



Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
(Y Cofnod Swyddogol)

The National Assembly for Wales
(The Official Record)

Dydd Mawrth 8 Ionawr 2002

Tuesday 8 January 2002

Cynnwys
Contents

- 3 Ethol Pwyllgor Penderfyniadau Cynllunio
Election of a Planning Decision Committee
- 4 Cwestiynau i Brif Weinidog Cymru
Questions to the First Minister
- 26 Datganiad ar Gymdeithas y Plant
Statement on the Children's Society
- 36 Datganiad ar Effeithiau Iechyd Sellafield
Statement on the Health Effects of Sellafield
- 45 Datganiad ar Newidiadau Arfaethedig i'r Gyllideb
Statement on Proposed Budget Changes
- 49 Datganiad Busnes
Business Statement
- 51 Pwynt o Drefn
Point of Order
- 55 Cymeradwyo Rheoliadau Cig Dofednod, Cig Adar Hela wedi'i Ffermio a Chig Cwningod (Hylendid ac Archwilio) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2002
Approval of the Poultry Meat, Farmed Game Bird Meat and Rabbit Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2002
- 56 Cymeradwyo Rheoliadau Addysg (Cyraeddiadau Disgyblion Unigol) (Gwybodaeth) (Cymru) (Diwygio) 2002 a Gorchymyn Addysg (Y Cwricwlwm Cenedlaethol) (Y Trefniadau Asesu ar gyfer Cymraeg, Saesneg, Mathemateg a Gwyddoniaeth) (Cyfnod Allweddol 1) (Cymru) 2002
Approval of the Education (Individual Pupils' Achievements) (Information) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2002 and the Education (National Curriculum) (Assessment Arrangements for English, Welsh, Maths and Science) (Key Stage 1) (Wales) Order 2002
- 72 Safon ar Gyfer Ansawdd Tai Cymru
Welsh Housing Quality Standard

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

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

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

Ethol Pwyllgor Penderfyniadau Cynllunio Election of a Planning Decision Committee

The Minister for Assembly Business Y Trefnydd (Andrew Davies): Cynigaf fod
(Andrew Davies): I propose

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p><i>1. that a Committee, to be known as Planning Decision Committee 2001/8, be established in accordance with Standing Order No. 35 to discharge those functions of the Assembly under sections 77(1) and 78(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 in respect of the matters identified in the schedule to this motion which are noted against each matter in that schedule and that the Assembly's functions in those respects be delegated to that Committee;</i></p> <p><i>2. that the members of that Committee be: Richard Edwards AM, Geraint Davies AM, Val Lloyd AM, Eleanor Burnham AM;</i></p> <p><i>3. that the Committee shall cease to exist when the Chair of the Committee signs the decision letter in accordance with Standing Order No. 35.16 or on 16 January 2002 whichever is the earlier;</i></p> <p><i>4. that if the Committee shall cease to exist without the Chair having signed a decision letter in respect of the matter identified in the schedule to this motion then in that event the functions identified in paragraph 1 above are, in relation to such matter, delegated to the First Secretary;</i></p> <p><i>5. that in the case of the matter referred to in paragraph 1 of the schedule to this motion the delegation to which this motion gives effect is to supersede that under the motion establishing Planning Decision Committee 2001/4.</i></p> | <p><i>1. fod Pwyllgor, i'w adnabod fel Pwyllgor Penderfyniadau Cynllunio 2001/8 yn cael ei sefydlu, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 35, i gyflawni swyddogaethau'r Cynulliad o dan adrannau 77(1) a 78(1) Deddf Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref 1990 mewn perthynas â'r materion a nodir yn yr atodlen i'r cynnig hwn sydd wedi'u nodi wrth bob mater yn yr atodlen honno, a bod swyddogaethau'r Cynulliad yn y cyswllt hwnnw yn cael eu dirprwyo i'r Pwyllgor hwnnw;</i></p> <p><i>2. mai aelodau'r Pwyllgor hwnnw fydd: Richard Edwards AC, Geraint Davies AC, Val Lloyd AC, Eleanor Burnham AC;</i></p> <p><i>3. y bydd y Pwyllgor yn peidio â bod pan fydd Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor yn llofnodi'r llythyr penderfynu yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 35.16 neu ar 16 Ionawr 2002, p'un bynnag sy'n dod gyntaf;</i></p> <p><i>4. os bydd y Pwyllgor yn peidio â bod heb i'r Cadeirydd lofnodi llythyrau penderfynu mewn perthynas â'r materion a nodir yn yr atodlen i'r cynnig hwn, yna yn yr achos hwnnw dirprwyir y swyddogaethau a nodir ym mharagraff 1 uchod, mewn perthynas â mater o'r fath, i'r Prif Ysgrifennydd;</i></p> <p><i>5. yn achos y mater y cyfeirir ato ym mharagraff 1 yr atodlen i'r cynnig hwn bydd y swyddogaethau a ddirprwywyd ac a ddaw i rym drwy'r cynnig hwn yn disodli'r swyddogaethau a ddirprwywyd yn y cynnig i sefydlu Pwyllgor Penderfyniadau Cynllunio 2001/4</i></p> |
|---|--|

Schedule

Called-in application by Marks and Spencer plc for proposed extension to the existing Marks and Spencer retail store on land west of existing Tesco store, Culverhouse Cross,

Atodlen

Cais wedi'i alw i mewn gan Marks and Spencer plc ar gyfer estyniad arfaethedig i siop bresennol Marks and Spencer ar dir i'r gorllewin o siop Tesco, Croes Cwrlwys,

Ely, Cardiff.

Trelai, Caerdydd.

Planning appeal by Welsh Water for proposed extension and alterations to Llanbedr Wastewater Treatment Works, Llanbedr, Harlech. (NDM904)

Apêl cynllunio gan Ddŵr Cymru ar gyfer estyniad ac addasiadau arfaethedig i Waith Trin Dŵr Gwastraff Llanbedr, Llanbedr, Harlech. (NDM904)

*Cynnig: O blaid 38, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion: For 38, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Geraint
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Jocelyn
Essex, Sue
German, Michael
Graham, William
Griffiths, John
Halford, Alison
Hancock, Brian
Hart, Edwina
Jarman, Pauline
Jones, Ann
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Law, Peter
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Rogers, Peter
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Wigley, Dafydd
Williams, Kirsty
Williams, Phil

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

Cwestiynau i Brif Weinidog Cymru Questions to the First Minister

Papur Gwyn ‘Policing a New Century’ ‘Policing a New Century’ White Paper

Q1 Alison Halford: What discussions has **C1 Alison Halford:** Pa drafodaethau y mae

the First Minister had with the Home Secretary over the 'Policing a New Century' White Paper? (OAQ14859)

Prif Weinidog Cymru wedi'u cael gyda'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref ynghylch y Papur Gwyn 'Policing a New Century'? (OAQ14859)

I wish everybody a happy new year.

Dymunaf flwyddyn newydd dda i bawb.

The First Minister (Rhodri Morgan): I have not discussed 'Policing a New Century: A Blueprint for Reform', with the Home Secretary. However, the Home Office consulted Assembly officials on the drafting of the paper, which concentrates on slimming down bureaucracy and reassigning tasks to free-up police officers to do their real and necessary jobs. This follows a recent independent study, 'Diary of a Police Officer', which found that officers were spending more time in the station, 43 per cent, than on the streets, 41 per cent.

Prif Weinidog Cymru (Rhodri Morgan): Nid wyf wedi trafod 'Policing a New Century: A Blueprint for Reform', gyda'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref. Fodd bynnag, ymgynghorodd y Swyddfa Gartref â swyddogion y Cynulliad wrth ddrafftio'r papur, sy'n canolbwyntio ar leihau biwrocratiaeth ac ailddosbarthu tasgau i ryddhau swyddogion yr heddlu i wneud eu gwaith gwirioneddol ac angenrheidiol. Mae hyn yn dilyn astudiaeth annibynnol, 'Dyddiadur Heddwes', a ganfu fod swyddogion yn treulio mwy o amser yn yr orsaf, 43 y cant, nag ar y strydoedd, 41 y cant.

Alison Halford: To speak from experience, things do not change. However, in light of your discussions, what lessons are to be drawn from the events surrounding last week's football match between Cardiff City and Leeds United, which is a police matter?

Alison Halford: A siarad o brofiad, nid yw pethau'n newid. Fodd bynnag, yng ngoleuni eich trafodaethau, pa wersi sydd i'w dysgu o'r digwyddiadau mewn perthynas â'r gêm bêl-droed yr wythnos diwethaf rhwng Caerdydd a Leeds United, sy'n fater i'r heddlu?

The First Minister: There are many lessons to be learnt from Sunday's events. The actions of a mindless few not only ruined a superb sporting victory by the 12 players who represented Cardiff City on that day, but caused lasting damage to Wales's good image, which may take some months to overcome. I am glad to see that Sam Hammam, the club's chairman, has also spoken out against those people. I quote his words, which I commend strongly:

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Mae llawer o wersi i'w dysgu o ddigwyddiadau dydd Sul. Nid yn unig y gwnaeth gweithredoedd lleiafrif disynnwyr ddifetha buddugoliaeth chwaraeon ardderchog gan y 12 o chwaraewyr a gynrychiolodd glwb pêl-droed Caerdydd ar y diwrnod hwnnw, ond gwnaeth hefyd niwed parhaus i ddelwedd dda Cymru, a allai gymryd rhai misoedd i'w unioni. Yr wyf yn falch o weld bod Sam Hammam, cadeirydd y clwb, wedi beirniadu'r bobl hynny. Dyfynnaf ei eiriau, ac yr wyf yn eu cymeradwyo'n gryf:

'People were throwing objects onto the pitch and that is what I really hate. People who do this are the real enemy. If we catch those people who threw things onto the pitch on Sunday, we will ban them from Ninian Park for life.'

I strongly commend those sentiments. However outstanding the job of South Wales Police in keeping rival fans apart, minimising the number of arrests and preventing harm to Leeds United fans, self-restraint by supporters is required. They must concentrate

Cymeradwyaf y teimladau hynny'n gryf. Nid oes gwahaniaeth pa mor wych yw gwaith Heddlu De Cymru wrth gadw cefnogwyr y ddau dîm ar wahân, wrth leihau'r nifer o arestiadau ac wrth atal niwed i gefnogwyr Leeds United, mae angen i gefnogwyr reoli

on the football and not on causing damage by throwing bottles at opposition players or referees. Those individuals ruined a great sporting occasion for Wales.

Dafydd Wigley: Yng nhyd-destun y Papur Gwyn, a wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ystyried teimladau nifer o uchel heddwision yng Nghymru y dylid trosglwyddo cyfrifoldeb dros yr heddlu o'r Swyddfa Gartref i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol? A wnaiff gadarnhau bod hawl gwneud hyn dan Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998, drwy drosglwyddo'r cyfrifoldeb i Swyddfa Cymru? Nid oes angen penderfyniad yn San Steffan. A wnaiff drafod y mater hwn gyda Paul Murphy?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Yr oedd Edwina Hart, fel y Gweinidog perthnasol, fod i gwrdd â'r pedwar prif gwnstabl yng Nghymru ar 14 Ionawr ond, yn anffodus, ni fydd hynny'n bosibl. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym dal yn bwriadu trafod y trosglwyddo hwn, sydd yn bosibilrwydd. Credaf fod y pedwar prif gwnstabl o blaid y trosglwyddo, ond ni allaf ddweud hynny'n bendant nes inni gwrdd â nhw. Byddai'n rhaid inni ymgynghori'n eang cyn y gallem gymryd cam o'r fath, ond mae llawer o gefnogaeth a dadleuon dros wneud hynny.

eu hymddygiad eu hunain. Rhaid iddynt ganolbwytnio ar y gêm ac nid ar beri niwed trwy daflu poteli at chwaraewyr y gwrthwynebwyr neu at ddyfarnwyr. Difethodd yr unigolion hynny ddigwyddiad chwaraeon arbennig i Gymru.

Dafydd Wigley: In the context of the White Paper, will the First Minister consider the views expressed by many senior police officers in Wales that the responsibility for the police should be transferred from the Home Office to the National Assembly? Will he confirm that this could be achieved under the Government of Wales Act 1998, by transferring the responsibility to the Wales Office? There is no need for a decision in Westminster. Will he discuss this matter with Paul Murphy?

The First Minister: Edwina Hart, as the relevant Minister, was due to meet Wales's four chief constables on 14 January but, unfortunately, this has not proved possible. However, we still intend to discuss this transfer, which is a viable option. I believe that all four chief constables are in favour of the transfer, but I cannot say that with certainty until we meet them. We would need wide-ranging consultation before such a step could be taken, but there is considerable support and strong arguments for doing so.

Cymorth Cymdeithasol ac Economaidd Social and Economic Assistance

C2 Gareth Jones: Yn rhinwedd ei swydd fel datblygwr polisi a chydlynedd materion trawsbynciol, pa gamau a gymerodd Prif Weinidog Cymru i sicrhau bod y cymunedau, sydd wedi dioddef yn sgîl swyddi lu a gollwyd yn ddiweddar, yn cael cymorth cymdeithasol ac economaidd? (OAQ14848)

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a'i phartneriaid, gan gynnwys yr awdurdodau lleol, yn cydlynu'r camau gweithredu pan fydd gwaith pwysig mewn cymuned yn cau. Yn ddiweddar, cryfhawyd y trefniant hwn pan lofnododd Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru a Dysgu ac Addysgu Cymru femorandwm cydddealltwriaeth i sicrhau eu bod yn mynd ati gyda'i gilydd i gefnogi cymunedau yr

Q2 Gareth Jones: In his role as policy developer and co-ordinator of cross-cutting issues, what steps has the First Minister taken to ensure that the communities that have recently suffered major job losses are receiving social and economic assistance? (OAQ14848)

The First Minister: The Welsh Assembly Government and its partners, including the local authorities, co-ordinate action when major employers leave communities. This arrangement was strengthened recently when the Welsh Development Agency and Education and Learning Wales signed a memorandum of understanding to ensure that they work in partnership to support communities affected by factory closures or

effeithir arnynt drwy gau ffatri neu golli swyddi. job losses.

2:10 p.m.

Gareth Jones: O fis Ebrill eleni, bydd y Canghellor yn gosod treth ychwanegol ar gynnyrch chwarel Hanson Aggregates ym Mhenmaenmawr, yn fy etholaeth i. Yn ôl y cwmni, bydd hyn yn debygol o achosi i'r chwarel gau, gan golli 40 o swyddi. Eisoes fe wyddoch am fygythiad gwirioneddol i bron i 200 o swyddi yn Nolgarrog. Hefyd, clywsom y bydd cwmni Arriva yn symud ei ganolfan gwasanaethau—ynghyd â'r swyddi sydd yno—o Gyffordd Llandudno i Lannau Mersi. Beth ydych yn bwriadu ei wneud i osgoi ergydion economaidd-ddinistriol o'r fath, sydd yn lladd ysbryd pobl yng ngogledd Cymru?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Byddwn yn ddiolchgar am fwy o fanylion ynglŷn â'r bygythiad i chwarel Hanson Aggregates ym Mhenmaenmawr. O ran Dolgarrog, mae Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru a Chyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Conwy yn rhoi cefnogaeth ariannol i astudiaeth ymgynghorwyr KPMG i asesu a oes ateb arall i broblem colledion ariannol Alcoa. Yr ydym yn parhau i fod yn obeithiol y gellir dod o hyd i ffordd arall a sicrhau bod y gwaith cynhyrchu yn Nolgarrog yn parhau. Y mae'n addawol fod y cwmni yn fodlon cefnogi'r astudiaeth a rhannu ffigurau mewnol gyda'r ymgynghorwyr. Felly, yr ydym yn parhau i fod yn obeithiol am ddyfodol Dolgarrog, er ei bod yn rhy gynnar i allu dweud yn bendant.

John Griffiths: Do you agree that the comprehensive response by the Assembly Government to the Corus cutbacks—and the fact that that response is now increasingly envied by English regions similarly affected by Corus cutbacks—shows the ability and the commitment of the Assembly Government to respond to crises in the Welsh economy?

The First Minister: Yes, I strongly take that view. We worked hard with all our partners to respond appropriately to Corus once it became clear that the company was not going to change its mind. That was one stage further than the stage we currently face with

Gareth Jones: From April, the Chancellor will place an additional tax on the produce of the Hanson Aggregates quarry in Penmaenmawr, in my constituency. According to the company, this is likely to lead to the closure of the quarry, with the loss of 40 jobs. You are aware of the very real threat to nearly 200 jobs in Dolgarrog. We have also heard that Arriva is to move its service centre—along with the jobs located there—from Llandudno Junction to Merseyside. What do you intend to do to deflect such economically destructive blows, which destroy the morale of people in north Wales?

The First Minister: I would be grateful for more details on the threat to the Hanson Aggregates quarry at Penmaenmawr. With regard to Dolgarrog, the Welsh Development Agency and Conwy County Borough Council are providing financial support to the study undertaken by KPMG consultancy to assess whether there is another solution to the problem of Alcoa's financial losses. We continue to be hopeful that it will be possible to find another way and to ensure that production work at Dolgarrog continues. It is encouraging that the company is willing to support the study and share internal figures with the consultants. Therefore, we continue to be hopeful about the future of Dolgarrog, even though it is too soon to be sure.

John Griffiths: A gytunwch fod ymateb cynhwysfawr Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i doriadau Corus—a'r ffaith bod yr ymateb hwnnw fwyfwy yn destun cenfigen mewn rhanbarthau yn Lloegr a effeithiwyd mewn modd tebyg gan doriadau Corus—yn dangos gallu ac ymrwymiad Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i ymateb i argyfyngau yn economi Cymru?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Cytunaf. Yr wyf yn cyd-fynd â'r safbwynt hwnnw'n gryf. Gwnaethom weithio'n galed gyda'n partneriaid i gyd i ymateb yn briodol i Corus ar ôl iddo ddod yn amlwg nad oedd y cwmni yn mynd i newid ei feddwl. Yr oedd hwnnw

Alcoa in Dolgarrog. The company there is willing to allow the consultants to have another look at the books to see if there is another way forward. We do not yet know if that will involve some loss of employment with some continued manufacturing.

With Corus, once it was accepted that there was to be a closure, crisis management teams had to be brought in. We did that. I saw the reference to English steelmaking authorities being relatively envious of the Welsh steelmaking areas. I do not know if that was fully justified, because people sometimes believe that the grass is greener on the other side of the border. I was interested to see comments made by the confederation of steel job-loss areas of northern England, praising our efforts in Wales in responding to the crisis in Newport, Bryngwyn, Shotton and Blaenau Gwent.

Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Ieuan Wyn Jones): Fe wyddoch fod Cymru wedi colli nifer o swyddi cynhyrchu yn ystod 2001, yn rhannol oherwydd gwerth uchel y bunt. Mae nifer o gwmnïau, gan gynnwys cwmnïau rhyngwladol, yn awr yn disgwyl am benderfyniad Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Gyfunol ar refferendwm ar yr ewro. A ydych yn derbyn ei bod yn bwysig i Tony Blair wneud datganiad buan ynglŷn â phryd y cynhelir y refferendwm hwnnw?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Mae dau gwestiwn ynglŷn â'r ewro. Yn gyntaf, beth yw gwerth y bunt a'r ewro? Yn ail, pryd fydddech chi'n manteisio ar hynny er mwyn ymuno pan fo'r gyfradd yn ddigon ffafriol—neu o leiaf ddim yn anffafriol—i'r economi yn gyffredinol? O ystyried y lefel bresennol, nid yw'r cwestiwn yn peri gormod o bwysau gan nad yw'r lefel yn gywir. Pe baem yn ymuno â'r ewro ar y lefel bresennol, byddai'n drasiedi i economi Cymru. Yn ystod y 12 neu'r 18 mis nesaf, yr ydym yn gobeithio gweld y lefel yn symud a'r ewro yn dychwelyd i'r lefel adeg ei lansio'n swyddogol ddwy flynedd yn ôl. Wedyn, fe allwch weld a yw'n werth manteisio ar y cyfle i ymuno ar lefel sy'n deg i'r gwledydd sy'n defnyddio'r ewro yn awr, ac yn deg i'n heconomi.

yn un cam pellach na'r cam a wynebwn ar hyn o bryd gydag Alcoa yn Nolgarrrog. Mae'r cwmni yno yn barod i ganiatáu i'r ymgynghorwyr edrych ar y cyfrifon unwaith eto i weld a oes ffordd arall ymlaen. Ni wyddom a fydd hynny'n golygu y collir rhai swyddi gyda rhywfaint o weithgynhyrchu yn parhau.

O ran Corus, ar ôl derbyn y byddai gweithfeydd yn cau, bu'n rhaid defnyddio timau rheoli argyfwng. Gwnaethom hynny. Gwelais y cyfeiriad bod awdurdodau gwaith dur yn Lloegr yn gymharol eiddigeddus o'r ardaloedd gwaith dur yng Nghymru. Ni wn a ellid cyfiawnhau hynny yn gyfan gwbl, gan fod pobl weithiau yn credu bod man gwyn man draw dros Glawdd Offa. Yr oedd gennyf ddiddordeb gweld y cyfeiriad gan gydffederasiwn ardaloedd diswyddiadau gwaith dur gogledd Lloegr, yn canmol ein hymdrechion yng Nghymru wrth ymateb i'r argyfwng yng Nghasnewydd, Bryngwyn, Shotton a Blaenau Gwent.

The Leader of the Opposition (Ieuan Wyn Jones): You will be aware that many manufacturing jobs were lost in Wales in 2001, partly because of the high value of the pound. A number of companies, including multinationals, now await the decision of the United Kingdom Government on the euro referendum. Do you accept that it is important for Tony Blair to make an early statement with regard to when that referendum will be held?

The First Minister: There are two questions with regard to the euro. First, what is the value of the pound in relation to the euro? Secondly, when would it be advantageous to peg our currency at a rate that is favourable—or at least not unfavourable—to the economy in general? When you consider the present level, the question is not too pressing because the level is not right. If we were to join the euro at the present level it would be a tragedy for the Welsh economy. Over the next 12 or 18 months, we hope to see a change in the level and the euro reverting to the level at its launch two years ago. Then you will be able to see whether it is worth joining at a level that is fair to the countries currently in the eurozone, and fair to our economy.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Er nad wyf yn anghytuno â hynny, mewn egwyddor, onid ydych yn derbyn, pe bai Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Gyfunol yn dangos ei bod yn bwriadu symud at refferendwm, y byddai gwerth y bunt yn naturiol yn syrthio yn erbyn yr ewro, a byddai'r marchnadoedd wedyn yn disgwyl penderfyniad buan? Gwyddoch hefyd y bu trafod manwl ynglŷn â dyddiad posibl i'r refferendwm hwnnw. Gwelaf o'r gwelliant y mae eich plaid wedi'i gyflwyno i'n cynnig i Gyfarfod Llawn dydd Iau nad ydych am weld y refferendwm ar yr un dyddiad ag etholiadau nesaf y Cynulliad. Beth fyddai eich dewis: symud dyddiad y refferendwm neu symud dyddiad yr etholiadau nesaf?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Mae'n llawer rhy gynnar i ateb cwestiynau o'r fath, ac ymdrin â'r holl ffactorau perthnasol. Nid yw'r mater hwnnw wedi'i ddatganoli i'r Alban nac i ni. Mae Llywodraeth Prydain yn credu bod y cam pwysicaf diweddar—sef lansio arian yr ewro yn hytrach na'r ewro ei hunan—yn llwyddo. Mae'r lansiad wedi bod yn llwyddiannus ac felly mae'r cam enfawr hwnnw wedi'i gwmryd.

Beth fydd yn digwydd yn y flwyddyn nesaf? A fydd pobl Prydain yn cynefino â'r ewro wrth i bobl o'r cyfandir ei defnyddio yma, fel cefnogwyr tîm rygbi Ffrainc yng Nghaerdydd, a'r bobl sy'n defnyddio porthladdoedd Caergybi, Abergwaun a phorthladdoedd eraill sy'n cysylltu ag Iwerddon? Wrth i bobl gynefino, byddant yn colli eu hofn o'r ewro fel rhywbeth hollol estron. Efallai y bydd y cwestiwn i'w weld yn hollol wahanol mewn blwyddyn. Wedyn, gallwch wneud y penderfyniad yn deg, pan fo dealltwriaeth pobl ynglŷn â'r ewro wedi cynyddu'n sylweddol a phan nad ydynt yn ei weld fel pla o wledydd estron.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: While I do not disagree with that in principle, do you not accept that if the United Kingdom Government were to signal its intention to move towards a referendum, the value of the pound would naturally fall against the euro, and that the markets would then expect an imminent decision? You also know that there have been detailed discussions concerning a possible date for that referendum. I see from the amendment that your party has tabled to our motion for Thursday's Plenary that you do not want the referendum to be held on the same date as the next Assembly elections. What would be your choice: to move the date of the referendum, or to move the date of the next elections?

The First Minister: It is much too early to answer such questions, and to address all the relevant factors. That matter has not been devolved to Scotland or to us. The British Government believes that the most important step taken recently—namely the launch of the euro coins and notes rather than the euro itself—is succeeding. That launch has been successful and therefore that huge step has been taken.

What will happen next year? Will the people of Britain become accustomed to the euro as people from the continent use it here, such as French rugby fans visiting Cardiff, and those using the ports at Holyhead, Fishguard and other ports that link with Ireland? As people become accustomed to it, they will lose their fear of the euro as something completely foreign. Perhaps the question will be viewed in a completely different light in a year's time. Then, you will be in a position to make a fair decision, when people will have a much greater understanding of the euro and when they do not view it as a plague from foreign lands.

Cydlynu Polisi yng Ngogledd Cymru Policy Co-ordination in North Wales

Q3 Ann Jones: What recent discussions has the First Minister had with the Secretary of State for Wales about policy co-ordination in north Wales? (OAQ14861)

C3 Ann Jones: Pa drafodaethau y mae Prif Weinidog Cymru wedi'u cael yn ddiweddar gydag Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru ynghylch cydlynu polisi yng ngogledd Cymru? (OAQ14861)

The First Minister: I meet regularly with the Secretary of State for Wales and we discuss a wide range of issues including, frequently, north Wales.

Ann Jones: As I use the train between north and south Wales as much as possible—I endured the journey again last night—I am all too well aware of the need for an integrated Welsh train network. What discussions have you had with the Secretary of State for Wales about improving provision of rail services across north Wales?

The First Minister: I have not discussed that with the Secretary of State for Wales, but I discussed it with the Secretary of State for Transport, Local Government and the Regions, Stephen Byers, before Christmas. Also, Sue Essex and I met the incoming chairman of the Strategic Rail Authority, Richard Bowker, yesterday and we discussed how important it is that the Wales and Borders franchise is up and running as quickly as possible. As you know, the Secretary of State for Transport, Local Government and the Regions has agreed that it will be made a special case, and that the Wales and Borders franchise will be running as soon as is practicable. That will be of tremendous benefit in integrating public transport rail facilities throughout Wales. It does not cover the two mainline services but—excluding those—all stopping services in Wales will be covered by the Wales and Borders franchise. That is a huge step forward for the whole of Wales, particularly in north Wales, where it will probably cover 90 per cent of the stations and train services.

Peter Rogers: With regard to policy co-ordination in north Wales, one of our biggest problems relates to the independent care homes sector. It provides a valuable service, but their costs are outstripping their fees. What do you say to Anglesey's elderly who fear that, as homes close and capacity is lost, they will be shipped off to the mainland because you cannot find a policy on fair fees?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Caf gyfarfodydd rheolaidd ag Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru a thrafodwn ystod eang o faterion yn cynnwys, yn aml, gogledd Cymru.

Ann Jones: Gan fy mod yn defnyddio'r trêrn rhwng gogledd a de Cymru gymaint â phosibl—goddefais y daith eto neithiwr—yr wyf yn ymwybodol iawn o'r angen am rwydwaith trêrn integredig yng Nghymru. Pa drafodaethau a gawsoch gydag Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru ynglŷn â gwella gwasanaethau rheilffyrdd ledled gogledd Cymru?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Nid wyf wedi trafod hynny gydag Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru, ond trafodais hynny gyda'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Drafnidiaeth, Llywodraeth Leol a'r Rhanbarthau, Stephen Byers, cyn y Nadolig. Yn ogystal, cafodd Sue Essex a minnau gyfarfod ddoe gyda darpar gadeirydd yr Awdurdod Rheilffyrdd Strategol, Richard Bowker, a bu inni drafod pa mor bwysig yw sicrhau bod masnachfaint Wales and Borders yn weithredol cyn gynted â phosibl. Fel y gwyddoch, mae'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Drafnidiaeth, Llywodraeth Leol a'r Rhanbarthau wedi cytuno y caiff ei gwneud yn achos arbennig, ac y bydd masnachfaint Wales and Borders yn weithredol cyn gynted ag y bo'n ymarferol. Bydd hynny o fudd aruthrol wrth integreiddio cyfleusterau rheilffyrdd trafnidiaeth gyhoeddus ledled Cymru. Nid yw'n cwmpasu gwasanaeth y ddau brif linell ond—ac eithrio'r rheini—cwmpesir pob gwasanaeth aros yng Nghymru gan fasnachfaint Wales and Borders. Mae hynny'n gam enfawr ymlaen ar gyfer Cymru gyfan, yn enwedig y gogledd, lle y bydd yn cwmpasu 90 y cant o'r gorsafoddedd a'r gwasanaethau trêrn yn ôl pob tebyg.

Peter Rogers: O ran cydlynu polisi yng ngogledd Cymru, mae un o'n problemau mwyaf yn ymwneud â sector cartrefi gofal annibynnol. Mae'n darparu gwasanaeth gwerthfawr, ond mae eu costau yn mynd y tu hwnt i'w ffioedd. Beth a ddywedwch wrth bobl oedrannus Ynys Môn sy'n poeni, wrth i gartrefi gau ac wrth i leoedd gael eu colli, y byddant yn cael eu hanfon i'r tir mawr oherwydd na allwch lunio polisi ar ffioedd

teg?

The First Minister: That was a bit over the top, Peter, but I understand the concerns. I visited a care home in Anglesey in the last quarter of last year and I discussed this issue with the care home's owner. I have also discussed it with the North Wales Nursing and Residential Homes Association, because it is quite an important part of the local economy.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Yr oedd hynny'n mynd dros ben llestri braidd, Peter, ond deallaf y pryderon. Ymwelais â chartref gofal yn Ynys Môn yn chwarter olaf y llynedd a thrafodais y mater hwn gyda pherchennog y cartref gofal. Yr wyf hefyd wedi trafod hyn gyda Chymdeithas Cartrefi Nyrsio a Phreswyl Gogledd Cymru, gan ei fod yn rhan eithaf pwysig o'r economi leol.

2:20 p.m.

It is not a matter of signing a blank cheque, or in other words, of them saying, 'this is what it costs, now give us the money'. You cannot do it that way so you must keep some downward pressure on cost. However, we respect the fact that some costs are a matter of regulation rather than choice. The minimum wage has had beneficial effects for those who work in care homes, but it leads to increased costs. This is about trying to get the balance between avoiding the blank cheque situation that we had 15 or 20 years ago and ensuring that homes do not close. I have not heard of homes closing down because of the cost factor. Usually, homes close down because people prefer to be dealt with at home through better domestic care, with homecarers giving them a preferable alternative to the inevitable institutional aspects of being in a residential or nursing home.

Nid mater o lofnodi siec wag ydyw, neu mewn geiriau eraill, o adael iddynt ddweud 'dyma'r gost, nawr rhwch yr arian inni'. Ni allwch ei wneud yn y ffordd honno ac felly rhaid ichi roi rhywfaint o bwysau ar gadw costau i lawr. Fodd bynnag, parchwn y ffaith bod rhai costau yn ymwneud â rheoliadau yn hytrach na dewis. Bu'r isafswm cyflog o fudd i'r rheini sy'n gweithio mewn cartrefi gofal, ond mae'n arwain at gostau cynyddol. Mae hyn yn ymwneud â cheisio sicrhau cydbwysedd rhwng osgoi sefyllfa'r siec wag a oedd gennym 15 neu 20 mlynedd yn ôl a sicrhau nad yw cartrefi'n cau. Nid wyf wedi clywed am gartrefi sydd wedi cau oherwydd y gost. Fel arfer, mae cartrefi yn cau oherwydd bod yn well gan bobl gael eu trin gartref drwy ofal domestig gwell, lle bo gofawyr cartref yn rhoi dewis arall iddynt sy'n well na'r agweddau sefydliadol anochel ar fod mewn cartref preswyl neu gartref nyrsio.

Ailstrwythuro Consignia Restructuring of Consignia

C4 Elin Jones: Pa drafodaethau y mae Prif Weinidog Cymru wedi'u cael gydag Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru ynghylch ailstrwythuro Consignia? (OAQ14849)

Q4 Elin Jones: What discussions has the First Minister had with the Secretary of State for Wales regarding the restructuring of Consignia? (OAQ14849)

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Yr wyf yn cwrdd ag Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru, Paul Murphy, yn rheolaidd i drafod ystod eang o faterion.

The First Minister: I meet with Paul Murphy, the Secretary of State for Wales, regularly to discuss a wide range of issues.

Elin Jones: A gytunwch fod patrwm yn datblygu lle mae cyn wasanaethau cyhoeddus sydd yn awr mewn dwylo preifat yn canoli gwasanaethau ac yn symud cyflogaeth allan o Gymru? Mae Consignia yn un enghraifft o hyn, a chlywsom gan Gareth Jones yn

Elin Jones: Do you agree that a pattern is developing whereby former public services that are now in private hands are centralising their services and moving employment out of Wales? Consignia is one example of this, and we heard Gareth Jones earlier mentioning

gynharach ynglŷn â bwriad Arriva i symud ei wasanaethau i lannau Mersi. Byddai'n rhedeg gwasanaeth bysus ar gyfer Ceredigion o lannau Mersi. A yw'n bryd felly ichi fod yn fwy rhagweithiol a gweithio gyda'r cwmnïau hyn i sicrhau eu bod yn cadw cyflogaeth a lefelau gwasanaeth yng Nghymru? Yn benodol, a oeddech yn ymwybodol o fwriad Arriva i symud o Gymru?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Nid oeddwn yn ymwybodol o'r bwriad hwnnw. Nid wyf yn siŵr a yw'r cwmni wedi gweithredu'r penderfyniad eto neu os mai rhywbeth ar y gweill ydyw. Mae'r broses hon wedi bod yn digwydd ers cenhedlaeth o leiaf ac mae'n digwydd yn y sector preifat a'r sector cyhoeddus. Yr oedd llu o symudiadau tebyg ar ôl agoriad Pont Hafren yn ne Cymru, megis symud pencadlys ambell i wasanaeth o Gaerdydd i Fryste er mwyn gwasanaethu Cymru, neu dde Cymru, o Fryste.

