeping generalisations about all local authorities. Since I have been in post, I have told them about the financial realities that were coming forward. I have asked them to look very carefully at how they use their funding—that is what I want to see right across the board.

Ni chredaf y gallwn gyffredinoli am bob awdurdod lleol. Ers imi fod yn y swydd, rwyf wedi dweud wrthynt am y gwirioneddau ariannol a oedd yn datblygu. Rwyf wedi gofyn iddynt edrych yn ofalus iawn ar sut y maent yn defnyddio eu harian—dyna'r hyn rwyf am ei weld yn gyffredinol.

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14:26

Mick Antoniw [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, will you make a statement outlining the representations that have been made by the Welsh Government to the UK Government on the impact of the UK Government's austerity programme on public services and local services in Wales?

Weinidog, a wnewch chi ddatganiad yn amlinellu'r sylwadau a wnaed gan Lywodraeth Cymru i Lywodraeth y DU ar effaith rhaglen cynilo Llywodraeth y DU ar wasanaethau cyhoeddus a gwasanaethau lleol yng Nghymru?

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14:26

Lesley Griffiths [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

This is an extremely challenging settlement for local government in Wales, due in no small part—no matter what the Welsh Conservatives think—to the pressures on our budget from the UK Government. We are now starting to see the austerity measures really kicking in across Wales and people are facing very difficult choices, as are local authorities. We need to be very clear that the cuts are not just about money; they do translate into an impact on services, facilities and the life chances of the people of Wales. All of my ministerial colleagues make appropriate representations to the UK Government across their portfolios.

Mae hwn yn setliad heriol iawn i lywodraeth leol yng Nghymru, i raddau helaeth—ni waeth beth y mae'r Ceidwadwyr Cymreig yn ei feddwl—o ganlyniad i'r pwysau ar ein cyllideb gan Lywodraeth y DU. Rydym bellach yn dechrau gweld effaith y mesurau cynilo ledled Cymru ac mae pobl, ac awdurdodau lleol, yn wynebu dewisiadau anodd iawn. Mae angen inni fod yn glir iawn nad oes a wnelo'r toriadau ag arian yn unig; maent yn cael effaith ar wasanaethau, cyfleusterau a chyfleoedd bywyd pobl Cymru. Mae fy holl gyd-Weinidogion yn gwneud sylwadau priodol i Lywodraeth y DU ar draws eu portffolios.

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14:27 **William Graham** Bywgraffiad Biography

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In your monitoring of promoting the sharing of best practice by local authorities, have you identified both the efficiencies that best practice offers and for those authorities that have not adopted any best practice what guidance you have issued to them?

Wrth fonitro'r broses o hyrwyddo rhannu arfer gorau rhwng awdurdodau lleol, a ydych wedi nodi'r arbedion effeithlonrwydd y mae arfer gorau yn ei gynnig ac, i'r awdurdodau hynny nad ydynt wedi mabwysiadu unrhyw arfer gorau, pa ganllawiau rydych wedi eu cyhoeddi ar eu cyfer?

14:27 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I cannot give you a figure. On what I have tried to do since I have been in post, I undertook the summer tour for that very specific reason, to identify best practice and to try to get local authorities to recognise it and share it. People say that best practice does not travel well and I do not agree with that at all. With a bit of thought, imagination and innovation, I have seen some excellent services being delivered right across Wales. You will be aware of the prospectus—I have talked about it with local authorities at various meetings. It is sometimes very hard to put a figure on it, but when you have better services and efficiencies, to me that is best practice.

Ni allaf roi ffigur i chi. O ran yr hyn yr wyf wedi ceisio ei wneud ers imi fod yn y swydd, cynhaliais y daith haf am yr union reswm hwnnw, er mwyn nodi arfer gorau a cheisio cael awdurdodau lleol i'w gydnabod a'i rannu. Dywed pobl nad yw arfer gorau yn trosglwyddo'n dda, ac nid wyf yn cytuno â hynny o gwbl. Gydag ychydig yn fwy o feddwl, dychymyg ac arloesedd, rwyf wedi gweld rhai gwasanaethau rhagorol yn cael eu darparu ledled Cymru. Byddwch yn ymwybodol o'r prosbectws—rwyf wedi trafod hyn gydag awdurdodau lleol mewn cyfarfodydd amrywiol. Weithiau mae'n anodd iawn ei esbonio, ond pan fydd gennych wasanaethau ac arbedion effeithlonrwydd gwell, dyna yw arfer gorau yn fy marn i.

14:27 **Eluned Parrott** Bywgraffiad Biography

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It is all about wise choices. One cost saving being considered by Cardiff Council is a move from fortnightly to monthly black bin bag collections. Do you consider that an example of best practice, or would you agree with the constituents who have contacted me, who believe that storing non-recyclable, non-compostable waste—such as used nappies, dog faeces or cat litter—in a plastic bag in the back garden for a month is both insanitary and unreasonable?

Mae a wnelo'r cyfan oll â dewisiadau doeth. Un arbediad cost sy'n cael ei ystyried gan Gyngor Caerdydd yw symud o gasgliadau bagiau bin du bob pythefnos i gasgliadau misol. A ydych yn ystyried bod hynny'n enghraifft o arfer gorau, neu a fyddech yn cytuno â'r etholwyr sydd wedi cysylltu â mi, sy'n credu bod storio gwastraff na ellir ei ailgylchu, na ellir ei gompostio— fel hen glytiau, baw ci neu sarn cathod—mewn bag plastig yn yr ardd gefn am fis yn afiach ac yn afresymol?

14:28 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I have not seen any evidence of monthly refuse collections, but it is something that I have asked to have a look at because I do not know where else in the country that is done. I do not think that it is done anywhere else in Wales. Before I make a judgment on it, I would want to see some evidence.

Nid wyf wedi gweld unrhyw dystiolaeth o gasgliadau sbwriel misol, ond mae'n rhywbeth yr wyf wedi gofyn iddo gael ei ystyried oherwydd ni wn am unrhyw fan arall yn y wlad sy'n gwneud hynny. Ni chredaf fod hynny'n cael ei wneud mewn unrhyw le arall yng Nghymru. Cyn imi ddod i benderfyniad ar hynny, hoffwn weld rhywfaint o dystiolaeth.

Ymgynghori â'r Cyhoedd

Consultation with the Public

14:28 **Christine Chapman** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

5. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y canllawiau a roddir i lywodraeth leol ar ymgynghori â'r cyhoedd? OAQ(4)0324(LG)

5. Will the Minister make a statement on the guidance given to local government on consultation with the public? OAQ(4)0324(LG)

14:28 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

The Welsh Government has issued statutory guidance under section 62 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011, which sets out how local authorities should engage the public in scrutiny of them and the services they deliver, and take account of their views.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cyhoeddi canllawiau statudol o dan adran 62 o Fesur Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru) 2011, sy'n nodi sut y dylai awdurdodau lleol gynnwys y cyhoedd wrth graffu arnynt a'r gwasanaethau a ddarparant, ac ystyried eu barn.

14:29 **Christine Chapman** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Minister, as Welsh Ministers have had to make some very difficult decisions in the face of unprecedented cuts by the UK Government, we know that local authorities are doing the same with their draft budgets—this will be equally challenging, given the reduced money. Would you agree that in taking these difficult decisions, it is critical that local authorities themselves engage as much as possible with residents, listen to their views, take account of what is important to them and, perhaps, utilise the ideas of residents to help come up with innovative solutions for the future?

Weinidog, gan fod Gweinidogion Cymru wedi gorfod gwneud rhai penderfyniadau anodd iawn yn wyneb toriadau digynsail gan Lywodraeth y DU, gwyddom fod awdurdodau lleol yn gwneud yr un peth gyda'u cyllidebau drafft—bydd hyn yr un mor heriol, o gofio bod llai o arian ar gael. A fyddech yn cytuno, wrth wneud y penderfyniadau anodd hyn, ei bod yn hollbwysig bod awdurdodau lleol yn ymgysylltu cymaint â phosibl â thrigolion, yn gwrando ar eu barn, yn ystyried yr hyn sy'n bwysig iddynt ac, efallai, yn defnyddio syniadau trigolion er mwyn helpu i feddwl am ddatrysiadau arloesol ar gyfer y dyfodol?

14:29 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

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It is essential that all local authorities engage with the people that they serve as they make decisions on their budgets and the services that they deliver. Like the Welsh Government, they are expected to undertake a full equality impact assessment of those decisions. I do not think that that can be done without effective public engagement. We are seeing some good examples of that: Monmouthshire County Council has set up Monmouthshire Engage to consult service users, and Carmarthenshire County Council has established a wide-ranging public consultation. It is not just me who is saying this: the Auditor General for Wales published the Wales Audit Office's report on public engagement in local authorities in June last year, and it says exactly the same thing.

Mae'n hanfodol bod pob awdurdod lleol yn ymgysylltu â'r bobl y maent yn eu gwasanaethu wrth iddynt wneud penderfyniadau am eu cyllidebau a'r gwasanaethau a ddarparant. Fel Llywodraeth Cymru, disgwylir iddynt ymgymryd ag asesiad llawn o effaith y penderfyniadau hynny ar gydraddoldeb. Nid wyf yn credu y gellir gwneud hynny heb ymgysylltu'n effeithiol â'r cyhoedd. Rydym yn gweld rhai enghreifftiau da o hynny: mae Cyngor Sir Fynwy wedi sefydlu Engage Sir Fynwy i ymgynghori â defnyddwyr gwasanaethau, ac mae Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin wedi sefydlu ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus eang ei gwmpas. Nid fi yn unig sy'n dweud hyn: cyhoeddodd Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru adroddiad Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru ar ymgysylltu â'r cyhoedd mewn awdurdodau lleol ym mis Mehefin y llynedd, ac mae'n dweud yn union yr un peth.

14:30 **Janet Finch-Saunders** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Minister, despite the measure, it is fair to say that, in some local authorities, residents and taxpayers are usually the last to know about some of the decisions that are taken—senior executive pay being one of them. However, you have rightly referred to Monmouthshire County Council, which, despite a substantial cut in its settlement, has stepped up to the mark and has taken the innovative step of holding five separate community consultation events throughout October to allow residents to share their views on the financial challenges facing the county. Do you agree that this is an excellent example of consultation and engagement with the public, and will you endorse this as best practice across local authorities in Wales?

Weinidog, er gwaethaf y mesur, mae'n deg dweud, mewn rhai awdurdodau lleol, mai trigolion a threthdalwyr fel arfer yw'r olaf i wybod am rai o'r penderfyniadau a wneir—cyflogau uwch swyddogion gweithredol yw un ohonynt. Fodd bynnag, rydych wedi cyfeirio at Gyngor Sir Fynwy, a hynny'n briodol, ac er gwaethaf toriad sylweddol yn ei setliad, mae wedi ateb yr her ac wedi cymryd y cam arloesol o gynnal pum digwyddiad ymgynghori cymunedol ar wahân yn ystod mis Hydref er mwyn caniatáu i drigolion rannu eu safbwyntiau ar yr heriau ariannol sy'n wynebu'r sir. A gytunwch fod hyn yn enghraifft ragorol o ymgynghori ac ymgysylltu â'r cyhoedd, ac a wnewch chi gymeradwyo hyn fel arfer gorau ar draws awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru?

14:31 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I referred in my answer to Christine Chapman to the fact that I thought Monmouthshire was one of the ones that had engaged well. Whatever cut it has received from us in its budget settlement, the Welsh Tories would have cut its budget far more—probably double, with the 12.5% that you would have used to decimate our public services in Wales.

Cyfeiriais yn fy ateb i Christine Chapman at y ffaith fy mod yn credu mai Sir Fynwy oedd un o'r rhai a oedd wedi ymgysylltu'n dda. Pa doriad bynnag a gafodd gennym yn ei setliad cyllideb, byddai'r Torïaid Cymreig wedi torri ei chyllideb lawer mwy—ddwywaith siŵr o fod, gyda'r 12.5% y byddech chi wedi ei ddefnyddio i ddifetha ein gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru.

14:31 **Bethan Jenkins** Bywgraffiad Biography

Minister, you may have seen the tweet from Eleanor Crumblehulme, which said that cutting libraries during a recession is like cutting hospitals during a plague. Given that many of our fathers and mothers spent their time establishing libraries for the betterment of their children, and given that library closures are now being proposed in areas such as Neath Port Talbot, have you issued any additional guidance to councils with regard to the way in which they take consultation forward? I ask this because it was only because of the opposition parties in Neath Port Talbot that a consultation took place on the closure of libraries. We need to take this issue very seriously.

Weinidog, efallai eich bod wedi gweld y trydar gan Eleanor Crumblehulme, a ddywedodd fod torri cyllideb llyfrgelloedd yn ystod dirwasgiad fel torri cyllideb ysbytai yn ystod pla. O gofio bod llawer o'n tadau a'n mamau wedi treulio eu hamser yn sefydlu llyfrgelloedd er lles eu plant, ac o ystyried bod cau llyfrgelloedd yn awr yn cael ei gynnig mewn ardaloedd fel Castell-nedd Port Talbot, a ydych wedi cyhoeddi unrhyw ganllawiau ychwanegol i gynghorau o ran y ffordd y maent yn datblygu'r broses ymgynghori? Gofynnaf hyn am mai dim ond oherwydd y gwrthbleidiau yng Nghastell-nedd Port Talbot y cynhaliwyd ymgynghoriad ar gau llyfrgelloedd. Mae gwir angen inni ystyried y mater hwn o ddifrif.

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14:32 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

You are right; it is a very serious issue. I said last week in committee when I gave evidence on the budget that life would be pretty miserable without libraries and museums. I have said to local authorities that, while I understand the pressures on their statutory services, they must look at not blanket-cutting their non-statutory services, and, obviously, libraries, museums and leisure centres are such services.

Rydych yn iawn; mae'n fater difrifol iawn. Dywedais yr wythnos diwethaf yn y pwyllgor pan roddais dystiolaeth ar y gyllideb y byddai bywyd yn eithaf diflas heb lyfrgelloedd ac amgueddfeydd. Rwyf wedi dweud wrth awdurdodau lleol, er fy mod yn deall y pwysau ar eu gwasanaethau statudol, fod yn rhaid iddynt ystyried peidio â thorri eu gwasanaethau anstatudol yn gyffredinol, ac, yn amlwg, mae llyfrgelloedd, amgueddfeydd a chanolfannau hamdden yn wasanaethau o'r fath.

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14:32 **William Powell** Bywgraffiad Biography

Minister, at its recent all-Wales meeting, Un Llais Cymru, One Voice Wales, the representative body of town and community councils in Wales, considered the option of there being a plebiscite or local referendum held in terms of the precept and budget-setting priorities. Do you feel that such a measure would have any merit in establishing future priorities for such councils?

Weindog, yn ei gyfarfod ar gyfer Cymru gyfan yn ddiweddar, ystyriodd Un Llais Cymru, y corff cynrychioliadol o gynghorau tref a chymuned yng Nghymru, yr opsiwn o gynnal pleidlais gwlad neu refferendwm lleol o ran blaenoriaethau'r praesept a gosod cyllideb. A ydych yn teimlo y byddai unrhyw werth i fesur o'r fath o ran sefydlu blaenoriaethau yn y dyfodol ar gyfer cynghorau o'r fath?

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14:33 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

It is not something that I have given any consideration to.

Nid yw'n rhywbeth yr wyf wedi rhoi unrhyw ystyriaeth iddo.

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Setliad Llywodraeth Leol ar gyfer 2014-15

Local Government Settlement for 2014-15

14:33 **Russell George** Bywgraffiad Biography

6. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y Setliad Llywodraeth Leol dros dro ar gyfer 2014-15? OAQ(4)0338(LG)

6. Will the Minister make a statement on the provisional Local Government Settlement for 2014-15? OAQ(4)0338(LG)

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:33 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

I announced the provisional local government settlement for 2014-15 on 16 October 2013. This provides authorities with the information they need to plan their budgets for next year.

Cyhoeddais y setliad llywodraeth leol dros dro ar gyfer 2014-15 ar 16 Hydref 2013. Mae hyn yn rhoi'r wybodaeth sydd ei hangen ar awdurdodau i gynllunio eu cyllidebau ar gyfer y flwyddyn nesaf.

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14:33 **Russell George** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Thank you for your answer, Minister. Powys has once again fared badly in its allocation, with a 4.6% cut in funding. That is jointly the largest cut in Wales and well above the Welsh average. I have raised on a number of occasions the need to re-examine the funding formula. A map supplied to me shows the correlation between the largest cuts to local authorities and Assembly seats. The 10 local authorities with the smallest cuts have seats held by Labour; the three local authority areas with the joint highest cuts have seats held by Plaid, the Liberal Democrats—

Diolch am eich ateb, Weinidog. Unwaith eto mae dyraniad Powys yn wael, gyda thoriad o 4.6% yn y cyllid. Dyna'r toriad mwyaf yng Nghymru ac mae'n uwch o lawer na chyfartaledd Cymru. Rwyf wedi codi'r angen i ailystyried y fformiwla ariannu ar sawl achlysur. Mae map a roddwyd imi yn dangos y gydberthynas rhwng y toriadau mwyaf i awdurdodau lleol a seddi yn y Cynulliad. Mae gan y 10 awdurdod lleol sydd â'r toriadau lleiaf seddi a ddelir gan aelodau Llafur; mae gan y tair ardal awdurdod lleol sydd â'r toriadau uchaf ar y cyd seddi a ddelir gan Blaid Cymru, y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol—

14:34 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Order. Your two colleagues sat either side of you are shouting so loudly that no-one can hear your supplementary question. I ask your colleagues to be more courteous to you.

Trefn. Mae eich dau gyd-Aelod sy'n eistedd y naill ochr a'r llall ichi yn gweiddi mor uchel fel na all unrhyw un glywed eich cwestiwn atodol. Gofynnaf i'ch cyd-Aelodau fod yn fwy cwrtais tuag atoch.

14:34 **Russell George** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Quite right, Deputy Presiding Officer. [Laughter.]

Rydych yn hollol iawn, Ddirprwy Lywydd. [Chwerthin.]

The three local authority areas with the joint highest cuts have seats held by Plaid, the Welsh Liberal Democrats and the Welsh Conservatives. Is this just a coincidence? Will you look at the funding formula again so that it fairly reflects the challenges that rural authorities face?

Mae gan y tair ardal awdurdod lleol sydd â'r toriadau uchaf ar y cyd seddi a ddelir gan Blaid Cymru, Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru a'r Ceidwadwyr Cymreig. Ai cyd-ddigwyddiad yn unig yw hyn? A wnewch chi edrych ar y fformiwla ariannu eto er mwyn iddo adlewyrchu'n deg yr heriau sy'n wynebu awdurdodau gwledig?

14:34 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

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There are two points that I would like to raise in answer to your question. First, had I not introduced damping, Powys would have been a lot worse off, but it would also be a lot worse off under the Welsh Conservatives, who would have cut local government spending by 12.5%.

Mae dau bwynt yr hoffwn eu codi mewn ateb i'ch cwestiwn. Yn gyntaf, pe na bawn wedi cyflwyno tampio, byddai Powys wedi bod yn llawer gwaeth ei byd, ond byddai hefyd wedi bod yn llawer gwaeth ei byd o dan reolaeth y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig, a fyddai wedi torri gwariant llywodraeth leol 12.5%.

The second point that I will make is on the funding formula, which takes account of many factors, including the additional need to spend as a result of providing services in rural areas. I have to say that the formula is developed in partnership with local government, and it has not asked me to look at the formula.

Yr ail bwynt a wnaf yw'r un am y fformiwla ariannu, sy'n ystyried sawl ffactor, gan gynnwys yr angen ychwanegol i wario o ganlyniad i ddarparu gwasanaethau mewn ardaloedd gwledig. Rhaid imi ddweud y caiff y fformiwla ei datblygu mewn partneriaeth â llywodraeth leol, ac nad yw wedi gofyn imi edrych ar y fformiwla.

14:35 **Simon Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Mae'n wir, onid yw, serch hynny, Weinidog, bod y toriadau gwaethaf yn digwydd yn yr ardaloedd gwledig, megis Ceredigion a Phowys? Rwy'n falch bod llawr y tro hwn—y tro cyntaf ers sawl blwyddyn y mae llawr wedi cael ei roi mewn. Fodd bynnag, a allwch esbonio ychydig mwy am y dystiolaeth ar gyfer lefel y llawr hwnnw? Dywedwch nad yw Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru wedi gofyn yn wahanol, ond beth yw barn Llywodraeth Cymru am y dystiolaeth ar gyfer sicrhau nad yw ardaloedd gwledig yn dioddef yn ormodol? Ymhellach, gan bod adolygiad cynhwysfawr gan gomisiwn Paul Williams o sefyllfa awdurdodau lleol, oni fyddai'n briodol bod y comisiwn hwnnw yn edrych yn y tymor hir ar ddyfodol y fformiwla dosrannu arian?

It is true, however, is it not, Minister, that the most severe cuts are happening in rural areas such as Ceredigion and Powys? I am pleased that there is a floor this time, for the first time in many years. However, can you explain a little more about the evidence for the level of that floor? You say that the WLGA had not asked for a different approach, but what is the view of the Welsh Government about the evidence for ensuring that rural areas do not suffer excessively? Furthermore, as there is a comprehensive review being carried out by the Paul Williams commission of the situation of local authorities, would it not be appropriate that that commission should look at the long-term future of the funding formula?

14:36 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Obviously, Williams will report to the First Minister at the end of this year, and we will take account of the recommendations. I did bring in a damping mechanism. I looked at a variety of percentages, as you can imagine. I reiterate what I said in my answer to Russell George, that the funding formula takes account of many factors—it did not ask me to look at the funding formula; the formula is developed each year separately, in partnership with local government, through the distribution sub-group.

Yn amlwg, bydd Williams yn cyflwyno adroddiad i'r Prif Weinidog ar ddiwedd y flwyddyn hon, a byddwn yn ystyried yr argymhellion. Cyflwynais ddull tampio. Edrychais ar amrywiaeth o ganrannau, fel y gallwch ei ddychmygu. Ategaf yr hyn a ddywedais yn fy ateb i Russell George, sef bod y fformiwla ariannu yn ystyried sawl ffactor—ni ofynnodd imi edrych ar y fformiwla ariannu; datblygir y fformiwla bob blwyddyn ar wahân, mewn partneriaeth â llywodraeth leol, drwy'r is-grŵp dosbarthu.

Safonau Iaith Gymraeg

Welsh Language Standards

14:36 **Alun Ffred Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

7. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddatblygu safonau iaith Gymraeg mewn awdurdodau lleol? OAQ(4)0326(LG)

7. Will the Minister make a statement on the development of Welsh language standards within local authorities? OAQ(4)0326(LG)

14:36 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

The First Minister published a written statement earlier this week regarding the development of Welsh language standards for local authorities. Regulations making the first set of standards are scheduled to be made by the end of 2014. These will apply to local authorities, national parks and Welsh Ministers.

Cyhoeddodd y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ysgrifenedig yn gynharach yr wythnos hon ynglŷn â datblygu safonau iaith Gymraeg ar gyfer awdurdodau lleol. Trefnir i'r rheoliadau sy'n gwneud y set gyntaf o safonau gael eu gwneud erbyn diwedd 2014. Bydd y rhain yn gymwys i awdurdodau lleol, parciau cenedlaethol a Gweinidogion Cymru.

14:37 **Alun Ffred Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Diolch yn fawr. Pa drafodaethau penodol ydych chi wedi eu cynnal gyda Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, a chyda'r Prif Weinidog, ynglŷn â'r safonau iaith Gymraeg mewn awdurdodau lleol?

Thank you. What specific discussions have you had with the WLGA, and the First Minister, with regard to the Welsh language standards in local authorities?

14:37 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I have not had the opportunity to do that yet.

Ni chefais gyfle i wneud hynny eto.

14:37 **Suzy Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Weinidog, mae adroddiad Comisiynydd y Gymraeg yn dyfynnu angen cyson, ar draws awdurdodau lleol, i wella sgiliau iaith Gymraeg y gweithlu. Mae'r gwaith ychwanegol hwn yn dod ar adeg pan fydd awdurdodau lleol, a'r comisiynydd, yn wynebu toriadau yn y gyllideb. Faint o bwysigrwydd a roddwch chi, a'ch Llywodraeth, ar bolisïau iaith Gymraeg, wrth benderfynu lle bydd y fwyell ariannol yn disgyn?

Minister, the Welsh Language Commissioner's report cites a consistent need, across local authorities, to improve Welsh language skills among the workforce. This additional work comes at a time when local authorities and the commissioner will face cuts in their budgets. How much importance do you place on Welsh language policies in deciding where the financial axe will fall?

14:37 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Operational standards are being developed within local authorities at present. I am confident that that will reinforce the work that they are doing within each authority in relation to the Welsh language.

Mae safonau gweithredol yn cael eu datblygu o fewn awdurdodau lleol ar hyn o bryd. Rwy'n hyderus y bydd hynny'n atgyfnerthu'r gwaith y maent yn ei wneud o fewn pob awdurdod mewn perthynas â'r iaith Gymraeg.

Setliad Ariannol Arfaethedig i Gyngor Sir Ynys Môn

Financial Settlement for Anglesey County Council

14:38 **Rhun ap Iorwerth** Bywgraffiad Biography

8. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y setliad ariannol arfaethedig i Gyngor Sir Ynys Môn? OAQ(4)0336(FIN)

8. Will the Minister make a statement on the proposed financial settlement for Anglesey County Council? OAQ(4)0336(FIN)

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:38 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

I announced the provisional settlement on 16 October 2013. It shows the proposed allocations for every authority in Wales, including Anglesey County Council.

Cyhoeddais y setliad dros dro ar 16 Hydref 2013. Mae'n dangos y dyraniadau arfaethedig ar gyfer pob awdurdod yng Nghymru, gan gynnwys Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn.

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14:38 **Rhun ap Iorwerth** Bywgraffiad Biography

Thank you. Anglesey council is said to be among the seven hardest hit for 2014-15, with a 4% cut—that is nearly 6% in real terms. While I echo the concerns that have already been raised by others about where, in general terms, the cuts have been felt deepest, are you not concerned that hitting Anglesey disproportionately hard once again puts at risk the gains that your Government tried to achieve in Anglesey in sending in commissioners to run the authority?

Diolch. Dywedir bod Cyngor Ynys Môn ymysg y saith cyngor yr effeithir fwyaf arnynt yn ystod 2014-15, gyda thoriad o 4%—mae hynny bron yn 6% mewn termau real. Er fy mod yn ategu'r pryderon a godwyd eisoes gan eraill ynghylch ble, yn gyffredinol, y teimlwyd effaith y toriadau fwyaf, onid ydych yn pryderu bod targedu Ynys Môn yn anghymesur o galed unwaith eto yn peryglu'r enillion y mae eich Llywodraeth wedi ceisio eu cyflawni yn Ynys Môn wrth anfon comisiynwyr i redeg yr awdurdod?

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14:38 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

I do not think that we 'tried' to achieve—I think that we did achieve a lot on Anglesey. I can only reiterate the way that the formula is developed each year.

Ni chredaf inni 'geisio' cyflawni—credaf ein bod wedi cyflawni llawer yn Ynys Môn. Gallaf ond ailadrodd y ffordd y datblygir y fformiwla bob blwyddyn.

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14:39 **Antoinette Sandbach** Bywgraffiad Biography

Minister, Wales's nine most rural counties all fall within the 12 hardest hit authorities, and north Wales suffers disproportionately greater cuts compared with south Wales. Are you prepared to publish your rural-proofing of this decision making, so that we can scrutinise it?

Weinidog, mae naw sir fwyaf gwledig Cymru i gyd yn rhan o'r 12 awdurdod yr effeithir fwyaf arnynt, ac mae'r toriadau mwyaf yn effeithio'n anghymesur ar y gogledd o gymharu â'r de. A ydych yn barod i gyhoeddi eich dull o brawfesur y penderfyniadau hyn, fel y gallwn graffu arno?

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14:39 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

I go back to my earlier answers. The funding formula takes account of many factors, including the additional need to spend as a result of providing services in rural areas. The formula is developed each year in partnership with local government through the distribution sub-group.

Af yn ôl at fy atebion cynharach. Mae'r fformiwla ariannu yn ystyried nifer o ffactorau, gan gynnwys yr angen ychwanegol i wario o ganlyniad i ddarparu gwasanaethau mewn ardaloedd gwledig. Datblygir y fformiwla bob blwyddyn mewn partneriaeth â llywodraeth leol drwy'r is-grŵp dosbarthu.

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Masnachu mewn Pobl

Human Trafficking

14:39 **Aled Roberts** Bywgraffiad Biography

9. Pa drafodaethau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi eu cael gyda Llywodraeth y DU ynglŷn â masnachu mewn pobl yng Nghymru? OAQ(4)0327(LG)

9. What discussions has the Welsh Government had with the UK Government regarding human trafficking in Wales? OAQ(4)0327(LG)

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:40 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

I attended the inter-departmental ministerial group on human trafficking extraordinary meeting on 17 October last week. The meeting, chaired by the Prime Minister, set out plans for a modern slavery Bill in May 2014. I outlined the significant work that we have undertaken in Wales to raise awareness and tackle this terrible crime.

Mynychais gyfarfod eithriadol o'r grŵp rhyng-adrannol o weinidogion ar fasnachu mewn pobl ar 17 Hydref yr wythnos diwethaf. Nododd y cyfarfod, a gadeiriwyd gan y Prif Weinidog, gynlluniau ar gyfer Bil caethwasiaeth modern ym mis Mai 2014. Amlinellais y gwaith sylweddol a wnaed gennym yng Nghymru i godi ymwybyddiaeth a mynd i'r afael â'r drosedd ofnadwy hon.

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14:40 **Aled Roberts** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Minister, you will be aware that the Centre for Social Justice is critical of movements within the UK with regard to this policy. I accept that we have a co-ordinator in Wales, but it is very difficult for us, as an Assembly, given that the co-ordinator reports directly to the Welsh Government, to assess accurately the impact that the co-ordinator is having and the strategies that we have adopted. Will you consider allowing that report to be considered by the Assembly, going forward, in order that we can see the success, or otherwise, of strategies?

Weinidog, byddwch yn ymwybodol bod y Ganolfan Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol yn feirniadol o symudiadau o fewn y DU mewn perthynas â'r polisi hwn. Derbyniaf fod gennym gydgysylltydd yng Nghymru, ond mae'n anodd iawn inni, fel Cynulliad, o gofio bod y cydgysylltydd yn uniongyrchol atebol i Lywodraeth Cymru, asesu'n gywir yr effaith y mae'r cydgysylltydd yn ei chael a'r stragegaethau yr ydym wedi'u mabwysiadu. A wnewch chi ystyried caniatáu i'r adroddiad hwnnw gael ei ystyried gan y Cynulliad, yn y dyfodol, fel y gallwn weld llwyddiant neu fethiant y strategaethau?

14:40 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

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From memory, Stephen Chapman, the anti-human trafficking co-ordinator, is appearing before the Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee in the near future, so I am sure that he will be scrutinised at that time.

O'r hyn a gofiaf, Stephen Chapman, mae'r cydgysylltydd atal masnachu mewn pobl yn ymddangos gerbron y Pwyllgor Cymunedau, Cydraddoldeb a Llywodraeth Leol yn y dyfodol agos, felly rwy'n siŵr y bydd yn craffu ar hynny bryd hynny.

14:41 **Joyce Watson** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Minister, will you consider the recommendations of the British-Irish Parliamentary Assembly report on human trafficking, which was agreed at the conference in London yesterday?

Weinidog, a wnewch chi ystyried argymhellion adroddiad y Cynulliad Seneddol Prydeinig-Wyddelig ar fasnachu mewn pobl, y cytunwyd arno yn y gynhadledd yn Llundain ddoe?

14:41 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Thank you, Joyce, for your work on human trafficking. I certainly welcome the work of BIPA in this area, and I will make sure that the report has due consideration.

Diolch ichi, Joyce, am eich gwaith ar fasnachu mewn pobl. Yn sicr, croesawaf waith BIPA yn y maes hwn, a gwnaf yn siŵr y caiff yr adroddiad ei ystyried yn briodol.

14:41 **Mohammad Asghar** Bywgraffiad Biography

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The number of referrals for victims of human trafficking last year increased by a quarter. Thousands of people in Britain are exploited through forced labour, being pushed into crime and made to work in the sex industry. Will the Minister join me in welcoming the UK Government's forthcoming modern slavery Bill, which will increase the maximum sentence for trafficking to life imprisonment?

Gwnaeth nifer yr atgyfeiriadau ar gyfer dioddefwyr masnachu mewn pobl gynyddu chwarter y llynedd. Camfanteisir ar filoedd o bobl ym Mhrydain drwy lafur gorfodol, cânt eu gorfodi i droseddu a'u gorfodi i weithio yn y diwydiant rhyw. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ymuno â mi i groesawu Bil caethwasiaeth modern arfaethedig Llywodraeth y DU, a fydd yn cynyddu'r ddedfryd uchaf am fasnachu mewn pobl i garchar am oes?

14:42 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

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You will have heard me say in my answer to Aled Roberts that I attended the meeting last Thursday in 10 Downing Street where this was discussed. Obviously, we need to look very closely at the detail in the Bill. I was there along with my Northern Irish and Scottish counterparts. The devil is in the detail, and we will be considering what comes forward from that Bill in due course.

Byddwch wedi fy nghlywed yn dweud yn fy ateb i Aled Roberts fy mod yn bresennol yn y cyfarfod ddydd Iau diwethaf yn 10 Stryd Downing pan drafodwyd hyn. Yn amlwg, mae angen inni edrych yn ofalus iawn ar y manylion yn y Bil. Roeddwn i yno ynghyd â'm Gweinidogion cyfatebol yng Ngogledd Iwerddon a'r Alban. Y manylion bach sy'n bwysig, a byddwn yn ystyried yr hyn a fydd yn deillio o'r Bil hwnnw maes o law.

14:42 **Mick Antoniw** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Will you make a statement on the implications of the UK Government's Immigration Bill for human trafficking?

A wnewch chi ddatganiad am oblygiadau Bil Mewnfudo Llywodraeth y DU ar gyfer masnachu mewn pobl?

14:42 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Thank you, Mick, for that question. We feel that the UK Government's overall drive to tackle illegal immigration could impact negatively on the victims of human trafficking. It is really important that the UK Government clearly distinguishes between those who enter the UK illegally and those who are illegally trafficked against their will. Victims of trafficking are not immigration offenders; they are nearly always vulnerable, often children, and it is really important that we support them through their ordeal. This is something that I raised when I was at the meeting last Thursday. The Immigration Bill, which was published earlier this month, is being looked at very carefully by me and other Ministers to see whether we will need to bring any legislative competence motions before this Assembly.

Diolch ichi, Mick, am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Teimlwn y gallai ymgyrch gyffredinol Llywodraeth y DU i fynd i'r afael â mewnfudo anghyfreithlon effeithio'n negyddol ar ddioddefwyr masnachu mewn pobl. Mae'n wirioneddol bwysig bod Llywodraeth y DU yn gwahaniaethu'n glir rhwng y rhai sy'n dod i mewn i'r DU yn anghyfreithlon a'r rhai sy'n cael eu masnachu yn anghyfreithlon yn erbyn eu hewyllys. Nid yw dioddefwyr masnachu mewn pobl yn droseddwyr mewnfudo; maent bron bob amser yn agored i niwed, yn aml yn blant, ac mae'n bwysig iawn ein bod yn eu cefnogi drwy eu profiad anodd. Mae hyn yn rhywbeth a godais pan oeddwn yn y cyfarfod ddydd Iau diwethaf. Caiff y Bil Mewnfudo, a gyhoeddwyd yn gynharach y mis hwn, ei ystyried yn ofalus iawn gennyf i a Gweinidogion eraill i weld a fydd angen inni gyflwyno unrhyw gynigion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol gerbron y Cynulliad hwn.

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14:43 **Lindsay Whittle** Bywgraffiad Biography

What priorities has the Welsh Government set for the anti-human trafficking co-ordinator for Wales to tackle the problems of trafficking in all its many forms, and do you know whether his office is working with private companies such as airlines and rail and shipping companies?

Pa flaenoriaethau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'u pennu ar gyfer y cydgysylltydd atal masnachu mewn pobl ar gyfer Cymru i fynd i'r afael â phroblemau masnachu mewn pobl yn ei holl ffurfiau amrywiol, ac a wyddoch a yw ei swyddfa yn gweithio gyda chwmnïau preifat fel cwmnïau hedfan a chwmnïau rheilffordd a llongau?

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14:43 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Certainly, what I want from the anti-human trafficking co-ordinator and our policies is to make Wales as hostile as possible to human trafficking, which is the most terrible crime. I have met a few people who have been trafficked, and their stories are horrendous. He works with a lot of organisations and agencies to get as much intelligence as possible. I will be bringing forward a report next month, or certainly before the end of the year, as to his activity over the past year.

Yn sicr, yr hyn yr wyf am ei gael gan y cydgysylltydd atal masnachu mewn pobl a'n polisïau yw gwneud Cymru mor elyniaethus â phosibl i'r fasnach mewn pobl, sef y drosedd waethaf oll. Rwyf wedi cyfarfod â rhai pobl sydd wedi cael eu masnachu, ac mae eu straeon yn erchyll. Mae'n gweithio gyda llawer o sefydliadau ac asiantaethau i gael cymaint o wybodaeth â phosibl. Byddaf yn cyflwyno adroddiad y mis nesaf, neu yn sicr cyn diwedd y flwyddyn, ar ei weithgarwch dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf.

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Rhanbarth Bae Abertawe

The Swansea Bay Region

14:44 **Suzy Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

10. Sut y bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn cynorthwyo awdurdodau lleol yn rhanbarth Bae Abertawe dros y tair blynedd nesaf? OAQ(4)0332(LG)

10. How will the Welsh Government be supporting local authorities in the Swansea Bay region over the next three years? OAQ(4)0332(LG)

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:44 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

The programme for government sets out our approach to supporting how local authorities provide efficient and effective services that meet the needs of people across Wales, including in the western bay region. This means strong local democracy and accountability, services that are always seeking to improve, using funding effectively, and public services working well together.

Mae'r rhaglen lywodraethu yn nodi ein dull o gefnogi'r modd y mae awdurdodau lleol yn darparu gwasanaethau effeithlon ac effeithiol sy'n diwallu anghenion pobl ledled Cymru, gan gynnwys yn rhanbarth y bae gorllewinol. Mae hyn yn golygu democratiaeth ac atebolrwydd lleol cadarn, gwasanaethau sydd bob amser yn ceisio gwella, defnyddio cyllid yn effeithiol, a gwasanaethau cyhoeddus sy'n gweithio gyda'i gilydd yn dda.

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14:44 **Suzy Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Thank you for that answer, Minister, but you will be aware that the local authorities in the region are submitting a bid for Swansea bay to become the city of culture in 2017. Do you support the bid, and what can you do to support those local authorities should the bid be successful?

Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog, ond byddwch yn ymwybodol bod yr awdurdodau lleol yn y rhanbarth yn cyflwyno cais i geisio sicrhau mai bae Abertawe yw'r ddinas diwylliant yn 2017. A ydych o blaid y cais, a beth y gallwch ei wneud i gefnogi'r awdurdodau lleol hynny os bydd y cais yn llwyddiannus?

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14:45 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

As a Government, we support the bid and a letter has gone from the First Minister, I think, outlining our support.

Fel Llywodraeth, rydym yn cefnogi'r cais ac rwy'n credu i lythyr gael ei anfon gan y Prif Weinidog yn amlinellu ein cefnogaeth.

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14:45 **Bethan Jenkins** Bywgraffiad Biography

Minister, last week in the scrutiny session with the Minister for education, I raised the fact that the City and County of Swansea has already made cuts to provision, although it had not yet received the cuts that you had laid out for it. Education provision has been cut to home tuition and work with excluded students was suspended barely a few weeks before the school term started, which will have left lots of students out in the cold. Could you talk to your colleagues in local government, because it is all well and good for them to say that they want to encourage people to be involved in consultations on these cuts and then go ahead and do this without any prior consultation with users in the field?

Weinidog, yr wythnos diwethaf yn y sesiwn graffu gyda'r Gweinidog addysg, codais y ffaith bod Dinas a Sir Abertawe eisoes wedi gwneud toriadau i'r ddarpariaeth, er nad oedd eto wedi derbyn y toriadau yr oeddech wedi eu trefnu ar ei chyfer. Torrwyd y ddarpariaeth addysg i addysg yn y cartref ac ataliwyd gwaith gyda myfyrwyr a waharddwyd ond ychydig wythnosau cyn i dymor yr ysgol ddechrau, sydd wedi gadael llawer o fyfyrwyr heb unrhyw gymorth. A allech siarad â'ch cyd-Aelodau mewn llywodraeth leol, oherwydd mae'n iawn iddynt hwy ddweud eu bod am annog pobl i fod yn rhan o'r ymgynghoriadau ar y toriadau hyn ac yna fynd ymlaen i wneud hyn heb ymgynghori ymlaen llaw â defnyddwyr yn y maes?

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14:46 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

In next year's budget, as in this year's budget and in previous years, we have protected education funding with an increase of 1%. Local authorities have to make some very difficult decisions, but I hope that they will take the points that you raise into consideration when making those decisions.

Yng nghyllideb y flwyddyn nesaf, fel yn y gyllideb eleni ac mewn blynyddoedd blaenorol, rydym wedi diogelu cyllid addysg, gyda chynnydd o 1%. Rhaid i awdurdodau lleol wneud rhai penderfyniadau anodd iawn, ond rwy'n gobeithio y byddant yn ystyried y pwyntiau a godwch wrth wneud y penderfyniadau hynny.

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Gwasanaethau Tân ac Achub

Fire and Rescue Services

14:46 **David Rees** Bywgraffiad Biography

11. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddyfodol Gwasanaethau Tân ac Achub ledled Cymru? OAQ(4)0339(LG)

11. Will the Minister make a statement on the future of Fire and Rescue Services across Wales? OAQ(4)0339(LG)

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14:46 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

As I stated in my oral statement on fire and rescue services in Wales in Plenary yesterday, we are in an unprecedented financial climate and public services face difficult decisions, including the fire and rescue authorities, which are a vital part of our public services.

Fel y dywedais yn fy natganiad llafar ar wasanaethau tân ac achub yng Nghymru yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ddoe, rydym mewn hinsawdd ariannol ddigynsail ac mae gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yn wynebu penderfyniadau anodd, gan gynnwys yr awdurdodau tân ac achub, sy'n rhan hanfodol o'n gwasanaethau cyhoeddus.

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14:46 **David Rees** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Thank you for the answer, Minister, and thank you for yesterday's statement. During questions that you answered after that statement, you indicated that you expect all proposals for service change to be robust, including those for roster changes and the number of appliances located at stations. In fact, you even stated that you had spoken to Huw Jakeway who had confirmed that they were robust. What will the Welsh Government do to ensure that the service change proposals are robust, and how will you reassure people that that is the case? How will the Welsh Government ensure that not only is the public consulted, but that its concerns are also listened to and acted upon?

Diolch ichi am yr ateb, Weinidog, a diolch ichi am ddatganiad ddoe. Yn ystod y cwestiynau a atebwyd gennych ar ôl y datganiad hwnnw, gwnaethoch nodi eich bod yn disgwyl i bob cynnig ar gyfer newid i wasanaethau fod yn gadarn, gan gynnwys y rhai ar gyfer newidiadau i'r rhestr ddyletswyddau a nifer y cyfarpar a geir mewn gorsafoedd. Yn wir, gwnaethoch hyd yn oed nodi eich bod wedi siarad â Huw Jakeway a gadarnhaodd eu bod yn gadarn. Beth a wnaiff Llywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau bod y cynigion o ran newidiadau mewn gwasanaethau yn gadarn, a sut y byddwch yn rhoi sicrwydd i bobl bod hynny'n wir? Sut y bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn sicrhau, nid yn unig yr ymgynghorir ag aelodau'r cyhoedd, ond y gwrandewir ar eu pryderon ac y gweithredir arnynt?

14:47 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

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The fire and rescue authorities are required to consult on their proposals under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009. The Wales Audit Office also has a role in assessing their compliance with the Measure. I receive an update on the outcomes of the Wales Audit Office assessment, and I have the powers to support and intervene if the Wales Audit Office identifies any issue of concern in that area. I mentioned yesterday in Plenary that I meet with the chief fire officers and chairs of fire and rescue authorities on a regular basis. I also have a fire and rescue adviser who can advise me on anything to do with the management of FRAs.

Mae'n ofynnol i'r awdurdodau tân ac achub ymgynghori ar eu cynigion o dan Fesur Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru) 2009. Mae gan Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru rôl hefyd wrth asesu eu cydymffurfiaeth â'r Mesur. Caf y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am ganlyniadau asesiad Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru, ac mae gennyf y pwerau i gefnogi ac ymyrryd os yw Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru yn nodi unrhyw fater sy'n peri pryder yn y maes hwnnw. Soniais ddoe yn y Cyfarfod Llawn fy mod yn cyfarfod â'r prif swyddogion tân a chadeiryddion awdurdodau tân ac achub yn rheolaidd. Mae gennyf gynghorydd tân ac achub hefyd a all roi cyngor imi ar unrhyw beth i'w wneud â rheoli Awdurdodau Tân ac Achub.

14:47 **Mark Isherwood** Bywgraffiad Biography

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During your statement yesterday, you said that Welsh Governments had provided £50 million in supporting community fire safety over the last 11 years. What specific evaluations of interventions that work have been carried out to inform future fire prevention strategies?

Yn ystod eich datganiad ddoe, dywedasoch fod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi darparu £50 miliwn i gefnogi diogelwch tân cymunedol dros yr 11 mlynedd ddiwethaf. Pa werthusiadau penodol o ymyriadau sy'n gweithio a gynhaliwyd i lywio strategaethau atal tân yn y dyfodol?

14:48 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Over the past 11 years, a variety of evaluations have been undertaken to ensure that the funding that we have put into community safety is working.

Dros yr 11 mlynedd ddiwethaf, cynhaliwyd amrywiaeth o werthusiadau er mwyn sicrhau bod yr arian yr ydym wedi'i neilltuo i ddiogelwch cymunedol yn gweithio.

Cyllido Awdurdodau Lleol yn y Dyfodol

Future Financing of Local Authorities

14:48 **Byron Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

12. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gyllido awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru yn y dyfodol? OAQ(4)0328(LG)

12. Will the Minister make a statement on the future financing of local authorities in Wales? OAQ(4)0328(LG)

14:48 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I published the provision settlement for local government for 2014-15 on 16 October. This included indicative figures for 2015-16.

Cyhoeddais y setliad dros dro i lywodraeth leol ar gyfer 2014-15 ar 16 Hydref. Roedd hwn yn cynnwys ffigurau dangosol ar gyfer 2015-16.

14:48 **Byron Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you for that answer, Minister. I am sure that we will disagree as to who is to blame for the spending constraints that local government finds itself under, but we will agree that massive financial pressures face local government. Will you confirm that the cap for increasing council tax remains at 5%, and that you will enforce it against any council that looks to put an unfair burden on the already stretched pockets of residents across Wales?

Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Rwy'n siŵr y byddwn yn anghytuno o ran pwy sydd ar fai am y cyfyngiadau gwariant y mae llywodraeth leol yn eu hwynebu, ond byddwn yn cytuno bod llywodraeth leol yn wynebu pwysau ariannol enfawr. A wnewch chi gadarnhau bod y cap ar gyfer cynyddu'r dreth gyngor yn aros ar 5%, ac y byddwch yn ei orfodi yn erbyn unrhyw gyngor sy'n ceisio rhoi baich annheg ar bocedi trigolion ledled Cymru sydd eisoes dan bwysau?

14:49 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Local authorities need to balance their commitments to maintain services while limiting the burden they put on council tax payers. Local authorities have a very good record in recent years of limiting the overall council tax rise, and I expect them to continue to do so. I am prepared to use the capping powers available to me if any proposed increase appears unreasonable.

Mae angen i awdurdodau lleol sicrhau cydbwysedd rhwng eu hymrwymiadau i gynnal gwasanaethau tra'n cyfyngu ar y baich a roddant ar dalwyr y dreth gyngor. Mae gan awdurdodau lleol hanes da iawn dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf o gyfyngu ar y cynnydd cyffredinol yn y dreth gyngor, a disgwyliaf iddynt barhau i wneud hynny. Rwy'n barod i ddefnyddio'r pwerau capio sydd gennyf os bydd unrhyw gynnydd arfaethedig yn ymddangos yn afresymol.

Darparu Gwasanaethau yn y Dyfodol

Future Service Provision

14:49 **Mark Isherwood** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

13. Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi eu cael gydag awdurdodau lleol ynglyn â darparu gwasanaethau yn y dyfodol? OAQ(4)0334(LG)

13. What discussions has the Minister had with local authorities regarding future service provision? OAQ(4)0334(LG)

14:49 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I have regular discussions with local authorities regarding future service provision.

Caf drafodaethau rheolaidd gydag awdurdodau lleol ynglŷn â darparu gwasanaethau yn y dyfodol.

14:49 **Mark Isherwood** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

How do you propose to address the concern from local authorities, which some have now put in writing, that the impact of ring fencing over two-thirds of their budgets will have a significant negative impact on future service provision, not only adding cost to statutory services, but denying them the ability to fund priorities informed by local circumstances and sound evidence?

Sut rydych yn bwriadu mynd i'r afael â'r pryder a fynegir gan awdurdodau lleol, y mae rhai bellach wedi ei fynegi yn ysgrifenedig, y bydd effaith neilltuo dros ddwy ran o dair o'u cyllidebau yn cael effaith negyddol iawn ar ddarpariaeth gwasanaethau yn y dyfodol, gan nid yn unig ychwanegu cost at wasanaethau statudol, ond gan olygu na fyddant yn gallu ariannu blaenoriaethau a gaiff eu llywio gan amgylchiadau lleol a thystiolaeth gadarn?

14:50 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I have taken very seriously their concerns around ring fencing. Two thirds of their budget will not be ring fenced; I think that it is 40% for the next year. I have also looked at specific grants. I have unhypothecated two or three going into the next year for over £30 million, and the Minister for Health and Social Services has unhypothecated one. Over the current financial year, we have unhypothecated over £90 million. So, I have listened to local authorities since I have been in post and I am trying to give them more flexibility within their funding.

Rwyf wedi cymryd eu pryderon ynghylch neilltuo arian o ddifrif. Ni neilltuir dwy ran o dair o'u cyllideb; credaf mai 40% ydyw ar gyfer y flwyddyn nesaf. Rwyf hefyd wedi edrych ar grantiau penodol. Rwyf wedi rhoi dau neu dri heb eu neilltuo wrth fynd i mewn i'r flwyddyn nesaf ar gyfer dros £30 miliwn, ac mae'r Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol wedi rhoi un heb ei neilltuo. Yn ystod y flwyddyn ariannol gyfredol, rydym wedi rhoi dros £90 miliwn heb ei neilltuo. Felly, rwyf wedi gwrando ar awdurdodau lleol ers imi fod yn y swydd ac rwy'n ceisio rhoi mwy o hyblygrwydd iddynt o fewn eu cyllid.

Ariannu Awdurdodau Lleol

Funding Local Authorities

14:50 **Julie Morgan** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14. Pa gynlluniau sydd gan y Gweinidog i archwilio'r ffordd y mae awdurdodau lleol yn cael eu hariannu? OAQ(4)0330(LG)

14. What plans does the Minister have to explore the way local authorities are funded? OAQ(4)0330(LG)

14:50 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I am currently consulting on the proposed settlement for local authorities for 2014-15. I welcome any thoughts on future funding arrangements as part of that consultation.

Ar hyn o bryd rwy’n ymgynghori ar y setliad arfaethedig i awdurdodau lleol ar gyfer 2014-15. Croesawaf unrhyw sylwadau ar y trefniadau ariannu yn y dyfodol fel rhan o’r ymgynghoriad hwnnw.

14:51 **Julie Morgan** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you, Minister. What views does the Minister have on the Welsh Local Government Association’s proposal to call on the Big Lottery Fund to work more strategically with local government in order to help support vital public services but not statutory services?

Diolch, Weinidog. Beth yw barn y Gweinidog ar gynnig Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru i alw ar y Gronfa Loteri Fawr i weithio’n fwy strategol gyda llywodraeth leol er mwyn helpu i gefnogi gwasanaethau cyhoeddus hanfodol ond nid gwasanaethau statudol?

14:51 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

That is a matter for the Big Lottery Fund. I know that local authorities can act as an agent for community bodies that are making applications to the Big Lottery Fund. I know that a key consideration for the Big Lottery Fund is additionality. I do not think that it wants to be considered as an alternative source of funding for meeting, for example, existing responsibilities or spending pressures. I know that my colleague John Griffiths, the Minister for Culture and Sport, has regular meetings with representatives from the Big Lottery Fund.

Mater i’r Gronfa Loteri Fawr yw hynny. Gwn y gall awdurdodau lleol weithredu fel asiant ar gyfer cyrff cymunedol sy’n gwneud ceisiadau i’r Gronfa Loteri Fawr. Gwn mai ystyriaeth allweddol i’r Gronfa Loteri Fawr yw ychwanegedd. Ni chredaf ei bod am gael ei hystyried yn ffynhonnell ariannu arall ar gyfer, er enghraifft, bodloni cyfrifoldebau neu bwysau gwario sy’n bodoli eisoes. Gwn fod fy nghyd-Weinidog John Griffiths, y Gweinidog Diwylliant a Chwaraeon, yn cynnal cyfarfodydd rheolaidd â chynrychiolwyr o’r Gronfa Loteri Fawr.

14:51 **Russell George** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

It has been raised in relevant scrutiny committees over the last few weeks that, potentially, the 700 town and community councils in Wales may be sitting on reserves that, if utilised, could assist their respective local authorities to balance budgets over a short-term period. What exploratory work have you and your officials done with the WLGA to look at a cash-pooling mechanism, which could maximise interest returns and potentially assist local authorities to manage their budgets and service pressures?

Mewn pwyllgorau craffu perthnasol dros yr ychydig wythnosau diwethaf, codwyd y ffaith y gall y 700 o gynghorau tref a chymuned yng Nghymru, o bosibl, fod yn eistedd ar gronfeydd wrth gefn a allai, pe baent yn cael eu defnyddio, gynorthwyo eu hawdurdodau lleol perthnasol i gydbwyso cyllidebau dros gyfnod byrdymor. Pa waith archwiliol yr ydych chi a’ch swyddogion wedi’i wneud gyda CLlLC i edrych ar ddull cronni arian parod, a allai sicrhau’r enillion llog mwyaf posibl a helpu awdurdodau lleol o bosibl i reoli eu cyllidebau a’r pwysau ar wasanaethau?

14:52 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I have not done any particular work around that, but I know that some local authorities have had discussions with their own town and community councils.

Nid wyf wedi gwneud unrhyw waith penodol ar hynny, ond gwn fod rhai awdurdodau lleol wedi cael trafodaethau gyda’u cynghorau tref a chymuned.

Diogelwch Cymunedol

Community Safety

14:52 **Mick Antoniw** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

15. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am yr hyn y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i hybu diogelwch cymunedol ym Mhontypridd? OAQ(4)0329(LG)

15. Will the Minister make a statement on what the Welsh Government is doing to promote community safety in Pontypridd? OAQ(4)0329(LG)

14:52 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

We are committed to making communities across Wales safer. I have announced a landmark prevention of youth offending Bill to reduce and prevent youth crime. One of our top 'five for a fairer future' priorities, namely recruiting an extra 500 community support officers across Wales, is now in place, making people safer and feel safer in their community.

Rydym wedi ymrwymo i wneud cymunedau ledled Cymru yn fwy diogel. Rwyf wedi cyhoeddi Bil atal troseddau ieuenctid nodedig i leihau ac atal troseddau ieuenctid. Mae un o'n blaenoriaethau pwysicaf, sef 'pump am ddyfodol tecach', sy'n ymwneud â recriwtio 500 o swyddogion cymorth cymunedol ychwanegol ledled Cymru, bellach ar waith, gan wneud pobl yn fwy diogel a gwneud iddynt deimlo'n fwy diogel yn eu cymuned.

14:53 **Mick Antoniw** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you, Minister. With regard to those community support officers, I would like to take the opportunity to say how impressed people in the local community are with them. A number of people have approached me to say how effective they are and how pleased they are to see them. The quality of the individuals and the training that they have obviously had is making a real impact in some of our towns and communities.

Diolch, Weinidog. O ran y swyddogion cymorth cymunedol hynny, hoffwn fanteisio ar y cyfle i ddweud cymaint o argraff y maent wedi ei chael ar bobl yn y gymuned leol. Mae sawl un wedi dod ataf i ddweud pa mor effeithiol ydynt a pha mor falch ydynt o'u gweld. Mae ansawdd yr unigolion a'r hyfforddiant y maent yn amlwg wedi ei gael yn cael effaith wirioneddol ar rai o'n trefi a'n cymunedau.

14:53 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Yes, thank you. Last week we held a celebratory event in the Senedd, which I know several Members joined me at, for reaching our target of over 500 Welsh Government-funded CSOs. We are only half way through this Assembly and we have already achieved that. I have met several now; they are a very diverse group and they have all come to this job at different stages of their lives, bringing with them different experiences. Certainly, out on the street, I know how appreciated they are.

Ie, diolch ichi. Yr wythnos diwethaf cynhaliwyd digwyddiad dathlu yn y Senedd, a gwn i nifer o Aelodau ymuno â mi yn y digwyddiad hwnnw, er mwyn cyrraedd ein targed o fwy na 500 o swyddogion cymorth cymunedol a ariennir gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Rydym ond hanner ffordd drwy'r Cynulliad hwn ac rydym eisoes wedi cyflawni hynny. Rwyf wedi cwrdd â sawl un ohonynt bellach; maent yn grŵp amrywiol iawn a phob un wedi dod i'r swydd hon ar adegau gwahanol yn eu bywydau, gan gynnig profiadau gwahanol. Yn sicr, allan ar y stryd, rwy'n gwybod cymaint y cânt eu gwerthfawrogi.

14:53 **Andrew R.T. Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, six months on from the start of the delivery of the youth crime prevention package, which the Government brought forward in April 2013, what assessment has the Government made of its impact on the communities of South Wales Central?