Christine Gwyther: Do you agree that rural postal services are the jewel in Consignia's crown? Like many other Assembly Members, I visited several sorting offices over the Christmas period and I was heartened by the lack of downheartedness. The rural postal workers of Wales know that they are doing a good job. They know that Consignia is leeching £1.5 million per week and they know that it is not down to them. Will you join me in congratulating them on a job well done and will you ensure that the Assembly supports their plans for the future as much as we possibly can?

The First Minister: Although the number of post offices in rural Wales continues to decline—it is declining at a much slower rate than previously—local people should be encouraged to use their local outlets or risk losing them. Through all manner of Government support, we can pump-in services via the post office, but local people must patronise those post offices on a 'use it or lose it' basis.

William Graham: Will you ask the Secretary of State for Wales to press for the abolition of the huge dividend currently paid by Consignia to the Treasury? The additional funding would allow the post office network

Arriva's decision to move its services to Merseyside. It would run its bus services for Ceredigion from Merseyside. Is it not time that you were more proactive and worked with these companies to ensure that they keep employment and service levels in Wales? Specifically, were you aware of Arriva's intention to move from Wales?

The First Minister: I was not aware of that intention. I am not sure whether the company has taken that decision or if it something that is in the pipeline. This process has been ongoing for at least a generation and it happens in the private and public sectors. There were many such moves after the opening of the Severn Bridge in south Wales, such as moving some services' headquarters from Cardiff to Bristol to service Wales, or to south Wales, from Bristol.

Christine Gwyther: A gytunwch mai gwasanaethau post gwledig yw'r tlws yng nghoron Consignia? Fel llawer o Aelodau eraill y Cynulliad, ymwelais â sawl swyddfa drosbarthu dros gyfnod y Nadolig ac yr oedd yn galonogol gweld nad oeddent yn isel eu hysbryd. Mae gweithwyr post gwledig Cymru yn gwybod eu bod yn gwneud gwaith da. Gwyddant fod Consignia yn llyncu £1.5 miliwn yr wythnos a gwyddant nad eu bai hwy yw hynny. A ymunwch â mi i'w llongyfarch ar waith da ac a sicrhewch fod y Cynulliad yn cefnogi eu cynlluniau ar gyfer y dyfodol gymaint ag y gallwn?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Er bod nifer y swyddfeydd post yng Nghymru wledig yn parhau i ostwng—mae'n gostwng ar gyfradd llawer yn arafach nag o'r blaen—dylid annog pobl leol i ddefnyddio eu swyddfeydd post lleol neu wynebu'r posibilrwydd o'u colli. Drwy bob math o gymorth gan y Llywodraeth, gallwn gyflwyno gwasanaethau drwy swyddfa'r post, ond rhaid i bobl leol ddefnyddio'r swyddfeydd post hynny ar y sail 'ewch yno neu fe'i collwch'.

William Graham: A wnewch chi ofyn i Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru bwyso am ddileu'r difidend enfawr a delir ar hyn o bryd gan Consignia i'r Trysorlys? Byddai'r arian ychwanegol yn galluogi'r rhwydwaith o

to increase its commitment to community regeneration and to meeting its target of 92 per cent next day delivery of first class mail.

The First Minister: That is a matter for the Department of Trade and Industry as the sponsor body and not for the Secretary of State for Wales, nor me. However, I am happy to communicate that view. It is as clear as night follows day that Consignia has gone from being a profitable, publicly-owned enterprise paying dividends to the Treasury because it was able to make profit in the public sector to being a loss-making enterprise. It has come under pressure because different sectors of the postal market have now been thrown open to competition—with the inevitable cherry-picking that goes with private competition. I guess that less or even no dividend payments would solve that particular problem. I do not know whether it can get back to 92 per cent next day delivery—I am sure that is its aim—but I will make inquiries as to whether it feels confident that it can achieve or maintain that level of service against the trend of the present competition, which as you know, it is obliged to have because of European regulations.

swyddfeydd post i gynyddu ei ymrwymiad i adfer cymunedau ac i gyrraedd ei darged o ddosbarthu 92 y cant o'i bost dosbarth cyntaf y diwrnod canlynol.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Mae hynny'n fater i'r Adran Masnach a Diwydiant fel y corff noddi ac nid i Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru, na minnau. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn fwy na pharod i gyfathrebu'r safbwynt hwnnw. Mae'n amlwg iawn bod Consignia wedi newid o fod yn fenter gwneud elw, yn eiddo i'r cyhoedd yn talu difidendau i'r Trysorlys oherwydd ei fod yn gallu gwneud elw yn y sector cyhoeddus i fod yn fenter sy'n gwneud colled. Mae wedi dod o dan bwysau oherwydd bod gwahanol sectorau o'r farchnad bost bellach yn agored i gystadleuaeth—sy'n arwain at y dewis a dethol anochel sy'n gysylltiedig â chystadlu preifat. Mae'n debyg y byddai llai o daliadau difidend neu hyd yn oed dim taliadau difidend yn datrys y broblem benodol honno. Ni wn a all ddychwelyd at ddosbarthu 92 y cant o'r post y diwrnod nesaf—yr wyf yn siŵr mai hynny yw ei nod—ond gwnaf ymholiadau o ran a yw'n teimlo'n hyderus y gall gyflawni neu gynnal y lefel honno o wasanaeth yn erbyn tuedd y gystadleuaeth bresennol sy'n ofynnol oherwydd rheoliadau Ewropeaidd, fel y gwyddoch.

Gwerthuso Pwerau a Threfniadau Etholiadol y Cynulliad Evaluating the Assembly's Powers and Electoral Arrangements

Q5 Jocelyn Davies: Will the First Minister comment on the priorities of the independent commission established to evaluate the powers and electoral arrangements of the National Assembly? (OAQ14846)

The First Minister: I hope to announce the establishment of this commission before Easter. However, if the independent commission is to be genuinely independent it must make its own choices regarding priorities.

Jocelyn Davies: The partnership agreement contains a commitment to establish this commission, but it will report back to the Assembly as a whole after the coalition has ceased. When do you intend to consult opposition groups on appointments to this important body?

C5 Jocelyn Davies: A wnaiff Prif Weinidog Cymru sôn am flaenoriaethau'r comisiwn annibynnol a sefydlwyd i werthuso pwerau a threfniadau etholiadol y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol? (OAQ14846)

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Gobeithiaf gyhoeddi sefydlu'r comisiwn hwn cyn y Pasg. Fodd bynnag, os yw'r comisiwn annibynnol i fod yn wirioneddol annibynnol mae'n rhaid iddo wneud ei benderfyniadau ei hun o ran blaenoriaethau.

Jocelyn Davies: Mae'r cytundeb partneriaeth yn cynnwys ymrwymiad i sefydlu'r comisiwn hwn, ond bydd yn rhoi ei adroddiad i'r Cynulliad cyfan ar ôl i'r glymblaid ddod i ben. Pryd yr ydych yn bwriadu ymgynghori â'r gwrthbleidiau ar benodiadau i'r corff pwysig hwn?

The First Minister: I raised that issue with the three other party leaders at our last meeting. We will continue to act in that same cross-party spirit throughout the period of this commission, which, as I said before, we expect to last approximately 18 months from Easter this year until autumn 2003.

Kirsty Williams: Will the First Minister confirm that the commission, while setting its own priorities, will deal not only with the powers of the Assembly, but with the electoral arrangements by which Assembly Members are elected?

The First Minister: Yes, indeed. That is and will continue to be part of the partnership agreement. I imagine—as you implied in your preamble, Kirsty—that its primary purpose will be to take evidence on whether there have been frustrations regarding how the Assembly has conducted itself during its first term. If there have been frustrations, could we have done more if we had had different powers? Could we have made more progress for Wales? Could we have done things differently? The commission will consider the commonly-held view—which has never been tested independently or professionally—that some of those frustrations could have been removed if the Assembly had been given wider powers. This is the opportunity to test that theory.

David Melding: Do you agree that the best way to balance the British constitution and, therefore, strengthen the British state is to grant primary law-making powers to this National Assembly?

The First Minister: I am not sure—*[Interruption.]* You obviously hold a view which is not universally held by your party, David. Therefore, you can give evidence to the commission and provide a written statement as I am sure that you will—you have probably written it already. However, as First Minister, it would not be right for me to make my views too clear on this subject when I am about to engage in appointing the commission. I want the commission to report back to us in autumn 2003 on what it has discovered in terms of the evidence it has

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Codais y mater hwnnw gyda'r tri arweinydd plaid arall yn ein cyfarfod diwethaf. Byddwn yn parhau i weithio yn yr un ysbryd trawsbleidiol hwnnw trwy gyfnod y comisiwn hwn y disgwylwn, fel y dywedais cyn hyn, y bydd yn parhau am tua 18 mis o'r Pasg eleni hyd hydref 2003.

Kirsty Williams: A wnaiff Prif Weinidog Cymru gadarnhau y bydd y comisiwn, tra'n gosod ei flaenoriaethau ei hun, yn delio nid yn unig â phwerau'r Cynulliad, ond gyda'r trefniadau etholaethol ar gyfer ethol Aelodau'r Cynulliad?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Gwnaf, yn wir. Mae hynny'n rhan o'r cytundeb partneriaeth a bydd yn parhau i fod. Credaf—fel yr awgrymwyd yn eich rhagymadrodd, Kirsty—mai ei brif nod fydd cymryd tystiolaeth i ganfod a fu rhwystredigaethau o ran ymddygiad y Cynulliad yn ystod ei dymor cyntaf. Os bu rhwystredigaethau, a allem fod wedi gwneud mwy pe byddai gennym bwerau gwahanol? A allem fod wedi gwneud mwy o gynnydd dros Gymru? A allem fod wedi gwneud pethau'n wahanol? Bydd y comisiwn yn ystyried y safbwynt a arddelir yn gyffredin—na phrofwyd erioed yn annibynnol nac yn broffesiynol—y gellid bod wedi goresgyn rhai o'r rhwystredigaethau hynny pe byddai'r Cynulliad wedi derbyn pwerau ehangach. Dyma'r cyfle i brofi'r theori honno.

David Melding: A gytunwch mai'r ffordd orau i gydbwyso cyfansoddiad Prydain ac, felly, cryfhau'r wladwriaeth Brydeinig yw rhoi pwerau deddfu sylfaenol i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol hwn?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Nid wyf yn siŵr—*[Torri ar draws.]* Yr ydych yn amlwg yn arddel safbwynt na chaiff ei arddel yn gyffredinol gan eich plaid, David. Felly gallwch roi tystiolaeth i'r comisiwn a rhoi datganiad ysgrifenedig fel yr wyf yn siŵr y gwnewch—yr ydych siŵr o fod wedi ei ysgrifennu yn barod. Fodd bynnag, fel Prif Weinidog Cymru, ni fyddai'n briodol i mi leisio fy marn yn rhy glir ar y pwnc hwn am fy mod ar fin penodi'r comisiwn. Yr wyf am i'r comisiwn roi adroddiad inni yn hydref 2003 ar yr hyn a ddarganfyddodd yn

gathered from among the various stakeholders in the Welsh political scene. It can make comparisons with Scotland and other regional tier governments in Europe if it so wishes. How it conducts itself is a matter for it to decide. It is an independent commission to take evidence and to provide us with recommended conclusions. We can consider those conclusions in autumn 2003 in the light of the Assembly's first full term.

Tom Middlehurst: In looking at the electoral arrangements for the National Assembly, will you consider asking the commission to look at the success or otherwise of the arrangements that have resulted in this Chamber of 60 Members? Will you also ask it to consider, as part of its brief, a return to the first-past-the-post-system, which has served this country well for so many years? It will ensure that full accountability is an issue that confronts every Assembly Member, which is not presently the case.

The First Minister: I will not tie the hands of an independent commission. If we want the best people, we must tell them in advance that their hands are not tied and that they can consider any issue in those terms of reference, such as the Assembly's powers or electoral arrangements.

Y Llywydd: Mae cwestiwn 6 (OAQ14847) wedi'i dynnu'n ôl.

nhermau'r dystiolaeth a gasglwyd ganddo o'r amrywiol randdeiliaid yng ngwleidyddiaeth Cymru. Gall wneud cymariaethau â'r Alban a llywodraethau haen rhanbarthol yn Ewrop os myn felly. Mae'r ffordd y gweithreda yn fater iddo ef i'w benderfynu. Mae'n gomisiwn annibynnol i gymryd tystiolaeth ac i roi casgliadau argymelledig inni. Gallwn ystyried y casgliadau hynny yn hydref 2003 yng ngoleuni tymor llawn cyntaf y Cynulliad.

Tom Middlehurst: Wrth edrych ar drefniadau etholiadol y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, a wnewch ystyried gofyn i'r comisiwn ystyried lwyddiant neu aflwyddiant y trefniadau sydd wedi arwain at y Siambr hon o 60 o Aelodau? A wnewch hefyd ofyn iddo ystyried, fel rhan o'i gylch gorchwyl, dychwelyd at system y cyntaf i'r felin, sydd wedi gwasanaethau'r wlad hon yn dda am gymaint o flynyddoedd? Bydd yn sicrhau bod atebolrwydd llawn yn fater sy'n wynebu pob Aelod o'r Cynulliad—rhywbeth nad yw'n digwydd ar hyn o bryd.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Ni fyddaf yn clymu dwylo comisiwn annibynnol. Os ydym am ddenu'r bobl orau, rhaid inni ddweud wrthynt ymlaen llaw nad yw eu dwylo wedi'u clymu ac y gallant ystyried unrhyw fater yn y cylchoedd gorchwyl hynny, megis pwerau'r Cynulliad neu drefniadau etholiadol.

The Presiding Officer: Question 6 (OAQ14847) has been withdrawn.

Delwedd Ryngwladol Cymru ar gyfer 2002 The International Image of Wales for 2002

Q7 William Graham: Will the First Minister make a statement concerning any changes in emphasis for the promotion of the international image of Wales for 2002? (OAQ14855)

The First Minister: Extensive consultation has been carried out between the Assembly Government and its Assembly sponsored public bodies—the quangos—with a requirement that we promote Wales internationally with the same image and that each image, which is portrayed by the WDA, ELWa or the Wales Tourist Board and so on, reinforces the promotion of other bodies, some of which are not quangos. There will be

C7 William Graham: A wnaiff Prif Weinidog Cymru ddatganiad ynghylch unrhyw newidiadau o ran pwyslais wrth hyrwyddo delwedd ryngwladol Cymru ar gyfer 2002? (OAQ14855)

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Bu ymgynghoriad helaeth rhwng Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a'r cyrff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad—y cwangos—gyda gofyniad ein bod yn hyrwyddo Cymru yn rhyngwladol gyda'r un ddelwedd a bod pob delwedd, a bortreadir gan Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru, ELWa neu Fwrdd Croeso Cymru ac ati, yn atgyfnerthu'r broses o hyrwyddo cyrff eraill, rhai ohonynt nad ydynt yn gwangos. Bydd cyrff megis

bodies such as Sgrîn Cymru, which is not a quango, but fulfils the same functions. The representatives of these bodies, as well as those from the private sector, participated in an advisory group, which was chaired by Andrew Davies. The group met on 1 November and agreed that we should work towards establishing a shared image and objectives to raise the profile of Wales and to minimise negative and outdated images of it, which will be a high priority for 2002.

2:30 p.m.

William Graham: What measures can be undertaken to ensure that the review of the Wales Tourist Board is fully co-ordinated and adequately directed towards attracting visitors, and by raising the profile of Wales generally, increasing economic investment in Wales?

The First Minister: It was curious to see the Wales Tourist Board's advertisement promoting Wales on television yesterday straight after the scenes of mayhem in Ninian Park on Sunday. That was not necessarily money well spent, but you cannot always predict such events. It is important that there is expertise in the tourist board and I believe that its employees are widely held to be among the most professional marketers—certainly in Wales and possibly in Britain—not only in tourism but across the board in marketing. It is primarily a marketing body, which is why we have increased its budget. It will continue to market—partially to recover the ground lost during the foot and mouth disease outbreak—and to use professional expertise to bring more tourists into Wales against the background of Wales not having received its fair share of the overseas visitors to Britain.

Eleanor Burnham: Will you give your support to the Europe cartoon forum and festival, which takes place in Llandudno in September 2002?

The First Minister: I have no fears about giving my full moral support to this event. I do not know whether I will be able to visit it, but it would be a good idea to do so. Although it is not easy to compete with

Sgrîn Cymru, nad yw'n gwango, ond sy'n cyflawni'r un swyddogaethau. Cymerodd cynrychiolwyr y cyrff hyn, yn ogystal â'r rheini o'r sector preifat, ran mewn grŵp ymgynghori, a gadeiriwyd gan Andrew Davies. Cyfarfu'r grŵp ar 1 Tachwedd a chytuno y dylem weithio tuag at sefydlu delwedd ac amcanion cyffredin i godi proffil Cymru ac i leihau'r delweddau negyddol hen ffasiwn ohoni, a bydd hon yn flaenoriaeth uchel ar gyfer 2002.

William Graham: Pa fesurau gellir eu cymryd i sicrhau bod yr adolygiad o Fwrdd Croeso Cymru wedi'i gyd-drefnu'n llawn ac wedi ei gyfeirio'n briodol tuag at ddenu ymwelwyr, a thrwy godi proffil Cymru yn gyffredinol, gynyddu buddsoddiad economaidd yng Nghymru?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Yr oedd yn ddi-ddorol gweld hysbyseb Bwrdd Croeso Cymru yn hyrwyddo Cymru ar y teledu ddoe yn syth ar ôl y golygfeydd o anrhefn ym Mharc Ninian ddydd Sul. Nid oedd hynny o reidrwydd yn arian wedi'i wario'n dda, ond ni allwch ragweld digwyddiadau o'r fath bob tro. Mae'n bwysig bod arbenigedd yn y bwrdd croeso a chredaf fod llawer o'r farn bod ei gyflogeion ymysg y marchnatwyr mwyaf proffesiynol—yn sicr yng Nghymru ac o bosibl yn Mhrydain—nid yn unig ym maes twristiaeth ond ym maes marchnata yn gyffredinol. Mae'n gorff marchnata yn bennaf, a dyna pam yr ydym wedi cynyddu ei gyllideb. Bydd yn parhau i farchnata—yn rhannol er mwyn adennill y tir a gollwyd yn ystod argyfwng clwy'r traed a'r genau—ac i ddefnyddio arbenigedd proffesiynol i ddenu mwy o dwristiaid i Gymru yn erbyn y cefndir nad yw Cymru wedi derbyn ei chyfran deg o ymwelwyr tramor â Phrydain.

Eleanor Burnham: A gefnogwch fforwm a gŵyl gartwnau Ewrop, sydd yn digwydd yn Llandudno ym mis Medi 2002?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Nid oes gennyf unrhyw amheuan ynglŷn â rhoi fy nghefnogaeth foesol lawn i'r digwyddiad hwn. Ni wn a fydd modd i mi ymweld â hi, ond byddai'n syniad da gwneud hynny. Er

studios like Disney and Hanna Barbera and such huge combines in Hollywood, if you take those two studios out of the equation, the Welsh animation industry is highly regarded as being competitive and imaginative.

Owen John Thomas: Wrth deithio dramor, byddwch yn ymwybodol bod llawer o bobl heb glywed am Gymru a heb wybod ei bod yn genedl. Wrth drafod y Cynulliad a ydych yn defnyddio'r enw Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru er mwyn sicrhau bod pobl yn sylweddoli bod Cymru'n genedl gyda statws cenedlaethol?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Ni chredaf y bydd Owen John a minnau byth yn cytuno ar y cwestiwn hwn o hunan hyder a'r ffaith fod bobl wedi anwybyddu Cymru yn y gorffennol pan na ddylent fod wedi gwneud hynny. Yn sicr, ni ddylent anwybyddu ein bodolaeth yn awr a'n cyfraniad o ran diwydiant, diwylliant a chwaraeon. Yr oeddwn yn falch i fynychu seremoni personoliaeth chwaraeon y flwyddyn BBC Cymru neithiwr yn Neuadd Dewi Sant i ddangos ein gwerthfawrogiad o'n cewri yn y maes chwaraeon yn ystod y flwyddyn ddiwethaf.

Perthynas â Gwledydd sy'n Gwneud Cais am Ehangu'r Undeb Ewropeaidd Relations with Candidate Countries for European Union Enlargement

Q8 Richard Edwards: Will the First Minister give an update on the development of relations with candidate countries for European Union enlargement? (OAQ14856)

The First Minister: There has been good progress over the last few months in many areas. Ambassadors of the Czech Republic and the Republic of Hungary to the Court of St James, as well as officials from Slovenia and Latvia visited us in December. Just before Christmas, I visited Warsaw and Katowice, the capital of the Polish region of Silesia where there is the biggest concentration of industry in Poland. Many initiatives are being taken forward in this area at official and political levels.

Richard Edwards: I, along with Christine Gwyther, met representatives of the Wales European enlargement network recently.

nad yw'n hawdd cystadlu â stiwdios megis Disney a Hanna Barbera a chwmnïau cyfun anferth o'r fath yn Hollywood, os diystyrwch y ddwy stiwdio hynny mae'r diwydiant animeiddio yng Nghymru yn uchel ei barch, yn gystadleuol ac yn greadigol.

Owen John Thomas: As you travel abroad, you will be aware that many people have not heard of Wales and do not know that it is a nation. When discussing the Assembly, do you use the name National Assembly for Wales to ensure that people realise that Wales is a nation with nation status?

The First Minister: I do not think that Owen John and I will ever agree on this question of self-confidence and the fact that people have ignored Wales in the past when they should not have done so. Certainly, they should not ignore our existence or our contribution in terms of industry, culture and sport now. I was pleased to attend the BBC Wales sports personality of the year ceremony last night in St David's Hall to show our appreciation of our sporting giants during the past year.

C8 Richard Edwards: A all Prif Weinidog Cymru ddweud beth yw'r sefyllfa ddiweddaraf o ran datblygu perthynas â gwledydd sy'n gwneud cais am ehangu'r Undeb Ewropeaidd? (OAQ14856)

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Bu cynnydd da mewn sawl maes dros yr ychydig fisoedd diwethaf. Ymwelodd llysgenhadon y Weriniaeth Tsiec a Gweriniaeth Hwngari i Lys Sant Iago, yn ogystal ag ymweliad swyddogion o Slofeinia a Latfia â ni ym mis Rhagfyr. Ychydig cyn y Nadolig, ymwelais â Warsaw a Katowice, prifddinas rhanbarth Bwylaidd Silesia sef yr ardal fwyaf diwydiannol yng Ngwlad Pŵyl. Datblygir nifer o fentrau yn yr ardal hon ar lefelau swyddogol a gwleidyddol.

Richard Edwards: Cyfarfûm innau, gyda Christine Gwyther, â chynrychiolwyr y rhwydwaith ehangu Ewrop yng Nghymru yn

They had several ideas on how a meaningful dialogue could be established to maximise the benefits to Wales of enlargement. Do you agree that extending this network's activities with its practitioner and implementation expertise drawn from the private, public and voluntary sectors, would complement the enlargement working group that you have already established, providing an invaluable input and enhancing the profile of Wales in central and eastern Europe? Can you give a commitment to provide early funding, directly or indirectly from the Assembly, to facilitate this?

The First Minister: I cannot give a financial commitment today, Richard, but I am interested in WEAN's work. It works side-by-side as a private sector body promoting Wales and the enlargement or accession countries. We work through the enlargement working group, which meets again on 16 January. I give its work every encouragement.

We are trying to undertake a full comb-through of all involvement by the private, voluntary and public sectors in Wales in the accession countries. When we have that full assessment—or as full as possible; you can never make a 100 per cent assessment—we can work out whether we can give resources to the Wales European enlargement network and other private, voluntary or public sector bodies. I am not excluding the network, but I cannot give the commitment that you request today.

Jonathan Morgan: In my view, enlargement on the scale that we will see in the next few years and beyond is the most exciting event in the history of the European union. This kind of enlargement represents the values and principles that underpin the creation and workings of the European Union since its inception. However, do you agree that the pace of change and enlargement could have been much quicker had national governments not been preoccupied with the single European currency?

ddiweddar. Yr oedd ganddynt nifer o syniadau ar sut y gellid sicrhau deialog ystyrlon i sicrhau'r buddiannau mwyaf i Gymru yn sgîl ehangu. A gytunwch y byddai ehangu gweithgareddau'r rhwydwaith hon, gyda'i harbenigedd o ran ymarferwyr a gweithredu a dynnwyd o'r sectorau preifat, cyhoeddus a gwirfoddol, yn ategu'r gweithgor ehangu yr ydych eisoes wedi'i sefydlu, gan roi mewnbwn amhrisiadwy ac ehangu proffil Cymru yng nghanol a dwyrain Ewrop? A allwch roi ymrwymiad i roi arian yn gynnar, yn uniongyrchol neu'n annuniongyrchol o'r Cynulliad, i hwyluso hyn?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Ni allaf roi ymrwymiad ariannol heddiw, Richard, ond mae gennyf ddiddordeb yng ngwaith WEAN. Mae'n gweithio ochr yn ochr fel corff sector preifat yn hyrwyddo Cymru a'r gwledydd sy'n gwneud cais i ehangu neu ddod yn aelod o'r Undeb Ewropeaidd. Yr ydym yn gweithio trwy'r gweithgor ehangu, sy'n cyfarfod eto ar 16 Ionawr. Yr wyf yn rhoi pob anogaeth i'w waith.

Yr ydym yn ceisio cynnal archwiliad llawn o bob ymwneud gan y sectorau preifat, gwirfoddol a chyhoeddus yng Nghymru â'r gwledydd sydd am ddod yn aelodau. Pan fydd gennym yr asesiad llawn hwnnw—neu mor llawn â phosibl; ni allwch byth wneud asesiad 100 y cant—gallwn gyfrifo a fydd yn bosibl inni roi adnoddau i'r rhwydwaith ehangu Ewrop yng Nghymru a chyrff preifat, gwirfoddol neu sector cyhoeddus eraill. Nid wyf yn eithrio'r rhwydwaith, ond ni allaf roi'r ymrwymiad yr ydych yn gofyn amdano heddiw.

Jonathan Morgan: Yn fy marn i, ehangu'r Undeb ar y raddfa y byddwn yn ei gweld yn y blynyddoedd nesaf a thu hwnt yw'r digwyddiad mwyaf cyffrous yn hanes yr undeb Ewropeaidd. Mae'r math hwn o ehangu yn cynrychioli y gwerthoedd ac egwyddorion sy'n sail i greu a gweithrediadau'r Undeb Ewropeaidd ers ei sefydlu. Fodd bynnag, a gytunwch y gallai'r undeb fod wedi newid ac ehangu'n llawer mwy cyflym pe na fyddai llywodraethau cenedlaethol wedi rhoi cymaint o sylw i'r arian cyfred Ewropeaidd sengl?

The First Minister: The next two years will be hugely significant to Europe for three reasons. First, enlargement. Secondly, the euro and what happens to the non-euro member countries, namely Britain, Sweden and Denmark. The third major issue is the changes set in train at the Laeken summit a month ago. Those three reasons should be combined but, for various reasons, you want to ignore the issue of the euro. I do not think that you can do that. All three reasons are part of a package of a huge jump into the ex-communist countries behind the old Berlin wall and the Warsaw pact. Those countries will not be ready for the euro for some years yet. We must consider what happens to this country in terms of the euro. We must also consider constitutional changes in Europe, which may be made at an inter-governmental summit in two years' time.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Bydd y ddwy flynedd nesaf yn arwyddocaol iawn i Ewrop am dri rheswm. Yn gyntaf, ehangu. Yn ail, yr ewro a beth fydd yn digwydd i'r aelod wladwriaethau nad ydynt yn defnyddio'r ewro, sef Prydain, Sweden a Denmarc. Y trydydd prif bwnc yw'r newidiadau a roddwyd ar waith yng nghynhadledd Laeken fis yn ôl. Dylai'r tri rheswm hwnnw gael eu cyfuno ond, am resymau gwahanol, yr ydych am anwybyddu mater yr ewro. Ni chredaf y gallwch wneud hynny. Mae'r tri rheswm hyn yn rhan o becyn sy'n naid enfawr i mewn i'r gwledydd a arferai fod yn gomiwnyddol y tu ôl i'r hen wal Berlin a chytundeb Warsaw. Ni fydd y gwledydd hynny yn barod ar gyfer yr ewro am rai blynyddoedd eto. Rhaid inni ystyried beth sy'n digwydd i'r wlad hon yn nhermau'r ewro. Rhaid inni hefyd ystyried newidiadau cyfansoddiadol yn Ewrop, a allai gael eu gwneud mewn uwchgynhadledd rhynglywodraethol ymhen dwy flynedd.

Targedau a Bennwyd yn y Ddogfen Strategol 'Cynllun i Gymru 2001' Goals set within the 'Plan for Wales 2001' Strategic Document

C9 Cynog Dafis: A wnaiff Prif Weinidog Cymru ddatganiad ar yr ymdrechion a wnaethpwyd gan y Cabinet i sicrhau bod y targedau a bennwyd yn y ddogfen strategol 'Cynllun i Gymru 2001' yn cael eu cyflawni? (OAQ14845)

Q9 Cynog Dafis: Will the First Minister make a statement on efforts made by the Cabinet to ensure goals set in the 'Plan for Wales 2001' strategic document are achieved? (OAQ14845)

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Mae 'Cynllun i Gymru 2001' yn rhoi manylion blaenoriaethau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, gan gynnwys gwella gwasanaethau cyhoeddus mewn ysgolion ac ysbytai. Mae hefyd yn cynnig gweledigaeth newydd ar gyfer dyfodol economi, amgylchedd a chymdeithas Cymru.

The First Minister: 'Plan for Wales 2001' details the Welsh Assembly Government's priorities, including improving public services in schools and hospitals. It also offers a new vision for the future of the economy, the environment and society in Wales.

Cynog Dafis: Yn ôl *The Times Educational Supplement*, nid oes gobaith caneri o gyflawni rhai o'r targedau yn y cynllun, megis 50 y cant o ddisgyblion yn ennill graddau A i C mewn Cymraeg neu Saesneg a mathemateg a gwyddoniaeth erbyn 2002. Yn ogystal, mae lefel triwantiaeth wedi codi yn hytrach na gostwng yn erbyn y targed eleni. Beth sydd i gyfrif am hynny? Ai targedu afrealistig, diffyg polisi neu ddiffyg adnoddau sydd ar fai? Rhaid mai un o'r tri sydd i gyfrif am hyn. Pa un?

Cynog Dafis: According to *The Times Educational Supplement*, there is no hope of attaining some of the targets in the plan, such as 50 per cent of pupils achieving A to C grades in Welsh or English and in mathematics and science by 2002. In addition, the level of truancy has risen rather than decreased against this year's target. What accounts for that? Should we blame unrealistic targeting, lack of policy or lack of resources? One of the three must account for this. Which one?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Pe byddai Cynog mor fonheddig ag anfon yr erthygl ataf, fe ymatebaf i'r cwestiwn wedi imi ymgynghori â'r Gweinidog perthnasol, sef Jane Davidson, ynghylch a yw'r erthygl yn gywir.

The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives (Nick Bourne): On health, in reading the press today, many Members discovered that an initiative to establish a new complaints procedure for the NHS that is now National Assembly policy. There are also new policies on the retention and recruitment of staff in the NHS. Why were these policies announced to the press before they were debated in Committee or in Plenary? What action will the Government of Wales take in pursuit of the waiting times target set in 'Plan for Wales 2001', given that the latest published figures show a 906 per cent increase since the general election in those waiting six months or more to see a consultant—that is, the waiting list to get on the waiting list?

The First Minister: I cannot comment on what was in *The Western Mail* as I have not read it today. Did you say that it was in *The Western Mail*? I usually read it late at night. I will write to you about that issue.

On waiting times to see a consultant, this is a difficult if not intractable problem as our society ages and makes greater demands. There appear to be underlying changes, as general practitioners, sometimes out of fear of litigation, now refer far more patients to consultants, rather than dealing with them themselves. These matters all need to be studied. We regret these matters and would like to change them. However, we have not been able to do so yet. It is part of our target to bring the waiting times to see a consultant down well below its current level.

Nick Bourne: It is a shameful and humiliating statistic. However, there are many stories of individual human misery behind it. The Government's lightly-made promise was that it would turn this around. It just has not done so. The problem has

The First Minister: If Cynog would be so kind as to send the article to me, I will respond to the question following consultation with the relevant Minister, Jane Davidson, as to whether the article is correct.

Arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru (Nick Bourne): O ran iechyd, wrth ddarllen y wasg heddiw, canfu nifer o Aelodau bod menter i sefydlu gweithdrefn gwyno newydd ar gyfer yr NHS yn bolisi'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol bellach. Ceir polisiau newydd ar gadw a recriwtio staff yn yr NHS hefyd. Pam y cyhoeddwyd y polisiau hyn i'r wasg cyn iddynt gael eu trafod yn y Pwyllgor neu'r Cyfarfod Llawn? Pa gamau y bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu cymryd wrth fynd ar drywydd yr amserau aros a nodir yn y 'Cynllun i Gymru 2001', gan ystyried bod y ffigurau diweddaraf a gyhoeddwyd yn dangos cynnydd o 906 y cant ers yr etholiad cyffredinol yn y rhai sy'n aros am chwe mis neu fwy i weld ymgynghorydd—hynny yw, y rhestr aros i fynd ar y rhestrau aros?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Ni allaf wneud sylwadau ar yr hyn a oedd yn *The Western Mail* gan nad wyf wedi ei ddarllen heddiw. A ddywedoch ei fod yn *The Western Mail*? Yr wyf fel arfer yn ei ddarllen yn hwyr yn y nos. Byddaf yn ysgrifennu atoch ar y mater hwnnw.