Weinidog, chwe mis ar ôl dechrau'r broses o gyflwyno'r pecyn atal troseddau ieuenctid, a gyflwynodd y Llywodraeth ym Ebrill 2013, pa asesiad y mae'r Llywodraeth wedi'i wneud o'i effaith ar gymunedau Canol De Cymru?

14:54 **Lesley Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I am currently assessing that, following the responses we received in the Green Paper and my decision for having a stand-alone youth justice Bill. While we have seen a decrease in the number of young people in custody, I am concerned to note that there has been a slight increase in reoffending. I think that it is really important that we make sure that we are able to do all that we can to keep people out of the youth justice system in the first place. My decision to have a stand-alone youth justice Bill is going to hopefully attain that.

Rwyf ar hyn o bryd yn asesu hynny, yn dilyn yr ymatebion a gawsom yn y Papur Gwyrdd a'm penderfyniad ynghylch cael Bil cyfiawnder ieuenctid annibynnol. Er ein bod wedi gweld gostyngiad yn nifer y bobl ifanc sydd yn y ddalfa, rwy'n bryderus bod cynnydd bach wedi bod yn nifer y bobl ifanc sy'n aildroseddu. Credaf ei bod yn hollbwysig ein bod yn sicrhau y gallwn wneud popeth o fewn ein gallu i gadw pobl allan o'r system cyfiawnder ieuenctid yn y lle cyntaf. Mae fy mhenderfyniad i gael Bil cyfiawnder ieuenctid annibynnol yn mynd i gyflawni hynny gobeithio.

We have to look at how we can best support these very vulnerable young people. It is important that all of our strategies and initiatives come together to make sure that that happens.

Rhaid inni edrych ar y ffordd orau o gefnogi'r bobl ifanc hynny sy'n agored iawn i niwed. Mae'n bwysig bod ein holl strategaethau a mentrau yn dod ynghyd er mwyn sicrhau bod hynny'n digwydd.

14:55 **Cwestiwn Brys: Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda**

Urgent Question: Hywel Dda Local Health Board

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

I have accepted an urgent question under Standing Order 12.66. I call on Kirsty Williams to ask the urgent question.

Rwyf wedi derbyn cwestiwn brys o dan Reol Sefydlog 12.66. Galwaf ar Kirsty Williams i ofyn y cwestiwn brys.

14:55

Kirsty Williams Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Yn dilyn y datganiadau a wnaed gan Brif Weinidog Cymru a Chyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Clinigol Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda y bydd llawdriniaethau orthopedig yn cael eu gohirio dros y gaeaf, a wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ynghylch y cymorth a roddir i gleifion a fydd yn gorfod aros yn hirach am driniaeth oherwydd y penderfyniad hwn? EAQ(4)0344(HSS)

Following the statements made by the First Minister and the Director of Clinical Services at Hywel Dda LHB that orthopaedic surgery will be postponed over the winter, will the Minister make a statement on what support is being offered to patients who will have to wait longer for their treatment because of this decision? EAQ(4)0344(HSS)

14:55

Mark Drakeford Bywgraffiad Biography

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

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

If a reduced volume of elective orthopaedic surgery takes place in Hywel Dda Local Health Board this winter, clinicians will remain responsible for the care of individual patients and the treatment and support offered to them.

Os caiff llai o lawdriniaethau orthopedig dewisol eu cynnal ym Mwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda y gaeaf hwn, bydd clinigwyr yn dal yn gyfrifol am ofal cleifion unigol a'r driniaeth a'r cymorth a gynigir iddynt.

14:56

Kirsty Williams Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you, Minister. Is the Welsh Labour Government seriously saying that the only answer that it has to last year's 2,600 postponed operations is not to schedule elective surgery? Are you, as Minister, content to preside over a service that cannot provide elective orthopaedic surgery for the one in eight of the Welsh population who live in the Hywel Dda area for 12 months of the year? Given that you are in receipt of the plans from all LHBs, can we expect similar decisions from the LHBs to be announced?

Diolch, Weinidog. A yw Llywodraeth Llafur Cymru o ddifrif yn dweud mai'r unig ateb sydd ganddi i'r 2,600 o lawdriniaethau a ohiriwyd y llynedd yw peidio â threfnu llawdriniaethau dewisol? A ydych, fel Gweinidog, yn fodlon llywyddu dros wasanaeth na all ddarparu llawdriniaethau orthopedig dewisol ar gyfer yr un o bob wyth o boblogaeth Cymru sy'n byw yn ardal Hywel Dda am 12 mis o'r flwyddyn? O gofio eich bod yn cael cynlluniau gan bob BILl, a allwn ddisgwyl y caiff penderfyniadau tebyg eu cyhoeddi gan y BILlau?

14:56

Mark Drakeford Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Dirprwy Lywydd, in her search for political excitement, the Member badly overstates her case. Hywel Dda is consulting on a series of proposals to manage the flow of work during the winter period. I commend it for doing that.

Ddirprwy Lywydd, wrth chwilio am gyffro gwleidyddol, mae'r Aelod wedi gorddatgan ei hachos yn ddifrifol. Mae Hywel Dda yn ymgynghori ar gyfres o gynigion i reoli llif y gwaith dros gyfnod y gaeaf. Fe'i cymeradwyaf am wneud hynny.

14:56

Paul Davies Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

The First Minister said yesterday that

'operations are not even being postponed'.

However, this morning, I received an e-mail from a constituent who told me that he has been put on a waiting list for a full knee replacement and that he was advised that he should receive treatment next month. However, he rang the hospital concerned and was told that his surgery could take place as late as next April. If, as the Minister and the First Minister claim, no operations are being postponed, why is my constituent being advised that he will have to wait until April next year? What message does the Minister have for my constituent?

Dywedodd y Prif Weinidog ddoe

nid yw llawdriniaethau'n cael eu gohirio hyd yn oed.

Fodd bynnag, y bore yma, cefais e-bost gan etholwr a ddywedodd wrthyf ei fod wedi cael ei roi ar restr aros ar gyfer cael pen-glin newydd llawn a'i fod wedi cael gwybod y dylai gael triniaeth y mis nesaf. Fodd bynnag, ffoniodd yr ysbyty dan sylw a dywedwyd wrtho ei bod yn bosibl na fyddai'n cael ei lawdriniaeth tan fis Ebrill nesaf. Os, fel yr honna'r Gweinidog a'r Prif Weinidog, nad oes unrhyw lawdriniaethau'n cael eu gohirio, pam y dywedwyd wrth fy etholwr y bydd yn rhaid iddo aros tan fis Ebrill y flwyddyn nesaf? Pa neges sydd gan y Gweinidog i'm hetholwr?

14:57 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I am clearly unable to comment on any individual case. Mr Davies, in his question, moved from somebody 'could' face a wait to somebody 'will' face a wait in the space of a single sentence. The advice from Hywel Dda Local Health Board is that all those who are currently listed for orthopaedic surgery will have that surgery as planned.

Yn amlwg, ni allaf wneud sylwadau ar unrhyw achos unigol. Newidiodd Mr Davies, yn ei gwestiwn, o fod yn rhywun a 'allai' orfod aros i rywun a 'fydd' yn gorfod aros o fewn un frawddeg. Y cyngor gan Fwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda yw y bydd pawb sydd ar restr ar hyn o bryd i gael llawdriniaeth orthopedig yn cael y llawdriniaeth honno fel y cynlluniwyd.

14:58 **Leanne Wood** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Arweinydd Plaid Cymru / The Leader of Plaid Cymru

Minister, the waiting time for orthopaedic surgery in Hywel Dda is 15 months as things stand now. The announcement yesterday, which was strongly defended by the First Minister, is estimated to add five or six months to that waiting time. That is an additional half a year of pain for patients.

Weinidog, yr amser aros am lawdriniaeth orthopedig yn Hywel Dda yw 15 mis fel y mae ar hyn o bryd. Amcangyfrifir y bydd y cyhoeddiad ddoe, a gafodd ei amddiffyn yn gryf gan y Prif Weinidog, yn ychwanegu pum neu chwe mis i'r amser aros hwnnw. Mae hynny'n hanner blwyddyn ychwanegol o boen i gleifion.

Minister, would you be prepared to consider the imposition of a waiting cap of no longer than 15 months for patients in the Hywel Dda area, so that suffering can be minimised? Will you undertake to enable patients to be treated elsewhere in Wales if capacity has been cut in their own health board area?

Weinidog, a fyddech yn barod i ystyried pennu uchafswm aros o 15 mis ar gyfer cleifion yn ardal Hywel Dda, fel y gellir lleihau eu dioddefaint? A ymrwymwch i alluogi cleifion i gael eu trin rywle arall yng Nghymru os bydd capasiti wedi cael ei dorri yn eu hardal bwrdd iechyd eu hunain?

14:58 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I am afraid that the Member was factually inaccurate in both of her opening propositions. Over 80% of patients in Hywel Dda are seen within 26 weeks, not 15 months. The proposal that Hywel Dda is consulting on with its staff and stakeholders certainly will not result in additional waits of the volume or the nature that she described.

Ofnaf fod yr Aelod yn ffeithiol anghywir yn ei dau gynnig agoriadol. Mae dros 80% o gleifion yn Hywel Dda yn cael eu gweld o fewn 26 wythnos, nid 15 mis. Yn sicr, ni fydd y cynnig y mae Hywel Dda yn ymgynghori arno gyda'i staff a'i randdeiliaid yn arwain at amseroedd aros o'r maint neu natur y mae hi'n eu disgrifio.

14:59 **Rebecca Evans** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, how will you and the health board be monitoring the situation? In particular, what is the plan if we have a mild winter and the winter pressures that you talk of do not materialise and capacity for surgery is opened up?

Weinidog, sut y byddwch chi a'r bwrdd iechyd yn monitro'r sefyllfa? Yn benodol, beth yw'r cynllun os cawn aeaf mwyn ac nad yw'r pwysau dros y gaeaf yr ydych yn sôn amdanynt yn digwydd a bod y capasiti i gynnal llawdriniaethau yn gwella?

14:59 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I thank Rebecca Evans for that question. The plan on which the health board is consulting contains a provision to review its position on a weekly basis. Its attempt is to balance the demands that it knows that it will face for unscheduled operations during the winter with the volume of planned orthopaedic surgery that it is able to carry out. If the demands for unscheduled care are not at the level that it anticipates, its weekly review will allow it to programme further planned operations.

Diolch i Rebecca Evans am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Mae'r cynllun y mae'r bwrdd iechyd yn ymgynghori arno yn cynnwys darpariaeth i adolygu ei sefyllfa yn wythnosol. Mae'n ceisio cydbwyso'r galw y gŵyr y bydd yn ei wynebu ar gyfer llawdriniaethau heb eu trefnu yn ystod y gaeaf gyda nifer y llawdriniaethau orthopedig a gynlluniwyd y gall eu cynnal. Os na fydd cymaint o alw â'r hyn y mae'n ei ragweld am ofal heb ei drefnu, bydd ei adolygiad wythnosol yn ei alluogi i drefnu rhagor o lawdriniaethau a gynlluniwyd.

15:00 **Russell George** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

My office has been told by one member of staff at Bronglais hospital that they have been informed that a moratorium on orthopaedic operations is already in place until further notice, which I find strange given that the options are still being consulted on. Therefore, how much do you know in relation to what the LHB has told its staff about the hospital's operational position at this point? Secondly, what discussions have you had with other LHBs in Wales and across the border about the impact that this potential decision will have on their winter plans and how they are being progressed? I know that Shrewsbury, particularly around Gobowen, which is treating Powys patients, is already facing its own capacity pressures.

Dywedodd aelod o staff yn Ysbyty Bronglais wrth fy swyddfa eu bod wedi cael gwybod bod moratoriwm ar lawdriniaethau orthopedig eisoes yn weithredol hyd nes y clywir yn wahanol. Mae hyn yn rhyfedd yn fy marn i o gofio bod yr ymgynghoriad ar yr opsiynau yn dal i fynd rhagddo. Felly, faint ydych chi'n ei wybod mewn perthynas â'r hyn y mae'r Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol wedi'i ddweud wrth ei staff am sefyllfa'r ysbyty o ran llawdriniaethau ar hyn o bryd? Yn ail, pa drafodaethau yr ydych wedi'u cael gyda Byrddau Iechyd Lleol eraill yng Nghymru a thros y ffin am yr effaith a gaiff y penderfyniad posibl hwn ar eu cynlluniau ar gyfer y gaeaf a sut maent yn cael eu datblygu? Gwn fod yr Amwythig, yn enwedig ardal Gobowen, sy'n trin cleifion o Bowys, eisoes yn wynebu ei bwysau ei hun o ran capasiti.

15:00 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I am grateful to Russell George for making that final point, because it acknowledges that capacity pressures are very real in the NHS, both in Wales and in England, going into the winter. Sensible planning to deal with those constraints and to make sure that those who are the most clinically urgent receive the treatment that they need is at the heart of what Hywel Dda has proposed. The LHB is carrying out an engagement exercise with its staff, some meetings have already happened in the first part of this week, and ongoing meetings and discussions across all its sites to address staff concerns and to answer questions are scheduled for the next two to three weeks.

Rwy'n ddiolchgar i Russell George am wneud y pwynt olaf hwnnw, gan ei fod yn cydnabod bod llawer o bwysau ar gapasiti yn y GIG, yng Nghymru ac yn Lloegr ar ddechrau'r gaeaf. Mae cynllunio synhwyrol i ddelio â'r cyfyngiadau hynny a gwneud yn siŵr bod y rhai sy'n wynebu'r achosion clinigol gyda'r brys mwyaf yn cael y driniaeth sydd ei hangen arnynt wrth wraidd yr hyn a gynigir gan Hywel Dda. Mae'r BILl yn cynnal ymarfer ymgysylltu â'i staff, mae rhai cyfarfodydd eisoes wedi digwydd ar ddechrau'r wythnos hon, ac mae cyfarfodydd a thrafodaethau parhaus ar draws ei holl safleoedd i ymdrin â phryderon staff ac i ateb cwestiynau wedi'u trefnu ar gyfer y ddwy i dair wythnos nesaf.

15:01 **Joyce Watson** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I wrote to the chairman of Hywel Dda health board yesterday to seek reassurances, and I receivec a response from Mr Chris Martin first thing this morning, where he clarified that Dr Kloer did not say that Hywel Dda LHB would be cancelling orthopaedic appointments, that all those currently listed for surgery will have their operations and that the proposals are to re-profile and prioritise the current waiting lists. I welcome the commitment that patients with urgent clinical need will be seen and will be treated. However, questions arise: how long will non-urgent patients be expected to wait, given that the vast majority, over 80%, of patients are seen within 26 weeks? How will patients be informed and will that process of informing happen sooner rather than later?

Ysgrifennais at gadeirydd bwrdd iechyd Hywel Dda ddoe i geisio sicrwydd, a chefais ymateb gan Mr Chris Martin y peth cyntaf y bore yma, lle y nododd na ddywedodd Dr Kloer y byddai Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda yn canslo apwyntiadau orthopedig, y bydd pawb sydd ar y rhestr ar hyn o bryd yn cael eu llawdriniaethau a bod cynigion i ail-broffilio a blaenoriaethu'r rhestrau aros presennol. Croesawaf yr ymrwymiad y bydd cleifion ag anghenion clinigol brys yn cael eu gweld a chael triniaeth. Fodd bynnag, mae cwestiynau yn codi: pa mor hir y bydd disgwyl i gleifion nad yw eu hachosion yn rhai brys aros, o ystyried y caiff y mwyafrif helaeth, dros 80%, o gleifion eu gweld o fewn 26 wythnos? Sut y caiff cleifion eu hysbysu ac a fydd y broses honno o hysbysu yn digwydd cyn gynted â phosibl?

15:02 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I thank Joyce Watson for those questions. I am glad that she was able to receive a very swift response from Hywel Dda LHB to the concerns that she raised with it. Its plan, if it goes ahead, involves the greater use of day-case and non-surgical forms of treatment, and it anticipates a higher volume of out-patient appointments over the winter so that those people who are waiting for elective surgery will be properly and thoroughly managed.

Hoffwn ddiolch i Joyce Watson am y cwestiynau hynny. Rwy'n falch iddi allu cael ymateb cyflym iawn gan Fwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda mewn perthynas â'r pryderon a gododd gydag ef. Mae ei gynllun, os bydd yn mynd rhagddo, yn cynnwys gwneud mwy o ddefnydd o ffurfiau o driniaeth nad ydynt yn llawfeddygol a thriniaeth i gleifion allanol, ac mae'n rhagweld y bydd nifer uwch o apwyntiadau cleifion allanol yn ystod y gaeaf, fel bod y bobl hynny sy'n aros am lawdriniaeth ddewisol yn cael eu rheoli'n briodol ac yn drylwyr.

15:03 **Rhodri Glyn Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Weinidog, rwy'n derbyn bod pobl sydd eisoes wedi derbyn apwyntiad ar gyfer llawdriniaeth orthopaedig yn mynd i gael y driniaeth honno. Fodd bynnag, mae'n rhaid i chi dderbyn bod pobl sydd ar restrau aros yn disgwyl cael eu gweld o fewn amser penodol. Yr hyn y mae Hywel Dda wedi ei ddweud yw y bydd yr amser ar gyfer y bobl hynny yn cael ei ymestyn o dri i bedwar mis oherwydd na fydd yn parhau i drin y bobl hyn dros fisoedd y gaeaf. A wnewch chi dderbyn bod y bobl hynny sydd ar restrau aros yn mynd i wynsebu cyfnodau hir o aros—hirach nag oeddynt yn disgwyl—ac y byddant yn gwneud hynny mewn poen?

Minister, I accept that people who have already received an appointment for an orthopaedic operation will have that treatment. However, you have to accept that people who are on waiting lists expect to be seen within a specific time. What Hywel Dda has said is that the wait for those people will be extended from three to four months because the LHB will not continue to treat these people over the winter months. Will you accept that those people who are on waiting lists will face long periods of waiting—longer than they expected—and they will do so in pain?

15:03 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

If the Hywel Dda proposals go ahead, it is possible, as the Member has said, that some people who are on the waiting list may have to wait longer than originally anticipated. However, what the health board points out is that, throughout the last couple of winters, it has ended up scheduling people for surgery and then had to cancel that surgery, in some cases three and four times, because that capacity was needed to deal with the volume of unscheduled and more urgent orthopaedic operations, which can happen if you have a period, for example, of very cold weather. Therefore, what the health board has to do—and, surely, this is a sensible thing for any health board to do—is plan to be able to manage the demands that it knows it will face for some very urgent, very elderly patients who fall over, break hips, break knees and so on. They will need urgent treatment and they will, quite rightly, be treated in front of people who are waiting for elective surgery. What the health board is doing is managing that process in a properly thought-through way.

Os bydd cynigion Hywel Dda yn mynd rhagddynt, mae'n bosibl, fel y dywedodd yr Aelod, y gall fod yn rhaid i rai pobl sydd ar y rhestr aros yn hwy nag a ragwelwyd yn wreiddiol. Fodd bynnag, yr hyn y mae'r bwrdd iechyd yn ei nodi yw ei fod, dros y ddau aeaf diwethaf, wedi bod yn trefnu llawdriniaethau i bobl ac yna'n gorfod eu canslo, dair a phedair gwaith mewn rhai achosion, oherwydd bod angen y capasiti hwnnw i fynd i'r afael â nifer y llawdriniaethau orthopedig heb eu trefnu y mae mwy o frys iddynt, a all ddigwydd os bydd cyfnod o dywydd oer iawn, er enghraifft. Felly, yr hyn y mae'n rhaid i'r bwrdd iechyd ei wneud—ac, yn sicr, mae hyn yn beth synhwyrol i unrhyw fwrdd iechyd ei wneud—yw cynllunio i allu rheoli'r galw y gŵyr y bydd yn ei wynebu ar gyfer rhai cleifion y mae eu hachosion yn rhai brys iawn, cleifion sy'n hen iawn, sy'n cwympo, yn torri cluniau, yn torri pengliniau ac yn y blaen. Bydd angen triniaeth arnynt ar frys, a chânt eu trin, yn gwbl briodol, cyn pobl sy'n aros am lawdriniaeth ddewisol. Yr hyn y mae'r bwrdd iechyd yn ei wneud yw rheoli'r broses honno mewn ffordd briodol a ystyriwyd yn fanwl.

15:04 **Angela Burns** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Minister, I have three very succinct questions to ask you on this. In the statement that the health board made, it stated that the vast majority of orthopaedic day surgery and other elective procedures would also continue. Would you consider making a further statement, Minister, on waiting times, because I think that, ultimately—and given my caseload and that of my colleague, Paul Davies—they seem to be all over the place? If people at least know what they are really going to have to wait, they can prepare for it, whereas too many people are being let down, thinking that they are going to have operations so much more quickly than they really do.

Weinidog, mae gennyf dri chwestiwn cryno iawn i'w gofyn i chi am hyn. Yn y datganiad a wnaeth y bwrdd iechyd, dywedodd y byddai'r mwyafrif helaeth o lawdriniaeth ddydd orthopedig a thriniaethau dewisol eraill hefyd yn parhau. A fyddech yn ystyried gwneud datganiad pellach, Weinidog, ar amseroedd aros, oherwydd credaf, yn y pen draw—ac o gofio fy llwyth achosion i a'm cyd-Aelod, Paul Davies—eu bod dros y lle i gyd? Os yw pobl o leiaf yn gwybod am faint o amser y bydd yn rhaid iddynt aros go iawn, gallant baratoi ar ei gyfer, ond mae gormod o bobl yn cael eu siomi, gan feddwl eu bod yn mynd i gael llawdriniaethau cymaint cynt nag y byddant mewn gwirionedd.

My second point is that, again, in its statement, the health board states that it needs to review and re-profile patients on their orthopaedic waiting list and maximise alternative methods of treatment through non-surgical pathways. Minister, will you be putting in some system of ensuring that people still receive the appropriate treatment at the appropriate time?

Fy ail bwynt yw bod y bwrdd iechyd, unwaith eto, yn ei ddatganiad, yn nodi bod angen iddo adolygu ac ailbroffilio cleifion ar ei restr aros orthopedig a gwneud y gorau o driniaethau amgen gan ddefnyddio llwybrau nad ydynt yn cynnwys llawdriniaeth. Weinidog, a fyddwch yn sefydlu rhyw system o sicrhau bod pobl yn dal i gael triniaeth briodol ar yr adeg briodol?

Finally, and most importantly for me, Minister, are you aware or will you check whether or not Hywel Dda Local Health Board did an equality impact assessment on this decision? Delaying orthopaedic treatment disproportionately affects the elderly who do not have our reserves of strength to continue. Pain on a day-by-day, never-ending basis is extremely wearing; it costs them so much more money to be able to get around to do simple things like shopping. This kind of statement, where orthopaedic treatment is hit and where so many of the people who need hips and knees are elderly people, will have a disproportionate effect on the older population of Wales.

Yn olaf, ac yn bwysicaf oll imi, Weinidog, a ydych yn ymwybodol, neu a fyddwch yn edrych i weld a gynhaliodd Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda asesiad effaith cydraddoldeb ar y penderfyniad hwn? Mae oedi cyn cynnal triniaeth orthopedig yn effeithio'n anghymesur ar yr henoed nad oes ganddynt ein cronfeydd wrth gefn ni o nerth i barhau. Mae poen parhaol bob dydd yn flinderus iawn; mae'n costio cymaint mwy o arian iddynt allu symud o gwmpas i wneud pethau syml fel siopa. Bydd y math hwn o ddatganiad, lle yr effeithir ar driniaeth orthopedig a lle mae cynifer o'r bobl y mae angen cluniau a phengliniau newydd arnynt yn bobl hŷn, yn cael effaith anghymesur ar y boblogaeth oedrannus yng Nghymru.

15:06

Mark Drakeford Bywgraffiad Biography

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I will take those questions in turn. The standard waiting time for a planned operation in Wales is somewhere between eight and 10 weeks. So, some of the alarmist stuff that is talked around the floor of the Assembly is simply not borne out by the facts. I heard what the Member said yesterday, however, in business questions to the Minister for business, and I will consider that further. I am grateful to the Member for acknowledging that there is a range of treatments for people who have orthopaedic problems, that surgery is only one of them, and that there are other things that can be done to help people when they face those difficulties. Of course, I would expect Hywel Dda Local Health Board, if it goes ahead with this plan, to do as it has said and to maximise those alternatives.

Ymdriniaf â'r cwestiynau hynny yn eu tro. Mae'r amser aros safonol ar gyfer llawdriniaeth a gynlluniwyd yng Nghymru rhwng wyth a 10 wythnos. Felly, nid oes ffeithiau i gadarnhau rhai o'r bwganod sy'n cael eu codi ar lawr y Cynulliad. Clywais yr hyn a ddywedodd yr Aelod ddoe, fodd bynnag, mewn cwestiynau busnes at y Gweinidog busnes, a byddaf yn ystyried hynny ymhellach. Rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r Aelod am gydnabod bod ystod o driniaethau ar gyfer pobl sydd â phroblemau orthopedig, mai dim ond un ohonynt yw llawdriniaeth, a bod pethau eraill y gellir eu gwneud i helpu pobl pan fyddant yn wynebu'r anawsterau hynny. Wrth gwrs, byddwn yn disgwyl i Fwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda, os bydd yn parhau â'r cynllun hwn, wneud hynny fel y mae wedi ei ddweud ac i gynnig cymaint â phosibl o'r dewisiadau amgen hynny.

The equality point is an important one, but I say this to the Member: the reason that Hywel Dda LHB brings forward its proposals is because it knows that it will face, during this winter, a large number of very elderly people requiring emergency orthopaedic treatment. This is not a matter of elderly people being disadvantaged; it is a matter of clinically prioritising people so that those elderly people whom we know, last winter, were by far, in volume terms, the greatest number of people needing emergency treatment, will be able to get it within the Hywel Dda Local Health Board.

Mae cydraddoldeb yn bwysig, ond dywedaf hyn wrth yr Aelod: y rheswm pam y mae Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda yn cyflwyno ei gynigion yw oherwydd y gŵyr y bydd angen i nifer fawr o bobl oedrannus iawn gael triniaeth orthopedig frys y gaeaf hwn. Nid oes a wnelo hyn â'r ffaith bod pobl oedrannus dan anfantais; mae a wnelo â blaenoriaethu pobl yn glinigol er mwyn sicrhau y bydd y bobl oedrannus hynny y gwyddom yr oedd angen triniaeth frys arnynt fwyaf y gaeaf diwethaf, yn gallu ei chael o fewn Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda.

15:08

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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We have time for a final short question.

Mae gennym amser am un cwestiwn byr olaf.

15:08

Andrew R.T. Davies Bywgraffiad Biography

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This is a political forum, so we will have the political arguments in this arena. However, you, as Minister, are bound to have asked the question—at least, I would hope that you have asked the question of the health board—as to how many procedures will be affected by this new guidance that Hywel Dda Local Health Board is proposing to work to this winter. Are you in possession of those figures and, if you are, can you tell us this afternoon? If not, will you make those figures available so that we can judge for ourselves how many people will be affected by the new guidance?

Fforwm gwleidyddol yw hwn, felly byddwn yn cynnal y dadleuon gwleidyddol yn yr arena hon. Fodd bynnag, roedd yn anochel y byddech chi, fel Gweinidog, yn gofyn y cwestiwn—o leiaf, byddwn yn gobeithio y byddech wedi gofyn y cwestiwn i'r bwrdd iechyd—ynghylch faint o driniaethau y bydd y canllawiau newydd hyn y mae Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda yn bwriadu eu cyflwyno y gaeaf hwn yn effeithio arnynt. A yw'r ffigurau hynny gennych ac, os ydynt, a allwch ddweud wrthym y prynhawn yma? Os nad ydynt, a allwch sicrhau y bydd y ffigurau hynny ar gael, fel y gallwn farnu drosom ein hunain faint o bobl y bydd y canllawiau newydd yn effeithio arnynt?

15:08 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

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As this is a proposal from Hywel Dda Local Health Board, which it is consulting upon with its staff and stakeholders, there is no definitive number that can be offered to Members today. Moreover, as I have already said in my answer to Joyce Watson, it is an explicit part of the health board's proposal that it will review the situation week by week so that, if the volume of unscheduled work is less than it currently anticipates, it will be able to use those slots for additional planned work. It is probably never going to be likely to provide the Member with the sort of number that he asks for, but I am very happy to explore that issue with the health board.

Gan mai cynnig gan Fwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda yw hwn, y mae'n ymgynghori arno gyda'i staff a'i randdeiliaid, nid oes ffigurau pendant y gellir eu cynnig i Aelodau heddiw. Ar ben hynny, fel y dywedais eisoes yn fy ateb i Joyce Watson, mae'n rhan benodol o gynnig y bwrdd iechyd y bydd yn adolygu'r sefyllfa bob wythnos er mwyn sicrhau, os bydd swm y gwaith heb ei drefnu yn llai nag y mae'n ei ragweld ar hyn o bryd, y gall ddefnyddio'r slotiau hynny ar gyfer gwneud gwaith ychwanegol a gynlluniwyd. Nid yw'n debygol y gall fyth roi'r math o ffigur y mae'r Aelod am ei weld, ond rwy'n hollol fodlon edrych ar y mater hwnnw gyda'r bwrdd iechyd.

Cwestiynau i Gomisiwn y Cynulliad

Questions to the Assembly Commission

Parthau lefel uchaf .Cymru a .Wales

The Top-level Domains of .Cymru and .Wales

15:09 **Suzy Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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1. A wnaiff Comisiwn y Cynulliad roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am gynlluniau i'r Cynulliad fabwysiadu'r parthau lefel uchaf .cymru a .wales at ddefnydd y rhyngrwyd ac e-bost? OAQ(4)0076(AC)

1. Will the Assembly Commission provide an update on plans for the Assembly to adopt the .cymru and .wales top level domains for internet and e-mail use? OAQ(4)0076(AC)

Daeth y Llywydd (Rosemary Butler) i'r Gadair am 15:09.

The Presiding Officer (Rosemary Butler) took the Chair at 15:09.

15:09 **Peter Black** Bywgraffiad Biography

Comisiynydd y Cynulliad / Assembly Commissioner

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Thank you for that question. The Commission is working closely with the UK internet naming authority, Nominet, to ensure that new domain names, including www.assembly.wales and www.cynulliad.cymru are secured for use by the National Assembly. Nominet has indicated that there will be a list of domain names that cannot be registered by the general public, known as a reserve list, and has asked the Assembly to be one of its 50 early adopters as part of its founders programme. Officials have also applied to Nominet to reserve a number of Welsh and English second-level domains. Nominet has indicated that these new domains will be available in early 2014 and, when timescales are confirmed, I will provide a further update.

Diolch am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Mae'r Comisiwn yn gweithio'n agos gydag awdurdod enwi parthau rhyngrwyd y DU, Nominet, i sicrhau bod enwau parth newydd, gan gynnwys www.assembly.wales a www.cynulliad.cymru yn cael eu diogelu i'w defnyddio gan y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Mae Nominet wedi nodi y bydd rhestr o enwau parth na all y cyhoedd eu cofrestru yn gyffredinol, a elwir yn rhestr wrth gefn, ac mae wedi gofyn i'r Cynulliad fod yn un o'i 50 o fabwysiadwyr cynnar fel rhan o'i raglen sylfaenwyr. Mae swyddogion hefyd wedi gwneud cais i Nominet gadw nifer o barthau ail lefel Cymraeg a Saesneg. Mae Nominet wedi nodi y bydd y parthau newydd ar gael yn gynnar yn 2014, a phan fydd amserlenni wedi'u cadarnhau, byddaf yn rhoi diweddariad pellach.

15:10 **Suzy Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Thank you very much. That is a very encouraging answer, Commissioner. Specifically, do you agree that it is valuable for the public sector in Wales to adopt the two top-level domains, and that the Commission is setting a good example in doing that and in making sure it is an early adopter?

Diolch yn fawr iawn. Mae hwnnw'n ateb calonogol iawn, Gomisiynydd. Yn benodol, a gytunwch ei bod yn werthfawr i'r sector cyhoeddus yng Nghymru fabwysiadu'r ddau barth lefel uchaf, a bod y Comisiwn yn gosod esiampl dda wrth wneud hynny a gwneud yn siŵr ei fod yn fabwysiadwr cynnar?

15:10 **Peter Black** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Absolutely. The Commission has sought to take the lead on this particular issue and to set an example to the rest of the public sector. I know that Nominet is engaging with the Welsh Government and with local government to try to ensure that they also have option and the opportunity to adopt the new top-level domain names. We will certainly be encouraging as many public sector and third sector organisations in Wales to take up these new top-level domain names as well, and I understand that there is already interest out there in using the .cymru and .wales TLDs.

Yn sicr. Mae'r Comisiwn wedi ceisio cymryd yr awenau ar y mater penodol a gosod esiampl i weddill y sector cyhoeddus. Gwn fod Nominet yn ymgysylltu â Llywodraeth Cymru ac â llywodraeth leol i geisio sicrhau eu bod hefyd yn cael yr opsiwn a'r cyfle i fabwysiadu'r enwau parth newydd lefel uchaf. Byddwn yn sicr yn annog cymaint o sefydliadau o'r sector cyhoeddus a'r trydydd sector yng Nghymru â phosibl i fanteisio ar yr enwau parth newydd lefel uchaf hyn hefyd, ac rwy'n deall bod sefydliadau eisoes wedi dangos diddordeb mewn defnyddio'r parthau lefel uchaf .cymru a .wales.

Cynnig i Ddirymu Rheoliadau Addysg (Hysbysiadau Cosb) (Cymru) 2013

Cynnig NDM5307 Simon Thomas

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 27.2:

Yn cytuno bod Rheoliadau Addysg (Hysbysiadau Cosb) (Cymru) 2013, a osodwyd gerbron yCynulliad ar 12 Awst 2013, yn cael eu dirymu.

Motion to Annul the Education (Penalty Notices) (Wales) Regulations 2013

Motion NDM5307 Simon Thomas

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales in accordance with Standing Order 27.2:

Agrees that the Education (Penalty Notices) (Wales) Regulations 2013, laid before the Assembly on 12 August 2013, be annulled.

15:11 **Simon Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Cynigiaf y cynnig.

I move the motion.

Hoffwn ddweud ar y dechrau bod Plaid Cymru yn derbyn bod y rheoliadau cyntaf, drwy'r weithdrefn gadarnhaol, wedi cael eu cyflwyno a'u cadarnhau gan y Cynulliad hwn ar gyfer cosbau penodol i rieni sydd â phlant sy'n absennol o'r ysgol, a bod hynny wedi digwydd cyn yr haf. Dyma ni yn awr yn wynebu ail set o reoliadau sy'n mynd ymhellach ynglŷn â chael gweithdrefn ar gyfer sicrhau cosbau penodol. Mae Plaid Cymru yn cymryd o ddifrif ein rôl, fel un o'r gwrthbleidiau, o ran craffu ar benderfyniadau'r Llywodraeth a dwyn Gweinidogion i gyfrif. Felly, rydym wedi cynnig galw i mewn y rheoliadau hyn, fel y gallwn gael ail olwg ar fwriadau'r Llywodraeth ac ail olwg ar amcanion y rheoliadau, a hynny er mwyn sicrhau eu bod yn addas at y diben.

I would like to say at the outset that Plaid Cymru accepts that the initial regulations, through the affirmative procedure, were brought before, and agreed by, this Assembly, for the purpose of fixed-penalty notices for parents as a result of pupil absence, and that that happened before the summer recess. We are now facing a second set of regulations, which go further in terms of the procedure in putting in place fixed-penalty notices. Plaid Cymru takes seriously its role as an opposition party in the scrutiny of Government decisions and in holding Ministers to account. Therefore, we have proposed that these regulations should be called in so that we can take a second look at the Government's intention in this area and a second look at the objectives of the regulations in order to ensure that they are appropriate and fit for purpose.

Rydym yn ymwybodol bod y rheoliadau eisoes wedi dod i rym, gan eu bod wedi cael eu cyflwyno yn ystod toriad yr haf. Byddai pleidleisio yn erbyn y rheoliadau a'u gwrthod heddiw yn peri rhywfaint o ansicrwydd, a dweud y lleiaf, yn y cyd-destun hwn. Fodd bynnag, rydym yn bendant am glywed gan y Gweinidog am y ffordd y mae'n bwriadu gweithredu'r rheoliadau hyn a'r cosbau penodol ar gyfer rhieni.

We are aware that the regulations are already in force, as they were introduced during the summer recess. Voting against the regulations today would cause some uncertainty, to say the least, in this context. However, we certainly want to hear from the Minister how he intends to implement these regulations and the fixed penalties for parents.

Mae hwn yn gyfle inni i gyd holi'r Gweinidog am sut y byddai'r cod ymddygiad lleol—sydd wedi'i gynnwys yn y canllawiau ar gyfer hysbysiadau cosb a gyhoeddwyd ym mis Medi eleni gan y Llywodraeth—yn gweithio; am sut, yn benodol, y gallwch gael cod ymddygiad lleol mewn 22 awdurdod lleol gwahanol, sy'n ymwneud â gosod cosbau penodol ar rieni; a pham nad yw'r Llywodraeth wedi ystyried cod ymddygiad cenedlaethol ar gyfer rhywbeth sy'n effeithio ar bob un o'n hetholwyr, o bosibl.

This is an opportunity for us all to question the Minister on how the local code of practice—which is included in the guidance on penalty notices and which was published in September of this year by the Government—would work; about how, specifically, you can have a local code of practice in 22 different local authorities that relate to fixed-penalty notices; and why the Government has not considered a national code for something that could have an impact upon all of our constituents.

Mae hwn hefyd yn gyfle inni holi'r Gweinidog ynglŷn â phwy fydd yn gyfrifol am osod yr hysbysiadau cosb a'r cosbau a fydd yn dilyn yn sgîl hynny. Mae rhai pobl yn ymwybodol, mae'n debyg, fod penaethiaid ysgolion yn gallu gwneud hyn. Efallai nad yw pawb mor ymwybodol bod penaethiaid ysgolion yn gallu awdurdodi pobl eraill i wneud hyn ar eu rhan, bod yr heddlu yn gallu gwneud hyn hefyd, a bod staff awdurdod addysg hefyd yn gallu gosod hysbysiadau cosb o'r math hwn. Mae hynny'n rhychwant eithaf eang o bobl sy'n gallu gwneud hyn. Eto, mae'r cwestiwn yn codi ynghylch pwy fydd yn monitro defnydd y cosbau hyn; ynghylch pwy sy'n mynd i gasglu data amdanynt; ac ynghylch pwy sy'n mynd i sicrhau bod y cosbau hyn yn cael eu gweithredu yn unol â dymuniadau'r Llywodraeth, sydd wedi cael eu datgan sawl gwaith, sef y dylai cosbau fel hyn fod yn rhyw fath o 'last resort'.

This is also an opportunity for us to question the Minister as to who will be responsible for the fixed-penalty notices and the penalties that follow as a result. Some people will be aware, I suppose, that headteachers will be able to do this. Perhaps not everyone is aware that headteachers can also authorise others to do this on their behalf, that the police can take action, and that education authority staff can also issue fixed-penalty notices. That is a relatively wide range of people who are able to carry out this function. This again raises the question of who will monitor the use of the notices, of who will gather the data and what will be done to ensure that the penalties are implemented in accordance with the Government's aspiration, which, as we have heard on several occasions, is that these penalties should be used as some sort of last resort.

Mae sawl enghraifft yn y canllawiau sy'n rhoi cysyniad a chyd-destun ar gyfer y cod ymddygiad lleol, o ran yr hyn y dylai arfer da ei olygu. Serch hynny, o bryd i'w gilydd, credaf nad yw arfer da yn ymestyn yn ddigon pell. Er enghraifft, mae'n arfer da bod pennaeth yr ysgol yn ymgynghori â llywodraethwyr ynglŷn â chosbau penodol. Fodd bynnag, wrth inni gasglu tystiolaeth ar absenoldeb plant yn yr ymchwiliad sydd newydd ei gwblhau gan y Pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc, dywedodd is-gadeirydd Llywodraethwyr Cymru, Hugh Pattrick, wrthym fod y cosbau hyn yn 'disastrous' yn ei dyb ef. Felly, mae angen mwy nag arfer da i gysylltu â llywodraethwyr; mae eisiau rhyw orfodaeth i sicrhau bod y cod hwn yn rhywbeth y mae llywodraethwyr yn llwyr ymwybodol ohono, fel eu bod yn gwybod yn iawn, felly, ym mha ffordd y bydd y penaethiaid yn ei ddefnyddio.

There are many examples in the guidance that give the concept and context for the code, in terms of what good practice should be. However, I believe that, from time to time, best practice does not go far enough. For example, it is good practice that a school headteacher should consult with governors on fixed-penalty notices. In evidence on pupil attendance submitted to the inquiry that has just been completed by the Children and Young People Committee, the vice-chair of Governors Wales, Hugh Pattrick, told us that he was of the opinion that these penalties were disastrous. So, you need more than good practice in contacting governors; you need some sort of enforcement to ensure that this code is something that governors are entirely aware of and know exactly how headteachers will use it.

Mae arfer da yn y cod hefyd i ganiatáu 15 diwrnod ysgol i weld gwelliant ar ran y disgybl a chan y rhieni yn ymddygiad y disgybl. Eto i gyd, byddai'n well gennyf weld gorfodaeth i ganiatáu 15 diwrnod, yn hytrach nag arfer da yn unig.

There is also good practice in the code to allow 15 schools days for an improvement from the pupil and the parents in terms of behaviour. Again, I would prefer to see enforcement of allowing 15 days, rather than leaving it to best practice.

Rwyf hefyd yn siomedig bod y canllawiau yn ei gwneud yn glir mai mater o ddisgresiwn yw cyflwyno hysbysiadau cosb fel hyn am y drosedd gyntaf. Credaf fod hynny'n mynd yn erbyn llif y dystiolaeth y gwnaethom ni ei derbyn fel pwyllgor. Yn anffodus, nid ydym wedi cael cyfle fel Cynulliad i drafod adroddiad y Pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc ar bresenoldeb plant—rwy'n annog Aelodau i'w ddarllen. Nid oedd neb o'r tystion a gyflwynodd dystiolaeth i'r pwyllgor o blaid cyflwyno'r cosbau penodol hyn. Dywedodd yr Athro Ken Reid efallai fod rôl i'r cosbau mewn rhai achosion penodol, ond dywedodd nad oeddent yn gyffredinol yn effeithlon. Felly, rwyf am glywed gan y Gweinidog sut y mae'r Llywodraeth wedi derbyn a dysgu o wersi adroddiad y pwyllgor, gan ei fod yn cyflwyno'r rheoliadau hyn cyn ei fod wedi llwyr ystyried argymhellion y pwyllgor. Roedd y pwyllgor yn ddigon clir yn ein hargymhellion i'r Gweinidog—gwnaethom argymell yn gryf i'r Gweinidog werthuso strategaethau amgen cyn cyflwyno rheoliadau, ac iddo hefyd gyhoeddi'r seiliau tystiolaeth ar gyfer gweithredu cosbau penodol fel hyn.

I am also disappointed that the guidance makes it clear that it is discretionary to introduce fixed-penalty notices for the first offence. I think that that goes against the flow of evidence that we as a committee received. Unfortunately, we have not yet had an opportunity as an Assembly to discuss the Children and Young People Committee report on attendance—I encourage Members to read it. None of the witnesses who provided evidence to the committee had been in favour of introducing these fixed-penalty notices. Professor Ken Reid told us that there may be a role for fixed-penalty notices in certain specific cases, but he said that, generally speaking, they were not effective. Therefore, I want to hear from the Minister how the Government has learned from the committee report, as it is bringing these regulations forward before fully taking account of the recommendations made by the committee. The committee was clear in its recommendations to the Minister—we strongly recommended that the Minister should evaluate alternative strategies before introducing regulations, and that he should also publish the evidence base for implementing such fixed-penalty notices.

Yn anffodus, nid wyf i wedi gweld sail y dystiolaeth o gwbl. Rwy'n derbyn bod honno'n dyddio yn ôl i gyfnod y Gweinidog blaenorol ac efallai fod gan y Gweinidog hwn rywbeth pellach i'w ddweud ar hynny, ond mae hefyd yn wir nad yw'r Gweinidog eto wedi gwerthuso strategaethau amgen gwell. Mae Plaid Cymru o'r farn—ac rwy'n meddwl bod y pwyllgor yn rhannu'r farn hon—fod ymwneud â theulu drwy swyddogion cyswllt teulu, drwy sicrhau bod y teulu'n rhan o deulu ehangach yr ysgol, fel petai, yn llawer gwell ffordd yn y tymor hir o ddelio ag absenoldeb plant nag yw gosod cosbau penodol ar y rheini.

Unfortunately, I have not seen that evidence base. I accept that this dates back to the former Minister and that this Minister might have something further to say on this, but it is also true to say that the Minister has yet to evaluate improved alternative strategies. Plaid Cymru believes—and I think that the committee shares this view—that dealing with families through family liaison officers, by ensuring that families are part of the wider school family, as it were, is a far more effective way in the long term of dealing with attendance issues, rather than issuing fixed-penalty notices to parents.

Y peth olaf rwyf am sôn amdano yw bod perygl y byddai plant ag anghenion dysgu ychwanegol yn cael eu cynnwys yn hyn, gyda chosbau yn cael eu pennu ar deuluoedd lle, a dweud y gwir, yr hyn sydd ar goll yw cefnogaeth briodol i blant ag anghenion dysgu ychwanegol. Mae'n wir fod y canllawiau yn cyfeirio at hynny, ond hoffwn glywed mwy gan y Gweinidog am sut y bydd yn osgoi hynny.

The last thing that I want to mention is that there is a risk that children with additional learning needs could be included within this, with penalties being issued to families where what is missing is the appropriate support for children with additional learning needs. It is true to say that the guidance makes reference to that, but I would like to hear more from the Minister about how he will avoid that.

Yn y bôn, mae Plaid Cymru yn erbyn defnyddio cosbau penodol yn hyn o beth. Rydym yn derbyn, wrth gwrs, fod y Llywodraeth wedi cael caniatâd i symud ymlaen mewn egwyddor, ond rydym am glywed yn llawer manylach gan y Gweinidog pam y mae'n bwriadu mynd â hwn yn ei flaen, ac ym mha ffordd y mae'n mynd i sicrhau nad oes camddefnydd o'r cosbau hyn, gan sicrhau hefyd nad yw'r defnydd a wneir o'r cosbau hyn ond yn digwydd fel eithriad, ac nid fel rheol.

Essentially, Plaid Cymru opposes the use of fixed-penalty notices here. We accept, of course, that the Government has been given leave to move forward in principle, but we want to hear much more detail from the Minister as to why he intends to take this forward, and how he will ensure that there is no abuse of these fixed-penalty notices, and ensure that they are the exception rather than the rule.

15:18

Angela Burns Bywgraffiad Biography

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I thank Simon Thomas and Plaid Cymru for bringing forward this discussion. It is a very important debate, as you have already said, because, of course, we have not had an opportunity to discuss the Children and Young People Committee's report on attendance and behaviour. Nor have we had a chance to discuss the merits of the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee's recommendation that a Minister should pay due regard to the recommendations of the Children and Young People Committee's report.

Diolch i Simon Thomas a Phlaid Cymru am gyflwyno'r ddadl hon. Mae'n ddadl bwysig iawn, fel yr ydych eisoes wedi'i ddweud, oherwydd, wrth gwrs, nid ydym wedi cael cyfle i drafod adroddiad y Pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc ar bresenoldeb ac ymddygiad. Ac nid ydym wedi cael cyfle i drafod rhinweddau argymhelliad y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol a Deddfwriaethol y dylai Gweinidog roi sylw dyledus i argymhellion adroddiad y Pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc.

Minister, the real concern that I have over this issue is for the kind of people we are going to punish. We are talking about these penalty notices being used for persistent offenders and, in the code of practice, it very clearly says that headteachers are empowered to issue the penalty notices to parents and carers in respect of the irregular attendance of a child registered at their school. I know that much is made in the media of travel holiday parents—those who whip their kids out for a week at the cheaper times of the year—but of course, they would not be caught by something like that, because this is not a regular case of non-attendance. I fear that the people who will be caught are those from chaotic families; people who probably do not have huge amounts of money and for whom being taken to court and being issued with—not a jail sentence; a penalty—

Weinidog, y pryder gwirioneddol sydd gennyf ynghylch y mater hwn yw'r un mewn perthynas â'r math o bobl y byddwn yn eu cosbi. Rydym yn sôn am y ffaith bod yr hysbysiadau cosb hyn yn cael eu defnyddio ar gyfer troseddwyr mynych ac, yn y cod ymarfer, mae'n dweud yn glir y gall penaethiaid gyflwyno'r hysbysiadau cosb i rieni a gofalwyr o ran presenoldeb afreolaidd plentyn sydd wedi'i gofrestru yn eu hysgol . Gwn y rhoddir llawer o sylw yn y cyfryngau i rieni sy'n tynnu eu plant allan o'r ysgol am wythnos i fynd ar wyliau yn ystod cyfnodau rhatach y flwyddyn, ond wrth gwrs, ni fyddent yn cael eu dal yn sgil rhywbeth fel hynny, gan nad yw'n achos o absenoldeb rheolaidd. Ofnaf mai'r bobl a gaiff eu dal yw'r rhai o deuluoedd di-drefn; pobl nad oes ganddynt symiau enfawr o arian fwy na thebyg ac y mae dwyn achos llys yn eu herbyn a rhoi—nid dedfryd o garchar; cosb—

15:20

Simon Thomas Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

The Government is not proposing that, is it? [Laughter].

Nid yw'r Llywodraeth yn cynnig hyn, nac ydy? [Chwerthin.]

15:20 **Angela Burns** Bywgraffiad Biography

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It is not that bad yet. There is a statistic that says that 80% of the fines administered in magistrates' and county courts are never collected, because they are impossible to collect. We are creating, I fear, a welter of paperwork. I would like to ask you: what guidance are you going to give to headteachers and deputy headteachers as to when they might be thinking of using these penalty notices? One of the unintended consequences of this set of regulations is already how schools and local authorities are beginning to interpret it. In my area, Carmarthenshire County Council and Pembrokeshire County Council have both written very firm and strong letters to parents warning them that, if they withdraw their children from school for any reason whatsoever—and they class everything as 'any reason whatsoever'—those parents are liable to be spoken to and to have action taken against them.

Nid yw pethau mor ddrwg â hynny eto. Mae yna ystadegyn sy'n dweud na chaiff 80% o'r dirwyon a weinyddir mewn llysoedd ynadon a llysoedd sirol eu casglu, am eu bod yn amhosibl i'w casglu. Ofnaf ein bod yn creu llwyth o waith papur. Hoffwn ofyn i chi: pa ganllawiau rydych yn mynd i'w rhoi i benaethiaid a dirprwy benaethiaid o ran pryd y gallent ystyried defnyddio'r hysbysiadau cosb hyn? Un o ganlyniadau anfwriadol y set hon o reoliadau eisoes yw sut mae ysgolion ac awdurdodau lleol yn dechrau ei dehongli. Yn fy ardal i, mae Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin a Chyngor Sir Penfro wedi ysgrifenedig llythyrau cadarn a chryf iawn at rieni yn eu rhybuddio, os byddant yn tynnu eu plant o'r ysgol am unrhyw reswm o gwbl—ac maent yn nodi bod 'unrhyw reswm o gwbl' yn cwmpasu popeth—ei bod yn debygol y caiff y rhieni hynny eu galw am sgwrs arall ac y cymerir camau yn eu herbyn.

In a place like Pembrokeshire where you wait for, I believe, over three years for orthodontic treatment, when an offer comes through you grab it with both hands and whizz your kid off to it. With doctors' surgeries and dental surgeries, again, it is very difficult. I have had legions of parents writing to me in my constituency office asking me what to do about this, and how they can possibly manage their children. Unfortunately, the tone of the letters from both those county councils has been sufficiently robust that, as a result, there are an awful lot of really affronted parents. The ones who are affronted are the ones who do care, who do try very hard and who do try to make sure that their children attend school on a regular basis. They feel that their role as parents is being made secondary. With those who do not care, who do not send their children to school on a regular basis, or who do not make sure that they turn up to school on time on a regular basis, to be frank, this is not going to make one jot of difference.

Mewn lle fel Sir Benfro lle byddwch yn aros am dros dair blynedd i gael triniaeth orthodontig, pan gewch gynnig rydych yn ei groesawu ac yn mynd â'ch plentyn yno ar unwaith. Gyda meddygfeydd a deintyddfeydd, unwaith eto, mae'n anodd iawn. Rwyf wedi cael llu o rieni yn ysgrifennu ataf yn fy swyddfa etholaeth yn gofyn imi beth i'w wneud am hyn, a sut y gallant reoli eu plant. Yn anffodus, mae cywair y llythyrau gan y ddau gyngor sir wedi bod mor gadarn fel bod llawer o rieni wedi'u cythruddo'n fawr. Y rhai sydd wedi'u cythruddo yw'r rhai sy'n poeni, sy'n ymdrechu'n galed iawn ac sy'n ceisio gwneud yn siŵr bod eu plant yn mynychu'r ysgol yn rheolaidd. Maent yn teimlo bod eu rôl fel rhieni yn cael ei israddio. Gyda'r rheini nad ydynt yn poeni, nad ydynt yn anfon eu plant i'r ysgol yn rheolaidd, neu nad ydynt yn gwneud yn siŵr eu bod yn cyrraedd yr ysgol yn brydlon yn rheolaidd, a dweud y gwir, ni fydd hyn yn gwneud unrhyw wahaniaeth.

I am very concerned—and I do not want to rehearse all the arguments of the committee—that neither the then Minister, Leighton Andrews, nor the Government were able to offer any evidence that this was a workable way forward. I am very concerned that none of our esteemed witnesses—Ken Reid, Professor Egan, Mr Patrick—were able to say that they thought it was a good idea. It was a tool of last resort, and it tended to punish those who were overly weak.

Rwy'n bryderus iawn—ac nid wyf am ailadrodd holl ddadleuon y pwyllgor—na allai'r Gweinidog ar y pryd, Leighton Andrews, na'r Llywodraeth gynnig unrhyw dystiolaeth bod hyn yn ffordd ymarferol ymlaen. Rwy'n bryderus iawn na allai yr un o'n tystion uchel eu parch—Ken Reid, yr Athro Egan, Mr Patrick—ddweud eu bod yn meddwl ei fod yn syniad da. Dyma oedd y gobaith olaf, a'i fwriad oedd cosbi pawb oedd yn rhy wan.

I guess that my final point, Minister, is that, if you have a set of regulations that cannot really be enforced, what is the point of it? What will be the escalation? Let us say that we have persistent offenders; what I cannot find in the code is how many times you will take them to court, how many times they will get fined, and what the final outcome will be. We have to be very clear on what we are threatening to do. Finally, there are far more exciting ways of encouraging children into school. Yesterday you spoke about the national curriculum; it is about engaging them, looking at the timetabling, the school holidays, the national curriculum, and identifying why some children simply do not want to come into school. It is almost always down to the child's decision, not a parent who says, 'Today you do not need to go to school'.

Mae'n debyg mai fy mhwynt olaf, Weinidog, yw, os oes gennych gyfres o reoliadau na ellir eu gorfodi mewn gwirionedd, beth yw ei diben? Beth fydd y cynnydd? Gadewch inni ddweud bod gennym droseddwyr cyson; yr hyn na allaf ddod o hyd iddo yn y cod yw sawl gwaith y byddwch yn mynd â hwy i'r llys, sawl gwaith y byddant yn cael eu dirwyo, a beth fydd y canlyniad terfynol. Rhaid inni fod yn glir iawn am yr hyn rydym yn bygwth ei wneud. Yn olaf, mae ffyrdd llawer mwy cyffrous o annog plant i fynd i'r ysgol. Ddoe buoch yn siarad am y cwricwlwm cenedlaethol; mae a wnelo ag ennyn eu diddordeb, edrych ar yr amserlen, y gwyliau ysgol, y cwricwlwm cenedlaethol, a nodi pam nad yw rhai plant yn syml am fynd i'r ysgol. Penderfyniad y plentyn ydyw bron bob tro, nid rhiant sy'n dweud, 'Nid oes angen i ti fynd i'r ysgol heddiw'.

15:23 **Aled Roberts** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I also thank Simon Thomas for bringing this motion. As he suggests, in reality the regulations are in place, but this does give us an opportunity this afternoon to discuss the practical implications following the issuing of the code of practice. As both Simon and Angela have already stated, the Children and Young People Committee heard not a single shred of evidence with regard to the justification for this policy, but we had a situation where the Minister for Education and Skills decided to proceed. That was against the evidence of his own special adviser, Professor Reid, who gave evidence before our committee, and, it would appear, disregarding the evidence from England, where the situation between 2005 and 2008 led to some 35,000 fixed-penalty notices being issued, and yet, the worsening situation with regard to absenteeism, where an additional 2 million schooling days were lost.

Diolch hefyd i Simon Thomas am gyflwyno'r cynnig hwn. Fel yr awgryma, mae'r rheoliadau ar waith mewn gwirionedd, ond rhydd hyn gyfle inni y prynhawn yma i drafod y goblygiadau ymarferol ar ôl gweithredu'r cod ymarfer. Fel y mae Simon ac Angela eisoes wedi nodi, nid yw'r Pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc wedi clywed unrhyw dystiolaeth sy'n cyfiawnhau llunio'r polisi hwn, ond roedd gennym sefyllfa lle penderfynodd y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau fynd yn ei flaen. Roedd hynny yn erbyn tystiolaeth ei gynghorydd arbennig ei hun, yr Athro Reid, a roddodd dystiolaeth gerbron ein pwyllgor, ac, mae'n ymddangos, gan ddiystyru'r dystiolaeth o Loegr, lle yr arweiniodd y sefyllfa rhwng 2005 a 2008 at gyflwyno tua 35,000 o hysbysiadau cosb benodedig, ac eto, at waethygu'r sefyllfa o ran absenoldeb, lle y collwyd 2 filiwn yn fwy o ddiwrnodau ysgol.

I would like to concentrate this afternoon on the safeguards that the Government will put in place with regard to the situation with different local practices where the Government has allowed local policies to be pursued, and where, even at this very moment, the issue with regard to education welfare is pursued completely differently, even within one region.