O ran amserau aros i weld ymgynghorydd, mae hon yn broblem anodd os nad amhosibl ei datrys wrth i'n cymdeithas heneiddio gan roi mwy o bwysau ar y gwasanaeth. Ymddengys fod newidiadau sylfaenol, wrth i feddygon teulu, gan ofni achosion cyfreithiol weithiau, bellach gyfeirio llawer mwy o gleifion i ymgynhorwyr, yn hytrach na delio â hwy eu hunain. Mae angen astudio'r materion hyn i gyd. Yr ydym yn gresynu at y materion hyn a hoffem eu newid. Fodd bynnag, nid ydym wedi llwyddo i wneud hyn hyd yn hyn. Mae'n rhan o'n targed i leihau'r amserau aros i weld ymgynghorydd yn is o dipyn na'i lefel bresennol.

Nick Bourne: Mae'n ystadegyn sy'n codi cywilydd. Fodd bynnag, mae llawer o straeon o ddiodefaint unigolion y tu ôl iddo. Yr addewid a wnaed yn hawdd gan y Llywodraeth oedd y byddai'n gweddnewid y sefyllfa. Nid yw wedi gwneud hyn. Mae'r

worsened.

2:40 p.m.

On the business birth rate strategy, which is also mentioned in 'Plan for Wales 2001', the numbers achieved are massively behind the targets you have set yourself. Of an annual target of 4,236, the numbers achieved are approximately 1,700, and in Objective 1 areas they are running 1,500 behind your target. Is it not time, First Minister, that you took a step back and took a strategic view of these issues rather than concentrating on the minutiae of economic development? We saw in Brussels that you were unaware of whether a vital consultation document—you may shake your head, but you asked the Chef de Cabinet if Wales had responded to a particular consultation. It was a shameful and embarrassing position for Wales. I know that you do not want to take my advice, but listen to Peter Law and Ron Davies on the subject of shedding one of your two jobs, and find someone else for economic development so that we can have a strategic approach on what is necessary for Wales before it is too late.

The First Minister: I hoped that one of your friends—if you have friends—would have bought you a new record for Christmas, Nick. Unfortunately that has not happened. Will you now confirm that we had never been consulted on that document, the point that was raised by Ronnie Hall—

Nick Bourne: All the other regions have responded.

The First Minister: No, three regions in England have chosen to respond, but neither Wales nor the Scots have responded, as we were never formally consulted. Why do you nit-pick on this issue? I can only take it as some comfort that if that is the full extent of my so-called failure in the positions of Minister for Economic Development and First Minister, then I am deeply fortified, and am confident in my ability to continue for as long as necessary. Do not become Nick the nit-picker for 2002, as you were for most of 2001. There are genuine problems, one of

problem wedi gwaethygu.

O ran y strategaeth creu busnesau newydd, a gyfeirir ati hefyd yn 'Cynllun i Gymru 2001', mae'r niferoedd a grëwyd cryn dipyn yn is na'r targedau yr ydych wedi gosod ar eich cyfer. O darged blynyddol o 4,236, crëwyd tua 1,700, ac mewn ardaloedd Amcan 1 crëwyd 1,500 yn llai na'ch targed. Onid yw'n bryd, Brif Weinidog, ichi gymryd cam yn ôl ac edrych ar y materion hyn o safbwynt strategol yn hytrach na chanolbwyntio ar fanylion datblygu economaidd. Gwelsom ym Mrwsel nad oeddech yn ymwybodol o ddogfen ymgynghorol hollbwysig—cewch ysgwyd eich pen, ond gofynasoch i'r Chef de Cabinet a oedd Cymru wedi ymateb i ymgynghoriad penodol. Yr oedd yn sefyllfa gywilyddus i Gymru. Gwn nad ydych am dderbyn fy nghyngor, ond gwrandewch ar Peter Law a Ron Davies pan fyddant yn dweud wrthych am roi'r gorau i un o'ch dwy swydd, a dod o hyd i rywun arall ar gyfer datblygu economaidd fel y gallwn gael ymagwedd strategol ar yr hyn sy'n angenrheidiol i Gymru cyn ei bod yn rhy hwyr.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Yr oeddwn wedi gobeithio y byddai un o'ch ffrindiau—os oes gennych ffrindiau—wedi prynu record newydd ichi fel anrheg Nadolig, Nick. Yn anffodus nid yw hynny wedi digwydd. A wnewch gadarnhau bellach nad ymgynghorwyd â ni erioed ar y ddogfen honno, y pwynt a godwyd gan Ronnie Hall—

Nick Bourne: Mae pob rhanbarth arall wedi ymateb.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Na, mae tair rhanbarth yn Lloegr wedi dewis ymateb, ond nid yw Cymru na'r Alban wedi ymateb, gan nad ymgynghorwyd â ni yn ffurfiol. Pam yr ydych yn hollti blew ar y mater hwn? Gallaf ond cysuro fy hun os mai dyna yw graddau llawn fy unig fethiant honedig wrth wneud swyddi'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Phrif Weinidog Cymru, yna yr wyf wedi yn teimlo'n llawer mwy dewr, ac yr wyf yn hyderus yn fy ngallu i barhau cyhyd ag y bo angen. Peidiwch â bod yn Nick yr holltwr blew ar gyfer 2002, fel yr oeddech

which you raised five minutes ago on health and you should be able to differentiate between genuine problems and nit-picking. The business birth rate is a problem, although you have picked out the one statistic that is bad. If you look at the raft of statistics on business birth and survival rate, most are good. Try, during 2002, to raise your game, Nick, and concentrate on important issues. You raise some important issues and then you let yourself and your party down wretchedly by raising a non-issue at the end of your question.

am y rhan helaeth o 2001. Ceir problemau gwirioneddol. Codwyd un ohonynt gennych bum munud yn ôl ar iechyd a dylech allu gwahaniaethu rhwng problemau gwirioneddol a hollti blew. Mae'r gyfradd creu busnesau newydd yn broblem, er eich bod wedi dyfynnu'r un ystadegyn sydd yn wael. Os edrychwch ar yr ystadegau lu ar gyfradd busnesau newydd a chyfradd goroesi, mae'r rhan fwyaf yn dda. Ceisiwch, yn ystod 2002, berfformio'n well, Nick, a chanolbwyntio ar faterion pwysig. Yr ydych yn codi rhai materion pwysig ac yna yn tansilio eich hunan a'ch plaid yn druenus trwy godi mater dibwys ar ddiwedd eich cwestiwn.

Ceisiadau Cynllunio i Adeiladu Ffermydd Gwynt Planning Applications to Build Windfarms

Q10 Nick Bourne: What reassurances can the First Minister give that next time there is a planning application to build a windfarm in Wales that is over 50 MW, the decision on whether or not to allow it to go ahead will be brought before the Assembly rather than the Department of Trade and Industry? (OAQ14843)

The First Minister: As it is winter, we can try to skate on that little bit of ice together, because we probably agree on this. I do not know how long it will be before we get another planning application for a windfarm that is over 50 MW, as the Cefn Croes application was the first. However, by then we may have agreed a different process with the DTI. I think that there is widespread support for that throughout Wales, but we will have to consult extensively with the industry. We have begun discussions with the DTI at ministerial level, with the Secretary of State, and at an official level to see if the necessary transfer of functions can be arranged.

Nick Bourne: It is good to see the First Minister in constructive mode at last. If he is unaware, let me tell him that there is at least one application forthcoming for such a windfarm, which is one reason for my question. It is vital that this power is transferred to the Assembly in advance of this decision—the windfarm is to be on the

C10 Nick Bourne: A all Prif Weinidog Cymru roi sicrwydd y tro nesaf y ceir cais cynllunio i adeiladu fferm gwynt sydd dros 50 MW mai'r Cynulliad yn hytrach na'r Adran Masnach a Diwydiant fydd yn penderfynu ynghylch rhoi caniatâd i'r gwaith fynd rhagddo ai peidio? (OAQ14843)

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Gan ei bod yn aeaf, gallwn sglefrio ar y darn bach hwnnw o iâ gyda'n gilydd, gan ein bod siŵr o fod yn cytuno ar hyn. Ni wn pa mor hir y bydd cyn inni gael cais cynllunio arall ar gyfer fferm gwynt sydd dros 50 MW, gan mai cais Cefn Croes oedd y cyntaf. Fodd bynnag, erbyn hynny efallai y byddwn wedi cytuno proses wahanol gyda'r Adran Masnach a Diwydiant. Credaf fod cefnogaeth eang am hynny ledled Cymru, ond bydd yn rhaid inni ymgynghori'n helaeth â'r diwydiant. Yr ydym wedi dechrau trafodaethau â'r Adran Masnach a Diwydiant ar lefel weinidogol, gyda'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol, ac ar lefel y swyddogion i weld a ellir trefnu'r trosglwyddo swyddogaethau angenrheidiol.

Nick Bourne: Mae'n braf gweld Prif Weinidog Cymru yn ymddwyn mewn modd adeiladol o'r diwedd. Os nad yw'n ymwybodol, gadewch imi ddweud wrtho bod o leiaf un cais ar y gweill ar gyfer fferm gwynt o'r fath, sef un rheswm dros fy nghwestiwn. Mae'n hanfodol y caiff y pŵer hwn ei drosglwyddo i'r Cynulliad cyn y

borders of Ceredigion and Breconshire, between Abergwesyn and Tregaron. Can he refer this as a matter of urgency to the Westminster Cabinet so that the power can be transferred, and the matter decided here?

The First Minister: It cannot be done urgently because we must consult with the industry, local government, other stakeholders and with the nature conservation bodies. An extensive period of consultation will be required, without which we would be failing in our duties to deal with the issue properly. However, let us try to maintain a spirit of unity on this issue. There is widespread support for the transfer of at least some, if not all of these functions. Perhaps it will relate to windfarms only, perhaps to all generating capacity, or perhaps it will only relate to increasing capacity from just above 50 MW to 250 MW—we are not sure. That is what we want to consult upon, and all those details must be sorted out. I believe that there is considerable sympathy for this in the Westminster Government—no resistance to it, that is for sure—and therefore I hope that we can continue in a spirit of consultation in getting agreement behind this so that I can come back to the Assembly at the necessary time with more details.

Mick Bates: I am concerned about the overall promotion of renewable energy. Can you tell us what efforts the Cabinet has made to co-ordinate the promotion and construction of other renewable energy projects in Wales?

The First Minister: We can promote renewable energy, and we do so. That is part of our policy, as well as the Westminster Government's policy. However, we must hang back to some extent because of our quasi-judicial role if anything goes to a public inquiry, as it can do, because everything is subject to a planning application. Planning applications can come before the Assembly for determination on the advice of officials. Sue Essex would be heavily involved, as would I as the Minister

penderfyniad hwn—y bwriad yw sefydlu fferm gwynt ar y ffin rhwng Ceredigion a Sir Frycheiniog, rhwng Abergwesyn a Thregaron. A all gyfeirio hwn fel mater o frys i Gabinet San Steffan fel y gellir trosglwyddo'r pŵer, ac y gall y Cynulliad benderfynu ar y mater?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Ni ellir gwneud hynny ar fyrder gan fod yn rhaid inni ymgynghori â'r diwydiant, llywodraeth leol, rhanddeiliaid eraill a chyda'r cyrff cadwraeth natur. Bydd angen cyfnod helaeth o ymgynghori, a hebddo ni fyddem yn cyflawni ein dyletswyddau i ymdrin â'r mater yn gywir. Fodd bynnag, gadewch inni geisio cynnal ysbryd o undod ar y mater hwn. Mae cefnogaeth eang i drosglwyddo o leiaf rhai o'r swyddogaethau hyn, os nad y swyddogaethau hyn i gyd. Efallai y bydd yn gysylltiedig â ffermydd gwynt yn unig, efallai i'r capasiti cynhyrchu i gyd, neu efallai bydd yn gysylltiedig â chynyddu capasiti o ychydig dros 50 MW i 250 MW yn unig—nid ydym yn siŵr. Dyna beth yr ydym am ymgynghori arno, a rhaid rhoi trefn ar y manylion hynny i gyd. Credaf fod cydymdeimlad sylweddol i hyn yn Llywodraeth San Steffan—dim gwrthwynebiad iddo, yn sicr—ac felly gobeithiaf y gallwn barhau mewn ysbryd o ymgynghori wrth ddod i gytundeb ar hyn fel y gallaf ddod yn ôl i'r Cynulliad ar yr adeg briodol gyda mwy o fanylion.

Mick Bates: Yr wyf yn pryderu am hyrwyddo ynni adnewyddadwy yn gyffredinol. A allwch ddweud wrthym pa ymdrechion mae'r Cabinet wedi eu gwneud i gydlynu'r broses o hyrwyddo ac adeiladu prosiectau ynni adnewyddadwy eraill yng Nghymru?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Gallwn hyrwyddo ynni adnewyddadwy, ac yr ydym yn gwneud hynny. Mae hynny'n rhan o'n polisi ni, yn ogystal â pholisi Llywodraeth San Steffan. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni ymbellhau i ryw raddau oherwydd ein rôl lled-farnwrol os bydd ymchwiliad cyhoeddus o gwbl, fel y gall ddigwydd, am fod popeth yn amodol ar gais cynllunio. Gall ceisiadau cynllunio ddod gerbron y Cynulliad i'w penderfynu ar gyngor swyddogion. Byddai Sue Essex yn cymryd rhan sylweddol, fel y byddwn innau

for Economic Development. Subject to that core caveat we promote renewable energy as something that needs to be expanded over the next 10 years.

Elin Jones: A ydych yn ymwybodol fod cryn anniddigrwydd yn dilyn penderfyniad eich Llywodraeth i eistedd ar y ffens ynglŷn â chais fferm wynt Cefn Croes? Beth oedd y pwrpas i'r Adran Masnach a Diwydiant holi barn eich Llywodraeth am Gefn Croes os mai eich unig ateb oedd dweud nad oeddech am roi eich barn? Mae trigolion gogledd Ceredigion yn haeddu gwell oddi wrth Lywodraeth Cymru.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Nid wyf yn siŵr beth fyddai ymateb Cynog i hynny. Cyn belled ag y gwn i, mae'n gefnogol i bron bob cais ar gyfer ffermydd gwynt. Os yw'r awdurdod lleol yn gwrthod cais, ceir ymchwiliad cyhoeddus. Os yw'r awdurdod lleol yn rhoi caniatâd, fel y gwnaeth Cyngor Sir Ceredigion yn yr esiampl hon, mae'n gwestiwn wedyn i'r Gweinidog Gwladol dros Ddiwydiant, Ynni a'r Amgylchedd, nid i ni. Ni sy'n casglu'r wybodaeth, ond yn y pen draw mae penderfynu pa un ai i gynnal ymchwiliad cyhoeddus neu beidio yn fater i'r Gweinidog, Brian Wilson, nid oherwydd rhywbeth yr ydym ni wedi ei wneud ond oherwydd rhywbeth y mae Cyngor Sir Ceredigion wedi ei wneud, sef caniatáu cais. Os yw'r cyngor yn rhoi caniatâd, mater i Brian Wilson fel y gweinidog priodol yn yr Adran Masnach a Diwydiant ydyw, nid i ni.

fel y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd. Yn amodol ar y rhybudd sylfaenol hwnnw yr ydym yn hyrwyddo ynni adnewyddadwy fel rhywbeth sydd angen ei estyn dros y 10 mlynedd nesaf.

Elin Jones: Are you aware of the ill-feeling engendered by your Government's decision to sit on the fence regarding the Cefn Croes windfarm application? What was the point of the Department of Trade and Industry asking your Government's opinion on Cefn Croes if your only answer was to say that you did not want to give your opinion? The residents of north Ceredigion deserve better from the Government of Wales.

The First Minister: I am not sure what Cynog's response would be to that. As far as I know, he is supportive of almost all windfarm applications. If the local authority turns an application down, it goes to a public inquiry. If the local authority grants permission, as Ceredigion County Council did in this case, it is then a question for the Minister of State for Industry, Energy and the Environment, not for us. We collate the information but the final decision as to whether or not to hold a public inquiry is a matter for the Minister, Brian Wilson, not because of something that we have done but because of something that Ceredigion County Council has done, which is to grant an application. If the council grants permission, it is a matter for Brian Wilson as the relevant minister in the Department of Trade and Industry, not for us.

Rôl y Sector Cyhoeddus yn y Gwaith o Adfywio ac Adnewyddu yng Nghymru The Role of the Public Sector in Regeneration and Renewal in Wales

Q11 Brian Gibbons: Will the First Minister make a statement about the role of the public sector in regeneration and renewal in Wales? (OAQ14858)

The First Minister: The Welsh Assembly Government recognises the important role of the public sector in community regeneration. We support and promote regeneration and renewal partnership working between the private, public, voluntary and community sectors throughout Wales.

C11 Brian Gibbons: A all Prif Weinidog Cymru wneud datganiad ar rôl y sector cyhoeddus yn y gwaith o adfywio ac adnewyddu yng Nghymru? (OAQ14858)

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn cydnabod rôl bwysig y sector preifat mewn adfywio cymunedol. Yr ydym yn cynnal ac yn hyrwyddo partneriaeth adfywio ac adnewyddu trwy weithio rhwng y sectorau preifat, cyhoeddus, gwirfoddol a chymunedol ledled Cymru.

Brian Gibbons: Do you agree that the decentralisation of public sector management and administrative offices to socially deprived areas would help to regenerate these local economies, improve the morale of these communities, and help to address the poverty of aspiration that can frequently blight these communities' prospects?

The First Minister: Yes. This is the combination of dispersal and decentralisation. In other words, some of our new public bodies operate on a dispersed basis. They do not have large headquarter buildings. Education and Learning Wales is one such example, the Care Standards Inspectorate is another. We are also considering decentralisation away from Cardiff. This involves considering how many of the posts that are currently held in Cardiff, in the officialdom of the Assembly, can be relocated some distance from Cardiff to help the process of public sector regeneration of areas that need that diversity in the local economy.

David Lloyd: Ble, felly, mae hyn yn gadael eich ymrwymiad cynyddol i fentrau cyllid preifat?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Ni chredaf ei fod yn cael unrhyw effaith ar PFI. Gwnaeth Edwina ddatganiad cyn y Nadolig ar PFI. Mae gan PFI rôl i'w chwarae pan fo'n angenrheidiol. Fodd bynnag, os yw'r adnoddau gennym, y duedd yw defnyddio arian cyhoeddus yn y modd traddodiadol. Fodd bynnag, ambell waith, mae PFI yn gwneud synnwyr cyffredin. Mae awdurdodau lleol sydd o dan reolaeth Plaid Cymru, fel Rhondda Cynon Taf, gan gynnwys rhai sydd yn cael eu cynrychioli yma gan yr un person yn gwneud y ddwy swydd, hefyd yn defnyddio PFI. Maent yn awyddus i ddefnyddio mwy arno ar gyfer adeiladu ysgolion a chanolfannau addysg eraill sydd yn rhan o'u cylch gwaith hwy.

Peter Law: Will you join me in welcoming representatives of the Coalfields Communities Campaign, who are here today to make a presentation to the Assembly, and compliment it on its excellent work in coal mining areas, in the past, and on the work it will do in the future? Will you also join me in

Brian Gibbons: A gytunwch y byddai datganiol swyddfeydd rheoli a gweinyddu'r sector cyhoeddus i ardaloedd cymdeithasol-ddifreintiedig yn helpu i adfywio'r economïau lleol hyn, yn calonogi'r cymunedau hyn, ac yn helpu i fynd i'r afael â diffyg uchelgais a all ddifetha rhagolygon y cymunedau hyn yn aml?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Cytunaf. Mae hwn yn gyfuniad o wasgaru a datganiol. Mewn geiriau eraill, mae rhai o'n cyrff cyhoeddus newydd yn gweithredu ar sail wasgaru. Nid oes ganddynt bencadlysoedd mawr. Mae Dysgu ac Addysg Cymru yn un enghraifft o'r fath, ac mae'r Arolygiaeth Safonau Gofal yn un arall. Yr ydym hefyd yn ystyried datganiol i ffwrdd o Gaerdydd. Mae hyn yn cynnwys ystyried faint o'r swyddi a lenwir ar hyn o bryd yng Nghaerdydd, gan swyddogion y Cynulliad, y gellir eu hadleoli cryn bellter o Gaerdydd i helpu'r broses o adfywio'r sector cyhoeddus mewn ardaloedd y mae angen yr amrywiaeth hwnnw arnynt yn yr economi leol.

David Lloyd: Where, therefore, does this leave your increasing commitment to private finance initiative schemes?

The First Minister: I do not believe that it has any effect on PFI. Edwina made a statement on PFI before Christmas. PFI has a role to play when it is necessary. However, if we have the resources, the tendency is to use public funds in the traditional way. However, occasionally, PFI makes common sense. Local authorities under Plaid Cymru control, including some, such as Rhondda Cynon Taff, that are represented here by individuals holding down two jobs, also use PFI. They are keen to make more use of it in order to build schools and other education centres that fall within their remit.

Peter Law: A ymunwch â mi i groesawu cynrychiolwyr Ymgyrch Cymunedau'r Pyllau Glo, sydd yma heddiw i wneud cyflwyniad i'r Cynulliad, a'i chymeradwyo ar ei gwaith rhagorol mewn ardaloedd glofaol, yn y gorffennol, ac ar y gwaith y bydd yn ei wneud yn y dyfodol? A wnewch chi hefyd

encouraging the steel action group to do the same in steel areas, particularly where closures at Corus are taking place?

ymuno â mi i annog y grŵp gweithredu dur i wneud yr un peth mewn ardaloedd dur, yn enwedig lle mae gweithfeydd Corus yn cau?

2:50 p.m.

The First Minister: There are bodies that help to promote the interests of what you call the one culture towns and areas that are solely dependent on coal, steel, or sometimes a combination of both. There are many such areas in south and north-east Wales, in Yorkshire and north-east England. They find it most difficult to regenerate and diversify. Therefore, they need that extra special help and campaigning. That is what the Coalfields Community Campaign has provided and I am sure that the steel action group will do the same, using its good example.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Mae cyrff ar gael sy'n helpu i hyrwyddo buddiannau'r rhai a elwir yn drefi un diwylliant ac ardaloedd sydd yn gwbl ddibynol ar lo, haearn, neu weithiau gyfuniad o'r ddau. Mae nifer o ardaloedd o'r fath yn ne Cymru a gogledd ddwyrain Cymru, yn Swydd Efrog a gogledd ddwyrain Lloegr. Maent yn ei chael hi'n anodd iawn i adfywio ac amrywio. Felly, mae angen yr help a'r ymgyrchu ychwanegol arbennig hynny arnynt. Dyna'r hyn y mae Ymgyrch Cymunedau'r Pyllau Glo wedi ei ddarparu ac yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd y grŵp gweithredu dur yn gwneud yr un peth drwy ei hefelychu.

David Davies: A yw'r Prif Weinidog yn cytuno y gall awdurdodau lleol chwarae rhan bwysig mewn creu cynllun adfywio strategol ond, fel arfer, mae'n well caniatáu i'r sector preifat weithredu cynlluniau o'r fath?

David Davies: Does the First Minister agree that local authorities can play an important part in creating strategic regeneration schemes but that it is usually better to allow the private sector to implement such schemes?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Yr wyf yn deall yr egwyddor, ond mae enghreifftiau hefyd o'r sector cyhoeddus yn chwarae rhan effeithiol dros ben mewn gweithredu. Soniwyd eisoes am un enghraifft, sef Swyddfa'r Post, a oedd yn gwneud elw mawr hyd at yn ddiweddar. Yn awr mae'n gwneud colled gan fod y rheolau wedi newid. Ni ddylech fod yn rhy ideolegol drwy ddweud bod y sector preifat yn dda am weithredu ac na all y sector cyhoeddus wneud dim ond cynllunio strategol.

The First Minister: I understand the principle, but there are examples of the public sector also playing an extremely effective part in implementation.. One example has already been mentioned, namely the Post Office, which was making a large profit until recently. It is now making a loss because the rules have changed. You should not be too ideological in saying that the private sector is good at implementing and that the public sector can only do the job of strategic planning.

Datganiad ar Gymdeithas y Plant Statement on the Children's Society

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Jane Hutt): I will bring you up to date today with events in connection with the Children's Society's decision to withdraw from Wales.

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Jane Hutt): Hoffwn roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf ichi heddiw ynglŷn â digwyddiadau mewn perthynas â phenderfyniad Cymdeithas y Plant i dynnu'n ôl o Gymru.

The Children's Society's trustees met on 14 December. I have not received any written

Cyfarfu ymddiriedolwyr Cymdeithas y Plant ar 14 Rhagfyr. Ni dderbyniais unrhyw

communication from the society since then, but the joint statement issued by the society and the Wales staff group after the meeting indicates that the trustees did not feel able to hand over the £4 million of reserves requested by the staff group. However, they expressed a desire to explore the possibility of working in Wales until March 2003, subject to financial constraints, and undertook to explore further funding support from a range of bodies, including the society itself. The statement also said that the society and staff group would continue to collaborate with the aim of securing the long-term future of services after the society withdraws from Wales.

On 18 December, the House of Commons Welsh Affairs Select Committee opened its inquiry into the Children's Society's actions. Mr Ian Sparks, the chief executive, Lady Toulson, chair of the board of trustees, and Mr Charles Nall, director of finance and administration, gave evidence in a long and probing session of 237 questions. The Committee indicated that it will produce a short report as quickly as possible. Martyn Jones has invited me to make a written submission on any matters not covered by the transcript which I think ought to be taken into account in the preparation of the report. I will do so.

The Welsh Affairs Select Committee inquiry is helpful in establishing the facts behind the society's decision and will, I hope, bring pressure to bear on the society to act constructively from now on. My main concern is to secure jobs and services. I am pleased to report that there have been helpful developments arising from the work of the taskforce, chaired by Christine Walby. At the taskforce's second meeting on 20 December, proposals were discussed for interim measures that would buy time to develop sustainable arrangements for the delivery of services in the longer term, whether by a new charity or otherwise.

The proposal put to the meeting comprised the following elements: that all parties agree

ohebiaeth ysgrifenedig oddi wrth y gymdeithas ers hynny, ond noda'r datganiad ar y cyd a gyhoeddwyd gan y gymdeithas a grŵp staff Cymru ar ôl y cyfarfod nad oedd yr ymddiriedolwyr o'r farn y gallent drosglwyddo'r £4 miliwn o'r gronfa wrth gefn y gofynnwyd amdano gan y grŵp staff. Fodd bynnag, mynegwyd dymuniad ganddynt i archwilio'r posibilrwydd o weithio yng Nghymru hyd Fawrth 2003, yn amodol ar gyfyngiadau ariannol, ac ymrwymasant i ystyried cymorth ariannol pellach gan ystod o gyrff, gan gynnwys y gymdeithas ei hun. Nododd y datganiad hefyd y byddai'r gymdeithas a'r grŵp staff yn parhau i gydweithredu gyda'r nod o sicrhau dyfodol hirdymor gwasanaethau ar ôl i'r gymdeithas dynnu'n ôl o Gymru.

Ar 18 Rhagfyr, agorodd Pwyllgor Dethol ar Faterion Cymreig Tŷ'r Cyffredin ei ymchwiliad i weithrediadau Cymdeithas y Plant. Rhoddodd Mr Ian Sparks, y prif weithredwr, y Fonesig Toulson, cadeirydd bwrdd yr ymddiriedolwyr, a Mr Charles Nall, cyfarwyddwr cyllid a gweinyddiaeth, dystiolaeth mewn sesiwn hir a thrwyadl pryd y gofynnwyd 237 o gwestiynau. Nododd y Pwyllgor y bydd yn cynhyrchu adroddiad byr cyn gynted â phosibl. Mae Martyn Jones wedi fy ngwahodd i wneud cyflwyniad ysgrifenedig ar unrhyw faterion nas cwmpaswyd gan y trawsgrifiad y dylid eu hystyried wrth baratoi'r adroddiad yn fy marn i. Gwnaf hynny.

Mae ymchwiliad y Pwyllgor Dethol ar Faterion Cymreig yn ddefnyddiol i gadarnhau'r ffeithiau sy'n sail i benderfyniad y gymdeithas a, gobeithiaf y bydd yn rhoi pwysau ar y gymdeithas i weithredu'n adeiladol o hyn ymlaen. Fy ngofal pennaf yw sicrhau swyddi a gwasanaethau. Yr wyf yn falch o nodi bod datblygiadau defnyddiol wedi deillio o waith y gweithlu, dan gadeiryddiaeth Christine Walby. Yn ail gyfarfod y gweithlu ar 20 Rhagfyr, trafodwyd cynigion ar gyfer mesurau dros dro a fyddai'n ennill amser i ddatblygu trefniadau cynaliadwy ar gyfer darparu gwasanaethau yn y tymor hwy, drwy gyfrwng elusen newydd neu fel arall.

Yr oedd y cynnig a gyflwynwyd i'r cyfarfod yn cynnwys yr elfennau canlynol: fod pob

that it will be mutually beneficial, and particularly in the interests of service users, if sound interim arrangements can be established from a mutually agreeable date before the planned withdrawal of the Children's Society on 31 July 2002, until 31 March 2003; that the Children's Society does not issue redundancy notices, set in hand transfer of undertakings (protection of employment) arrangements, or issue notices of termination of contracts; that a shadow body should be set up under the general auspices of an existing organisation to take formal temporary operational control of the current project work and hold any funding provided for the interim period; and that the Children's Society would take responsibility for any necessary redundancy or transfer arrangements and payments prior to the end of the interim period in March 2003. Other elements are as follows: that local authorities would agree to continue funding projects, unless there is mutual agreement to terminate or make other arrangements, until March 2003; and that the Children's Society, local authorities and the Church in Wales all consider a request to make additional financial contributions for the interim period and to make up the deficit caused by the Children's Society's withdrawal.

These proposals would ensure funding arrangements until the end of March 2003 and thereby protect the interests of the vulnerable children, young people and families who currently rely on or will imminently need the help of the advocacy, participation or support services which the projects provide. The proposals will also provide the demonstrable commitment and security that is necessary to sustain the confidence of project staff, which is fundamental to their ability to maintain their contribution until the projects' long-term future is determined.

The proposals will also provide adequate space for local authorities to review, plan and develop future services as well as adequate lead time for potential alternative providers—including the proposed new charity—to develop and deploy their agency skills, resources and sources of funding, and to satisfy local authorities as to the long-term

ochr yn cytuno y byddai o fudd cyffredin, ac yn enwedig er budd defnyddwyr gwasanaethau, pe gellid gosod trefniadau dros dro cadarn o ddyddiad y gall pawb gytuno arno, cyn y dyddiad arfaethedig y bwriada Cymdeithas y Plant dynnu'n ôl sef 31 Gorffennaf 2002, hyd 31 Mawrth 2003; nad yw Cymdeithas y Plant yn cyhoeddi hysbysiadau diswyddo, trefnu trosglwyddo ymgymeriadau (diogelu cyflogaeth) ysgrifenedig, neu gyhoeddi hysbysiadau terfynu contractau; y dylid sefydlu corff cysgodol o dan nawdd cyffredinol sefydliad presennol i ymgymryd â rheolaeth weithredol ffurfiol dros dro dros y gwaith prosiect cyfredol ac i ddal unrhyw gyllid a ddarperir ar gyfer y cyfnod dros dro; ac y byddai Cymdeithas y Plant yn gyfrifol am unrhyw drefniadau a thaliadau diswyddo neu drosglwyddo angenrheidiol cyn diwedd y cyfnod dros dro ym Mawrth 2003. Mae elfennau eraill fel a ganlyn: fod awdurdodau lleol yn cytuno i barhau i ariannu prosiectau, oni cheir cytundeb cyffredin i derfynu neu i wneud trefniadau eraill, hyd Fawrth 2003; a bod Cymdeithas y Plant, awdurdodau lleol a'r Eglwys yng Nghymru yn ystyried cais i wneud cyfraniadau ariannol ychwanegol ar gyfer y cyfnod dros dro, ac i unioni'r diffyg a achoswyd gan benderfyniad Cymdeithas y Plant i dynnu'n ôl.

Byddai'r cynigion hyn yn sicrhau trefniadau ariannu hyd ddiwedd Mawrth 2003 ac felly'n diogelu buddiannau'r plant, pobl ifanc a theuluoedd diamddiffyn sydd, ar hyn o bryd, yn dibynnu ar gymorth neu a fydd yn gofyn yn fuan am gymorth y gwasanaethau eirioli, cyfranogi neu gefnogi a ddarperir gan y prosiectau. Bydd y cynigion hefyd yn rhoi'r ymrwymiad a'r sicrwydd amlwg sy'n angenrheidiol i gynnal hyder staff prosiect, sy'n hanfodol i'w gallu i gynnal eu cyfraniad hyd nes y cadarnheir dyfodol hirdymor y prosiectau.

Bydd y cynigion hefyd yn rhoi digon o gyfle i awdurdodau lleol adolygu, cynllunio a datblygu gwasanaethau'r dyfodol yn ogystal â darparu digon o amser paratoi i ddarparwyr amgen posibl—yn cynnwys yr elusen newydd arfaethedig—ddatblygu a threfnu eu sgiliau asiantaeth, eu hadnoddau a'u ffynonellau arian, a bodloni awdurdodau lleol

financial, managerial and professional viability of what they have to offer.

A business plan is being constructed to help determine the financial viability of a new charity developed by Children's Society staff. The Children's Society has made available the services of a consultant, at its expense, to assist in the preparation of the plan. A business plan covering the interim period from July 2002 to March 2003 will also be developed by 15 January. That will be discussed at the taskforce's next meeting on 22 January.

A new charity could not, of course, be given any guarantees of contracts after 31 March 2003. Like any other potential provider, it will need to demonstrate future professional, managerial and financial viability to the satisfaction of local authority commissioners. However, its track record will be in its favour.

The taskforce hopes to receive confirmation from local authorities shortly that they will continue to fund projects until July 2002. That assurance would remove the danger of redundancy notices being issued this month.

At the taskforce's meeting, the Children's Society was invited to consider hosting the shadow body to operate between July this year and March of next year. I expect it to respond at the next meeting of the taskforce. Other options are also being considered. I will report again on all of these matters when I have new information.

David Lloyd: First, I make my usual declarations of interest as a general practitioner and a member of Swansea City and County council.

I commend the work of the taskforce that Jane mentioned. It is trying to salvage the 13 advocacy services in Wales and save 120 jobs. It is a matter of deep regret that the taskforce was necessary, but our feelings on that issue have already been more than

ynghlŷn ag ymarferoldeb ariannol, rheolaethol a phroffesiynol hirdymor yr hyn sydd ganddynt i'w gynnig.

Mae cynllun busnes yn cael ei lunio i helpu i gadarnhau ymarferoldeb ariannol elusen newydd a ddatblygir gan staff Cymdeithas y Plant. Mae Cymdeithas y Plant wedi sicrhau bod gwasanaethau ymgynghorydd ar gael, ar ei thraul ei hun, i gynorthwyo â'r gwaith o baratoi'r cynllun. Bydd cynllun busnes yn cwmpasu'r cyfnod dros dro o Orffennaf 2002 i Fawrth 2003 hefyd yn cael ei ddatblygu erbyn 15 Ionawr. Caiff hwnnw ei drafod yng nghyfarfod nesaf y tasglu ar 22 Ionawr.

Ni ellid rhoi unrhyw sicrwydd o ran contractau i elusen newydd ar ôl 31 Mawrth 2003 wrth gwrs. Yn debyg i unrhyw ddarparwr posib arall, bydd angen iddi ddangos ymarferoldeb proffesiynol, rheolaethol ac ariannol ar gyfer y dyfodol a fydd yn bodloni comisiynwyr awdurdodau lleol. Fodd bynnag, bydd ei record blaenorol o'i phlaid.

Gobeithia'r tasglu dderbyn cadarnhad yn fuan oddi wrth awdurdodau lleol y byddant yn parhau i ariannu prosiectau tan fis Gorffennaf 2002. Byddai'r sicrwydd hwnnw yn dileu'r perygl o orfod cyhoeddi hysbysiadau diswyddo y mis hwn.

Yng nghyfarfod y tasglu, gwahoddiwyd Cymdeithas y Plant i ystyried cynnal y corff cysgodol i weithredu rhwng Gorffennaf eleni a Mawrth y flwyddyn nesaf. Disgwyliaf iddi ymateb yng nghyfarfod nesaf y tasglu. Caiff opsiynau eraill eu hystyried hefyd. Byddaf yn cyflwyno adroddiad arall ar yr holl faterion hyn pan fydd gennyf wybodaeth newydd.

David Lloyd: Yn gyntaf, datganaf fy muddiant arferol fel meddyg teulu ac aelod o gyngor Dinas a Sir Abertawe.

Cymeradwyaf waith y tasglu a grybwyllwyd gan Jane. Mae'n ceisio achub y 13 o wasanaethau eiriolaeth yng Nghymru a'r 120 o swyddi. Mae'n drueni mawr y bu'n rhaid sefydlu'r tasglu, ond mynegwyd ein teimladau ynghlŷn â'r mater hwnnw eisoes yn

adequately expressed. Will the Minister clarify the timetable on the way forward for those advocacy services? Will she also confirm the funding for those services and clarify the position of those working in them?

As regards lessons for the future, the Voluntary Sector Partnership Council's intention to draw up a code of practice to ensure that UK organisations hold full consultations should they plan to withdraw or downgrade services in Wales, is welcome. However, the Government, particularly the Government in Wales, must be proactive on these and other issues. As you know, Jane, statutory and necessary services are increasingly being provided by the voluntary sector. Does the Minister therefore agree that where such necessary services are provided by the voluntary sector, the only way forward is consistent core funding and a common strategic intent driven by strong leadership in the Assembly?

Jane Hutt: It is important that the taskforce plays this role to safeguard services for vulnerable young people, particularly those in relation to advocacy. That is linked to our Children First project, which is funded by the Assembly and was established as a direct result of the Waterhouse report's recommendations. We are looking to extend these services beyond July 2002 to March 2003 to enable a new charity to be formed or for other bodies to take on the advocacy services. As a result of discussions at the taskforce's next meeting, I hope that we will obtain that clarity and security to take us through the next year and secure those services.

3:00 p.m.

Dai, your second point is important, and the matter was discussed at the Voluntary Sector Partnership Council meeting on 14 December. We have our own National Assembly Code of Practice for Funding the Voluntary Sector, which was drawn up in

gwbl glir. A wnaiff y Gweinidog egluro'r amserlen o ran y ffordd ymlaen ar gyfer y gwasanaethau eiriolaeth hynny? A wnaiff hefyd gadarnhau'r cyllid ar gyfer y gwasanaethau hynny ac egluro sefyllfa y rhai sy'n gweithio ynddynt?

O ran gwersi ar gyfer y dyfodol, croesewir bwriad Cyngor Partneriaeth y Sector Gwirfoddol i lunio cod ymarfer i sicrhau bod sefydliadau yn y DU yn cynnal ymgynghoriadau llawn pe byddent yn cynllunio tynnu gwasanaethau yn ôl o Gymru neu eu hisraddio. Fodd bynnag, rhaid i'r Llywodraeth, yn enwedig y Llywodraeth yng Nghymru, fod yn rhagweithiol ynglŷn â'r materion hyn ac ynglŷn â materion eraill. Fel y gwyddoch, Jane, caiff gwasanaethau statudol ac angenrheidiol eu darparu'n gynyddol gan y sector gwirfoddol. A yw'r Gweinidog yn cytuno felly, lle y darperir gwasanaethau angenrheidiol o'r fath gan y sector gwirfoddol, mai'r unig ffordd ymlaen yw drwy sicrhau arian craidd parhaol a bwriad strategol cyffredin a gaiff ei lywio gan arweinyddiaeth gadarn yn y Cynulliad?

Jane Hutt: Mae'n bwysig bod y tasglu yn chwarae'r rôl hon i ddiogelu gwasanaethau ar gyfer pobl ifanc ddiameddiffyn, yn enwedig y rhai sy'n ymwneud ag eiriolaeth. Mae hynny'n gysylltiedig â'n prosiect Plant yn Gyntaf, a gaiff ei ariannu gan y Cynulliad ac a sefydlwyd o ganlyniad uniongyrchol i argymhellion adroddiad Waterhouse. Yr ydym yn ystyried ymestyn y gwasanaethau hyn ar ôl Gorffennaf 2002 i Fawrth 2003 i alluogi i elusen newydd gael ei sefydlu neu i alluogi i gyrff eraill herio'r gwasanaethau eiriolaeth. O ganlyniad i drafodaethau yng nghyfarfod nesaf y tasglu, gobeithiaf y cawn yr eglurhad a'r sicrwydd hwnnw i gynnal y gwasanaethau hynny drwy'r flwyddyn nesaf a'u diogelu.

Dai, mae eich ail bwynt yn bwysig, a thrafodwyd y mater yng nghyfarfod Cyngor Partneriaeth y Sector Gwirfoddol ar 14 Rhagfyr. Mae gennym yn y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ein Cod Ymarfer ein hunain ar gyfer Ariannu'r Sector Gwirfoddol, a

partnership with that sector. It provides more security for voluntary sector organisations whereby they deliver in accordance with our objectives, programmes and initiatives. We are considering amending that code of practice—particularly in relation to funding and the role of UK-based voluntary organisations—to incorporate a requirement that UK voluntary organisations should also adopt the code of practice, as a condition of funding. In Wales, through our voluntary sector scheme and the Voluntary Sector Partnership Council, we have made progress in securing that clearer identification of security and sustainability.

Ann Jones: Jane, I am glad to see that we remain focused on the Children's Society issue. Again, I thank you publicly for responding so quickly to the charity's disastrous decision in November. Are you aware that at a meeting of the Select Committee on Welsh Affairs in London, Ian Sparks, the chief executive, admitted that he had misinformed the trustees about the length of time that projects were to run in Wales; information that allowed them to make that decision? Do you share my frustration that after making a positive move to the Select Committee on Welsh Affairs—that they would consider assisting with additional funding until July 2003 and perhaps taking an interim view—Children's Society representatives at the taskforce meeting some two days later did not have the authority to agree to the proposals that had been circulated beforehand? Is it not the case that Children's Society staff and local authority partners were again left dangling in the wind as to whether they could provide any services? Despite the warm words from the Children's Society's senior management, redundancy still hangs over the heads of its staff. We have a short time. The taskforce must have a clear commitment from the Children's Society at its next meeting in mid January. Will you do everything possible to ensure that Mr Sparks provides correct information to the charity's trustees, as well as providing correct information to allow the taskforce to make serious commitments to the children of Wales?

luniwyd mewn partneriaeth â'r sector hwnnw. Mae'n rhoi mwy o sicrwydd i sefydliadau'r sector gwirfoddol lle y cyflwynan wasanaethau yn unol â'n hamcanion, ein rhaglenni a'n mentrau. Yr ydym yn ystyried diwygio'r cod ymarfer hwnnw—yn enwedig mewn perthynas ag ariannu a rôl sefydliadau gwirfoddol yn y DU—i ymgorffori gofyniad y dylai sefydliadau gwirfoddol yn y DU fabwysiadu'r cod ymarfer hefyd, fel amod i gael arian. Yng Nghymru, drwy ein cynllun sector gwirfoddol a Chyngor Partneriaeth y Sector Gwirfoddol, gwnaethom gynnydd i nodi'r sicrwydd a'r cynaliadwyedd hwnnw yn gliriach.

Ann Jones: Jane, yr wyf yn falch o weld ein bod yn parhau i ganolbwyntio ar fater Cymdeithas y Plant. Unwaith eto, diolchaf i chi yn gyhoeddus am ymateb mor gyflym i benderfyniad trychinebus yr elusen ym mis Tachwedd. A ydych yn ymwybodol i Ian Sparks, y prif weithredwr, gyfaddef mewn cyfarfod o'r Pwyllgor Dethol ar Faterion Cymreig yn Llundain ei fod wedi rhoi gwybodaeth anghywir i'r ymddiriedolwyr ynglŷn â pharhad y prosiectau yng Nghymru; gwybodaeth a'u galluogodd i wneud y penderfyniad hwnnw? A ydych yn rhannu fy rhwystredigaeth ynglŷn â'r ffaith, ar ôl gwneud awgrym cadarnhaol i'r Pwyllgor Dethol ar Faterion Cymreig—y byddent yn ystyried rhoi arian ychwanegol hyd Orffennaf 2003 a chymryd safbwynt dros dro efallai—nad oedd gan gynrychiolwyr Cymdeithas y Plant yng nghyfarfod y tasglu tua dau ddiwrnod yn ddiweddarach yr awdurdod i gytuno ar y cynigion a ddsbarthwyd ymlaen llaw? Onid yw'n wir y bu staff Cymdeithas y Plant a phartneriaid awdurdodau lleol unwaith eto yn ansicr ynglŷn ag a allent ddarparu unrhyw wasanaethau? Er gwaethaf y geiriau caredig gan uwch reolwyr Cymdeithas y Plant, mae'n bosibl o hyd y caiff staff eu diswyddo. Nid oes llawer o amser gennym. Rhaid i'r tasglu gael ymrwymiad clir gan Gymdeithas y Plant yn ei gyfarfod nesaf yng nghanol Ionawr. A wnewch chi bopeth o fewn eich gallu i sicrhau bod Mr Sparks yn rhoi'r wybodaeth gywir i ymddiriedolwyr yr elusen, yn ogystal â rhoi'r wybodaeth gywir i alluogi'r tasglu i wneud ymrwymadau difrifol i blant Cymru?

Jane Hutt: I thank Ann for her valuable contribution to this and to the taskforce. We share your frustration. There has been misinformation, a lack of transparency and poor communication. We are also disappointed that Mr Sparks did not attend the taskforce meeting on 20 December, although he had indicated that he would do so at the meeting of the Select Committee on Welsh Affairs. We need to have the commitment in time for 14 January. Following today's statement, I will again pursue that matter directly with the Children's Society to ensure that we get the clarity of purpose needed to secure these services.

David Melding: Thank you for your statement, Minister. I am sure that you have the confidence of the Assembly in the action that you are taking. I also commend the work of the taskforce and of Ann Jones on behalf of the Health and Social Services Committee. We still need to get angry about this decision, and so far we have been calm. It is wrong for an England and Wales organisation to abandon Wales without a thought, without discussion or any commitment to at least secure the continuance of its work. We need to stress that time and again. I know that you have done so, but we must continue to make that statement. At the very least, the Children's Society could have made some financial settlement to preserve—for the medium term at least—the work that was ongoing. It has refused to do so, and has not satisfactorily explained why it is not prepared to make that commitment.

Life has an odd way of coming back at people when they act inappropriately. I cannot help but speculate about what will happen if His Grace, the Archbishop of Wales is translated to Canterbury, given that he has already resigned as one of the joint presidents of the Children's Society. The charity faces the serious prospect of losing its president because of its ridiculous and intemperate actions. It would be a just punishment, in my view, if exactly that happened.

We must give priority to the charity's work; it is still valuable work, conducted by highly

Jane Hutt: Diolchaf i Ann am ei chyfraniad gwerthfawr yn y mater hwn ac yn y tasglu. Rhannwn eich rhwystredigaeth. Cafwyd gwybodaeth anghywir, diffyg tryloywder a chyfathrebu gwael. Yr ydym hefyd yn siomedig na fynychodd Mr Sparks gyfarfod y tasglu ar 20 Rhagfyr, er iddo nodi y byddai'n bresennol yn ystod cyfarfod y Pwyllgor Dethol ar Faterion Cymreig. Rhaid inni gael yr ymrwymiad cyn 14 Ionawr. Yn dilyn y datganiad heddiw, byddaf unwaith eto yn trafod y mater hwnnw yn uniongyrchol gyda Chymdeithas y Plant er mwyn sicrhau y cawn eglurder bwriad, sy'n angenrheidiol er mwyn sicrhau'r gwasanaethau hyn.

David Melding: Diolch am eich datganiad, Weinidog. Yr wyf yn sicr bod y Cynulliad yn hydreus yn y camau yr ydych yn eu cymryd. Yn ogystal, cymeradwyaf waith y tasglu a gwaith Ann Jones ar ran y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Mae angen i ni o hyd ddangos ein dicter ynglŷn â'r penderfyniad hwn, a hyd yma, buom yn dawel iawn. Mae'n anghywir i sefydliad yng Nghymru a Lloegr droi cefn ar Gymru heb unrhyw ystyriaeth, heb drafodaeth neu heb unrhyw ymrwymiad o leiaf i sicrhau bod ei waith yn parhau. Rhaid inni bwysleisio hynny dro ar ôl tro. Gwn eich bod wedi gwneud hynny, ond rhaid inni barhau i wneud y datganiad hwnnw. Ar y lleiaf, gallai Cymdeithas y Plant fod wedi dod i ryw gyntundeb ariannol i barhau—yn y tymor canolig o leiaf—â'r gwaith a oedd yn mynd rhagddo. Gwrthododd wneud hynny, ac ni roddodd resymau boddhaol pam nad yw'n barod i wneud yr ymrwymiad hwnnw.

Mae gan fywyd ffordd ryfedd o ddial ar bobl pan fyddant yn ymddwyn yn amhriodol. Ni allaf ond dyfalu ynghylch beth fydd yn digwydd os bydd Ei Ras, Archesgob Cymru yn cael ei drosglwyddo i Gaergaint, o ystyried ei fod eisoes wedi ymddiswyddo fel un o gydlywyddion Cymdeithas y Plant Mae'r elusen yn wynebu'r perygl difrifol o golli ei llywydd yn sgîl ei gweithredoedd gwirion ac eithafol. Byddai'n gosb gyfiawn, yn fy marn i, pe digwyddai hynny'n union.

Rhaid inni roi blaenoriaeth i waith yr elusen; mae'n parhau i fod yn waith gwerthfawr, a

professional staff on behalf of vulnerable children and young people. Whatever we do, we must ensure that that work is in some way preserved.

Finally, I was pleased that all parties represented in the Assembly, led by Ann Jones, signed in December a joint letter to all the royal patrons to make them aware of how the National Assembly feels about this matter.

Jane Hutt: We agree with those powerful points, David. In Wales we have demonstrated unity and partnership, which has developed from the lead of the Archbishop of Wales and his initial response. I hope that we retain him in Wales. Partnership has also been shown by the voluntary sector, by Assembly Members in coming together, across parties, and by our colleagues at Westminster, who vigorously scrutinised the Children's Society at the Select Committee on Welsh Affairs' inquiry in December. I will contribute to the committee's short report arising from that inquiry. We share the anger and frustration; the taskforce has been trying to retrieve the services and look forward to a Welsh solution to this matter, without letting the Children's Society off the hook. That must be our key determination and why it is important that we bring this matter back to Plenary during the coming weeks.

Kirsty Williams: In responding to the Select Committee on Welsh Affairs' invitation to consider its report, do you agree that the society presented a litany of feeble excuses to the committee and was particularly offensive when it said that it was willing to jeopardise the future of young people in Wales because to sustain Welsh projects would jeopardise English projects? Was it not also particularly offensive that the society tried to use the Welsh language as an excuse to withdraw from Wales? Will you respond in the strongest terms, in your response to the Select Committee, on those two particular points?

Do you agree that, preferably, an independent body should deliver the society's services,

gyflawnir gan staff proffesiynol iawn ar ran plant a phobl ifanc ddiameddiffyn. Beth bynnag a wnawn, rhaid inni sicrhau bod y gwaith hwnnw yn parhau mewn rhyw ffordd.

Yn olaf, yr oeddwn yn falch bod yr holl bleidiau a gynrychiolir yn y Cynulliad, o dan arweiniad Ann Jones, wedi arwyddo llythyr ar y cyd ym mis Rhagfyr a anfonwyd at yr holl noddwyr brenhinol i'w gwneud yn ymwybodol o farn y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ar y mater hwn.

Jane Hutt: Cytunwn â'r pwyntiau pwerus hynny, David. Yr ydym wedi dangos undod a phartneriaeth yng Nghymru, a ddatblygodd yn sgîl arweiniad Archesgob Cymru a'i ymateb cychwynnol. Gobeithiaf y gallwn ei gadw yng Nghymru. Dangoswyd partneriaeth hefyd gan y sector gwirfoddol, gan Aelodau'r Cynulliad wrth iddynt ddod at ei gilydd, ar draws y pleidiau, a chan ein cyd-Aelodau yn San Steffan, a graffodd yn fanwl ar Gymdeithas y Plant yn ymchwiliad y Pwyllgor Dethol ar Faterion Cymreig ym mis Rhagfyr. Byddaf yn cyfrannu at adroddiad byr y pwyllgor sy'n deillio o'r ymchwiliad hwnnw. Rhannwn y dichter a'r rhwystredigaeth; mae'r tasglu wedi ceisio achub y gwasanaethau gan edrych ymlaen at ateb Cymreig i'r mater hwn, heb ryddhau Gymdeithas y Plant yn llwyr o'i chyfrifoldeb. Rhaid mai dyna yw ein prif nod a dyna pam mae'n bwysig ein bod yn trafod y mater hwn eto mewn Cyfarfodydd Llawn yn ystod yr wythnosau nesaf.

Kirsty Williams: Mewn ymateb i wahoddiad y Pwyllgor Dethol ar Faterion Cymreig i ystyried ei adroddiad, a gytunwch fod y gymdeithas wedi cyflwyno rhestr hir o fân esgusodion i'r pwyllgor a'i bod yn arbennig o sarhaus pan ddywedodd ei bod yn fodlon peryglu dyfodol pobl ifanc yng Nghymru oherwydd y byddai cynnal prosiectau yng Nghymru yn peryglu prosiectau yn Lloegr? Onid oedd hefyd yn arbennig o sarhaus i'r gymdeithas geisio defnyddio'r iaith Gymraeg fel esgus i dynnu'n ôl o Gymru? A wnewch ymateb yn y modd mwyaf cadarn, yn eich ymateb i'r Pwyllgor Dethol, ar y ddau bwynt penodol hynny?

A gytunwch, yn ddelfrydol, mai corff annibynnol a ddylai ddarparu gwasanaethau'r

given the sensitive nature of the client groups and the advocacy services currently provided? In doing so, will you give support to the Archbishop of Wales's initiative—which has already been mentioned—and his attempts to ensure that funds raised in Wales remain in Wales? In supporting the archbishop's initiative, have you or will you identify any financial support that the Assembly could perhaps give in the short term to establish a new charity?

Jane Hutt: It is inexcusable and outrageous that the Children's Society used devolution and the Welsh language as reasons for its actions, particularly as it had already undertaken a study into how it would respond to devolution, in which one side of the Children's Society clearly took no interest whatsoever. It is extraordinary that it was prepared to say, barefacedly, that those were its reasons. It has demonstrated its true nature and values, which are shocking to us in Wales.

It is important to recognise that the archbishop established an alternative fund under his auspices to enable the Church in Wales, particularly, to contribute directly to ensure that Children's Society contributions stayed in Wales. It is also important to recognise that the Assembly has given financial support as well as officials' time to the taskforce and £800,000 is coming, through the Assembly, to the projects currently being supported, particularly via Children First and the Children and Youth Partnership. That support is a result of the Waterhouse report and the fact that we established these initiatives. We depend on our partnerships with the voluntary sector to take them forward with local government. With Christine Walby, the taskforce's chair, we are convening meetings with local authorities to enable them to provide reassurances that they will be able to support these projects, alongside the Children's Society.

Gwenda Thomas: Following on from your answer, Minister, and in these difficult circumstances, is it not important that the Assembly now recognises local authorities' ability and commitment to providing a safety net for vulnerable children and young people

gymdeithas, o ystyried natur sensitif y grwpiau cleient a'r gwasanaethau eiriolaeth a ddarperir ar hyn o bryd? Wrth wneud hynny, a wnewch gefnogi menter Archesgob Cymru—a grybwyllwyd eisoes—a'i ymgais i sicrhau bod arian a godir yng Nghymru yn aros yng Nghymru? Wrth gefnogi menter yr archesgob, a ydych wedi nodi neu a wnewch nodi unrhyw gymorth ariannol y gallai'r Cynulliad ei roi o bosibl yn y tymor byr i sefydlu elusen newydd?

Jane Hutt: Mae'n anfaddeuol ac yn warthus i Gymdeithas y Plant ddefnyddio datganoli a'r iaith Gymraeg fel rhesymau dros ei gweithredoedd, yn enwedig gan ei bod eisoes wedi cynnal astudiaeth ar sut y byddai'n ymateb i ddatganoli, y mae'n amlwg nad oedd o ddiddordeb o gwbl i un ran o Gymdeithas y Plant. Mae'n anhygoel ei bod yn barod i ddweud, yn ddiflewyn ar dafod, mai dyna oedd ei rhesymau. Dangosodd ei natur a'i gwerthoedd gwirioneddol, sy'n syfrdanol i ni yng Nghymru.

Mae'n bwysig cydnabod bod yr archesgob wedi sefydlu cronfa amgen o dan ei nawdd i alluogi'r Eglwys yng Nghymru, yn arbennig, i gyfrannu'n uniongyrchol i sicrhau bod cyfraniadau Cymdeithas y Plant yn aros yng Nghymru. Mae'n bwysig cydnabod hefyd bod y Cynulliad wedi rhoi cymorth ariannol yn ogystal ag amser swyddogion i'r tasglu a neilltuwyd £800,000, drwy'r Cynulliad, ar gyfer y prosiectau a gefnogir ar hyn o bryd, yn enwedig drwy gyfrwng Plant yn Gyntaf a Phartneriaeth Plant a Phobl Ifanc. Daw'r cymorth hwnnw o ganlyniad i adroddiad Waterhouse a'r ffaith inni sefydlu'r mentrau hyn. Dibynnwn ar ein partneriaethau gyda'r sector gwirfoddol i'w datblygu gyda llywodraeth leol. Gyda Christine Walby, cadeirydd y tasglu, yr ydym yn cynnal cyfarfodydd gydag awdurdodau lleol i'w galluogi i roi sicrwydd y byddant yn gallu cefnogi'r prosiectau hyn, ar y cyd â Chymdeithas y Plant.

Gwenda Thomas: O ganlyniad i'ch ateb, Weinidog, ac o dan yr amgylchiadau anodd hyn, onid yw'n bwysig bod y Cynulliad bellach yn cydnabod gallu ac ymrwymiad awdurdodau lleol i ddiogelu plant a phobl ifanc ddiameddiffyn o fewn y sector

within the public sector?

cyhoeddus?

3:10 p.m.

Jane Hutt: It is important that that commitment is restated. In relation to the advocacy services coming through the Children First programme, it is important that they have a measure of independence. The Children's Society provided that for those vulnerable young people who need to know that there is an independent body—although supported by the Assembly and local authorities—to provide them with access to those services when they are at their most vulnerable. It is important to underline your comments, but also to recognise the independence that the voluntary sector and the Children's Society have provided. We must ensure that that is sustained in the future.

Tom Middlehurst: Thank you for your statement, Minister. I commend you on your timely action and the taskforce's work in bringing forward the recommendations that you outlined today. We must find a short-term solution—if that is the best way to describe it—to meet the needs of those young people who currently receive these services and to underpin as best we can the future of the excellent staff who work in those services. To follow on from Gwenda's remarks, is it not time to consider how we may best deliver the services required by young people in Wales and who may best deliver them? While I recognise the voluntary sector's important contribution over many years, this is an opportunity to review the work of the various charities operating children's services and examine whether we are getting best value and, more importantly, the best possible services for young vulnerable people in Wales.

Jane Hutt: That is part of the partnership approach through Children First, the Children and Youth Partnership and Sure Start, whereby local authorities are establishing partnerships to ensure that we have the best approach and best responses for our most vulnerable children. I have mentioned the

Jane Hutt: Mae'n bwysig bod yr ymrwymiad hwnnw yn cael ei ailddatgan. O ran cyflwyno'r gwasanaethau eiriolaeth drwy'r rhaglen Plant yn Gyntaf, mae'n bwysig bod ganddynt rywfaint o annibyniaeth. Darparwyd hynny gan Gymdeithas y Plant ar gyfer y bobl ifanc ddiamddiffyn hynny y mae angen iddynt wybod bod corff annibynnol ar gael—er y caiff ei gynnal gan y Cynulliad ac awdurdodau lleol—i sicrhau bod mynediad ganddynt i'r gwasanaethau hynny pan fyddant fwyaf diamddiffyn. Mae'n bwysig amlinellu eich sylwadau, ond hefyd cydnabod yr annibyniaeth y mae'r sector gwirfoddol a Chymdeithas y Plant wedi ei ddarparu. Rhaid inni sicrhau bod hynny'n parhau yn y dyfodol.

Tom Middlehurst: Diolch am eich datganiad, Weinidog. Fe'ch cymeradwyaf ar weithredu'n chwim ac ar waith y tasglu i gyflwyno'r argymhellion a amlinellwyd gennych heddiw. Rhaid inni ddod o hyd i ateb yn y tymor byr—os mai dyna'r ffordd orau i'w ddisgrifio—i ddiwallu anghenion y bobl ifanc hynny sy'n derbyn y gwasanaethau hyn ar hyn o bryd ac i danlinellu dyfodol y staff ardderchog sy'n gweithio yn y gwasanaethau hynny gymaint ag y gallwn. I ddilyn sylwadau Gwenda, onid yw'n bryd inni ystyried sut y gallwn ddarparu'r gwasanaethau sydd eu hangen ar bobl ifanc yng Nghymru yn y ffordd orau a phwy allai eu darparu yn y ffordd orau? Er fy mod yn cydnabod cyfraniad pwysig y sector gwirfoddol dros lawer o flynyddoedd, mae hwn yn gyfle i adolygu gwaith yr amryw elusennau sy'n darparu gwasanaethau plant ac archwilio a ydym yn cael gwerth gorau, ac yn bwysicach, y gwasanaethau gorau posibl ar gyfer pobl ifanc ddiamddiffyn yng Nghymru.

Jane Hutt: Mae hynny'n rhan o ymagwedd y bartneriaeth drwy gyfrwng Plant yn Gyntaf, Partneriaeth Plant a Phobl Ifanc a Chychwyn Cadarn, lle y mae awdurdodau lleol yn sefydlu partneriaethau i sicrhau bod gennym yr ymagwedd orau a'r ymatebion gorau ar gyfer ein plant mwyaf diamddiffyn.

importance of independence—particularly in relation to advocacy services—and also the important pioneering work that the voluntary sector can undertake, sparking off developments which local authorities can then embed in their policies.

We have a voluntary sector scheme, a Voluntary Sector Partnership Council and a children and young people's network—on which both Jane Davidson and I serve as a part of our ministerial responsibilities—and thus a close working relationship with the voluntary sector. However, we must consider delivery, as well as policy-making, in relation to Children First and the programmes that we are developing, particularly with regard to access and young people having a voice in Wales.

Crybwyllais bwysigrwydd annibyniaeth—yn enwedig mewn perthynas â gwasanaethau eiriolaeth—a hefyd y gwaith arloesol pwysig y gall y sector gwirfoddol ymgymryd ag ef, gan symblu datblygiadau y gall awdurdodau lleol eu cynnwys wedyn yn eu polisiau.

Mae gennym gynllun y sector gwirfoddol, Cyngor Partneriaeth y Sector Gwirfoddol a rhwydwaith plant a phobl ifanc—y mae Jane Davidson a minnau yn aelodau ohonynt fel rhan o'n cyfrifoldebau gweinidogol—ac felly mae gennym berthynas waith agos â'r sector gwirfoddol. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni ystyried y ffordd y caiff gwasanaethau eu darparu, yn ogystal â'r gwaith o lunio polisiau, mewn perthynas â Phlant yn Gyntaf a'r rhaglenni yr ydym yn eu datblygu, yn enwedig mewn perthynas â mynediad a rhoi llais i bobl ifanc yng Nghymru.

Datganiad ar Effeithiau Iechyd Sellafeld Statement on the Health Effects of Sellafeld

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Jane Hutt): In view of the concerns expressed by some Members about the health implications of Sellafeld, I update the Assembly on recent developments. I am grateful for the opportunity to do so.

It is important to recognise that most radiation exposure—around 87 per cent—comes from natural sources. Artificial radioactivity currently contributes about 13 per cent of the annual average UK dose; a very large proportion of this comes from medical treatment. Discharges from nuclear installations contribute less than 0.02 per cent of the total average UK dose. Radioactive discharges in the UK are regulated under the Radioactive Substances Act 1993 to ensure that discharges remain within internationally agreed levels, which are designed to protect both human health and the environment. Such regulation is carried out by the Environment Agency, which, together with the Food Standards Agency, conducts surveys of the UK terrestrial and marine environments. The Environment Agency's monitoring of radioactivity in the environment provides an independent assessment of the public's exposure from non-food pathways, including the occupation

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Jane Hutt): O ran y pryderon a fynegwyd gan rai Aelodau am oblygiadau iechyd Sellafeld, hysbysaf y Cynulliad o ddatblygiadau diweddar. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y cyfle i wneud hynny.

Mae'n bwysig cydnabod y daw'r rhan fwyaf o ymbelydredd—tua 87 y cant—o ffynonellau naturiol. Ar hyn o bryd, mae ymbelydredd artiffisial tua 13 y cant o ddogyn blynyddol y DU ar gyfartaledd; daw canran fawr iawn o hyn o driniaeth feddygol. Cyfranna gollyngiadau o weithfeydd niwclear lai na 0.02 y cant o gyfanswm dogn y DU ar gyfartaledd. Rheoleiddir gollyngiadau ymbelydrol yn y DU o dan Ddeddf Sylweddau Ymbelydrol 1993 i sicrhau bod gollyngiadau o fewn lefelau y cytunwyd arnynt yn rhyngwladol, sydd â'r nod o ddiogelu iechyd dynol a'r amgylchedd. Cyflawnir y gwaith rheoleiddio hwn gan Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd sydd, ar y cyd â'r Asiantaeth Safonau Bwyd, yn cynnal arolygon o amgylcheddau tirol a morol y DU. Mae gwaith Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd ar fonitro ymbelydredd yn yr amgylchedd yn rhoi asesiad annibynnol o amlygiad y cyhoedd i ymbelydredd nad yw'n ymwneud â bwyd, yn cynnwys traethau, glannau afon ac

of beaches, riverbanks and other areas accessible to the public in north Wales.

The Food Standards Agency monitors the impacts of discharges from British Nuclear Fuels Limited Sellafield by examining a wide range of samples from the Irish Sea, including fish, shellfish, sediments and seaweed. The Food Standards Agency has recently published 'Radioactivity in Food and the Environment, 2000'. The report is reassuring and demonstrates that consumers' exposure to radioactivity from eating food remains well below the EU limit for artificially produced radioactivity, namely 1 millisievert.

Exposures to radioactivity of representative groups of the wider fishing communities, who catch and eat fish from the Irish Sea—including the fisheries community in north Wales—have been kept under review. The doses received by these groups were all significantly less than the local Sellafield group. On land, the concentration of radio-nuclides was also low.

The UK Government's Committee on Medical Aspects of Radiation in the Environment is an independent expert advisory committee. Its members come from universities and research institutes and are chosen for their medical and scientific expertise. The committee offers the UK Government and the Welsh Assembly Government independent medical and scientific advice on the health effects of ionising and non-ionising radiation in the environment, whether natural or man-made.

COMARE was invited to consider whether there is a raised incidence of childhood leukaemia near the coast of north Wales, and whether further study is required. The committee published its advice in June 1999, and a further statement in March 2001. It confirmed that it had found no evidence to support the contention that there is an increased incidence of childhood leukaemia, or other childhood cancers, among the population of Wales that lives close to the Irish Sea.

ardaloedd eraill sy'n hygyrch i'r cyhoedd yn y Gogledd.

Mae'r Asiantaeth Safonau Bwyd yn monitro effeithiau gollyngiadau o British Nuclear Fuels Limited Sellafield drwy archwilio ystod eang o samplau o Fôr Iwerddon, yn cynnwys pysgod, pysgod cregyn, gwaddodion a gwymon. Yn ddiweddar, cyhoeddodd yr Asiantaeth Safonau Bwyd 'Radioactivity in Food and the Environment, 2000'. Mae'r adroddiad yn galonogol ac yn dangos bod amlygiad defnyddwyr i ymbelydredd sy'n deillio o fwyta bwyd yn parhau yn llawer is na therfyn yr UE ar gyfer ymbelydredd a gynhyrchir yn artiffisial, sef 1 milisiefert.