Hoffwn ganolbwyntio y prynhawn yma ar y mesurau diogelwch y bydd y Llywodraeth yn eu rhoi ar waith o ran y sefyllfa gydag arferion lleol gwahanol lle mae'r Llywodraeth wedi caniatáu i bolisïau lleol gael eu dilyn, a lle, hyd yn oed ar hyn o bryd, mae lles addysg yn cael ei olrhain yn hollol wahanol, hyd yn oed o fewn un rhanbarth.

I also ask whether the Government has agreed with the courts service and the local authorities concerned how non-payment of fines will be dealt with through the courts process. Will it be dealt with as a civil debt or pursued through the courts as a criminal debt? The reality is that nearly every expert that we heard from believed that the very parents who have least to gain from this new system were the ones where the reasons behind absenteeism are much too complex for them to be dealt with simply by a fixed-penalty system. Fining the parents of truanting children is not the panacea that the Welsh Government would suggest. What we should be looking at is a community-wide approach, asking the Welsh Government to tell us what the reasoning is behind the data with regard to absenteeism and bringing forwards strategies that will deal with those underlying issues.

Gofynnaf hefyd a yw'r Llywodraeth wedi cytuno gyda'r gwasanaeth llysoedd a'r awdurdodau lleol dan sylw ynghylch sut yr eir i'r afael ag achosion o beidio â thalu dirwyon drwy'r broses llysoedd. A gânt eu trin fel dyled sifil neu eu hanfon drwy'r llysoedd fel dyled droseddol? Y realiti yw bod bron pob arbenigwr y clywsom ganddo o'r farn mai'r union rhieni a fydd yn elwa leiaf o'r system newydd hon oedd y rhai lle'r oedd rhesymau dros yr absenoldeb yn llawer rhy gymhleth iddynt gael eu trin yn syml drwy system cosb benodedig. Nid dirwyo rhieni plant sy'n chwarae triwant yw'r ateb i bob problem fel yr awgryma Llywodraeth Cymru. Dylem fod yn ystyried ymagwedd ar draws y gymuned, gan ofyn i Lywodraeth Cymru ddweud wrthym beth yw'r rhesymeg y tu ôl i'r data o ran absenoldeb a chyflwyno strategaethau a fydd yn mynd i'r afael â'r materion sylfaenol hynny.

For me, the evidence of the police officer who appeared before the committee was most telling when she suggested that it would be quite easy for wealthier families taking their children out of school to save on holiday costs to take the hit as far as the fixed-penalty notice was concerned. She said that some families would turn to the teachers and say, 'Thanks and ta-ta'; in her words, they would 'cut and run'. The reality is that we need to look at the cause of absenteeism in the first place and address the causes rather than seek very cheap headlines that might satisfy certain readers of a certain newspaper.

I mi, roedd tystiolaeth y swyddog heddlu a ymddangosodd gerbron y pwyllgor yn arwyddocaol iawn pan awgrymodd y byddai'n eithaf hawdd i'r teuluoedd cyfoethocaf sy'n tynnu eu plant allan o'r ysgol i arbed costau gwyliau wynebu'r ddirwy mewn perthynas â'r hysbysiad cosb benodedig. Dywedodd y byddai rhai teuluoedd yn troi at yr athrawon a dweud, 'Diolch a hwyl'; y byddent yn talu'r arian ac yn mynd. Y gwir amdani yw bod angen inni edrych ar achos absenoldebau yn y lle cyntaf a mynd i'r afael â'r achosion yn hytrach na mynd ar drywydd penawdau dirmygus iawn a allai fodloni darllenwyr penodol papur newydd penodol.

I also ask whether the code of practice or any other guidance that has been issued to local authorities outlines to which individuals headteachers can give these fixed-penalty notices in all circumstances.

Gofynnaf hefyd a yw'r cod ymarfer neu unrhyw ganllawiau eraill a gyflwynwyd i awdurdodau lleol yn amlinellu pa unigolion y gall penaethiaid gyflwyno'r hysbysiadau cosb benodedig hyn iddynt ym mhob amgylchiad.

15:27 **Jenny Rathbone** Bywgraffiad Biography

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My feeling is that this is like using a sledgehammer to crack open a nut. This debate, if it were to be appropriate, should be taking place much further down the line, if we were to suddenly find a whole host of local authorities using this as a way of generating income. I cannot see any evidence of that, not least because the guidance has only just been issued.

Gorymateb yw hyn yn fy marn i. Er mwyn i'r ddadl hon fod yn briodol, dylai gael ei chynnal yn llawer hwyrach, pe baem yn sydyn yn dod o hyd i lu o awdurdodau lleol sy'n defnyddio hyn fel ffordd o greu incwm. Ni allaf weld unrhyw dystiolaeth o hynny, yn bennaf am mai dim ond newydd gael eu cyflwyno y mae'r canllawiau.

Professor Ken Reid very clearly states that the reason for non-attendance at school is often a cry for help, with which I absolutely agree. Simon Thomas reiterated what Ken Reid said, which was that this may be suitable in some situations. Therefore, it seems appropriate to maintain this tool in the armoury to address those particular situations that are not about complex psychological and behavioural problems, caused, as Angela Burns referred to, by very complex and needy families. However, there are families that will still take their children shopping during the school day, when it is absolutely not appropriate.

Mae'r Athro Ken Reid yn datgan yn glir iawn mai gwaedd am help yn aml yw'r rheswm dros beidio â mynychu'r ysgol, ac rwy'n cytuno'n llwyr ag ef. Ailadroddodd Simon Thomas yr hyn a ddywedodd Ken Reid, sef y gallai hyn fod yn addas mewn rhai sefyllfaoedd. Felly, ymddengys y byddai'n briodol cynnal hyn er mwyn mynd i'r afael â'r sefyllfaoedd penodol hynny nad ydynt yn ymwneud â phroblemau seicolegol ac ymddygiadol cymhleth, a achosir, fel y cyfeiriodd Angela Burns ato, gan deuluoedd cymhleth ac anghenus iawn. Fodd bynnag, mae yna deuluoedd a fydd yn dal yn mynd â'u plant i siopa yn ystod y diwrnod ysgol, pan na fydd hynny'n briodol o gwbl.

Of course it is not appropriate for a child to be taken to a medical appointment if it happens to be in school time, but I do not think that anybody is suggesting that that parent should be fined for doing that. What this fine would be addressing is those parents who are simply not taking their children's education seriously enough and putting it as a higher priority over their social engagements and other issues. I think that it is a perfectly appropriate use of the law in those specific circumstances. I understand that the guidance makes it possible for headteachers to refer these decisions to the educational welfare service, which will have all the information at its fingertips about particular families, to be used in specific examples of persistent abuse of unauthorised absence for purely trivial reasons

Wrth gwrs, nid yw'n briodol mynd â phlentyn i apwyntiad meddygol os bydd yn digwydd yn ystod amser ysgol, ond ni chredaf fod neb yn awgrymu y dylai rhieni gael dirwy am wneud hynny. Yr hyn y byddai'r ddirwy hon yn mynd i'r afael ag ef fyddai'r rhieni hynny nad ydynt yn cymryd addysg eu plant ddigon o ddifrif nac yn rhoi blaenoriaeth uwch iddi dros eu digwyddiadau cymdeithasol a materion eraill. Mae'n ddefnydd cwbl briodol o'r gyfraith o dan yr amgylchiadau penodol hynny yn fy marn i. Deallaf fod y canllawiau yn ei gwneud yn bosibl i benaethiaid gyfeirio'r penderfyniadau hyn at y gwasanaeth lles addysg, a fydd yn meddu ar yr holl wybodaeth am deuluoedd penodol, i'w defnyddio mewn enghreifftiau penodol o absenoldebau mynych heb awdurdod am resymau dibwys yn unig.

15:30 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I call on the Minister for Education and Skills, Huw Lewis, to speak on behalf of the Government.

Galwaf ar y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau, Huw Lewis, i siarad ar ran y Llywodraeth.

15:30 **Huw Lewis** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau / The Minister for Education and Skills

I thank Members for their contributions this afternoon. This is an important debate that will demonstrate that the decisions that we take in the National Assembly are not taken lightly. I take, in all sincerity, the importance of the comments and the concerns that have been raised with me this afternoon in the debate. I would also like to thank Simon Thomas in particular for taking the time to discuss the motion ahead of today's debate.

Diolchaf i'r Aelodau am eu cyfraniadau'r prynhawn yma. Mae hon yn ddadl bwysig a fydd yn dangos y rhoddir ystyriaeth briodol i'r penderfyniadau a wnawn yn y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Derbyniaf, yn hollol ddidwyll, bwysigrwydd y sylwadau a'r pryderon a godwyd gyda mi y prynhawn yma yn y ddadl. Hoffwn innau hefyd ddiolch i Simon Thomas yn arbennig am gymryd o'i amser i drafod y cynnig cyn y ddadl heddiw.

I know that improving attendance is a priority for all of us. The evidence is clear on how pupils missing school are placed at an enormous disadvantage compared with their peers—that damage can be profound and that damage can be lifelong. Any effective tool that bears down upon this phenomenon should be employed, in my view, when it is appropriate. The fixed-penalty notice is not a catch-all response to improving attendance; it is one discrete addition to a number of tools already available to schools and local authorities. The vast majority of those other interventions are positive and proactive. Members will know that we have aside £800,000 to establish these sorts of approaches to addressing attendance.

Gwn y bydd gwella presenoldeb yn flaenoriaeth i bob un ohonom. Mae'r dystiolaeth yn glir ynghylch sut mae disgyblion sy'n colli ysgol dan anfantais enfawr o'u cymharu â'u cyfoedion—gall y niwed fod yn sylweddol a gall bara gydol oes. Dylid mabwysiadu unrhyw ddull gweithredu sy'n mynd i'r afael â'r ffenomen hon yn fy marn i, pan fo hynny'n briodol. Nid yw'r hysbysiad cosb benodedig yn ateb cyffredinol i wella presenoldeb; un ychwanegiad penodol ydyw i nifer o ddulliau sydd eisoes ar gael i ysgolion ac awdurdodau lleol. Mae'r mwyafrif helaeth o'r ymyriadau eraill hynny yn gadarnhaol ac yn rhagweithiol. Gŵyr yr Aelodau ein bod wedi neilltuo £800,000 er mwyn sefydlu'r mathau hyn o ddulliau i fynd i'r afael â phresenoldeb.

I do hope to set Members' minds at rest on some of the other specific points that were made this afternoon. I would urge Members to resist the annulment motion, but, in doing so, I take on board the concerns that have been raised. I hope that I can give some clear assurances to set Members' minds at rest.

Gobeithio y gallaf roi sicrwydd i'r Aelodau ar rai o'r pwyntiau penodol eraill a wnaed y prynhawn yma. Byddwn yn annog yr Aelodau i wrthod y cynnig i ddiddymu, ond, wedi dweud hynny, derbyniaf y pryderon a godwyd. Gobeithio y gallaf roi sicrwydd clir i dawelu meddyliau'r Aelodau.

First, there will be a full review of how the policy is being implemented to ensure that there is no abuse of the system. That review would take place after two years, to allow for the collection of sufficient data—and those data will be collected.

Yn gyntaf, bydd adolygiad llawn o sut y mae'r polisi yn cael ei weithredu er mwyn sicrhau nad oes unrhyw achosion o gam-drin y system. Byddai'r adolygiad hwnnw'n cael ei gynnal ar ôl dwy flynedd, er mwyn sicrhau y gellir casglu digon o ddata—a chaiff y data hynny eu casglu.

Secondly, let me reiterate that the guidance that we have issued on the penalty notices makes clear that they are to be used in rare circumstances, and certainly not for things like a casual absence for a medical appointment or some such thing. That guidance, which includes a specific section on additional learning needs, for example, was issued after today's motion was tabled. I hope that it goes a long way to easing some of the fears that we have heard about today.

Yn ail, gadewch imi ailadrodd bod y canllawiau a gyhoeddwyd gennym ar yr hysbysiadau cosb yn nodi mai mewn amgylchiadau prin y dylid eu defnyddio, ac yn sicr nid ar gyfer pethau fel absenoldeb achlysurol ar gyfer apwyntiad meddygol neu rywbeth tebyg. Cyflwynwyd y canllawiau hynny, sy'n cynnwys adran benodol ar anghenion dysgu ychwanegol, er enghraifft, ar ôl i gynnig heddiw gael ei gyflwyno. Gobeithio y bydd hynny'n helpu i leddfu rhai o'r pryderon yr ydym wedi clywed amdanynt heddiw.

The next step will require local authorities to develop codes of conduct—again, they would be consulted upon. The local authorities have until the end of the 2013-14 academic year to implement those codes. To help to alleviate some of the concerns that have been addressed to me, I have decided to ask local authorities to submit their draft codes of conduct to my officials prior to consultation. My officials will shortly be writing to directors of education to confirm this.

Bydd y cam nesaf yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i awdurdodau lleol ddatblygu codau ymddygiad—unwaith eto, byddai'r rhain yn destun ymgynghoriad. Mae gan yr awdurdodau lleol tan ddiwedd blwyddyn academaidd 2013-14 i weithredu'r codau hynny. Er mwyn helpu i leddfu rhai o'r pryderon a gyfeiriwyd ataf, rwyf wedi penderfynu gofyn i awdurdodau lleol gyflwyno eu codau ymddygiad drafft i'm swyddogion cyn y broses ymgynghori. Bydd fy swyddogion yn ysgrifennu at y cyfarwyddwyr addysg i gadarnhau hyn maes o law.

If, either following the review of draft codes or in the light of what the data show, we feel that there is a need for stronger guidance, we will consider issuing a national code, drawn up in partnership with the Welsh Local Government Association. In the event that the penalty notices are not being used appropriately, or are not having the desired positive impact, we will revise the regulations. I hope that does provide the assurance that Members need.

Os byddwn yn teimlo, naill ai ar ôl adolygu'r codau drafft neu yng ngoleuni'r hyn y mae'r data'n ei ddangos, bod angen canllawiau cryfach, byddwn yn ystyried cyflwyno cod cenedlaethol, a gaiff ei lunio mewn partneriaeth â Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru. Os na fydd yr hysbysiadau cosb yn cael eu defnyddio'n briodol, neu os na fyddant yn cael yr effaith gadarnhaol a ddymunir, byddwn yn diwygio'r rheoliadau. Gobeithio bod hynny'n rhoi'r sicrwydd sydd ei angen ar Aelodau.

As Members know, powers already exist for local authorities to prosecute parents if their child fails to attend school regularly. This can result in a much bigger fine, up to £2,500, or imprisonment up to a maximum of three months, or both. The reason why we are committed to the introduction of the penalty notices is to provide an additional intervention that could prevent that more drastic action and the effective criminalisation of a parent.

Fel y gŵyr Aelodau, mae pwerau eisoes yn bodoli i alluogi awdurdodau lleol i erlyn rhieni os bydd eu plentyn yn methu â mynychu'r ysgol yn rheolaidd. Gall hyn arwain at ddirwy llawer mwy, hyd at £2,500, neu garchar am hyd at uchafswm o dri mis, neu'r ddau. Y rheswm pam rydym wedi ymrwymo i gyflwyno'r hysbysiadau cosb yw er mwyn darparu ymyriad ychwanegol a allai atal y camau gweithredu llymach hynny a fyddai'n troseddoli rhiant.

Each child's case must, of course, be treated individually to ensure that the most appropriate mechanism for getting a child to attend school is utilised. Fixed-penalty notices will not be appropriate in many cases. However, the most recent comprehensive study in England—and here is the evidence that Members were asking for—found that penalty notices were an effective approach to dealing with punctuality issues and for cases where there were no complex issues or underlying reasons for poor attendance. That evidence is in a study undertaken by the Department for Children, Schools and Families—as it was—in England in 2010. Ken Reid has also been quoted here this afternoon and Ken Reid did say that these penalty notices were effective in certain, specific cases. That is precisely the kind of regime that we are talking about here. That English study showed that the warning letter threatening a penalty notice was often sufficient to improve attendance without the notice ever having to be issued. Even though attendance is increasing in Wales, and even though our policies are working, I think that there is more to be done, and we must not be complacent.

Rhaid trin achos pob plentyn yn unigol wrth gwrs, er mwyn sicrhau y defnyddir y dull mwyaf priodol o gael plentyn i fynd i'r ysgol. Ni fydd hysbysiadau cosb penodedig yn briodol mewn nifer o achosion. Fodd bynnag, canfu'r astudiaeth gynhwysfawr ddiweddaraf yn Lloegr—a dyma'r dystiolaeth yr oedd Aelodau am ei chael—fod hysbysiadau cosb yn ddull effeithiol o fynd i'r afael â materion prydlondeb ac ar gyfer achosion lle nad oedd unrhyw faterion cymhleth neu resymau sylfaenol dros bresenoldeb gwael. Daw'r dystiolaeth honno mewn astudiaeth a gynhaliwyd gan yr Adran Plant, Ysgolion a Theuluoedd—fel yr oedd—yn Lloegr yn 2010. Mae Ken Reid wedi cael ei ddyfynnu yma y prynhawn yma hefyd a dywedodd Ken Reid fod yr hysbysiadau cosb hyn yn effeithiol mewn rhai achosion penodol. Dyna yn union y math o gyfundrefn rydym yn sôn amdani yma. Dangosodd yr astudiaeth honno yn Lloegr fod y llythyr rhybudd oedd yn bygwth hysbysiad cosb yn aml yn ddigon i wella presenoldeb heb i'r hysbysiad erioed gael ei gyhoeddi. Er bod presenoldeb yn cynyddu yng Nghymru, ac er bod ein polisïau yn gweithio, credaf fod mwy i'w wneud, a rhaid inni beidio â llaesu dwylo.

Therefore, I appreciate the concerns that have been raised, but I hope that I have given Members enough reassurance not to push the red button this afternoon of annulment. I believe that we should proceed with this policy, but with those clear safeguards against abuse of the system that I have set out this afternoon.

Felly, gwerthfawrogaf y pryderon a godwyd, ond gobeithiaf fy mod wedi rhoi digon o sicrwydd i Aelodau nad oes angen gwthio'r botwm coch y prynhawn yma. Credaf y dylem fwrw ymlaen â'r polisi hwn, ond gyda'r mesurau diogelwch clir hynny yn erbyn achosion o gam-drin y system a nodwyd gennyf y prynhawn yma.

15:35

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad] [Biography]

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[Fideo] [Video]

I call on Simon Thomas to reply to the debate.

Galwaf ar Simon Thomas i ymateb i'r ddadl.

15:35

Simon Thomas [Bywgraffiad] [Biography]

Senedd.tv
[Fideo] [Video]

I thank the Minister, first of all, as well as all other Members who have contributed to the debate. I think that it allowed us to air some of the real concerns that some of us have, arising from the evidence that we took on the Children and Young People Committee. I think that some of those wider issues will be debated when we have the opportunity to debate that committee report, hopefully, at a later stage, Presiding Officer.

Diolchaf i'r Gweinidog, yn gyntaf oll, ynghyd â'r holl Aelodau eraill sydd wedi cyfrannu at y ddadl. Credaf ein bod wedi llwyddo i drafod rhai o'r pryderon gwirioneddol sydd gan rai ohonom, yn deillio o'r dystiolaeth a gawsom ar y Pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc. Credaf y caiff rhai o'r materion ehangach hynny eu trafod pan gawn gyfle i drafod adroddiad y pwyllgor, gobeithio, yn nes ymlaen, Lywydd.

However, on the specifics of what has been done today, I think that it is very important that we have used this opportunity to press the Minister to be clear around some of the issues that he has addressed. As he said, the original regulations were tabled over the summer recess, and I tabled the annulment motion on the first day that we returned. Since then, more information has come from the Government, and it has published its guidance notes since then. Today, as well, I am glad to hear the Minister say more about some of the ways in which he is going to use this, which goes a certain amount of the distance towards alleviating some of my concerns.

Fodd bynnag, o ran manylion yr hyn a gyflawnwyd heddiw, credaf ei bod yn bwysig iawn ein bod wedi achub ar y cyfle hwn i bwyso ar y Gweinidog i fod yn glir ynghylch rhai o'r materion y cyfeiriodd atynt. Fel y dywedodd, cyflwynwyd y rheoliadau gwreiddiol yn ystod toriad yr haf, a chyflwynais y cynnig diddymu ar y diwrnod cyntaf yn ôl. Ers hynny, mae rhagor o wybodaeth wedi dod gan y Llywodraeth, ac mae wedi cyhoeddi ei nodiadau cyfarwyddyd ers hynny. Heddiw, hefyd, roeddwn yn falch o glywed y Gweinidog yn dweud mwy am rai o'r ffyrdd y bydd yn defnyddio hyn, sydd wedi helpu i leddfu rhai o'm pryderon.

I particularly welcome what the Minister said about the review. After two years, I think that that was going to be very important, so that we have data in the Welsh context, and so that we are not relying solely on English data. He said that he will be collecting data nationally to monitor this. I very much welcome the fact that the draft codes will come to him as a Minister, and to his department, to look at first. I will be honest with the Minister that I want to see a national code here; I do not think that it should be 22 local codes. I accept that it is too late to turn the ship around in that regard, but, if these draft codes come to you, at least you can have a national look at them, and, as you said, you will review that as part of the review, and perhaps look at having a national code.

Croesawaf yn arbennig yr hyn a ddywedodd y Gweinidog am yr adolygiad. Ar ôl dwy flynedd, credaf fod hynny'n mynd i fod yn bwysig iawn, er mwyn inni gael data yng nghyd-destun Cymru, yn hytrach na dibynnu ar ddata Lloegr yn unig. Dywedodd y bydd yn casglu data yn genedlaethol er mwyn monitro hyn. Croesawaf yn fawr y ffaith mai ef fel Gweinidog, a'i adran ef, fydd yn cael y codau drafft i edrych arnynt gyntaf. Byddaf yn onest gyda'r Gweinidog fy mod am weld cod cenedlaethol yma; ni chredaf y dylem gael 22 o godau lleol. Derbyniaf ei bod yn rhy hwyr gwrthdroi hynny, ond, os bydd y codau drafft yn dod atoch chi, gallwch o leiaf fwrw golwg cenedlaethol arnynt, ac, fel y dywedasoch, byddwch yn adolygu hynny fel rhan o'r adolygiad, ac efallai yn ystyried cael cod cenedlaethol.

We hear a lot about taxes these days—the bedroom tax, and so forth—and this is a kind of attendance tax, if I can put it that way. In that regard, I am a little bit surprised that the Minister did not blow his own trumpet and say that attendance rates in Wales are actually improving, without this; even without these penalty notices, the attendance rates in Wales are improving. That suggests that the positive work that we are doing with families—and the Minister mentioned the £800,000—is the best way to get children, not only to attend school, but to engage with school. It is not about turning up and being a nuisance in the classroom, it is about engaging with school as well. That is a wider piece of work than simply fining parents in this way.

Rydym yn clywed llawer am drethi y dyddiau hyn—y dreth ystafell wely, ac yn y blaen a rhyw fath o dreth presenoldeb yw hon yn fy marn i. Yn hynny o beth, synnais braidd na wnaeth y Gweinidog ganmol ei hun a dweud bod cyfraddau presenoldeb yng Nghymru yn gwella mewn gwirionedd, heb hyn; hyd yn oed heb yr hysbysiadau cosb hyn, mae'r cyfraddau presenoldeb yng Nghymru yn gwella. Mae hynny'n awgrymu mai'r gwaith cadarnhaol rydym yn ei wneud gyda theuluoedd—a soniodd y Gweinidog am y £800,000—yw'r ffordd orau o gael plant, nid yn unig i fynd i'r ysgol, ond i ymgysylltu â'r ysgol. Nid oes a wnelo hyn â throi i fyny a bod yn niwsans yn yr ystafell ddosbarth, mae a wnelo ag ymgysylltu â'r ysgol hefyd. Mae hynny'n cwmpasu mwy na dim ond dirwyo rhieni fel hyn.

Jenny Rathbone mentioned using a sledgehammer to crack a nut. I thought that I was going to agree with that, because I thought that she was talking about the policy, but, unfortunately, she was talking about this motion. I believe that, having called this motion for annulment, it will now go ahead, although I suspect that it will be objected to.

Soniodd Jenny Rathbone am orymateb. Roeddwn i'n meddwl y byddwn yn cytuno â hynny, gan fy mod yn meddwl ei bod yn sôn am y polisi, ond, yn anffodus, roedd yn sôn am y cynnig hwn. Credaf, ar ôl cyflwyno'r cynnig hwn am ddiddymiad, y bydd yn mynd rhagddo yn awr, er fy mod yn amau y caiff ei wrthwynebu.

15:38 **Nick Ramsay** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Will you give way?

A wnewch ildio?

15:38 **Simon Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I will give way, if the Member wishes.

Ildiaf, os yw'r Aelod yn dymuno.

15:38 **Nick Ramsay** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I am grateful. Do you share my concern that, just as if you have a parking fine in a local authority car park, if you do not pay within 28 days, then the fine doubles to £120, and surely those people who are least able to afford that fine will be the ones who will have to pay more?

Rwyf yn ddiolchgar. A rannwch fy mhryder, yn union fel pan gewch ddirwy parcio mewn maes parcio awdurdod lleol, os na fyddwch yn talu o fewn 28 diwrnod, yna bydd y ddirwy yn dyblu i £120, ac yn sicr y bobl hynny sydd leiaf tebygol o allu fforddio'r ddirwy honno fydd y rhai a fydd yn gorfod talu mwy?

15:39 **Simon Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

The Member makes a very good point, which I skipped over, because I thought that I did not have enough time, but he has made it for me. That is completely correct.

Gwna'r Aelod bwynt da iawn, na threuliais lawer o amser arno, gan nad oeddwn yn meddwl bod gennyf ddigon o amser, ond mae wedi gwneud amser i mi. Mae hynny'n gwbl gywir.

We appreciate in Plaid Cymru that we voted against the principles, and that we lost that vote. We have called this in, so that we can have greater scrutiny and greater clarification from the Minister about how he intends to do this. He has stated that there will be data collection, that there will be a national oversight of the code, and that there will be a review after two years. On that basis, I will signal that, whatever happens in other parties, we will abstain now on the annulment motion, but we will keep this under review, Minister, and we will continue to press you for the details on this.

Gwerthfawrogwn ym Mhlaid Cymru ein bod wedi pleidleisio yn erbyn yr egwyddorion, a'n bod wedi colli'r bleidlais honno. Rydym wedi galw hyn i mewn, fel y gallwn gael mwy o graffu a mwy o eglurhad gan y Gweinidog ynghylch sut y mae'n bwriadu gwneud hyn. Mae wedi datgan y caiff data eu casglu, y bydd trosolwg cenedlaethol o'r cod, ac y bydd adolygiad ar ôl dwy flynedd. Ar y sail honno, nodaf, beth bynnag fydd yn digwydd mewn pleidiau eraill, y byddwn yn ymatal yn awr mewn perthynas â'r cynnig diddymu, ond byddwn yn cadw llygad ar hyn, Weinidog, a byddwn yn parhau i bwyso arnoch i roi manylion ar hyn.

I ask you particularly, when you look at the codes, to ensure that the discretion that means that this can be used in the first instance is looked at again. Everything that you said is about this being a last resort, but the guidelines make it clear that there is discretion to use it in the first instance. That is an unfortunate signal that some people may use temporarily to artificially boost their banding, and I do not want to see that happening. I hope that the Minister's remarks will be listened to by those who will use these penalty notices up and down the land.

Gofynnaf yn arbennig ichi, pan fyddwch yn edrych ar y codau, i sicrhau bod y disgresiwn sy'n golygu y gall hyn gael ei ddefnyddio yn y lle cyntaf yn cael ei ystyried eto. Mae popeth y gwnaethoch ei ddweud yn awgrymu mai dyma'r dewis olaf, ond mae'r canllawiau yn ei gwneud yn glir bod disgresiwn i'w defnyddio yn y lle cyntaf. Mae hynny'n arwydd anffodus y gall rhai pobl ei ddefnyddio dros dro i roi hwb ffug i'w bandio, ac nid wyf am weld hynny'n digwydd. Gobeithiaf y bydd y rhai a fydd yn defnyddio'r hysbysiadau cosb hyn ledled y wlad yn gwrando ar sylwadau'r Gweinidog.

15:40

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

The proposal is to agree the motion. Does any Member object? There is objection. Therefore, I will defer all voting on this item until voting time.

Y cwestiwn yw a ddylid derbyn y cynnig. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Mae gwrthwynebiad. Felly, byddaf yn gohirio'r holl bleidleisio ar yr eitem hon tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

Gohiriwyd y pleidleisio tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

Voting deferred until voting time.

Dadl ar Adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cymunedau, Cydraddoldeb a Llywodraeth Leol ar yr Ymchwiliad i Addasiadau yn y Cartref

Debate on the Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee's Report on the Inquiry into Home Adaptations

Cynnig NDM5339 Christine Chapman

Motion NDM5339 Christine Chapman

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

Yn nodi adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cymunedau, Cydraddoldeb a Llywodraeth Leol am ei Ymchwiliad i Addasiadau yn y Cartref a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 17 Gorffennaf 2013.

Notes the Report of the Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee on its Inquiry into Home Adaptations, which was laid in the Table Office on 17 July 2013.

15:40

Christine Chapman Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I move the motion.

Cynigiaf y cynnig.

'The right to inclusion, to the dignity and maximisation of independence that an adaptation can bring is just that: a right, not a privilege.'

Dyna'r union beth yw hawl i gynhwysiant, i'r urddas ac i'r annibyniaeth fwyaf y gall addasiad ei chynnig: sef hawl, nid braint.

This quote comes from a contributor to this inquiry and crystallises many of the conversations heard during the course of the inquiry. For many people, home adaptations are a lifeline, allowing them to live a full life. Imagine feeling trapped in your own home, as some people do. It is difficult to think of it as being a home then.

Daw'r dyfyniad hwn gan gyfrannwr i'r ymchwiliad hwn ac mae'n crisialu llawer o'r sgyrsiau a glywyd yn ystod yr ymchwiliad. I lawer o bobl, mae addasiadau i'r cartref yn achubiaeth, sy'n eu galluogi i fyw bywyd llawn. Dychmygwch sut deimlad ydyw bod yn gaeth yn eich cartref eich hun, fel y teimla rhai pobl. Mae'n anodd ei ystyried yn gartref bryd hynny.

This inquiry was the latest in a series of investigations into home adaptations. The impetus came from an ongoing concern that disabled people are facing unnecessary delays in receiving essential home adaptations, particularly through the disabled facilities grant. I would like to record the committee's gratitude to everyone who contributed to the inquiry, because their evidence was invaluable in helping the committee to reach its conclusions. I would particularly like to thank the service users who provided an insight into the issues that matter to them. Also, I would like to thank the clerking team and the research team for the work that they have done on this report. Finally, I would like to thank Ann Jones, my predecessor, who chaired the committee during the inquiry.

Yr ymchwiliad hwn oedd y diweddaraf mewn cyfres o ymchwiliadau i addasiadau i'r cartref. Cafodd ei symbylu gan bryder bod pobl anabl yn dal i wynebu oedi diangen cyn cael addasiadau hanfodol i'r cartref, yn enwedig drwy'r grant cyfleusterau i'r anabl. Ar ran y pwyllgor hoffwn ddiolch i bawb a gyfrannodd i'r ymchwiliad, oherwydd bod eu tystiolaeth yn amhrisiadwy o ran helpu'r pwyllgor i ddod i'w gasgliadau. Yn benodol, hoffwn ddiolch i ddefnyddwyr gwasanaethau a roddodd gipolwg ar y materion sy'n bwysig iddynt hwy. Hefyd, hoffwn ddiolch i'r tîm clercio a'r tîm ymchwil am y gwaith y maent wedi'i wneud ar yr adroddiad hwn. Yn olaf, hoffwn ddiolch i Ann Jones, fy rhagflaenydd, a gadeiriodd y pwyllgor yn ystod yr ymchwiliad.

I welcome the Minister's acceptance of many of the committee's recommendations. However, I am disappointed that some of the key recommendations have been rejected and I will come onto those. First of all, it is evident that many of the issues are the same as those raised in previous inquiries and, while evidence suggests that there has been some progress in improving the adaptations system, this has not been consistent across Wales. I am, therefore, pleased that the Minister has accepted in principle the committee's recommendation to report back to us on an annual basis on progress against the recommendations in the report and on improving the adaptations system generally.

Croesawf y ffaith bod y Gweinidog wedi derbyn llawer o argymhellion y pwyllgor. Fodd bynnag, rwy'n siomedig bod rhai o'r argymhellion allweddol wedi cael eu gwrthod, a soniaf am y rheini yn y man. Yn gyntaf oll, mae'n amlwg bod llawer o'r materion yr un fath â'r rhai a godwyd mewn ymchwiliadau blaenorol ac, er bod tystiolaeth yn awgrymu bod rhywfaint o gynnydd wedi'i wneud i wella'r system addasiadau, nid yw hyn wedi bod yn gyson ledled Cymru. Felly, rwy'n falch bod y Gweinidog wedi derbyn mewn egwyddor argymhelliad y pwyllgor i adrodd yn ôl inni bob blwyddyn ar gynnydd yn erbyn yr argymhellion yn yr adroddiad ac ar wella'r system addasiadau yn gyffredinol.

The committee is disappointed that our recommendation for the setting of appropriate standards for delivery times has been rejected. We note the Minister's response that statutory timescales are contained within existing legislation, but we felt that rather than setting a maximum delivery time, those delivering adaptations should be challenged to provide those adaptations more quickly. The committee heard that some disabled people were using their disability living allowance to pay for small adaptations, which could be affected by the introduction of personal independence payments. We also heard concerns about the impact of housing benefit reform on people living in specially adapted accommodation. Therefore, we are pleased that our recommendation to monitor the impact of welfare reform on social housing was accepted.

Mae'r pwyllgor yn siomedig bod ein hargymhelliad ar gyfer pennu safonau priodol ar gyfer amseroedd cyflawni wedi cael ei wrthod. Nodwn ymateb y Gweinidog bod tefynau amser statudol wedi'u cynnwys yn y ddeddfwriaeth bresennol, ond teimlwn, yn hytrach na phennu'r uchafswm amser cyflawni, y dylai'r rhai sy'n darparu addasiadau gael eu herio i ddarparu'r addasiadau hynny yn gynt. Clywodd y pwyllgor fod rhai pobl anabl yn defnyddio eu lwfans byw i'r anabl i dalu am addasiadau bach, ac efallai y bydd cyflwyno taliadau annibyniaeth bersonol yn effeithio ar hyn. Clywsom bryderon hefyd ynghylch effaith diwygio'r budd-dal tai ar bobl sy'n byw mewn llety sydd wedi'i addasu'n arbennig. Felly, rydym yn falch bod ein hargymhelliad i fonitro effaith diwygiadau lles ar dai cymdeithasol wedi cael ei dderbyn.

Many respondents said that the adaptations system was bureaucratic and overly complex, from initially accessing the system and applying for a grant, to receiving their adaptation. Service users told us that they wanted an adaptation system that focused on their needs. A number of witnesses suggested that an effective way to simplify the system for the user would be a single point of entry into the system, and we are pleased that the Minister has agreed to explore the possibility of introducing such a system.

Dywedodd llawer o ymatebwyr fod y system addasiadau yn fiwrocrataidd ac yn rhy gymhleth, o ddod i gysylltiad â'r system yn gyntaf a gwneud cais am grant, i dderbyn eu haddasiad. Dywedodd defnyddwyr y gwasanaeth wrthym eu bod am gael system addasiadau a oedd yn canolbwyntio ar eu hanghenion. Awgrymodd nifer o dystion mai ffordd effeithiol o symleiddio'r system i ddefnyddwyr fyddai un pwynt mynediad i'r system, ac rydym yn falch bod y Gweinidog wedi cytuno i edrych ar y posibilrwydd o gyflwyno system o'r fath.

We know that disabled facilities grants are one of a number of ways of providing adaptations. Although the accuracy and usefulness of performance indicators in relation to adaptations is disputed, the indicators, nevertheless, demonstrate that a number of local authorities are taking too long to deliver these and that there are significant regional variations in average waiting times for grants.

Gwyddom fod grantiau cyfleusterau i'r anabl yn un o nifer o ffyrdd o ddarparu addasiadau. Er bod dadl ynglŷn â chywirdeb a defnyddioldeb dangosyddion perfformiad mewn perthynas ag addasiadau, serch hynny, mae'r dangosyddion yn dangos bod nifer o awdurdodau lleol yn cymryd gormod o amser i gyflawni'r rhain a bod amrywiadau rhanbarthol sylweddol mewn amseroedd aros cyfartalog i gael grantiau.

The committee was concerned to hear that some small adaptations were being processed through disabled facilities grants rather than by local authorities using their discretionary powers. We feel that this creates unnecessary bureaucracy and that it delays the provision of adaptations. We are therefore pleased that the Minister has accepted our recommendation that guidance for local authorities is clear on when an adaptation should be delivered via a disabled facilities grant, and that the guidance should indicate that these grants should be used only when it is the most efficient way of delivering an adaptation.

Roedd yn achos pryder i'r pwyllgor glywed bod rhai addasiadau bach yn cael eu prosesu drwy grantiau cyfleusterau i'r anabl yn hytrach na thrwy awdurdodau lleol yn defnyddio eu pwerau dewisol. Teimlwn fod hyn yn creu biwrocratiaeth ddiangen a'i fod yn achosi oedi cyn gwneud addasiadau. Felly rydym yn falch bod y Gweinidog wedi derbyn ein hargymhelliad bod canllawiau i awdurdodau lleol yn glir ynghylch pryd y dylai addasiad gael ei gyflawni drwy grant cyfleusterau i'r anabl, ac y dylai'r canllawiau nodi mai dim ond os mai hon yw'r ffordd fwyaf effeithlon o ddarparu addasiad y dylid defnyddio'r grantiau hyn.

Witnesses made a number of suggestions for improving the performance indicators for disabled facilities grants, and some raised serious concerns about the reliability of the current performance indicators. One issue raised was that the indicators focused only on disabled facilities grants, and therefore did not give an accurate picture of the adaptations system. Some witnesses suggested that the guidance for monitoring performance was being interpreted differently by individual local authorities, while others felt that there was too much focus on the performance indicators at the expense of the customer experience.

Gwnaeth tystion nifer o awgrymiadau i wella'r dangosyddion perfformiad ar gyfer grantiau cyfleusterau i'r anabl, a chododd rhai bryderon mawr am ddibynadwyedd y dangosyddion perfformiad presennol. Un mater a godwyd oedd bod y dangosyddion yn canolbwyntio ar grantiau cyfleusterau i'r anabl yn unig, ac felly nad oeddent yn rhoi darlun cywir o'r system addasiadau. Awgrymodd rhai tystion fod y canllawiau ar fonitro perfformiad yn cael eu dehongli'n wahanol gan awdurdodau lleol unigol, tra bod eraill yn teimlo bod gormod o bwyslais ar y dangosyddion perfformiad ar draul profiad y cwsmer.

Given the evidence received, we are extremely disappointed that our recommendation to introduce performance-monitoring arrangements for all adaptation services across all tenures was rejected. In his response, the Minister says that there is a trend to reduce the number of performance indicators, not to increase them, and that there are questions around consistency in terms of the current data submitted by local authorities. However, it was clear from our evidence that there are a number of problems with the current arrangements and that reform is needed.

O ystyried y dystiolaeth a gawsom, rydym yn hynod siomedig bod ein hargymhelliad i gyflwyno trefniadau monitro perfformiad ar gyfer pob gwasanaeth addasu ym mhob math o ddeiliadaeth wedi cael ei wrthod. Yn ei ymateb, dywed y Gweinidog fod tuedd i leihau nifer y dangosyddion perfformiad, yn hytrach na'u cynyddu, a bod amheuon ynghylch cysondeb o ran y data cyfredol a gyflwynwyd gan awdurdodau lleol. Fodd bynnag, roedd yn amlwg o'n tystiolaeth fod nifer o broblemau gyda'r trefniadau presennol a bod angen diwygiadau.

Moving on to the funding and resourcing of home adaptations, disabled facilities grants are funded by local authorities from their general capital resources. Authorities are not provided with any hypothecated resources by the Welsh Government for these grants. We heard evidence to suggest that local authorities with the longest waiting times for disabled facilities grants are those with the least capital resources, and that demand was expected to increase due to an ageing population, which made up the majority of cases in the system. It is clear that funding for adaptation services will come under increasing pressure in the future. We therefore made a number of recommendations on funding and resourcing home adaptations, and we are very pleased that the Minister has accepted all of these recommendations either fully or in principle.

Gan symud ymlaen at ariannu addasiadau i'r cartref a darparu adnoddau ar eu cyfer, ariennir grantiau cyfleusterau i'r anabl y gan awdurdodau lleol o'u hadnoddau cyfalaf cyffredinol. Nid yw awdurdodau yn cael unrhyw adnoddau wedi'u neilltuo gan Lywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer y grantiau hyn. Clywsom dystiolaeth yn awgrymu mai'r awdurdodau lleol sydd â'r amseroedd aros hiraf ar gyfer grantiau cyfleusterau i'r anabl yw'r rhai sydd â'r adnoddau cyfalaf lleiaf, a bod disgwyl i'r galw gynyddu o ganlyniad i boblogaeth sy'n heneiddio, a oedd yn cyfrif am y rhan fwyaf o achosion yn y system. Mae'n amlwg y daw cyllid ar gyfer gwasanaethau addasiadau o dan bwysau cynyddol yn y dyfodol. Felly, rydym yn gwneud nifer o argymhellion ynglŷn â chyllid ac adnoddau ar gyfer addasiadau i'r cartref, ac rydym yn falch iawn bod y Gweinidog wedi derbyn pob un o'r argymhellion hyn naill ai'n llawn neu mewn egwyddor.

In conclusion, as Assembly Members, we have all heard horror stories from our constituents about long waits in inappropriate accommodation. There has been progress over recent years, but, as a committee, we do not feel that this progress has been fast enough or consistent enough across Wales. These are vulnerable people in very difficult situations and they need to be supported. I am therefore pleased to commend this report to the Assembly and I look forward to the debate.

I gloi, fel Aelodau Cynulliad, rydym i gyd wedi clywed pob math o straeon gan ein hetholwyr am arosiadau hir mewn llety anaddas. Bu cynnydd dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf, ond, fel pwyllgor, ni theimlwn fod y cynnydd hwn wedi bod yn ddigon cyflym nac yn ddigon cyson ledled Cymru. Mae'r rhain yn bobl sy'n agored i niwed mewn sefyllfaoedd anodd iawn ac mae angen iddynt gael eu cefnogi. Felly, rwy'n falch o gymeradwyo'r adroddiad hwn i'r Cynulliad ac edrychaf ymlaen at y ddadl.

15:48

Mark Isherwood Bywgraffiad Biography

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Home adaptations allow people to live a full life. Homes which do not meet their needs deny them this. Despite several investigations into home adaptations in Wales since 2004, people disabled by their housing still face avoidable delays in receiving essential home adaptations, with delays ranging from 175 days to 638 days. As the committee found, progress has not been fast or consistent across Wales, and our recommendations sought to address this.

Mae addasiadau i'r cartref yn galluogi pobl i fyw bywyd llawn. Mae cartrefi nad ydynt yn diwallu eu hanghenion yn eu hamddifadu o hyn. Er gwaethaf sawl ymchwiliad i addasiadau i'r cartref yng Nghymru ers 2004, mae pobl sy'n cael eu gwneud yn anabl gan eu tai yn dal i wynebu oedi diangen cyn derbyn addasiadau hanfodol i'r cartref, gyda'r oedi yn amrywio o 175 diwrnod i 638 diwrnod. Fel y canfu'r pwyllgor, nid yw'r cynnydd wedi bod yn gyflym nac yn gyson ledled Cymru, a cheisiodd ein hargymhellion fynd i'r afael â hyn.

We ended our inquiry as we began—in meetings with the real experts, the service users. They told us about the problems that they had experienced when trying to get adaptations made to their homes. It was they who said that the person should be at the centre of the system, with a say in what they want. There should be a register of adapted homes to save having to pull out adaptations. There should be follow-up assessments to check whether the work was appropriate and to the right standard, and there should be better communication between services. Local authorities should commit to doing things within a certain amount of time, and be accountable for this. Only effective monitoring of customer satisfaction at all stages can establish the truth.

Daeth ein hymchwiliad i ben yn yr un ffordd ag y dechreuodd— mewn cyfarfodydd â'r arbenigwyr go iawn, defnyddwyr y gwasanaeth. Dywedwyd wrthym am y problemau yr oeddent wedi eu hwynebu wrth geisio cael addasiadau i'w cartrefi. Hwy a ddywedodd mai'r unigolyn ddylai fod wrth wraidd y system, gyda llais yn yr hyn y maent am ei gael. Dylai fod cofrestr o gartrefi wedi'u haddasu er mwyn arbed gorfod tynnu addasiadau. Dylai fod asesiadau dilynol i gadarnhau a yw'r gwaith yn briodol ac i'r safon gywir, a dylai fod gwell cyfathrebu rhwng gwasanaethau. Dylai awdurdodau lleol ymrwymo i wneud pethau o fewn cyfnod penodol o amser, a bod yn atebol am hyn. Dim ond drwy fonitro boddhad cwsmeriaid yn effeithiol ar bob cam o'r broses y gellir cael y gwir.

The Minister has rejected our recommendation that local authorities, working with registered social landlords, should produce a customer charter setting out commitments to residents in relation to adaptation services. The Minister says that this is overly bureaucratic, when it is, in fact, anti-bureaucratic—putting the customer at the centre drives efficiency. The older people's commissioner for Wales certainly does not agree with the Minister's statement that this would be overly burdensome on local authorities and states that a customer charter would be a positive step towards ensuring that adaptation services in Wales are more centred on the needs of the customer.

Mae'r Gweinidog wedi gwrthod ein hargymhelliad y dylai awdurdodau lleol, gan weithio gyda landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig, baratoi siarter cwsmeriaid yn nodi ymrwymiadau i breswylwyr mewn perthynas â gwasanaethau addasu. Dywed y Gweinidog fod hyn yn rhy fiwrocrataidd, er ei fod yn wrthfiwrocrataidd mewn gwirionedd—mae rhoi'r cwsmer wrth wraidd y gwasanaeth yn sbardun i effeithlonrwydd. Yn sicr, nid anghytunodd comisiynydd pobl hŷn Cymru â datganiad y Gweinidog y byddai hyn yn ormod o faich ar awdurdodau lleol gan nodi y byddai siarter cwsmeriaid yn gam cadarnhaol tuag at sicrhau bod gwasanaethau addasu yng Nghymru yn canolbwyntio'n well ar anghenion y cwsmer.

The Minister's rejection of recommendation 2, that the Welsh Government, with local government and social housing providers, set out delivery time standards and ensure that these are met by all local authorities, is a cop-out. He states that statutory timescales are already contained within existing legislation governing the provision of adaptations. However, the fact that this is the case reinforces the need for implementation of the recommendation rejected by the Minister. The older people's commissioner for Wales says that the Welsh Government's response, that statutory timescales are already contained in existing legislation, is not sufficient. The current statutory timescales apply only to certain adaptation services, such as disabled facilities grants, and do not cover minor adaptations. At present, local authorities are able to breach these statutory timescales with impunity. This is unacceptable—so says the commissioner.

Mae penderfyniad y Gweinidog i wrthod argymhelliad 2, sef bod Llywodraeth Cymru, ynghyd â llywodraeth leol a darparwyr tai cymdeithasol, yn nodi safonau o ran amser cyflawni ac yn sicrhau bod y rhain yn cael eu cyflawni gan bob awdurdod lleol, yn osgoi cymryd cyfrifoldeb. Dywed fod terfynau amser statudol eisoes wedi eu cynnwys o fewn y ddeddfwriaeth bresennol sy'n rheoli'r broses o ddarparu addasiadau. Fodd bynnag, mae'r ffaith bod hyn yn wir yn atgyfnerthu'r angen i weithredu'r argymhelliad a wrthodwyd gan y Gweinidog. Dywed comisiynydd pobl hŷn Cymru fod ymateb Llywodraeth Cymru, bod terfynau amser statudol eisoes wedi'u cynnwys mewn deddfwriaeth yn annigonol. Dim ond at rai gwasanaethau addasu penodol y mae'r terfynau amser statudol presennol yn gymwys, megis grantiau cyfleusterau i'r anabl, ac nid ydynt yn cynnwys mân addasiadau. Ar hyn o bryd, mae awdurdodau lleol yn gallu torri'r terfynau amser statudol hyn yn ddi-gosb. Mae hyn yn annerbyniol—felly y dywed y comisiynydd.

The Minister rejects the committee's recommendation that the Welsh Government should audit adaptation services to identify best practice and its implementation. His statement that it is not for the Welsh Government to intervene characterises the problem. Yes, responsibility for adaptation services is a matter for local authorities and social landlords, but the Government is ultimately responsible for oversight and implementation. When I met Conwy's occupational therapy manager and housing renewals manager to discuss their good practice in adaptation services, as recommended by the College of Occupational Therapists, I witnessed what needed to be shared.

The Minister also rejects the committee's recommendation that he should introduce performance-monitoring arrangements for all adaptation services, including the time taken from initial enquiry to assessment by an occupational therapist and the time taken to provide an appropriate solution. He is right that we should not be increasing the number of performance indicators, but this was about the effectiveness in driving performance cultures. He states that guidance accompanying the performance indicator is quite clear, but this is not working, Minister.

The Minister accepts in principle our recommendation that the Welsh Government should put in place mechanisms to monitor customer satisfaction and longer-term outcomes, but then only lists what exists now, rather than what is needed to address the real experience of witnesses. Tenant feedback to us regarding provision for housing adaptations by large-scale voluntary transfer social landlords also confirms that merely reminding such social landlords to make adequate provision in their business plans, as the Minister states, is not sufficient.

As the College of Occupational Therapists states, current adaptation systems in Wales are tortuous and focus on the funding route and the process, instead of providing the right solution. Poor adaptation systems disempower disabled people. The people of Wales deserve more person-centred and less complicated systems. It is utterly unacceptable, it says, that people continue not to receive adaptations in a timely and effective manner.

Mae'r Gweinidog yn gwrthod argymhelliad y pwyllgor y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru archwilio'r gwasanaethau addasu er mwyn nodi arfer gorau a'r ffordd y caiff ei weithredu. Mae ei ddatganiad nad lle Llywodraeth Cymru yw ymyrryd yn nodweddiadol o'r broblem. Ie, awdurdodau lleol a landlordiaid cymdeithasol sy'n gyfrifol am wasanaethau addasu, ond y Llywodraeth yn y pen draw sy'n gyfrifol am oruchwylio a gweithredu. Pan gyfarfûm â rheolwr therapi galwedigaethol a rheolwr adnewyddu tai Conwy i drafod eu harfer da mewn gwasanaethau addasu, fel yr argymhellwyd gan Goleg y Therapyddion Galwedigaethol, gwelais yr hyn yr oedd angen ei rannu.

Mae'r Gweinidog hefyd yn gwrthod argymhelliad y pwyllgor y dylai gyflwyno trefniadau monitro perfformiad ar gyfer pob gwasanaeth addasu, gan gynnwys yr amser a gymerir o'r ymholiad cychwynnol i asesiad gan therapydd galwedigaethol a'r amser a gymerir i roi ateb priodol. Mae'n llygad ei le i nodi na ddylem fod yn cynyddu nifer y dangosyddion perfformiad, ond roedd hyn yn ymwneud ag effeithiolrwydd o ran hyrwyddo diwylliannau perfformiad. Dywed fod y canllawiau sy'n cyd-fynd â'r dangosydd perfformiad yn eithaf clir, ond nid yw hyn yn gweithio, Weinidog.

Mae'r Gweinidog yn derbyn mewn egwyddor ein hargymhelliad y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru roi systemau ar waith i fonitro boddhad cwsmeriaid a chanlyniadau yn y tymor hwy, ond wedyn nid yw ond yn rhestru'r hyn sy'n bodoli yn awr, yn hytrach na'r hyn sydd ei angen i fynd i'r afael â phrofiad gwirioneddol tystion. Mae adborth a roddwyd inni gan denantiaid ynghylch darpariaeth ar gyfer addasiadau tai gan landlordiaid cymdeithasol trosglwyddiad gwirfoddol ar raddfa stoc fawr hefyd yn cadarnhau nad yw atgoffa landlordiaid cymdeithasol o'r fath i wneud darpariaeth ddigonol yn eu cynlluniau busnes, fel y dywed y Gweinidog, yn ddigon.

Fel y noda Coleg y Therapyddion Galwedigaethol, mae'r systemau addasu presennol yng Nghymru yn llafurus ac maent yn canolbwyntio ar y llwybr ariannu a'r broses, yn hytrach na chynnig yr ateb cywir. Mae systemau addasu gwael yn dirymuso pobl anabl. Mae pobl Cymru yn haeddu systemau llai cymhleth sy'n canolbwyntio mwy ar yr unigolyn. Mae'n gwbl annerbyniol, medd, nad yw pobl yn cael addasiadau mewn modd amserol ac effeithiol o hyd.

15:53 **Rhodri Glyn Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Fel sydd wedi cael ei ddweud eisoes, mae nifer o ymchwiliadau neu arolygon wedi bod dros y ddegawd diwethaf i mewn i'r mater hwn—pedwar, mewn gwirionedd—ac nid oes fawr ddim wedi newid. Yr un problemau sy'n ein wynebu ni heddiw ag yr oedd yn ein wynebu ni 10 mlynedd yn ôl; mae pobl yn gorfod aros llawer iawn yn rhy hir er mwyn cael addasiadau i'w tai, mae'r broses o geisio gweld sut y gellir ariannu'r addasiadau yn llawer iawn rhy gymhleth, sef y 'means test', mae diffyg o ran rhannu arfer da drwy Gymru ac mae diffyg cydweithredu rhwng y gwasanaethau cymdeithasol a'r sector iechyd. Rydym yn sôn yn y fan hyn am fodd o gadw pobl yn eu tai eu hunain fel nad ydynt yn dibynnu ar y wladwriaeth les nac yn dibynnu ar y gwasanaeth iechyd cenedlaethol, rhywbeth sy'n eithriadol o bwysig. Rydym wedi clywed gan y Gweinidog iechyd y prynhawn yma am y pwysau sydd ar y gwasanaeth iechyd; dyma ffordd i dynnu pwysau oddi ar y gwasanaeth iechyd, drwy gadw pobl yn eu cartrefi eu hunain, ac, eto, dros ddegawd, nid oes fawr ddim wedi newid. Er fy mod i, fel y siaradwyr eraill, yn croesawu'n fawr iawn y ffaith eich bod chi, Weinidog, wedi derbyn y mwyafrif o'r argymhellion, mae'r ffaith eich bod chi wedi gwrthod tri o'r argymhellion—y tri a fyddai'n gwneud gwahaniaeth sylweddol i'r sefyllfa—yn siom fawr iawn. Rwy'n meddwl mai'r argymhellion sylfaenol yn yr adroddiad hwn yw argymhellion 2, 13 a 14, ac rydych chi wedi gwrthod gweithredu yn y fan honno, lle mae galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i yrru'r broses hon yn ei blaen.

As has been said already, a number of inquiries or reviews have taken place over the last decade into this issue—four, in fact—and not much has changed. We face the same problems today as we faced 10 years ago; people have to wait far too long to get adaptations to their homes, the process for trying to see how the adaptations can be financed is far too complex, namely the means test, there are shortcomings in terms of sharing good practice throughout Wales and a lack of collaboration between social services and the health sector. We are talking here about a means of keeping people in their own homes so that they are not dependent upon the welfare state or the NHS, which is very important. We have heard from the Minister for health this afternoon about the pressures on the NHS; this is a way to take some of that pressure off the NHS by keeping people in their homes, and, yet, over a decade, very little has changed. Although I, like other speakers, very much welcome the fact that you have accepted most of the recommendations, Minister, the fact that you have rejected three of the recommendations—the three that would really make a substantial difference to the situation—is a great disappointment. I think that the fundamental recommendations in the report are recommendations 2, 13 and 14, and you have refused to take action on those, which call upon the Welsh Government to drive this process forward.

Roeddech chi ger bron y pwyllgor yr wythnos diwethaf, Weinidog, ac rwy'n cofio chi'n dweud yno nad yw arfer da'n teithio'n dda iawn yng Nghymru. Y gwir amdani yw nad yw arfer da'n mynd i deithio'n dda iawn yng Nghymru os nad yw Llywodraeth Cymru'n mynd i dderbyn y cyfrifoldeb o sicrhau bod arfer dda yn teithio. Y dystiolaeth a gawsom gan awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru oedd bod llawer o bethau da yn digwydd a bod awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru yn ceisio mynd i'r afael â'r broblem hon. Petaem ond yn gallu rhannu'r arfer da hwnnw a chreu'r cysondeb hwnnw trwy Gymru, byddai'r broses hon yn llawer iawn mwy effeithiol.

You appeared before the committee last week, Minister, and I remember you saying in committee that good practice does not travel well in Wales. The truth of the matter is that good practice is not going to travel very well in Wales if the Welsh Government is not going to take responsibility for ensuring that good practice travels. The evidence that we have received from local authorities in Wales was that a lot of good things are happening and that local authorities in Wales are trying to tackle this problem. If we could only share that good practice to create that consistency throughout Wales, then this process would be far more effective.

Byddwn yn tynnu'ch sylw, Weinidog, at y ffaith bod y rhan fwyaf o dystion a gawsom ger ein bron yn ystod yr ymchwiliad yn dweud bod yn rhaid i ni hefyd ganfod ffordd o geisio asesu profiadau'r bobl sy'n derbyn addasiadau mewn ffordd lawer iawn mwy soffistigedig. Mae perygl mai'r cyfan sy'n digwydd yw bod yr addasiad yn cael ei wneud ac nad oes neb yn mynd yn ôl i weld a yw'r addasiad hwnnw wedi bod yn gwbl lwyddiannus. A yw ansawdd bywydau pobl wedi cael eu newid? A yw pobl wedi gweld bod yr addasiadau yn gwneud gwahaniaeth sylfaenol i'w bywydau?

I would draw your attention, Minister, to the fact that the majority of witnesses that came before the committee during this inquiry said that we also need to find a way of trying to assess the experiences of those people who receive these adaptations in a much more sophisticated manner. There is a danger that all that happens is that the adaptation is made and then no-one goes back to see whether that adaptation has been successful. Has people's quality of life has been improved? Have people seen that these adaptations make a fundamental difference to their lives?

Nid oes neb yn mynd yn ôl, ychwaith, i weld a oes angen gwneud rhyw fân newidiadau oherwydd bod cyflwr y person sy'n derbyn yr addasiadau wedi newid, ac a fyddai fân newidiadau a mân ychwanegiadau i'r addasiadau yn gwneud y profiad yn un llawer iawn mwy dymunol i'r bobl sy'n derbyn addasiadau.

No-one goes back, either, to see whether any minor changes need to be made because the condition of the person getting the adaptations has changed, and whether some minor changes or additions to the adaptations would make the experience much better for those people who get adaptations.

Mae'r pwynt wedi cael ei wneud gan Chris Chapman a Mark Isherwood ynglŷn â'r ffaith bod modd i wneud mân addasiadau heb orfod mynd trwy'r broses gymhleth, hir hwn. Unwaith eto, Weinidog, mae'n ddrwg gennyf ddweud, mae'r cyfrifoldeb arnoch chi, ac mae'n rhaid i lywodraeth leol gael arweiniad oddi wrth Lywodraeth Cymru ynglŷn â beth sydd angen mynd trwy'r broses hirfaith hon. Rwy'n derbyn fod rhaid cael proses o'r fath, ond nid wyf yn derbyn bod yn rhaid iddi ymestyn cweit mor hir na bod cweit mor gymhleth. Hoffwn ni fel plaid weld y 'means test' yn cael ei ddileu yn gyfan gwbl. Rwy'n derbyn bod rhaid cael proses, ond mae mân newidiadau sydd yn gallu gwneud gwahaniaeth a chael eu cyflwyno'n gyflym iawn nad oes rhaid iddynt fynd trwy'r broses hon.

The point has been made by Chris Chapman and Mark Isherwood about the fact that minor adaptations can be made without having to go through this long and complicated process. Once again, Minister, I am sorry to say, the responsibility lies with you, and local government must have leadership from the Welsh Government regarding what needs to go through this long-winded process. I accept that we need to have a process, but I do not accept that it needs to be quite so long or quite so complicated. We as a political party would like to see the means test got rid of completely. I accept that we must have a process, but there are minor adaptations that can make a difference and can be introduced very quickly that do not have to go through this process.

Weinidog, byddwn i'n pwyso arnoch chi i ail-ystyried eich amharodrwydd i ymyrryd yn uniongyrchol yn y broses hon, ac i dderbyn mai'ch cyfrifoldeb chi, fel Gweinidog a Llywodraeth Cymru, yw gyrru'r broses hon ymlaen er mwyn i'r hyn sydd wedi bod yn poeni ni ers degawd yn cael ei wynebu.

Minister, I would press you to reconsider your unwillingness to intervene directly in this process, and to accept that it is your responsibility, as a Minister and the Welsh Government, to drive this process forward to ensure that what has been concerning us for a decade is dealt with.

15:58

Peter Black Bywgraffiad Biography

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I spent a large part of this morning scrutinising the budget with the Finance Committee, in which meeting we very much stressed the impact and benefits of prevention as part of the Assembly's budgetary processes. That has been a major theme in how the Welsh Government has been putting together this budget: how you can prevent spend by putting in place changes and making improvements to people's lives to stop them from having to use health and other services prematurely.

Treuliais ran helaeth o'r bore yma yn craffu ar y gyllideb gyda'r Pwyllgor Cyllid, ac yn y cyfarfod hwnnw pwysleisiwyd yn fawr iawn gennym effaith a manteision camau atal fel rhan o brosesau cyllidebol y Cynulliad. Bu hynny yn thema bwysig yn y modd y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi bod yn paratoi'r gyllideb hon: sut y gallwch atal gwariant drwy roi newidiadau ar waith a gwneud gwelliannau i fywydau pobl er mwyn eu hatal rhag gorfod defnyddio gwasanaethau iechyd a gwasanaethau eraill cyn pryd.

I think, as the College of Occupational Therapists said in its submission—it has been circulated to Members—that there is clear evidence of the benefits of good adaptations. The impact of failing to provide adaptations is felt in both social care and health budgets. In other words, this particular agenda is all about prevention. It is about helping people to stay in their own homes, where they can look after themselves with a minimum of support, and about ensuring that they do not end up in hospital, blocking hospital beds and using up huge amounts of health service resources.

Credaf, fel y dywedodd Coleg y Therapyddion Galwedigaethol yn ei gyflwyniad—fe'i dosbarthwyd i'r Aelodau—fod tystiolaeth glir o fanteision addasiadau da. Gwelir effaith methu â darparu addasiadau yn y gyllideb iechyd a chyllideb gofal cymdeithasol. Mewn geiriau eraill, mae'r agenda benodol hon yn ymwneud ag atal. Mae'n ymwneud â helpu pobl i aros yn eu cartrefi eu hunain, lle y gallant ofalu amdanynt hwy eu hunain gyda chyn lleied o gymorth â phosibl, ac am sicrhau nad ydynt yn cael eu derbyn i'r ysbyty yn y pen draw, gan flocio gwelyau mewn ysbytai a defnyddio llawer iawn o adnoddau'r gwasanaeth iechyd.

That is why I am concerned, as previous speakers have been, about some of the Minister's responses to three or four of the recommendations in this report. When we started this inquiry, the then Chair of the Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee made the point that this is the third or possibly the fourth time that we have looked at adaptations in the Assembly. I have been involved in at least two of those previous times, in the 14-plus years that I have been an Assembly Member. All of us on that committee felt that this should be the last time that we have to look at adaptations, because we felt that we have to get it right, and yet it seems to me that the key recommendations that would enable us to get it right are not being accepted by the Minister.

Dyna pam rwy'n pryderu, fel siaradwyr blaenorol, ynglŷn â rhai o ymatebion y Gweinidog i dri neu bedwar o'r argymhellion yn yr adroddiad hwn. Pan ddechreuwyd yr ymchwiliad hwn, gwnaeth Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Cymunedau, Cydraddoldeb a Llywodraeth Leol ar y pryd y pwynt mai dyma'r trydydd neu'r pedwerydd tro o bosibl yr ydym wedi edrych ar addasiadau yn y Cynulliad. Rwyf wedi bod yn rhan o'r broses o'u hystyried o leiaf ddwywaith o'r blaen, yn y 14 blynedd a mwy yr wyf wedi bod yn Aelod o'r Cynulliad. Teimlai pob un ohonom ar y pwyllgor mai dyma'r tro olaf y dylem orfod edrych ar addasiadau, oherwydd ein bod yn teimlo bod yn rhaid inni gael pethau'n iawn, ac eto ymddengys imi nad yw'r argymhellion allweddol a fyddai'n ein galluogi i gael pethau'n iawn yn cael eu derbyn gan y Gweinidog.

It is unacceptable that there is one local authority, or maybe two local authorities, where you have to wait 18 months for a disability adaptation to be put in place in your home, while other authorities can do it in fewer than six months. Why do we have the disparity throughout Wales? Why is it that some local authorities are capable of dealing with applications in an efficient and effective manner, going through the various processes—there are tens of process involved—in getting a successful disabled facilities grant in place, while others take much longer to do that? That is why the committee felt that it was so important that we try to transmit best practice among local authorities and look at all these adaptation services to find exactly what is going wrong. Yet the Minister says that

Mae'n annerbyniol bod un awdurdod lleol, neu ddau o bosibl, lle mae'n rhaid ichi aros 18 mis am addasiad anabledd i'ch cartref, tra bod awdurdodau eraill yn gallu gwneud hynny mewn llai na chwe mis. Pam bod gennym anghysondeb ledled Cymru? Pam bod rhai awdurdodau lleol yn gallu ymdrin â cheisiadau mewn modd effeithlon ac effeithiol, gan fynd drwy'r gwahanol brosesau—mae degau o brosesau ynghlwm wrth hyn—er mwyn cyflwyno grant cyfleusterau i'r anabl yn llwyddiannus, tra bod eraill yn cymryd llawer mwy o amser i wneud hynny? Dyna pam y teimlai'r pwyllgor ei bod mor bwysig ein bod yn ceisio trosglwyddo arfer gorau ymhlith awdurdodau lleol ac edrych ar yr holl wasanaethau addasu hyn er mwyn canfod beth yn union sy'n mynd o'i le. Ac eto dywed y Gweinidog

'It is not for the Welsh Government to intervene in such a manner. Responsibility for the delivery and administration of adaptations services is a matter for local authorities'.

Nid cyfrifoldeb Llywodraeth Cymru yw ymyrryd yn y fath fodd. Cyfrifoldeb awdurdodau lleol yw darparu a gweinyddu gwasanaethau addasiadau.

I have been an Assembly Member for the whole period that it has been here, and what I have found in that time is that when Ministers want to intervene in that way, they will. However, when they feel that they do not want to intervene, they say that it is a matter for local authorities. I think that, in this particular instance, the important thing is whether the intervention is going to be effective. Is it going to make a difference? I think, and I think that the members of the committee felt, that it would make a difference to try to get that best practice sorted out and to make sure that local authorities understand how it should be done. It is not as if you are telling Welsh local authorities how to do the job. What you are doing is offering them advice and support, and even someone like me—who is possibly at the extreme end of Assembly Members in the Chamber in terms of believing in local democracy—thinks that that is a perfectly appropriate thing for a Welsh Government Minister to be doing. The Minister was just agreeing with me there, I think.

Rwyf wedi bod yn Aelod Cynulliad dros y cyfnod cyfan ers ei fodolaeth, ac yn fy mhrofiad i yn ystod y cyfnod hwnnw, pan fydd Gweinidogion am ymyrryd yn y fath fodd, maent yn gwneud hynny. Fodd bynnag, pan deimlant nad ydynt am ymyrryd, maent yn dweud mai mater i awdurdodau lleol ydyw. Credaf, yn yr achos penodol hwn, mai'r peth pwysig yw a fydd yr ymyriad yn effeithiol. A fydd yn gwneud gwahaniaeth? Credaf, a chredaf fod aelodau'r pwyllgor yn teimlo y byddai'n gwneud gwahaniaeth pe gellid ceisio cael yr arfer gorau yn iawn a sicrhau bod awdurdodau lleol yn deall sut y dylid gwneud pethau. Nid dweud wrth awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru am sut i wneud eu gwaith yr ydych. Yr hyn yr ydych yn ei wneud yw cynnig cyngor a chymorth, ac mae hyd yn oed i rywun fel ninnau—sydd o bosibl ar y pegwn eithaf ymhlith Aelodau'r Cynulliad yn y Siambr o ran credu mewn democratiaeth leol—yn credu fod hynny'n beth cwbl briodol i un o Weinidogion Llywodraeth Cymru ei wneud. Roedd y Gweinidog yn cytuno â mi o ran hynny, fe gredaf.

In terms of the other recommendations, the Welsh Government has rejected the request that it should, with local government and social providers, set out what it believes are appropriate standards of delivery times. Again, I think that setting standards is an important part of a Government Minister's job. On a customer charter, we engaged with people who have had adaptations made to their homes. We asked them what they needed and wanted and they said to us overwhelmingly, 'We are concerned about the quality of the service that we have in place'. Again, Ministers will put in place customer charters when it suits them, but when it comes to this particular issue, the Minister says that it is an

O ran yr argymhellion eraill, mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi gwrthod y cais y dylai, ynghyd â darparwyr llywodraeth leol a chymdeithasol, nodi'r hyn sy'n safonau priodol o ran amseroedd cyflawn, ym marn Llywodraeth Cymru. Unwaith eto, credaf fod pennu safonau yn rhan bwysig o waith Gweinidogion y Llywodraeth. O ran siarter cwsmeriaid, siaradwyd â phobl sydd wedi cael addasiadau i'w cartrefi. Gofynnwyd iddynt nodi'r hyn yr oedd ei angen arnynt a'r hyn yr oeddent am ei gael a dywedodd y mwyafrif llethol wrthym, 'Rydym yn pryderu am ansawdd y gwasanaeth sydd ar waith'. Unwaith eto, bydd Gweinidogion yn cyflwyno siarteri cwsmeriaid pan fydd hynny'n ddymunol ganddynt, ond o ran y mater penodol hwn, dywed y Gweinidog ei bod yn

'overly bureaucratic and burdensome on local authorities and registered social landlords',

rhy fiwrocrataidd a beichus ar awdurdodau lleol a landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig,

We think, and the people who have had adaptations to their homes think, that it is essential that local authorities have a standard that they should meet.

Credwn, ac mae pobl sydd wedi cael addasiadau i'w cartrefi yn credu, ei bod yn hanfodol bod gan awdurdodau lleol safon y dylent ei chyrraedd.

Finally, on the issue about performance indicators, it was agreed in all the evidence that came before us that the performance indicator that is currently in place is not fit for purpose. It does not adequately measure how an adaptation is put in place; basically, all it measures is from enquiry to completion. We felt—I think that the committee was unanimous on this—that we need a much more sophisticated measure to assess the impact and how local authorities are doing their job. I really hope that the Minister rethink that particular issue.

Yn olaf, o ran dangosyddion perfformiad, cytunwyd yn yr holl dystiolaeth a gyflwynwyd ger ein bron nad yw'r dangosydd perfformiad sydd ar waith ar hyn o bryd yn addas at y diben. Nid yw'n mesur yn ddigonol sut mae addasiad yn cael ei wneud; yn y bôn, y cyfan y mae'n ei fesur yw'r amser a gymerir rhwng ymholiad a chwblhau. Roeddem yn teimlo—credaf fod y pwyllgor yn unfrydol o ran hyn—bod angen mesur llawer mwy soffistigedig i asesu effaith a sut mae awdurdodau lleol yn gwneud eu gwaith. Gobeithio'n fawr y bydd y Gweinidog yn ailystyried y mater penodol hwnnw.

16:03

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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I call on the previous Chair of the committee, Ann Jones.

Galwaf ar Gadeirydd blaenorol y pwyllgor, Ann Jones.

16:04

Ann Jones Bywgraffiad Biography

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May I thank the current Chair and the committee for the way in which this report has come to fruition? When starting the report, we recognised the fact, which both Rhodri Glyn and Peter Black referred to, that during the lifetime of this Assembly, in 14 years, I think that this is the fourth time that this important subject has been addressed by one or other of the committees, which tells us that we really need to get these issues right. We need to get them right for the individuals, but, often, by getting them right for the individuals, who are often fighting a very unhelpful bureaucratic process, we will find that we have avoided what could have been a waste of public funds.

A gaf ddiolch i'r Cadeirydd presennol a'r pwyllgor am y ffordd y mae'r adroddiad hwn wedi dwyn ffrwyth? Wrth gychwyn ar yr adroddiad, cydnabuwyd y ffaith, y cyfeiriodd Rhodri Glyn a Peter Black ati, yn ystod oes y Cynulliad hwn, mewn 14 blynedd, fe gredaf, mai dyma'r pedwerydd tro i'r pwnc pwysig hwn gael sylw gan un o'r pwyllgorau neu'i gilydd, sy'n awgrymu bod gwir angen inni gael y materion hyn yn iawn. Mae angen inni eu cael yn iawn i'r unigolion, ond, yn aml, drwy eu cael yn iawn i'r unigolion, sydd yn aml yn golygu brwydro yn erbyn proses fiwrocrataidd anodd iawn, y byddwn yn gweld ein bod wedi osgoi'r hyn a allai fod wedi bod yn wastraff arian cyhoeddus.

Home adaptations often do not need to be complicated. Often, they just need to be a rail for a step so that somebody can go out through their front door or their back door, which is all that is needed to give them that independence. However, there is still the culture of services not sharing information or endless, repetitive assessments by everyone from social workers to nurses, occupational therapists and agencies, and a reliance that there is one size that fits all. Having gone through this endless process we still get to that famous saying, 'Computer says "no".'

Yn aml, nid oes angen i addasiadau i'r cartref fod yn gymhleth. Yn aml, y cyfan sydd ei angen yw canllaw i risiau fel y gall rhywun fynd allan drwy ei ddrws ffrynt neu ei ddrws cefn, sef y cyfan sydd ei angen er mwyn iddynt fod yn annibynnol. Fodd bynnag, erys diwylliant o hyd lle nad yw gwasanaethau yn rhannu gwybodaeth neu lle gwneir asesiadau diddiwedd, ailadroddus gan bawb o weithwyr cymdeithasol i nyrsys, therapyddion galwedigaethol ac asiantaethau, ynghyd â dibyniaeth bod un ateb yn addas i bawb. Ar ôl mynd drwy'r broses ddiddiwedd hon rydym yn dal i gyrraedd yr ymadrodd enwog hwnnw, 'Mae'r cyfrifiadur yn dweud "na".'

Where there are more major adaptations the problem is amplified even more. Many of you will know that I entered into this home adaptations system last summer. My experiences, from someone who is aware of what is available, leave a lot to be desired. People need to know that even those of us who try to make the services less complicated fall foul of the systems ourselves. The first encounter that my husband had was 10 days after his admission to hospital with a simplified, 'Oh, but you want to go home, don't you?', and used a name that he is not known as. They used his first Christian name. Having been told several times, they still referred to him as this person who neither he nor I recognise.

Lle mae angen addasiadau mwy sylweddol mae'r broblem yn mynd yn waeth byth. Bydd llawer ohonoch yn gwybod imi ddod yn rhan o'r system hon ar gyfer addasiadau i'r cartref yr haf diwethaf. Mae fy mhrofiadau innau, fel rhywun sy'n ymwybodol o'r hyn sydd ar gael, yn anfoddhaol iawn. Mae angen i bobl sylweddoli bod hyd yn oed y rhai ohonom sy'n ceisio gwneud y gwasanaethau yn llai cymhleth yn cael anawsterau gyda'r systemau ein hunain. Y cysylltiad cyntaf a gafodd fy ngŵr oedd 10 diwrnod ar ôl iddo gael ei dderbyn i'r ysbyty pan ofynnwyd y cwestiwn syml, 'O, ond rydych am fynd adref, mae'n rhaid?', gan ddefnyddio enw nad yw'n ei ddefnyddio ei hun. Defnyddiwyd ei enw bedydd cyntaf. Ar ôl sôn am hyn sawl gwaith, roeddent yn dal i gyfeirio ato fel y person hwn nad oedd ef na minnau yn ei adnabod.

Repetitive assessments were then discussed in terms of how he would come home. When I dared to mention the fact that he would be coming home to a house on his own, because I work away, I was told, 'But you will give your job up, won't you?' I suddenly thought that I was back in the days of when my mother might have thought of doing that. So, because the challenge was there, he or I were seen as disruptive and unhelpful—all of those things. I cannot believe people would think that of me, but there we are. [Laughter.] However, it makes me really worried that that was the assessment.

Yna trafodwyd asesiadau ailadroddus o ran sut y byddai'n dod gartref. Pan feiddiais sôn am y ffaith y byddai'n dod gartref i dŷ ar ei ben ei hun, am fy mod yn gweithio i ffwrdd, dywedwyd wrthyf, 'Ond byddwch yn rhoi'r gorau i'ch swydd, oni fyddwch?' Meddyliais yn sydyn fy mod yn ôl yn yr oes pan fyddai fy mam wedi meddwl am wneud hynny o bosibl. Felly, oherwydd bod her, roedd ef neu finnau yn ein hystyried yn aflonyddgar ac yn lletchwith—pob un o'r pethau hynny. Ni allaf gredu y byddai pobl yn meddwl mai un felly ydwyf, ond dyna ni. [Chwerthin.] Fodd bynnag, mae'n achos pryder mawr imi mai dyna oedd yr asesiad.

We then went on, and eventually, after a long process, with 38 days passing with nobody doing anything, with him staying in a hospital bed at the cost of whatever it is per night—it was a very nice hotel by the time that he finished his stay in hospital—they came to do an assessment of the home to see whether he could come home. Three people turned up—three occupational therapists: two from the health service and one from the authority—with his wheelchair and not him. Such questions as 'Does he take sugar in his tea?' are very relevant here, because that is what they proceeded to ask me. They had trouble getting the wheelchair into the house, actually, although my husband had been home prior to that and we had both managed to get him and the wheelchair into the house. They could not do it. So, from that I gained a lot of problems in the way in which they speak to people about what they do. We will not even mention the carer's assessment because that arrived by way of a phone call some 17 weeks later when I was told, 'Perhaps you are all right now'. I am still waiting for the one gentleman to phone me back. On 4 July 2012 he said, 'I'll phone you back in half an hour, Mrs Jones'. I am still waiting. It does not matter to me because I knew that that was never going to happen, but it is a problem for the people who rely on them to phone them back with that information, and that is where we let them down.

Yna aeth pethau yn eu blaen, ac yn y pen draw, ar ôl proses hir, ar ôl i 38 diwrnod fynd heibio gyda neb yn gwneud dim, ac yntau'n aros mewn gwely ysbyty am faint bynnag y mae'n ei gostio am noson—roedd yn westy hyfryd iawn erbyn i'w arhosiad yn yr ysbyty ddod i ben—daethant i gynnal asesiad o'r cartref i weld a allai ddod gartref. Daeth tri o bobl— tri therapydd galwedigaethol: dau o'r gwasanaeth iechyd ac un o'r awdurdod—gyda'i gadair olwyn ond heb yntau. Mae cwestiynau fel 'A yw'n cymryd siwgr yn ei de?' yn berthnasol iawn o ran hyn, oherwydd dyna'r hyn y gwnaethant ei ofyn imi. Cawsant drafferth i gael y gadair olwyn i mewn i'r tŷ, a dweud y gwir, er bod fy ngŵr wedi dod adref cyn hynny a bod y ddau ohonom wedi llwyddo i'w gael ef a'r gadair olwyn i mewn i'r tŷ. Ni allent hwy wneud hynny. Felly, o'r profiad hwnnw gwelais lawer o broblemau yn y ffordd y maent yn siarad â phobl am yr hyn y maent yn ei wneud. Ni soniwn hyd yn oed am yr asesiad o'r gofalwr oherwydd gwnaed hynny drwy alwad ffôn tua 17 wythnos yn ddiweddarach pan ddywedwyd wrthyf, 'Efallai eich bod yn iawn erbyn hyn'. Rwy'n dal i aros i un gŵr bonheddig fy ffonio yn ôl. Ar 4 Gorffennaf, 2012, meddai 'Ffoniaf eto mewn hanner awr, Mrs Jones'. Rwy'n dal i aros. Nid yw o bwys i mi gan fy mod yn gwybod nad oedd hynny byth yn mynd i ddigwydd, ond mae'n broblem i'r bobl sy'n dibynnu arnynt i ffonio yn ôl gyda'r wybodaeth honno, a dyna lle rydym yn gwneud tro sâl â hwy.

Care and Repair was the only oasis of calm and reasonable and practical advice in what was a somewhat shambolic affair. As people have said time and again in the Chamber, let us hope that this report, and the recommendations that the committee made, will be the last report that we have to go into in depth, and that we actually can provide a service for those people who need a simple adaptation delivered simply and through a process that they can understand. That is all that they ask, and that is what we should be able to deliver, whoever it is that delivers it.

Dim ond gan y gwasanaeth Gofal a Thrwsio y cafwyd goleuni, a roddodd gyngor rhesymol ac ymarferol yn ystod yr hyn a fu'n dipyn o helbul. Fel y mae pobl wedi dweud dro ar ôl tro yn y Siambr, gobeithio mai'r adroddiad hwn, a'r argymhellion a wnaeth y pwyllgor, fydd yr adroddiad olaf y bydd yn rhaid inni ei ystyried yn fanwl, a'n bod yn gallu darparu gwasanaeth ar gyfer y bobl hynny y mae angen iddynt gael addasiad syml a gyflawnir mewn ffordd syml a thrwy broses y gallant ei deall. Dyna'r cyfan y maent yn ei ddymuno, a dyna'r hyn y dylem fod yn gallu ei ddarparu, pwy bynnag sy'n ei ddarparu.

16:09 **Janet Finch-Saunders** Bywgraffiad Biography

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In the next 10 years the number of people aged 65 or over in Wales will increase by 5%. That is an extra 130,000 people. The medical journal 'The Lancet' estimates that half of the babies born today will reach the age of 100. That is brilliant news, but the staggering figures that make the committee's inquiry into the present home adaptations system all the more timely and certainly necessary. I wish to put on record how much I actually enjoyed being part of this task and finish group.

Yn ystod y 10 mlynedd nesaf, bydd nifer y bobl 65 oed neu drosodd yng Nghymru yn cynyddu 5%, sef 130,000 o bobl ychwanegol. Mae'r cyfnodolyn meddygol 'The Lancet' yn amcangyfrif y bydd hanner y babanod a enir heddiw yn cyrraedd 100 oed. Mae hynny'n newyddion gwych, ond mae'r ffigurau syfrdanol sy'n gwneud ymchwiliad y pwyllgor i'r system addasiadau i'r cartref bresennol yn fwy amserol ac yn sicr yn angenrheidiol. Hoffwn nodi cymaint yr wyf wedi mwynhau bod yn rhan o'r grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen hwn.

I give huge thanks to Ann Jones for starting off this fifth review, and to Christine Chapman for continuing it. I also thank the stakeholders and, in particular, service users who came along and helped with our evidence. When I say 'fifth review', I refer to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee review of this in 2004; the Jones review in 2005; the Equality of Opportunity Committee inquiry in 2009; and the review on progress in implementing the Jones review in 2010. So, here we are again, with yet another review, and we are getting the same answers as those that came forward then, I understand. It talks about the intention to bring about much-needed improvements to access and the supply of facilities for our disabled residents here in Wales. Yet, despite these reports, it is concerning to see that policy does not seem to have been substantially influenced to implement the required changes. I endorse the recommendations in this report. I, too, like many others before me find it really disappointing that the Minister has rejected outright four of the fundamental recommendations that would seek to benchmark this service once and for all.

Hoffwn ddiolch yn fawr iawn i Ann Jones am ddechrau'r pumed adolygiad hwn, ac i Christine Chapman am barhau ag ef. Hoffwn ddiolch hefyd i'r rhanddeiliaid ac, yn benodol, i ddefnyddwyr y gwasanaeth a ddaeth i helpu i roi tystiolaeth inni. Pan ddywedaf y 'pumed adolygiad', cyfeiriaf at adolygiad y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio o'r mater hwn yn 2004; adolygiad Jones yn 2005; ymchwiliad y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal yn 2009, a'r adolygiad ar y cynnydd o ran gweithredu adolygiad Jones yn 2010. Felly, dyma ni unwaith eto, gydag adolygiad arall eto, ac rydym yn cael yr un atebion â'r rhai a gyflwynwyd bryd hynny, yn ôl yr hyn a ddeallaf. Mae sôn am y bwriad i sicrhau gwelliannau mawr eu hangen i fynediad a darparu cyfleusterau i'n trigolion anabl yma yng Nghymru. Eto i gyd, er gwaethaf yr adroddiadau hyn, mae'n bryder gweld na ddylanwadwyd ar y polisi hwnnw yn sylweddol i bob golwg er mwyn i'r newidiadau angenrheidiol gael eu gweithredu. Cefnogaf argymhellion yr adroddiad hwn. Mae'n destun siom gwirioneddol i minnau hefyd, fel llawer o bobl eraill o'm blaen fod y Gweinidog wedi gwrthod yn llwyr bedwar o'r argymhellion sylfaenol a fyddai'n ceisio meincnodi'r gwasanaeth hwn unwaith ac am byth.

Recommendation 2 states that the Welsh Government should work with local government and social housing providers to outline reasonable standards for delivery times and ensure that these are met. Minister, this is your job. This is your responsibility. The average waiting time for a disabled facilities grant last year was 326 days. Surely, you must recognise that there is a need to improve substantially in this area.

Noda argymhelliad 2 y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru weithio gyda llywodraeth leol a darparwyr tai cymdeithasol i amlinellu safonau rhesymol ar gyfer amseroedd cyflawni a sicrhau bod y rhain yn cael eu bodloni. Weinidog, dyna'ch gwaith chi. Dyna'ch cyfrifoldeb chi. Yr amser aros cyfartalog am grant cyfleusterau i'r anabl y llynedd oedd 326 diwrnod. Yn sicr, rhaid ichi gydnabod bod angen gwella'n sylweddol yn y maes hwn.

I share the disappointment of the Commissioner for Older People in Wales at the Minister's decision to reject the introduction of a customer charter, as prescribed in recommendation 9. In providing quality care, people should be able to expect a certain and quantifiable level. A customer charter would recognise and be recognition of the quality of care being delivered on a needs-driven basis.

Rhannaf siom Comisiynydd Pobl Hŷn Cymru ynglŷn â phenderfyniad y Gweinidog i wrthod cyflwyno siarter cwsmeriaid, fel y'i nodir yn argymhelliad 9. Er mwyn darparu gofal o safon, dylai pobl fod yn gallu disgwyl lefel benodol a mesuradwy. Byddai siarter cwsmeriaid yn cydnabod ansawdd y gofal sy'n cael ei roi ar sail angen.

In order to identify and address the persistent failures in the current system, it is essential that we are able to effectively monitor not only where there are shortfalls, but also to share best practice across agencies. Rejection of recommendation 13 means that the Welsh Government is not prepared to advocate an audit of adaptation services in order to identify best practice and how it is implemented by local authorities. It states that is not for the Welsh Government to intervene, and that the responsibility falls to each local authority. Again, that is a lack of direction and leadership from you, as the Minister, and from this Welsh Government. Minister, it has become abundantly obvious during our comprehensive stakeholder engagement and evidence-gathering exercise that inconsistency of approach and lack of detailed assessments by local authorities is a fundamental drawback—not every authority, but there are many out there. This prevents a consistent, definable level of provision. This needs corporate leadership that can only come from you.

Er mwyn nodi a mynd i'r afael â'r methiannau parhaus yn y system bresennol, mae'n hanfodol ein bod yn gallu monitro'n effeithiol nid yn unig lle ceir diffygion, ond hefyd i rannu arfer gorau mewn asiantaethau. Drwy wrthod argymhelliad 13 nid yw Llywodraeth Cymru yn barod i ddadlau dros archwiliad o wasanaethau addasu er mwyn nodi arfer gorau a'r ffordd y caiff ei weithredu gan yr awdurdodau lleol. Noda nad lle Llywodraeth Cymru yw ymyrryd, ac mai cyfrifoldeb pob awdurdod lleol ydyw. Unwaith eto, mae hynny'n ddiffyg cyfeiriad ac arweinyddiaeth gennych chi, fel y Gweinidog, a chan Lywodraeth Cymru. Weinidog, daeth yn gwbl amlwg yn ystod ein hymarfer cynhwysfawr i ymgysylltu â rhanddeiliaid a chasglu tystiolaeth bod anghysondeb o ran dulliau gweithredu a diffyg asesiadau manwl gan awdurdodau lleol yn anhawster mawr—nid pob awdurdod, ond llawer ohonynt. Mae hyn yn atal lefel benodol a chyson o ddarpariaeth. Mae angen arweinyddiaeth gorfforaethol yn hyn o beth a dim ond chi all ei rhoi.

We need to have robust performance indicators, against which each provider and authority can be measured. I do not mean bringing in lots of extra bureaucracy. The committee heard on many occasions of the contribution of timely interventions through adaptations, reducing the burden on other areas of public spending. We talk about the prevention agenda, which Peter Black AM has mentioned. Shelter Cymru has estimated that poor, inappropriate housing costs the NHS £56 million a year. Evidence from Care and Repair shows that for every pound spent on adaptations, the statutory sector saves £7.50. So, in effect, the cost of a stairlift, at a cost of £300 to £1,000, could actually prevent the cost of a £30,000 hip fracture, as well as the cost to the individual, in terms of pain and grief.

Mae angen inni gael dangosyddion perfformiad cadarn, y gellir mesur pob darparwr ac awdurdod yn eu herbyn. Nid wyf yn golygu cyflwyno llawer o fiwrocratiaeth ychwanegol. Clywodd y pwyllgor ar sawl achlysur, am gyfraniad ymyriadau amserol drwy addasiadau, gan leihau'r baich ar feysydd eraill o wariant cyhoeddus. Rydym yn sôn am y agenda atal, a grybwyllwyd gan Peter Black AC. Mae Shelter Cymru wedi amcangyfrif bod tai anaddas a gwael yn costio £56 miliwn y flwyddyn i'r GIG. Dengys tystiolaeth o sioeau Gofal a Thrwsio fod y sector statudol yn arbed £7.50 am bob punt a werir ar addasiadau. Felly, i bob diben, gallai cost sedd godi, sef £300 i £1,000, atal cost torri clun o £30,000, yn ogystal â'r gost i'r unigolyn, o ran poen a thrallod.

I urge the Welsh Government to take a look again, and to think again about its rejection of the recommendations. They say that if you do what you always do, you get what you always get. Minister, it is time that you stepped up to the mark and delivered on this agenda.

Rwy'n annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ailystyried, a meddwl eto am ei phenderfyniad i wrthod yr argymhellion. Maent yn dweud, os ydych yn gwneud yr hyn yr ydych bob amser wedi'i gwneud, y cewch yr hyn yr ydych bob amser wedi'i gael. Weinidog, mae'n bryd ichi gamu i'r adwy a chyflawni o ran yr agenda hon.

16:14

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

I call on the Minister for Housing and Regeneration, Carl Sargeant, to speak on behalf of the Government.

Galwaf ar y Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio, Carl Sargeant, i siarad ar ran y Llywodraeth.

16:14

Carl Sargeant [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

Y Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio / The Minister for Housing and Regeneration

Presiding Officer, thank you very much for the opportunity to contribute to this debate today. I start by thanking the Chairs of the committee, Christine Chapman and Ann Jones, and the committee members for their extensive report. The report is a valuable piece of work that I very much welcome in terms of the resources of reference for future material that I will be considering. Home adaptations are becoming increasingly more important as the number of older people in Wales, in this society of ours, increases year on year. This is why we need to get the adaptations process right, working together to make it equitable for all users of the services and to ensure that the services are appropriate and fit for purpose.

Lywydd, diolch yn fawr iawn am y cyfle i gyfrannu at y ddadl hon heddiw. Hoffwn ddechrau drwy ddiolch i Gadeiryddion y pwyllgor, Christine Chapman ac Ann Jones, ac aelodau'r pwyllgor am eu hadroddiad helaeth. Mae'r adroddiad yn ddarn gwerthfawr o waith yr wyf yn ei groesawu'n fawr iawn o ran adnodd i gyfeirio ato ar gyfer deunydd yn y dyfodol y byddaf yn ei ystyried. Mae addasiadau i'r cartref yn dod yn fwyfwy pwysig wrth i nifer y bobl hŷn yng Nghymru, yn ein cymdeithas, gynyddu o flwyddyn i flwyddyn. Dyma pam mae angen inni gael y broses addasiadau yn iawn, gan weithio gyda'n gilydd i'w gwneud yn deg i bob un sy'n defnyddio'r gwasanaeth ac er mwyn sicrhau bod y gwasanaethau yn briodol ac yn addas at y diben.

In the report, the committee makes several recommendations, the majority of which the Welsh Government accepts or accepts in principle. I acknowledge certainly that the system is far from perfect, and there are still delays in adaptations in Wales. However, the reason for not accepting a small number of recommendations made by the committee is that I am looking at significant change in the system of delivery for adaptations. We have for far too long had committee report after report. When Peter Black was Deputy Minister in the past to Edwina Hart, there was the report on DFGs in 2001, and Jocelyn Davies, of course, was a Deputy Minister for housing, and in those days, too, this was a very difficult place as to decisions to be made. However, I will be decisive, and I will make changes to the system.

Yn yr adroddiad, mae'r pwyllgor yn gwneud nifer o argymhellion, y rhan fwyaf ohonynt y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu derbyn neu'n eu derbyn mewn egwyddor. Yn sicr, rwy'n cydnabod bod y system ymhell o fod yn berffaith, ac mae oedi o hyd o ran addasiadau yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, y rheswm pam nad wyf yn derbyn nifer fach o argymhellion a wnaed gan y pwyllgor yw fy mod yn edrych ar newid sylweddol yn y system o gyflawni addasiadau. Ers gormod o amser rydym wedi cael un adroddiad pwyllgor ar ôl y llall. Pan oedd Peter Black yn Ddirprwy Weinidog i Edwina Hart yn y gorffennol, cafwyd adroddiad ar Grantiau Cyfleusterau i'r Anabl yn 2001, ac roedd Jocelyn Davies, wrth gwrs, yn Ddirprwy Weinidog dros dai, ac yn y dyddiau hynny hefyd, roedd hyn yn lle anodd iawn o ran penderfyniadau i'w gwneud. Fodd bynnag, byddaf yn bendant, a byddaf yn gwneud newidiadau i'r system.

The work of the committee, and therefore the recommendations that have been forwarded to us, will inform me of the whole-committee report about the way forward for the future. If I may, I will pick up on some of the issues that have been drawn forward today. Overall, DFG delivery times have improved dramatically over the past seven financial years. The most recent figures, for 2012-13, show a 54% decrease in waiting times across Wales as a whole since 2005, which is certainly significant, though I acknowledge that it is not good enough and that it is patchy. That is why I will be having a review of services. I want this trend to continue, and I want individuals across the sector to play a part in this service.

Bydd gwaith y pwyllgor, ac felly'r argymhellion a gyflwynwyd inni yn fy llywio ar adroddiad cyfan y pwyllgor ynglŷn â'r ffordd ymlaen yn y dyfodol. Os caf, rwyf am gyfeirio at rai o'r materion sydd wedi cael eu nodi heddiw. At ei gilydd, mae amseroedd cyflawni'r grant cyfleusterau i'r anabl wedi gwella'n sylweddol dros y saith blwyddyn ariannol ddiwethaf. Mae'r ffigurau diweddaraf, ar gyfer 2012-13, yn dangos gostyngiad o 54% mewn amseroedd aros ledled Cymru gyfan ers 2005, sydd yn sicr yn arwyddocaol, er fy mod yn cydnabod nad yw'n ddigon da a'i fod yn anghyson. Dyna pam y byddaf yn adolygu gwasanaethau. Rwyf am i'r duedd hon barhau, ac rwyf am i unigolion ym mhob rhan o'r sector chwarae rhan yn y gwasanaeth hwn.

In its report, the committee recommends, rightly, and highlights the importance of the corporate approach to the delivery of adaptations. Effective corporate working on the part of local authorities is essential in terms of both administrative work and delivery. This is particularly important in the context of reductions in the budget available to the Welsh Government.

Yn ei adroddiad, mae'r pwyllgor yn argymell, a hynny'n gwbl briodol, ac yn tynnu sylw at bwysigrwydd y dull corfforaethol o gyflawni addasiadau. Mae gweithio corfforaethol effeithiol ar ran yr awdurdodau lleol yn hanfodol o ran gwaith gweinyddol a chyflawni. Mae hyn yn arbennig o bwysig yng nghyd-destun y gostyngiadau yn y gyllideb sydd ar gael i Lywodraeth Cymru.

16:17

Nick Ramsay Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I welcome what you have just said, Minister, but I am a little bewildered. Maybe I am looking at this just a little bit simply—you do not have to respond to that—but if you want this root-and-branch review of the way that things are being done at the moment, which I am sure we would all welcome, why is it that in at least three or four of your responses to the recommendations, you have said that this is a matter for local government and not a matter for you? How on earth can you change the way things are done at the moment if you are washing your hands of it?

Croesawaf yr hyn yr ydych newydd ei ddweud, Weinidog, ond rwy'n drysu braidd. Efallai fy mod yn edrych ar hyn mewn ffordd ychydig bach yn rhy syml—nid oes angen ichi ymateb i hynny—ond os ydych am gael yr adolygiad sylfaenol hwn o'r ffordd y mae pethau'n cael eu gwneud ar hyn o bryd, y byddai pawb yn ei groesawu, mae'n siŵr gennyf, pam eich bod wedi dweud, mewn o leiaf dri neu bedwar o'ch ymatebion i'r argymhellion, mai mater i lywodraeth leol ydyw, ac nid mater i chi? Sut ar y ddaear y gallwch newid y ffordd y mae pethau'n cael eu gwneud ar hyn o bryd os ydych yn golchi eich dwylo o'r mater?

16:18

Carl Sargeant Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I am grateful for the Member's question, but the fact of the matter is that the delivery mechanism is through local authorities and not through Welsh Government. We will issue the guidance for how this should be done. We have seen—you have witnessed and taken evidence on the fact—that there are some organisations delivering DFGs and other adaptation grants from a much more effective position than others. That is not acceptable, and the best practice element that Rhodri Glyn mentioned is about making sure that we are able to do that, but it will not be under this system, and I will go into more detail for the Member now.

Rwy'n ddiolchgar am gwestiwn yr Aelod, ond y gwir amdani yw mai drwy awdurdodau lleol ac nid drwy Lywodraeth Cymru y cyflawnir addasiadau. Byddwn yn cyhoeddi'r canllawiau ynglŷn â sut y dylid gwneud hyn. Rydym ni wedi gweld—rydych chi wedi gweld ac wedi cymryd tystiolaeth ar y ffaith—bod rhai sefydliadau sy'n darparu grantiau cyfleusterau i'r anabl a grantiau addasu eraill o sefyllfa lawer mwy effeithiol nag eraill. Nid yw hynny'n dderbyniol, ac mae'r elfen o ran arfer gorau y soniodd Rhodri Glyn amdani yn ymwneud â sicrhau ein bod yn gallu gwneud hynny, ond nid o dan y system hon y bydd hynny'n digwydd, ac ymhelaethaf ar hynny i'r Aelod yn awr.

We are aware of the fact that the mechanisms for delivering DFGs, PAGs and rapid response adaptations, and the independent living grant that we piloted, have evolved organically over time and need to be reconsidered and perhaps unified. I have therefore instructed officials to look at a different system, which might be to bring together a single system of all housing tenure and to look at the implications of doing so. One of the main issues is likely to be the funding mechanisms and how they work, but we should explore all options on the basis that, with this being the fourth report that we have debated in this Chamber, it is still not right. There is something fundamentally wrong with the system.

Rydym yn ymwybodol o'r ffaith bod y systemau gyfer darparu grantiau cyfleusterau i'r anabl, grantiau addasiadau ffisegol ac addasiadau ymateb cyflym, a'r grant byw'n annibynnol yr ydym yn ei dreialu, wedi datblygu'n organig dros amser a bod angen eu hailystyried a'u huno, o bosibl. Felly, rwyf wedi cyfarwyddo swyddogion i edrych ar system wahanol, a allai greu un system o'r holl fathau o ddaliadaeth tai ac ystyried goblygiadau gwneud hynny. Un o'r prif faterion tebygol fydd y systemau ariannu a sut maent yn gweithio, ond dylem edrych ar yr holl opsiynau ar y sail, o ystyried mai hwn yw'r pedwerydd adroddiad yr ydym wedi'i drafod yn y Siambr hon, nad yw'n iawn o hyd. Mae rhywbeth sylfaenol o'i le ar y system.

Funding the DFGs is currently unhypothecated, and there may be dangers in attempting to provide a ring-fenced pot to cover all the adaptations. That could potentially exhaust the supply before the end of the financial year, and I am grateful to authorities that top up this system.

Nid yw'r cyllid ar gyfer y grant cyfleusterau i'r anabl wedi'i neilltuo ar hyn o bryd, ac efallai y bydd peryglon wrth geisio darparu un gronfa wedi'i neilltuo i ymdrin â'r holl addasiadau. Efallai y byddai'r arian yn dod i ben cyn diwedd y flwyddyn ariannol, ac rwy'n ddiolchgar i awdurdodau sy'n ychwanegu at y system hon.

The committee also quite rightly emphasised the importance of local authorities carrying out minor adaptations outside the formal DFG response. This is something that we have encouraged them to do for some time, and we continue to do that.

Pwysleisiodd y pwyllgor bwysigrwydd awdurdodau lleol yn gwneud mân addasiadau y tu hwnt i'r ymateb ffurfiol o dan y grant cyfleusterau i'r anabl hefyd, a hynny'n gwbl briodol. Mae hyn yn rhywbeth yr ydym wedi eu hannog i'w wneud ers peth amser, ac rydym yn dal i wneud hynny.

Current guidance makes it clear that smaller scale adaptations should not be slowed down through the use of the formal system. There is enough flexibility under the existing legislation for local authorities to act proactively and innovatively in relation to the variety of cases they are faced with. We see that with the good practice that is available right across Wales. I do not accept fully that we do not share best practice, because there is some really good practice shared among colleagues in delivering these improvements, albeit with the caveat of 'not good enough'. I am also aware of the need to explore the link between savings that are made from health budgets by carrying out adaptations for people to enable them to remain in their own homes. It is about the preventative agenda that Peter Black raised earlier on, and it is something we are conscious of through the budget settlements that we are currently discussing through the draft budget stages.

Mae'r canllawiau presennol yn ei gwneud yn glir na ddylai addasiadau ar raddfa lai gael eu harafu drwy ddefnyddio'r system ffurfiol. Mae digon o hyblygrwydd o dan y ddeddfwriaeth bresennol i awdurdodau lleol weithredu mewn ffordd ragweithiol ac arloesol o ran yr amrywiaeth o achosion y maent yn eu hwynebu. Rydym yn gweld hynny o ran yr arfer da sydd ar gael ledled Cymru. Ni dderbyniaf yn llwyr nad ydym yn rhannu arfer gorau, oherwydd mae rhywfaint o arfer da iawn yn cael ei rannu ymhlith cydweithwyr wrth wneud y gwelliannau hyn, ond gyda'r cafeat 'ddim yn ddigon da'. Rwyf hefyd yn ymwybodol o'r angen i edrych ar y cysylltiad rhwng yr arbedion a wneir o gyllidebau iechyd drwy wneud addasiadau ar gyfer pobl i'w galluogi i aros yn eu cartrefi eu hunain. Mae'n ymwneud â'r agenda atal a godwyd gan Peter Black yn gynharach, ac mae'n rhywbeth yr ydym yn ymwybodol ohono drwy setliadau'r gyllideb yr ydym ar hyn o bryd yn eu trafod trwy gamau'r gyllideb ddrafft.

We are also aware of the issues surrounding the means for DFGs. Some of the evidence that was given to the committee inquiry focused on this issue. However, wholesale reforms to the means test have to be considered very carefully, and we have to guard against potential unmet need, and safeguarding public interest and resources at a time when budgets are being threatened. It would be difficult, Presiding Officer, to justify making adaptations available to persons for free when they could readily afford to pay themselves. That is why I do not agree with Rhodri Glyn Thomas in terms of his view about lifting the issue of means-testing. The means-testing is in place to make the resources available to those greatest in need, and this principle needs to be kept in mind.

Rydym hefyd yn ymwybodol o'r problemau sy'n ymwneud â'r prawf modd ar gyfer grantiau cyfleusterau i'r anabl. Mae rhywfaint o'r dystiolaeth a roddwyd i ymchwiliad y pwyllgor yn canolbwyntio ar y mater hwn. Fodd bynnag, rhaid ystyried diwygiadau sylfaenol i'r prawf modd yn ofalus iawn, a rhaid inni ochel rhag creu angen nad yw'n cael ei ddiwallu o bosibl, a diogelu budd y cyhoedd ac adnoddau ar adeg pan fo cyllidebau o dan fygythiad. Lywydd, byddai'n anodd cyfiawnhau darparu addasiadau i bobl am ddim pan fyddent yn gallu fforddio talu amdanynt yn hawdd eu hunain. Dyna pam na chytunaf â Rhodri Glyn Thomas o ran ei farn ynglŷn â'r prawf modd. Mae prawf modd ar waith er mwyn sicrhau bod yr adnoddau ar gael i'r rhai sydd fwyaf mewn angen, ac mae angen cadw'r egwyddor hon mewn cof.

I also agree with the committee on the issue of customer satisfaction. This is important, and local authorities and third sector agencies such as Care and Repair already gauge the views of their clients in order for improvement to be made to the existing system.

Cytunaf â'r pwyllgor hefyd ynglŷn â mater boddhad cwsmeriaid. Mae hyn yn bwysig, ac mae awdurdodau lleol ac asiantaethau yn y trydydd sector megis Gofal a Thrwsio eisoes yn mesur barn eu cleientiaid er mwyn gwella'r system bresennol.

As I noted earlier, Presiding Officer, delivery has improved across Wales as a whole and there are many people who are satisfied with the service that has been provided for them. However, I am not being complacent, and I am determined to see a further improvement based upon the evidence provided by this fourth report from committee. I want to see a situation where services are more equitable across Wales, and there is a principle behind the work that I have asked officials to carry out. The committee report provides a firm platform for the Welsh Government to look again at the structures of the current adaptations framework and see where improvements can be made.

Fel y nodais yn gynharach, Lywydd, mae'r broses gyflawni wedi gwella ledled Cymru ac mae llawer o bobl sy'n fodlon ar y gwasanaeth a ddarparwyd. Fodd bynnag, nid wyf yn hunanfodlon, ac rwyf yn benderfynol o weld gwelliant pellach yn seiliedig ar y dystiolaeth a ddarparwyd gan y pedwerydd adroddiad gan y pwyllgor. Rwyf am weld sefyllfa lle mae gwasanaethau yn decach ledled Cymru, ac mae egwyddor yn sail i'r gwaith yr wyf wedi gofyn i swyddogion ei wneud. Mae adroddiad y pwyllgor yn rhoi llwyfan cadarn i Lywodraeth Cymru edrych eto ar strwythurau'r fframwaith addasiadau presennol a gweld lle y gellir gwneud gwelliannau.

Finally, I would again like to thank the committee for its comprehensive report and the valuable work that it has contributed to make a change for the future in this system. Thank you, Presiding Officer, for the opportunity today.

Yn olaf, hoffwn ddiolch unwaith eto i'r pwyllgor am ei adroddiad cynhwysfawr a'r gwaith gwerthfawr y mae wedi ei gyfrannu i newid y system hon yn y dyfodol. Diolch ichi, Lywydd, am y cyfle heddiw.

16:22

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad] [Biography]

Senedd.tv [Fideo] [Video]

I call on the Chair of the committee, Christine Chapman, to reply to the debate.

Galwaf ar Gadeirydd y pwyllgor, Christine Chapman, i ymateb i'r ddadl.

16:22

Christine Chapman [Bywgraffiad] [Biography]

Senedd.tv [Fideo] [Video]

First of all, I thank all Members for their contributions today. Obviously, I am not going to comment on every single point, but I just want to pick out some of the key points. I think all of us here today agree that this was just the latest in a long line of inquiries on this, so you can obviously understand how important a priority this is for the Assembly.

Yn gyntaf oll, hoffwn ddiolch i'r holl Aelodau am eu cyfraniadau heddiw. Yn amlwg, ni fwriadaf wneud sylwadau ar bob pwynt unigol, ond hoffwn gyfeirio at rai o'r pwyntiau allweddol. Credaf fod pob un ohonom yma heddiw yn cytuno mai dim ond y diweddaraf mewn cyfres hir o ymchwiliadau yw hwn, er mwyn ichi ddeall pa mor bwysig yw'r flaenoriaeth hon i'r Cynulliad.

To start off with Mark Isherwood, his point was a real reminder that, with this issue, there are some real people involved here. We did take evidence from stakeholders on this, which I think was very useful. Mark gave us a powerful reminder that this is about putting people at the centre of things, and this is something that the older person's commissioner has supported. So, that is an important point.

I ddechrau gyda Mark Isherwood, roedd ei bwynt yn ffordd dda o'n hatgoffa, o ran y mater hwn, fod pobl go iawn dan sylw yn hyn o beth. Cymerwyd tystiolaeth gan randdeiliaid ar hyn, a chredaf fod hyn yn ddefnyddiol iawn. Gwnaeth Mark ein hatgoffa mewn ffordd rymus bod hyn yn ymwneud â rhoi pobl wrth wraidd pethau, ac mae hyn yn rhywbeth y mae'r comisiynydd pobl hŷn wedi'i gefnogi. Felly, mae hwnnw'n bwynt pwysig.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas, among other things, captured the frustrations that the most vulnerable people in Wales face day in, day out, because this system is not working. He also said that there sometimes needs to be a common-sense approach to this, which can actually make a difference. It need not be overly bureaucratic.

Gwnaeth Rhodri Glyn Thomas, ymhlith pethau eraill, grisialu'r rhwystredigaeth a deimla'r bobl fwyaf agored i niwed yng Nghymru o ddydd i ddydd, am nad yw'r system hon yn gweithio. Dywedodd hefyd fod angen arfer synnwyr cyffredin weithiau wrth weithredu, sy'n gallu gwneud gwahaniaeth gwirioneddol. Nid oes angen i'r system fod yn rhy fiwrocrataidd.

Peter Black again reminded us that this is a really good example, if we get it right, of good preventative work, which all of us here talk about all the time. If we can improve this, it is one way of doing this, which is something that we all want. Peter also reminded us that this is about a need for consistency, because we have not got that across Wales at the moment.

Gwnaeth Peter Black ein hatgoffa unwaith eto bod hyn yn enghraifft dda iawn, os ydym yn ei gael yn iawn, o waith ataliol da, y mae pob un ohonom yma yn sôn amdano drwy'r amser. Os gallwn wella hyn, mae'n un ffordd o wneud hyn, sy'n rhywbeth yr ydym i gyd am ei weld. Gwnaeth Peter ein hatgoffa hefyd fod hyn yn ymwneud â'r angen am gysondeb, oherwydd nid oes cysondeb ledled Cymru ar hyn o bryd.

I thank Ann Jones first of all as previous Chair for her own commitment, initially, on this inquiry. What better testimony to the improvements that need to be made than Ann's own personal experience being brought to the floor of the Chamber. For me, it is the sense of the loss of dignity that occurs day in, day out for people if we do not get this system right. That is very important.

Hoffwn ddiolch i Ann Jones yn gyntaf fel Cadeirydd blaenorol am ei hymrwymiad ei hun, i ddechrau, i'r ymchwiliad hwn. Nid oes tystiolaeth well o'r gwelliannau y mae angen eu gwneud na chlywed profiad personol Ann ei hun yn y Siambr. I mi, y peth pwysig yw'r ymdeimlad o golli urddas o ddydd i ddydd a brofir gan bobl os nad ydym yn cael y system hon yn iawn. Mae hynny'n bwysig

Janet Finch-Saunders's contribution captured very well the lethargy we have in the system at the moment. It needs better direction and delivery and it is about quality. There should be quality across Wales.

Gwnaeth cyfraniad Janet Finch-Saunders gyfleu'n dda iawn y diffyg gweithredu a welwn yn y system ar hyn o bryd. Mae angen gwell cyfeiriad a phrosesau cyflawni ac mae'n ymwneud ag ansawdd. Dylai fod ansawdd ledled Cymru.

The Minister, in his response, has signalled that he wants to make changes and that there may be big changes afoot. We would welcome that. I will not go into the aspects of this because it is something that we will return to. We welcome that, but for all of us who sat on the inquiry, there is a sense of frustration that we have been here before. We need to make sure that change happens.

Mae'r Gweinidog, yn ei ymateb, wedi nodi ei fod am wneud newidiadau ac efallai fod newidiadau mawr ar y gweill. Byddem yn croesawu hynny. Nid ymhelaethaf ar yr agwedd hon oherwydd mae'n rhywbeth y byddwn yn dychwelyd ato. Croesawn hynny, ond i bob un ohonom a fu'n rhan o'r ymchwiliad, cawn ymdeimlad o rwystredigaeth ein bod wedi bod yma o'r blaen. Mae angen inni sicrhau bod newidiadau'n digwydd.

In closing, the committee does not feel that progress has been fast enough or consistent enough across Wales. That is a strong message. As I said earlier, we all have constituents who have suffered as a result of long waits in inappropriate accommodation. Sometimes, the place they call home no longer suits their needs and changes need to be made. These are vulnerable people, Minister, in difficult situations. The committee believes that changes are needed to the adaptation system and we urge the Minister to put the necessary arrangements in place to ensure that improvements are driven forward. We intend to keep this matter under review, because if we do not and if the Welsh Government does not listen to this, then we will continue to let people down. Thank you.

I gloi, nid yw'r pwyllgor yn teimlo bod cynnydd wedi bod yn ddigon cyflym nac yn ddigon cyson ledled Cymru. Mae honno'n neges gref. Fel y dywedais yn gynharach, mae gan bob un ohonom etholwyr sydd wedi dioddef ar ôl gorfod aros am gyfnod hir mewn llety anaddas. Weithiau, nid yw eu cartref yn addas at eu hanghenion ac mae angen gwneud newidiadau. Pobl mewn sefyllfa fregus ydynt, Weinidog, mewn amgylchiadau anodd. Cred y pwyllgor fod angen newidiadau i'r system addasu ac rydym yn annog y Gweinidog i roi'r trefniadau angenrheidiol ar waith i sicrhau bod gwelliannau yn cael eu gwneud. Rydym yn bwriadu parhau i adolygu'r mater hwn, oherwydd os gwnawn hynny ac os nad yw Llywodraeth Cymru yn gwrando ar hyn, yna byddwn yn parhau i siomi pobl. Diolch yn fawr.

16:26

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

The proposal is to note the committee's report. Does any Member object? I see that there are no objections, therefore the report is agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Y cynnig yw y dylid nodi adroddiad y pwyllgor. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Gwelaf nad oes gwrthwynebiad, felly mae'r adroddiad wedi'i dderbyn, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.

Derbyniwyd y cynnig yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.

Motion agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Daeth Rhodri Glyn Thomas i'r Gadair am 16:27.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas took the Chair at 16:27.

Dadl ar Adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deisebau ar Sefydlu Tîm Criced Cenedlaethol i Gymru

Debate on the Petitions Committee's Report on the Establishment of a Welsh Cricket Team

Cynnig NDM5340 William Powell

Motion NDM5340 William Powell

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

Yn nodi adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deisebau ar Sefydlu Tîm Criced Cenedlaethol i Gymru, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 1 Mai 2013.

Notes the report of the Petitions Committee on the Establishment of a Welsh Cricket Team, which was laid in the Table Office on 1 May 2013.

16:27

Rhodri Glyn Thomas Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Rwy'n galw ar Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau i gyflwyno'r cynnig—William Powell.

I call on the Chair of the Petitions Committee to move the motion—William Powell.

16:27

William Powell Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Diolch yn fawr. I move the motion.

Diolch yn fawr. Cynigiaf y cynnig.