Adolygid amlygiad i ymbelydredd gan grwpiau cynrychioliadol o'r cymunedau pysgota ehangach, sy'n dal ac yn bwyta pysgod o Fôr Iwerddon—gan gynnwys y gymuned bysgodfeydd yng ngogledd Cymru. Yr oedd y dognau a gafodd y grwpiau hyn oll yn sylweddol is na'r grŵp lleol o amgylch Sellafield. Ar y tir, yr oedd y crynhoad o radio-niwclidau hefyd yn isel.

Mae Pwyllgor Llywodraeth y DU ar yr Agweddau Meddygol ar Ymbelydredd yn yr Amgylchedd yn bwyllgor ymgynghorol arbenigol annibynnol. Y mae ei aelodau yn gweithio mewn prifysgolion a sefydliadau ymchwil a chânt eu dewis am eu harbenigedd meddygol a gwyddonol. Mae'r pwyllgor yn rhoi cyngor meddygol a gwyddonol annibynnol i Lywodraeth y DU a'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ar effeithiau iechyd ymbelydredd sy'n ïoneiddio ac ymbelydredd nad yw'n ïoneiddio yn yr amgylchedd, pa un ai'n naturiol neu o waith dyn ydyw.

Gwahoddwyd COMARE i ystyried a oes mwy o achosion o lewcemia ymhlith plant ger arfordir y Gogledd, ac a oedd angen ymchwil bellach. Cyhoeddodd y pwyllgor ei gyngor ym Mehefin 1999, a chyhoeddwyd datganiad pellach ym Mawrth 2001. Cadarnhaodd na ddaeth o hyd i unrhyw dystiolaeth i ategu'r honiad bod mwy o achosion o lewcemia neu fathau eraill o ganserau ymhlith plant ym mhoblogaeth Cymru sy'n byw ger Môr Iwerddon.

The committee is considering the geographical variations in childhood cancer, based on data held by the Oxford registry of childhood tumours. It was asked to advise on which—if any—nuclear installations in Great Britain have incidences of childhood cancer and leukaemia in their vicinity that are significantly outside the national distribution of these diseases. COMARE is therefore considering the geographical distribution of cancer to see how the pattern of cases around nuclear installations compares with the national pattern.

The UK Government has also asked COMARE to set up a new broad-based working group to review the risk associated with internal ingestion of radio-nuclides, and the need for further research. The working group will discuss whether current risk models are still valid in light of differing views. I shall continue to ensure that we keep in close touch with the work being undertaken in this area.

David Lloyd: Diolch, Jane, am y datganiad. Yr wyf yn datgan buddiant fel meddyg teulu. Mae'r mater hwn yn hollbwysig ac yn destun gofid, a phryder mawr a chynyddol—yn enwedig yng Ngweriniaeth Iwerddon. Mae pump o Aelodau'r Cynulliad hefyd yn aelodau o'r corff rhyng-seneddol Prydeinig Gwyddelig. Un o brif bwyntiau trafod cyfarfod o'r corff cyn y Nadolig oedd y datblygiad ocsidiau cymysg diweddaraf yn Sellafield. Ar ddiwedd y mis byddaf yn ymweld â Sellafield gydag aelodau'r corff rhyng-seneddol i ystyried y mater hwn.

Mae angen gwybodaeth fanwl a meddygol gywir o'r sefyllfa. Mae'r pryder wedi cynyddu o ganlyniad i ddatblygiad ocsidiau cymysg yn Sellafield, fel y crybwyllais eisoes, yn enwedig yng Ngweriniaeth Iwerddon, lle y mae'n bwnc llosg ar hyn o bryd. Mae'n cael ei drafod ar y cyfryngau yn feunyddiol, yn enwedig gan fod etholiad cyffredinol yn agos. Hwn yw un o'r prif bynciau trafod yng Ngweriniaeth Iwerddon. Gan fod arfordir gogledd Cymru yn nes at Sellafield na Gweriniaeth Iwerddon, fe ddylai fod yn fater o bryder i ninnau hefyd yma.

Mae'r pwyllgor yn ystyried yr amrywiadau daearyddol mewn canser ymhlith plant, yn seiliedig ar ddata a gedwir gan gofrestrfa Rhydychen ar dyfiannau plant. Gofynnwyd iddo nodi'r gweithfeydd niwclear ym Mhrydain Fawr—os oes rhai o gwbl—lle mae achosion o ganser a lewcemia ymhlith plant yn eu hardal leol dipyn yn uwch na dosbarthiad cenedlaethol y clefydon hyn. Mae COMARE felly yn ystyried dosbarthiad daearyddol canser er mwyn gweld sut mae'r patrwm o achosion o amgylch gweithfeydd niwclear yn cymharu â'r patrwm cenedlaethol.

Gofynnodd Llywodraeth y DU hefyd i COMARE sefydlu gweithgor eang ei gwmpas i adolygu'r risg sy'n gysylltiedig â'r broses o amlyncu radio-niwclidau yn fewnol, a'r angen am ymchwil bellach. Bydd y gweithgor yn trafod a yw'r modelau risg cyfredol yn ddilys o hyd yn sgîl gwahaniaethau barn ynglŷn â hwy. Byddaf yn parhau i sicrhau ein bod yn cadw mewn cysylltiad agos â'r gwaith a wneir yn y maes hwn.

David Lloyd: Thank you, Jane, for your statement. I declare an interest as a general practitioner. This issue is crucial and a cause for concern, and great and increasing anxiety—especially in the Republic of Ireland. Five Assembly Members are also members of the British-Irish inter-parliamentary body. One of the main topics of discussion at a meeting of the body before Christmas was the latest mixed oxide development in Sellafield. At the end of the month, I will be visiting Sellafield with members of the inter-parliamentary body to consider this issue.

Detailed and medically accurate information about the situation is required. The anxiety has increased as a result of the MOX development in Sellafield, as I have already mentioned, especially in the Republic of Ireland, where it is currently a burning issue. It is discussed daily in the media, especially since a general election is imminent. This is one of the main discussion topics in the Republic of Ireland. Since the north Wales coast is closer to Sellafield than the Republic of Ireland, it should also be a matter of concern for us here.

A gytuna'r Gweinidog fod angen dybryd am yr astudiaethau ychwanegol a grybwyllodd yn ei datganiad, ac am wybodaeth ychwanegol am yr effeithiau? Mae'n bwysig i Aelodau'r Cynulliad dderbyn gwybodaeth gyson.

3:20 p.m.

Jane Hutt: Colleagues are aware that Sellafield is located in the north of England and does not fall within the Welsh Assembly Government's responsibility, but it is right that we consider these issues. That is why I made a statement. I do not know how many colleagues are aware of mixed oxide fuel and that Mrs Beckett and Mr Milburn have decided that its manufacture is justified under the European Union basic safety standards directive. That decision was made after long and careful consideration of all the relevant issues, as well as two public consultations held by the Environment Agency, three by the Ministers, and a report prepared by independent consultants. The decision is set out in full in the decision document available on the Department for Food and Rural Affairs website.

It is also important that we consider our role and our representation on COMARE—I have already mentioned the work it has done. We have requested in the past that COMARE examine these issues. It is already examining geographical variation in childhood cancer more widely, for example, based on the data held by the Oxford registry of childhood tumours. I mentioned that in my statement. The Government has also asked COMARE to set up a new broad-based working group to review the risks associated with ingestion of radio-nuclides. We need further research, so it is important that we examine these issues.

Richard Edwards: I share the concerns expressed by the Irish Government, the Manx Government, and the Norwegian Government about the MOX development at Sellafield. The factors that led those governments to

Does the Minister agree that there is a pressing need for the additional studies mentioned in her statement, and for additional information about the effects? It is important that Assembly Members receive information regularly.

Jane Hutt: Mae'r Aelodau yn ymwybodol bod Sellafield wedi ei leoli yng ngogledd Lloegr ac nid yw'n rhan o gyfrifoldeb Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, ond mae'n briodol inni ystyried y materion hyn. Dyna'r rheswm imi wneud datganiad. Ni wn faint o'm cyd-Aelodau sy'n ymwybodol o danwydd ocsid cymysg a'r ffaith bod Mrs Beckett a Mr Milburn wedi penderfynu bod y broses o'i weithgynhyrchu wedi'i chyfiawnhau o dan gyfarwyddeb safonau diogelwch sylfaenol yr Undeb Ewropeaidd. Gwnaethpwyd y penderfyniad hwnnw ar ôl ystyried yr holl faterion perthnasol yn ddwys, yn ogystal â dau ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus a gynhaliwyd gan Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd, tri gan y Gweinidogion, ac adroddiad a baratowyd gan ymgynghorwyr annibynnol. Amlinellir y penderfyniad yn llawn yn nogfen y penderfyniad sydd ar gael ar wefan yr Adran dros Fwyd a Materion Gwledig.

Mae hefyd yn bwysig ein bod yn ystyried ein rôl a'n cynrychiolaeth ar COMARE—yr wyf eisoes wedi crybwyll y gwaith a wnaed ganddo. Yn y gorffennol, yr ydym wedi gofyn i COMARE archwilio'r materion hyn. Mae eisoes yn archwilio amrywiad daearyddol mewn canser ymhlith plant yn ehangach, er enghraifft, yn seiliedig ar y data a gedwir gan gofrestrfa Rhydychen ar dyfiannau plant. Crybwyllais hynny yn fy natganiad. Mae'r Llywodraeth hefyd wedi gofyn i COMARE sefydlu gweithgor newydd eang ei gwmpas i adolygu'r risgiau sy'n gysylltiedig ag amlyncu radio-niwclidau. Mae angen ymchwil bellach arnom, felly mae'n bwysig ein bod yn archwilio'r materion hyn.

Richard Edwards: Rhannaf y pryderon a fynegwyd gan Lywodraeth Iwerddon, Llywodraeth Ynys Manaw, a Llywodraeth Norwy ynglŷn â datblygiad MOX yn Sellafield. Mae'r ffactorau a barodd i'r

express their concerns apply equally to Wales—indeed Wales is a darn sight nearer Sellafield than Norway or Ireland. Should we not be making similar representations of grave concern to Westminster, especially in the wake of 11 September, because we now know that there are individuals and organisations intent on giving the word ‘kamikaze’ a potentially cataclysmic dimension?

Jane Hutt: I have indicated the Westminster Government’s responsibilities for this. The First Minister mentioned the fact that these issues were raised on the sidelines of the British-Irish Council meeting, which the First Minister, Jenny Randerson and I attended in December. It is an issue not just for Ireland, Wales and England, but also, as I think Rhodri Morgan mentioned, the Isle of Man, which is right in the middle of the Irish sea.

It is also important that we are considering other intergovernmental agreements such as the Sintra agreement, which is looking at discharges into the North sea and other waters, and seeks to reduce radioactive discharges to the sea to close to zero by 2020. We must recognise that that is not dependent on the UK’s actions alone but also on those of other countries.

It is important that Members here have a role and representation, raise issues and meet colleagues of the British-Irish parliamentary body because that ensures Member involvement. However, we must address the issues I have raised, not just by seeking support, advice, guidance and research from COMARE, but also the information that has come through the Food Standards Agency, which, along with the Environment Agency, has a Wales body. We must look to those agencies to provide us with reassurance, and use our powers in our Committees to raise questions with them.

David Melding: On the health aspect of this question, I am pleased to hear your reassurance on the safety of the Sellafield processes. However, it is important that we continue the most effective monitoring of the environment and of the direct health effects,

llywodraethau hynny fynegi eu pryderon yr un mor berthnasol i Gymru—yn wir mae Cymru dipyn yn nes at Sellafield na Norwy ac Iwerddon. Oni ddylem fod yn mynegi pryderon difrifol tebyg i San Steffan, yn enwedig ar ôl 11 Medi, oherwydd gwyddom bellach fod unigolion a sefydliadau sy’n benderfynol o roi dimensiwn trychinebus o bosibl i’r gair ‘kamikaze’?

Jane Hutt: Nodais gyfrifoldebau Llywodraeth San Steffan mewn perthynas â hyn. Crybwyllodd y Prif Weinidog y ffaith i’r materion hyn gael eu codi ar ymylon cyfarfod Cyngor Prydain-Iwerddon, a fynychwyd gan y Prif Weinidog, Jenny Randerson a minnau ym mis Rhagfyr. Nid yw’n fater i Iwerddon, Cymru a Lloegr yn unig, ond hefyd, fel y crybwyllodd Rhodri Morgan fe gredaf, i Ynys Manaw, sydd yng nghanol môr Iwerddon.

Mae hefyd yn bwysig ein bod yn ystyried cytundebau rhynglywodraethol eraill megis cytundeb Sintra, sy’n edrych ar ollyngiadau ym môr y Gogledd ac ym moroedd eraill, ac sy’n ceisio lleihau gollyngiadau ymbelydrol i’r môr a sicrhau bod braidd dim erbyn 2020. Rhaid inni gydnabod nad yw hynny’n dibynnu ar weithrediadau’r DU yn unig ond hefyd ar weithrediadau gwledydd eraill.

Mae’n bwysig bod gan yr Aelodau yma rôl a chynrychiolaeth, eu bod yn codi materion ac yn cwrdd â chyd-aelodau corff seneddol Prydain-Iwerddon am fod hynny’n sicrhau cyfranogiad yr Aelodau. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni fynd i’r afael â’r materion a godwyd gennyf, nid drwy geisio cymorth, cyngor, canllawiau ac ymchwil gan COMARE yn unig, ond hefyd y wybodaeth a ddaeth i law drwy gyfrwng yr Asiantaeth Safonau Bwyd, sydd, ar y cyd ag Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd, â chorff yng Nghymru. Rhaid inni edrych at yr asiantaethau hynny i roi sicrwydd inni, a rhaid inni ddefnyddio ein pwerau yn ein Pwyllgorau i godi cwestiynau gyda hwy.

David Melding: O ran yr agwedd iechyd ar y cwestiwn hwn, yr wyf yn falch o glywed eich sicrwydd ar ddiogelwch prosesau Sellafield. Fodd bynnag, mae’n bwysig ein bod yn parhau â’r dull mwyaf effeithiol o fonitro’r amgylchedd a’r effeithiau iechyd

and if we feel that there are clusters developing, we must ensure that they are properly investigated. We will only gain the public's confidence if we are as transparent as possible and do not dismiss new scientific evidence. It is important to maintain that principle so that if in future we need to take a more precautionary approach, we will have the evidence upon which to act. However, at present, according to all the scientific measures that we can make, the processes appear to be quite safe and robust.

Jane Hutt: It is important that I have made a statement today. We must look to COMARE's forthcoming research on the medical aspects of radiation in the environment.

Alun Pugh: Thank you for your statement, Jane. Ever since Windscale/Sellafield opened we have been fed three stories—it is for peaceful purposes, the electricity would be cheap and it is not a health risk to people living around the Irish sea. Do you accept that it was not, it has not been, and, for people living along the north Wales coast, it might be? Are you happy that caesium-137, strontium-90 and in particular, technetium-99 is being poured into the Irish sea today? Do you agree that Sir Bernard Ingham's statement that the Irish Government is concerned because it is hysterical, ignorant and cannot understand the science is offensive? Finally, to echo Richard's point, we have all had to readjust our thinking since 11 September. What would be the health impact in north Wales of a successful terrorist attack on the high-level nuclear waste facility at Sellafield, leading to the uncontrolled release of radio-nuclides?

Jane Hutt: I know of your concerns and those of other north Wales Members. That is why I gave a statement. I have already mentioned the important Sintra agreement, of which Scandinavia and other countries are a part, which looks at discharges to the North sea and other waters. It seeks to reduce radioactive discharges to the sea close to zero by 2020. It is important that you mentioned other discharges that I have not dealt with specifically today. We must take those issues seriously. In terms of the impact of any

uniongyrchol, ac os credwn fod clystyrau'n datblygu, rhaid inni sicrhau yr ymchwili iddynt yn briodol. Dim ond drwy fod mor dryloyw â phosibl a thrwy beidio ag anwybyddu tystiolaeth wyddonol newydd y gallwn ennill hyder y cyhoedd. Mae'n bwysig cadw at yr egwyddor honno felly os byddwn am weithredu'n fwy rhagofalus yn y dyfodol, bydd gennym y dystiolaeth i wneud hynny. Fodd bynnag, ar hyn o bryd, yn ôl yr holl fesurau gwyddonol y gallwn eu cymryd, ymddengys fod y prosesau yn eithaf diogel a chadarn.

Jane Hutt: Mae'n bwysig fy mod wedi gwneud datganiad heddiw. Rhaid inni edrych ar ymchwil nesaf COMARE ar yr agweddau meddygol ar ymbelydredd yn yr amgylchedd.

Alun Pugh: Diolch am eich datganiad, Jane. Ers i Windscale/Sellafield agor rhoddwyd tair stori wahanol inni—mae'r gwaith at ddibenion heddychlon, byddai'r trydan yn rhad ac nid yw'n risg iechyd i bobl sy'n byw ger Môr Iwerddon. A ydych yn derbyn nad oedd, ni fu, ac, o ran pobl sy'n byw ar hyd arfordir Gogledd Cymru, y gallai fod? A ydych yn fodlon bod caesiwm-137, strontiwm-90 ac yn enwedig, technetiwm-99 yn cael ei arllwys i fôr Iwerddon heddiw? A gytunwch fod datganiad Syr Bernard Ingham bod Llywodraeth Iwerddon yn pryderu am ei bod yn afreolus, yn anwybodus ac na all ddeall yr wyddoniaeth yn sarhaus? Yn olaf, i ailadrodd pwynt Richard, bu rhaid i bawb ohonom ailfeddwl mewn ffordd wahanol ers 11 Medi. Beth fyddai effaith ymosodiad llwyddiannus gan derfysgwyr ar y cyfleuster gwastraff niwclear lefel uchel yn Sellafield, a fyddai'n arwain at ollwng radio-niwclidau, ar iechyd pobl yn y Gogledd?

Jane Hutt: Gwn am eich pryderon ac am bryderon Aelodau eraill o'r Gogledd. Dyna'r rheswm imi roi datganiad. Yr wyf eisoes wedi crybwyll cytundeb pwysig Sintra, y mae gwledydd Llychlyn a gwledydd eraill yn rhan ohono, sy'n edrych ar ollyngiadau ym môr y Gogledd ac ym moroedd eraill. Mae'n ceisio lleihau gollyngiadau ymbelydrol yn y môr a sicrhau bod braidd dim erbyn 2020. Mae'n bwysig eich bod wedi crybwyll gollyngiadau eraill nad ymdriniais â hwy yn benodol heddiw. Rhaid inni roi ystyriaeth ddifrifol i'r

terrorist attack on nuclear installations in the UK and beyond, that has been an issue for the UK Government and its partners in their response to 11 September. We are part of that, given that Sellafield is on our borders, in terms of the north Wales coast. The Assembly, within its powers, and in its relationship with the relevant bodies and our colleagues in Westminster, must ensure that it is clear on these issues, that I can give you the information that I have at my disposal on the impact of discharges in the North sea on the north Wales coast, and that our colleagues' issues are recognised.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: You have referred generally to the situation at Sellafield, but all parties have raised issues with you today about the safety of Sellafield, the potential dangers of a terrorist attack and health implications. This is a simple question, Jane. Do you intend to make representations on behalf of the National Assembly for Wales, to the Westminster Government on those issues, which have been clearly raised by all parties here this afternoon?

Jane Hutt: In terms of my statement today, I have clearly responded to the COMARE research. We have representation in relation to that important committee on the medical aspects of radiation. The National Radiological Protection Board is an independent statutory body set up by the Radiological Protection Act 1991. It advances our knowledge about the protection of mankind from radiation hazards. I am advised that the information on health impacts demonstrates that far more radiation comes from medical and hospital treatment than from nuclear installations in the UK. That is the scientific evidence. I have given this statement today, although issues such as mixed oxide fuel are not within our powers and responsibilities. It is vital that our Westminster colleagues know that these issues have been raised and I will be happy to write to them to draw attention to my statement and the points made in the Assembly.

3:30 p.m.

materion hynny. O ran effaith unrhyw ymosodiad terfysgol ar weithfeydd niwclear yn y DU a thu hwnt, bu hynny'n fater i Lywodraeth y DU a'i phartneriaid yn eu hymateb i 11 Medi. Yr ydym ni yn rhan o hynny, o ystyried y ffaith bod Sellafield yn agos i'n ffiniau, o ran arfordir y Gogledd. Rhaid i'r Cynulliad, o fewn ei bwerau, ac yn ei berthynas gyda'r cyrff perthnasol a'n cyd-Aelodau yn San Steffan, sicrhau ei fod yn glir ynglŷn â'r materion hyn, y gallaf roi'r wybodaeth sydd gennyf ar effaith gollyngiadau ym môr y Gogledd ar arfordir gogledd Cymru ichi, ac y cydnabyddir y materion a godir gan ein cyd-Aelodau.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Cyfeiriasoch yn gyffredinol at y sefyllfa yn Sellafield, ond cododd pob plaid faterion â chi heddiw ynglŷn â diogelwch Sellafield, peryglon posibl ymosodiad terfysgol a goblygiadau iechyd. Mae hwn yn gwestiwn syml, Jane. A ydych yn bwriadu gwneud sylwadau ar ran Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, i Lywodraeth San Steffan ar y materion hynny, a godwyd gan yr holl bleidiau sydd yma y prynhawn yma?

Jane Hutt: O ran fy natganiad heddiw, yr wyf yn amlwg wedi ymateb i ymchwil COMARE. Mae gennym gynrychiolaeth ar y pwyllgor pwysig hwnnw ar yr agweddau meddygol ar ymbelydredd. Mae'r Bwrdd Cenedlaethol Diogelu Radiolegol yn fwrdd statudol annibynnol a sefydlwyd gan Ddeddf Diogelu Radiolegol 1991. Mae'n gwella ein dealltwriaeth o ddiogelu dynol ryw rhag peryglon ymbelydredd. Fe'm cyngorwyd fod y wybodaeth ar effeithiau iechyd yn dangos y daw llawer mwy o ymbelydredd o driniaeth feddygol a thriniaeth ysbyty nag o weithfeydd niwclear yn y DU. Mae hynny'n dystiolaeth wyddonol. Gwneuthum y datganiad hwn heddiw, er nad yw materion fel tanwydd ocsid cymysg o fewn ein pwerau a'n cyfrifoldebau. Mae'n hanfodol bod ein cyd-Aelodau yn San Steffan yn gwybod bod y materion hyn wedi cael eu codi ac yr wyf yn fwy na pharod i ysgrifennu atynt i dynnu sylw at fy natganiad a'r pwyntiau a wnaed yn y Cynulliad.

Eleanor Burnham: We thank you for your statement and your continued reassurance on what is a vital matter for the health and wellbeing of everyone, particularly north Wales constituents. There is no doubt that the Irish sea has been polluted with radioactive waste and discharges from Sellafield and people are right to be concerned about the effects of radioactive pollution. Many studies have been undertaken—and I will not go into them all now—such as Dr Chris Busby’s green audit study of the small-area Wales cancer registry database. The UK Government has failed to address radioactive pollution in the Irish sea. For example, it has swept under the carpet the fact that there is a new mixed oxide plant at Sellafield. Neighbouring governments are deeply concerned about this. The Irish Government was referred to; the Norwegian Government has also called for Sellafield to be closed.

The public is rightly concerned and worried about the possibility of a Chernobyl-style disaster in light of the past leaks and near disasters. The Liberal Democrats have consistently argued that nuclear power should be phased out and no new nuclear power stations built. Those that are currently in operation should be decommissioned as they reach the end of their operating lives. This view contrasts starkly with that of Plaid Cymru, which states one thing and does the opposite. On 15 November, its leader in Westminster, Elfyn Llwyd, called on the Government to halt any plans to increase the number of nuclear power stations in Wales.

The Presiding Officer: Order. I assume that this is a preamble to what is about to become a question.

Eleanor Burnham: However, in a contradictory move, Ieuan Wyn Jones—Plaid Cymru’s President—backed the re-opening of Wylfa nuclear power station in his Ynys Môn constituency. Plaid Cymru is obviously a party of double standards and the people of Wales cannot trust it on this important issue. We look to you, Jane, to—[*Interruption.*]

The Presiding Officer: Order.

Eleanor Burnham: Diolch ichi am eich datganiad ac am eich sicrwydd parhaol ar y mater hollbwysig hwn o ran iechyd a lles pawb, yn enwedig etholwyr yn y Gogledd. Nid oes amheuaeth bod môr Iwerddon wedi cael ei lygru gan wastraff a gollyngiadau ymbelydrol o Sellafield ac mae pobl yn iawn i bryderu am effeithiau llygredd ymbelydrol. Gwnaed sawl astudiaeth—ac nid ymdriniaf â phob un ohonynt yn awr—megis astudiaeth archwiliad gwyrdd Dr Chris Busby o gronfa ddata cofrestrfa canser ardal fach Cymru. Nid yw Llywodraeth y DU wedi mynd i’r afael â llygredd ymbelydrol ym môr Iwerddon. Er enghraifft, anwybyddodd y ffaith bod gweithfa ocsid cymysg newydd yn Sellafield. Mae llywodraethau cyfagos yn pryderu’n fawr iawn am hyn. Cyfeiriwyd at Lywodraeth Iwerddon; mae Llywodraeth Norwy hefyd wedi gofyn i Sellafield gael ei gau.

Mae’r cyhoedd yn pryderu, ac nid heb reswm, am y posibilrwydd o drychineb yn debyg i Chernobyl yng ngoleuni gollyngiadau yn y gorffennol a’r trychinebau a fu bron â digwydd. Mae’r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol wedi dadlau’n gyson y dylid lleihau pŵer niwclear yn raddol ac ni ddylid adeiladu atomfeydd newydd. Dylid digomisiynu’r rheini sy’n gweithredu ar hyn o bryd wrth iddynt gyrraedd terfyn eu bywyd gweithredol. Mae’r safbwynt hwn yn gwbl groes i safbwynt Plaid Cymru, sy’n dweud un peth ac yn gwneud i’r gwrthwyneb. Ar 15 Tachwedd, galwodd ei harweinydd yn San Steffan, Elfyn Llwyd, ar y Llywodraeth i atal unrhyw gynlluniau i gynyddu nifer yr atomfeydd yng Nghymru.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Cymeraf mai rhagarweiniad i gwestiwn yw hyn.

Eleanor Burnham: Fodd bynnag, yn gwbl groes i hynny, cefnogodd Ieuan Wyn Jones—Llywydd Plaid Cymru—y penderfyniad i ailagor atomfa Wylfa yn ei etholaeth yn Ynys Môn. Mae Plaid Cymru yn amlwg yn blaidd sy’n meddu ar safonau dwbl ac ni all pobl Cymru ymddiried ynddynt ar y mater pwysig hwn. Dibynnwn arnoch chi, Jane, i—[*Torri ar draws.*]

Y Llywydd: Trefn.

Eleanor Burnham: We look to you Jane to reassure us that nuclear power will come to an end as soon as possible.

Jane Hutt: I am not here to comment on political contradictions. I will respond to your points on concerns and studies, for example, Dr Chris Busby's green audit study. In 1998, the Welsh Office received a copy of that study, which claimed that the risk of childhood leukaemia increased with proximity to the Irish sea coast. However, the Committee on Medical Aspects of Radiation on the Environment—COMARE, which I have mentioned on many occasions—fully considered his report and confirmed that it had found no evidence to support the contention that there was increased incidence of leukaemia or other childhood cancers among the Welsh population living close to the Irish sea.

It is important to restate that that was the result of COMARE's consideration of Dr Chris Busby's green audit. It is also important to state that I am waiting for a report by the Welsh cancer intelligence and surveillance unit on childhood leukaemia in Chepstow as a result of concerns raised by Dr Chris Busby about possible links between childhood and adult leukaemia and proximity to Oldbury nuclear power station. That demonstrates that when such issues and studies are brought to our attention, we ask COMARE to respond to them. The committee is made up of independent scientists and researchers. Clearly, it is vital that people can raise these issues and questions and scrutinise and ask for more information on the studies undertaken by COMARE. I am happy to provide more information, but considering the safety of all our nuclear installations in Wales and further afield is a major issue.

Gareth Jones: Mae'n glir o'r hyn a ddywedasoeh fod rôl COMARE yn hollbwysig ac yn allweddol oherwydd dyma'r unig fodd y ceir unrhyw fath o fewnbwn neu gyfraniad gan rywun sydd yn gwybod rhywbeth am yr elfen feddygol. Dagrau pethau yw fod hwn yn fater Prydeinig oherwydd pan wnaethpwyd y penderfyniad i

Eleanor Burnham: Dibynnwn arnoch chi Jane i'n sicrhau y daw pŵer niwclear i ben cyn gynted â phosibl.

Jane Hutt: Nid wyf yma i wneud sylwadau ar wrthddywediadau gwleidyddol. Ymatebaf i'ch pwyntiau ar bryderon ac astudiaethau, er enghraifft, astudiaeth archwiliad gwyrdd Dr Chris Busby. Yn 1998, derbyniodd y Swyddfa Gymreig gopi o'r astudiaeth honno, a oedd yn honni bod y risg o lewcemia ymhlith plant yn codi yn agos at arfordir Môr Iwerddon. Fodd bynnag, ystyriodd y Pwyllgor ar Agweddau Meddygol ar Ymbelydredd yn yr Amgylchedd—COMARE—a grybwyllais ar sawl achlysur—ei adroddiad yn llawn a chadarnhaodd iddo beidio â chanfod unrhyw dystiolaeth i ategu'r honiad bod mwy o achosion o lewcemia neu fathau eraill o ganserau ymhlith y plant ym mhoblogaeth Cymru sy'n byw ger môr Iwerddon.

Mae'n bwysig pwysleisio mai dyna ganlyniad ystyriaeth COMARE o archwiliad gwyrdd Dr Chris Busby. Mae hefyd yn bwysig nodi fy mod yn aros am adroddiad gan uned gwybodaeth ac arolygu canser Cymru ar lewcemia ymhlith plant yng Nghas-gwent o ganlyniad i bryderon a godwyd gan Dr Chris Busby ynglŷn â chysylltiadau posibl rhwng lewcemia ymhlith plant ac oedolion ac agosrwydd at atomfa Oldbury. Dengys hynny ein bod yn gofyn i COMARE ymateb i unrhyw faterion ac astudiaethau a ddygwyd i'n sylw. Mae'r pwyllgor yn cynnwys gwyddonwyr ac ymchwilwyr annibynnol. Yn amlwg, mae'n hanfodol y gall pobl godi'r materion a'r cwestiynau hyn a chraffu a gofyn am fwy o wybodaeth am yr astudiaethau a wneir gan COMARE. Yr wyf yn fwy na pharod i roi mwy o wybodaeth, ond mae ystyried diogelwch ein holl weithfeydd niwclear yng Nghymru ac y tu hwnt i Gymru yn fater hollbwysig.

Gareth Jones: It is clear from what you have said that COMARE's role is crucial because this is the only way that those who understand the medical effects can make any contribution. Unfortunately, this is a British issue because when the decision was made to build a new school on a polluted site in Llandudno, there was no input by anyone

adeiladu ysgol newydd ar safle heintiedig yn Llandudno, nid oedd mewnbwn gan unrhyw un fel COMARE. A oes modd i chi roi pwysau ar eich cyd-weithwyr yn San Steffan inni gael y math hwn o bwyllgor yng Nghymru a fyddai'n gyfrifol nid yn unig am edrych ar arfordiroedd ond am edrych hefyd, cyn belled â'i fod yn gyfrifoldeb iddynt hwy, ar safleoedd heintiedig o'r math sydd yn Llandudno? Byddai hynny wedi osgoi llawer o drafferthion. A wnewch chi ystyried hynny?

Jane Hutt: It is important that the Welsh Assembly Government, as well as the UK Government, draws on the Committee on Medical Aspects of Radiation in the Environment, as an independent medical expert advisory Committee for the research and information that we require. The Assembly's deputy scientific officer, Dr Owen Crawley, also attends COMARE meetings so that the Government has a direct link with the committee in relation to the work that it undertakes. It is an independent committee with members chosen for their medical and scientific expertise from universities and research institutes. That science should know no boundary in terms of the expertise. We want the best people for the job in COMARE to advise our Government and the UK Government in relation to these issues, which are important to Welsh people. If there is more information that people want on COMARE and its work, I would be happy to bring that before the Assembly. We need to consider the best expertise to enable us to get the best information for our people.

such as COMARE. Is there any way in which you could put pressure on your colleagues in Westminster so that this kind of committee could be established in Wales with responsibility not only to look at coastal areas but also to look, insofar as it would be within their remit, at polluted sites such as the one in Llandudno? That would have avoided many difficulties. Will you consider that?

Jane Hutt: Mae'n bwysig bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, yn ogystal â Llywodraeth y DU, yn troi at y Pwyllgor ar Agweddau Meddygol ar Ymbelydredd yn yr Amgylchedd, fel Pwyllgor ymgynghorol arbenigol meddygol annibynnol ar gyfer yr ymchwil a'r wybodaeth sydd eu hangen arnom. Mae dirprwy swyddog gwyddonol y Cynulliad, Dr Owen Crawley, hefyd yn mynychu cyfarfodydd COMARE er mwyn sicrhau bod gan y Llywodraeth gysylltiad uniongyrchol â'r pwyllgor mewn perthynas â'r gwaith a gyflawnir ganddo. Mae'n bwyllgor annibynnol a dewisir yr aelodau o brifysgolion a sefydliadau ymchwil am eu harbenigedd meddygol a gwyddonol. Ni ddylai fod unrhyw ffin i'r wyddoniaeth honno o ran yr arbenigedd. Yr ydym am sicrhau bod y bobl gorau ar gyfer y swydd yn COMARE i gynghori ein Llywodraeth a Llywodraeth y DU mewn perthynas â'r materion hyn, sy'n bwysig i bobl Cymru. Os bydd pobl am ragor o wybodaeth am COMARE a'i waith, byddwn yn fodlon cyflwyno hynny gerbron y Cynulliad. Mae angen inni ystyried yr arbenigwyr gorau i'n galluogi i gael y wybodaeth orau ar gyfer ein pobl.