Given recent headlines, perhaps it is appropriate to open the batting in this debate by recalling the words of one Sir John Major when he proclaimed Britain to be

O ystyried y penawdau diweddar, efallai ei bod yn briodol imi ddechrau'r ddadl hon drwy ddwyn i gof eiriau Syr John Major pan gyhoeddodd fod Prydain yn

'the country of long shadows on cricket grounds, warm beer, invincible green suburbs, and dog lovers'.

wlad o gysgodion hir ar gaeau criced, cwrw cynnes, maestrefi gwyrdd anorchfygol, a phobl sy'n hoffi cŵn.

In our report, I hope that we have done our best to capture all the main points made by the petitioners. Having said that, this is far from being a straightforward issue. No matter how it is spun, there are some very difficult issues to deal with.

Yn ein hadroddiad, gobeithio ein bod wedi gwneud ein gorau i gynnwys pob un o'r prif bwyntiau a wnaed gan y deisebwyr. Wedi dweud hynny, nid yw hyn yn fater syml o bell ffordd. Ni waeth sut y caiff ei gyfleu, mae rhai materion sy'n anodd iawn delio â hwy.

One of the tasks we face in the Petitions Committee is to provide opportunities to consider matters that, while of importance, the Assembly might not otherwise have the opportunity to consider in depth. The establishment of a Welsh cricket team is one such issue. The committee itself did not come to any position on the issue. Our main purpose in producing our report was to provide an opportunity for both sides of this complex argument to present their views and to allow and actively contribute to a public debate on the matter.

Un o'r tasgau a wynebir gennym yn y Pwyllgor Deisebau yw cynnig cyfleoedd i ystyried materion pwysig na fyddai'r Cynulliad o bosibl yn cael y cyfle i'w hystyried yn fanwl fel arall. Mae sefydlu tîm criced cenedlaethol i Gymru yn un mater o'r fath. Ni ddaeth y pwyllgor ei hun i unrhyw benderfyniad ar y mater. Ein prif bwrpas wrth lunio ein hadroddiad oedd rhoi cyfle i ddwy ochr y ddadl gymhleth hon gyflwyno eu barn a chaniatáu dadl gyhoeddus ar y mater a chyfrannu ati.

What is the current position? Cricket Wales is the national governing body for junior and senior recreational cricket in Wales, and it is affiliated to the England and Wales Cricket Board, or the ECB, as it is somewhat misleadingly abbreviated. Glamorgan cricket club is responsible for the professional game in Wales. There are also Welsh representative teams. Male players up to the age of 19 and female players of all ages play under the Welsh banner, although at these levels they play against English county teams rather than international ones. Other parts of the UK, including Scotland, Jersey and Guernsey, have their own teams, which are affiliated to the International Cricket Council, the ICC, rather than the ECB. At the elite level, the England cricket team supposedly represents England and Wales. However, as is well known, it is commonly referred to as 'England' and the iconography surrounding the team is English, rather than Welsh or British. As the petitioner told us in evidence,

Beth yw'r sefyllfa bresennol? Criced Cymru yw corff llywodraethu cenedlaethol criced hamdden iau a hŷn yng Nghymru, ac mae'n gysylltiedig â Bwrdd Criced Cymru a Lloegr, neu'r ECB, sy'n dalfyriad camarweiniol braidd. Clwb criced Morgannwg sy'n gyfrifol am y gamp broffesiynol yng Nghymru. Ceir timau sy'n cynrychioli Cymru hefyd. Mae chwaraewyr gwrywaidd hyd at 19 oed a chwaraewyr benywaidd o bob oed yn chwarae o dan faner Cymru, er mai yn erbyn timau sirol o Loegr yn hytrach na rhai rhyngwladol y maent yn chwarae ar y lefelau hyn. Mae gan rannau eraill o'r DU, gan gynnwys yr Alban, Jersey a Guernsey, eu timau eu hunain, sy'n gysylltiedig â'r Cyngor Criced Rhyngwladol, yr ICC, yn hytrach na'r ECB. Ar y lefel elît, mae tîm criced Lloegr yn ôl pob sôn yn cynrychioli Cymru a Lloegr. Fodd bynnag, fel y gwyddys yn dda, cyfeirir ato'n aml fel 'Lloegr', ac mae'r eiconograffiaeth sy'n gysylltiedig â'r tîm yn Seisnig yn hytrach nag yn Gymreig neu'n Brydeinig. Fel y dywedodd y deisebydd wrthym mewn tystiolaeth,

'by playing for England a Welsh player is being asked to dress up as an English person and represent England'.

'drwy chwarae dros Loegr, gofynnir i chwaraewr o Gymru wisgo fel Saes a chynrychioli Lloegr'.

He went on to emphasise the point:

Aeth ymlaen i bwysleisio'r pwynt:

'This is distinctly different from the British and Irish Lions, where all four nations are represented in the badge, and the Team GB, which reflects all the nations that make up the UK.'

'Mae hwn yn amlwg yn wahanol i'r Llewod Prydeinig a Gwyddelig, lle caiff pob un o'r pedair gwlad ei chynrychioli yn y bathodyn, a Thîm Prydain Fawr, sy'n adlewyrchu'r holl wledydd sy'n ffurfio'r DU.'

Sport Wales and Cricket Wales acknowledged the issue, but the suggestion that the England and Wales Cricket Board be renamed 'Cricket England and Wales' was not felt to go anywhere near far enough by the petitioner or his supporters. They believe that there is widespread support among supporters and players in Wales to set up a Welsh Cricket team. Cricket Wales, however, made the point that its member clubs and cricket leagues had not raised the issue directly with it.

Mae Chwaraeon Cymru a Chriced Cymru yn cydnabod y mater, ond ni theimlodd y deisebydd na'i gefnogwyr fod yr awgrym y dylid ail-enwi Bwrdd Criced Cymru a Lloegr yn 'Criced Cymru a Lloegr ' yn mynd yn ddigon pell o gwbl. Credant fod cefnogaeth eang ymysg cefnogwyr a chwaraewyr yng Nghymru i sefydlu tîm criced i Gymru. Fodd bynnag, nododd Criced Cymru nad oedd ei aelod-glybiau a chynghreiriau criced wedi codi'r mater yn uniongyrchol ag ef.

For those in favour of the petition, the real issue was whether Welsh cricketers should have the opportunity to play for their country. They point out that very few Welsh players have played for England—only 16 since Glamorgan became a first-class county. They believe that giving more Welsh players more opportunities to play international cricket could make the game more attractive in Wales. They also point out that Wales already has the infrastructure and grass-roots support to justify at least associate membership of the ICC. Indeed, it is already comparable to New Zealand, which is a full ICC member.

I'r rhai sydd o blaid y ddeiseb, y mater gwirioneddol oedd p'un a ddylai cricedwyr o Gymru gael y cyfle i chwarae dros eu gwlad. Dywedant mai ychydig iawn o chwaraewyr o Gymru sydd wedi chwarae dros Loegr—dim ond 16 ers i Forgannwg ddod yn sir dosbarth cyntaf. Credant y gallai cynnig mwy o gyfleoedd i chwaraewyr o Gymru chwarae criced rhyngwladol wella apêl y gamp yng Nghymru. Dywedant hefyd fod gan Gymru eisoes y seilwaith a'r cymorth ar lawr gwlad i gyfiawnhau o leiaf aelodaeth gyswllt o'r ICC. Yn wir, mae eisoes yn debyg i Seland Newydd, sy'n aelod llawn o'r ICC.

Opponents of the petition suggest that the issue is more complicated than this. They believe that Welsh cricketers, selected to play for England, get the chance to play cricket at the very highest international level. If Wales had its own team, it would have to play at a lower level, with only limited opportunities for fixtures. Even if Wales were to become affiliated to the ICC, we would have to play initially against lower division countries before we could expect to play at a higher level. Opponents, such as Glamorgan County Cricket Club, said that the best we could hope for,

Awgryma gwrthwynebwyr y ddeiseb fod y mater yn fwy cymhleth na hyn. Credant fod cricedwyr o Gymru, a gaiff eu dewis i chwarae dros Loegr, yn cael y cyfle i chwarae criced ar y lefel ryngwladol uchaf bosibl. Pe bai gan Gymru ei thîm ei hun, byddai'n rhaid iddo chwarae ar lefel is, heb fawr ddim cyfleoedd i chwarae gemau. Hyd yn oed pe bai Cymru yn dod yn gysylltiedig â'r ICC, byddai'n rhaid inni chwarae yn erbyn gwledydd mewn is-adrannau is i ddechrau cyn y gallem ddisgwyl chwarae ar lefel uwch. Dywedodd gwrthwynebwyr, megis Clwb Criced Morgannwg, mai'r peth gorau y gallem obeithio amdano,

'would be to battle it out with Ireland, Scotland, Kenya and so on every four years to try to get a place in the World Cup.'

'fyddai brwydro yn erbyn Iwerddon, yr Alban, Kenya ac ati bob pedair blynedd er mwyn ceisio ennill lle yng Nghwpan y Byd.'

This lack of top-class international cricket could also lead to the most talented Welsh players joining English counties, so as to be eligible to play for England.

Gallai diffyg criced rhyngwladol o'r radd flaenaf hefyd arwain at chwaraewyr mwyaf talentog Cymru yn ymuno â siroedd yn Lloegr, er mwyn bod yn gymwys i chwarae dros Loegr.

Although, the petitioners felt that these arguments were unfounded, giving players a choice—a choice that they do not currently have—is perhaps the crux of the petitioners' argument.

Er bod y dadleuon hyn yn ddi-sail ym marn y deisebwyr, rhoi dewis i chwaraewyr—dewis nad oes ganddynt ar hyn o bryd—o bosibl yw craidd dadl y deisebwyr.

One of the main concerns of those opposed to the petition was the effect on funding for the game in Wales if a Welsh cricket team was set up. Funding for Welsh cricket comes from the ECB through three main routes—international matches at Sophia Gardens; payments to Glamorgan; and thirdly, but vitally, investment in grass-roots cricket. Glamorgan, Cricket Wales and Sport Wales all felt that the financing of cricket relies on test cricket for its stability. Glamorgan County Cricket Club in particular was concerned that, if Wales were not part of the ECB, we would no longer be in a position to host England international matches. It told us that the club could not survive without the financial boost that hosting these fixtures provides.

Un o brif bryderon y rhai sy'n gwrthwynebu'r ddeiseb oedd yr effaith ar gyllid ar gyfer y gamp yng Nghymru pe bai tîm criced cenedlaethol yn cael ei sefydlu. Daw cyllid ar gyfer criced yng Nghymru o'r ECB drwy dri phrif lwybr—gemau rhyngwladol yng Ngerddi Sophia; taliadau i Forgannwg; ac yn drydydd, ond yn hanfodol, fuddsoddiad mewn criced ar lawr gwlad. Roedd Morgannwg, Criced Cymru a Chwaraeon Cymru i gyd o'r farn bod y broses o ariannu criced yn dibynnu ar griced prawf am ei sefydlogrwydd. Roedd Clwb Criced Morgannwg yn arbennig yn pryderu, pe na bai Cymru yn rhan o'r ECB, na fyddem mewn sefyllfa mwyach i gynnal gemau rhyngwladol Lloegr. Dywedodd wrthym na allai'r clwb oroesi heb yr hwb ariannol a ddaw drwy gynnal y gemau.

Not surprisingly, the petitioner and his supporters were unconvinced by these arguments. They felt that Wales would be able to access funding through the ICC, and pointed to Scotland and Ireland to support their view. They also pointed out the potential wider benefits for brand Wales of a distinctly Welsh international offer, particularly in the important new markets of the Indian sub-continent.

Nid yw'n syndod nad oedd y deisebydd na'i gefnogwyr wedi'u hargyhoeddi gan y dadleuon hyn. Teimlent y byddai Cymru yn gallu cael cyllid drwy'r ICC, a gwnaethant gyfeirio at yr Alban ac Iwerddon i gefnogi eu barn. Gwnaethant hefyd nodi'r manteision ehangach posibl y gallai arlwy rhyngwladol unigryw i Gymru eu cynnig i frand Cymru, yn enwedig ym marchnadoedd newydd pwysig is-gyfandir India.

Before I move on to my conclusion, Chair, I think that it is important that we mention the views of Wales's only professional team, Glamorgan. I should make it clear that the one thing on which everyone was agreed is that Glamorgan must retain its first-class county status. However, the club is opposed to the aims of the petition. I have already mentioned some of its concerns, which centre on funding and playing standards. While the ECB was quite clear that,

Cyn imi symud ymlaen at fy nghasgliad, Gadeirydd, credaf ei bod yn bwysig inni gyfeirio at farn unig dîm proffesiynol Cymru, sef Morgannwg. Dylwn ei gwneud yn glir mai'r un peth yr oedd pawb yn cytuno arno oedd bod yn rhaid i Forgannwg gynnal ei statws fel sir dosbarth cyntaf. Fodd bynnag, mae'r clwb yn gwrthwynebu nodau'r ddeiseb. Rwyf eisoes wedi crybwyll rhai o'i bryderon, sy'n canolbwyntio ar gyllid a safonau chwarae. Er bod yr ECB yn gwbl glir

'should Glamorgan continue to operate as a County in the way they do, then they would be able to apply to play in ECB competitions.'

'os bydd Morgannwg yn parhau i weithredu fel Sir fel y mae'n gwneud ar hyn o bryd, yna byddai'n gallu gwneud cais i chwarae yng ngystadlaethau'r ECB.

The club itself felt that this was academic, because the loss of income would be so severe that the club would not continue to exist in its current form.

Teimlai'r clwb ei hun nad oedd hyn yn berthnasol, oherwydd byddai'r golled mewn incwm mor ddifrifol fel na fyddai'r clwb yn parhau i fodoli ar ei ffurf bresennol.

As I mentioned at the outset, the main purpose of our report is to provide an opportunity for a widespread public debate on the issue. Therefore, we have not made any recommendations nor have we come out on either side of the argument. However, we did identify two areas that we feel might benefit from further work. First, we think that there would be considerable merit in finding out, in a non-partisan way, what the majority view on this subject is within the cricketing community in Wales. The petitioners may not wholly agree, but Cricket Wales, with support from others, such as Sport Wales or even the ECB, would seem to be best placed to carry out this work. More than that, it surely has a responsibility to be clear about what cricket fans in Wales actually want. If it was clear from this piece of work that there is an appetite for a separate team, then support should be provided to undertake a more detailed feasibility study to look at the practical implications of establishing a Welsh team.

Fel y soniais i gychwyn, prif ddiben ein hadroddiad yw rhoi cyfle i gynnal dadl gyhoeddus eang ar y mater. Felly, nid ydym wedi gwneud unrhyw argymhellion nac ychwaith wedi dangos unrhyw duedd tuag at y naill ochr na'r llall i'r ddadl. Fodd bynnag, gwnaethom nodi dau faes a allai gael budd o waith pellach yn ein barn ni. Yn gyntaf, credwn y byddai'n sicr yn werth canfod, mewn ffordd amhleidiol, beth yw barn y mwyafrif ar y pwnc hwn o fewn y gymuned griced yng Nghymru. Efallai na fydd y deisebwyr yn cytuno'n llwyr, ond ymddengys mai Criced Cymru, gyda chymorth gan eraill, megis Chwaraeon Cymru, neu hyd yn oed yr ECB, sydd yn y sefyllfa orau i wneud y gwaith hwn. Yn fwy na hynny, onid oes ganddo gyfrifoldeb i fod yn glir ynghylch yr hyn y mae cefnogwyr criced yng Nghymru am ei gael mewn gwirionedd. Pe bai'n glir o'r darn hwn o waith fod awydd am dîm ar wahân, yna dylid rhoi cymorth i gynnal astudiaeth dichonoldeb fanylach er mwyn ystyried goblygiadau ymarferol sefydlu tîm cenedlaethol.

It was an outsider to Welsh cricket who perhaps highlighted the nub of this issue and the centre of this debate. Cricket Ireland asked us:

Rhywun o'r tu allan i fyd criced yng Nghymru a dynnodd sylw at hanfod y mater hwn a chanolbwynt y ddadl hon o bosibl. Gofynnodd Cricket Ireland i ni:

'is the sport in Wales prepared to forego the funding and match-hosting benefits which accrues from being part of the ECB system in order to reach the sunlit uplands of future international success at some indistinct point in the future?'

A yw'r gamp yng Nghymru yn barod i roi'r gorau i'r manteision o ran cyllid a chynnal gemau sy'n gysylltiedig â bod yn rhan o system yr ECB er mwyn sicrhau llwyddiant rhyngwladol rywbryd yn y dyfodol?'

It seems to me that this is the heart of the issue.

Ymddengys imi mai dyma wraidd y mater.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who gave evidence to the committee, to members of the committee and to the entire clerking team, past and present, because this petition has been around for a little while. In particular, I would like to thank the lead petitioner, Matthew Bumford, and his supporters, for raising this issue and sparking this debate. I have now had more than a fair innings, and I hope that my remarks have in some measure prepared the ground for a real test of the issues that we face. Diolch yn fawr.

Yn olaf, hoffwn ddiolch i bawb a roddodd dystiolaeth i'r pwyllgor, i aelodau'r pwyllgor ac i'r tîm clercio cyfan, ddoe a heddiw, oherwydd mae'r ddeiseb hon wedi bod ar waith ers tro. Yn benodol, hoffwn ddiolch i'r prif ddeisebwr, Matthew Bumford, a'i gefnogwyr, am godi'r mater hwn a sbarduno'r ddadl hon. Rwyf bellach wedi dweud fy nweud, a gobeithio bod fy sylwadau wedi paratoi'r ffordd ar gyfer prawf gwirioneddol o'r materion a wynebir gennym. Diolch yn fawr.

16:37

Bethan Jenkins Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I would like to begin my contribution with a letter from Steffan Roberts of Aberystwyth. He says,

Hoffwn ddechrau fy nghyfraniad gyda llythyr gan Steffan Roberts o Aberystwyth. Dywed

'Although I follow their endeavours, I find myself in a position of not being able to support England and consider myself a neutral. I cannot feel part of the three lions, the anthem Jerusalem and the ECB. I am Welsh, and I can support my country in rugby and football, so why is cricket such an anomaly?'

Er fy mod yn dilyn eu hymdrechion, ni allaf gefnogi Lloegr ac ystyriaf fy mod yn niwtral. Ni allaf deimlo'n rhan o'r tri llew, anthem Jerwsalem na'r ECB. Cymro ydw i, a gallaf gefnogi fy ngwlad mewn rygbi a phêl-droed, felly pam bod criced yn wahanol?

Why indeed? I received an e-mail yesterday from Peter Hybart and Barry O'Brien, respectively chief executive of Cricket Wales and chairman of Glamorgan County Cricket Club. In their view, the idea of a Welsh national cricket team is 'an emotive subject', and a romantic notion that is unlikely to be beneficial to the game in Wales. Both organisations have done much good work for the game of cricket in Wales. Yet, their arguments appear to be less about having a national team and more about the practicalities of their current situation. Of course having a national team is emotive. You only have to look at the stands during any national game to see what fans get out of supporting their side. Therefore, to suggest that this is anything other than natural is a bit of a misleading argument.

Pam yn wir? Cefais e-bost ddoe gan Peter Hybart a Barry O'Brien, y nalil yn brif weithredwr Criced Cymru a'r llall yn gadeirydd Clwb Criced Morgannwg. Yn eu barn hwy, mae'r syniad o gael tîm criced cenedlaethol i Gymru 'yn bwnc emosiynol', ac yn syniad rhamantus nad yw'n debygol o fod o fudd i'r gamp yng Nghymru. Mae'r ddau sefydliad wedi gwneud llawer o waith da dros griced yng Nghymru. Eto i gyd, ymddengys bod eu dadleuon yn canolbwyntio mwy ar yr agweddau ymarferol ar eu sefyllfa bresennol na chael tîm cenedlaethol. Wrth gwrs, mae cael tîm cenedlaethol yn fater emosiynol. Dim ond edrych ar y standiau yn ystod unrhyw gêm genedlaethol sydd angen ichi ei wneud i weld y boddhad y mae cefnogwyr yn ei deimlo wrth gefnogi eu tîm. Felly, mae awgrymu bod hyn yn unrhyw beth heblaw am naturiol yn ddadl gamarweiniol braidd.

Secondly, Wales is the second longest cricket-playing country in the world. Therefore, the absence of a national side is, to many, rather odd. In fact, there are six ICC-recognised teams in the British Isles. Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man have their own teams. Therefore, Wales is alone in the British Isles in not having its own national side.

Yn ail, Cymru yw'r wlad sydd â'r traddodiad hiraf o chwarae criced yn y byd namyn un. Felly, mae'r ffaith nad oes ganddi dîm cenedlaethol, i lawer, yn rhyfedd iawn. Mewn gwirionedd, mae chwe thîm a gydnabyddir gan yr ICC ar Ynysoedd Prydain. Mae gan Jersey, Guernsey ac Ynys Manaw eu timau eu hunain. Felly, Cymru yw'r unig wlad ar Ynysoedd Prydain nad oes ganddi ei thîm cenedlaethol ei hun.

The game of cricket is changing, and Twenty20 is also changing the face of the game and winning over new fans across the world for the sport. As Twenty20 increases cricket's popularity, financial opportunities for emerging nations will increase and the emphasis on test cricket will, most likely, decrease. Many say that this makes it absolutely the right time to establish a Welsh national cricket team. Therefore, why is Cricket Wales, an organisation that receives funding from Sport Wales and that ought to be doing everything possible to establish a Welsh side, some argue, so opposed to the idea? It believes that the sport will suffer because it will no longer receive funding from the ECB. Instead, money will come from the ICC, as it does to all the other cricket boards in the British Isles. Establishing a Welsh team would lead to ICC membership and ICC money with new funding possibilities, say some. In addition, Wales could apply for higher performance programme funding and, because of the need to expand cricket to new nations, Wales could receive funding through the ICCs Big Better Global Game. Look at Ireland and the sold-out matches when they play against England, Pakistan and other touring sides, along with their appearance at World Cups. You can see the potential for revenue.

Mae criced yn newid, ac mae Twenty20 hefyd yn newid wyneb y gamp ac yn denu cefnogwyr newydd iddi o bob cwr o'r byd. Wrth i boblogrwydd criced Twenty20 gynyddu, bydd mwy o gyfleoedd i wledydd sy'n dod i'r amlwg ac mae'n debygol y bydd llai o bwyslais ar griced prawf. Dywed llawer fod hyn yn golygu mai dyma'r adeg gywir i sefydlu tîm criced cenedlaethol i Gymru. Felly, pam bod Criced Cymru, sefydliad sy'n cael cyllid gan Chwaraeon Cymru ac a ddylai fod yn gwneud popeth posibl i sefydlu tîm i Gymru, yn gwrthwynebu'r syniad cymaint? Cred y bydd y gamp yn dioddef am na fydd yn cael arian gan yr ECB mwyach. Yn lle hynny, daw arian o du'r ICC, fel sy'n digwydd gyda'r holl fyrddau criced eraill ar Ynysoedd Prydain. Byddai sefydlu tîm cenedlaethol yn arwain at aelodaeth o'r ICC ac arian gan yr ICC gyda phosibiliadau ariannu newydd, meddai rhai. Gallai Cymru hefyd wneud cais am arian gan y rhaglen perfformiad uwch ac, oherwydd yr angen i ehangu criced i wledydd newydd, gallai Cymru gael arian drwy Big Better Global Game yr ICC. Edrychwch ar Iwerddon a'r gemau sy'n gwerthu allan pan fyddant yn chwarae yn erbyn Lloegr, Pacistan a thimau teithiol eraill, ynghyd â'u hymddangosiad yng nghystadlaethau Cwpan y Byd. Gallwch weld y potensial ar gyfer refeniw.

One could argue that the consequences of the current situation is that it has been over eight years since the last Welshman played senior international cricket, when Simon Jones played in the Ashes in 2005. This means that a whole generation of Welsh players in their 20s have gone without experiencing international cricket.

Gellid dadlau mai canlyniadau'r sefyllfa bresennol yw bod dros wyth mlynedd wedi mynd heibio ers i'r Cymro diwethaf chwarae criced rhyngwladol, pan chwaraeodd Simon Jones yng Nghyfres y Lludw yn 2005. Mae hyn yn golygu bod cenhedlaeth gyfan o chwaraewyr o Gymru yn eu 20au nad ydynt wedi cael y cyfle i brofi criced rhyngwladol.

The ECB has already confirmed that a Welsh team would not affect Glamorgan's status in the English county system. Glamorgan's concern is that it might not meet its considerable debts if it could no longer host England test matches in the SWALEC stadium. However, hosting England test matches is one of the reasons that many believe it is in this financial situation. In the past, it has placed high bids in test-match tenders and failed to make the money back because of poor ticket sales. Whether there is a Welsh team or not, there is no guarantee that Glamorgan will win further tenders to host England matches as the process is so competitive, with many top-quality grounds in England. Despite bidding, Wales hosted none of the test matches in the last Ashes.

Mae'r ECB eisoes wedi cadarnhau na fyddai tîm cenedlaethol yn effeithio ar statws Morgannwg yn system sirol Lloegr. Pryder Morgannwg yw na allai dalu ei ddyledion sylweddol os na allai gynnal gemau prawf Lloegr yn stadiwm SWALEC. Fodd bynnag, cred llawer mai'r ffaith ei fod yn cynnal gemau prawf Lloegr yw un o'r rhesymau pam ei fod yn y sefyllfa ariannol hon. Yn y gorffennol, mae wedi gwneud cynigion uchel mewn tendrau ar gyfer gemau prawf ac wedi methu ag adennill yr arian oherwydd gwerthiant tocynnau gwael. P'un a oes tîm cenedlaethol ai peidio, nid oes sicrwydd y bydd Morgannwg yn ennill tendrau pellach i gynnal gemau Lloegr gan fod y broses mor gystadleuol, gyda llawer o feysydd o ansawdd uchel yn Lloegr. Er iddi wneud cynigion, ni chynhaliodd Cymru unrhyw un o'r gemau prawf yng nghyfres ddiwethaf y Lludw.

I will finish with an e-mail that I received from Huw Davies from Pontardawe. He said:

Hoffwn orffen gydag e-bost a gefais gan Huw Davies o Bontardawe. Dywedodd:

'Rugby and football players get to grow up dreaming of playing for Wales, but for those who love cricket there is no Welsh team to dream of playing for or to support'.

Gall chwaraewyr rygbi a phêl-droed dyfu i fyny'n breuddwydio am gael chwarae dros Gymru, ond i'r rhai sy'n dwli ar griced, nid oes tîm cenedlaethol iddynt freuddwydio chwarae iddo na'i gefnogi.

I call on Members to note this report so that we continue to explore the opportunities of establishing our own team in Wales.

Galwaf ar yr Aelodau i nodi'r adroddiad hwn er mwyn inni allu parhau i ystyried cyfleoedd i sefydlu ein tîm ein hunain yng Nghymru.

16:41

Mike Hedges Bywgraffiad Biography

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I was very tempted to stand up to say, 'There is a Welsh cricket team; it plays in the minor counties league, western division', and sit down again. There is a Welsh team, and it does exist. However, if the intention is to produce a Welsh test team, there are obstacles.

Cefais fy nhemtio i sefyll i fyny a dweud, 'Mae tîm criced cenedlaethol; mae'n chwarae yng nghyngrair y siroedd bach, is-adran y gorllewin', ac eistedd i lawr eto. Mae tîm cenedlaethol, ac mae'n bodoli. Fodd bynnag, os mai'r bwriad yw creu tîm prawf cenedlaethol, mae yna rwystrau.

First, Wales would have to withdraw from the England and Wales Cricket Board. What would this mean? It would mean no further England and Wales Cricket Board test matches in Cardiff, which is a major source of revenue. It also does one of the things that we keep talking about—it promotes Wales. Having major test matches in Cardiff does promote Wales.

Yn gyntaf, byddai'n rhaid i Gymru dynnu'n ôl o Fwrdd Criced Cymru a Lloegr. Beth fyddai hyn yn ei olygu? Byddai'n golygu na fyddai rhagor o gemau prawf Bwrdd Criced Cymru a Lloegr yn cael eu cynnal yng Nghaerdydd, sy'n ffynhonnell refeniw bwysig. Mae hefyd yn gwneud un o'r pethau rydym yn sôn amdano o hyd—mae'n hyrwyddo Cymru. Mae cynnal gemau prawf mawr yng Nghaerdydd yn hyrwyddo Cymru.

16:41

Alun Ffred Jones Bywgraffiad Biography

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You state that it would be impossible to stage a test match here if we withdrew. Why do you say that? Is there a specific rule about that?

Dywedwch y byddai'n amhosibl cynnal gêm brawf yma os byddem yn tynnu'n ôl. Pam eich bod yn dweud hynny? A oes rheol benodol am hynny?

16:42 **Mike Hedges** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

The specific rule is that teams play their home test matches in their home country. [Interruption.] Let me complete this. Glamorgan would cease to compete in the current county championship. Although called 'Glamorgan', it is effectively a Welsh team. Unless you stretch the boundaries of Glamorgan quite considerably, Colwyn Bay and Abergavenny are not in Glamorgan and never have been, but Glamorgan plays there. It tends to play Lancashire every year up in Colwyn Bay, and it plays in Abergavenny in order to take cricket around Wales. It has also played in another place, which I am not quite sure is in Glamorgan, called Llanelli. So, it plays all around Wales.

Y rheol benodol yw bod timau'n chwarae eu gemau prawf gartref yn eu gwlad gartref. [Torri ar draws.] Gadewch imi orffen. Byddai Morgannwg yn rhoi'r gorau i gystadlu yn y bencampwriaeth sirol bresennol. Er mai Morgannwg yw ei enw, tîm cenedlaethol ydyw yn ei hanfod. Oni bai eich bod yn ymestyn ffiniau Morgannwg yn eithaf sylweddol, nid yw Bae Colwyn a'r Fenni ym Morgannwg ac nid ydynt erioed wedi bod, ond mae Morgannwg yn chwarae yno. Mae'n tueddu i chwarae Swydd Gaerhirfryn bob blwyddyn i fyny ym Mae Colwyn, ac mae'n chwarae yn y Fenni er mwyn mynd â chriced o amgylch Cymru. Mae hefyd wedi chwarae mewn man arall, nad wyf yn hollol siŵr a yw ym Morgannwg, o'r enw Llanelli. Felly, mae'n chwarae ym mhob cwr o Gymru.

Glamorgan would cease to compete in the current county championship. Why? The major source of income for county cricket is test cricket. Anyone who has ever turned up to watch a three-day or four-day match, as they are now—perhaps I am giving my age away—will know how few people are present watching those games; a couple of hundred people is a good crowd. The money comes in from test matches; it is Sky TV money and gate receipts of test matches. This money is shared round the county championship teams. If Glamorgan was not in it, it would not get the benefit of it.

Byddai Morgannwg yn rhoi'r gorau i gystadlu yn y bencampwriaeth sirol bresennol. Pam? Criced prawf yw prif ffynhonnell incwm criced sirol. Dylai unrhyw un sydd erioed wedi bod i wylio gêm dridiau neu bedwar diwrnod, fel y maent bellach—efallai fy mod yn dangos fy oedran—yn gwybod cyn lleied o bobl sy'n bresennol yn gwylio'r gemau hynny; mae ychydig o gannoedd yn dorf dda. Gemau prawf sy'n cynhyrchu'r arian; arian wrth Sky TV a derbynebau wrth giât gemau prawf ydyw. Rhennir yr arian hwn ymysg timau'r bencampwriaeth sirol. Pe na bai Morgannwg yn rhan ohoni, ni fyddai'n cael budd ohoni.

What would we get in exchange? Ireland and Scotland have teams, and they get money from the ICC. The ICC is substantially poorer in terms of the money that it gives out than the England and Wales Cricket Board. Take Ireland, for example. What do its best players want? Eoin Morgan and Ed Joyce progressed to playing for England. What does Boyd Rankin want to do? He wants to play for England. Take Scotland, for example. Many of us remember Mike Denness captaining England. Gavin Hamilton progressed to playing for England. Although these players played for Ireland and Scotland, they are feeder teams for the England cricket team. The players keep progressing to it.

Beth y byddem yn ei gael yn gyfnewid am hynny? Mae gan Iwerddon a'r Alban dimau, ac maent yn cael arian gan y ICC. Mae'r ICC yn sylweddol dlotach na Bwrdd Criced Cymru a Lloegr o ran yr arian y mae'n ei roi. Edrychwch ar Iwerddon, er enghraifft. Beth mae ei chwaraewyr gorau am ei gael? Aeth Eoin Morgan ac Ed Joyce ymlaen i chwarae dros Loegr. Beth mae Boyd Rankin am ei wneud? Mae am chwarae dros Loegr. Edrychwch ar yr Alban, er enghraifft. Mae llawer ohonom yn cofio Mike Denness yn gapten ar Loegr. Aeth Gavin Hamilton ymlaen i chwarae dros Loegr. Er bod y chwaraewyr hyn yn chwarae dros Iwerddon a'r Alban, maent yn dimau bwydo ar gyfer tîm criced Lloegr. Mae'r chwaraewyr yn cadw i symud ymlaen iddo.

We have had lots of good players playing for England. Cricket followers will remember Simon Jones, Robert Croft, Gilbert Parkhouse and Allan Watkins. They wanted to play for England; they wanted to progress. So, that would not happen. What would it be replaced by? We would have one-day internationals against touring teams, but without the current first-class players who would be playing for their county sides. They would see it as a means of trying to get signed up by a county. Glamorgan would not be in the county championship because it could not afford to be. It would raid Glamorgan's accounts. It is all about—

Mae gennym lawer o chwaraewyr da sydd wedi chwarae dros Loegr. Bydd dilynwyr criced yn cofio Simon Jones, Robert Croft, Gilbert Parkhouse ac Allan Watkins. Roeddent am chwarae dros Loegr; roeddent am symud ymlaen. Felly, ni fyddai hynny'n digwydd. Beth fyddai'n ei ddisodli? Byddai gennym gemau rhyngwladol undydd yn erbyn timau teithiol, ond heb y chwaraewyr o'r radd flaenaf presennol a fyddai'n chwarae dros eu timau sirol. Byddent yn ei ystyried yn fodd i geisio cael eu harwyddo gan dim sirol. Ni fyddai Morgannwg yn y bencampwriaeth sirol am na allai fforddio gwneud hynny. Byddai'n defnyddio cyfrifon Morgannwg. Mae'r cyfan yn ymwneud â—

16:44 **Llyr Gruffydd** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you for taking the intervention. All we have had so far are reasons as to why we cannot do something. I think that it is a typical negative no-can-do attitude that has been holding Wales back in other spheres. Do you have any kind of aspiration, be it in the distant future, that Wales one day will have its national team on an international stage?

Diolch ichi am gymryd yr ymyriad. Y cyfan rydym wedi ei glywed hyd yma yw rhesymau pam na allwn wneud rhywbeth. Credaf fod hynny'n agwedd negyddol nodweddiadol sydd wedi bod yn rhwystro Cymru mewn meysydd eraill. A oes gennych unrhyw fath o uchelgais, boed hynny yn y dyfodol pell, y bydd gan Gymru un diwrnod ei thîm cenedlaethol ei hun ar lwyfan rhyngwladol?

16:45

Mike Hedges [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

I have no problem with Wales having its own team, as long as you are prepared to give up Glamorgan. I do not think that cricket would benefit in Wales. I speak as someone who is president of a cricket team and a football team, who has been involved in cricket and played cricket at a local level—not necessarily very well; I have played most sports not necessarily very well—and knows the people's aspirations. I think that playing for Glamorgan—

Nid oes gennyf unrhyw broblem o ran Cymru'n sefydlu ei thîm ei hun, cyn belled â'ch bod yn barod i ildio Morgannwg. Ni chredaf y byddai hynny o fudd i griced yng Nghymru. Siaradaf fel rhywun sy'n llywydd ar dîm criced a thîm pêl-droed, sydd wedi bod yn ymwneud â chriced ac wedi chwarae criced ar lefel leol—nid o reidrwydd yn dda iawn; rwyf wedi chwarae'r rhan fwyaf o gampau nid o reidrwydd yn dda iawn—ac yn deall dyheadau'r bobl. Credaf fod chwarae dros Forgannwg—

16:45

Andrew R.T. Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

I am grateful to the Member for taking an intervention. On the day that the Welsh regions are talking about wanting to go into an Anglo-French cup, I support your point about the commercial reality that sport in the twenty-first century faces, which is tv rights and an attractive product. This debate could jeopardise the future of cricket here in Wales.

Rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r Aelod am dderbyn ymyriad. Ar y diwrnod y mae rhanbarthau Cymru yn sôn am eu hawydd i ymuno â chwpan Eingl-Ffrengig, cefnogaf eich pwynt am y realiti masnachol y mae chwaraeon yn yr unfed ganrif ar hugain yn ei wynebu, sef hawliau teledu a chynnyrch deniadol. Gallai'r ddadl hon beryglu dyfodol criced yma yng Nghymru.

16:45

Mike Hedges [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

I think that this is one of the very few occasions when Andrew R.T. Davies and I will be on exactly the same side. [Assembly Members: 'Oh'.]

Credaf fod hwn yn un o'r achlysuron prin iawn pan fydd Andrew R.T. Davies a minnau yn cytuno â'n gilydd. [Aelodau Cynulliad:` O'.]

To come back to the point, one-day games against touring sides without a proper Welsh team, because our best players will be playing for their county side at the time, is not the future that I see for Welsh cricket. The England and Wales Cricket Board, with test matches played in Cardiff, and Glamorgan in the county championship, I believe, is another example of us being better together.

I ddod yn ôl at y pwynt, nid gemau undydd yn erbyn timau teithiol heb dîm cenedlaethol priodol am fod ein chwaraewyr gorau yn chwarae dros eu tîm sirol ar y pryd, yw'r dyfodol a ragwelaf i griced yng Nghymru. Mae Bwrdd Criced Cymru a Lloegr, gyda gemau prawf yn cael eu chwarae yng Nghaerdydd, a Morgannwg yn y bencampwriaeth sirol, yn fy marn i, yn enghraifft arall ohonom yn gweithio'n well gyda'n gilydd.

16:46

Mohammad Asghar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

I wrote this speech, but most of the words have already been said. I think that our friend on my right hand side needs to learn a few lessons about cricket. Cricket is a sport that not only teaches you discipline, but is one of the best sports around commonwealth countries—one quarter of the world plays cricket. If you start playing England and Australian matches in the UK, the entire grounds are going to be filled tomorrow. India and Pakistan, your economy is much smaller than these matches' income. So, do not talk about the economy. This is a sport—

Ysgrifennais yr araith hon, ond mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r geiriau wedi cael eu dweud yn barod. Credaf fod angen i'n ffrind ar y dde imi ddysgu ychydig o wersi am griced. Mae criced yn gamp sydd nid yn unig yn addysgu disgyblaeth ichi, ond sy'n un o'r campau gorau ymysg gwledydd y Gymanwlad —mae chwarter y byd yn chwarae criced. Os byddwch yn dechrau cynnal gemau Lloegr ac Awstralia yn y DU, byddwch yn llenwi'r maes cyfan yfory. India a Phacistan, mae eich economi yn llawer llai nag incwm y gemau hyn. Felly, peidiwch â siarad am yr economi. Camp yw hon—

16:47

Mike Hedges [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

Is it not true that both Pakistan and India cannot fill their grounds for test matches?

Onid yw'n wir na all Pacistan nac India lenwi eu meysydd adeg gemau prawf?

16:47

Mohammad Asghar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

No. You know, on the largest world stage, the Indian Premier League, they pay cricketers £1 million apiece. Look at their status in the world. They believe in it as a religion there. So, do not talk about that continent, because it used to be a British colony. Do not ever underestimate cricket in the Indian continent.

Nac ydy. Gwyddoch, ar y llwyfan rhyngwladol mwyaf, sef Uwch Gynghrair India, eu bod yn talu cricedwyr £1,000,000 yr un. Edrychwch ar eu statws yn y byd. Credant ynddo fel crefydd yno. Felly, peidiwch â siarad am y cyfandir hwnnw, oherwydd arferai fod yn wladfa Brydeinig. Peidiwch byth â thanamcangyfrif criced yng nghyfandir India.

I believe that the time has come for Wales to have its own international cricket team, which will, and should, compete on the world stage. I do not say this from a narrow nationalist view; it is my own personal view. I am huge cricket fan, I can assure you. From my childhood until the age of 25, I played at the highest level in the country—I played with the test players. I know that cricket is a sport that has brought peace to some countries before a war. If you look at the history, two countries' armed forces were right in front of each other and peace was achieved because of cricket matches. The president of one country walked into the other country and the war was diverted. That is cricket. That is why I support the establishment of a full national side for Wales; it is a peaceful sport. Children not only get discipline, but it is beneficial to their health. In Wales, we have the biggest obesity problem.

Credaf ei bod yn bryd i Gymru gael ei thîm criced cenedlaethol ei hun, a fydd, ac a ddylai, gystadlu ar lwyfan rhyngwladol. Ni ddywedaf hyn o safbwynt cenedlaetholwr cul; dyma fy marn bersonol. Gallaf eich sicrhau fy mod yn gefnogwr criced brwd. O adeg fy mhlentyndod tan fy mod yn 25 oed, chwaraeais ar y lefel uchaf yn y wlad—chwaraeais gyda'r chwaraewyr prawf. Gwn fod criced yn gamp sydd wedi dod â heddwch i rai gwledydd cyn rhyfel. Os edrychwch ar hanes, roedd lluoedd arfog dwy wlad o flaen ei gilydd a llwyddwyd i sicrhau heddwch oherwydd gemau criced. Cerddodd arlywydd un wlad i mewn i'r wlad arall a throi cwrs rhyfel. Dyna griced. Dyna pam rwy'n cefnogi'r awydd i sefydlu tîm cenedlaethol llawn i Gymru; mae'n gamp heddychlon. Mae plant nid yn unig yn cael disgyblaeth, ond mae'n fuddiol i'w hiechyd. Yng Nghymru mae'r broblem fwyaf o ran gordewdra.

Glamorgan is not Wales; Glamorgan is a part of Wales. Remember this. We are talking here about a Welsh team, not Glamorgan. The governing bodies of cricket in Scotland, Jersey and Guernsey, which have already been mentioned, are affiliated to the International Cricket Council. However, Cricket Wales is affiliated to the England and Wales Cricket Board, known, in short, as the ECB. As a result, the England cricket team represents both England and Wales, although it is referred to in common parlance just as England. Some people believe that this issue can be addressed just by renaming the ECB. I disagree with that. In my view, the best interests of sport in Wales will be served by Welsh players taking to the field to play international cricket for Wales, in Wales and around the world.

Nid Cymru yw Morgannwg; mae Morgannwg yn rhan o Gymru. Cofiwch hyn. Rydym yn sôn yma am dîm cenedlaethol, nid Morgannwg. Mae cyrff llywodraethu criced yn yr Alban, Jersey a Guernsey, sydd eisoes wedi cael eu crybwyll, yn gysylltiedig â'r Cyngor Criced Rhyngwladol. Fodd bynnag, mae Criced Cymru yn gysylltiedig â Bwrdd Criced Cymru a Lloegr, neu'r ECB, yn fyr. O ganlyniad, mae tîm criced Lloegr yn cynrychioli Cymru a Lloegr, er y cyfeirir ato'n gyffredin fel Lloegr yn unig. Cred rhai pobl y gellir mynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn yn syml drwy ei ailenwi'n ECB. Anghytunaf â hynny. Yn fy marn i, chwaraewyr o Gymru yn chwarae criced rhyngwladol dros Gymru, yng Nghymru a ledled y byd fydd yn rhoi'r budd mwyaf i chwaraeon yng Nghymru.

It is claimed that the establishment of a Welsh cricket team will limit the opportunity for Welsh cricketers to play in first-class test matches, but only 16 test players have played for England since Glamorgan became a first-class county. That is the number. What a shame. We need to widen the opportunity for Welsh players to play international cricket. Wales fulfilled the criteria to bypass affiliate membership of the ICC, just as Ireland and Scotland did, and became an associate member. This will also mean that Wales has a chance to compete in the cricket world cup every four years.

Honnir y bydd sefydlu tîm cenedlaethol yn cynnig llai o gyfleoedd i gricedwyr yng Nghymru chwarae mewn gemau prawf dosbarth cyntaf, ond dim ond 16 o chwaraewyr prawf sydd wedi chwarae dros Loegr ers i Forgannwg ddod yn sir dosbarth cyntaf. Dyna'r rhif. Trueni. Mae angen inni gynnig mwy o gyfleoedd i chwaraewyr yng Nghymru chwarae criced rhyngwladol. Cyflawnodd Cymru y meini prawf i osgoi aelodaeth gysylltiedig o'r ICC, yn union fel y gwnaeth Iwerddon a'r Alban, a daeth yn aelod cyswllt. Bydd hyn hefyd yn golygu y caiff Cymru y cyfle i gystadlu yng nghystadleuaeth cwpan criced y byd bob pedair blynedd.

I would like to say a few words on the status of Glamorgan County Cricket Club. Concern has been raised, not least by the county itself, that a Welsh cricket team would lead to the demise of Glamorgan cricket. I do not accept that, either. Obviously, guarantees would need to be given that Glamorgan's status as a first-class county would be maintained should any application to join the ECB be made. The chief executive of the ECB, David Collier, has already stated that, in such an event, Glamorgan would continue to play in the English county system and be eligible for ECB funding.

Hoffwn ddweud ychydig eiriau am statws Clwb Criced Morgannwg. Mynegwyd pryder, yn enwedig gan y sir ei hun, y byddai tîm cenedlaethol yn arwain at ddiwedd clwb criced Morgannwg. Ni dderbyniaf hynny, ychwaith. Yn amlwg, byddai angen sicrwydd y câi statws Morgannwg fel sir dosbarth cyntaf ei gynnal pe bai unrhyw gais i ymuno â'r ECB yn cael ei wneud. Mae prif weithredwr yr ECB, David Collier, eisoes wedi datgan y byddai Morgannwg, mewn digwyddiad o'r fath, yn parhau i chwarae yn system sirol Lloegr a bod yn gymwys ar gyfer cyllid yr ECB.

The precedent has been set with Swansea City Football Club and Cardiff City Football Club teams playing in the English Premier League. So, there is no reason why Glamorgan's status should be affected in any way. Similarly the SWALEC stadium could continue to host test matches for England and Wales. The key issue remains. At present, Sport Wales funds Welsh cricket to the tune of £550,000, and £2.2 million comes from the ECB. With the Glamorgan position preserved, I am certain that funding arrangements can be put in place with the ICC and ECB to progress Wales's international cricket.

Mae'r cynsail wedi ei osod gyda thimau Clwb Pêl-droed Dinas Abertawe a Chlwb Pêl-droed Dinas Caerdydd yn chwarae yn Uwch Gynghrair Lloegr. Felly, nid oes unrhyw reswm pam y dylai statws Morgannwg gael ei effeithio mewn unrhyw ffordd. Yn yr un modd, gallai stadiwm SWALEC barhau i gynnal gemau prawf ar gyfer Cymru a Lloegr. Erys y mater allweddol. Ar hyn o bryd, mae Chwaraeon Cymru yn darparu £550,000 i ariannu criced yng Nghymru, a daw £2.2 miliwn o'r ECB. Gyda statws Morgannwg yn ddiogel, rwy'n sicr y gellir rhoi trefniadau ariannu ar waith gyda'r ICC a'r ECB i ddatblygu criced rhyngwladol yng Nghymru.

Acting Presiding Officer, I know that a lot of people are thinking about this, but if Afghanistan can play world cricket, for God's sake, Wales should be there holding up its flag and we should be joining world cricket to put our name around the globe.

Lywydd Dros Dro, gwn fod llawer o bobl yn meddwl am hyn, ond os gall Afghanistan chwarae criced ar lwyfan rhyngwladol, er mwyn Duw, dylai Cymru fod yno'n chwifio ei baner a dylem fod yn ymuno â chriced rhyngwladol er mwyn rhoi ein henw ar y map.

16:52

Peter Black [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

May I start by thanking Mohammad Asghar for making the case for cricket and other sports to replace other international ways of resolving disputes? I am sure that Alex Salmond would be very interested in having a cricket game instead of the Scottish referendum and I predict now that England and Wales will thrash Scotland at that particular game. Frankly, although Scotland has its own cricket team, it is not particularly good. [Laughter.] That is the problem that we will have if we move down the route that I think is being mooted by this petition, in terms of Wales.

Hoffwn ddechrau drwy ddiolch i Mohammad Asghar am gyflwyno'r achos dros ddefnyddio criced a chwaraeon eraill yn lle ffyrdd rhyngwladol eraill o ddatrys anghydfodau? Rwyn siŵr y byddai Alex Salmond yn falch iawn o gael gêm griced yn hytrach na refferendwm yr Alban a rhagwelaf yn awr y bydd Cymru a Lloegr yn curo'r Alban yn rhacs yn y gêm benodol honno. A dweud y gwir, er bod gan yr Alban ei thîm criced ei hun, nid yw'n arbennig o dda. [Chwerthin.] Dyna'r broblem y byddwn yn ei hwynebu os dilynwn y llwybr sy'n cael ei grybwyll, rwy'n credu, gan y ddeiseb hon, o ran Cymru.

As Mike Hedges has already pointed out, we do have a Welsh cricket team; it plays at a minor counties level. If you are arguing, as Mohammad Asghar has just said, that we aim for a situation where Wales has its own cricket team, as it does now, and Glamorgan continues to be a member of the ECB, what is changing? It seems to me that that is where we are at the moment: Wales has its own cricket team playing at minor counties level and we have Glamorgan as a member of the ECB playing first-class cricket, with the SWALEC stadium attracting international games and Glamorgan cricket players going on, when they are good enough, to play for England and Wales at international level. It seems to me that, yes, by all means, argue for an international cricket team for Wales, but in doing that, you have to understand that we might not accept a cricket team that is not competing at the first-class level and the same level that Pakistan is currently competing at—

Fel y mae Mike Hedges eisoes wedi nodi, mae gennym dîm criced cenedlaethol; mae'n chwarae ar lefel siroedd bach. Os dadleuwch, fel y mae Mohammad Asghar newydd ei ddweud, ein bod yn anelu at sefyllfa lle mae gan Gymru ei thîm criced ei hun, fel y mae'n ei wneud nawr, a lle mae Morgannwg yn parhau i fod yn aelod o'r ECB, beth sy'n newid? Ymddengys imi mai dyna'r sefyllfa ar hyn o bryd: mae gan Gymru ei thîm criced ei hun yn chwarae ar lefel siroedd bach ac mae gennym Forgannwg fel aelod o'r ECB yn chwarae criced dosbarth cyntaf, gyda stadiwm SWALEC yn denu gemau rhyngwladol a chwaraewyr criced Morgannwg yn mynd ymlaen, pan fyddant yn ddigon da, i chwarae dros Gymru a Lloegr ar lefel ryngwladol. Ymddengys imi, wrth gwrs, ar bob cyfrif, cewch ddadlau dros dîm criced rhyngwladol i Gymru, ond drwy wneud hynny, rhaid ichi ddeall efallai na fyddwn yn derbyn tîm criced nad yw'n cystadlu ar lefel dosbarth cyntaf a'r un lefel ag y mae Pakistan yn cystadlu arni hyn o bryd—

16:54

Rhun ap Iorwerth [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

I have a very short intervention, just to make the point that, whatever the minor counties Wales team is, is Wales not being treated like a county of England, in cricketing terms?

Mae gennyf ymyriad byr iawn, dim ond i nodi, pa beth bynnag yw tîm siroedd bach Cymru, onid yw Cymru'n cael ei thrin fel un o siroedd Lloegr, o safbwynt criced?

16:54

Peter Black [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

I do not know whether you noticed, but we are part of the United Kingdom here. We are not a separate country. The problem that we have is—[Interruption.]

Ni wn a ydych wedi sylwi, ond rydym yn rhan o'r Deyrnas Unedig yma. Nid ydym yn wlad ar wahân. Y broblem sydd gennym yw—[Torri ar draws.]

16:54 **Rhun ap Iorwerth** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

So, we are a minor county—

Felly, rydym yn sir fach—

16:54 **Peter Black** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

No, I did not say that. The problem that we have is that this movement is being mooted by those who want to see Wales as an independent country and it is not an independent country; it is part of the United Kingdom. I would, however, concede that there are issues about the naming of the England cricket team and that people do not always refer to it as the 'England and Wales team', which it should be. There is an issue about the use of the term 'ECB' when it is meant to be the 'England and Wales Cricket Board'. Clearly, that has to be established. We have to ensure that we are being treated on an equal basis.

Na, ni ddywedais hynny. Y broblem sydd gennym yw bod y symudiad hwn yn cael ei grybwyll gan y rhai sydd am weld Cymru'n wlad annibynnol, ac nid yw'n wlad annibynnol; mae'n rhan o'r Deyrnas Unedig. Hoffwn, fodd bynnag, gyfaddef bod problemau ynghylch enw tîm criced Lloegr ac nad yw pobl bob amser yn cyfeirio ato fel 'tîm Cymru a Lloegr', sef yr hyn y dylai fod. Cyfyd cwestiwn hefyd ynghylch y defnydd o'r term 'ECB' pan y dylai olygu 'Bwrdd Criced Cymru a Lloegr'. Yn amlwg, rhaid i hynny gael ei sefydlu. Rhaid inni sicrhau ein bod yn cael ein trin yn gyfartal.

I live in Swansea, which has a long history of first-class cricket and some very famous games indeed, including Garry Sobers's six sixes back in the 1960s at St Helen's ground. Those games were only possible because Glamorgan was playing at a first-class level and the players who were playing for Glamorgan at that time, some of whom went on to play for England and Wales, enabled Wales to compete on the international stage and for Welsh players to compete at the highest possible level. I do not believe that that would be possible if we left the ECB and went into the ICC, because I think that we would become isolated in cricket, and we would be in a situation whereby Wales was being treated, effectively, as a minor county and it would take decades to get to a situation whereby it was able to compete at that level again. I will happily give way, Alun Ffred.

Rwy'n byw yn Abertawe, sydd â hanes hir o griced dosbarth cyntaf a rhai gemau enwog iawn yn wir, gan gynnwys chwe gêm Garry Sobers yn ôl yn y 1960au ar faes Sain Helen. Dim ond oherwydd bod Morgannwg yn chwarae ar lefel dosbarth cyntaf a bod y chwaraewyr a oedd yn chwarae dros Forgannwg ar y pryd, yr aeth rhai ohonynt ymlaen i chwarae dros Gymru a Lloegr, yn galluogi Cymru i gystadlu ar lwyfan rhyngwladol a chwaraewyr yng Nghymru i gystadlu ar y lefel uchaf bosibl yr oedd y gemau hynny'n bosibl. Ni chredaf y byddai hynny'n bosibl pe baem yn gadael yr ECB ac yn ymuno â'r ICC, oherwydd credaf y byddem yn cael ein hynysu ym myd criced, ac y byddem mewn sefyllfa lle byddai Cymru'n cael ei thrin, yn ei hanfod, fel sir fach a byddai'n cymryd degawdau i gyrraedd sefyllfa lle byddai'n gallu cystadlu ar y lefel honno eto. Byddaf yn falch o ildio, Alun Ffred.

16:55 **Alun Ffred Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

We have heard of Irish players who play for Ireland in the international short game, but then aspire to play for England and Wales at the international levels. Would that not be possible under our new rules?

Rydym wedi clywed am chwaraewyr yn Iwerddon sy'n chwarae dros Iwerddon yn y gêm fer ryngwladol, ond yna'n dyheu am gael chwarae dros Gymru a Lloegr ar lefelau rhyngwladol. Oni fyddai hynny'n bosibl o dan ein rheolau newydd?

16:56 **Peter Black** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Ireland is starting from a different point, is it not, really? Ireland is not part of the ECB and not part of it in the same way as Wales. It does not have the history that we have got in terms of how we have established cricket in Wales and how that structure has built up. I think that the problem that you have—there are some very genuine fears here—is that if you start to dismantle that structure, you will end up with less than you have now. That is the concern that everybody has, not least about the work that has already been done to attract international fixtures to Wales and the benefits that we have had from having Ashes games here and the highly successful ICC champions trophy fixtures that will be held in Wales. I do not know whether we would continue to get those and I think that those people who are involved in cricket in Wales also fear that we might lose them. Therefore, you would be taking a huge gamble with first-class cricket in Wales in doing this, and unless you can make the case for change—and I do not think that that case has been made—we need to stick with where we are at the moment.

Onid yw Iwerddon yn dechrau o bwynt gwahanol, mewn gwirionedd? Nid yw Iwerddon yn rhan o'r ECB ac nid yw'n rhan ohono yn yr un ffordd â Chymru. Nid oes ganddi'r hanes sydd gennym ni o ran y ffordd rydym wedi sefydlu criced yng Nghymru a'r ffordd y mae'r strwythur hwnnw wedi datblygu. Credaf mai'r broblem sydd gennych—mae rhai pryderon dilys iawn yma—yw, os byddwch yn dechrau datgymalu'r strwythur hwnnw, y bydd gennych lai nag sydd gennych yn awr. Dyna'r pryder sydd gan bawb, yn enwedig ynghylch y gwaith sydd eisoes wedi'i wneud i ddenu gemau rhyngwladol i Gymru a'r buddiannau sydd wedi deillio o gynnal gemau cyfres y Lludw yma a gemau Tlws Pencampwyr hynod lwyddiannus yr ICC a gaiff eu cynnal yng Nghymru. Ni wn a fyddem yn parhau i weld y buddiannau hynny a chredaf fod y bobl hynny sy'n ymwneud â chriced yng Nghymru hefyd yn ofni y gallem eu colli. Felly, byddech yn cymryd gambl enfawr mewn perthynas â chriced dosbarth cyntaf yng Nghymru wrth wneud hyn, ac oni allwch ddadlau dros newid—ac ni chredaf fod hynny wedi'i wneud—mae angen inni ddyfalbarhau gyda'r sefyllfa bresennol.

16:57 **Rhodri Glyn Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Galwaf ar y Gweinidog Diwylliant a Chwaraeon, John Griffiths, i siarad.

I call upon the Minister for Culture and Sport, John Griffiths, to speak.