Datganiad ar Newidiadau Arfaethedig i'r Gyllideb Statement on Proposed Budget Changes

The Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities (Edwina Hart): Assembly Members will be aware that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Gordon Brown, has announced his pre-budget report. An additional £1 billion will be made available to the national health service in the 2002-03 financial year. The consequential adjustments to the National Assembly for

Y Gweinidog dros Gyllid, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau (Edwina Hart): Bydd Aelodau'r Cynulliad yn ymwybodol bod Gordon Brown, Canghellor y Trysorlys, wedi cyhoeddi ei adroddiad cyn y gyllideb. Bydd £1 biliwn ychwanegol ar gael i'r gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol yn y flwyddyn ariannol 2002-3. Yr addysiadau goblygiadol i derfyn gwariant Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yw

Wales's departmental expenditure limit is £49,316,000. Following careful consideration with Jane Hutt and other Cabinet colleagues, I can confirm today that the additional provision will be made available to health and social services in Wales. Health needs in Wales are always changing, and services are always developing. The additional funds announced today will allow us to respond to the changing needs, for example, in the field of palliative care, where the Assembly Government strategy will be brought forward over the coming months. Jane Hutt will announce in detail how she proposes to allocate those additional resources over the course of the next few days.

A further £610,000 will also be added to the National Assembly's departmental expenditure limit in 2002-03, and £852,000 in 2003-04. This is Wales's share of the additional resources made available to the Department for Education and Skills. These sums will allow us to progress our existing commitment to the Swansea graduate entry medical scheme and is yet further evidence of this Government's determination to how we should invest, and in creating the workforce on which future public services in Wales will depend.

I can also announce that the Chancellor has increased the National Assembly's provision for annually managed expenditure. There are additional sums of £4 million for 2003-04, and £7 million for 2004-05. This is for housing benefit in the context of pension credit costs. As with all annually managed expenditure, this is ring-fenced. These additional resources will be formally added to the appropriate Assembly main expenditure groups when I deliver my supplementary budget in March.

Dafydd Wigley: Mae gennyf nifer o gwestiynau penodol sy'n codi o'r datganiad hwn. Yn gyntaf, a fydd y cynnydd yn yr arian ar gyfer iechyd yn ddigon i sicrhau yr un gwelliant mewn darpariaeth iechyd yng Nghymru â'r hyn a geir yn Lloegr yn sgîl datganiad Gordon Brown? Yn ail, a yw'r strwythurau yn bodoli i alluogi gwario'r arian hwn yn effeithlon ac o fewn yr amserlen? Yn

£49,316,000. Yn dilyn ystyriaeth ofalus gyda Jane Hutt a chyd-Aelodau eraill o'r Cabinet, gallaf gadarnhau heddiw y bydd y ddarpariaeth ychwanegol yn cael ei rhoi i iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol yng Nghymru. Mae anghenion iechyd yng Nghymru yn newid o hyd, ac mae gwasanaethau yn datblygu o hyd. Bydd y cyllid ychwanegol a gyhoeddir heddiw yn ein galluogi i ymateb i'r anghenion sy'n newid, er enghraifft ym maes gofal lleddfol, y caiff strategaeth Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ei ddwyn i sylw dros y misoedd nesaf. Bydd Jane Hutt yn cyhoeddi yn fanwl sut y bwriadau ddosrannu'r adnoddau ychwanegol hyn yn ystod y dyddiau nesaf.

Bydd £610,000 arall yn cael ei ychwanegu at derfyn gwariant adrannol y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn 2002-03, ac £852,000 yn 2003-04. Dyma yw cyfran Cymru o'r adnoddau ychwanegol a gafodd eu darparu rhoi ar gael i'r Adran Addysg a Sgiliau. Bydd y symiau hyn yn caniatáu i ni ddatblygu ein hymrwymiad presennol i gynllun mynediad graddedigion meddygol Abertawe, ac sydd yn brawf pellach o benderfyniad y Llywodraeth hon ynglŷn â'r ffordd y dylem fuddsoddi, ac wrth ddatblygu'r gweithlu y bydd gwasanaethau cyhoeddus Cymru yn y dyfodol yn dibynnu arnynt.

Gallaf hefyd gyhoeddi fod y Canghellor wedi cynyddu darpariaeth y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ar gyfer gwariant a reolir yn flynyddol. Mae'r rhain yn symiau ychwanegol o £4 miliwn ar gyfer 2003-04, a £7 miliwn ar gyfer 2004-05. Mae hwn ar gyfer budd-dâl tai yng nghyd-destun costau credydau pensiwn. Fel gyda gwariant a reolir yn flynyddol, y mae hwn wedi ei warantu. Bydd yr adnoddau ychwanegol hyn yn cael eu hychwanegu'n ffurfiol at brif grwpiau gwariant priodol y Cynulliad pan gyflwynaf fy nghyllideb atodol ym mis Mawrth.

Dafydd Wigley: I have many specific questions arising from this statement. First, will the increase in health funding be sufficient to ensure the same improvement in health provision in Wales as seen in England following Gordon Brown's announcement? Secondly, are the structures in place to allow this money to be spent efficiently and within the timetable? Thirdly, considering the

drydydd, o ystyried y tanwario yn y gyllideb iechyd yn y gorffennol, pa sicrwydd a geir y caiff yr arian hwn ei wario— a hynny yn llawn? Yn bedwerydd, o nodi'r sylwadau ar ofal lleddfol, a ellid sicrhau cyllid cyfredol yn awr i gynnal darpariaethau megis hosbis Tŷ Gobaith a sefydliadau cyffelyb yng Nghymru ar batrwm derbyniol? Yn bumed, soniwyd am ddarpariaeth hyfforddi meddygol yn Abertawe yr ydym yn ei groesawu. A gawn sicrwydd bod rhan o'r arian hefyd yn mynd at wireddu addewid y Llywodraeth i ddarparu hyfforddi cyffelyb yn y Gogledd?

Finally, as the Minister is dealing with consequential adjustments, she has made no reference to any consequential adjustment from the commitment given in London for massive additional resources for the railways. If we must be constrained by the Barnett formula on other services, can we at least receive our Barnett share of this money for the railways in Wales?

3:40 p.m.

Edwina Hart: On the underspend, health has not been bad on the whole in terms of the money that it has expended, and there were reasons why money could not be spent within the health budget. However, Jane is mindful of these issues and continues to ensure that the necessary arrangements are in place in the health budget to ensure that we have the maximum amount of money that can be utilised for services in that area.

Jane is considering a wide range of issues within the palliative care agenda, to make palliative care a focus of attention in the health service in Wales. On graduate entry, I refer to Swansea because a new programme started there this year, which was welcomed by all parties across the Chamber. The Minister for Health and Social Services remains committed to ensuring that we meet the necessary targets for doctors and have the necessary training available, as she has indicated to the Health and Social Services Committee.

underspend in the health budget in the past, what assurance can you give that this money will be spent—and spent in full? Fourthly, on noting the comments on palliative care, could you now ensure immediate funding to support provisions such as the Tŷ Gobaith hospice and similar establishments in Wales on an acceptable pattern? Fifthly, you mentioned the medical training provision in Swansea, which we welcome. Will you ensure that some of the funding will also go towards keeping the Government's promise to provide similar training in north Wales?

Yn olaf, fel y Gweinidog sy'n delio ag addysgiadau goblygiadol, ni wnaeth unrhyw gyfeiriad at yr addysgiadau canlyniadol sy'n deillio o'r ymrwymiad o adnoddau ychwanegol anferth yn Llundain i'r rheilffyrdd. Os oes raid i ni gael ein cyfyngu gan fformiwla Barnett ar wasanaethau eraill, a allwn ni o leiaf gael ein cyfran Barnett o'r arian hwn ar gyfer y rheilffyrdd yng Nghymru?

Edwina Hart: Ar y tanwariant, ni fu iechyd yn ddrwg ar y cyfan o ran yr arian a wariodd, ac yr oedd rhesymau pam na allai arian gael ei wario o fewn y gyllideb iechyd. Fodd bynnag, mae Jane yn ymwybodol o'r materion hyn ac yn parhau i sicrhau bod y trefniadau angenrheidiol yn eu lle yn y gyllideb iechyd i sicrhau bod gennym yr uchafswm o arian y gellir ei ddefnyddio ar gyfer gwasanaethau yn y maes hwn.

Mae Jane yn ystyried ystod eang o bynciau o fewn yr agenda gofal lleddfol, er mwyn i ofal lleddfol ddod yn ganolbwynt sylw yn y gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru. Ar fater mynediad graddedigion, cyfeiriaf at Abertawe gan fod rhaglen newydd wedi dechrau yno eleni, a gafodd groeso gan bob plaid ar draws y Siambr. Mae'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yn parhau yn ymrwymedig i sicrhau ein bod yn cwrdd â'n targedau angenrheidiol ar gyfer meddygon a bod yr hyfforddiant angenrheidiol ar gael, fel y dywedodd wrth y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol.

On the consequential adjustments, I receive money from the Chancellor and I make my allocations appropriately to the areas that I believe are of greatest need. Services cannot necessarily be considered like for like in health, but I am sure that this money will be expended wisely. The Minister for Health and Social Services will make a statement to the Health and Social Services Committee, where the arrangements being made for the expenditure of this cash will be discussed in detail.

Peter Black: I welcome this announcement. The extra money that is being made available to Wales is welcome, as is the recognition by the UK Government that investment in public services is the way forward, particularly in response to the Wanless report, and how that money should be invested.

I hope that, when we invest the £49 million plus in the national health service, we do so sensibly. We must aim to increase the capacity of the NHS and ensure that we can meet the many demands that are being made on it, particularly in key service areas. I look forward to the Minister for Health and Social Services's statement on how that money will be spent.

Nick Bourne: I thank the Minister for her statement. We welcome the additional spending on health and we are pleased that this money is being allocated to the health budget. Will the Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities take this opportunity to reassure us that this money will go to the sharp end? I know that we have not made a specific decision on where the money is going, but as new structural changes—which have been roundly criticised—are in the offing, we need reassurance that this money will be spent on medical care rather than on those expensive and unnecessary changes.

We welcome the money going into medical education, particularly in Swansea. I reiterate Plaid Cymru's comments that we also need a commitment to medical training places in north Wales. I hope that that will be taken care of.

Ynglŷn â'r addasiadau canlyniadol, derbynïaf arian gan y Canghellor ac fe'i dosrannaf yn briodol i'r maes y credaf sydd â'r angen mwyaf. Ni ellir o anghenraid gymharu gwasanaethau yn gyfwerth mewn iechyd, ond yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd yr arian hwn yn cael ei wario'n ddoeth. Bydd y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yn rhoi datganiad i'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol lle bydd y trefniadau ynglŷn â gwario'r arian hwn yn cael eu trafod yn fanwl.

Peter Black: Croesawaf y cyhoeddiad hwn. Mae'r arian ychwanegol a fydd ar gael i Gymru i'w groesawu, fel y gydnabyddiaeth gan Lywodraeth y DU mai buddsoddiad mewn gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yw'r ffordd ymlaen, yn enwedig mewn ymateb i adroddiad Wanless, a sut y dylai'r arian hwnnw gael ei fuddsoddi.

Gobeithiaf, pan fyddwn yn buddsoddi'r £49 miliwn a mwy yn y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol, y gwnawn hynny'n synhwyrol. Rhaid i ni anelu at gynyddu capasiti'r NHS i sicrhau ein bod yn gallu cwrdd â'r mynych alwadau sy'n cael eu rhoi arno, yn enwedig mewn meysydd gwasanaeth allweddol. Edrychaf ymlaen at ddatganiad y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ar sut y caiff yr arian hwnnw ei wario.

Nick Bourne: Diolch i'r Gweinidog am ei datganiad. Croesawn y gwariant ychwanegol ar iechyd ac y mae'n dda gennym fod yr arian hwn yn cael ei ddosrannu i'r gyllideb iechyd. A wnaiff y Gweinidog dros Gyllid, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau fanteisio ar y cyfle hwn i'n sicrhau y bydd yr arian hwn yn mynd i'r man lle mae'r angen dwysaf? Gwn na wnaethom benderfyniad penodol ar beth y gwerir yr arian, ond gan fod newidiadau strwythurol—a gondemniwyd yn hallt—ar y gweill, mae angen i ni gael ein sicrhau y caiff yr arian hwn ei wario ar ofal meddygol yn hytrach nag ar y newidiadau costus a diangen hynny.

Croesawn yr arian sy'n mynd tuag at addysg feddygol, yn arbennig yn Abertawe. Ail adroddaf sylwadau Plaid Cymru bod angen ymrwymiad arnom hefyd i leoedd hyfforddiant meddygol yng ngogledd Cymru. Gobeithiaf y gofelir am hynny.

Lastly, will the Minister take this opportunity to say what success she has had with an undertaking that she made some time ago to press the case in particular areas with the Treasury for considering matters such as floods and foot and mouth disease on a needs-type basis? This is an additional point, but will she deal with it now?

Edwina Hart: We have tried to make the case in many areas with the Treasury for additional funds and, in the broader picture of foot and mouth disease, it made funding available across the UK. However, I will look more specifically at your comments over the past 12 months in relation to this to see whether I can come back to you with specific answers.

I welcome the fact that I was able to put money into this area. The Minister for Health and Social Services and I feel that it needs to go into the sharp end of the health service, so that we can see improvements on the ground. That will be the nature of the package that will be presented to the Health and Social Services Committee.

You obviously talk to different people to me. I find that the health reforms are generally welcomed. This is about democratisation of the health service and nothing to do with bureaucracy. On the other hand, I think that bureaucracy is your strong suit, not mine.

Yn olaf, a wnaiff y Gweinidog fanteisio ar y cyfle hwn i ddweud pa lwyddiant a gafodd gydag ymrwymiad a wnaeth dro yn ôl i wasgu'r achos, mewn adrannau penodol gyda'r Trysorlys, dros ystyried materion megis llifogydd a chlwy'r traed a'r genau ar sail y math o angen? Mae hwn yn bwynt ychwanegol, ond a wnaiff ddelio ag ef yn awr?

Edwina Hart: Yr ydym wedi ceisio rhoi'r ddadl mewn sawl maes gyda'r Trysorlys dros arian ychwanegol ac, yn achos ehangach clwy'r traed a'r genau, rhoddodd arian ar gael ar draws y DU. Fodd bynnag, byddaf yn edrych yn fwy penodol ar eich sylwadau dros y 12 mis diwethaf mewn perthynas â hyn i weld a allaf ddod yn ôl atoch gydag atebion penodol.

Croesawaf y ffaith fy mod wedi gallu rhoi arian i mewn i'r maes hwn. Teimla y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a minnau fod angen iddo fynd i'r rhan yn y Gwasanaeth Iechyd lle mae'r angen dwysaf, fel y gallwn weld gwelliannau ar y llawr. Dyna fydd natur y pecyn a gaiff ei gyflwyno i'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol.

Mae'n amlwg eich bod yn siarad â phobl gwahanol i mi. Fy mhrofiad i yw bod y diwygiadau iechyd yn gyffredinol yn cael croeso. Mae hyn yn ymwneud â democrateiddio'r gwasanaeth iechyd a dim oll i'w wneud â biwrocratiaeth. Ar y llaw arall, credaf mae eich cryfder chi yw biwrocratiaeth, nid fy un i.

Datganiad Busnes Business Statement

The Minister for Assembly Business (Andrew Davies): Before I make the business statement, I beg your indulgence. I understand that two Assembly Members have announced that they will not stand at the next Assembly elections, namely Dafydd Wigley and Cynog Dafis. On behalf of my party, I wish them well, and pay tribute to their work in Welsh politics and in establishing this institution.

Y Trefnydd (Andrew Davies): Cyn i mi roi'r datganiad busnes, dymunaf gael eich sylw. Deallaf fod dau Aelod Cynulliad wedi cyhoeddi na fyddant yn sefyll yn etholiadau nesaf y Cynulliad, sef Dafydd Wigley a Chynog Dafis. Ar ran fy mhlaid, dymunaf yn dda iddynt, a thalaf deyrnged i'w gwaith yng ngwleidyddiaeth Cymru ac wrth sefydlu'r corff hwn.

First, I inform Members of changes to this week's business. The motion to approve the special grant report on unaccompanied asylum-seeking children has been moved to 15 January, as I informed the Business Committee this morning; Thursday's debate on the revised code of practice on public appointments has been withdrawn, and I will reschedule that for later this session; also on Thursday, Jane Davidson will make a statement on the Education Bill, which is currently going through the House of Commons.

I now turn to the next three weeks' business: the Business Committee agreed at its meeting this morning that business will be as shown on the Chamberweb—now that it is working—under 'Supporting Documents'. The Deputy Presiding Officer has also determined, under Standing Order No. 22.5, that the following orders need not be referred to a Subject Committee: the Miscellaneous Food Additives (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2002; the Potatoes Originating in Egypt (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2002; and the Milk Marketing Board (Dissolution) Order 2002.

As in previous weeks, I will arrange for a copy of this statement to be posted to the intranet and the internet.

The Presiding Officer: I have no indication of objections to the business statement. Are there any comments?

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I thank you for your comments, Andrew. I saw that you had an interesting experience over the new year, when you seemed to be comfortable in the saddle of your bike, as was the First Minister and the Minister for Environment. Could we have a debate, early in the new year, on the benefits of riding bikes?

Jonathan Morgan: I also put on record the Conservatives' good wishes to those Members who have indicated that they will not seek re-election to the Assembly. We will lose several large political beasts—*[Laughter.]* I am not, of course, referring to anybody's size or weight. We will lose

Yn gyntaf, hysbysaf yr Aelodau o newidiadau i fusnes yr wythnos hon. Mae'r cynnig i gymeradwyo'r adroddiad grant arbennig ar blant heb neb yn eu hebrwng sydd yn ceisio lloches wedi cael ei symud i 15 Ionawr, fel yr hysbysais y Pwyllgor Busnes y bore yma; tynnwyd dadl dydd Iau ar y côd ymarfer diwygiedig ar apwyntiadau cyhoeddus yn ôl, a byddaf yn aildrefnu hwnnw ar gyfer dyddiad yn nes ymlaen yn y tymor; hefyd ddydd Iau, bydd Jane Davidson yn gwneud datganiad ar y Mesur Addysg, sydd yn mynd drwy Dŷ'r Cyffredin ar hyn o bryd.

Trof yn awr at fusnes y tair wythnos nesaf: cytunodd y Pwyllgor Busnes yn ei gyfarfod y bore yma y bydd y busnes fel y mae'n ymddangos ar we'r Siambr—gan ei fod yn gweithio'n awr—o dan 'Dogfennau Ategol'. Penderfynodd y Dirprwy Lywydd hefyd o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 22.5, nad oes angen i'r gorchmynion canlynol gael eu cyfeirio i Bwyllgor Pwnc: Rheoliadau Ychwanegion Bwyd Amrywiol (Gwelliant) (Cymru) 2002; Rheoliadau Tatws o'r Aifft (Gwelliant) (Cymru) 2002; a Gorchymyn y Bwrdd Marchnata Llaeth (Diddymiad) 2002.

Fel mewn wythnosau blaenorol, byddaf yn trefnu i gopi o'r datganiad hwn gael ei osod ar y fewnwyd a'r rhyngwyd.

Y Llywydd: Ni chefais unrhyw arwydd o wrthwynebiadau i'r datganiad busnes. A oes sylwadau o gwbl?

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Diolch i chi, Andrew, am eich sylwadau. Gwelais eich bod wedi cael profiad diddorol dros y flwyddyn newydd, pan yr oeddech yn ymddangos yn gyfforddus ar sedd eich beic, fel yr oedd y Prif Weinidog a'r Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd. A oes modd i ni gael dadl, yn gynnar yn y flwyddyn newydd, ar fanteision reidio beic?

Jonathan Morgan: Carwn innau hefyd gofnodi dymuniadau da y Ceidwadwyr i'r Aelodau hynny sydd wedi nodi nad ydynt yn mynd i geisio cael eu hail-ethol i'r Cynulliad. Byddwn yn colli sawl anifail gwleidyddol mawr—*[Chwerthin.]* Nid wyf, wrth gwrs, yn cyfeirio at bwysau neu faint neb. Byddwn yn

people of considerable ability and political experience who have contributed a great deal to the Assembly. On behalf of my group I wish you both all the best for the future.

I will turn to the business statement. Our group would like to raise a concern relating to the Wales Millennium Centre. We are conscious of the need for a debate and vote on this crucial project. It will be pivotal in securing the European City of Culture bid for Cardiff in 2008, and it remains the prospective jewel in the crown in terms of our provision for the arts in Wales and the provision of a performance house for our artistic community. Will you indicate when we will have a debate and vote on that matter?

Andrew Davies: I hope to table a debate on the Wales Millennium Centre in the near future. I will inform you and the other business managers as soon as that date has been agreed. On the issue of a debate on cycling, as we have had debates on recycling, we will be happy to have a debate on cycling. I will need to confirm that with the Assembly all-party cycling group, of which my ministerial colleague Jane Davidson is a keen and avid member, as is Alun Pugh, the Deputy Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning, as are many others, including Phil Williams. Perhaps I need to consider membership, in view of my experience in Llanelli at the Millennium Coastal Park, although I must say that I much prefer cycling in the summer to cycling in the middle of winter.

colli pobl o allu a phrofiad gwleidyddol sylweddol sydd wedi cyfrannu llawer i'r Cynulliad. Ar ran fy ngrŵp dymunaf y gorau i chi'ch dau i'r dyfodol.

Trof at y datganiad busnes. Hoffai'm grŵp godi testun pryder sy'n ymwneud â Chanolfan Mileniwm Cymru. Yr ydym yn ymwybodol bod angen dadl a phleidlais ar y prosiect tyngedfennol hwn. Bydd yn gwbl ganolog yn yr ymdrech i sicrhau cais Caerdydd i fod yn Ddinas Diwylliant Ewrop yn 2008, ac mae'n parhau i fod yn brif atyniad y dyfodol o ran llwyfannu'r celfyddydau yng Nghymru a darparu cartref perfformio i'n cymuned artistig. A wnewch nodi pryd y byddwn yn cynnal dadl a phleidlais ar y mater hwnnw?

Andrew Davies: Gobeithiaf gyflwyno dadl ar Ganolfan Mileniwm Cymru yn y dyfodol agos. Byddaf yn eich hysbysu chi a'r rheolwyr busnes eraill cyn gynted ag y bydd y dyddiad hwnnw wedi ei gytuno. Ar fater dadl ar seiclo gan i ni gynnal dadl ar 'ailseiclo', byddwn yn ddigon hapus i gynnal dadl ar seiclo. Bydd angen i mi gadarnhau hynny gyda grŵp seiclo aml-bleidiol y Cynulliad, y mae fy nghyd-Weinidog Jane Davidson yn aelod brwd ac eiddgar ohono, fel y mae Alun Pugh, y Dirprwy Weinidog Dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes, fel y mae llawer o rai eraill, yn cynnwys Phil Williams. Efallai fod angen i mi ystyried ymaelodi yng ngoleuni fy mhrofiad ym Mharc Arfordir y Mileniwm yn Llanelli er bod rhaid i mi ddweud ei bod yn llawer gwell gennyf seiclo yn yr haf nag yn y gaeaf.

Pwynt o Drefn Point of Order

Nick Bourne: I raise a point of order regarding your comment some time before the recess that you would consider the use of the term 'Welsh Assembly Government'—a highly contentious term—over the recess and rule on this matter. Will you now rule on this?

The Presiding Officer: I am grateful, as always, to the Leader of the Welsh Conservatives. He raised this issue initially. I have been able to reflect on it over the recess,

Nick Bourne: Codaf bwynt o drefn ynglŷn â'ch sylw beth amser cyn y toriad y byddech yn rhoi ystyriaeth i ddefnyddio'r ymadrodd 'Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru'—ymadrodd dadleuol iawn—yn ystod y toriad a dyfarnu ar y mater hwn. A ddyfarnwch ar hyn yn awr?

Y Llywydd: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i Arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru, fel yr wyf bob amser. Ef a gododd y mater hwn yn wreiddiol. Bûm yn ei ystyried yn ystod y

particularly in light of section 26(2) of the Government of Wales Act 1998. The purpose of that subsection is to ensure that the Assembly chooses any alternative name for the executive committees set up by the Act. It has done so, by providing in Standing Orders for the term 'Assembly Cabinet' to be used. However, I understand that the term 'Welsh Assembly Government' as used by the First Minister is not intended to be synonymous with the term 'Assembly Cabinet': it is a generic description that includes, for example, Deputy Ministers. It is one of a variety of terms, which can and are being used to describe a body, which, among other things, is called the 'Executive', 'the administration' or 'the Government of Wales'. All these terms may be used in debate, questions and Committee papers as long as the context is clear. I will not intervene in that. In the Assembly's last sitting on 13 December it rejected an amendment, which sought to replace the term 'Welsh Assembly Government' with 'the Government of Wales'. That appears to indicate that the majority of Members are content with the term used by the First Minister. However, when referring to the Cabinet the term that should be used, in accordance with our Standing Orders, is 'Assembly Cabinet'.

3:50 p.m.

As I have stated on previous occasions, as long as section 1 of the Government of Wales Act 1998 remains in force the legal name for this body remains 'the National Assembly for Wales'. I will not, therefore, permit a motion, which purported to be a motion for resolution by the 'Welsh Assembly' rather than by the 'National Assembly for Wales'. When this body is referred to in debate I expect the term 'National Assembly for Wales', 'National Assembly' or 'Assembly' to be used rather than the term 'Welsh Assembly'.

Nick Bourne: Further to this point of order, I recollect that Deputy Ministers are not referred to in the Act, only Ministers or rather Secretaries. Can you confirm that? Therefore, the term 'Welsh Assembly Government'

toriad, yn arbennig yng ngoleuni adran 26(2) o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998. Diben yr isadran honno yw sicrhau bod y Cynulliad yn dewis unrhyw enw amgen ar gyfer y pwyllgorau gweithredol a sefydlwyd gan y Ddeddf. Gwnaeth hynny, drwy ddarparu yn y Rheolau Sefydlog ar gyfer defnyddio'r ymadrodd 'Cabinet y Cynulliad'. Fodd bynnag, deallaf na fwriedir i'r ymadrodd 'Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru' fel y'i defnyddir gan Brif Weinidog Cymru fod yn gyfystyr â'r ymadrodd 'Cabinet y Cynulliad': disgrifiad generig ydyw sy'n cynnwys, er enghraifft, Dirprwy Weinidogion. Mae'n un o amryw ymadroddion y gellir eu defnyddio, ac sydd yn cael eu defnyddio i ddisgrifio corff a elwir, ymhlith pethau eraill, yn 'Weithrediaeth', 'y weinyddiaeth' neu 'Llywodraeth Cymru'. Gellir defnyddio'r holl ymadroddion hyn mewn dadl, cwestiynau a phapurau Pwyllgor cyhyd ag y bo'r cyddestun yn eglur. Nid ymyrraf â hynny. Yng nghyfarfod diwethaf y Cynulliad ar 13 Rhagfyr gwrthododd welliant, a geisiodd ddisodli'r ymadrodd 'Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru' gyda 'Llywodraeth Cymru'. Ymddengys fod hynny'n awgrymu bod mwyafrif yr Aelodau yn fodlon ar yr ymadrodd a ddefnyddir gan Brif Weinidog Cymru. Fodd bynnag, wrth gyfeirio at y Cabinet, yr ymadrodd y dylid ei ddefnyddio, yn unol â'n Rheolau Sefydlog, yw 'Cabinet y Cynulliad'.

Fel y nodais o'r blaen, cyhyd ag y bo adran 1 o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998 yn parhau mewn grym, enw cyfreithiol y corff hwn yw 'Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru'. Felly, ni chaniatâf gynnig, fel yr un yr honnwyd ei fod yn gynnig i'w benderfynu gan 'Gynulliad Cymru' yn hytrach na chan 'Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru'. Pan gyfeirir at y corff hwn mewn dadl disgwyliaf i'r ymadrodd 'Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru', 'Cynulliad Cenedlaethol' neu 'Cynulliad' gael ei ddefnyddio yn hytrach na'r ymadrodd 'Cynulliad Cymru'.

Nick Bourne: Ymhellach i'r pwynt hwn o drefn, cofiaf na chyfeirir at Ddirprwy Weinidogion yn y Ddeddf, dim ond Gweinidogion neu, yn hytrach, Ysgrifenyddion. A allwch gadarnhau hynny?

would not be appropriate in describing the Government of Wales as pertained in the Act, as there is no mention of Deputy Ministers in it.

The Presiding Officer: It is true that there is no mention of Ministers or Deputy Ministers in the context of this body in the Act. They are an evolving part of our devolution settlement. However, Assembly Members seem to have accepted that Deputy Ministers should be referred to in general use. Clearly, they are not members of the Cabinet. That is why, in my earlier response on this ruling, I sought to distinguish between ‘the Cabinet’ and the term ‘the Welsh Assembly Government’, which is now being used by the First Minister to describe his Government. As I understand it, the term includes Members who are not in the Cabinet.

David Melding: Further to this point of order, you seem to have defined Deputy Ministers as members of ‘the Welsh Assembly Government’. Will you rule on whether those Deputy Ministers—who are, as a matter of course, on Subject Committees—are members of those Subject Committees as Assembly Members or as members of the Welsh Assembly Government? This would have a big impact on their rights and privileges and what it is appropriate for them to do in Subject Committees, including calculating the number of Members who serve on those Subject Committees to reflect the political balance.

The Presiding Officer: I will need to reflect on that point of order.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Further to this point of order, I want to have clarification in relation to the tabling of motions by parties who do not accept the phrase ‘Welsh Assembly Government’. If, for example, Plaid Cymru or the Welsh Conservative Party wished to table a motion calling on the Government of Wales to do something, would that be in order?

The Presiding Officer: Yes, it would be in order because, as I indicated, the term ‘Welsh

Felly, ni fyddai'r enw ‘Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru’ yn briodol wrth ddisgrifio Llywodraeth Cymru fel y crybwyllir yn y Ddeddf, gan nad oes sôn am Ddirprwy Weinidogion ynddi.

Y Llywydd: Mae'n wir nad oes sôn am Weinidogion na Dirprwy Weinidogion yng nghyd-destun y corff hwn yn y Ddeddf. Maent yn rhan o'n setliad datganoli sy'n datblygu. Fodd bynnag, ymddengys fod Aelodau'r Cynulliad wedi derbyn y dylid cyfeirio at Ddirprwy Weinidogion mewn defnydd cyffredinol. Yn amlwg, nid ydynt yn aelodau o'r Cabinet. Dyna pam, yn fy ymateb cynharach ar y dyfarniad hwn, ceisiais wahaniaethu rhwng ‘y Cabinet’ a'r ymadrodd ‘Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru’ a ddefnyddir yn awr gan Brif Weinidog Cymru i ddisgrifio ei Lywodraeth. Fel y'i deallaf, mae'r ymadrodd yn cynnwys yr Aelodau nad ydynt yn y Cabinet.

David Melding: Ymhellach i'r pwynt hwnnw o drefn, ymddengys eich bod wedi diffinio Dirprwy Weinidogion fel aelodau o ‘Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru’. A ddyfarnwch ar ba un a yw'r Dirprwy Weinidogion hynny—sydd, fel mae'n digwydd, ar Bwyllgorau Pwnc—yn aelodau o'r Pwyllgorau Pwnc hynny fel Aelodau'r Cynulliad neu fel aelodau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru? Byddai hyn yn cael effaith fawr ar eu hawliau a'u breintiau a'r hyn sy'n briodol iddynt ei wneud mewn Pwyllgorau Pwnc, gan gynnwys cyfrifo nifer yr Aelodau sy'n gwasanaethu ar y Pwyllgorau Pwnc hynny i adlewyrchu'r cydbwysedd gwleidyddol.

Y Llywydd: Bydd angen imi ystyried y pwynt hwnnw o drefn.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Ymhellach i'r pwynt hwnnw o drefn, yr wyf am gael eglurhad ynglŷn â chyflwyno cynigion gan bleidiau nad ydynt yn derbyn yr ymadrodd ‘Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru’. Pe bai Plaid Cymru neu Blaid Geidwadol Cymru, er enghraifft, yn dymuno cyflwyno cynnig yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i wneud rhywbeth, a fyddai hynny mewn trefn?

Y Llywydd: Byddai, fe fyddai hynny mewn trefn oherwydd, fel yr awgrymais, mae'r enw

Assembly Government' is one of several terms used to describe a body, which has already been described in the course of our short history as 'the Executive', 'the administration' or 'the Government of Wales'. All those terms may be used by those who wish to use them. The important point today is that I will not seek to intervene when the First Minister uses the term 'Welsh Assembly Government' or when it appears in documentation relating to the Assembly's work.

Ron Davies: Further to that, I welcome your ruling on this point of order. I have noticed in the past that you carefully use the correct constitutional term for the National Assembly for Wales, which is, of course, 'the National Assembly for Wales' and not the more familiar term 'Welsh Assembly', which seems to have some currency. Can you assure us that you will continue to use the term 'the National Assembly for Wales' in all of your statements and rulings, or will you use the term 'Assembly Government', 'the Government of Wales' or the more popular form of 'WAG', which seems to have gained currency? What will be your preferred option in your official statements?

The Presiding Officer: Thank you for that helpful point of order. I will continue to use the phraseology that I have used previously.

Nick Bourne: Further to that point of order, when you are reviewing this matter in relation to the membership of Committees, if the Welsh Assembly Government is broader than the Cabinet, could you also give a ruling on ministerial responsibility extending to the whole of the Government of Wales? That would include Deputy Ministers, which it has not always done in the past, such as Peter Black, who has been able to say one thing on one occasion and do another on another?

Peter Black: Further to that point of order, there is guidance on the role of Deputy Ministers and how they perform their functions as Deputy Ministers and in what capacity they are speaking in Committee or in Plenary. I have always conformed to that. [Laughter.] I have, if you check them, Nick. The unwarranted attacks by Nick Bourne and

'Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru' yn un o sawl enw a ddefnyddir i ddisgrifio corff a ddisgrifiwyd eisoes yn ystod ein hanes byr fel 'y Weithrediaeth', 'y weinyddiaeth' neu 'Llywodraeth Cymru'. Gall pawb sy'n dymuno gwneud hynny ddefnyddio pob un o'r enwau hyn. Y pwynt pwysig heddiw yw na cheisïaf ymyrryd pan fydd Prif Weinidog Cymru yn defnyddio'r enw 'Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru' neu pan ymddengys mewn dogfennaeth sy'n ymwneud â gwaith y Cynulliad.

Ron Davies: Ymhellach i hynny, croesawaf eich dyfarniad ar y pwynt hwn o drefn. Sylwais yn y gorffennol ichi ddefnyddio'r enw cyfansoddiadol cywir ar gyfer Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru sef 'Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru' ac nid yr enw mwy cyfarwydd 'Cynulliad Cymru', a ddefnyddir i ryw raddau. A allwch ein sicrhau y byddwch yn parhau i ddefnyddio'r enw 'Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru' ymhob un o'ch datganiadau a'ch dyfarniadau, neu a fyddwch yn defnyddio'r enw 'Llywodraeth y Cynulliad', 'Llywodraeth Cymru' neu'r ffurf fwy poblogaidd, 'WAG', yr ymddengys ei bod yn cael ei defnyddio fwy? Beth fydd eich hoff enw yn eich datganiadau swyddogol?

Y Llywydd: Diolch ichi am y pwynt defnyddiol hwnnw o drefn. Parhaf i ddefnyddio'r ieithwedd a ddefnyddiais o'r blaen.

Nick Bourne: Ymhellach i'r pwynt hwnnw o drefn, pan fyddwch yn adolygu'r mater hwn, o ran aelodaeth y Pwyllgorau, os yw Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn fwy na'r Cabinet, a allech roi dyfarniad hefyd ar gyfrifoldeb gweinidogol sy'n ymestyn i Lywodraeth Cymru gyfan? Byddai hynny'n cynnwys Dirprwy Weinidogion, rhywbeth na wnaeth bob amser yn y gorffennol, fel Peter Black, sydd wedi gallu dweud un peth ar un adeg a gwneud peth arall ar adeg arall?

Peter Black: Ymhellach i'r pwynt hwnnw o drefn, ceir arweiniad ar rôl Dirprwy Weinidogion a'r modd y cyflawnant eu swyddogaethau fel Dirprwy Weinidogion ac ym mha rinwedd y siaradant mewn Pwyllgor neu Gyfarfod Llawn. Yr wyf wedi glynu wrth hynny bob amser. [Chwerthin.] Yr wyf i, Nick, os gwiriwch hynny. Mae'r

my colleague, Peter Law, on my left, are irrelevant to the discourse of this point of order.

ymsodiadau diesgus gan Nick Bourne a'm cyd-Aelod, Peter Law, ar fy chwith, yn amherthnasol i drafodaeth y pwynt hwn o drefn.

The Presiding Officer: Peter Black is right. The position of Deputy Ministers and all Ministers is covered by the ministerial code as approved by the Assembly.

Y Llywydd: Mae Peter Black yn iawn. Ymdrinnir â safle Dirprwy Weinidogion a phob Gweinidog yn y cod gweinidogol fel y'i cymeradwywyd gan y Cynulliad.

Cymeradwyo Rheoliadau Cig Dofednod, Cig Adar Hela wedi'i Ffermio a Chig Cwningod (Hylendid ac Archwilio) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2002
Approval of the Poultry Meat, Farmed Game Bird Meat and Rabbit Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2002

The Minister for Assembly Business (Andrew Davies): I propose that

Y Trefnydd (Andrew Davies): Cynigaf fod

the National Assembly, acting under Standing Order No. 22.25:

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, gan weithredu o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 22.25:

1. approves the Poultry Meat, Farmed Game Bird Meat and Rabbit Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2002 laid in the Table Office on 4 December 2001; and

1. yn cymeradwyo Rheoliadau Cig Dofednod, Cig Adar Hela wedi'i Ffermio a Chig Cwningod (Hylendid ac Archwilio) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2002 a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 4 Rhagfyr 2001; ac

2. considers the report of the Legislation Committee which has not identified any matters for concern in the draft Order, the Poultry Meat, Farmed Game Bird Meat and Rabbit Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2002, laid in the Table Office on 11 December 2001; the regulatory appraisal, laid in the Table Office on 4 December 2001; and the memorandum of corrections, laid in the Table Office on 12 December 2001. (NDM909)

2. yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau nad yw wedi nodi unrhyw faterion sy'n destun pryder yn y Gorchymyn drafft, Rheoliadau Cig Dofednod, Cig Adar Hela wedi'i Ffermio a Chig Cwningod (Hylendid ac Archwilio) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2002 a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 11 Rhagfyr 2001; yr arfarniad rheoliadol a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 4 Rhagfyr 2001; a'r memorandwm cywiriadau a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 12 Rhagfyr 2001. (NDM909)

Y Llywydd: O dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 22.25, ni chynhelir dadl ar y cynnig hwn, felly, galwaf am bleidlais.

The Presiding Officer: Under Standing Order No. 22.25, this motion is not subject to debate, therefore, I call for a vote.

*Cynnig: O blaid 44, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
 Motion: For 44, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Barrett, Lorraine
 Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Butler, Rosemary

Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Geraint
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Jocelyn
Davies, Ron
Essex, Sue
Evans, Delyth
German, Michael
Graham, William
Gwyther, Christine
Halford, Alison
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Randerson, Jenny
Rogers, Peter
Ryder, Janet
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty
Williams, Phil

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

**Cymeradwyo Rheoliadau Addysg (Cyraeddiadau Disgyblion Unigol)
(Gwybodaeth) (Cymru) (Diwygio) 2002 a Gorchymyn Addysg (Y Cwricwlwm
Cenedlaethol) (Y Trefniadau Asesu ar gyfer Cymraeg, Saesneg, Mathemateg a
Gwyddoniaeth) (Cyfnod Allweddol 1) (Cymru) 2002**

**Approval of the Education (Individual Pupils' Achievements) (Information)
(Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2002 and the Education (National
Curriculum) (Assessment Arrangements for English, Welsh, Maths and Science)
(Key Stage 1) (Wales) Order 2002**

Y Llywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliant 1 yn enw Jocelyn Davies i'r cynnig cyntaf.

The Presiding Officer: I have selected amendment 1 in the name of Jocelyn Davies to the first motion.

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

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

the National Assembly considers the principle of the Education (Individual Pupils' y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn ystyried egwyddor Rheoliadau Addysg (Cyraeddiadau

Achievements) (Information) (Wales) Disgyblion Unigol) (Gwybodaeth) (Cymru) (Amendment) Regulations 2002, laid in the (Diwygio) 2002, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 20 Tachwedd 2001. (NDM905) Table Office on 20 November 2001. (NDM905)

I propose that

Cynigiaf fod

the National Assembly:

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol:

1. considers the report of the Legislation Committee which does not draw the special attention of the Assembly to any matter under Standing Order No. 11.5, in relation to the draft Order, the Education (Individual Pupils' Achievements) (Information) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2002, laid in the Table Office on 27 November 2001; and

1. yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau, nad yw'n tynnu sylw arbennig y Cynulliad at unrhyw fater o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 11.5 mewn perthynas â'r Gorchymyn drafft, Rheoliadau Addysg (Cyraeddiadau Disgyblion Unigol) (Gwybodaeth) (Cymru) (Diwygio) 2002, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 27 Tachwedd 2001; ac

2. approves that the Order is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 20 November 2001. (NDM906)

2. yn cymeradwyo bod y Gorchymyn yn cael ei wneud yn unol â'r drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 20 Tachwedd 2001. (NDM906)

I also propose that

Cynigiaf hefyd fod

the National Assembly considers the principle of the Education (National Curriculum) (Assessment Arrangements for English, Welsh and Science) (Key Stage 1) (Wales) Order 2002, laid in the Table Office on 20 November 2001. (NDM907)

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn ystyried egwyddor Gorchymyn Addysg (Y Cwricwlwm Cenedlaethol) (Y Trefniadau Asesu ar gyfer Cymraeg, Saesneg a Gwyddoniaeth) (Cyfnod Allweddol 1) (Cymru) 2002, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 20 Tachwedd 2001. (NDM907)

I propose that

Cynigiaf fod

the National Assembly:

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol:

1. considers the report of the Legislation Committee which does not draw the special attention of the Assembly to any matter under Standing Order No. 11.5, in relation to the draft Order, the Education (National Curriculum) (Assessment Arrangements for English, Welsh and Science) (Key Stage 1) (Wales) Order 2002, laid in the Table Office on 27 November 2001; and

1. yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau, nad yw'n tynnu sylw arbennig y Cynulliad at unrhyw fater o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 11.5 mewn perthynas â'r Gorchymyn drafft, Gorchymyn Addysg (Y Cwricwlwm Cenedlaethol) (Y Trefniadau Asesu ar gyfer Cymraeg, Saesneg a Gwyddoniaeth) (Cyfnod Allweddol 1) (Cymru) 2002, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 27 Tachwedd 2001; ac

2. approves that the Order is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 20 November 2001. (NDM908)

2. yn cymeradwyo bod y Gorchymyn yn cael ei wneud yn unol â'r drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 20 Tachwedd 2001. (NDM908)

I am grateful for the opportunity to bring these two sets of regulations to the Assembly to remove the provision relating to tests at

Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y cyfle i gyflwyno'r ddwy gyfres hon o reoliadau i'r Cynulliad i ddileu'r ddarpariaeth sy'n ymwneud â

key stage 1, known as standard task assessments, and to confirm teacher assessment in place of the tests.

Most Members, I hope, will have read 'The Learning Country', which has set out for Wales our comprehensive education and lifelong learning programme to 2010. The paving document set down a range of new and innovative ideas designed to raise standards, to broaden opportunities, to enrich the education experience of pupils in Wales, and to make schools a rewarding place to be. Many of these ideas will come to fruition in the coming years. However, others were intended to have immediate and beneficial effects for teachers and pupils in the classroom. The discontinuation of the national tests for seven-year-olds was one such proposal.

In 'The Learning Country', we asked whether there was a continuing need to apply national testing for seven-year-olds. The overwhelming answer from those involved in education was 'no'. Teachers, headteachers, parents, national agencies, and representative bodies all agreed that teachers could spend their time more effectively teaching rather than testing. I therefore announced on 1 November that the tests at the end of key stage 1 were to be discontinued with immediate effect. It has been evident for several years that the levels of attainment in the tests and in teacher assessments in key stage 1 have been exceptional. Teachers are comfortable with the assessment of seven-year-olds. I am convinced that the standards will be maintained without the national tests. Let us not lose sight of the fact that science and parts of English were not tested, and that teacher assessment of these subjects was, and is, reliable and robust.

I do not support Jocelyn's amendment to the first motion to discontinue testing 11-year-olds. The tests at the end of key stage 2 are different. They prepare pupils for secondary school and, alongside teacher assessments, provide a clear picture of what they have learnt.

4:00 p.m.

For several years, there has been almost no

phrofion yng nghyfnod allweddol 1, a elwir yn asesiadau tasgau safonol, ac i gadarnhau asesiadau athrawon yn lle profion.

Bydd y rhan fwyaf o'r Aelodau, gobeithiaf, wedi darllen 'Y Wlad sy'n Dysgu' sydd wedi nodi ein rhaglen addysg a dysgu gydol oes gynhwysfawr ar gyfer Cymru hyd at 2010. Nododd y ddogfen baratoi ystod o syniadau newydd ac arloesol a gynlluniwyd i godi safonau, ehangu cyfleoedd, cyfoethogi profiad addysgol disgyblion yng Nghymru, a gwneud ysgolion yn lleoedd gwerthfawr i fod ynddynt. Bydd llawer o'r syniadau hyn yn dwyn ffrwyth yn y blynyddoedd i ddod. Fodd bynnag, bwriadwyd i eraill gael effaith uniongyrchol a buddiol ar athrawon a disgyblion yn yr ystafell ddosbarth. Un cynnig o'r fath oedd rhoi'r gorau i brofion cenedlaethol i blant saith mlwydd oed.

Yn 'Y Wlad sy'n Dysgu' gofynnwyd a oedd angen parhaus i roi profion cenedlaethol i blant saith mlwydd oed. Yr ateb ysgubol gan y rhai sy'n ymwneud ag addysg oedd 'na'. Cytunodd athrawon, penaethiaid, rhieni, asiantaethau cenedlaethol a chyrrff cynrychioliadol y gallai athrawon dreulio eu hamser yn fwy effeithiol yn addysgu yn hytrach na phrofi. Felly cyhoeddais ar 1 Tachwedd y byddai'r profion ar ddiwedd cyfnod allweddol 1 yn dod i ben ar unwaith. Bu'n amlwg ers sawl blwyddyn bod lefelau cyrhaeddiad yn y profion ac yn asesiadau'r athrawon yng nghyfnod allweddol 1 yn eithriadol. Mae athrawon yn ddibryder wrth asesu plant saith mlwydd oed. Yr wyf yn argyhoeddedig y cynhelir y safonau heb y profion cenedlaethol. Ni ddylem anghofio'r ffaith nad oedd gwyddoniaeth a rhannau o Saesneg yn cael eu profi, a bod asesiadau athrawon o'r pynciau hyn, a'u bod o hyd, yn ddibynadwy ac yn gadarn.

Ni chefnogaf welliant Jocelyn i'r cynnig cyntaf i ddod â phrofion i blant 11 mlwydd oed i ben. Mae'r profion ar ddiwedd cyfnod allweddol 2 yn wahanol. Maent yn paratoi disgyblion ar gyfer ysgol uwchradd ac, ochr yn ochr ag asesiadau athrawon, darparant ddarlun clir o'r hyn a ddysgwyd ganddynt.

Ers sawl blwyddyn, ni fu dim bwlch bron

gap in results between teacher assessments and the tests at key stage 1. The same is not true at key stage 2 where the gap is currently wider. If this gap narrows to the same degree I will be happy to consider applying the same principle, but now is not the time. Results at key stage 2 are good, but they are not as good by the end of key stage 3. As Members know, we are devoting time, energy and resources to tackling this issue. It would be wrong, therefore, to remove a vital indicator of standards and achievement, in particular as the results at key stage 2 are increasingly being used to inform the school improvement programmes in primary and secondary schools.

In 'The Learning Country', I set out the importance of planning for the transition from primary to secondary school. The proposals have also been taken forward to the new Education Bill and are unique to Wales. If we expect schools to construct robust transitional plans, which deliver effective improvement programmes, they need robust and accurate information. The key stage 2 results derived from teacher assessments and tests will be key elements of that information and planning process.

The new regulations before us put into force the discontinuation of the tests. While the changes seem small they have a significant impact, because they reduce the burden on classroom teachers, release time for teachers to concentrate on the whole curriculum and maintain the excellent standards which have been a feature of key stage 1 for many years. I wish to pay my own personal tribute to those involved in that delivery.

Support for the proposal was overwhelming with teachers and headteachers acknowledging that the abolition of the tests would reduce the administrative burden on primary school teachers and release more time for other classroom activities. I hope that all Members will support the regulations before us today.

Gareth Jones: Cynigiaf welliant 1 yn enw Jocelyn Davies i'r cynnig cyntaf. Ychwanegu

mewn canlyniadau rhwng asesiadau athrawon a'r profion yng nghyfnod allweddol 1. Nid yw'r un peth yn wir yng nghyfnod allweddol 2 lle mae'r bwlch yn fwy ar hyn o bryd. Pe bai'r bwlch hwn yn cau i'r un graddau byddwn yn fodlon ystyried cymhwyso'r un egwyddor, ond nid nawr yw'r amser. Mae canlyniadau yng nghyfnod allweddol 2 yn dda, ond nid ydynt gystal erbyn diwedd cyfnod allweddol 3. Fel y gŵyr yr Aelodau, yr ydym yn neilltuo amser, egni ac adnoddau i fynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn. Byddai'n anghywir felly, i ddileu dangosydd hanfodol safonau a chyflawniad, yn arbennig felly gan y defnyddir y canlyniadau yng nghyfnod allweddol 2 yn gynyddol i lywio rhaglenni gwella ysgolion mewn ysgolion cynradd ac uwchradd.

Yn 'Y Wlad sy'n Dysgu', nodais bwysigrwydd cynllunio ar gyfer newid o ysgol gynradd i ysgol uwchradd. Datblygwyd y cynigion yn y Mesur Addysg newydd ac maent yn unigryw i Gymru. Os disgwyliwn i ysgolion lunio cynlluniau trosiannol cadarn, sy'n cyflwyno rhaglenni gwella effeithiol, mae angen gwybodaeth gadarn a chywir arnynt. Bydd canlyniadau cyfnod allweddol 2 sy'n deillio o asesiadau athrawon a phrofion yn elfennau allweddol o'r wybodaeth honno a'r broses gynllunio.

Mae'r rheoliadau newydd ger ein bron yn dod â'r profion i ben. Er yr ymddengys mai bychan yw'r newidiadau, cânt effaith sylweddol, oherwydd eu bod yn lleihau'r baich ar athrawon dosbarth, yn rhyddhau amser i athrawon ganolbwyntio ar y cwrwicwlwm cyfan a chynnal y safonau gwych a fu'n nodwedd o gyfnod allweddol 1 ers blynnyddoedd lawer. Dymunaf dalu fy nheyrnged personol i bawb sy'n ymwneud â chyflwyno hynny.

Yr oedd y gefnogaeth i'r cynnig yn aruthrol a chydabu'r athrawon a'r penaethiaid y byddai diddymu'r profion yn lleihau'r baich gweinyddol ar athrawon ysgolion cynradd ac yn rhoi mwy o amser ar gyfer gweithgareddau ystafell ddosbarth eraill. Gobeithiaf y bydd pob Aelod yn cefnogi'r rheoliadau ger ein bron heddiw.

Gareth Jones: I propose amendment 1 in the name of Jocelyn Davies to the first motion.

ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn croesawu'r ffaith fod y profion i blant 7 oed yn dod i ben ac yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i leihau'r baich o gynnal asesiadau drwy ddefnyddio'r un egwyddor ar gyfer profion i blant 11 oed.

Ar ran Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales, croesawaf y ffaith bod y Llywodraeth yn symud ymlaen drwy'r rheoliadau hyn. Dengys y gall y Cynulliad wneud gwahaniaeth positif ac effeithiol. Mae tystiolaeth yn dangos bod gosod profion i ddisgyblion saith-mlwydd-oed yn peri pryder a phoen meddwl i'r plant a'u teuluoedd. Mae hefyd yn peri pryder i athrawon, oherwydd bod paratoi ar gyfer asesiadau o'r math hwn yn cynyddu biwrocratiaeth ac yn amharu ar y gwaith dosbarth, yn union fel y dywedodd y Gweinidog.

Fe wyddoch chi, Weinidog, o'ch profiad fel athrawes, po fwyaf yr asesu, lleiaf yw'r amser ar gyfer dysgu. Mae gorasesu yn sicr yn wendid ac yn wrthgynhyrchiol. Hefyd, mae'r undebau athrawon wedi ymgyrchu i leihau'r baich asesu ar ddiwedd cyfnod allweddol 2. Ar hyn o bryd, mae lle i ystyried pa mor angenrheidiol a pherthnasol, er enghraifft, yw arholiadau TGAU gan fod pethau yn newid cymaint, ac nad oes angen bellach ar gyfer tystysgrif ar ddiwedd gyrfa ysgol. Fodd bynnag, o ran asesu cyfnod allweddol 2, dywedodd David Blunkett, pan oedd yn Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Addysg a Chyflogaeth, y byddai'n ystyried newid y drefn pe bai modd profi ei bod yn achosi straen ledled y wlad.

Nid oes dwywaith amdani bod yr asesu yn gosod straen ar blant ac athrawon yng nghyfnod allweddol 2 ac yn amharu ar y broses ddysgu. Mae hefyd yn gostus, fel y gwyddom. Er yr holl asesu sy'n digwydd, erys y broblem o safonau'n gostwng wrth i ddisgyblion drosglwyddo o ysgol gynradd i ysgol uwchradd. Mae hefyd yn creu tyndra rhwng ysgolion, gan fod canlyniadau'n aml yn adlewyrchu cefndiroedd cymdeithasol disgyblion a'u teuluoedd.

Nid dyma'r amser i fanylu ar fanteision ac

Add a new point at the end of the motion:

welcomes the discontinuation of tests for seven-year-olds and calls on the Government of Wales to reduce the burden of assessment by applying the same principle to tests for 11-year-olds.

On behalf of Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales, I welcome the fact that the Government is making progress through these regulations. This shows that the Assembly can make a positive and effective difference. Evidence shows that setting tests for seven-year-old pupils causes concern and anxiety for the children and their families. It also causes teachers concern, because preparation for such assessments increases bureaucracy and affects classwork, exactly as the Minister said.

You know, Minister, from your experience as a teacher, that the greater the amount of assessment, the less time is available for teaching. Over-assessment is certainly a weakness and is counter-productive. Also, the teaching unions have campaigned to lessen the burden of assessment at the end of key stage 2. At the moment, there is a case for considering how necessary and relevant GCSE examinations are, for example, as things are changing so much, and there is no longer the same need for a certificate at the end of a school career. However, in terms of assessing key stage 2, David Blunkett stated, when he was Secretary of State for Education and Employment, that he would consider changing the arrangements if it could be proven that it caused stress throughout the country.

This assessment most certainly causes stress to children and teachers at key stage 2 and affects the teaching process. It is also costly, as we know. Despite all the assessment that is undertaken, the problem of falling standards when pupils progress from primary to secondary school remains. It also creates tension between schools, as results frequently reflect the social backgrounds of pupils and their families.

This is not the time to go into detail about the

anfanteision asesu. Gwyddom am eich ymrwymiad i'r egwyddor gyfun, a hoffwn ganolbwyntio ar y pwynt hwnnw. Yr ydym wedi cynnig y gwelliant cymedrol hwn yn enw Jocelyn Davies yn benodol i ofyn i chi—nid i ostwng safonau addysgol drwy ddiddymu asesu yn gyfan gwbl ar ddiwedd cyfnod allweddol 2—ond i leihau'r baich biwrocraidd costus ac ymddiried mwy yn ein hathrawon i asesu a diwallu anghenion ein disgyblion. Dyna'r union resymau a roesoch dros ddiddymu profion cyfnod allweddol 1. Un o brif egwyddorion sefydlu'r gyfundrefn gyfun oedd diddymu dewis a dethol plant 11 oed. Mae parhau i asesu plant 11 oed yn ormodol, heb unrhyw fanteision addysgol amlwg dros wneud hynny, yn annog dethol a chategoreiddio plant yn rhy gynnar yn eu gyrfaedd addysgol. Os nad yw'r Gweinidog yn fodlon ymrwymo i egwyddor ein gwelliant—ac mae'n amlwg nad ydyw—yna rhaid iddi ystyried yn ofalus sut y bwriada gyfiawnhau hynny i'r plant, y rhieni a'r athrawon sydd dan straen yn sgîl y profion y mae'n rhaid i blant 11 oed eu dioddef.

Mick Bates: We welcome these amending regulations, which result from the decision to scrap the standard assessment tests at the end of key stage 1 for seven-year-old children. The Liberal Democrats have consistently argued for scrapping tests for the youngest pupils, as research shows that increased testing at a young age has raised stress in younger primary school children. The linking of key stage 1 SAT results to primary league tables means that teachers have had to dedicate a disproportionate amount of time to preparing pupils for tests, thus reducing the time available for general teaching.

The benefits of scrapping tests for seven-year-olds should be clear to all. It will reduce bureaucracy and free up teachers to spend more time with their pupils, concentrating on general teaching. It will hopefully reduce stress levels among teachers. It will also reduce stress in children, allowing them to develop an enjoyment for learning, rather than putting them off learning with

advantages and disadvantages of assessment. We know about your commitment to the comprehensive principle and I would like to focus on that point. We have proposed this moderate amendment in the name of Jocelyn Davies specifically to ask you not to lower educational standards by completely abolishing assessment at the end of key stage 2, but rather to reduce the costly bureaucratic burden and place more trust in our teachers to assess and meet the needs of pupils. Those are the exact reasons that you gave for abolishing key stage 1 tests. One of the main principles behind the establishment of the comprehensive system was to abolish selection at 11 years of age. Continuing to assess 11-year-olds excessively, without any clear educational benefits in doing so, encourages the selection and categorisation of children at too early a stage in their educational careers. If the Minister is not willing to commit herself to the principle of our amendment—and it is evident that she is not—then she must consider carefully how she intends to justify that to the children, the parents and the teachers who are under strain as a consequence of the tests which 11-year-olds must endure.

Mick Bates: Croesawn y rheoliadau gwella hyn, sy'n deillio o'r penderfyniad i ddileu'r profion asesu safonol ar ddiwedd cyfnod allweddol 1 i blant saith mlwydd oed. Mae'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol wedi dadlau'n gyson dros ddileu'r profion ar gyfer y disgyblion ieuaf, gan y dengys ymchwil fod rhoi mwy o brofion i blant yn ifanc wedi rhoi mwy o straen ar blant ysgol gynradd iau. Mae cysylltu canlyniadau TASau cyfnod allweddol 1 â thablau cynghrair ysgolion cynradd yn golygu bod athrawon wedi gorfod treulio amser anghyfartal yn paratoi'r disgyblion ar gyfer profion, gan leihau'r amser sydd ar gael felly i addysgu cyffredinol.

Dylai buddiannau dileu profion i blant saith mlwydd oed fod yn glir i bawb. Bydd yn lleihau biwrocraeth ac yn galluogi athrawon i dreulio mwy o amser gyda'u disgyblion, gan ganolbwyntio ar addysgu cyffredinol. Y gobaith yw y bydd yn lleihau lefelau straen ymhlith athrawon. Bydd hefyd yn lleihau straen ymhlith plant, ac yn eu galluogi i ddechrau mwynhau dysgu, yn

prescriptive testing regimes. Tests in moderation are an important tool in the learning process in terms of measuring progress and the retention of knowledge and skills. However, testing should not become the driving force of learning. Increased testing has led to resources being diverted from curriculum materials to test revision materials. The large amount of time spent on SAT preparation has resulted in a narrowing of the curriculum.

Can funding under the grants for education support and training programme for additional teacher support during the administration of SATs now be used for other classroom activities? The scrapping of tests for seven-year-olds in Wales illustrates that the Assembly is going its own way. Seven-year-olds in England will still have to take these tests. The Welsh Liberal Democrats are looking forward to an increasing Welsh identity in education.

Jonathan Morgan: I will discuss these regulations together. We will support both regulations, but will vote against Plaid Cymru's amendment. We recognise that there is a need to remove the compulsory element of these tests. We recognise that testing is a valuable tool for assessing how children are progressing throughout their school career. However, we agree with the Government's sentiment, as expressed by the Minister this afternoon, that the greatest challenge for us in Wales is to improve the achievement rate and the skills levels of those children transferring between key stage 2 and key stage 3. It is an almighty leap from primary school to secondary school. That is where we should focus schools' attention and our teachers' resources and energies. We recognise that a considerable amount of work has been undertaken on key stage 1 testing. We also believe that, if schools wish to continue using these tests informally in future as a method of benchmarking within the school setting, they should be given the opportunity to do so, thus using the excellent work undertaken by ACCAC and others in assessing how children perform in schools. Schools should be given an opportunity to contribute to this process.

hytrach na gwneud iddynt droi oddi wrth ddysgu o ganlyniad i gyfundrefnau profi gorchmynnol. Mae profion yn gymedrol yn gyfrwng pwysig yn y broses ddysgu o ran mesur cynnydd a chadw gwybodaeth a sgiliau. Fodd bynnag, ni ddylai profi lywio dysgu. Mae cynnal mwy o brofion wedi arwain at ddargyfeirio adnoddau oddi wrth ddeunyddiau'r cwricwlwm i ddeunyddiau adolygu ar gyfer profion. Mae'r amser helaeth a dreulir yn paratoi ar gyfer TASau wedi arwain at gulhau'r cwricwlwm.

A all yr arian o dan y rhaglen grantiau ar gyfer cymorth addysg a hyfforddiant i sicrhau athrawon ychwanegol i weinyddu TASau gael ei ddefnyddio yn awr ar gyfer gweithgareddau eraill yn yr ystafell ddosbarth? Mae dileu profion i blant saith mlwydd oed yng Nghymru yn dangos bod y Cynulliad yn mynd ei ffordd ei hun. Bydd plant saith mlwydd oed yn Lloegr yn gorfod sefyll y profion hyn o hyd. Mae Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru yn edrych ymlaen at hunaniaeth gynyddol Gymreig ym maes addysg.

Jonathan Morgan: Trafodaf y rheoliadau hyn gyda'i gilydd. Cefnogwn y ddau reoliad, ond pleidleisiwn yn erbyn gwelliant Plaid Cymru. Cydnabyddwn fod angen dileu elfen orfodol y profion hyn. Cydnabyddwn fod profi yn ffordd werthfawr o asesu datblygiad plant yn ystod eu gyrfa ysgol. Fodd bynnag, cytunwn â theimladau'r Llywodraeth, fel y mynegwyd gan y Gweinidog y prynhawn yma, mai'r her fwyaf i ni yng Nghymru yw gwella'r gyfradd gyflawni a sgiliau'r plant hynny sy'n symud o gyfnod allweddol 2 i gyfnod allweddol 3. Mae symud o ysgol gynradd i ysgol uwchradd yn naid fawr. Dyna lle y dylem ganolbwyntio sylw'r ysgolion ac adnoddau ac egni ein hathrawon. Cydnabyddwn fod llawer iawn o waith wedi ei wneud ar brofion cyfnod allweddol 1. Credwn hefyd, os yw'r ysgolion yn dymuno parhau i ddefnyddio'r profion hyn yn anffurfiol yn y dyfodol fel ffordd o feincodi o fewn yr ysgol, y dylid rhoi'r cyfle iddynt wneud hynny, gan ddefnyddio'r gwaith rhagorol a wnaed eisoes gan ACCAC ac eraill wrth asesu sut y cyflawna plant mewn ysgolion. Dylid rhoi cyfle i'r ysgolion gyfrannu at y broses hon. Wedi'r cyfan, gŵyr ysgolion am gyflawniad eu plant. Mae

After all, schools know how their children are performing. They have a fair idea of how to manage their work time, of the time taken by teachers and students in preparing for tests, and of how students prepare to transfer from key stage 2 to key stage 3. If it is possible for schools to use the format of these tests informally in future, we will be happy for them to do so. However, we agree that the compulsory element of these tests should disappear.

On a slightly cynical note, the Minister said that teachers were hugely enthusiastic about scrapping these tests because of the bureaucratic burden. If you ask any cohort of individuals whether or not they agree with a proposal that reduces their workload and their burden of bureaucracy, most sensible people would agree. I am sure that all Members would agree to a proposal to reduce our workload. People do not like a heavy workload. Administering huge amounts of paperwork is burdensome and difficult.

4:10 p.m.

However, there is educational value in freeing up as much as time as possible to allow teachers to concentrate on improving skills levels between key stages 2 and 3. How will this contribute to raising standards in schools? We should strive towards raising standards throughout the school sector. We can do that by way of diversity. I hope that the Education Bill will give us an opportunity to promote diversity in the Welsh education system, particularly through innovation.

Jocelyn Davies: On the National Union of Teachers website, I found a statement by David Blunkett saying that he would consider changing the testing arrangements if it could be shown that the tests were putting excessive pressure on young children. Thankfully, we have realised in Wales that there is no doubt that these tests are stressful. I warmly welcome the scrapping of tests for seven-year-olds. Plaid Cymru is in no doubt that these tests are equally, and sometimes more, stressful for 11-year-olds.

I am concerned about the impact of these tests on my children and their friends. I am

ganddynt syniad eithaf da o sut i reoli eu hamser gwaith, o'r amser a gymerir gan athrawon a myfyrwyr wrth baratoi ar gyfer profion, a'r modd y mae'r myfyrwyr yn paratoi i drosglwyddo o gyfnod allweddol 2 i gyfnod allweddol 3. Os yw'n bosibl i ysgolion ddefnyddio fformat y profion hyn yn anffurfiol yn y dyfodol, byddwn yn fodlon iddynt wneud hynny. Fodd bynnag, cytunwn y dylai elfen orfodol y profion hyn ddiflannu.

Ar nodyn ychydig yn sinigaidd, dywedodd y Gweinidog fod athrawon yn frwdfrydig iawn ynglŷn â dileu'r profion hyn oherwydd y baich biwrocraidaidd. Os gofynnwch i unrhyw garfan o unigolion a ydynt yn cytuno â chynnig sy'n lleihau eu baich gwaith a'u baich biwrocraidaidd, byddai'r rhan fwyaf o bobl synhwyrol yn cytuno. Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddai'r Aelodau yn cytuno ar gynnig i leihau ein baich gwaith. Nid yw pobl yn hoffi baich gwaith trwm. Mae gweinyddu llawer iawn o waith papur yn feichus ac anodd.

Fodd bynnag, mae rhyddhau cymaint o amser â phosibl i ganiatáu i athrawon ganolbwyntio ar wella lefelau sgiliau rhwng cyfnodau allweddol 2 a 3 o werth addysgol. Sut y cyfranna hyn at godi safonau mewn ysgolion? Dylem anelu at godi safonau ar draws y sector ysgolion. Gallwn wneud hynny drwy amrywiaeth. Gobeithiaf y rhydd y Mesur Addysg gyfle inni hyrwyddo amrywiaeth yn y system addysg yng Nghymru, yn arbennig drwy arloesi.

Jocelyn Davies: Ar wefan Undeb Cenedlaethol yr Athrawon, deuthum o hyd i ddatganiad gan David Blunkett yn dweud y byddai'n ystyried newid y trefniadau profi pe gellid dangos bod y profion yn rhoi gormod o bwysau ar blant bach. Diolch byth, sylweddolasom yng Nghymru fod y profion hyn, yn ddiau, yn achosi straen. Croesawaf y bwriad i ddileu profion i blant saith mlwydd oed. Yn ddiau mae Plaid Cymru o'r farn bod y profion hyn yn achosi'r un straen i blant 11 mlwydd oed, ac weithiau yn achosi mwy o straen.