16:57 **John Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Y Gweinidog Diwylliant a Chwaraeon / The Minister for Culture and Sport

May I start by welcoming the Petitions Committee report and the opportunity that it has given to key stakeholders and, indeed, interested parties to voice their views on this matter? Of course, I thank Members for their contributions to this debate today, which I think has been very lively and shows that Wales takes its sport seriously, which was reflected here among Assembly Members. What we heard today, in the different views expressed, very much reflects the views and the evidence taken by the Petitions Committee. There is a real passion for cricket in Wales, which is very good to see. There are different views around. We heard them expressed not only by Members from different parties today, but by Members from within the same party, with Andrew R.T. Davies having a very different view to his colleague Mohammed Asghar—

Hoffwn ddechrau drwy groesawu adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deisebau a'r cyfle y mae wedi ei roi i randdeiliaid allweddol ac, yn wir, bartïon â diddordeb i leisio eu barn ar y mater hwn. Wrth gwrs, rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r Aelodau am eu cyfraniadau at y ddadl hon heddiw, sydd wedi bod yn fywiog iawn yn fy marn i ac sy'n dangos bod Cymru'n cymryd ei chwaraeon o ddifrif, a adlewyrchwyd yma ymysg Aelodau'r Cynulliad. Mae'r hyn a glywsom heddiw, drwy'r safbwyntiau gwahanol a fynegwyd, yn adlewyrchu barn y Pwyllgor Deisebau a'r dystiolaeth a gymerwyd ganddi yn sylweddol. Mae angerdd gwirioneddol dros griced yng Nghymru, sy'n beth braf iawn i'w weld. Mae gan bobl safbwyntiau gwahanol. Clywsom hwy'n cael eu mynegi nid yn unig gan Aelodau o bleidiau gwahanol heddiw, ond gan Aelodau o'r tu mewn i'r un blaid, gydag Andrew R.T. Davies yn arddel barn wahanol iawn i'w gyd-Aelod, Mohammed Asghar—

16:58 **Andrew R.T. Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I think that it is worth noting, on a day when one of our premier sports, rugby, is split down the middle over where the future of Welsh rugby lies—whether it is in an Anglo-French cup or with the Heineken cup—that we have to face the commercial reality of what underpins grass-roots sport and professional sport. Anything that undermines that argument and that reality endangers sports growth here in Wales.

Credaf ei bod yn werth nodi, ar ddiwrnod pan fo un o'n prif gampau, sef rygbi, wedi'i hollti dros ddyfodol rygbi yng Nghymru—boed hynny mewn pencampwriaeth cwpan Eingl-Ffrengig neu ym mhencampwriaeth cwpan Heineken—fod yn rhaid inni wynebu realiti masnachol yr hyn sy'n sail i chwaraeon ar lawr gwlad a chwaraeon proffesiynol. Mae unrhyw beth sy'n tanseilio'r ddadl honno a'r realiti hwnnw yn peryglu twf chwaraeon yma yng Nghymru.

16:58 **John Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I think that those are matters that have been put quite clearly and forcibly by Cricket Wales and Glamorgan County Cricket Club and that are part of the debate that has been reflected here today. However, I think that, potentially, we are on something of a sticky wicket here—[Assembly Members: 'Oh.']—because this is clearly an emotive and complicated issue that divides opinion. However, what we can all agree on, I hope, is that it is very important that the game in Wales continues to provide opportunities for people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds to play for fun and, indeed, to compete at all levels. I think that all of us and all those interested in cricket in Wales would want to see that.

Credaf fod y materion hynny wedi'u cyflwyno'n glir ac yn rymus gan Griced Cymru a Chlwb Criced Morgannwg a'u bod yn rhan o'r ddadl sydd wedi'i chyfleu yma heddiw. Fodd bynnag, credaf, o bosibl, ein bod mewn sefyllfa anodd yn hyn o beth—[Aelodau'r Cynulliad: 'O'.] —oherwydd mae hwn yn amlwg yn fater emosiynol a chymhleth sy'n hollti barn. Fodd bynnag, yr hyn y gallwn i gyd gytuno arno, gobeithio, yw ei bod yn bwysig iawn bod y gêm yng Nghymru yn parhau i gynnig cyfleoedd i bobl o bob oedran, gallu a chefndir i chwarae am hwyl ac, yn wir, gystadlu ar bob lefel. Credaf y byddai pob un ohonom ni a phawb sydd â diddordeb mewn criced yng Nghymru am weld hynny.

16:59 **Eluned Parrott** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

You spoke about equal opportunities for people of all backgrounds, but is it right that as a Welsh woman cricketer, I could have played international cricket for Wales—had I been any good—but as a male cricketer, you could not have?

Soniasoch am gyfle cyfartal i bobl o bob cefndir, ond a yw'n iawn y gallwn i, fel cricedwr benywaidd o Gymru, fod wedi chwarae criced rhyngwladol dros Gymru—petawn i wedi bod o unrhyw werth—ond fel cricedwr gwrywaidd, ni allech fod wedi gwneud hynny?

16:59

John Griffiths [Bywgraffiad] [Biography]

Senedd.tv [Fideo] [Video]

As we heard earlier from William Powell, that is the position for players aged 19 and under and, indeed, women, but it reflects the different structures and the different history of cricket in Wales and the structures that have been built up, as Peter Black went some way to describing earlier. What we do know however, is that it is very much a success story in terms of participation, it, and club membership, having increased rapidly in recent times. That is very much reflected as far as women and girls are concerned, which is, I think, encouraging to all of us.

Fel y clywsom yn gynharach gan William Powell, dyna'r sefyllfa i chwaraewyr 19 oed ac iau, ac, yn wir, i ferched, ond mae'n adlewyrchu'r strwythurau gwahanol a hanes gwahanol criced yng Nghymru a'r strwythurau sydd wedi'u datblygu, fel y disgrifiodd Peter Black i ryw raddau yn gynharach. Gwyddom, fodd bynnag, ei bod yn stori lwyddiant fawr o ran cyfranogiad, ac mae aelodaeth clybiau wedi cynyddu'n gyflym dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Caiff hynny ei adlewyrchu i raddau helaeth mewn perthynas â merched, sy'n galonogol iawn i bob un ohonom yn fy marn i.

I have read the committee's report, obviously, and the supporting evidence, with interest. It is clearly a concern that Welsh representation in the England team might be jeopardised if the move that the petitioners wanted to see is brought about.

Yn amlwg, rwyf wedi darllen adroddiad y pwyllgor, a'r dystiolaeth ategol, â diddordeb. Mae'n amlwg yn bryder y gallai cynrychiolaeth o Gymru yn nhîm Lloegr fod yn y fantol os caiff yr hyn y mae'r deisebwyr am ei weld ei wireddu.

Mohammad Asghar a gododd—

Mohammad Asghar rose—

17:00

John Griffiths [Bywgraffiad] [Biography]

Senedd.tv [Fideo] [Video]

I give way to Mohammad Asghar.

Ildiaf i Mohammad Asghar.

17:00

Mohammad Asghar [Bywgraffiad] [Biography]

Senedd.tv [Fideo] [Video]

Thank you very much, Minister. Just one answer, yes or no. If Ireland and Scotland can play on the world stage, why cannot Wales?

Diolch yn fawr, Weinidog. Dim ond un ateb, ie neu na. Os gall Iwerddon a'r Alban chwarae ar lwyfan y byd, pam na all Cymru?

17:00

John Griffiths [Bywgraffiad] [Biography]

Senedd.tv [Fideo] [Video]

Of course, Wales could. That is why this debate is taking place; that is why it is a lively debate, and why there are a variety of views. However, what we are talking about here is, essentially, the view of Cricket Wales and Glamorgan County Cricket Club, which, as I stated earlier, have been very clear in stating where they think the interests of cricket in Wales lie. Cricket Wales and Glamorgan County Cricket Club work very hard to make sure that we develop talented cricketers and add to the numbers that have played for England, although, again, I accept the points that Members have made in terms of that representation not being as strong as any of us would like to see. Nonetheless, those are factors that need to be borne in mind when we are considering these matters.

Wrth gwrs, gallai Cymru wneud hynny. Dyna pam y mae'r ddadl hon yn digwydd; dyna pam ei bod yn ddadl fywiog, a pham bod amrywiaeth o safbwyntiau. Fodd bynnag, yr hyn yr ydym yn sôn amdano yma, yn ei hanfod, yw barn Criced Cymru a Chlwb Criced Morgannwg, sydd, fel y soniais yn gynharach, wedi bod yn glir iawn wrth nodi buddiannau criced yng Nghymru. Mae Criced Cymru a Chlwb Criced Morgannwg yn gweithio'n galed iawn i sicrhau ein bod yn datblygu cricedwyr talentog ac yn ychwanegu at y niferoedd sydd wedi chwarae dros Loegr, ond, unwaith eto, derbyniaf y pwyntiau a wnaed gan Aelodau nad yw'r gynrychiolaeth wedi bod mor gryf ag y byddem wedi ei ddymuno. Serch hynny, mae angen ystyried y ffactorau wrth ystyried y materion hyn.

We do know, of course, that Wales is certainly not short of sporting talent. As a relatively small nation we fare well in terms of punching above our weight in world sport. We all know about our impressive medal tally in Olympic and Paralympic games in recent years; we are the defending rugby union RBS 6 nations champions, of course, and we have produced a Lions-test-series-winning captain, as well as the world's most valuable footballer. It is an impressive series of statistics, which shows how serious Wales is about sport. The challenge now is to make sure that we achieve at that level in terms of cricket and representation in the England team.

Gwyddom, wrth gwrs, nad yw Cymru'n sicr yn brin o dalent ym myd y campau. Fel cenedl gymharol fach, rydym yn rhagori ar ddisgwyliadau ym maes chwaraeon rhyngwladol. Gwyddom am y nifer drawiadol o fedalau a enillwyd gennym mewn gemau Olympaidd a Pharalympaidd dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf; ni yw pencampwyr pencampwriaeth chwe gwlad yr RBS, wrth gwrs, ac rydym wedi cynhyrchu capten tîm buddugol yng nghyfres y Llewod, yn ogystal â phêl-droediwr mwyaf gwerthfawr y byd. Mae'n gyfres drawiadol o ystadegau, sy'n dangos pa mor bwysig yw chwaraeon yng Nghymru. Yr her yn awr yw sicrhau ein bod yn cyflawni ar y lefel honno o ran criced a chynrychiolaeth yn nhîm Lloegr.

I am also aware of concerns that Members have mentioned about the potential loss of financial support from the England and Wales Cricket Board and from hosting test matches at Sophia Gardens. Clearly, at a time when budgets are tight, every penny invested in sport is important. It is important because sport is a major contributor to the health and wellbeing of our nation through physical activity, and, of course, the big games produce economic benefits as well as raising the profile of our country. So, these are important matters to be borne in mind and not ones that can be lightly dismissed.

Rwyf hefyd yn ymwybodol o'r pryderon y mae Aelodau wedi sôn amdanynt ynghylch y posibilrwydd o golli cymorth ariannol gan Fwrdd Criced Cymru a Lloegr a'r arian a wneir wrth gynnal gemau prawf yng Ngerddi Sophia. Yn amlwg, ar adeg pan fo cyllidebau'n dynn, mae pob ceiniog a fuddsoddir mewn chwaraeon yn bwysig. Mae'n bwysig am fod chwaraeon yn un o'r prif ffactorau sy'n cyfrannu at iechyd a lles ein cenedl drwy weithgarwch corfforol, ac, wrth gwrs, mae'r gemau mawr yn cynhyrchu buddiannau economaidd yn ogystal â chodi proffil ein gwlad. Felly, mae'r rhain yn faterion pwysig i'w cadw mewn cof, ac nid yn rhai y gellir eu diystyru'n ysgafn.

Cricket Wales, of course, works very closely with Glamorgan County Cricket Club to develop our grass roots and to nurture and support our talented cricketers. At the base of the sports development pyramid, cricket is thriving. As I mentioned earlier, we have seen substantial increases in membership; that applies to junior and senior clubs. The number of junior girls' memberships has doubled. Cricket Wales has increased the number of coaches and officials by 100% since 2006, and we now have 22 community coaches working in all of our local authority areas to develop opportunities for school and club cricket. I know that many Members here will be familiar with that infrastructure and the opportunities that it brings. At the top of the pyramid, we have had success in the women's and girls' games with Newport Cricket Club becoming ECB's senior women's and under-13s champions. So, there is notable success under the current structure. Those successes have been achieved because of the close working relationship between Glamorgan County Cricket Club, Cricket Wales and the England and Wales Cricket Board. In fact, cricket is one of those sports that are helping us to achieve our aspirations for sport in Wales, to get every child hooked on sport for life, and to create a nation of champions.

Mae Criced Cymru, wrth gwrs, yn gweithio'n agos iawn gyda Chlwb Criced Morgannwg i ddatblygu criced ar lawr gwlad a meithrin a chefnogi ein cricedwyr talentog. Ar waelod y pyramid datblygu chwaraeon, mae criced yn ffynnu. Fel y soniais yn gynharach, rydym wedi gweld cynnydd sylweddol mewn aelodaeth; sy'n berthnasol i glybiau iau a hŷn. Mae aelodaeth merched iau wedi dyblu. Mae Criced Cymru wedi cynyddu nifer yr hyfforddwyr a'r swyddogion 100% ers 2006, ac mae gennym bellach 22 o hyfforddwyr cymunedol sy'n gweithio ym mhob un o'n hardaloedd awdurdodau lleol i ddatblygu cyfleoedd ar gyfer criced mewn ysgolion a chlybiau. Gwn y bydd llawer o Aelodau yma yn gyfarwydd â'r seilwaith hwnnw a'r cyfleoedd sy'n deillio ohono. Ar frig y pyramid, rydym wedi gweld llwyddiant mewn gemau i fenywod a merched gyda thîm merched hŷn a thîm dan 13 oed Clwb Criced Casnewydd yn dod yn bencampwyr yr ECB. Felly, gwelwyd llwyddiant amlwg o dan y strwythur presennol. Cyflawnwyd y llwyddiannau hynny oherwydd y gydberthynas waith agos rhwng Clwb Criced Morgannwg, Criced Cymru a Bwrdd Criced Cymru a Lloegr. Yn wir, mae criced yn un o'r chwaraeon hynny sy'n ein helpu i gyflawni ein dyheadau ar gyfer chwaraeon yng Nghymru, i feithrin diddordeb pob plentyn mewn chwaraeon am oes, ac i greu cenedl o bencampwyr.

17:04

Rhun ap Iorwerth Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Will you take an intervention?

A wnewch chi dderbyn ymyriad?

17:04

John Griffiths Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I will.

Gwnaf.

17:04

Rhun ap Iorwerth Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I will be very brief. I welcome the fact that you have it as an aspiration that we improve the quality of cricket in Wales, and I say that as a former member of Glamorgan County Cricket Club. However, I think that it is a terrible example to set young people that we do something only if we are likely to win. Nevertheless, is it an aspiration of yours that, if we come up to the level where we are as competitive as some of the major test sides, we will then take the step to become a Welsh national cricketing nation?

Byddaf yn fyr iawn. Croesawaf y ffaith ei bod yn ddyhead gennych i wella ansawdd criced yng Nghymru, a dywedaf hynny fel cyn-aelod o Glwb Criced Morgannwg. Fodd bynnag, credaf ei bod yn esiampl ofnadwy i'w gosod i bobl ifanc mai dim ond os ydym yn debygol o ennill y byddwn yn gwneud rhywbeth. Serch hynny, a yw'n ddyhead gennych, os byddwn yn codi i lefel lle rydym mor gystadleuol â rhai o'r prif dimau prawf, y byddwn wedyn yn cymryd y cam i ddod yn genedl criced genedlaethol?

17:05 **John Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv
Fideo Video

It is not my position or the Welsh Government's position that we take cricket forward in Wales only on the basis of winning. Obviously, we want to succeed, and succeed at all levels. However, we are very much about wide, grass-roots participation. What we say is that there are considerable strengths in the existing structure that bring a substantial amount of funding that is used for that wider, grass-roots participation, and is about playing for the health and wellbeing benefits, the fun and enjoyment, as well as success and achievement in those ways. So, cricket is about getting children hooked on sport. It is one peg to hang that on. We have a very supportive and committed volunteer base in Wales that is about a legacy for the next generation, which, again, stands us in very good stead.

Nid fy mwriad i na bwriad Llywodraeth Cymru yw datblygu criced yng Nghymru dim ond ar sail ennill. Yn amlwg, rydym yn awyddus i lwyddo, a gwneud hynny ar bob lefel. Fodd bynnag, ein nod yw sicrhau cyfranogiad eang ar lawr gwlad. Yr hyn yr ydym yn ei ddweud yw bod cryfderau sylweddol yn y strwythur presennol sy'n dod â swm sylweddol o arian a ddefnyddir ar gyfer y cyfranogiad ehangach hwnnw ar lawr gwlad, ac sy'n ymwneud â chwarae oherwydd y manteision iechyd a lles, yr hwyl a'r mwynhad, yn ogystal â llwyddiant a chyflawniad yn y ffyrdd hynny. Felly, mae criced yn ymwneud â meithrin diddordeb plant mewn chwaraeon. Mae gennym sylfaen gefnogol ac ymroddedig iawn o wirfoddolwyr yng Nghymru sy'n ymwneud ag etifeddiaeth ar gyfer y genhedlaeth nesaf, sydd, unwaith eto, yn ein rhoi mewn sefyllfa dda iawn.

To conclude, like many other sports across Wales, cricket is challenged by socio-economic factors and a broader menu of sporting opportunities available to our young people. However, the sport is vibrant and has strong foundations and partnerships that we can grow and nurture in further years. I know about that local grass-roots participation. I still play in a local cricket league—you know, 18 overs on a midweek evening. In fact, I picked up—along with my team-mates—my winner's medal for the Newport second division championship just last week. So, I share the passion of Members. Although we succeeded in that season, I have been playing for decades, and, in many of those seasons, we have not won trophies. So, it is not all about winning.

I gloi, fel llawer o gampau eraill ledled Cymru, caiff criced ei herio gan ffactorau economaidd-gymdeithasol a'r arlwy ehangach o gyfleoedd sydd ar gael i'n pobl ifanc ym maes chwaraeon. Fodd bynnag, mae'n gamp fywiog sydd â sylfeini a phartneriaethau cryf y gallwn eu datblygu a'u meithrin dros y blynyddoedd. Rwy'n ymwybodol o'r cyfranogiad lleol hwnnw ar lawr gwlad. Rwy'n dal i chwarae mewn cynghrair criced lleol—fe wyddoch, 18 pelawd ar noson ganol wythnos. Yn wir, cefais fy medal—ynghyd â'm cyd-chwaraewyr—ar gyfer pencampwriaeth ail gynghrair Casnewydd—yr wythnos diwethaf. Felly, rhannaf angerdd yr Aelodau. Er inni lwyddo y tymor hwnnw, rwyf wedi bod yn chwarae ers degawdau, ac, mewn llawer o'r tymhorau hynny, nid ydym wedi ennill unrhyw dlysau. Felly, nid ennill sy'n bwysig.

17:07 **Rhodri Glyn Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv
Fideo Video

Llongyfarchiadau, Weinidog, ar eich medal. Fodd bynnag, mae'n ddrwg gen i ddweud, er ein bod wedi caniatáu cryn dipyn o amser i chi, mae eich amser chi ar ben.

Congratulations, Minister, on your medal. However, I am sorry to say, that although we have allowed you a little leeway, your time is now up.

17:07 **John Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv
Fideo Video

I conclude by saying that, with regard to the committee's report, it is a matter upon which the Welsh Government will continue to play a straight bat. [Assembly Members: 'Oh.'] We will support the motion to note the report. We remain of the opinion that whether or not a Welsh international cricket team is established is largely a matter for the relevant cricketing authorities.

Hoffwn gloi drwy ddweud, o ran adroddiad y pwyllgor, mae'n fater y bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn parhau i fod yn glir yn ei gylch. [Aelodau Cynulliad: 'O.'] Byddwn yn cefnogi'r cynnig i nodi'r adroddiad. Rydym yn parhau o'r farn mai mater i'r awdurdodau criced perthnasol i raddau helaeth yw p'un a ddylid sefydlu tîm criced cenedlaethol i Gymru ai peidio.

17:07 **Rhodri Glyn Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv
Fideo Video

Diolch yn fawr iawn, Weinidog. Byddai wedi bod yn drasiedi i golli'r cyfraniad olaf hwnnw. Galwaf ar Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau i ymateb i'r ddadl—William Powell.

Thank you very much, Minister. It would have been a tragedy to have missed that final contribution. I call on the Chair of the Petitions Committee to reply to the debate—William Powell.

17:08 **William Powell** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv
Fideo Video

Diolch o galon, gadeirydd.

Thank you, chair.

I would like to thank all colleagues who have contributed to what has been one of the liveliest debates on any committee report that I can recall in the last couple of years. I think that that underscores—[Assembly Members: 'Oh.'] That was not even in the script. [Laughter.] That underscores the importance and passion that this debate engenders. It also, as we have seen, creates some interesting alliances and, indeed, some quite extraordinary bedfellows.

Hoffwn ddiolch i'r holl gyd-Aelodau sydd wedi cyfrannu at un o'r dadleuon mwyaf bywiog ar unrhyw adroddiad gan bwyllgor y gallaf ei chofio dros yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf. Credaf fod hynny'n dangos—[Aelodau'r Cynulliad: '.O.'] Nid oedd hynny hyd yn oed yn rhan o'r sgript. [Chwerthin.] Mae hynny'n dangos pwysigrwydd y ddadl hon a'r angerdd y mae'n ei greu. Mae hefyd yn creu, fel y gwelsom, rai cynghreiriau diddorol ac, yn wir, rai cymheiriaid eithaf anghyffredin.

To move on to some of my colleagues' contributions, Bethan Jenkins, a member of the committee, in her contribution, opened her mailbag and shared with us some of the approaches that she has had on this matter in recent days and weeks. She also looked at a number of examples elsewhere in the British isles that could serve as a model for Wales, some of which I also referred to in my remarks. She also considered the implications of Twenty20 cricket and asked some probing questions about the business model of Glamorgan cricket club. She expressed confidence that there would and could be another way, and that that would allow for a Welsh cricket team. Mike Hedges, in a very spirited contribution that provoked more interventions than I can recall being made in recent times on a single speech, spoke of the value of major test cricket. He expressed fears about the sustainability of Glamorgan, which I had also aired previously. He also made sure that Colwyn Bay and Abergavenny cricket was very much on the map, and that is important. He expressed concern about the potential harm, as he saw it, that a Welsh cricket team could engender. Indeed, he spoke warmly about some of the Welsh cricketing talent that has been nurtured and has contributed to British cricket. He ended, after a number of spirited contributions and interventions from Alun Ffred, Llyr Gruffydd and Andrew R.T. Davies, with the phrase 'better together', which we know from another arena.

Er mwyn symud ymlaen at gyfraniadau rhai o'm cyd-Aelodau, agorodd Bethan Jenkins, aelod o'r pwyllgor, ei sach bost yn ei chyfraniad, a rhannodd gyda ni rai o'r ymagweddau y mae wedi'u derbyn ar y mater hwn dros y diwrnodau a'r wythnosau diwethaf. Edrychodd hefyd ar nifer o enghreifftiau mewn mannau eraill yn ynysoedd Prydain a allai fod yn fodel i Gymru, y cyfeiriais innau at rai ohonynt yn fy sylwadau. Ystyriodd hefyd oblygiadau criced Twenty20 a gofynnodd rai cwestiynau treiddgar am fodel busnes clwb criced Morgannwg. Roedd yn hyderus y byddai ac y gallai fod ffordd arall, ac y byddai hynny'n caniatáu ar gyfer tîm criced cenedlaethol. Soniodd Mike Hedges, mewn cyfraniad hwyliog iawn a ysgogodd fwy o ymyriadau nag y gallaf eu cofio yn cael eu gwneud yn ddiweddar mewn un araith, am werth y prif gemau criced prawf. Mynegodd bryderon ynghylch cynaliadwyedd Morgannwg, yr oeddwn hefyd wedi'u crybwyll yn flaenorol. Sicrhaodd hefyd fod criced Bae Colwyn a'r Fenni yn amlwg iawn ar y map, ac mae hynny'n bwysig. Mynegodd bryder ynghylch y niwed posibl, yn ei farn ef, y gallai tîm criced cenedlaethol ei wneud. Yn wir, siaradodd yn gynnes am rai o'r talentau criced sydd wedi'u meithrin yng Nghymru ac sydd wedi cyfrannu at griced ym Mhrydain. Daeth i ben, ar ôl nifer o gyfraniadau bywiog ac ymyriadau gan Alun Ffred, Llŷr Gruffydd ac Andrew R.T. Davies, drwy ddweud ein bod yn gweithio'n well gyda'n gilydd.

There was a fascinating and really passionate contribution from Mohammad Asghar, going back to his roots in more than one sense. He drew on the unique insights that he has into cricket and into the role it plays in the Indian subcontinent. He spoke about the vital role that cricket can play in building communities, in building understanding and, indeed, in contributing to peace. Indeed, he echoed some of the views that Bethan Jenkins had expressed previously about confidence that a Welsh cricket team could be financially sustainable and could be successful in this nation.

Cafwyd cyfraniad diddorol a hynod angerddol gan Mohammad Asghar, a aeth yn ôl i'w wreiddiau mewn mwy nag un ystyr. Soniodd am ei ddealltwriaeth unigryw o griced a'r rôl y mae'n ei chwarae yn is-gyfandir India. Siaradodd am y rôl hanfodol y gall criced ei chwarae o ran adeiladu cymunedau, meithrin dealltwriaeth ac, yn wir, gyfrannu at heddwch. Yn wir, adleisiodd rai o'r sylwadau a fynegwyd gan Bethan Jenkins yn flaenorol am hyder y gallai tîm criced cenedlaethol fod yn gynaliadwy yn ariannol ac y gallai fod yn llwyddiannus yn y wlad hon.

Peter Black spoke again of the benefits of major cricketing events and the importance of their contribution to the game and to its future. Indeed, there was an interesting degree of overlap between his views and those expressed previously by his Swansea colleague Mike Hedges about the potential danger of a loss of cricketing fixtures, which could be detrimental to the standards of the game. In his intervention on Peter's contribution, Rhun ap Iorwerth raised concerns about Welsh cricket being relegated, in effect, to the status of county level. Clearly, it is an issue about which he feels strongly, as seen in that and other interventions.

Siaradodd Peter Black unwaith eto am fuddiannau digwyddiadau criced mawr a phwysigrwydd eu cyfraniad at y gêm ac at ei dyfodol. Yn wir, gwelwyd gorgyffwrdd diddorol rhwng ei sylwadau ef a'r rhai a fynegwyd yn flaenorol gan ei gyd-Aelod dros Abertawe, Mike Hedges, am y perygl posibl o golli gemau criced, a allai gael effaith andywol ar safonau'r gêm. Yn ei ymyriad yn ystod cyfraniad Peter, cododd Rhun ap Iorwerth bryderon y câi criced cenedlaethol ei ddiraddio, mewn gwirionedd, i statws lefel sirol. Yn amlwg, mae'n fater y mae'n teimlo'n gryf yn ei gylch, fel y gwelwyd yn yr ymyriad hwnnw ac mewn ymyriadau eraill.

I am very grateful to the Minister, not just for outing his own cricketing career, which some of us were not aware of, but also for echoing the passion that we have heard around this Chamber for the future of cricket here in Wales. Whether that involves in the short to medium term a Welsh cricket team or not is something that we have not resolved today, but what we have done, in seeing the quality and range of arguments that have been marshalled here, is to see that this debate is not going to go away and, in fact, should not go away. I am very pleased to have played some small part, along with my committee colleagues, and all of those who have contributed to the airing and consideration of this petition, in that process. I think that it is quite clear that this is a matter that raises passions and brings out very interesting and nuanced arguments on both sides. I have immensely enjoyed today's debate, and I am very grateful to all who contributed to it. Diolch yn fawr.

Rwy'n ddiolchgar iawn i'r Gweinidog, nid yn unig am sôn am ei yrfa griced ei hun, nad oedd rhai ohonom yn ymwybodol ohoni, ond hefyd am adleisio'r angerdd rydym wedi'i glywed o amgylch y Siambr hon dros ddyfodol criced yma yng Nghymru. Mae p'un a yw hynny'n cynnwys, yn y tymor byr i ganolig, dîm criced cenedlaethol ai peidio, yn rhywbeth nad ydym wedi'i ddatrys heddiw, ond yr hyn yr ydym wedi ei wneud, wrth weld ansawdd ac ystod y dadleuon a ddidolwyd yma, yw sylweddoli nad yw'r ddadl hon yn mynd i ddiflannu, ac, yn wir, ni ddylai wneud hynny. Rwy'n falch iawn o fod wedi chwarae rhyw ran fach, ynghyd â'm cyd-Aelodau ar y pwyllgor, a phawb sydd wedi cyfrannu at wyntyllu ac ystyried y ddeiseb hon, yn y broses honno. Credaf ei bod yn eithaf amlwg bod hwn yn fater sy'n codi angerdd ac yn ysgogi dadleuon diddorol a chynnil iawn ar y ddwy ochr. Rwyf wedi mwynhau'r ddadl heddiw yn fawr iawn, ac rwy'n ddiolchgar iawn i bawb a gyfrannodd ati. Diolch yn fawr.

17:12 **Rhodri Glyn Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Y cynnig felly yw nodi adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deisebau. A oes gwrthwynebiad? Nid oes gwrthwynebiad. Felly, mae'r cynnig wedi cael ei gytuno yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.

The proposal therefore is to note the Petition Committee's report. Does any Member object? There is no objection. Therefore, the motion is agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Derbyniwyd y cynnig yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.

Motion agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 17:12.

The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 17:12.

Dadl y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig: Addysg 8-14

Detholwyd y gwelliannau canlynol: gwelliannau 1 a 5 yn enw Elin Jones, a gwelliannau 2, 3, 4 a 6 yn enw Aled Roberts.

Welsh Conservatives Debate: 8-14 Education

The following amendments have been selected: amendments 1 and 5 in the name of Elin Jones, and amendments 2, 3, 4 and 6 in the name of Aled Roberts.

Cynnig NDM5341 William Graham

Motion NDM5341 William Graham

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Yn cydnabod bod bylchau cyrhaeddiad mewn addysg yng Nghymru, sy'n dal grwpiau gwahanol o blant yn ôl;

1. Recognises there are attainment gaps within Welsh education, which are holding back different groups of children;

2. Yn credu y gall y rhai hynny nad ydynt yn cyrraedd eu potensial llawn yn aml deimlo wedi'u difreinio, a gall hyn arwain at broblemau yn ddiweddarach mewn bywyd;

2. Believes those who are not achieving their full potential can often feel disenfranchised, and this can lead to problems in later life;

3. Yn cydnabod ymhellach bod symud rhwng addysg gynradd ac uwchradd yn newid mawr ar gyfnod sydd eisoes yn anodd o ran datblygiad plentyn; a

3. Further recognises the move between primary and secondary education is a great upheaval at an already difficult period of a child's development; and

4. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau nad oes tarfu ar ddysgu yn ystod y cyfnod hwn drwy weithredu strategaeth addysg 8-14 oed gadarn a phenodol.

4. Calls on the Welsh Government to ensure learning is not disrupted during this period by implementing a robust and discrete 8-14 education strategy.

17:13 **Angela Burns** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I move the motion tabled in the name of William Graham.

Cynigiaf y cynnig yn enw William Graham.

I sincerely trust that Members here will not find too much to quarrel with in this motion. After all, we have debated these issues at various times, here in the Chamber and in various committees, in debates that have sought to propose solutions to this perennial problem. The problem is one of too many young students being held up, lost and disappearing out of education. Nevertheless, this is a debate worth having, and worth having again, until we manage to retain in a constructive way the overwhelming majority of our young people within the education system, and until we manage to ensure that our children are not being held back by poverty, lack of opportunity, prejudice and, sometimes, by their own folly. We must not stop raising this issue until we know that every child has the opportunity to be the best they can be.

Gobeithio'n fawr nad oes rhyw lawer yn y cynnig hwn y bydd Aelodau yma yn anghytuno ag ef. Wedi'r cyfan, rydym wedi trafod y materion hyn ar wahanol adegau, yma yn y Siambr ac mewn gwahanol bwyllgorau, mewn dadleuon sydd wedi ceisio cynnig atebion i'r broblem hon sy'n codi dro ar ôl tro. Y broblem yw bod gormod o fyfyrwyr ifanc yn cael eu dal yn ôl, yn cael eu colli ac yn diflannu o fyd addysg. Serch hynny, mae hon yn ddadl sy'n werth ei chael, ac yn werth ei chael eto, hyd nes y llwyddwn i gadw'r mwyafrif llethol o'n pobl ifanc o fewn y system addysg mewn modd adeiladol, a hyd nes y byddwn yn llwyddo i sicrhau nad yw ein plant yn cael eu dal yn ôl gan dlodi, diffyg cyfleoedd, rhagfarn ac, weithiau, eu ffolineb eu hunain. Rhaid inni beidio â rhoi'r gorau i godi'r mater hwn hyd nes y byddwn yn gwybod bod pob plentyn yn cael y cyfle i wneud cystal ag y gallant.

In all the debates tabled by the Welsh Conservatives this term, we have attempted to break the mould of the set-piece tribalism that grips this place all too frequently. We have sought, and on the odd occasion found, discursive debate. We have put forward ideas on a variety of topics connected to ensuring that our education system is fit for the twenty-first century and beyond. We have put forward ideas for how we might address the issue of those not in education, employment or training. We have put forward ideas for how we might combine vocational and academic learning, and for how we might create a more fluid system that enables a student to find the right fit at the right time for themselves. We have put forward ideas for reaching out and rescuing those with special educational needs, those in pupil referral units and those who refuse to darken the door of any school. While, Minister, I do not expect the Government, or other parties, to necessarily agree with our ideas, we have been a constructive opposition, we have added grist to the mill, and even if you have not agreed with our strategies, the ensuing debates will have honed your position and thrown into sharp relief the gaps in your policies. We believe there is a significant gap in the lack of a clear, robust and discrete strategy for the children within our schools who are aged 8 to 14.

Yn yr holl ddadleuon a gyflwynwyd gan y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig y tymor hwn, rydym wedi ceisio torri ar draws patrwm y teyrngarwch llwythol a welir yn llawer rhy aml yn y lle hwn. Rydym wedi ceisio, ac ar ambell achlysur, wedi llwyddo i gael dadl gynhwysfawr. Rydym wedi cyflwyno syniadau ar amrywiaeth o bynciau sy'n gysylltiedig â sicrhau bod ein system addysg yn addas ar gyfer yr unfed ganrif ar hugain a thu hwnt. Rydym wedi cyflwyno syniadau ynglŷn â sut y gallem fynd i'r afael â phroblem y rhai nad ydynt mewn addysg, cyflogaeth na hyfforddiant. Rydym wedi cyflwyno syniadau ynglŷn â sut y gallem gyfuno dysgu galwedigaethol ac academaidd, a sut y gallem greu system fwy hyblyg sy'n galluogi myfyrwyr i ddod o hyd i'r cwrs iawn ar yr adeg iawn iddynt. Rydym wedi cyflwyno syniadau i estyn llaw ac achub y rhai sydd ag anghenion addysgol arbennig, y rhai mewn unedau cyfeirio disgyblion a'r rhai sy'n gwrthod tywyllu drws unrhyw ysgol. Weinidog, er nad wyf yn disgwyl i'r Llywodraeth, na phleidiau eraill, gytuno â'n syniadau o reidrwydd, rydym wedi bod yn wrthblaid adeiladol, rydym wedi ychwanegu mâl at y felin, a hyd yn oed os nad ydych wedi cytuno â'n strategaethau, bydd y dadleuon a ddilynodd wedi peri i chi fireinio'ch barn ac wedi tynnu sylw at y bylchau yn eich polisïau. Credwn fod bwlch sylweddol yn y diffyg strategaeth glir, gadarn ac ar wahân ar gyfer y plant 8 i 14 oed yn ein hysgolion.

Minister, I absolutely accept that, in yesterday's statement and in the consultation document on the national curriculum, there is an opportunity to start to address that gap. Of course, students are being educated throughout these years, but unlike the foundation phase, with its distinct ethos and pedagogy, and unlike the 14-19 pathways, with their emphasis on getting to grips with developing appropriate skills for the future, the years between 8 and 14 appear to lack sufficient focus. Yes, the national curriculum is being delivered, and yes, the transition between primary and secondary phases of education does occur, but too much else is not happening. We are not retaining the children who have come from chaotic backgrounds—the children whose parents have had to be supported almost from day 1, and the children who have need of the pastoral care of a more intimate school setting. We are not keeping pace with the development of children with additional learning needs as their cohort streams ahead of them. In mental and social development this group of children is left behind, with insufficient strategies within each school to address their differing needs.

Weinidog, llwyr dderbyniaf, yn y datganiad ddoe ac yn y ddogfen ymgynghori ar y cwricwlwm cenedlaethol, fod cyfle i ddechrau cau'r bwlch hwnnw. Wrth gwrs, mae myfyrwyr yn cael eu haddysgu trwy gydol y blynyddoedd hyn, ond yn wahanol i'r cyfnod sylfaen, gyda'i ethos a'i addysgeg unigryw, ac yn wahanol i'r llwybrau 14-19, gyda'u pwyslais ar fynd i'r afael â datblygu sgiliau priodol ar gyfer y dyfodol, ymddengys bod diffyg ffocws ar y blynyddoedd rhwng 8 a 14. Ydy, mae'r cwricwlwm cenedlaethol yn cael ei gyflwyno, ac ydy, mae'r cyfnod pontio rhwng cyfnodau cynradd ac uwchradd addysg yn digwydd ond mae llawer gormod nad yw'n digwydd. Nid ydym yn cadw'r plant sydd wedi dod o gefndir anhrefnus—y plant y bu'n rhaid i'w rhieni gael eu cefnogi o'r diwrnod cyntaf bron, a'r plant y mae angen gofal bugeiliol lleoliad ysgol mwy cartrefol arnynt. Nid ydym yn ymateb i ddatblygiad plant ag anghenion dysgu ychwanegol wrth i'w carfan garlamu o'u blaenau. O ran datblygiad meddyliol a chymdeithasol mae'r grŵp hwn o blant yn cael ei adael ar ôl, gyda strategaethau annigonol o fewn pob ysgol i fynd i'r afael â'u hanghenion gwahanol.

We are not recognising that there is an imbalance in how to reach out to children of different genders, nor indeed the need for schools to provide a mix of role models. This is where too many children with behavioural problems start their frantic fight with the system, and where disengagement and rebellion set in.

Nid ydym yn cydnabod bod anghydbwysedd o ran sut y dylid cyrraedd plant o wahanol ryw, nac yn wir yr angen i ysgolion gynnig cymysgedd o fodelau rôl. Dyma lle mae gormod o blant sydd â phroblemau ymddygiad yn dechrau eu brwydr ffyrnig â'r system, a lle mae ymddieithrio a gwrthryfel yn ymwreiddio.

The Welsh Conservatives have long advocated a middle-phase strategy that recognises the difficult transitions that face pupils as they leave primary school and move to secondary school. This is borne out by a welter of empirical knowledge and endless grim statistics. For example, it is worth noting that the number of exclusions from schools jumps up markedly from year 6, the final year of primary, to year 7, the first year of secondary. Is this because, as Estyn points out, too many arrive in secondary school with age-inappropriate numeracy and literacy skills, so they cannot cope with the work and start to cause trouble or not turn up? Is it because teachers in secondary school are more focused on their particular subject, have a larger cohort to deal with, and lower tolerance levels of the troublemaker? Is it because the child is simply emotionally unprepared, or simply scared and switches off?

Ers amser mae'r Ceidwadwyr Cymreig wedi argymell strategaeth cyfnod canol sy'n cydnabod y cyfnodau pontio anodd sy'n wynebu disgyblion wrth iddynt adael yr ysgol gynradd a symud i'r ysgol uwchradd. Ategir hyn gan lwyth o wybodaeth empirig ac ystadegau llwm diddiwedd. Er enghraifft, mae'n werth nodi bod nifer y gwaharddiadau o'r ysgol yn cynyddu'n sydyn o flwyddyn 6, sef y flwyddyn olaf yn yr ysgol gynradd, i flwyddyn 7, y flwyddyn gyntaf yn yr ysgol uwchradd. Ai'r rheswm dros hyn, fel y noda Estyn, yw bod gormod yn cyrraedd yr ysgol uwchradd â sgiliau llythrennedd a rhifedd amhriodol i'w hoedran ac, felly na allant ymdopi â'r gwaith a'u bod yn dechrau achosi trafferth neu'n peidio â dod i'r ysgol? Ai'r rheswm yw bod athrawon yn yr ysgol uwchradd yn canolbwyntio mwy ar eu pwnc penodol, yn gorfod ymdrin â charfan fwy o blant, ac yn llai tebygol o oddef plentyn drygionus? Ai'r rheswm yw bod y plentyn yn amharod yn emosiynol, neu, yn syml, yn ofnus ac yn mynd i'w gragen?

We cannot afford to let children slip through education. It is irresponsible and naive to think that, by not having an 8 to 14 strategy, and by ignoring this crucial phase in a child's development, they will somehow succeed in the latter part of their school career. If a child loses focus, and if we lose focus on that child, they may be more likely to end up not in education, employment or training, and in too many instances experience more serious social problems.

Ni allwn fforddio gadael i blant lithro drwy addysg. Mae'n anghyfrifol ac yn naïf meddwl, drwy beidio â llunio strategaeth 8 i 14, a thrwy anwybyddu y cam hollbwysig hwn yn natblygiad plentyn, y byddant, rywsut neu'i gilydd, yn llwyddo yn y rhan olaf o'u gyrfa ysgol. Os bydd plentyn yn colli ffocws, ac os collwn ninnau ffocws ar y plentyn hwnnw, efallai y byddant yn fwy tebygol o beidio â bod mewn addysg, cyflogaeth na hyfforddiant, ac mewn gormod o achosion byddant yn cael problemau cymdeithasol mwy difrifol.

One of the grim statistics is that violence and isolation among young men is becoming more prevalent. Studies have shown that young boys who get left behind in school, who may also be from socially deprived backgrounds, can find themselves out of work later in life and disconnected from society.

Un o'r ystadegau llwm yw bod trais ac unigrwydd ymysg dynion ifanc yn dod yn fwy cyffredin. Dengys astudiaethau fod bechgyn ifanc sy'n cael eu gadael ar ôl yn yr ysgol, a all fod hefyd o gefndiroedd difreintiedig yn gymdeithasol, yn gallu cael eu hunain yn ddi-waith yn ddiweddarach mewn bywyd ac yn ymddieithrio oddi wrth gymdeithas.

There is a growing debate about the behaviours of some disengaged young men and their propensity for a troubled life, but an evident truth must be that if we stop them from disengaging, if we recognise their need for a different sort of curriculum, we will help to prevent that situation escalating. I was very taken with the points that Christine Chapman raised in yesterday's statement on the national curriculum.

Mae dadl gynyddol ynglŷn ag ymddygiad rhai dynion ifanc sydd wedi ymddieithrio a'u tueddiad i fyw bywyd cythryblus, ond mae'n wirionedd amlwg, os ydym yn eu hatal rhag ymddieithrio, os ydym yn cydnabod bod angen gwahanol fath o gwricwlwm arnynt, y byddwn yn helpu i atal y sefyllfa rhag gwaethygu. Roedd y pwyntiau a godwyd gan Christine Chapman yn y datganiad ddoe am y cwricwlwm cenedlaethol wedi gwneud argraff fawr arnaf.

There is a welter of research in the public domain that demonstrates clearly how differently young boys operate from young girls, and I believe that we should examine that research carefully and allow it to inform our views on educational provision during this critical phase. The Welsh Conservatives believe that a middle phase would bridge the gap in pastoral care that so many children need and which is again supported by evidence. We are of the view that children could benefit from that education strategy while introducing some subject-based teaching. Teaching given at primary school, as you well know, where a pupil is known by an individual class teacher, is often lost when a child goes to 'big school'.

Mae llwyth o ymchwil gyhoeddedig sy'n dangos yn glir pa mor wahanol i ferched ifanc y mae bechgyn ifanc yn gweithredu, a chredaf y dylem ystyried yr ymchwil honno'n ofalus a'i defnyddio i lywio ein barn ar ddarpariaeth addysgol yn ystod y cyfnod hollbwysig hwn. Cred y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig y byddai cyfnod canol yn pontio'r bwlch yn y gofal bugeiliol sydd ei angen ar gynifer o blant ac sydd unwaith eto wedi'i ategu gan dystiolaeth. Rydym o'r farn y gallai plant elwa o'r strategaeth addysg honno tra'n cyflwyno rhywfaint o addysgu sy'n seiliedig ar bwnc. Mae addysgu yn yr ysgol gynradd, fel y gwyddoch yn dda, pan fydd athro dosbarth unigol yn adnabod disgybl, yn cael ei golli yn aml pan fydd plentyn yn mynd i'r 'ysgol fawr'.

The secondary school system currently focuses on specialist subjects, and pupils are expected to find their way around vast schools carrying their desk on their shoulders and being in proximity to 16, 17 and 18-year-olds. There are a number of potential problems with this situation. Given that children go straight into being taught by many different teachers in year 7, it is more likely that their struggles will not be noticed and thereby resolved. Then there is the issue of emotional maturity. We change the world in which a child operates. We expect a change in outlook and behaviour and we expect an ability to cope with unknown parameters at a time when the said child is going through the emotional rollercoaster of puberty. Everything changes and not just the obvious. Their self-esteem and world view of themselves undergoes a massive makeover in the tender years between 10, 11 and 14. They start trying to make the transition from kid to awkward adult. They try out appalling jokes and try to take more part in adult conversations and try to figure out their patterns of acceptability; and let us not forget peer pressure. If you look at any primary school, you will see year 6 pupils happily playing with pupils in year 2 or 3. However, in secondary school those big kids are impossibly remote or sometimes simply scary to a young child. We must bear in mind that a great many of our pupils come from relatively small primary schools into massive secondary schools.

Mae system yr ysgol uwchradd ar hyn o bryd yn canolbwyntio ar bynciau arbenigol, a disgwylir i'r disgyblion ddod o hyd i'w ffordd o gwmpas ysgolion enfawr gan gario eu desg ar eu hysgwyddau ac ymwneud â phobl ifanc 16, 17 a 18 oed. Mae nifer o broblemau a all godi gyda'r sefyllfa hon. O ystyried bod plant yn dechrau cael eu haddysgu gan lawer o wahanol athrawon ar unwaith ym mlwyddyn 7, mae'n fwy tebygol na fydd neb yn sylwi eu bod yn cael trafferthion nac yn eu datrys felly. Yna cyfyd mater aeddfedrwydd emosiynol. Rydym yn newid y byd lle mae plentyn yn gweithredu. Rydym yn disgwyl newid mewn agwedd ac ymddygiad ac rydym yn disgwyl eu bod yn gallu ymdopi â therfynau anhysbys a hynny ar adeg pan honnir bod y plentyn yn mynd drwy gynnwrf emosiynol glasoed. Mae popeth yn newid, ac nid dim ond y pethau amlwg. Mae eu hunan-barch a'r ffordd y maent yn gweld eu hunain yn y byd yn gweddnewid yn y blynyddoedd bregus rhwng 10, 11 a 14. Maent yn dechrau ceisio newid o fod yn blentyn i fod yn oedolyn lletchwith. Maent yn rhoi cynnig ar jôcs ofnadwy ac yn ceisio cymryd mwy o ran yn sgyrsiau oedolion ac yn ceisio dyfalu eu patrymau o dderbynioldeb, ac ni ddylem anghofio pwysau gan gyfoedion. Os ydych yn edrych ar unrhyw ysgol gynradd, byddwch yn gweld disgyblion blwyddyn 6 yn chwarae'n llon â disgyblion ym mlwyddyn 2 neu 3. Fodd bynnag, yn yr ysgol uwchradd mae'r plant mawr hynny yn anhygoel o anodd i glosio atynt neu weithiau maent yn codi braw ar blentyn ifanc. Rhaid inni gadw mewn cof bod llawer iawn o'n disgyblion yn mynd o ysgolion cynradd cymharol fach i ysgolion uwchradd enfawr.

In all of this they are trying to identify themselves and they are beginning to see the outline of their future appearing. We are of the view that a similar style of teaching up to the age of 13 or 14 could allow pupils to become accustomed to learning at a higher level, while still having the security of being the focus of a particular teacher. Students would still learn detailed subject matter, but during these formative years they would consolidate their skills in preparation for the next phase. Students would steadily get used to a more subject-based curriculum.

Yn hyn i gyd maent yn ceisio eu hunaniaeth eu hunain ac maent yn dechrau gweld amlinelliad o'u dyfodol. Rydym o'r farn y gallai dull tebyg o addysgu hyd at 13 neu 14 oed alluogi disgyblion i ymgyfarwyddo â dysgu ar lefel uwch, tra'n dal i brofi'r diogelwch o fod yn ffocws athro penodol. Byddai myfyrwyr yn dal i ddysgu cynnwys pwnc manwl, ond yn ystod y blynyddoedd ffurfiannol hyn byddent yn atgyfnerthu eu sgiliau wrth baratoi ar gyfer y cam nesaf. Byddai myfyrwyr yn raddol ddod i arfer â chwricwlwm sy'n fwy seiliedig ar bwnc.

Minister, I see from the consultation document on the national curriculum your interest in enabling key stage 3 learners to step outside of the curriculum. That is an approach that I would endorse, but I would also encourage you to start earlier with key stage 2, because it is all about engagement. If we can keep them engaged and get these children to read and write well, to have good comprehension skills and appropriate numeracy ability, then they will be better prepared to engage with more formal education.

Weinidog, gwelaf o'r ddogfen ymgynghori ar y cwricwlwm cenedlaethol eich diddordeb mewn galluogi dysgwyr cyfnod allweddol 3 i gamu y tu allan i'r cwricwlwm. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth y byddwn yn ei gefnogi, ond hoffwn hefyd eich annog i ddechrau yn gynharach gyda chyfnod allweddol 2, gan ei fod yn ymwneud ag ymgysylltu. Os gallwn gadw eu diddordeb a chael y plant hyn i ddarllen ac ysgrifennu yn dda, i feithrin sgiliau darllen a deall da a'r gallu rhifedd priodol, yna byddant yn fwy parod i ymgysylltu ag addysg fwy ffurfiol.

Let me give you an example. One of our concerns is that many teachers report that children are unprepared for GCSE learning. Skills such as essay writing are difficult to learn during in-depth teaching. There is also statistical evidence that shows how children tend to fall back in terms of attainment between leaving primary school and going to secondary school. This translates into a significant drop of some 10% of children failing to achieve the expected level between key stages 2 and 3.

Gadewch imi roi enghraifft ichi. Un o'n pryderon yw bod llawer o athrawon yn dweud nad yw plant yn barod ar gyfer dysgu TGAU. Mae sgiliau megis ysgrifennu traethodau yn anodd eu dysgu yn ystod addysgu manwl. Ceir tystiolaeth ystadegol hefyd sy'n dangos sut y mae plant yn tueddu i ddirywio o ran cyrhaeddiad rhwng gadael yr ysgol gynradd a mynd i'r ysgol uwchradd. Mae hyn yn arwain at ostyngiad sylweddol o tua 10% o blant sy'n methu â chyrraedd y lefel ddisgwyliedig rhwng cyfnodau allweddol 2 a 3.

Another concern we have is how the use of the Welsh language drops between primary and secondary level. An interesting study comparing Scots Gaelic with Welsh found that, at each level, 40% of year 6 primary school students used mainly English out of Welsh lessons, but by year 7 at secondary school this had gone up to 73%. We are of the view that focus has been lost in this key area. We are not alone. As far back as 2009, there was a task and finish group on the middle years, chaired by Professor David Egan. Jane Hutt, the then Minister for education, said that the Welsh Government would recognise the 8-14 pathway as a distinct phase of education. Jane Hutt's statements said:

Pryder arall sydd gennym yw sut y mae'r defnydd o'r iaith Gymraeg yn gostwng rhwng y lefel gynradd a'r lefel uwchradd. Canfu astudiaeth ddiddorol a oedd yn cymharu Gaeleg yr Alban â Chymraeg, ar bobl lefel, fod 40% o fyfyrwyr ysgol gynradd blwyddyn 6 yn defnyddio Saesneg yn bennaf y tu allan i wersi Cymraeg, ond erbyn blwyddyn 7 yn yr ysgol uwchradd bod hyn wedi cynyddu i 73%. Yn ein barn ni mae ffocws wedi cael ei golli yn y maes allweddol hwn. Nid ni yn unig sy'n credu hynny. Cyn belled yn ôl â 2009, cafwyd grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen ar y blynyddoedd canol, o dan gadeiryddiaeth yr Athro David Egan. Dywedodd Jane Hutt, y Gweinidog addysg ar y pryd, y byddai Llywodraeth Cymru yn cydnabod y llwybr 8-14 fel cyfnod penodol o addysg. Nododd datganiadau Jane Hutt:

'After our progress with the Foundation Phase and the introduction of 14 to 19 Pathways, the intervening years became an increasing focus.'

Ar ôl ein cynnydd gyda'r Cyfnod Sylfaen a chyflwyno Llwybrau 14 i 19, rhoddwyd ffocws cynyddol ar y blynyddoedd yn y canol.

She went on to say that she

Aeth yn ei blaen i ddweud ei bod yn

'saw in particular, a pressing need to break the link between social disadvantage and low educational attainment by tackling the roots of disaffection and disengagement from learning during the "middle" years.'

gweld yn benodol, fod angen dybryd i dorri'r cysylltiad rhwng anfantais gymdeithasol a chyrhaeddiad addysgol isel drwy fynd i'r afael â gwreiddiau dadrithio ac ymddieithrio oddi wrth ddysgu yn ystod y blynyddoedd "canol".

By 2010, Professor Egan was saying that the bit in the middle should be urgently addressed by policy makers. He said that it is

Erbyn 2010, roedd yr Athro Egan yn dweud y dylai'r darn yn y canol gael sylw ar fyrder gan y rhai sy'n llunio polisi. Dywedodd ei bod

'unlikely that the objectives of the foundation phase and 14-19 learning pathways can be fully achieved unless changes are made to the 8-14 experience. There's a significant financial concern: we would be throwing money away unless we make changes.'

yn annhebygol y gall amcanion y cyfnod sylfaen a'r llwybrau dysgu 14-19 gael eu cyflawni'n llawn oni bai bod newidiadau'n cael eu gwneud i'r profiad 8-14. Mae pryder ariannol sylweddol: byddem yn gwastraffu arian oni bai ein bod yn gwneud newidiadau.

Further to Professor Egan's comments, I remind Members that research suggests that 40% of pupils perform worse in the core subjects at age 14 than they did at age 11.

Ymhellach at sylwadau'r Athro Egan, hoffwn atgoffa'r Aelodau fod ymchwil yn awgrymu bod 40% o ddisgyblion yn perfformio'n waeth yn y pynciau craidd yn 14 oed nag yr oeddent yn 11 oed.

In answer to my short debate in June 2011, the former Minister for education, Leighton Andrews, said this in reference to changes at 11 rather than 14:

Wrth ymateb i'm dadl fer ym mis Mehefin 2011, dywedodd y cyn-Weinidog dros addysg, Leighton Andrews, hyn wrth gyfeirio at newidiadau yn 11 oed yn hytrach na 14 oed:

'I have had headteachers say to me that they do not know why it was ever at the age of 11 and that, from their point of view, 14 might be a more sensible age to make judgments about potential career paths, opportunities and those kinds of questions, because young people are in a more mature position to do that at that stage.'

Mae penaethiaid wedi dweud wrthyf na wyddant pam y bu erioed yn 11 oed ac, o'u safbwynt hwy, y gallai 14 oed fod yn oedran mwy synhwyrol i wneud penderfyniadau ynglŷn â llwybrau gyrfa posibl, cyfleoedd a'r mathau hynny o gwestiynau, gan fod pobl ifanc mewn sefyllfa fwy aeddfed i wneud hynny ar yr adeg honno.

That obviously reinforces the points that we were trying to make in last week's debate. The former Minister also went on to say:

Mae hynny'n amlwg yn atgyfnerthu'r pwyntiau yr oeddem yn ceisio eu gwneud yn y ddadl yr wythnos diwethaf. Aeth y cyn-Weinidog ymlaen i ddweud hefyd:

'the question of the transition at the age of 11 or 14 is interesting and is one that we should perhaps investigate more thoroughly.'

mae'r cwestiwn ynglŷn â'r cyfnod pontio yn 11 oed neu'n 14 oed yn ddiddorol ac yn un y dylem ymchwilio iddo'n fwy trylwyr o bosibl.

Disappointingly, nothing has happened and the 8 to 14-year-olds in the Welsh education system are still, in our opinion, without sufficient focus.

Yn siomedig ddigon, nid oes dim wedi digwydd ac, yn ein barn ni, nid yw plant 8 i 14 oed yn system addysg Cymru yn cael digon o ffocws o hyd.

17:25

Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Will the Member give way?

A wnaiff yr Aelod ildio?

17:25

Angela Burns Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Most certainly—

Wrth gwrs—

17:25

Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I was very pleased to hear the Member quoting me. I could not have put it better myself. I would say to her that the reason that we did not go forward on the 8-14 proposals of Professor Egan was because we were just completing the move to the foundation phase and its full roll-out. We wanted to see how that bedded down first. The important thing was to get that right, which is what I think we have done. I do not think that it would have been sensible to have immediately proceeded to a move on the 8-14 agenda.

Roeddwn yn falch iawn o glywed yr Aelod yn dyfynnu fy ngeiriau. Ni allwn fod wedi mynegi'r peth yn well fy hun. Hoffwn ddweud wrthi mai'r rheswm na weithredwyd ar gynigion yr Athro Egan ynglŷn â'r cyfnod 8-14 oedd oherwydd ein bod ar fin cwblhau'r newid i'r cyfnod sylfaen a'i gyflwyno'n llawn. Roeddem yn awyddus i weld sut roedd hynny'n ymsefydlu'n gyntaf. Y peth pwysig oedd cael hynny'n iawn, rhywbeth yr ydym wedi ei wneud, fe gredaf. Ni chredaf y byddai wedi bod yn synhwyrol gweithredu'n syth ar yr agenda 8-14.

17:25

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Will you move to wind up? You have 30 seconds to reply to that. You will then have three minutes left for your wind-up. If you go further than that, I will have to penalise you when it comes to the wind-up speech.

A wnewch chi ddechrau dirwyn i ben? Cewch 30 eiliad i ateb i hynny. Yna bydd tair munud yn weddill gennych i gloi. Os cymerwch fwy o amser na hynny, bydd yn rhaid imi eich cosbi o ran yr araith ar ddiwedd y ddadl.

17:26

Angela Burns Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Yes, that is perfectly understood.

Iawn, deallaf yn berffaith.

I agree totally with your comment, but now is the time. It has been talked about and the point of this debate is to reinforce what Professor Egan says, which is that money is wasted and the crucial middle bit is not covered. We must act now. Minister, this debate is calling for your view, your opinion and for action on this very important topic. Thank you.

Cytunaf yn llwyr â'ch sylwadau, ond mae'r amser wedi cyrraedd. Mae wedi cael ei drafod a diben y ddadl hon yw atgyfnerthu'r hyn y mae'r Athro Egan yn ei ddweud, sef bod arian yn cael ei wastraffu ac nad yw'r darn hollbwysig yn y canol yn cael sylw. Rhaid inni weithredu yn awr. Weinidog, mae'r ddadl hon yn galw am eich barn chi, eich safbwynt chi ac am weithredu ar y pwnc pwysig iawn hwn. Diolch.

17:26

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I have selected the six amendments to the motion and I call on Simon Thomas to move amendments 1 and 5, tabled in the name of Elin Jones.

Rwyf wedi dethol y chwe gwelliant i'r cynnig a galwaf ar Simon Thomas i gynnig gwelliannau 1 a 5, a gyflwynwyd yn enw Elin Jones.

Gwelliant 1—Elin Jones

Amendment 1—Elin Jones

Cynnwys ar ddiwedd pwynt 1 ', yn arbennig y bwlch rhwng cyrhaeddiad ac amddifadedd'.

Insert at the end of point 1 ', particularly the gap between attainment and deprivation'.

Gwelliant 5—Elin Jones

Amendment 5—Elin Jones

Ym mhwynt 4 dileu 'a phenodol.'

In point 4 delete 'and discrete'.

17:26 **Simon Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Cynigiaf welliannau 1 a 5.

I move amendments 1 and 5.

A gaf i ddechrau drwy ddiolch i Angela Burns a'r Ceidwadwyr am agor y ddadl bwysig hon? Yn sicr, rwyf yn gobeithio na fyddwch yn gweld yn ein gwelliannau ni unrhyw ymgais i dynnu oddi wrth bwysigrwydd y ddadl, ond y gwelwch yn hytrach ymgais i roi ein barn ni, ein hagwedd ni ar y ddadl bwysig hon.

May I start by thanking Angela Burns and the Welsh Conservatives for opening this important debate? I certainly hope that in our amendments you do not see any attempt to detract from the importance of the debate, but rather an attempt to express our views on this important debate.

Rwy'n ddiolchgar i Angela, yng nghanol ei haraith, am fynd â ni yn ôl at y diwrnod cyntaf yn yr 'ysgol fawr'. Roeddwn yn teimlo fy mod yn ôl yno pan yr oedd hi'n disgrifio sut beth oedd e, gyda'r bechgyn mawr a chyda phob dim arall yn digwydd. Mae'r hyn y mae hi yn ei ddweud yn wir, nid oes dwywaith am hynny. Nid wyf yn meddwl ei bod hi cweit wedi crynhoi rhai o'r pethau sydd wedi datblygu yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf, yn enwedig o ran arfer da yn y cyfnod trosglwyddo. Yn sicr, o'm profiad personol, cafodd fy mhlant dipyn o gefnogaeth wrth symud o'r ysgol gynradd i'r ysgol uwchradd. Nid wyf, felly, wedi fy argyhoeddi eto bod angen cyfnod penodol ar gyfer 8 i 14.

I am extremely grateful to Angela, in the middle of her speech, for taking us back to that first day at 'big school'. I felt that I was back there myself when she was describing what kind of experience it was, with the older boys and everything else happening around you. What she says is true; there is no doubt about that. I do not think that she quite encapsulated some of the things that have developed over the past few years, particularly in terms of good practice during the transition stage. Certainly, in my experience, my children had a fair bit of support in moving from primary school to secondary school. Therefore, I am not yet convinced that we need a specific phase for 8 to 14.

Er bod Angela wedi amlinellu llawer o broblemau sydd yn gallu crynhoi o gwmpas 11 a 12, dim ond ychydig o'i haraith oedd yn rhoi unrhyw gynlluniau amgen ynglŷn â'r cyfnod penodol hwnnw. Dyna un rheswm pam rydym ni, Plaid Cymru, wedi chwilio i dynnu allan 'a phenodol', neu 'and discrete'—gair sydd wedi ei sillafu yn gywir erbyn hyn—o'r cynnig. Roeddem yn dymuno aros i weld beth fydd yn digwydd gyda chynlluniau'r Llywodraeth ynglŷn â'r cwricwlwm newydd. Rydym ni'n gweld posibilrwydd, efallai, gyda'r cwricwlwm newydd, ar y cyd â thracio disgyblion unigol a mwy o arfer da, i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem hon. Rwy'n meddwl bod yr hen ddyddiau lle'r oeddwn yn gweld popeth yn nhermau cyfnodau allweddol a ffiniau pendant o ran datblygiad plant yn dod i ben, gobeithio, a'n bod yn hytrach yn gweld cyfnodau lle mae plant yn rhannu dulliau dysgu tebyg i'w gilydd, megis yn y cyfnod sylfaen. Cyn belled â bod y cynnig hwn yn sôn am strategaeth ynglŷn â chyfnod rhwng tua 8 i 14, rydym yn cytuno â hynny ac yn dymuno cefnogi sylwadau Angela yn hynny o beth.

Although Angela outlined many of the problems that can happen around the ages of 11 and 12, she only gave a small part of her speech to any alternative proposals at that particular phase. That is why we, as Plaid Cymru, have looked to remove the word 'a phenodol', or 'discrete'—which is now spelt correctly—from the motion. We wanted to wait to see what happens with the Government's proposals on the new curriculum. We perhaps see a possibility with the new curriculum, along with individual pupil tracking and more good practice, to get to grips with this problem. I think that those days where we saw everything in terms of the key stages and specific boundaries in terms of pupil development are coming to an end, hopefully, and that we are now seeing phases where children share similar learning patterns, such as those in the foundation phase. As far as this motion talks about a strategy for the 8 to 14 age group, we would agree with that and support Angela's comments in that regard.

Our amendment 1 very much relates to a particular reference to social mobility and the attainment gap in Wales. I know that Angela did mention this in her speech, but I think that it is important that we reflect even more on the situation in Wales. The 'State of the Nation 2013' report—it is not the particular nation that I talk about—produced by the Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission, which is a UK report, or, I should say, a Great Britain report, is very relevant to this debate. It is also very relevant to the work that we have to do in Wales, because it shows that Wales still has the joint highest rate of child poverty in any area, with 33% of children in relative income poverty after housing costs. I need to compare that with Scotland, which has set out a very clear ambition to be the best place in the world for children to grow up—independence referendum or not. That is its ambition, and it has already got 20% of children in poverty after housing costs, compared with 33% here. Therefore, setting out those ambitions and working towards those aims has helped to change public policy in Scotland. The Minister has said that he wants to do that, and I am happy to work with him on that, because there is no doubt of the drag that that has on the whole economy. This report, interestingly, says that if we could raise all children to current average levels of attainment—so we are not even improving the average levels, but raising all children to the current average levels of attainment—that would be the equivalent of adding 4% to our GDP. Therefore, when we talk about the gap in education in Wales, we are talking about our economic gap as much as anything.

Mae ein gwelliant 1 yn ymwneud i raddau helaeth â chyfeiriad penodol at symudedd cymdeithasol a'r bwlch o ran cyrhaeddiad yng Nghymru. Gwn i Angela sôn am hyn yn ei haraith, ond credaf ei bod yn bwysig ein bod yn myfyrio hyd yn oed yn fwy ar y sefyllfa yng Nghymru. Mae'r adroddiad 'State of the Nation 2013'—nid yw'n cyfeirio at y genedl benodol yr wyf yn sôn amdani fel arfer baratowyd gan y Comisiwn Symudedd Cymdeithasol a Thlodi Plant, sy'n adroddiad ar y DU, neu, fe ddylwn i ddweud, adroddiad ar Brydain Fawr, yn berthnasol iawn i'r ddadl hon. Mae hefyd yn berthnasol iawn i'r gwaith y mae'n rhaid inni ei wneud yng Nghymru, oherwydd dengys mai Cymru o hyd sydd â'r gyfradd uchaf ar y cyd o dlodi plant mewn unrhyw ardal, gyda 33% o blant mewn tlodi incwm cymharol ar ôl costau tai Cymru. Mae angen imi gymharu hynny â'r Alban, sydd wedi nodi uchelgais clir iawn i gynnig y lle gorau yn y byd i blant dyfu i fyny ynddo—refferendwm ar annibyniaeth ai peidio. Dyna ei uchelgais, ac mae eisoes wedi cyrraedd ffigur o 20% o blant mewn tlodi ar ôl costau tai, o gymharu â 33% yma. Felly, mae nodi'r uchelgeisiau hynny a gweithio tuag at yr amcanion hynny wedi helpu i newid polisi cyhoeddus yn yr Alban. Mae'r Gweinidog wedi dweud ei fod yn dymuno gwneud hynny, ac rwy'n fwy na pharod i weithio gydag ef ar hynny, oherwydd nid oes amheuaeth nad yw hynny wedi llesteirio'r economi gyfan. Mae'r adroddiad hwn, yn ddiddorol ddigon, yn dweud pe gallem godi'r holl blant i'r lefelau cyrhaeddiad cyfartalog presennol—felly nid ydym hyd yn oed yn gwella'r lefelau cyfartalog, ond yn codi pob plentyn i'r lefelau cyrhaeddiad cyfartalog presennol—y byddai hynny'n cyfateb i ychwanegu 4 % i'n CMC. Felly, pan soniwn am y bwlch mewn addysg yng Nghymru, rydym yn sôn lawn cymaint am ein bwlch economaidd.

As reflected in this report, throughout all levels of education, including up to higher education—in the difference between advantaged university graduates and disadvantaged graduates—we see that the class effect is even bigger than the gender effect, and we need to reflect on that in our preparation. Therefore, as we have the highest proportion of children living in poverty of all the UK nations, it behoves us, when we are designing all our stages of education, to take this fully into account, including the way that we can raise social mobility. The attainment gap in Wales by GCSE is 33.2%. Therefore, two thirds of our 16-year-olds who are entitled to free schools meals are not achieving five GCSEs of A to C grades. That reflects something of the argument that Angela was making about that eight-to-14 stage, but it also reflects a real poverty gap in Wales, and I hope, therefore, that our contribution has been in the spirit of amending for improvement and not of opposition.

Fel yr adlewyrchir yn yr adroddiad hwn, ar bob lefel o addysg, gan gynnwys addysg uwch—yn y gwahaniaeth rhwng graddedigion prifysgol breintiedig a graddedigion difreintiedig—gwelwn fod effaith dosbarth hyd yn oed yn bwysicach nag effaith rhyw, ac mae angen inni ystyried hynny yn ein gwaith paratoi. Felly, gan mai Cymru sydd â'r gyfran uchaf o blant sy'n byw mewn tlodi o blith yr holl wledydd y DU, mae'n ddyletswydd arnom, pan fyddwn yn cynllunio pob cam o'n system addysg, i ystyried hyn yn llawn, gan gynnwys y ffordd y gallwn wella symudedd cymdeithasol. Y bwlch cyrhaeddiad yng Nghymru yn ôl TGAU yw 33.2%. Felly, nid yw dwy ran o dair o'n disgyblion 16 oed sydd â hawl i gael prydau ysgol am ddim yn ennill pum TGAU gradd A i C. Mae hynny'n adlewyrchu rhywfaint o'r ddadl yr oedd Angela yn ei chyflwyno ynglŷn â'r cyfnod hwnnw rhwng 8 a 14 oed, ond mae hefyd yn adlewyrchu bwlch tlodi gwirioneddol yng Nghymru, a gobeithio, felly, y bydd ein cyfraniad wedi cyfleu ysbryd o ddiwygio er mwyn gwella yn hytrach na gwrthwynebu.

Gwelliant 2—Aled Roberts

Cynnwys ar ddiwedd pwynt 1:

'ac yn croesawu'r cynnydd yn y Grant Amddifadedd Disgyblion a gyhoeddwyd yng Nghyllideb Ddrafft 2014-15, a fydd yn helpu i dorri'r cyswllt rhwng tlodi a thangyflawni addysgol.'

Gwelliant 2—Aled Roberts

Insert at the end of point 1:

'and welcomes the increase in the Pupil Deprivation Grant announced in the Draft Budget 2014-15, which will help break the link between poverty and educational underachievement.'

Gwelliant 3—Aled Roberts

Gwelliant 3—Aled Roberts

Cynnwys pwynt 3 newydd ac ailrifo yn unol â hynny:

Insert as new point 3 and renumber accordingly:

Yn cydnabod bod gofalwyr ifanc yn benodol mewn perygl yn aml o dangyflawni'n addysgol oherwydd yr heriau ychwanegol y maen yn eu wynebu, ac yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i edrych ar ffyrdd o wella sut y mae adnabod gofalwyr ifanc a'u cefnogi er mwyn eu helpu i gyflawni eu potensial addysgol a'u cefnogi wrth iddynt ddatblygu i fod yn oedolion.

Recognises that young carers in particular are often vulnerable to educational underachievement due to the additional challenges they face, and calls on the Welsh Government to examine ways to improve identification and support for young carers to help fulfil their educational potential and support the transition into adulthood.

Gwelliant 4—Aled Roberts

Gwelliant 4—Aled Roberts

Cynnwys ar ddiwedd pwynt 3:

Insert at the end of point 3:

'ac yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i ffurfioli partneriaethau rhwng ysgolion a sicrhau bod yr addysg blynyddoedd cynnar yn cynnig cydbwysedd gwell o addysgu bugeiliol ac academaidd, i helpu i wella'r broses pontio disgyblion o ysgolion cynradd i ysgolion uwchradd.'

'and calls on the Welsh Government to formalise partnerships between schools and ensure that the early years education offers a better balance of pastoral and academic teaching, to help improve the transition of pupils from primary to secondary schools.'

Gwelliant 6—Aled Roberts

Gwelliant 6—Aled Roberts

Cynnwys ar ddiwedd pwynt 4:

Insert at the end of point 4:

'ac i gefnogi disgyblion i gyrraedd eu potensial llawn drwy ddiwygio'r system bandio ysgolion i sicrhau ei bod yn mesur perfformiad ysgol yng nghyd-destun perfformiad disgyblion unigol.'

'and supporting pupils to reach their full potential by reforming the school banding system to ensure that it measures school performance with regard to individual pupil performance.'

17:31

Aled Roberts Bywgraffiad Biography

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I move amendments 2, 3, 4 and 6.

Cynigiaf welliannau 2, 3, 4 a 6.

I think that today's debate forms part of a wider discussion that we will probably see in Wales over the coming months, following the statement made by the Minister for education yesterday. As Simon Thomas has already outlined, those of us who were present in the policy forum discussion this morning had drawn to our attention the scale of the issues that we have facing us as a country, given, as Simon has said, some of the issues also drawn to our attention in the report last week by the UK Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission, which underlines that, in reality, the British education system has difficulties throughout. However, here in Wales, the extent of the challenge we face is greater than that of the other constituent parts of the UK, because even as far as free school meals are concerned, 50% more pupils in receipt of free school meals in England reach the five A* to C grade threshold than their counterparts in Wales. It is a frightening statistic that the gap in Wales between the most disadvantaged students and the rest is also higher here than in any other part of the UK.

Credaf fod y ddadl heddiw yn rhan o drafodaeth ehangach a welwn yng Nghymru dros y misoedd nesaf yn ôl pob tebyg, yn sgil y datganiad a wnaed gan y Gweinidog addysg ddoe. Fel y nododd Simon Thomas eisoes, tynnwyd sylw'r rhai ohonom a fu'n bresennol yn nhrafodaeth y fforwm polisi y bore yma at ba mor fawr yw'r problemau sy'n ein hwynebu fel gwlad, o ystyried, fel y dywedodd Simon, rai o'r problemau a ddygwyd at ein sylw hefyd yn yr adroddiad yr wythnos diwethaf gan Gomisiwn Symudedd Cymdeithasol a Thlodi Plant y DU, sy'n tanlinellu bod gan system addysg Prydain broblemau drwyddi draw mewn gwirionedd. Fodd bynnag, yma yng Nghymru, mae maint yr her sy'n ein hwynebu yn fwy na'r rhannau eraill o'r Deyrnas Unedig, oherwydd hyd yn oed o ran prydau ysgol am ddim, mae 50% yn fwy o ddisgyblion sy'n cael prydau ysgol am ddim yn Lloegr yn cyrraedd y trothwy o bum gradd A* i C na'u cymheiriaid yng Nghymru. Mae'n ystadegyn brawychus fod y bwlch yng Nghymru rhwng y myfyrwyr mwyaf difreintiedig a'r gweddill hefyd yn uwch yma nag mewn unrhyw ran arall o'r DU.

I do not think that any of us, from whichever party we belong to, would underestimate the challenge that we face going forward. I sincerely believe that today's debate starts that discussion, as far as we as an Assembly are concerned. Positive steps have been taken since devolution that we should not, in any way, underestimate. I believe that the pupil deprivation grant will help, if it is properly used, to minimise these differences in attainment. However, I also think that we need a more fundamental discussion, which was started yesterday, with regard to where exactly we are going. There is a danger that the use of terminology such as 'a discrete strategy' suggests that we tinker around the edges with regard to current structures, rather than having some more fundamental discussions, which are taking place, from what we were told this morning, in Scotland and Ireland.

Ni fyddai'r un ohonom, fe gredaf, i ba blaid bynnag yr ydym yn perthyn, yn bychanu'r her a wynebwn yn y dyfodol. Rwy'n mawr credu bod y ddadl heddiw yn cychwyn ar y drafodaeth honno, o'n rhan ni fel Cynulliad. Mae camau cadarnhaol wedi cael eu cymryd ers datganoli na ddylem eu tanbrisio mewn unrhyw ffordd. Credaf y bydd y grant amddifadedd disgyblion o gymorth, os caiff ei ddefnyddio'n briodol, er mwyn lleihau'r gwahaniaethau hyn mewn cyrhaeddiad. Fodd bynnag, credaf hefyd fod angen inni gael trafodaeth fwy sylfaenol, a ddechreuwyd ddoe, o ran ble yn union rydym yn mynd. Mae perygl bod y defnydd o derminoleg megis 'strategaeth ar wahân' yn awgrymu ein bod yn tincran ar yr ymylon o ran y strwythurau presennol, yn hytrach na chael rhai trafodaethau mwy sylfaenol, sy'n cael eu cynnal, o'r hyn a ddywedwyd wrthym y bore yma, yn yr Alban ac Iwerddon.

I think that the former Minister makes a valid point when he explains why the Government did not pursue the recommendations in David Egan's report in 2010, because the roll-out of a foundation phase was being completed at that stage, in the same way that we have the literacy and numeracy framework currently, which is just starting to bed down and may lead to differences in practice between the primary and the secondary stage, if it flows through from the ages of three to 15. So, we believe that a more fundamental discussion is needed, which the Minister acknowledged yesterday when he questioned the overburdening of the curriculum as far as key stage 2 is concerned. He indicated something that is reflected in my personal experience as a father, which is that key stage 3 has just become a waiting room for GCSEs, where some pupils tread water while the secondary school applies some catch-up as far as those children who are left behind at key stage 2 are concerned.

Credaf fod y cyn-Weinidog yn gwneud pwynt dilys wrth iddo esbonio pam nad oedd y Llywodraeth wedi gweithredu ar yr argymhellion yn adroddiad David Egan yn 2010, am fod y broses o gyflwyno'r cyfnod sylfaen yn cael ei chwblhau ar y pryd, yn yr un ffordd ag yr ydym yn cyflwyno'r fframwaith llythrennedd a rhifedd ar hyn o bryd, sydd newydd ymsefydlu ac a all arwain at wahaniaethau mewn arferion rhwng y cyfnod cynradd a'r cyfnod uwchradd, os bydd yn llifo o dair oed i 15. Felly, credwn fod angen trafodaeth fwy sylfaenol, a gydnabuwyd gan y Gweinidog ddoe pan oedd yn mynegi amheuon ynglŷn â gorlwytho'r cwricwlwm o ran cyfnod allweddol 2. Dywedodd rywbeth sy'n cael ei adlewyrchu yn fy mhrofiad fy hun fel tad, sef bod cyfnod allweddol 3 wedi troi'n ystafell aros i TGAU i bob diben, lle mae rhai disgyblion yn troi yn eu hunfan tra bod yr ysgol uwchradd yn canolbwyntio ar y plant hynny sy'n cael eu gadael ar ôl yng nghyfnod allweddol 2.

So, I do not think that we should frame the debate by just looking at some kind of middle-school scenario. There is a danger that we simplify issues of transition between the way in which education takes place in a small primary school and the way that it is delivered in secondary school. The Scottish model, for example, looks at the whole curriculum from the ages of three to 15 and is suggesting, to all intents and purposes and to a large degree, that the period up to 15 is a more generalised education where we do not try to cram so much in. There is a dilemma here as far as the Government is concerned, where we have a number of task groups and experts coming forward saying that the way to tackle these issues of underattainment is to cram issues into a core curriculum. We have others who say that we need to restructure the way in which we deliver our schools. Perhaps we ought to give some time for some of these initiatives to bed down and, during that period, to properly assess the success or otherwise of those initiatives before we are set.

Felly, ni chredaf y dylem bennu'r ddadl drwy edrych ar ryw fath o senario ysgol ganol. Mae perygl y byddwn yn symleiddio problemau pontio rhwng y ffordd y caiff addysg ei chyflwyno mewn ysgol gynradd fach a'r ffordd y caiff ei chyflwyno yn yr ysgol uwchradd. Mae model yr Alban, er enghraifft, yn edrych ar y cwricwlwm cyfan o dair oed i 15 ac mae'n awgrymu, i bob diben, ac i raddau helaeth, mai addysg fwy cyffredinol y dylid ei rhoi yn y cyfnod hyd at 15 oed lle nad ydym yn ceisio gorlwytho'r cwricwlwm. Achosir penbleth yn hyn o beth i'r Llywodraeth, lle mae nifer o grwpiau gorchwyl ac arbenigwyr yn dweud mai'r ffordd o fynd i'r afael â'r problemau hyn sy'n gysylltiedig â thangyflawni yw cynnwys pethau yn y cwricwlwm craidd. Mae pobl eraill yn dweud bod angen inni ailstrwythuro'r ffordd yr ydym yn darparu ein hysgolion. Efallai y dylem roi rhywfaint o amser i rai o'r mentrau hyn ymsefydlu ac, yn ystod y cyfnod hwnnw, asesu'n briodol lwyddiant neu fethiant y mentrau hynny cyn inni bennu cyfeiriad.

I welcome the debate, but we need to have a much more philosophical debate with regard to the curriculum and qualifications in Wales going forward.

Croesawaf y ddadl, ond mae angen inni gael dadl lawer mwy athronyddol o ran y cwricwlwm a chymwysterau yng Nghymru yn y dyfodol.

17:37 **Mark Isherwood** Bywgraffiad Biography

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In this Chamber two years ago, I said that as a parent, grandparent and teacher's son, and as one whose children all benefitted from a state education in Wales, I despaired at the grim reports that confirmed the systemic failure of education policy in Wales. Figures showed that the performance of 15-year-olds in reading, maths and science in Wales was significantly below the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development average, and the worst of the UK nations. The then Minister was right to describe this as unacceptable and a systemic failure. As BBC Wales stated at the time, the Welsh Government had no alibis and no excuses.

Yn y Siambr hon ddwy flynedd yn ôl, dywedais fel rhiant, taid a mab i athro, ac fel rhywun y mae ei blant i gyd wedi cael addysg y wladwriaeth yng Nghymru, roeddwn yn digalonni o glywed yr adroddiadau du yn cadarnhau methiant systemig polisi addysg yng Nghymru. Dangosodd ffigurau fod perfformiad disgyblion 15 oed o ran darllen, mathemateg a gwyddoniaeth yng Nghymru yn sylweddol is na chyfartaledd y Sefydliad ar gyfer Cydweithrediad a Datblygiad, a'r gwaethaf o blith gwledydd y DU. Roedd y Gweinidog ar y pryd yn llygad ei le i ddweud bod hyn yn annerbyniol ac yn fethiant systemig. Fel y nododd BBC Cymru ar y pryd, nid oedd gan Lywodraeth Cymru unrhyw ddihangfa nac esgusodion.

In the fifteenth year of Labour Ministers for education in devolved Welsh Governments, attainment gaps in Welsh education are still holding back different groups of children, denying them the opportunity to achieve their full potential. Only last week, the Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission reported that children on free school meals in England are 50% more likely to get five A* to C GCSEs, including maths and English, or Welsh, than their counterparts in Wales. It added that it is not just the poorest children who are doing badly. By the age of seven, the word reading ability of children in Wales is behind that of children in England and Scotland, irrespective of whether they are from families with relatively low or high incomes.

Yn y bymthegfed flwyddyn o Weinidogion Llafur dros addysg yn Llywodraethau datganoledig Cymru, mae bylchau cyrhaeddiad mewn addysg yng Nghymru yn dal i lesteirio gwahanol grwpiau o blant, gan eu hamddifadu o'r cyfle i gyflawni eu llawn botensial. Yr wythnos diwethaf, nododd y Comisiwn Symudedd Cymdeithasol a Thlodi Plant fod plant sy'n cael prydau ysgol am ddim yn Lloegr 50% yn fwy tebygol o ennill pum TGAU A* i C, gan gynnwys mathemateg a Saesneg, neu Gymraeg, na'u cymheiriaid yng Nghymru. Ychwanegodd nad y plant tlotaf yn unig sy'n gwneud yn wael. Erbyn iddynt gyrraedd saith oed, mae gallu darllen plant yng Nghymru yn is na gallu plant yn Lloegr a'r Alban, p'un a ydynt yn dod o deuluoedd ag incwm cymharol isel neu uchel.

The new Minister for education, Huw Lewis, has acknowledged that Wales is still suffering from chronic inconsistency in the delivery of our key educational programmes. We have heard the then Minister for education say that the Welsh Government would recognise the 8-14 pathway as a distinct phase of education following the 2009 task and finish group, chaired by Professor Egan. We have heard that Professor Egan said the following year that the bit in the middle should be urgently addressed by policymakers, but that it was unlikely that the objectives of the foundation phase and the 14-19 learning pathways would be fully achieved unless changes were made to the 8-14 experience.

Mae'r Gweinidog addysg newydd, Huw Lewis, wedi cydnabod bod Cymru yn dal i ddioddef oherwydd anghysondeb cronig yn y ffordd y cyflwynir ein rhaglenni addysgol allweddol. Rydym wedi clywed y Gweinidog addysg ar y pryd yn dweud y byddai Llywodraeth Cymru yn cydnabod y llwybr 8-14 fel cyfnod addysg penodol yn dilyn grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen yn 2009, o dan gadeiryddiaeth yr Athro Egan. Rydym wedi clywed i'r Athro Egan ddweud y flwyddyn ganlynol y dylai'r darn yn y canol cael sylw ar fyrder gan y rhai sy'n llunio polisi, ond ei bod yn annhebygol y byddai amcanion y cyfnod sylfaen a'r llwybrau dysgu 14-19 yn cael eu cyflawni yn llawn oni bai bod newidiadau i'r profiad rhwng 8-14 oed.

In February 2010, the 'Times Educational Supplement' published research suggesting that 40% of Welsh pupils performed worse in the core subjects at age 14 than at 11. The 2011 report on the structure of education services in Wales from the independent task and finish group, established by the then Minister for education, recommended that the designation of the educational experience of eight to 14 years in Wales as being within an 8-14 phase, underpinned by a distinct educational philosophy in the same way as the foundation phase and 14-19 learning pathways. The task and finish group said that while many students make good progress through the 8-14 period of their education, for a significant number of young people this is a phase when their achievement in relative terms follows a downward trajectory, and that this probably results from student disengagement that begins in the latter years of primary schooling and which accelerates in the early years of secondary education. Differences in academic performance between boys and girls increase following the transition to secondary school, in response to the challenge of that experience. Although pupils need to adapt to the differing teaching and learning practices in secondary schools, and although adolescents experience many biological, social, psychological and cognitive changes, the pastoral system is often less effective in secondary schools than in primary schools.

Ym mis Chwefror 2010, cyhoeddodd y 'Times Educational Supplement' ymchwil yn awgrymu bod 40% o ddisgyblion Cymru yn perfformio'n waeth yn y pynciau craidd yn 14 oed nag yr oeddent yn 11 oed. Argymhellodd adroddiad 2011 ar strwythur gwasanaethau addysg yng Nghymru gan y grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen annibynnol, a sefydlwyd gan y Gweinidog addysg ar y pryd, ddynodi'r profiad addysgol rhwng wyth a 14 oed yng Nghymru yn gyfnod 8-14, wedi'i ategu gan athroniaeth addysgol arbennig yn yr un modd â'r cyfnod sylfaen a'r llwybrau dysgu 14-19. Dywedodd y grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen, er bod llawer o fyfyrwyr yn gwneud cynnydd da drwy'r cyfnod 8-14 o'u haddysg, fod hwn, i nifer sylweddol o bobl ifanc, yn gyfnod pan fydd eu cyflawniad mewn termau cymharol yn dirywio, a bod hyn yn ôl pob tebyg yn deillio o ymddieithrio ymhlith myfyrwyr sy'n dechrau yn ystod blynyddoedd olaf yr ysgol gynradd ac sy'n cyflymu yn ystod blynyddoedd cynnar addysg uwchradd. Mae gwahaniaethau mewn perfformiad academaidd rhwng bechgyn a merched yn cynyddu yn dilyn y newid i'r ysgol uwchradd, mewn ymateb i her y profiad hwnnw. Er bod angen i ddisgyblion ymaddasu i'r arferion dysgu ac addysgu gwahanol mewn ysgolion uwchradd, ac er bod pobl ifanc yn profi llawer o newidiadau biolegol, cymdeithasol, seicolegol a gwybyddol, mae'r system fugeiliol yn aml yn llai effeithiol mewn ysgolion uwchradd nag mewn ysgolion cynradd.

Estyn's June 2013 report on numeracy at key stages 2 and 3 found that very few primary schools pass on information about pupil standards in numeracy to secondary schools, although mathematics standards are generally transferred. The Welsh Government figures show a substantial drop-off between primary and secondary school learning, with subject averages in maths, science and English dropping more than 10 percentage points. We, therefore, call on the Welsh Government to implement a robust education strategy for eight to 14-year-olds. We must target underachievement wherever we find it, championing the many who argue that the life chances of children and pupils should not be written off because of their location or background. Give a child a good, solid education on which to build—that is, a mind that can think, a heart that can feel and a conscience that knows right from wrong—and there is no limit to what the individual can do in life. However, if families conclude that the key to a top-class education in Wales is having a sackful of cash to buy a house in the catchment area of a good school, then parents may decide that they and their children are victims of social injustice.

Yn ôl adroddiad Estyn ym mis Mehefin 2013 ar rifedd yng nghyfnodau allweddol 2 a 3, ychydig iawn o ysgolion cynradd sy'n trosglwyddo gwybodaeth am safonau disgyblion mewn rhifedd i ysgolion uwchradd, er bod safonau mathemateg yn cael eu trosglwyddo'n gyffredinol. Dengys ffigurau Llywodraeth Cymru fod gostyngiad sylweddol rhwng dysgu ysgolion cynradd ac uwchradd, gyda chyfartaleddau pwnc mewn mathemateg, gwyddoniaeth a Saesneg yn gostwng mwy na 10 pwynt canran. Felly, galwn ar Lywodraeth Cymru i weithredu strategaeth addysg gadarn i ddisgyblion wyth i 14 oed. Rhaid inni dargedu tangyflawniad ymhle bynnag y'i gwelwn, gan gefnogi'r nifer fawr sy'n dadlau na ddylai cyfleoedd bywyd plant a disgyblion gael eu diystyru oherwydd eu lleoliad neu eu cefndir. Rhowch i blentyn addysg dda a chadarn y gall adeiladu arni—hynny yw, meddwl sy'n gallu meddwl, calon sy'n gallu teimlo a chydwybod sy'n gwybod y gwahaniaeth rhwng da a drwg—yna nid oes terfyn ar yr hyn y gall yr unigolyn ei wneud mewn bywyd. Fodd bynnag, os daw teuluoedd i'r casgliad mai llond sach o arian i brynu tŷ yn nalgylch ysgol dda yw'r allwedd i gael addysg o'r radd flaenaf yng Nghymru, yna efallai y bydd rhieni yn penderfynu eu bod hwy a'u plant yn dioddef anghyfiawnder cymdeithasol.

17:42

Jenny Rathbone Bywgraffiad Biography

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The Welsh Government has three priorities for education: to raise attainment in literacy and in numeracy and to bridge the gap in attainment that is based on deprivation. In my view, those are the right priorities. While there may well be some virtue in having a virtual curriculum for eight to 14-year-olds, we certainly do not have the money to start building middle schools, although I do not think that that is what the Conservatives are proposing. I think that it is right to focus on this age group, because we know that there are things that need amending in key stage 2 and key stage 3.

Mae gan Lywodraeth Cymru dair blaenoriaeth ar gyfer addysg: gwella cyrhaeddiad mewn llythrennedd ac mewn rhifedd a phontio'r bwlch mewn cyrhaeddiad sy'n seiliedig ar amddifadedd. Yn fy marn i, dyma'r blaenoriaethau cywir. Er y gallai fod rhywfaint o rinwedd mewn llunio cwricwlwm rhithwir i ddisgyblion rhwng wyth a 14 oed, yn sicr nid oes gennym yr arian i ddechrau adeiladu ysgolion canol, er na chredaf mai dyna'r hyn y mae'r Ceidwadwyr yn ei gynnig. Yn fy marn i, mae'n bridol canolbwyntio ar y grŵp oedran hwn, oherwydd gwyddom fod pethau y mae angen eu diwygio yng nghyfnod allweddol 2 a chyfnod allweddol 3.

The transition between primary and secondary school is a challenging one, as has been said by earlier speakers. However, for me, one of the most unacceptable facts is the significant minority of 11-year-olds who are arriving in secondary school with a reading age below nine and are, therefore, completely unable to follow the secondary school curriculum. There is clearly room for more rigour in the assessment procedures in some primary schools, because these children should have been spotted a lot earlier and remedial procedures put in place to ensure that those children were able to catch up. We have to address the fact that too many children are failing to attain the basic standards of literacy and numeracy, as well as the thinking and problem-solving skills that they require to move on to that next level of learning.

Mae'r cyfnod pontio rhwng yr ysgol gynradd a'r ysgol uwchradd yn un heriol, fel y dywedodd siaradwyr cynharach. Fodd bynnag, i mi, un o'r ffeithiau mwyaf annerbyniol yw'r lleiafrif sylweddol o ddisgyblion 11 oed sy'n cyrraedd yr ysgol uwchradd gydag oedran darllen islaw naw ac, na allant, felly, ddilyn cwricwlwm yr ysgol uwchradd. Mae'n amlwg bod lle i fwy o drylwyredd yn y gweithdrefnau asesu mewn rhai ysgolion cynradd, oherwydd dylai'r plant hyn fod wedi cael eu nodi dipyn yn gynt a dylai gweithdrefnau adferol fod wedi cael eu rhoi ar waith i sicrhau bod y plant hynny yn gallu cyrraedd y safon ddisgwyliedig. Rhaid inni fynd i'r afael â'r ffaith fod gormod o blant yn methu â chyrraedd safonau sylfaenol llythrennedd a rhifedd, yn ogystal â sgiliau meddwl a datrys problemau sydd eu hangen arnynt i symud ymlaen i'r lefel nesaf o ddysgu.

I would like to ask the Minister why it is, in Wales, we do not use the system that is used in England, which is the reporting and analysis for improvement through school self-evaluation system, otherwise known as RAISEonline. Teachers who have transferred to Wales from England are astonished that we do not have these tools for doing some of the more menial tasks around analysing data, to ensure that schools are absolutely clear about how each pupil is performing, both individually and against their peers. That enables them to spot much more quickly where things are going wrong for individual children. So, that is something absolutely crucial that we need to address at key stage 2.

Hoffwn ofyn i'r Gweinidog pam nad ydym ni, yng Nghymru, yn defnyddio'r system sy'n cael ei defnyddio yn Lloegr, sef y system adrodd a dadansoddi er gwella drwy system hunanarfarnu'r ysgol, neu RAISEonline fel y'i gelwir fel arall. Mae athrawon sydd wedi trosglwyddo i Gymru o Loegr yn synnu nad oes gennym yr adnoddau hyn ar gyfer ymgymryd â rhai o'r tasgau sylfaenol o ran dadansoddi data, er mwyn sicrhau bod ysgolion yn gwbl glir ynghylch sut mae pob disgybl yn perfformio, yn unigol ac o'i gymharu â'i gyfoedion. Mae hynny'n eu galluogi i adnabod lawer yn gynt ble mae pethau yn mynd o chwith i blant unigol. Felly, mae hynny'n rhywbeth cwbl hanfodol y mae angen inni fynd i'r afael ag ef yng nghyfnod allweddol 2.

The Minister's aspiration about using key stage 3 to enable students to explore their interests and skills, and to develop their passions to give them a better idea of the career path that they want to pursue in life, is a really good one. I do not think that children should have to go on TV talent shows in order to achieve their ambitions. We need a system that enables them to express that talent and ambition in the school system, whether it is during the normal school day, or in the extra school curriculum.

Mae dyhead y Gweinidog i ddefnyddio cyfnod allweddol 3 er mwyn galluogi myfyrwyr i feddwl am eu diddordebau a'u sgiliau, ac i ddatblygu eu diddordebau er mwyn iddynt gael gwell syniad o'r llwybr gyrfa y maent am ei ddilyn mewn bywyd, yn un gwirioneddol dda. Ni chredaf y dylai plant orfod mynd ar sioeau talent ar y teledu er mwyn cyflawni eu huchelgais. Mae angen inni gael system sy'n eu galluogi i fynegi'r dalent a'r uchelgais honno yn system yr ysgol, boed hynny yn ystod y diwrnod ysgol arferol, neu yn y cwricwlwm ysgol ychwanegol.

Those issues are absolutely crucial in ensuring that we move forward and start to have a much better attainment level across the pitch. We beat ourselves up a little too much about Wales being at the bottom of the pile. It was very interesting to hear, in the policy forum this afternoon, the educator from Scotland say that their figures on attainment, particularly around deprivation, wee very similar to those in Wales. Yes, they are a little bit better—

Mae'r materion hynny yn gwbl hanfodol er mwyn sicrhau ein bod yn symud ymlaen ac yn dechrau gweld lefel cyrhaeddiad lawer gwell yn gyffredinol. Rydym yn rhy barod i feirniadu ynghylch y ffaith bod Cymru ar waelod y pentwr. Roedd yn ddiddorol iawn clywed, yn y fforwm polisi y prynhawn yma, yr addysgwr o'r Alban yn dweud bod eu ffigurau ynglŷn â chyrhaeddiad, yn enwedig o ran amddifadedd, yn debyg iawn i'r rhai yng Nghymru. Ydynt, maent ychydig yn well—

17:46

Angela Burns [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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I just want to make it very clear that, if you were to read the Record of Proceedings, you would see that not once did I refer to our standards, apart from the standards that we have ourselves, and the way that our children are failing our own set standards. I made no comparisons with other places.

Hoffwn ei gwneud yn glir iawn, pe baech yn darllen Cofnod y Trafodion, y byddech yn gweld na chyfeiriais o gwbl at ein safonau, ar wahân i'r safonau sydd gennym ni ein hunain, a'r ffordd y mae ein plant yn methu â chyrraedd y safonau a benodwyd gennym ni ein hunain. Ni wneuthum unrhyw gymariaethau â mannau eraill.

17:46 **Jenny Rathbone** Bywgraffiad Biography

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That is fair enough, but I was not making a statement against you. I think that we, generally, have a tendency to be a bit too hard on ourselves. I think that we have a challenge across the UK, but our challenge has to be to be as good as Finland, New Zealand and Canada. That is the global economy in which we will have to operate.

Mae hynny'n ddigon teg, ond nid oeddwn yn gwneud datganiad yn eich beirniadu chi. Credaf ein bod ni, yn gyffredinol, yn tueddu i fod ychydig yn rhy feirniadol ohonom ein hunain. Credaf ein bod yn wynebu her ledled y DU, ond rhaid mai ein her ni yw bod cystal â'r Ffindir, Seland Newydd a Chanada. Dyna'r economi fyd-eang y bydd yn rhaid i ni weithredu ynddi.

The issues around bridging the gap on attainment are much more complex, because it is about the emotional literacy and emotional needs of vulnerable students and having systems in place to bridge the gap between the nurturing environment of the primary school and the much more challenging environment of the secondary school. That is something that we need to work at. That is why we must have community schools that really are community-focused. We must have programmes like the one in Tredegar called prosperity through education and engagement, which has mentors both in the primary school and in the secondary school enabling students to improve their learning and to be much more engaged with it.

Mae'r problemau o ran cau'r bwlch mewn cyrhaeddiad yn llawer mwy cymhleth, am ei bod yn ymwneud â llythrennedd emosiynol ac anghenion emosiynol myfyrwyr sy'n agored i niwed a rhoi systemau ar waith i bontio'r bwlch rhwng amgylchedd meithringar yr ysgol gynradd ac amgylchedd llawer mwy heriol yr ysgol uwchradd. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth y mae angen inni weithio arno. Dyna pam y mae'n rhaid inni gael ysgolion cymunedol sy'n wir yn canolbwyntio ar y gymuned. Rhaid inni lunio rhaglenni fel yr un yn Nhredegar a elwir yn ffyniant drwy addysg ac ymgysylltu, sy'n cynnwys mentoriaid yn yr ysgol gynradd ac yn yr ysgol uwchradd sy'n galluogi myfyrwyr i wella eu dysgu a chymryd llawer mwy o ddiddordeb ynddo.

The pyramid programme—

Mae'r rhaglen byramid—

17:47 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Order. Finish with this point, please.

Trefn. Gorffennaf gyda'r pwynt hwn, os gwelwch yn dda.

17:47 **Jenny Rathbone** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Pyramid clubs, in which over 40,000 children have taken part, work with less confident children aged seven to 11, so that they have the tools that they need to make the transition to secondary school.

Mae'r clybiau pyramid, y mae dros 40,000 o blant wedi cymryd rhan ynddynt, yn gweithio gyda phlant llai hyderus rhwng saith a 11 oed, er mwyn iddynt gael yr adnoddau sydd eu hangen arnynt i bontio i'r ysgol uwchradd.

17:47 **William Graham** Bywgraffiad Biography

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School leavers who are not achieving their full potential can often feel disenfranchised, which can lead to problems later in life. The 'Education at a Glance: OECD Indicators 2012' looks at issues of poor education and their effect on society. It found that the number not in education, employment or training often reflected far more worrying social issues, including involvement in the underground economy or in crime; re-integration into the labour market was much more difficult; individuals were likely to experience long-term effects on their future employment and earning prospects; and there was a loss of human capital and tax revenues for national economies.

Gall y rhai sy'n gadael ysgol nad ydynt wedi cyflawni eu llawn botensial yn aml deimlo'n difreintiedig, a all arwain at broblemau yn nes ymlaen mewn bywyd. Mae 'Education at a Glance: OECD Indicators 2012' yn edrych ar broblemau addysg wael a'u heffaith ar gymdeithas. Canfu fod y nifer nad oeddent mewn addysg, cyflogaeth na hyfforddiant yn aml yn adlewyrchu problemau cymdeithasol llawer mwy sylweddol, gan gynnwys cymryd rhan yn yr economi anghyfreithlon neu droseddu; roedd ailymuno â'r farchnad lafur yn llawer mwy anodd; roedd unigolion yn debygol o brofi effeithiau hirdymor ar eu cyflogaeth a'u rhagolygon ennill yn y dyfodol, ac roedd cyfalaf dynol a refeniw treth yn cael eu colli i economïau gwladol.

Many statistics have confirmed the association between unemployment and poor mental health, including depression, which might result in extra social costs to society. The transition from education to work is a complex process affected by the length and quality of schooling that individuals receive, labour market conditions, the economic environment and demography.

Mae llawer o ystadegau wedi cadarnhau'r cysylltiad rhwng diweithdra ac iechyd meddwl gwael, gan gynnwys iselder, a allai arwain at gostau cymdeithasol ychwanegol i gymdeithas. Mae'r broses o bontio o addysg i waith yn un gymhleth yr effeithir arni gan hyd ac ansawdd yr addysg a gaiff unigolion, amodau'r farchnad lafur, yr amgylchedd economaidd a demograffeg.

The ageing population and the declining size of the population of 15 to 19-year-olds in Wales should favour employment among young adults. However, during a recessionary period, high general unemployment rates make the transition from school to work substantially more difficult for the younger population, as those with more work experience are favoured over new entrants into the labour market. In addition, when labour market conditions are unfavourable, younger people often tend to stay in education longer, because high unemployment rates drive down the opportunity costs of education.

Dylai'r boblogaeth sy'n heneiddio a'r boblogaeth lai o faint rhwng 15 a 19 oed yng Nghymru ffafrio cyflogaeth ymhlith oedolion ifanc. Fodd bynnag, yn ystod cyfnod o ddirwasgiad, mae cyfraddau diweithdra uchel yn gyffredinol yn ei gwneud hi'n llawer anos i bontio o'r ysgol i fyd gwaith i'r boblogaeth iau, wrth i'r rhai sydd â mwy o brofiad gwaith gael eu ffafrio dros y newydd-ddyfodiaid i'r farchnad lafur. At hynny, pan fydd amodau'r farchnad lafur yn anffafriol, mae pobl iau yn aml yn tueddu i aros mewn addysg am gyfnod hwy, am fod cyfraddau diweithdra uchel yn cwtogi ar gostau cyfleoedd addysg.

In these circumstances, public investment in education has to be a sensible way to counterbalance inactivity, and invest in future economic growth by building needed skills. To improve the transition of young people from school to work in any economic climate, education systems should work to ensure that individuals have skills that match the requirements of the labour market and to minimise the proportion of young adults neither in school nor in work.

O dan yr amgylchiadau hyn, rhaid bod buddsoddiad cyhoeddus mewn addysg yn ffordd synhwyrol o wrthsefyll anweithgarwch, a buddsoddi mewn twf economaidd yn y dyfodol drwy feithrin y sgiliau sydd eu hangen. Er mwyn gwella cyfnod pontio pobl ifanc o'r ysgol i fyd gwaith mewn unrhyw hinsawdd economaidd, dylai systemau addysg anelu at sicrhau bod unigolion yn meddu ar y sgiliau sy'n cyfateb i ofynion y farchnad lafur ac i leihau'r gyfran o oedolion ifanc nad ydynt yn yr ysgol nac mewn gwaith.

The OECD research showed that people who continually engage with some form of education throughout their lives have a higher life expectancy and are more likely to engage with social activities and to vote. The youth engagement progression framework implementation plan, presented to the Assembly on 1 October, estimated that the cost of NEETs to Wales as a whole is around £2 billion. The University of York estimates that the additional lifetime costs associated with these people was over £160,000 per person.

Dangosodd ymchwil y Sefydliad ar gyfer Cydweithrediad a Datblygiad Economaidd fod gan bobl sy'n ymwneud yn barhaus â rhyw fath o addysg drwy gydol eu bywydau ddisgwyliad oes uwch a'u bod yn fwy tebygol o ymwneud â gweithgareddau cymdeithasol a phleidleisio. Amcangyfrifodd cynllun gweithredu'r fframwaith ymgysylltu a datblygu ieuenctid, a gyflwynwyd i'r Cynulliad ar 1 Hydref, fod pobl ifanc nad ydynt mewn addysg, cyflogaeth na hyfforddiant yn costio tua £2 biliwn i Gymru yn gyffredinol. Mae Prifysgol Caerefrog yn amcangyfrif bod y costau oes ychwanegol sy'n gysylltiedig â'r bobl hyn dros £160,000 yr un.

One relatively new category of young adults who are seeking employment is those who are told that they are over-qualified because they have one or more degree. The incidence of long-term unemployment decreases as the level of educational attainment rises. On average, across OECD countries, the proportion of 15 to 29-year-olds who completed secondary education, but not in school, who have been unemployed for more than six years is higher than for the proportion of 15 to 29-year-olds who completed tertiary education.

Un categori cymharol newydd o oedolion ifanc sy'n chwilio am waith yw'r rhai y dywedir wrthynt fod ganddynt ormod o gymwysterau am fod ganddynt un neu fwy o raddau. Mae nifer yr achosion o ddiweithdra hirdymor yn gostwng wrth i lefel y cyrhaeddiad addysgol gynyddu. Ar gyfartaledd, yng ngwledydd yr OECD, mae cyfran y bobl rhwng 15 a 29 oed a gwblhaodd addysg uwchradd, ond nid yn yr ysgol, sydd wedi bod yn ddi-waith am fwy na chwe blynedd yn uwch na chyfran y bobl ifanc rhwng 15 a 29 oed a gwblhaodd addysg drydyddol.

While Wales has a strategy for early years, the greatly welcomed and effective Flying Start, and a strategy for 14 to 19-year-olds, there appears to be a lack of a linking strategy to ensure that people do not fall through the gap and out of the system in those crucial years. Unless this issue is addressed, the rate of youth unemployment, the spiralling costs of care and rehabilitation and social costs will continue to rise.

Er bod gan Gymru strategaeth ar gyfer y blynyddoedd cynnar, Dechrau'n Deg, sef menter sydd i'w chroesawu'n fawr ac sy'n effeithiol, a strategaeth ar gyfer dysgwyr 14 i 19 oed, ymddengys fod diffyg strategaeth gysylltiol i sicrhau nad yw pobl yn syrthio drwy'r agendor a gadael y system yn ystod y blynyddoedd holbwysig hynny. Onid eir i'r afael â'r mater hwn, bydd y gyfradd diweithdra ymhlith pobl ifanc, costau cynyddol gofal ac adsefydlu a chostau cymdeithasol yn parhau i gynyddu.

17:51 **Nick Ramsay** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I think that all AMs in this Chamber recognise that a strong and robust education system is vital to the future prosperity of Wales and its people. I think that we also all recognise that there are attainment gaps holding back different groups of children. I know that the Minister himself would recognise that. Whatever your viewpoint, however you think that things should be changed, there is no doubt at all that certain groups are being held back more than they should be.

Credaf fod pob AC yn y Siambr hon yn cydnabod bod system addysg gadarn yn hanfodol i ffyniant Cymru a'i phobl yn y dyfodol. Credaf fod pob un ohonom yn cydnabod hefyd fod bylchau mewn cyrhaeddiad yn dal gwahanol grwpiau o blant yn ôl. Gwn y bydd y Gweinidog ei hun yn cydnabod hynny. Beth bynnag fo'ch safbwynt, pa ffordd bynnag, y credwch y dylid newid pethau, nid oes amheuaeth o gwbl nad yw rhai grwpiau yn cael eu dal yn ôl yn fwy nag y dylent.

Many of the points that I wanted to make have already been made, but I want to focus on the employment aspect of this, because we have had discussions and debates on vocational learning over the last couple of weeks, certainly from the Welsh Conservatives. The reason for that is that we believe that there should be far more of a vocational focus on education and that we should see the merits of education as a run-in to a job and of teaching skills that are going to be useful, whatever someone might want to focus on, early in life and also later in life. Therefore, we think that it would be helpful to have a far greater focus on a specific eight to 14 age group strategy. My colleague William Graham has already mentioned the high figures of NEETS—those not in education, employment or training—in Wales, which the Enterprise and Business Committee has looked at and on which it had a very successful inquiry.

Mae llawer o'r pwyntiau yr oeddwn am eu gwneud eisoes wedi cael eu gwneud, ond hoffwn ganolbwyntio ar yr agwedd sy'n ymwneud â chyflogaeth, oherwydd rydym wedi cael trafodaethau a dadleuon ynglŷn â dysgu galwedigaethol yn ystod yr ychydig wythnosau diwethaf, yn sicr gan y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig. Y rheswm dros hynny yw ein bod yn credu y dylai fod llawer mwy o ffocws galwedigaethol ar addysg ac y dylem weld manteision addysg fel paratoad ar gyfer swydd a sgiliau a fydd yn ddefnyddiol, ni waeth beth y bydd rhywun am ganolbwyntio arno, yn gynnar mewn bywyd a hefyd yn ddiweddarach mewn bywyd. Felly, credwn y byddai'n ddefnyddiol cael llawer mwy o ffocws ar strategaeth benodol ar gyfer y grŵp wyth i 14 oed. Soniodd fy nghyd-Aelod William Graham eisoes am ffigurau uchel y rhai nad ydynt mewn addysg, cyflogaeth na hyfforddiant yng Nghymru, y mae'r Pwyllgor Menter a Busnes wedi'u hystyried ac y mae wedi cynnal ymchwiliad llwyddiannus iawn iddynt.

As I said, this ties in with previous Welsh Conservative debates, where we have called for a greater focus on vocational learning. I am sure that, in his response, the Minister will find something to criticise the speakers on this side of the Chamber about. [Interruption.] You will find something, I am sure, to agree with as well, but you will find something to criticise, and that is the rough-and-tumble of politics and different party views. However, Minister, you have said that you want to create a fairer education system and that you want to break links between poverty on the one hand and educational attainment on the other. While we do not have all the answers—far from it—we also feel that the Welsh Government currently does not have all the answers either, and it would be foolish of anybody to say that it does. By at least looking at our proposal and our strategy to concentrate on what is a missed age group—the Labour Party is keen to talk about missed groups of people in other respects, and rightly so; please do the same thing here—it could provide a much smoother transition between the foundation phase and the 14-19 learning pathway area. We think that that pathway could help to achieve this.

Fel y dywedais, mae hyn yn cyd-fynd â dadleuon blaenorol y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig, lle rydym wedi galw am fwy o ffocws ar ddysgu galwedigaethol. Rwy'n siŵr y bydd y Gweinidog yn ei ymateb, yn dod o hyd i rywbeth i feirniadu'r siaradwyr ar yr ochr hon i'r Siambr yn ei gylch. [Torri ar draws.] Byddwch yn dod o hyd i rywbeth i gytuno yn ei gylch hefyd, mae'n siŵr gennyf, ond byddwch yn dod o hyd i rywbeth i'w feirniadu, a dyna sgarmesoedd byd gwleidyddiaeth. a gwahanol safbwyntiau plaid. Fodd bynnag, Weinidog, rydych wedi dweud eich bod am greu system addysg decach a'ch bod am dorri'r cysylltiadau rhwng tlodi ar y naill law a chyrhaeddiad addysgol ar y llaw arall. Er nad oes gennym yr holl atebion—o bell ffordd—rydym hefyd yn teimlo nad oes gan Lywodraeth Cymru yr holl atebion ychwaith ar hyn o bryd, ac annoeth fyddai i unrhyw un ddweud fel arall. Drwy o leiaf edrych ar ein cynnig a'n strategaeth i ganolbwyntio ar yr hyn sy'n grŵp oedran coll—mae'r Blaid Lafur yn awyddus i sôn am grwpiau o bobl a gollwyd mewn ffyrdd eraill, a hynny'n briodol; gwnewch yr un peth yma—gallai gynnig cyfnod pontio llawer mwy esmwyth rhwng y cyfnod sylfaen a'r llwybr dysgu 14-19. Credwn y gallai'r llwybr hwnnw helpu i gyflawni hyn.

Building on what other speakers have said, pupils would see a more pastoral, targeted approach, which should help to identify problems and issues early on to ensure that the necessary attention and assistance are provided to individuals. Referring again to work that has been done by the Enterprise and Business Committee, in the area of apprenticeships, one of our key recommendations was that children and young people who would benefit later on in life from an apprenticeships should be introduced to the concept of apprenticeships long before they might even know what areas they would want to focus on. That can happen in primary school and, certainly, we feel that that sort of approach across the education system and across the academic area would help, and provide those young people with far more targeted support and pastoral care far earlier.

Gan adeiladu ar yr hyn y mae siaradwyr eraill wedi ei ddweud, byddai disgyblion yn gweld ymagwedd fwy bugeiliol, wedi'i thargedu a ddylai helpu i nodi problemau'n gynnar er mwyn sicrhau bod unigolion yn cael y sylw a'r cymorth angenrheidiol. Gan gyfeirio eto at waith a wnaed gan y Pwyllgor Menter a Busnes ym maes prentisiaethau, un o'n prif argymhellion oedd y dylid cyflwyno'r syniad o brentisiaethau i blant a phobl ifanc, a fyddai'n elwa yn diweddarach mewn bywyd, ymhell cyn y byddent hyd yn oed yn gwybod o bosibl pa feysydd y byddent am ganolbwyntio arnynt. Gall hynny ddigwydd yn yr ysgol gynradd ac, yn sicr, teimlwn y byddai gweithredu o'r fath drwy'r system addysg a byd academaidd yn fuddiol, ac yn rhoi cymorth a gofal bugeiliol wedi'u targedu'n llawer gwell i'r bobl ifanc hynny yn gynharach o lawer.

Very briefly, Jenny Rathbone got me thinking about the attainment gap between girls and boys, which has been a long-standing issue. We know that. I do not know whether it was you who mentioned it or one of the other Assembly Members, but numbers have slightly improved. However, the gap is still bigger than in England. Things have improved, but we need to see that that continues in the right direction.

Yn gryno iawn, gwnaeth Jenny Rathbone wneud imi feddwl am y bwlch cyrhaeddiad rhwng merched a bechgyn, sydd wedi bod yn broblem ers tro. Gwyddom hynny. Ni wn ai chi neu un o Aelodau eraill y Cynulliad a soniodd am hyn, ond mae'r ffigurau wedi gwella ychydig. Fodd bynnag, erys y bwlch yn fwy nag ydyw yn Lloegr. Mae pethau wedi gwella, ond mae angen inni weld bod hynny'n parhau i fynd i'r cyfeiriad cywir.

There is a trend, which sees girls consistently outscore boys at all key stage measurements, with the latest figures showing that 70.2% of girls in Wales gain A* to C grades at GCSE, compared with 61.8% of their male counterparts. Perhaps in the past there was no focus on dealing with this. Perhaps it was not seen by politicians as important an issue as it should have been, but that is no longer the case. We have a chance here to develop a strategy that will narrow that gap and provide a far more focused type of education and pastoral care for children in Wales across the board. For goodness' sake, let us get on with dealing with that age group. Whether the Minister intends them to be missed out or not, they certainly feel that they have been missed out, and a number of vocational opportunities later in life have been missed out. Please take this debate in the spirit that it is meant, Minister, and I hope that you take something good from it.

Mae tuedd, sy'n golygu bod merched yn gwneud yn well na bechgyn yn gyson ym mhob mesuriad cyfnod allweddol, gyda'r ffigurau diweddaraf yn dangos bod 70.2% o ferched yng Nghymru yn ennill graddau A* i C mewn arholiadau TGAU, o gymharu â 61.8% o fechgyn. Efallai yn y gorffennol na fu unrhyw ffocws ar ymdrin â hyn. Efallai nad oedd gwleidyddion yn ei ystyried yn fater mor bwysig ag y dylent fod wedi ei wneud ond nid yw hynny'n wir bellach. Cawn gyfle yma i ddatblygu strategaeth a fydd yn lleihau'r bwlch hwnnw a chynnig math o addysg a gofal bugeiliol ac iddynt lawer mwy o ffocws i blant yng Nghymru yn gyffredinol. Er mwyn popeth, gadewch inni fwrw ymlaen ag ymdrin â'r grŵp oedran hwnnw. Pa un a yw'r Gweinidog yn bwriadu iddynt gael eu diystyru ai peidio, maent yn sicr yn teimlo eu bod wedi cael eu diystyru, a'u bod wedi colli nifer o gyfleoedd galwedigaethol yn ddiweddarach mewn bywyd. Weinidog, a wnewch chi dderbyn y ddadl hon yn yr ysbryd y'i bwriadwyd, a gobeithio y byddwch yn cael rhyw fudd ohoni

17:56 **Huw Lewis** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau / The Minister for Education and Skills

I welcome this debate today; it offers me an opportunity, among other things, to set the record straight on a number of key points. There are attainment gaps in Wales and, in acknowledgement of the amendment made by Elin Jones, we know that students entitled to free school meals who achieve five good GCSEs, including English or Welsh and mathematics—which we refer to as level-2 inclusive—is less than half the figure for students from more affluent backgrounds. I have made it crystal clear that this is unacceptable. However, this motion does not acknowledge that, as a result of the unrelenting focus on breaking the link between deprivation and low attainment, we are beginning to see some positive progress. It does not acknowledge the scale, for instance, of our capital investment to provide state-of-the-art infrastructure in deprived communities. Go to see the new builds across Wales; take a look at the wonderful new college in my own town of Merthyr or its twin development over in Ebbw Vale.

Croesawaf y ddadl hon heddiw; mae'n cynnig cyfle imi, ymhlith pethau eraill, nodi'r ffeithiau ynglŷn â nifer o bwyntiau allweddol. Ceir bylchau o ran cyrhaeddiad yng Nghymru ac, er mwyn cydnabod y gwelliant a gyflwynwyd gan Elin Jones, gwyddom fod myfyrwyr sydd â hawl i gael prydau ysgol am ddim ac sy'n ennill pum TGAU da, gan gynnwys Saesneg neu Gymraeg a mathemateg—yr ydym yn cyfeirio ato fel trothwy cynwysedig lefel 2—yn llai na hanner y ffigur ar gyfer myfyrwyr o gefndiroedd mwy cefnog. Rwyf wedi dweud yn hollol glir bod hyn yn annerbyniol. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'r cynnig hwn yn cydnabod, o ganlyniad i'r ffocws di-ildio ar dorri'r cysylltiad rhwng amddifadedd a chyrhaeddiad isel, ein bod yn dechrau gweld rhywfaint o gynnydd cadarnhaol. Nid yw'n cydnabod, er enghraifft, raddfa ein buddsoddiad cyfalaf i ddarparu seilwaith o'r radd flaenaf mewn cymunedau difreintiedig. Ewch i weld yr adeiladau newydd ledled Cymru; ewch i weld y coleg newydd gwych yn fy nhref fy hun, Merthyr, neu'r datblygiad cyfatebol yng Nglynebwy.

This motion also does not acknowledge the doubling of funding for the pupil deprivation grant announced in the draft budget earlier this month, although I note that Aled Roberts has helpfully pointed this out in his amendment. It does not acknowledge the importance of teaching and learning in achieving equity of learning outcomes for all of our children and young people, and this includes young carers, of course. Through good teaching and learning we ensure that our children remain engaged in the learning process. This Welsh Government's focus on ensuring that we get the early years right is absolutely correct. Our sustained investment in the foundation phase is reaping dividends. The evidence shows that we are equipping young children with the confidence to learn and grow. Indeed, Estyn reports that, in many schools, the approaches used in the foundation phase are helping to improve children's motivation and their attitudes to learning. Boys, in particular, are benefiting from active learning approaches that engage them more directly.

Nid yw'r cynnig hwn ychwaith yn cydnabod y penderfyniad i ddyblu cyllid ar gyfer y grant amddifadedd disgyblion a gyhoeddwyd yn y gyllideb ddrafft yn gynharach y mis hwn, er fy mod yn nodi bod Aled Roberts wedi tynnu sylw at hyn yn ei welliant. Nid yw'n cydnabod pwysigrwydd addysgu a dysgu i sicrhau'r un deilliannau dysgu i'n holl blant a phobl ifanc, ac mae hyn yn cynnwys gofalwyr ifanc, wrth gwrs. Drwy addysgu a dysgu da rydym yn sicrhau bod ein plant yn parhau i gymryd diddordeb yn y broses ddysgu. Mae ffocws o'r fath gan Lywodraeth Cymru ar sicrhau ein bod yn cael y blynyddoedd cynnar yn iawn yn gwbl gywir. Mae ein buddsoddiad parhaus yn y cyfnod sylfaen yn dwyn ffrwyth. Dengys y dystiolaeth ein bod yn magu hyder plant ifanc i ddysgu a thyfu. Yn wir, mae Estyn yn nodi, mewn llawer o ysgolion, fod y dulliau a ddefnyddir yn y cyfnod sylfaen yn helpu i wella cymhelliant plant a'u hagweddau tuag at ddysgu. Mae bechgyn, yn arbennig, yn elwa ar ddulliau dysgu gweithredol sy'n ennyn eu diddordeb yn fwy uniongyrchol.

For those young people already in danger of disengagement, we launched the new youth engagement and progression framework earlier this month. We identified in our programme for government that increasing the levels of youth engagement and employment is a priority for us in Wales. The framework is a key plank in our ambition to reduce the number of young people not in education, employment or training. The framework takes a system-wide perspective to support the offer of a youth guarantee, ensuring that all young people have access to a suitable place in post-16 learning or training.

I'r bobl ifanc hynny sydd eisoes mewn perygl o ymddieithrio, lansiwyd y fframwaith ymgysylltu a datblygu pobl ifanc newydd yn gynharach y mis hwn. Nodwyd gennym yn ein rhaglen lywodraethu bod gwella lefelau o ymgysylltu a chyflogaeth ymhlith pobl ifanc yn flaenoriaeth inni yng Nghymru. Mae'r fframwaith yn elfen allweddol o'n huchelgais i leihau nifer y bobl ifanc nad ydynt mewn addysg, cyflogaeth na hyfforddiant. Mae'r fframwaith yn arddel safbwynt system gyfan i gefnogi'r cynnig o warant ieuenctid, gan sicrhau bod yr holl bobl ifanc yn cael cyfle i gael lle addas mewn dysgu ôl-16 neu hyfforddiant.

Moving on to the issue of transition and the amendment made by Aled Roberts, I fully understand the importance of effective transition arrangements. Uniquely in Wales, we require maintained secondary schools and their feeder primary schools to draw up a transition plan to support pupils in making the move from primary to secondary education. There are some excellent examples of good practice where secondary schools work with their cluster schools on curriculum planning, classroom practice and practical approaches, such as familiarisation visits by primary schools to the secondary school. One such example is Sandfields Comprehensive School in Newport. I beg your pardon, I have just moved Sandfields from Neath Port Talbot to Newport and I can feel the daggers at my back. I am sorry about that. [Laughter.] Sandfields Comprehensive School in Neath Porth Talbot has a dedicated transitions teacher, and pupils feel well supported in making the change to the big school.

Gan symud ymlaen at fater pontio a'r gwelliant a gyflwynwyd gan Aled Roberts, llwyr ddeallaf bwysigrwydd trefniadau pontio effeithiol. Rydym yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i ysgolion uwchradd a gynhelir a'r ysgolion cynradd sy'n eu bwydo lunio cynllun pontio i gefnogi disgyblion sy'n symud o addysg gynradd i addysg uwchradd, sy'n rhywbeth unigryw i Gymru. Ceir rhai enghreifftiau ardderchog o arfer da lle mae ysgolion uwchradd yn gweithio gyda'u hysgolion clwstwr ar gynllunio'r cwricwlwm, ymarfer yn yr ystafell ddosbarth a dulliau gweithredu ymarferol, megis ymweliadau ymgyfarwyddo gan ysgolion cynradd â'r ysgol uwchradd. Un enghraifft o'r fath yw Ysgol Gyfun Sandfields yng Nghasnewydd. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, rwyf newydd symud Sandfields o Gastell-nedd Port Talbot i Gasnewydd a gallaf deimlo'r cyllyll yn fy nghefn. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf am hynny. [Chwerthin.] Mae gan Ysgol Gyfun Sandfields yng Nghastell-nedd Port Talbot athro pontio penodol, ac mae disgyblion yn teimlo eu bod yn cael cymorth da wrth iddynt symud i'r ysgol fawr.

Jenny Rathbone was quite correct to stress the importance of data tracking and monitoring throughout all age groups. I can assure Jenny that I am taking a concentrated look at this issue right across the board.

Roedd Jenny Rathbone yn llygad ei lle i bwysleisio pwysigrwydd olrhain a monitro data ym mhob grŵp oedran. Gallaf roi sicrwydd i Jenny fy mod yn edrych o ddifrif ar y mater hwn yn gyffredinol.

I note again that the Conservative Party has called for a robust and discrete 8-14 education strategy. My response to this is that I agree that there is an issue, for instance, with key stage 3. We will be revisiting what that is delivering for our young people. I have also announced that we will be looking at change at key stage 2. However, I do not accept that we need an 8-14 education strategy per se.

Nodaf eto fod y Blaid Geidwadol wedi galw am strategaeth addysg gadarn ac ar wahân i ddisgyblion 8-14 oed. Fy ymateb i hyn yw fy mod yn cytuno bod problem, er enghraifft, o ran cyfnod allweddol 3. Byddwn yn edrych eto ar yr hyn y mae'n ei gyflawni i'n pobl ifanc. Rwyf hefyd wedi cyhoeddi y byddwn yn edrych ar newid yng nghyfnod allweddol 2. Fodd bynnag, ni dderbyniaf fod angen inni gael strategaeth addysg 8-14 fel y cyfryw.

In the case of Aled Roberts's proposed amendment asking for school banding to be reformed, the model used to calculate bands will be reviewed periodically. This is to ensure that it continues to reflect the main priorities for education in Wales, and that it is responsive to changes in education. Banding has already led to improvements in the system, and I am keen that it continues to play its part in securing a step-change in performance across the board.

Yn achos gwelliant arfaethedig Aled Roberts yn gofyn am i'r system bandio ysgolion gael ei diwygio, bydd y model a ddefnyddir i gyfrifo bandiau yn cael ei adolygu o bryd i'w gilydd, a hynny er mwyn sicrhau ei fod yn parhau i adlewyrchu prif flaenoriaethau addysg yng Nghymru, a'i fod yn ymateb i newidiadau mewn addysg. Mae bandio eisoes wedi arwain at welliannau yn y system, ac rwy'n awyddus ei bod yn parhau i chwarae ei rhan i sicrhau newid sylweddol mewn perfformiad yn gyffredinol.

18:01

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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I call on Angela Burns to reply to the debate.

Galwaf ar Angela Burns i ymateb i'r ddadl.

18:01

Angela Burns Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, I really feel that you must not be quite so sensitive. There are all sorts of things in the education system that I did not acknowledge because they were not a part of the focus of this debate. However, the one thing that I did acknowledge was that the national curriculum proposals that you are putting out for consultation have a really strong part to play in helping us to build that robust and discrete system of education from eight to 14, where we can capture those children.

Weinidog, rwyf wir yn teimlo na ddylech fod mor sensitif. Mae pob math o bethau yn y system addysg nad oeddwn wedi'u cydnabod am nad oeddent yn rhan o ffocws y ddadl hon. Fodd bynnag, un peth a gydnabuwyd gennyf oedd y bydd y cynigion ynglŷn â'r cwricwlwm cenedlaethol yr ydych yn eu cyhoeddi ar gyfer ymgynghoriad yn chwarae rhan wirioneddol bwysig o ran ein helpu i adeiladu'r system addysg gadarn ac ar wahân i ddisgyblion rhwng wyth a 14 oed, lle y gallwn ddal y plant hynny.

Simon, I picked up your point about transition. However, too many transitions do not go well. There is a move among some county councils to break the feeder school system and to do it on postcode rather than school clusters, which means that children will not be targeted in quite the same way that they are at present. If that goes ahead, it will destroy this fundamental idea that you will be transitioned with love, care and attention from school A to school B. We really need to be on our guard about that. If we had a distinct focus on 8-14 education, those are the kinds of nuances that we would really be alive to would be able to pick up —nuances that are happening out there today, in local education authorities and regional centres.

Simon, nodwyd eich pwynt am y cyfnod pontio gennyf. Fodd bynnag, mewn llawer o achosion nid yw'r broses bontio yn mynd rhagddi'n dda. Mae rhai cynghorau sir yn ystyried torri system yr ysgolion bwydo a gwneud hynny yn ôl côd post yn hytrach nag ar sail cystyrau o ysgolion, sy'n golygu na fydd plant yn cael eu targedu yn yr un ffordd yn union ag sy'n digwydd ar hyn o bryd. Os bydd hynny'n digwydd, bydd yn chwalu'r syniad sylfaenol hwn y byddwch yn cael eich trosglwyddo gyda chariad, gofal a sylw o ysgol A i ysgol B. Rhaid inni wir fod yn wyliadwrus ynghylch hynny. Pe bai gennym ffocws penodol ar addysg 8-14, dyna'r math o awgrymiadau y byddem yn effro iddynt ac yn gallu sylwi arnynt awgrymiadau sy'n cael eu cynnig heddiw, mewn awdurdodau addysg lleol a chanolfannau rhanbarthol.

Aled, this is where I disagreed with you: in one breath, you talked about the 3-15 system in Scotland and what that was doing, which was interesting, however, in the next breath, you said that we needed to let everything bed down before we started to try to do anything else. I have to say that that is rich for this Government, which puts out an awful lot of initiatives and ideas on a constant, never-ending churn. The poor teachers are batting them away left, right and centre. I would have thought that a strategy like this, which would have a very clear objective, would have been very useful.

Aled, dyma lle yr anghytunais â chi: un funud roeddech yn sôn am y system 3-15 yn yr Alban a'r hyn yr oedd honno'n ei wneud, a oedd yn ddiddorol, fodd bynnag, y funud nesaf, dywedasoch fod angen inni adael i bopeth ymsefydlu cyn inni ddechrau ceisio gwneud unrhyw beth arall. Rhaid imi ddweud bod hynny'n eirioni i'r Llywodraeth hon, sy'n cyflwyno mentrau a syniadau newydd byth a hefyd. Mae'r athrawon druain yn gorfod ymdopi â hwy o bob cyfeiriad. Byddwn wedi meddwl y byddai strategaeth fel hon, ac iddi amcan clir iawn, wedi bod yn ddefnyddiol iawn.

Jenny said it, and I wrote it down here: 'significant'. I think that 'significant' is a significant word. There is a significant number of 11-year-olds who cannot read or write. However you choose to cut and slice this, and however you would like to parcel it up, if we focus on eight to 14-year-olds to ensure that, by the time we are asking them to make life decisions about their vocational route, their academic route or a mix of both, we have children who are confident, who have courage, self-belief, self-worth, who can read well, who can write well and who have good comprehension skills, you will be able to teach them pretty much anything because you will have the greatest essence of all: a willing spirit and an educated mind. That is what we need for our children, and that is why, Minister, we are asking you to concentrate, though the national curriculum consultation, if you wish, on the 8-14 pathway.

Jenny a ddywedodd y gair, ac fe'i nodais yn ysgrifenedig yma: 'sylweddol'. Credaf fod y gair yn arwyddocaol. Mae nifer sylweddol o blant 11 oed nad ydynt yn gallu darllen nac ysgrifennu. Sut bynnag y byddwch yn dewis dehongli hyn, a sut bynnag yr hoffech ei grynhoi, os byddwn yn canolbwyntio ar ddisyblion wyth i 14 oed er mwyn sicrhau, erbyn inni ofyn iddynt wneud penderfyniadau bywyd am eu llwybr galwedigaethol, eu llwybr academaidd neu gyfuniad o'r ddau, fod gennym blant sydd â hyder, dewrder, hunangred, hunanwerth, sy'n gallu darllen yn dda, sy'n gallu ysgrifennu'n dda ac sydd â sgiliau darllen a deall da, byddwch yn gallu dysgu bron bopeth iddynt oherwydd bydd gennych yr hanfod pwysicaf oll: ysbryd parod a meddwl addysgedig. Dyna'r hyn yr ydym am ei gael i'n plant, a dyna pam, Weinidog, rydym yn gofyn ichi ganolbwyntio, drwy'r ymgynghoriad ynglŷn â'r cwricwlwm cenedlaethol, os dymunwch, ar y llwybr 8-14.

18:04

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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The proposal is to agree the motion without amendment. Does any Member object? There is objection. I defer all voting under this item until voting time.

Y cynnig yw y dylid cytuno ar y cynnig heb ei ddiwygio. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Mae gwrthwynebiad. Gohiriaf yr holl bleidleisio o dan yr eitem hon tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

Gohiriwyd y pleidleisio tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

Voting deferred until voting time.

18:04

Cyfnod Pleidleisio

Voting Time

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Before I proceed with the votes, are there three Members who wish for the bell to be rung? There are not.

Cyn inni symud ymlaen i bleidleisio, a oes tri Aelod sy'n dymuno i'r gloch gael ei chanu? Nac oes

[Canlyniad y bleidlais ar gynnig NDM5307](#)

[Result of the vote on motion NDM5307](#)

Gwrthodwyd y cynnig: O blaid 17, Yn erbyn 28, Ymatal 10.

Motion not agreed: For 17, Against 28, Abstain 10.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar gynnig NDM5341

Gwrthodwyd y cynnig: O blaid 12, Yn erbyn 43, Ymatal 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 1 i gynnig NDM5341

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 50, Yn erbyn 5, Ymatal 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 2 i gynnig NDM5341

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 43, Yn erbyn 0, Ymatal 12.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 3 i gynnig NDM5341

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 55, Yn erbyn 0, Ymatal 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 4 i gynnig NDM5341

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 55, Yn erbyn 0, Ymatal 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 5 i gynnig NDM5341

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 55, Yn erbyn 0, Ymatal 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 6 i gynnig NDM5341

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 44, Yn erbyn 0, Ymatal 10.

Cynnig NDM5341 fel y'i diwygiwyd:

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

1. Yn cydnabod bod bylchau cyrhaeddiad mewn addysg yng Nghymru, sy'n dal grwpiau gwahanol o blant yn ôl, yn arbennig y bwlch rhwng cyrhaeddiad ac amddifadedd, ac yn croesawu'r cynnydd yn y Grant Amddifadedd Disgyblion a gyhoeddwyd yng Nghyllideb Ddrafft 2014-15, a fydd yn helpu i dorri'r cyswllt rhwng tlodi a thangyflawni addysgol;

2. Yn credu y gall y rhai hynny nad ydynt yn cyrraedd eu potensial llawn yn aml deimlo wedi'u difreinio, a gall hyn arwain at broblemau yn ddiweddarach mewn bywyd;

3. Yn cydnabod bod gofalwyr ifanc yn benodol mewn perygl yn aml o dangyflawni'n addysgol oherwydd yr heriau ychwanegol y maen yn eu wynebu, ac yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i edrych ar ffyrdd o wella sut y mae adnabod gofalwyr ifanc a'u cefnogi er mwyn eu helpu i gyflawni eu potensial addysgol a'u cefnogi wrth iddynt ddatblygu i fod yn oedolion ac yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i ffurfioli partneriaethau rhwng ysgolion a sicrhau bod yr addysg blynyddoedd cynnar yn cynnig cydbwysedd gwell o addysgu bugeiliol ac academaidd, i helpu i wella'r broses pontio disgyblion o ysgolion cynradd i ysgolion uwchradd;

Result of the vote on motion NDM5341

Motion not agreed: For 12, Against 43, Abstain 0.

Result of the vote on amendment 1 to motion NDM5341

Amendment agreed: For 50, Against 5, Abstain 0.

Result of the vote on amendment 2 to motion NDM5341

Amendment agreed: For 43, Against 0, Abstain 12.

Result of the vote on amendment 3 to motion NDM5341

Amendment agreed: For 55, Against 0, Abstain 0.

Result of the vote on amendment 4 to motion NDM5341

Amendment agreed: For 55, Against 0, Abstain 0.

Result of the vote on amendment 5 to motion NDM5341

Amendment agreed: For 55, Against 0, Abstain 0.

Result of the vote on amendment 6 to motion NDM5341

Amendment agreed: For 44, Against 0, Abstain 10.

Motion NDM5341 as amended:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Recognises there are attainment gaps within Welsh education, which are holding back different groups of children, particularly the gap between attainment and deprivation and welcomes the increase in the Pupil Deprivation Grant announced in the Draft Budget 2014-15, which will help break the link between poverty and educational underachievement;

2. Believes those who are not achieving their full potential can often feel disenfranchised, and this can lead to problems in later life;

Recognises that young carers in particular are often vulnerable to educational underachievement due to the additional challenges they face, and calls on the Welsh Government to examine ways to improve identification and support for young carers to help fulfil their educational potential and support the transition into adulthood and calls on the Welsh Government to formalise partnerships between schools and ensure that the early years education offers a better balance of pastoral and academic teaching, to help improve the transition of pupils from primary to secondary schools;

4. Yn cydnabod ymhellach bod symud rhwng addysg gynradd ac uwchradd yn newid mawr ar gyfnod sydd eisoes yn anodd o ran datblygiad plentyn; a

4. Further recognises the move between primary and secondary education is a great upheaval at an already difficult period of a child's development; and

5. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau nad oes tarfu ar ddysgu yn ystod y cyfnod hwn drwy weithredu strategaeth addysg 8-14 oed gadarn ac i gefnogi disgyblion i gyrraedd eu potensial llawn drwy ddiwygio'r system bandio ysgolion i sicrhau ei bod yn mesur perfformiad ysgol yng nghyd-destun perfformiad disgyblion unigol.

5. Calls on the Welsh Government to ensure learning is not disrupted during this period by implementing a robust 8-14 education strategy and supporting pupils to reach their full potential by reforming the school banding system to ensure that it measures school performance with regard to individual pupil performance.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar gynnig NDM5341 fel y'i diwygiwyd

Result of the vote on motion NDM5341 as amended

Gwrthodwyd cynnig NDM5341 fel y'i diwygiwyd: O blaid 27, Yn erbyn 28, Ymatal 0.

Motion NDM5341 as amended not agreed: For 27, Against 28, Abstain 0.

18:07

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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Would those Members leaving the Chamber please do so quickly and quietly?

A wnaiff yr Aelodau hynny sy'n gadael y Siambr wneud hynny'n gyflym ac yn dawel os gwelwch yn dda?

18:08

Dadl Fer: Awtistiaeth: Bae Abertawe Dinas Diwylliant—Cyfle Creadigol i'r Economi

Short Debate: Swansea Bay City of Culture—a Creative Opportunity for the Economy.

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

For the short debate, I call on Suzy Davies to speak on the topic that she has chosen.

Ar gyfer y ddadl fer, galwaf ar Suzy Davies i siarad ar y pwnc y mae wedi'i ddewis.

18:08

Suzy Davies Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I begin by thanking those Members who have stayed in the Chamber this afternoon, particularly those who will be hearing about a venture that, on the face of it, has nothing to do with their constituency or region. I hope that you will leave this debate having reached the conclusion that the Swansea bay bid, if successful, to become the 2017 city of culture will benefit the whole of Wales. I am happy today to give time to Peter Black, Mike Hedges and Bethan Jenkins to contribute to the debate. I really thank the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport for responding to the debate—I see that as an acknowledgement that culture can be a catalyst for economic growth and regeneration.

Dechreuaf drwy ddiolch i'r Aelodau hynny sydd wedi aros yn y Siambr y prynhawn yma, yn enwedig y rhai a fydd yn clywed am fenter nad yw a wnelo dim, ar yr olwg gyntaf, â'u hetholaeth neu eu rhanbarth. Gobeithio y byddwch yn gadael y ddadl hon wedi dod i'r casgliad y bydd cais bae Abertawe, os bydd yn llwyddiannus, i ddod yn ddinas diwylliant 2017 o fudd i Gymru gyfan. Mae'n bleser gennyf heddiw roi amser i Peter Black, Mike Hedges a Bethan Jenkins gyfrannu at y ddadl. Hoffwn ddiolch yn fawr iawn i Weinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth am ymateb i'r ddadl—gan gydnabod, yn fy marn i, y gall diwylliant fod yn gatalydd ar gyfer twf economaidd ac adfywio.

The title of the bid is 'Our Creative Revolution'. Swansea bay and its copper smelting once led the world in the industrial revolution, and it now looks to draw on its twenty-first century raw materials: the clever, creative and resourceful people who live and work in the area included in the bid—Swansea, Gower, Neath Port Talbot and Carmarthenshire. It is a crucible of talent and a foundry of achievement. The council of the City and County of Swansea was responsible for drawing up the initial bid on behalf of all stakeholders, not just the other local authorities and public institutions, but the private sector and civil society—all of which participate in creative and cultural activities, whether they realise it or not.

Teitl y cais yw 'Ein Chwyldro Creadigol'. Bu bae Abertawe a'i ddiwydiant mwyndoddi copr unwaith yn arweinydd byd-eang yn ystod y chwyldro diwydiannol, ac mae bellach yn gobeithio manteisio ar y deunyddiau crai sydd ar gael iddo yn ystod yr unfed ganrif ar hugain: sef y bobl glyfar, greadigol a dyfeisgar sy'n byw ac yn gweithio yn yr ardal sy'n rhan o'r cais—Abertawe, Gŵyr, Castell-nedd Port Talbot a Sir Gaerfyrddin. Mae'n bair o dalent ac yn ffowndri o gyflawniad. Cyngor Dinas a Sir Abertawe fu'n gyfrifol am lunio'r cais cychwynnol ar ran yr holl randdeiliaid, nid dim ond yr awdurdodau lleol a'r sefydliadau cyhoeddus eraill, ond y sector preifat a chymdeithas sifil—y mae pob un ohonynt yn cymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau creadigol a diwylliannol, pa un a ydynt yn sylweddoli hynny ai peidio.

Members might be surprised to know that I worked at the Swansea Grand Theatre early in my career, gaining wider experience through co-operation with Swansea Arts Marketing and, later, with West Wales Arts. I can tell you that the number of people taking part in all kinds of creative activity has historically been very high in that region. What it lacked was a genuine sense of being joined together in one muscular, powerful, cultural community. That has meant that, from time to time, a bureaucratic risk-aversion has crept into local cultural life, which has deadened creativity and interest and left our arts and heritage a bit too dependent on public institutions and public funding. However, a dead hand cannot hold in Swansea bay people for long.

Efallai y bydd yr Aelodau yn synnu o glywed fy mod wedi gweithio yn Theatr y Grand Abertawe yn gynnar yn fy ngyrfa, gan fagu profiad ehangach drwy gydweithredu gyda Marchnata Celfyddydau Abertawe ac, yn ddiweddarach, gyda Chelfyddydau Gorllewin Cymru. Gwn fod nifer y bobl sy'n cymryd rhan mewn pob math o weithgaredd creadigol yn hanesyddol wedi bod yn uchel iawn yn y rhanbarth hwnnw. Ond nid oedd ymdeimlad gwirioneddol o weithredu fel un gymuned ddiwylliannol rymus a phwerus. O ganlyniad, o bryd i'w gilydd, bu rhywfaint o amharodrwydd biwrocrataidd i fentro yn rhan o fywyd diwylliannol lleol, gan lethu creadigrwydd a diddordeb ac esgor ar sefyllfa lle roedd ein celfyddydau a'n treftadaeth yn dibynnu gormod ar sefydliadau cyhoeddus ac arian cyhoeddus. Fodd bynnag, ni all y gorffennol lethu pobl bae Abertawe yn hir.

There is something in the character of the people in that part of Wales that means that they will not settle for the staid, the dull and the austere, and that is what the initial bid captured in its Cwtch brand—warmth, expressiveness and positivity. That Cwtch brand has already generated a huge amount of local support and celebrity endorsement for the bid. It conveys the idea of connectivity through cultural participation, and helps us to believe that we can be excellent, that we can achieve, and that we should be telling the world about that.

Mae rhywbeth yng nghymeriad y bobl yn y rhan honno o Gymru sy'n golygu nad ydynt yn barod i dderbyn y sobr, y diflas a'r llwm, a dyna'r hyn y llwyddodd y cais cychwynnol i'w gyfleu gyda'i frand Cwtch—cynhesrwydd, mynegiant ac agwedd gadarnhaol. Mae brand Cwtch eisoes wedi ennyn cryn dipyn o gefnogaeth leol a geiriau caredig gan enwogion i gefnogi'r cais. Mae'n cyfleu'r syniad o gysylltedd drwy gyfranogiad diwylliannol, ac yn ein helpu i gredu y gallwn fod yn wych, y gallwn gyflawni, ac y dylem fod yn hysbysu'r byd am hynny.

Whether we are talking about the vast beauty of the Gower peninsula or the vast beauty of a stained glass miniature, from copperopolis to Swansea University, from choirs to pub music, am-dram to world-class superstars, from Augustus John to Dylan Thomas, Russell T. Davies to Karl Jenkins, Oscar winners to Premier League winners—and, yes, I think we should imagine Premier League winners, because imagination is what this bid is all about—we should be using culture to build unity, and using imagination to come up with new ideas for our economy, regenerating communities, and a legacy of sustainability. That may start in Swansea bay, but it can inspire the whole of Wales to be creative rather than cautious about the way in which it faces its economic and social challenges.

Pa un a ydym yn sôn am harddwch eithriadol penrhyn Gŵyr neu harddwch eithriadol darn bach o wydr lliw, o copperopolis i Brifysgol Abertawe, o gorau i gerddoriaeth dafarn, am-dram i sêr byd-eang, o Augustus John i Dylan Thomas, Russell T. Davies i Karl Jenkins, enillwyr gwobrau Oscar i enillwyr yr Uwch Gynghrair—ac ydw, credaf y dylwn ddychmygu enillwyr yr Uwch Gynghrair, gan fod dychymyg yn rhan greiddiol o'r cais hwn—dylem fod yn defnyddio diwylliant i greu undod, ac yn defnyddio dychymyg i greu syniadau newydd ar gyfer ein heconomi, adfywio cymunedau, a threftadaeth o gynaliadwyedd. Efallai mai ym mae Abertawe y bydd dechrau'r broses, ond gall ysbrydoli Cymru gyfan i fod yn greadigol yn hytrach nac yn ochelgar wrth wynebu ei heriau economaidd a chymdeithasol.

It is imagination that has taken the Swansea bay bid through to the second round. The Department for Culture, Media and Sport must now choose between Swansea bay, Leicester, Dundee and Hull. Competition will be fierce, and the expanded final bid will need to be submitted by the end of this week. The draft is here—you can see how thick it is. The proposed programme is extensive, original and costed. It draws on some of Wales's uniqueness, its language and its hiraeth, but embellishes them with the uniqueness of Swansea bay, the waterside, the sanctuary, our storytellers, our innovators, linking cultural and economic productivity. Some of the evaluation processes remain unclear, but the document is honest about that. However, its ambitions for economic and social impact are set out in some detail.

Dychymyg sydd wedi tywys cais bae Abertawe i'r ail rownd. Yn awr, rhaid i'r Adran Diwylliant, y Cyfryngau a Chwaraeon ddewis rhwng bae Abertawe, Caerlŷr, Dundee a Hull. Bydd y gystadleuaeth yn ffyrnig, a bydd angen cyflwyno'r cais terfynol estynedig erbyn diwedd yr wythnos hon. Mae'r drafft fan hyn—gallwch weld pa mor drwchus ydyw. Mae'r rhaglen arfaethedig yn helaeth, yn wreiddiol ac wedi'i chostio. Mae'n manteisio ar rai o nodweddion unigryw Cymru, ei hiaith a'i hiraeth, ond gan eu cyfoethogi ymhellach â nodweddion unigryw bae Abertawe, y glannau, y warchodfa, ein chwedlonwyr, ein harloeswyr, gan gysylltu cynhyrchiant diwylliannol ac economaidd. Mae rhai o'r prosesau gwerthuso yn dal yn aneglur, ond mae'r ddogfen yn onest am hynny. Fodd bynnag, nodir ei dyheadau o ran effaith economaidd a chymdeithasol yn fanwl iawn.

The bid is looking at an additional budget of about £15 million over and above what Swansea would ordinarily spend in order to create a minimum of £70 million additional income—a clearly measureable benefit for a successful bid. However, it strikes me, actually, as the only unambitious element of the bid. One example of where there is scope for further development—and I only choose one—is tourism, where a predicted rise in the numbers of 12%, which is pretty high, equates to an income uplift of just 5%. That is about £19 million—over a quarter of the predicted income from a successful bid. Surely there is potential for more than that after five years of flatlining, and with better exploitation of opportunities arising from the presence of the Swans and world-class rugby teams. There is also a question about whether, with Swansea bay city region in development, tourism should be expected to bear a quarter of the load.

Mae'r cais yn ystyried cyllideb ychwanegol o tua £15 miliwn ar ben yr hyn y byddai Abertawe yn ei wario fel arfer er mwyn creu isafswm o £70 miliwn o incwm ychwanegol—budd y gellir ei fesur yn amlwg yn achos cais llwyddiannus. Fodd bynnag, mae'n fy nharo i, mewn gwirionedd, fel unig elfen anuchelgeisiol y cais. Un enghraifft y gellid ei datblygu ymhellach—ac un enghraifft yn unig ydyw—yw twristiaeth, lle y mae cynnydd a ragwelir o 12% yn y niferoedd, sy'n eithaf uchel, yn cyfateb i gynnydd incwm o ddim ond 5%. Mae hynny tua £19 miliwn—dros chwarter yr incwm a ragwelir o gais llwyddiannus. Onid oes potensial ar gyfer mwy na hynny ar ôl pum mlynedd o wastatáu, a chan fanteisio'n well ar gyfleoedd sy'n deillio o bresenoldeb yr Elyrch a thimau rygbi o'r radd flaenaf. Rhaid gofyn hefyd, o ystyried bod dinas-ranbarth bae Abertawe wrthi'n cael ei ddatblygu, pa un a ddylid disgwyl i dwristiaeth ysgwyddo chwarter y baich.

The bid claims that the city of culture would be a key priority for the city region board, which itself has 'the firmest support' from Welsh Government. That brings me to you, Minister. The bid document has been at pains to point out that the council is working with the Government on a range of initiatives, and that you have already invested in the region. That is certainly to be acknowledged and welcomed, and the development of the city region will account for much of that.

Mae'r cais yn honni y byddai'r ddinas diwylliant yn flaenoriaeth allweddol i fwrdd y dinas-ranbarth, y mae ganddo'i hun 'gefnogaeth gadarn' Llywodraeth Cymru. Mae hynny'n fy nhywys atoch chi, Weinidog. Roedd dogfen y cais yn awyddus iawn i nodi bod y cyngor yn gweithio gyda'r Llywodraeth ar amrywiaeth o fentrau, a'ch bod eisoes wedi buddsoddi yn y rhanbarth. Yn sicr, dylid cydnabod hynny a'i groesawu, a bydd y broses o ddatblygu'r dinas-ranbarth yn gwneud hynny i raddau helaeth.

The bid does not go as far as saying that the council has asked for—or that the Welsh Government has offered—a direct contribution to support the bid. I am tempted to ask why not, in view of the Government's ability to spend £3.5 million on refurbishing its offices here in Cardiff bay, and its ability to find £52 million from somewhere to buy an airport. However, I am mindful here of the Swansea city council's own failure, I suppose, to communicate as effectively as it might have with both Ministers and Assembly Members, and that the timing may have been unfortunate in terms of the preparation of the draft budget. In that case, Minister, I would be very grateful if you could tell us something about how the council is working with you on a range of initiatives, how the existing investment referred to might be used to pump prime or lever in new funds to support the bid, and how in particular the city region board might be able to create financing options.

Nid yw'r cais yn mynd mor bell â dweud bod y cyngor wedi gofyn am gyfraniad uniongyrchol i gefnogi'r cais—na bod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cynnig cyfraniad o'r fath. Caf fy nhemtio i ofyn pam ddim, o ystyried bod y Llywodraeth wedi llwyddo i wario £3.5 miliwn ar ailwampio ei swyddfeydd yma ym mae Caerdydd, ac wedi llwyddo i ddod o hyd i £52 miliwn o rywle i brynu maes awyr. Fodd bynnag, rwy'n ymwybodol yma o fethiant cyngor dinas Abertawe ei hun, tybiaf, i gyfathrebu mor effeithiol ag y dylai â Gweinidogion ac Aelodau'r Cynulliad, ac y gallai'r amseru fod wedi bod yn anffodus o ran y gwaith o baratoi'r gyllideb ddrafft. O ystyried hynny, Weinidog, byddwn yn ddiolchgar iawn pe gallech ddweud rhywbeth wrthym am sut y mae'r cyngor yn gweithio gyda chi ar ystod o fentrau, sut y gellid defnyddio'r buddsoddiad presennol y cyfeirir ato i ysgogi neu i ddenu arian newydd i gefnogi'r cais, a sut yn benodol y gallai bwrdd y dinas-ranbarth greu opsiynau ariannu.

I know that you consider this a real opportunity for Wales, Minister, not just in terms of cultural capital, but also for tackling poverty through innovative ideas for the economy and regeneration. I really would be grateful to hear how the Government will be supporting this bid and how you think others should be doing so as well.

Gwn eich bod o'r farn bod y cyfle hwn yn gyfle ardderchog i Gymru, Weinidog, nid yn unig o ran cyfalaf diwylliannol, ond hefyd o ran mynd i'r afael â thlodi drwy syniadau arloesol ar gyfer yr economi ac adfywio. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar iawn o gael clywed sut y bydd y Llywodraeth yn cefnogi'r cais hwn a sut y credwch y dylai pobl eraill fod yn gwneud hynny hefyd.

18:15

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

Are you allowing others to contribute to the debate?

A ydych yn caniatáu i bobl eraill gyfrannu at y ddadl?

18:15

Suzy Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

Yes, the three people I mentioned earlier, Deputy Presiding Officer.

Ydw, y tri pherson y soniais amdanynt yn gynharach, Ddirprwy Lywydd.

18:15 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I apologise, I did not hear you when you said that.

Ymddiheuraf, ni chlywais i chi'n dweud hynny.

18:15 **Suzy Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I am more than happy to repeat.

Rwy'n fwy na pharod i ailadrodd.

18:15 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

If you could repeat them, it would help.

Os gallech eu hailadrodd, byddai hynny o gymorth.

18:15 **Suzy Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Peter Black, Bethan Jenkins and Mike Hedges.

Peter Black, Bethan Jenkins a Mike Hedges.

18:15 **Bethan Jenkins** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I want to thank Suzy Davies for bringing this before us today. I know that she has put some work into trying to push this bid forward for Swansea. What we need to do is move the PR and communication of it beyond the region to Wales now, because I have had a concern that it has been very focused on one area of Wales, but I think that Wales as a whole can generate support for this festival. The Dylan Thomas celebrations coming up in Swansea could be a test case for how the bid could be successful in the sense of how people in the area use the provisions and the concerts and the gigs that will be put on over the next few weeks. I think that the Welsh Government should be taking a great interest in that. Obviously, the help to the economy is fundamental; we need private sector investment in Swansea, because there is an over reliance on the public sector. I hope that the Minster has heard the arguments that you have made today.

Hoffwn ddiolch i Suzy Davies am gyflwyno'r mater hwn ger ein bron heddiw. Gwn ei bod wedi gweithio'n galed i geisio rhoi hwb i'r cais hwn i Abertawe. Mae angen inni symud y broses cysylltiadau cyhoeddus a chyfathrebu mewn perthynas â'r cais y tu hwnt i'r rhanbarth i Gymru yn awr, oherwydd bûm yn pryderu ei fod wedi canolbwyntio'n sylweddol ar un ardal o Gymru, ond credaf y gall Cymru gyfan roi cefnogaeth i'r ŵyl hon. Gallai dathliadau Dylan Thomas sydd ar fin dechrau yn Abertawe fod yn achos prawf ar gyfer sut y gallai'r cais fod yn llwyddiannus o ran sut y mae pobl yn yr ardal yn defnyddio'r darpariaethau a'r cyngherddau a'r gigs a gaiff eu cynnal yn ystod yr ychydig wythnosau nesaf. Credaf y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru gymryd diddordeb mawr yn hynny. Yn amlwg, mae'r cymorth i'r economi yn hollbwysig; mae angen inni ddenu buddsoddiad gan y sector preifat i Abertawe, gan fod dibyniaeth ormodol ar y sector cyhoeddus. Gobeithio bod y Gweinidog wedi clywed y dadleuon a wnaed gennych heddiw.

18:16 **Peter Black** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I thank Suzy for bringing this debate to the Assembly today. It is really important that we are seen as an Assembly to get behind this bid. I know that every AM who represents Swansea and the region are 100% behind this. It is absolutely right that we draw on the heritage of the Swansea bay region as part of this bid. Also, the emphasis in the bid on regeneration is vital in making a distinctive case for the bid when we come to take it forward. I hope that the council improves the way it engages with AMs. It has not got that exactly right yet. It is now being based on the Swansea bay region, and, if all the councils in the Swansea bay region can get behind it, not just in name but also by committing resources to it, then we have a very good chance of winning.

Diolch i Suzy am gyflwyno'r ddadl hon i'r Cynulliad heddiw. Mae'n wirioneddol bwysig bod pobl yn gweld ein bod ni, fel Cynulliad, yn cefnogi'r cais hwn. Gwn fod pob AC sy'n cynrychioli Abertawe a'r rhanbarth yn ei gefnogi 100%. Mae'n gwbl briodol ein bod yn defnyddio treftadaeth rhanbarth bae Abertawe fel rhan o'r cais hwn. Hefyd, mae'r pwyslais yn y cais ar adfywio yn hanfodol o ran sicrhau elfen unigryw i'r cais pan fyddwn yn ei gyflwyno. Gobeithio y bydd y cyngor yn gwella'r ffordd y mae'n ymgysylltu ag ACau. Nid yw wedi llwyddo'n hollol yn hynny o beth eto. Mae bellach yn cael ei seilio ar ranbarth bae Abertawe, ac, os gall yr holl gynghorau yn rhanbarth bae Abertawe ei gefnogi, nid yn unig mewn enw ond drwy ymrwymo adnoddau iddo hefyd, yna mae gennym siawns dda iawn o ennill.

18:17 **Mike Hedges** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I also thank Suzy Davies for bringing this forward this evening. I fully support the Swansea bid for city of culture. I remember Tŷ Llên, when Swansea was the city of literature and was visited by former President Jimmy Carter. It certainly boosted Swansea, not only in Wales but across the whole world, that somebody of President Carter's stature came to visit us. The economic benefits would be not just for Swansea but for the whole region. Swansea has a reputation for being—in its rugby team, for example—a region and much more than just a city on its own. We already have a football team playing in the premier division, which has made Swansea well known. This is another opportunity and marketing ploy to push Swansea forward and build on Swansea's image on a world stage. I hope that it is successful.

Hoffwn ddiolch i Suzy Davies hefyd am gyflwyno'r mater hwn heno. Cefnogaf gais Abertawe i ddod yn ddinas diwylliant yn llwyr. Rwy'n cofio Tŷ Llên, pan oedd Abertawe yn ddinas llenyddiaeth ac yr ymwelodd y cyn Arlywydd Jimmy Carter â hi. Yn sicr, roedd yn hwb i Abertawe, nid yn unig yng Nghymru ond ledled y byd, bod rhywun o statws yr Arlywydd Carter wedi ymweld â ni. Byddai buddiannau economaidd i'r rhanbarth cyfan, nid dim ond i Abertawe. Mae gan Abertawe enw da am fod yn rhanbarth—o ran y tîm rygbi, er enghraifft—ac yn llawer mwy na dim ond yn ddinas ar ei phen ei hun. Mae gennym eisoes dîm pêl-droed yn chwarae yn yr uwch gynghrair, sy'n golygu bod Abertawe yn adnabyddus. Dyma gyfle arall ac arf marchnata i hybu Abertawe a gwella ei delwedd ar lwyfan y byd. Gobeithio y bydd yn llwyddiannus.

18:18 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I call on the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport to reply to the debate—Edwina Hart.

Galwaf ar Weinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth i ymateb i'r ddadl—Edwina Hart.

18:18 **Edwina Hart** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth / The Minister for Economy, Science and Transport

Thank you, Deputy Presiding Officer. I am very pleased to respond on behalf of the Government, because there will be a cross-Government response in terms of the city of culture bid by Swansea. Obviously, we wish Swansea well in its endeavours. Like Suzy Davies, we see it as an enormous opportunity not just for Swansea as a city, but also for the city region and for the wider engagement in Wales and the Welsh economy, which was a point made by Bethan Jenkins.

Diolch, Ddirprwy Lywydd. Mae'n bleser mawr gennyf ymateb ar ran y Llywodraeth, oherwydd bydd ymateb traws-Lywodraeth o ran cais Abertawe i ddod yn ddinas diwylliant. Yn amlwg, rydym yn dymuno'n dda i Abertawe yn ei hymdrechion. Fel Suzy Davies, rydym o'r farn ei fod yn gyfle aruthrol nid yn unig i Abertawe fel dinas, ond hefyd i'r dinas-ranbarth ac o ran sicrhau gwell cyfleoedd ymgysylltu i Gymru a'r economi yng Nghymru, sef pwynt a wnaed gan Bethan Jenkins.

I concur totally with Suzy that the Cwtch brand has caught the public's imagination. People who do not understand the word 'cwtch' now ask about it, which is significant in itself, because it is generating a level of interest. She is quite right that we have to look at the key economic issues around this. Looking at some of the creative industries around the Swansea area, we already have a basis to see how this could help. There has been significant growth in that particular sector in Swansea. The priority sector statistics that we have been collating indicate that Swansea saw a doubling of people working in that sector between 2005 and 2012, from 1,200 to 2,400. That is 10% of the employment in creative industries in Wales. That is really quite a high figure. Significant companies have also moved there—there is the Da Vinci studio on Fabian Way—which have helped to brand the city very well.

Cytunaf yn llwyr â Suzy bod brand Cwtch wedi dal dychymyg y cyhoedd. Mae pobl nad ydynt yn deall y gair 'cwtch' bellach yn holi cwestiynau amdano, sy'n arwyddocaol ynddo'i hun, gan ei fod yn ysgogi rhywfaint o ddiddordeb. Mae'n llygad ei lle bod angen inni edrych ar y materion economaidd allweddol sy'n gysylltiedig â hyn. Gan edrych ar rai o'r diwydiannau creadigol yn ardal Abertawe, mae gennym eisoes sail o ran gweld sut y gallai hyn helpu. Bu twf sylweddol yn y sector penodol hwnnw yn Abertawe. Noda'r ystadegau sector blaenoriaeth y buom yn eu casglu bod nifer y bobl a oedd yn gweithio yn y sector hwnnw wedi dyblu rhwng 2005 a 2012, o 1,200 i 2,400. Mae hynny'n cyfateb i 10% o'r swyddi yn y diwydiannau creadigol yng Nghymru, sy'n ffigur reit uchel. Mae cwmnïau pwysig hefyd wedi symud yno—stiwdio Da Vinci ar Fabian Way—sydd wedi bod o gymorth mawr wrth helpu i frandio'r ddinas.

We only have to look at the work that has been done locally to encourage entrepreneurship in cultural and creative industries. A lot of work went on in Swansea Metropolitan University, with the research and innovation centre it had. Also, we have had international exposure for Swansea in this area with a number of awards. The city of culture follows on from what Mike alluded to, in terms of other festivals we have held, but the point is that we need to keep up the momentum and we need to keep up the image of the city as a cultural place, which would help to strengthen the creative industries.

Nid oes ond rhaid inni edrych ar y gwaith a wnaed yn lleol i annog entrepreneuriaeth yn y diwydiannau diwylliannol a chreadigol. Gwnaed cryn dipyn o waith ym Mhrifysgol Fetropolitan Abertawe, mewn perthynas â'i chanolfan ymchwil ac arloesedd. Hefyd, mae Abertawe wedi cael llawer o sylw rhyngwladol yn y maes hwn gan ennill nifer o wobrau. Mae'r ddinas diwylliant yn dilyn o'r hyn y cyfeiriodd Mike ato, o ran gwyliau eraill a gynhaliwyd gennym, ond y gwir amdani yw bod angen inni gynnal y momentwm a pharhau i gyfleu delwedd o'r ddinas fel man diwylliannol, a fyddai'n helpu i atgyfnerthu'r diwydiannau creadigol.

In addition to that, you referred to football, and even the reports that have been done looking only at the economic benefits of football have shown how much that has helped in terms of the profile of the city and bringing money into the city, in terms of the economy. I, like her, hope that one day we will be on the top of the premier league, but am very glad that we are making sufficient progress to stay up in that division this year, with a good European run as well. The Welsh economic research unit has evaluated the economic impact of Swansea being in the premier league, and that shows around £16 million of gross value added. So, you only have to look at what is happening through football to see that, if we were successful in the bid for city of culture, which would be a year-long programme, with something happening all of the time, there would be enormous benefits coming into the city.

Yn ogystal â hynny, gwnaethoch gyfeirio at bêl-droed, ac mae hyd yn oed yr adroddiadau a luniwyd a oedd ond yn ystyried buddiannau economaidd pêl-droed wedi dangos cymaint y mae hynny wedi helpu o ran proffil y ddinas ac o ran denu arian i'r ddinas, o ran yr economi. Rwyf innau hefyd, fel hithau, yn gobeithio y byddwn ryw ddiwrnod ar frig yr uwch gynghrair, ond rwy'n falch iawn ein bod yn gwneud cynnydd digonol i aros yn yr adran honno eleni, gyda llwyddiant yn Ewrop hefyd. Mae uned ymchwil economaidd Cymru wedi gwerthuso effaith economaidd y ffaith bod Abertawe yn yr uwch gynghrair, ac mae hynny'n dangos gwerth ychwanegol crynswth o tua £16 miliwn. Felly, nid oes ond rhaid ichi edrych ar y sefyllfa o ran pêl-droed i weld y byddai buddiannau aruthrol i'r ddinas pe byddai'r cais i ddod yn ddinas diwylliant, a fyddai'n rhaglen blwyddyn o hyd, gyda digwyddiadau parhaus, yn llwyddiannus.

However, we have to see this in the context of some of the other events that we are doing in the city. The Dylan Thomas centenary, which is led by the Welsh Government with its various partners, will be the first stage, really, in highlighting the role of Swansea, as well as the significant links into west Wales, with Dylan Thomas' life. That is proving to be very good, in the sense that everybody in every local authority has been prepared to assist in the development of this bid. When we look in particular at the festival programme for the Dylan Thomas centenary, we recognise that all of the strands are coming together. In terms of Dylan Thomas, the association we have with Dylan's name, which will put Swansea on the map in 2014, augurs well if we have success in terms of the city of culture bid.

Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni ystyried hyn yng nghyd-destun rhai o'r digwyddiadau eraill sy'n cael eu cynnal yn y ddinas. Canmlwyddiant Dylan Thomas, o dan arweiniad Llywodraeth Cymru gyda'i hamrywiol bartneriaid, fydd y cam cyntaf, mewn gwirionedd, wrth dynnu sylw at rôl Abertawe, yn ogystal â'r cysylltiadau arwyddocaol â gorllewin Cymru, ym mywyd Dylan Thomas. Mae hynny'n profi'n fuddiol iawn, yn yr ystyr bod pawb ym mhob awdurdod lleol wedi bod yn barod i helpu i ddatblygu'r cais hwn. Wrth edrych yn benodol ar raglen gŵyl canmlwyddiant Dylan Thomas, gwelwn fod yr holl linynnau yn dod ynghyd. O ran Dylan Thomas, mae'r cysylltiad sydd gennym ag enw Dylan, a fydd yn rhoi Abertawe ar y map yn 2014, yn argoeli'n dda os bydd ein cais i fod yn ddinas diwylliant yn llwyddiannus.

We very much support the bid, and the city region certainly does. I attended a meeting of the city region—the interim embryonic board—and there was great enthusiasm from all the local authorities in the area. They saw this as being key, and wanted to give assistance to Swansea in whatever way it could—in kind, which might be in terms of the use of officers, or looking at a theme that might be developed in the city of culture that would have benefits elsewhere. I attended a maritime conference in Swansea recently, which talked about the maritime economy and the issues around maritime culture. We have all alluded to where Swansea went in terms of its industry; you only have to look at the names, dare I say it, of hostelries in Swansea, to see Swansea's connection with the world—the Cape Horner and the New York. All of that is actually quite important. So, there is a passion for this in Swansea and support from the other local authorities.

Rydym yn cefnogi'r cais yn frwd, ac yn sicr, mae'r dinas-ranbarth yn ei gefnogi'n frwd. Euthum i un o gyfarfodydd y dinas-ranbarth—y bwrdd embryonig interim—ac roedd brwdfrydedd mawr gan bob awdurdod lleol yn yr ardal. Roeddent o'r farn bod y cais yn allweddol, ac yn awyddus i helpu Abertawe ym mha bynnag ffordd bosibl—o ran adnoddau, er enghraifft y defnydd o swyddogion, neu gan ystyried thema y gellid ei datblygu yn y ddinas diwylliant a fyddai o fudd mewn mannau eraill. Euthum i gynhadledd forol yn Abertawe yn ddiweddar, a oedd yn sôn am yr economi forol a materion yn ymwneud â'r diwylliant morol. Mae pob un ohonom wedi cyfeirio at hanes Abertawe o ran ei diwydiant; nid oes ond rhaid ichi edrych ar enwau tafarndai yn Abertawe, os meiddiaf ddweud hynny, er mwyn gweld cysylltiad Abertawe â'r byd—y Cape Horner a'r New York. Mae hynny oll, mewn gwirionedd, yn bwysig iawn. Felly, mae brwdfrydedd tuag at hyn yn Abertawe yn ogystal â chefnogaeth gan yr awdurdodau lleol eraill.

We have done a substantial package of measures for the development and regeneration of Swansea, which I think is a good grounding for the bid. We have also said to the city that we are looking at how we could help in terms of other businesses. I and my department have looked at how I will be prepared to give expertise, particularly linking into the private sector, anchor companies and others, to look for private sector sponsorship, because that will also be important in the terms in which the bid has been developed. That help is already on hand.

Rydym wedi llunio pecyn sylweddol o fesurau ar gyfer datblygu ac adfywio Abertawe, sydd, yn fy marn i, yn sail dda ar gyfer y cais. Rydym hefyd wedi hysbysu'r ddinas ein bod yn ystyried sut y gallem helpu o ran busnesau eraill. Rwyf i a'm hadran wedi ystyried sut y byddaf yn barod i roi arbenigedd, gan gysylltu'n benodol â'r sector preifat, cwmnïau angori ac eraill, i chwilio am nawdd gan y sector preifat, oherwydd bydd hynny hefyd yn bwysig o ran y ffordd y datblygwyd y cais. Mae'r help hwnnw eisoes wrth law.

In current economic circumstances, I cannot make any open-ended commitment. I appreciate that in Derry there was help and assistance from the Northern Ireland Executive, because there was money from the peace process. However, to be frank, we have only just received the business case today from the City and County of Swansea council for us to look at to see how we can respond in a very genuine manner. Of course, there will be resource issues for it. There are issues within its bid that we will need to address. The only thing I can say to you is that we want Swansea to have this bid and we want it to be successful because we see the economic and tourism benefits and we see the benefits to the region and wider Wales. However, I will be happy, as these matters go forward—and I will discuss it with my colleague John Griffiths—to prepare a further statement for Members, as I can only say to Members that I am sorry that I could not give any further information, because I did not have the detail of the financial case of the bid until I sat down in the Chamber today.

O dan yr amgylchiadau economaidd presennol, ni allaf wneud unrhyw ymrwymiad penagored. Rwy'n ymwybodol bod Gweithrediaeth Gogledd Iwerddon wedi rhoi help a chymorth yn Derry, gan fod arian ar gael o'r broses heddwch. Fodd bynnag, a bod yn onest, dim ond heddiw y cawsom yr achos busnes gan gyngor Dinas a Sir Abertawe inni edrych arno a gweld sut y gallwn ymateb o ddifrif. Wrth gwrs, bydd problemau o ran adnoddau. Mae problemau o fewn y cais y bydd angen inni ymdrin â hwy. Yr unig beth y gallaf ei ddweud wrthych yw ein bod am i Abertawe gael cyfle i gyflwyno'r cais hwn a'n bod am iddo lwyddo oherwydd gallwn weld y buddiannau o ran yr economi a thwristiaeth a'r buddiannau i'r rhanbarth ac i Gymru yn ehangach. Fodd bynnag, byddaf yn fwy na pharod, wrth i'r materion hyn fynd rhagddynt—ac fe drafodaf hyn gyda'm cyd-Aelod John Griffiths—i baratoi datganiad pellach i'r Aelodau, gan na allaf ond dweud wrth yr Aelodau ei bod yn ddrwg gennyf na allwn roi rhagor o wybodaeth, gan mai dim ond pan eisteddais yn y Siambr heddiw y cefais fanylion ariannol y cais.

18:24 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Thank you, Minister. That concludes today's proceedings.

Diolch, Weinidog. Daw hynny â thrafodion heddiw i ben.

Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 18:24.

The meeting ended at 18:24.