Pryderaf ynglŷn ag effaith y profion hyn ar fy mhlant a'u ffrindiau. Yr wyf yn siŵr bod

sure that other parents share my experiences. My eldest daughter took the tests last year. All parents whose children are making that transition to comprehensive school know what a difficult time it is, without having to face these tests. The tests instil an unnecessary sense of competition into our education system. Teachers feel under tremendous pressure and, often, pupils feel that pressure. My youngest daughter will take the test this spring. She has always loved everything about school and has always got along well with all her teachers, who say that she is a delight to teach. Last September, I was horrified to find that she did not even want to go to school to start year 6 because of these tests. Many of her friends feel the same. They talk about the tests all the time. When her friends come to the house, they tell me how nervous they feel about the tests. It is a miserable time for less confident children. One Christmas card that my daughter received wished her a merry Christmas, a happy new year and good luck in her SATs. We all laugh, but it was not a joke. It turned out that the friend who sent it worries all the time about how well she will do in those tests, because the comprehensive school that her parents have chosen will use the results to stream the children in the first year.

What sort of system makes schools place such an emphasis on these tests, which test how good a child is at tests? They do not test attainment. One child told me before Christmas that the headteacher told the class on Friday that she would be back on Monday naming the children who needed to pull their fingers out to pass the SATs. She kept her promise, and named the children the following Monday. The child told me, 'I wasn't named, but I was sweating. We were all scared.' Imagine naming and shaming 11-year-olds and making them sweat. Does that prepare them for comprehensive school? I do not think so. I could name and shame the headteacher, but I will not, as she is just as much a victim of these tests as the children whom she chooses to embarrass.

I sat the 11-plus, and I do not recall it being

rhieni eraill yn rhannu fy mhrofiadau. Safodd fy merch hynaf y profion y llynedd. Gŵyr pob rhiant sydd â phlant sy'n symud i ysgol gyfun pa mor anodd yw'r cyfnod hwn, heb orfod wynebu'r profion hyn. Mae'r profion hyn yn rhoi elfen gystadleuol ddiangen yn ein system addysg. Teimla'r athrawon o dan bwysau aruthrol ac, yn aml, teimla'r disgyblion y pwysau hynny hefyd. Bydd fy merch ieuaf yn sefyll y prawf y gwanwyn hwn. Mae wedi mwynhau popeth am yr ysgol ac wedi dod ymlaen yn dda gyda phob un o'i hathrawon, sy'n dweud ei bod yn bleser ei dysgu. Fis Medi diwethaf, dychrynais pan glywais nad oedd am fynd i'r ysgol hyd yn oed i ddechrau blwyddyn 6 oherwydd y profion hyn. Teimla llawer o'i ffrindiau yr un peth. Siaradant am y profion drwy'r amser. Pan ddaw ei ffrindiau i'r tŷ, dywedant wrthyf pa mor nerfus y teimlant ynglŷn â'r profion. Mae'n gyfnod diflas i blant llai hyderus. Mewn un cerdyn Nadolig a gafodd fy merch, dymunwyd Nadolig llawen, blwyddyn newydd dda a phob lwc iddi yn ei TASau. Gallwn chwervthin, ond nid oedd yn ddoniol. Mae'n debyg bod y ffrind a anfonodd y cerdyn yn gofidio drwy'r amser am y profion hyn, oherwydd bydd yr ysgol gyfun a ddewiswyd gan ei rhieni yn defnyddio'r canlyniadau i ffrydio'r plant yn y flwyddyn gyntaf.

Pa fath o system sy'n gwneud i ysgolion roi cymaint o bwyslais ar y profion hyn, sy'n profi pa mor dda yw'r plentyn mewn profion? Nid ydynt yn profi cyrhaeddiad. Dywedodd un plentyn wrthyf cyn y Nadolig fod pennaeth yr ysgol wedi dweud wrth y dosbarth ar ddydd Gwener y byddai yn ei hôl ddydd Llun i enwi'r plant yr oedd angen iddynt dorchi llewys i lwyddo yn y TASau. Cadwodd at ei haddewid ac enwodd y plant y dydd Llun canlynol. Dywedodd y plentyn wrthyf, 'Ni chefais fy enwi, ond yr oeddwn yn chwysu. Yr oedd pob un ohonom wedi dychryn.' Meddyliwch am enwi a chodi cywilydd ar blant 11 mlwydd oed a gwneud iddynt chwysu. A yw hynny'n eu paratoi ar gyfer ysgol gyfun? Nac ydyw yn fy marn i. Gallwn enwi a chodi cywilydd ar y pennaeth, ond ni wnaf, gan ei bod yn dioddef o ganlyniad i'r profion hyn gymaint â'r plant y mae'n dewis codi cywilydd arnynt.

Sefais yr arholiad 11 plws, ac ni chofiaf i

built up into something as huge as this. I am that old; I am 42 years old, so I took the 11-plus. [*Interruption.*] Yes, I am. My school did not pressurise me and the teachers did not name and shame the children who they thought would fail. My parents were just as surprised as I was when I passed, although my class teacher had always been confident that I would pass. In those days, parents had the choice to withdraw their child from the 11-plus system. I cannot withdraw my child from taking SATs in the spring, however awful she feels about them. I am glad that we do not have the 11-plus system any more. I look forward to seeing children's attainment being carried out in a much more appropriate and productive way. However, I am disappointed to hear that the Minister wants to maintain the tests for 11-year-olds. Will she, over time, consider less aggressive assessment procedures for our children?

Lorraine Barrett: This is a short contribution from the Labour group to welcome these proposals. We are delighted. The key, as Mick Bates said, is the removal of prescriptive testing, and we are all reassured by the assessment proposals to maintain the monitoring of progress in pupil development. I think that it has all been said, but we welcome the proposals wholeheartedly.

The Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning (Jane Davidson): I am committed, as Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning in the National Assembly for Wales, to finding the best way of ensuring that our children learn—as early as possible—in their lives, in their schools, and that our teachers get the best support. As politicians, we will have to make judgements regularly between, as Jonathan described, a lobby group of people who will continually want to improve their working conditions—which is right—and the decisions that we make, and the benefit or the disbenefit for those upon whom those decisions impact.

I did not take the decision to remove the testing at key stage 1 lightly. I looked back over several years to see how close the

gymaint o bwys gael ei roi arno. Yr wyf mor hen â hynny; yr wyf yn 42 mlwydd oed, felly sefais yr arholiad 11 plws. [*Torri ar draws.*] Ydw, yr ydwyf. Ni roddodd yr ysgol unrhyw bwysau arnaf ac nid enwodd yr athrawon y plant a fyddai'n methu yn eu barn hwy ac ni chodwyd cywilydd arnynt. Synnwyd fy rhieni gymaint â minnau pan lwyddais, er bod fy athro dosbarth wedi bod yn hyderus erioed y byddwn yn llwyddo. Y dyddiau hynny, gallai rhieni ddewis tynnu eu plant o'r system arholiad 11 plws. Ni allaf ddewis i'm plentyn beidio â sefyll y profion TASau yn y gwanwyn, er mor ofnadwy y mae'n teimlo yn eu cylch. Mae'n dda gennyf nad yw'r system 11 plws gennym o hyd. Edrychaf ymlaen at weld cyrhaeddiad plant yn cael ei gyflawni mewn ffordd lawer mwy priodol a chynhyrchiol. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn siomedig i glywed bod y Gweinidog am gadw'r profion i blant 11 mlwydd oed. A fydd, dros gyfnod o amser, yn ystyried gweithdrefnau asesu llai ymosodol i'n plant?

Lorraine Barrett: Mae hwn yn gyfraniad byr gan y grŵp Llafur i groesawu'r cynigion hyn. Yr ydym wrth ein boddau. Yr allwedd, fel y dywedodd Mick Bates, yw dileu profion gorchmynnol, ac mae'r cynigion asesu i gynnal y gwaith o fonitro cynnydd o ran datblygiad disgyblion yn galonogol i bob un ohonom. Credaf i'r cyfan gael ei ddweud, ond croesawn y cynigion yn galonnog.

Y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes (Jane Davidson): Yr wyf yn ymrwymedig, fel y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes yng Nghynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, i ddod o hyd i'r ffordd orau o sicrhau bod ein plant yn dysgu—cyn gynted â phosibl—yn eu bywydau, yn eu hysgolion, a bod ein hathrawon yn cael y gefnogaeth orau. Fel gwleidyddion, bydd yn rhaid inni wneud dyfarniadau yn rheolaidd, fel y dywedodd Jonathan, rhwng grŵp lobio o bobl a fydd am wella eu hamodau gwaith yn barhaol—sydd yn briodol—a'r penderfyniadau a wnawn, a'r budd neu'r diffyg budd i'r rheini y mae'r penderfyniadau hynny yn effeithio arnynt.

Ni chymerais y penderfyniad i ddileu profion yng nghyfnod allweddol 1 yn ysgafn. Edrychais yn ôl dros sawl blwyddyn i weld

assessment had been to the outcome of the test. I am sure that that is why—and I particularly welcome it—I have the Conservative group's support on this. We considered the evidence, we saw the close correlation, and we saw that we could easily consider removing the tests in a way that would show our teachers that we believe strongly in their role in our schools, reward them for their efforts at key stage 1, and that we could be confident that it would continue to improve the children's chances year on year.

I hope that we will get to a similar point at key stage 2, but we have not reached it yet. That is why I said in my response to the Plaid Cymru amendment that I am happy to use the same principle in assessing the relative value of any of our system's tests for the future, but we have not reached that point yet. As Jonathan said, we have a particular issue around performance between key stages 1 and 3, which we need to address and focus upon, not least because we want to ensure that children between the ages of 11 and 14 want to stay in education.

Gareth, on your point about decreasing the burden of assessment and reconsidering GCSEs because they are no longer the passing-out examination of school, we are working on that in terms of encouraging young people to stay in the education system until they are 19, and putting new opportunities in place for them to do so. However, I could hardly agree that having one test at the end of key stage 2—one test in primary school—constitutes testing to an excessive degree. As Mick Bates said, what we have, and what it is important to have, is testing in moderation, and this is an important tool.

Gareth Jones: Nid yr asesu ar y diwrnod sydd yn fy mhoeni i, ond yr holl broses o baratoi ar gyfer yr asesu hwnnw. Dyna lle mae'r amser yn mynd, ac mae hynny'n tansellio amser, ynni, a brwdfrydedd yr athro a'r plentyn. Gwastreffir llawer o amser wrth baratoi ar gyfer yr asesiadau—yr ydych wedi dweud hynny eich hun, a dyna un rheswm pam yr ydych mor barod i ddiddymu'r profion hyn ar ddiwedd cyfnod allweddol 1.

pa mor agos fu'r asesu i ganlyniad y prawf. Yr wyf yn siŵr mai dyna pam—a chroesawaf hynny yn arbennig—y mae gennyf gefnogaeth y grŵp Ceidwadol. Ystyriwyd y dystiolaeth, gwelsom y cydweithio agos, a gwelsom y gallem yn hawdd ystyried dileu'r profion mewn ffordd a fyddai'n dangos i'n hathrawon ein bod yn credu'n gryf yn eu rôl yn ein hysgolion, yn eu gwobrwyo am eu hymdrechion yng nghyfnod allweddol 1, ac y gallem fod yn hyderus y byddai'n parhau i wella cyfleoedd plant flwyddyn ar ôl blwyddyn.

Gobeithiaf y deugn i bwynt tebyg yng nghyfnod allweddol 2, ond nid ydym wedi ei gyrraedd eto. Dyna pam y dywedais yn fy ymateb i welliant Plaid Cymru fy mod yn fodlon defnyddio'r un egwyddor wrth asesu gwerth perthynol unrhyw un o brofion ein system yn y dyfodol, ond nid ydym wedi cyrraedd y pwynt hwnnw eto. Fel y dywedodd Jonathan, mae gennym fater penodol y mae'n rhaid inni ymdrin ag ef a chanolbwyntio arno sef perfformiad rhwng cyfnodau allweddol 1 a 3, yn bennaf gan ein bod am sicrhau bod plant rhwng 11 a 14 oed am aros ym myd addysg.

Gareth, ynglŷn â'ch pwynt am leihau'r baich asesu ac ailystyried TGAU gan nad yw bellach yn arholiad ymadael â'r ysgol, yr ydym yn gweithio ar hynny o ran annog pobl ifanc i aros yn y system addysg hyd nes eu bod yn 19 mlwydd oed, a rhoi cyfleoedd newydd ar waith iddynt wneud hynny. Fodd bynnag, prin y gallwn gytuno fod dileu un prawf ar ddiwedd cyfnod allweddol 2—un prawf mewn ysgol gynradd—yn gyfystyr â phrofi i raddau helaeth iawn. Fel y dywedodd Mick Bates, yr hyn sydd gennym, a'r hyn sy'n bwysig i'w gael, yw profi yn gymedrol, ac mae hwn yn gyfrwng pwysig.

Gareth Jones: It is not the assessment on the day that worries me, but the whole process of preparation for that assessment. That is where the time is lost, and that takes away from the time, energy and enthusiasm of the teacher and the child. A lot of time is wasted in preparing for these assessments—you yourself have said so, and that is one reason why you are so willing to abolish these tests at the end of key stage 1.

4:20 p.m.

Jane Davidson: Turning to Jocelyn's point, the way in which different schools manage testing procedures will have an impact on how the tests are perceived by teachers, families and children. I would be ready to consider issuing guidance on managing those tests in future if it were needed to avoid the type of situations that Jocelyn has described. I am pleased to say that my youngest child will take the tests this year and that the oldest two children have taken the tests with no visible lack of benefit because of how the school handled the process. Therefore, I am always happy to consider how we can improve that process.

In order to reassure Jonathan Morgan and Mick Bates, the money currently available for tests from the grants for education support and training can be used to support key stage 1 educational development. That is something that I announced immediately after the tests were discontinued, and it has been strongly welcomed by schools.

In closing, this is an important decision today, not least because these are the first regulations that I have put forward as a result of 'The Learning Country'. These regulations show that the scheme is coming into practice. This decision means that Wales is ploughing its own furrow, listening not only to the professions but also to parents, and operating in the interest of children and the development of our education agenda. We will have five votes on these regulations and I would be grateful if Plaid Cymru would consider withdrawing its amendment in view of what I have said, otherwise, I will not support the amendment. I ask Members to support the principle of the regulations and approve them.

Y Llywydd: Galwaf am bleidlais ar welliant 1 yn enw Jocelyn Davies i'r cynnig cyntaf.

Jane Davidson: Gan droi at bwynt Jocelyn, mae'r ffordd y rheola ysgolion gwahanol weithdrefnau profi yn cael effaith ar y ffordd yr ystyrir y profion gan athrawon, teuluoedd a phlant. Byddwn yn barod i ystyried rhoi arweiniad ar reoli'r profion hynny yn y dyfodol pe bai angen gwneud hynny er mwyn osgoi'r math o sefyllfa a ddisgrifiodd Jocelyn. Yr wyf yn falch o ddweud y bydd fy mhlentyn ieuaf yn sefyll y profion eleni a bod y ddau blentyn hynaf wedi sefyll y profion heb unrhyw ddiffyg budd gweladwy oherwydd y modd y deliodd yr ysgol â'r broses. Felly, yr wyf bob amser yn fodlon ystyried sut y gallwn wella'r broses honno.

Er mwyn tawelu meddyliau Jonathan Morgan a Mick Bates, gallai'r arian sydd ar gael ar hyn o bryd ar gyfer profion o'r grantiau ar gyfer cymorth addysg a hyfforddiant gael ei ddefnyddio i gefnogi datblygiad addysgol cyfnod allweddol 1. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth a gyhoeddais yn union wedi i'r profion gael eu dileu, ac fe'i croesawyd yn gynnes iawn gan yr ysgolion.

Wrth gloi, mae hwn yn benderfyniad pwysig heddiw, yn bennaf gan mai'r rheoliadau hyn yw'r rhai cyntaf a gyflwynais o ganlyniad i 'Y Wlad sy'n Dysgu'. Dengys y rheoliadau hyn fod y cynllun yn cael ei roi ar waith. Golyga'r penderfyniad hwn fod Cymru yn torri ei chwys ei hun, gan wrando nid yn unig ar y proffesiynau ond ar rieni, gan weithredu er budd plant a datblygiad ein agenda addysg. Bydd gennym bum pleidlais ar y rheoliadau hyn a byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe bai Plaid Cymru yn ystyried tynnu ei gwelliant yn ôl yng ngoleuni'r hyn a ddywedais, fel arall, ni chefnogaf y gwelliant. Gofynnaf i'r Aelodau gefnogi egwyddor y rheoliadau a'u cymeradwyo.

The Presiding Officer: I call for a vote on amendment 1 in the name of Jocelyn Davies to the first motion.

*Gwelliant 1: O blaid 12, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 36.
Amendment 1: For 12, Abstain 0, Against 36.*

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:

The following Members voted for:

Davies, Geraint
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Jarman, Pauline
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Phil

The following Members voted against:

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Ron
Essex, Sue
Evans, Delyth
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Rogers, Peter
Sinclair, Karen
Williams, Kirsty

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

Y Llywydd: Pleidleisiwn yn awr ar **The Presiding Officer:** We will now vote on the principle of the first regulation.

*Cynnig: O blaid 48, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion: For 48, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Geraint
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn

Davies, Ron
Essex, Sue
Evans, Delyth
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Jarman, Pauline
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Rogers, Peter
Ryder, Janet
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty
Williams, Phil

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

Y Llywydd: Galwaf am bleidlais ar y cynnig i gymeradwyo'r rheoliad cyntaf. **The Presiding Officer:** I call for a vote on the motion to approve the first regulation.

*Cynnig: O blaid 48, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion: For 48, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Geraint
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Davies, Ron
Essex, Sue
Evans, Delyth
German, Michael

Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Jarman, Pauline
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Rogers, Peter
Ryder, Janet
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty
Williams, Phil

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

Y Llywydd: Galwaf am bleidlais ar **The Presiding Officer:** I call for a vote on
egwyddor yr ail reoliad. the principle of the second regulation.

*Cynnig: O blaid 48, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion: For 48, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Geraint
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Davies, Ron
Essex, Sue
Evans, Delyth
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine

Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Jarman, Pauline
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Rogers, Peter
Ryder, Janet
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty
Williams, Phil

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

Y Llywydd: Galwaf am bleidlais ar y cynnig i gymeradwyo'r ail reoliad. **The Presiding Officer:** I call for a vote on the motion to approve the second regulation.

*Cynnig: O blaid 47, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion: For 47, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Geraint
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Davies, Ron
Essex, Sue
Evans, Delyth
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Jarman, Pauline
Jones, Ann

Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Gareth
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Melding, David
 Middlehurst, Tom
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Rogers, Peter
 Ryder, Janet
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Kirsty
 Williams, Phil

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 4.20 p.m.
 The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 4.20 p.m.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The next item on the agenda is the approval of special grant report no. 9 on unaccompanied asylum seeking children.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Yr eitem nesaf ar yr agenda yw cymeradwyo adroddiad grant arbennig rhif 9 ar blant sy'n ceisio lloches heb fod yng nghwmni oedolion.

The Minister for Assembly Business (Andrew Davies): This item will not be proposed today, but at a later date.

Y Trefnydd (Andrew Davies): Ni chynigir yr eitem hon heddiw, ond ar ddyddiad diweddarach.

Safon ar gyfer Ansawdd Tai Cymru Welsh Housing Quality Standard

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I have selected amendment 1 in the name of Jonathan Morgan, and amendments 2, 3, 4 and 5 in the name of Jocelyn Davies.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliant 1 yn enw Jonathan Morgan a gwelliannau 2, 3, 4 a 5 yn enw Jocelyn Davies.

The Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities (Edwina Hart): I propose that

Y Gweinidog dros Gyllid, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau (Edwina Hart): Cynigiau fod

the National Assembly acknowledges the significant contribution that bringing Welsh housing up to the Welsh housing quality standard will make to the vision of a sustainable, inclusive and equal Wales. (NDM910)

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn cydnabod y cyfraniad sylweddol y bydd sicrhau bod tai Cymru'n bodloni safon ansawdd tai Cymru'n ei wneud i'r weledigaeth o greu Cymru sy'n gynaliadwy, yn gynhwysol ac yn gyfartal. (NDM910)

'Better Homes for People in Wales' was endorsed by the Assembly in July. That set out our national housing strategy for Wales.

Cymeradwywyd 'Cartrefi Gwell i Bobl Cymru' gan y Cynulliad ym mis Gorffennaf. Nododd hynny ein strategaeth dai

We want everyone in Wales to have the opportunity of living in good quality, affordable housing. We want people to be able to choose where they live and decide whether buying or renting is best for them and their families. We would all agree that it is an ambitious provision that presents the housing sector in Wales with an enormous challenge. However, to be less ambitious would imply that we should be content with second best for the people of Wales. I know that none of us here are content with second best. The national housing strategy aims to ensure that all households in Wales are given the opportunity to live in homes that meet the Welsh housing quality standard. That means homes that are in a good state of repair, which are safe and secure. Quality is the underlying theme that underpins all our priorities. The strategy sets clear goals and targets, enabling us to measure achievements against our vision. It is essential that we have a target standard that defines what we mean by good quality homes. That is what the Welsh housing quality standard is.

We all know that people's homes and their environment are critical to the quality of their lives. Poor quality housing has a profound and negative impact on people's physical health, their safety and mental wellbeing. There is much to be done in our social housing and private housing sectors to eliminate poor housing. However, the social housing sector is where we begin to exert the most influence. This sector represents 20 per cent of the total housing stock in Wales, which is nearly 250,000 homes. Registered social landlords have been regulated for several years—formerly by Tai Cymru/Housing for Wales, and latterly by the National Assembly. That regulation has been supported by published quality standards such as development quality requirements. These have set high standards of design, energy efficiency, security and safety inside and outside the home, which is also important. Registered social landlords have been given a target of 2010 for all their existing stock to meet these requirements.

The overall standard of registered social landlord managed housing in Wales has begun to improve significantly. This

genedlaethol i Gymru. Yr ydym am i bawb yng Nghymru gael y cyfle i fyw mewn tai fforddiadwy o safon. Yr ydym am i bobl fod mewn sefyllfa lle y gallant ddewis lle maent yn byw a phenderfynu ai prynu ynteu rentu yw'r peth gorau iddynt hwy a'u teuluoedd. Cytunwn oll ei bod yn ddarpariaeth uchelgeisiol sy'n cynnig her enfawr i'r sector tai yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, pe baem yn llai uchelgeisiol byddai hynny yn awgrymu y dylem fod yn fodlon ar yr ail orau i bobl Cymru. Gwn nad oes neb yma yn fodlon ar hynny. Nod y strategaeth dai genedlaethol yw sicrhau y caiff pawb yng Nghymru gyfle i fyw mewn cartrefi sy'n bodloni safon ansawdd tai Cymru. Mae hynny yn golygu cartrefi sydd mewn cyflwr da, ac sy'n ddiogel. Ansawdd yw'r thema sy'n sylfaen i'n holl flaenoriaethau. Noda'r strategaeth nodau a thargedau eglur, gan ein galluogi i fesur cyflawniadau yn erbyn ein gweledigaeth. Mae'n hanfodol bod gennym safon darged sy'n diffinio'r hyn a olygir wrth gartrefi o safon. Dyna beth yw safon ansawdd tai Cymru.

Gwyddom oll fod cartrefi ac amgylchedd pobl yn hollbwysig i ansawdd eu bywydau. Caiff tai o ansawdd gwael effaith ddwys a negyddol ar iechyd corfforol pobl, a'u diogelwch a'u hiechyd meddwl. Mae llawer i'w wneud yn ein sector tai cymdeithasol a'n sector tai preifat i sicrhau na fydd tai mewn cyflwr gwael. Fodd bynnag, y sector tai cymdeithasol yw'r man lle y byddwn yn dechrau dylanwadu fwyaf. Mae'r sector hwn yn cwmpasu 20 y cant o gyfanswm stoc tai Cymru, sef bron 250,000 o gartrefi. Rheoleiddiwyd landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig ers nifer o flynyddoedd—gan Tai Cymru gynt, ac wedyn gan y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Ategwyd y gwaith rheoleiddio hwn drwy safonau ansawdd cyhoeddedig megis y gofynion i ddatblygu ansawdd. Mae'r rhain wedi gosod safonau uchel o ran cynllun, effeithlonrwydd ynni a diogelwch y tu mewn i gartrefi, a thu allan, sydd hefyd yn bwysig. Gosodwyd targed ar gyfer landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig sef bod yn rhaid i'w holl dai fodloni'r gofynion hyn erbyn 2010.

Mae safon gyffredinol tai a reolir gan landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig yng Nghymru wedi dechrau gwella'n sylweddol.

improved standard should be available to all tenants of social housing. The Welsh housing quality standard includes many of the quality standards that registered social landlords are already achieving. Among them are, that homes must be in a good state of repair, safe and secure, adequately heated, fuel efficient and well insulated. They must contain up-to-date kitchens and bathrooms, be well managed and, as far as possible, they should suit the specific requirements of the household, for example, adaptations for specific disabilities. Further details of the standards, guidance on implementing the National Assembly for Wales's policy requirements, and sources of good practice will be published in the next few weeks. We are committed to implementing this standard and bringing all existing social housing up to the Welsh housing quality standard by 2012. Landlords will be required to assess the implications of bringing their stock up to the standard by 2012 and to present their initial assessment on the condition of their stock and the financial implications by July 2002. Local authority landlords should have gathered sufficient detailed knowledge of the condition of their stock by 2006. That will enable them to develop the necessary strategies for tackling the backlog of repairs and for planning future improvements.

The Assembly Government expects the initial assessment and subsequent action plan to be incorporated into the landlord's business plan and that includes local authorities from 2003 onwards. This will also be more consistent with the move to the more general asset management plans that local authorities are currently adopting and that we are assisting them to develop. It will also help them to meet other corporate objectives such as tackling fuel poverty and reducing energy consumption. Good information on stock condition is fundamental to the assessment process. As a Government, we have already issued guidance for local authorities on how to undertake stock condition surveys and we are providing financial support over the next three years to help them gather this information. To date, 12 local authorities are benefiting from grants totalling £585,000,

Dylai'r safon well hon fod ar gael i bob tenant mewn tai cymdeithasol. Mae safon ansawdd tai Cymru yn cynnwys llawer o'r safonau ansawdd y mae landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig eisoes yn eu cyrraedd. Yn eu plith, mae gofyn bod cartrefi mewn cyflwr da, rhaid iddynt fod yn ddiogel, wedi'u gwresogi'n ddigonol, yn effeithlon o ran ynni ac wedi'u hinswleiddio'n dda. Rhaid bod ganddynt geginau ac ystafelloedd ymolchi modern, rhaid iddynt gael eu rheoli'n dda, a dylent fod yn addas i ofynion penodol y bobl sy'n byw ynddynt cyn belled ag y bo modd, er enghraifft, addasiadau ar gyfer anabledau penodol. Cyhoeddir manylion pellach o'r safonau, y canllawiau ar gyfer gweithredu gofynion polisi'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, a ffynonellau o arfer da ymhen yr ychydig wythnosau nesaf. Yr ydym yn ymrwymedig i weithredu'r safon hon a sicrhau bod y tai cymdeithasol presennol yn cyrraedd safon ansawdd tai Cymru erbyn 2012. Bydd yn ofynnol i landlordiaid asesu goblygiadau'r gwaith o sicrhau bod eu stoc yn cyrraedd y safon erbyn 2012 ac i gyflwyno eu hasesiad cychwynnol ar gyflwr eu stoc a'r goblygiadau ariannol erbyn Gorffennaf 2002. Dylai landlordiaid awdurdodau lleol fod wedi casglu digon o wybodaeth fanwl am gyflwr eu stoc erbyn 2006. Bydd hyn yn eu galluogi i ddatblygu'r strategaethau sydd eu hangen i fynd i'r afael â'r gwaith trwsio sydd heb ei wneud ac i gynllunio gwelliannau yn y dyfodol.

Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn disgwyl i'r asesiad cychwynnol a'r cynllun gweithredu dilynol gael eu hymgorffori yn nghynllun busnes landlordiaid gan gynnwys awdurdodau lleol o 2003 ymlaen. Bydd hyn hefyd yn fwy cyson â'r cynlluniau rheoli asedau mwy cyffredinol y mae awdurdodau lleol yn eu mabwysiadu erbyn hyn, cynlluniau yr ydym yn eu helpu i'w datblygu. Bydd hefyd yn fodd iddynt gyflawni eu hamcanion corfforaethol megis mynd i'r afael â thlodi tanwydd a lleihau'r ynni a ddefnyddir. Mae gwybodaeth dda am gyflwr stoc yn hanfodol i'r broses asesu. Fel Llywodraeth, yr ydym eisoes wedi rhoi canllawiau i'r awdurdodau lleol ar gynnal arolygon o gyflwr stoc ac yr ydym yn rhoi cymorth ariannol yn ystod y tair blynedd nesaf i'w helpu i gasglu'r wybodaeth hon. Hyd yma, rhoddwyd grantiau gwerth

and further grants will still be available over the next three years.

£585,000 i 12 o awdurdodau lleol a bydd grantiau pellach ar gael o hyd yn ystod y tair blynedd nesaf.

The Welsh housing quality standard and our housing strategy are not the end of the process. This is a dynamic set of policies that we will continue to develop and refine to reflect the changing needs and circumstances. As a Government, we are well aware of all the challenges that we face in the housing arena. The Welsh housing quality standard is the first step in the process of that decision making. I will deal with the amendments in my reply.

Nid diwedd y broses yw'r safon ar gyfer ansawdd tai Cymru a'n strategaeth dai. Mae hon yn gyfres ddeinamig o bolisiau y byddwn yn parhau i'w datblygu a'u mireinio i adlewyrchu anghenion ac amgylchiadau sy'n newid. Fel Llywodraeth, yr ydym yn ymwybodol iawn o'r holl heriau a wynebwn ym maes tai. Safon ansawdd tai Cymru yw'r cam cyntaf yn y broses honno o wneud penderfyniadau. Ymdriniaf â'r gwelliannau yn fy ymateb.

4:30 p.m.

William Graham: I propose amendment 1 in the name of Jonathan Morgan. Delete all wording after 'acknowledges' then insert;

William Graham: Cynigïaf welliant 1 yn enw Jonathan Morgan. Dileu pob gair ar ôl 'yn cydnabod' ac yn ei le rhoi:

that in bringing Welsh housing up to the Welsh housing quality standard it must ensure that full recognition is given to the changes within the demography of Wales and the continuing increase in the numbers of owner occupancy of dwellings.

bod yn rhaid sicrhau, wrth ddod â thai Cymru i fyny i safon ansawdd tai Cymru y rhoddir cydnabyddiaeth lawn i'r newidiadau o fewn demograffeg Cymru a'r cynnydd parhaol yn niferoedd yr anheddiadau sy'n berchen-ddeiliadaethau.

In order to realise the vision of providing quality standard housing for all the people of Wales, we must look forward. We must appreciate and understand the changing patterns of tenure and ownership, housing design and technologies that will ensure energy efficiency, and meet the needs and aspirations of the people who make these properties their homes.

Er mwyn gwireddu'r weledigaeth o ddarparu tai sy'n cyrraedd y safon ansawdd ar gyfer holl bobl Cymru, rhaid inni edrych i'r dyfodol. Rhaid inni werthfawrogi a deall y patrymau newydd o ddaliadaeth a pherchenogaeth, o gynllun tai a thechnolegau cysylltiedig a fydd yn sicrhau effeithlonrwydd ynni, ac yn diwallu anghenion a chyflawni dyheadau pobl y mae'r tai hyn yn gartref iddynt.

The framework for the Welsh housing quality standard identifies specific requirements for state of repair, fuel efficiency, safety, security, location, design and suitability for every home in our country. The Conservative group supports the need to accomplish the provision of quality standard housing for all the people of Wales.

Noda fframwaith safon ansawdd tai Cymru ofynion penodol ar gyfer cyflwr tai, effeithlonrwydd ynni, diogelwch, lleoliad, cynllun ac addasrwydd pob cartref yng Nghymru. Mae grŵp y Ceidwadwyr yn cefnogi'r angen i ddarparu tai sy'n cyrraedd y safon ansawdd ar gyfer holl bobl Cymru.

However, these proposals to meet future housing standards are directed back to the last century. They are not sufficiently targeted on the future needs of those who live in these houses. Recognition of the national

Fodd bynnag, mae'r cynigion hyn i fodloni safonau tai yn y dyfodol yn cyfeirio'n ôl at y ganrif ddiwethaf. Nid ydynt wedi'u targedu'n ddigonol at anghenion y bobl sy'n byw yn y cartrefi hyn yn y dyfodol. Mae cyflwyniad y

housing strategy is highlighted and underlined in the introduction to the document that we are considering today. That strategy has a commitment to bring all existing housing, whether social or local authority-owned, up to the Welsh housing quality standard within 10 years.

We need to initiate proposals that would allow every home in Wales to be brought up to the Welsh housing quality standard. At the end of 2000, 15 per cent of the total housing dwelling stock in Wales was rented from local authorities. If the current trend were to continue unaltered, by 2010—the year by which the Assembly has committed itself to delivering higher standard homes—the total dwelling stock, which is rented from local authorities, will have declined to just over 10 per cent. However, this percentage could, potentially, be significantly lower by 2010. In May last year, the Assembly considered the options for housing stock transfer. In the supporting report, it was clearly indicated that:

‘[Stock transfer]...is the only option currently available which would be capable of delivering additional investment in local authority housing on the scale necessary to fully overcome the identified backlog of repair and modernisation.’

If our local authorities take up the only option that is available, by 2010 we may find that our housing stock has declined to well below 10 per cent of homes in Wales.

If we seek a sustainable, inclusive and equal Wales, we must meet the needs of the overwhelming majority of the people of Wales, who indicate time and again their aspirations of owning their own homes. If local authorities are to have a diminishing role in the provision of housing, we must consider other organisations that can more effectively implement the proposals that we make today. These organisations would be at the forefront of designing homes to meet people’s requirements and would have experience of adapting homes to meet individual and specific needs.

ddogfen yr ydym yn ei hystyried heddiw yn cydnabod ac yn pwysleisio’r strategaeth dai genedlaethol. Mae’r strategaeth honno yn cynnwys ymrwymiad i sicrhau bod pob cartref presennol, boed yn y sector tai cymdeithasol neu’n eiddo i awdurdod lleol, yn cyrraedd safon ansawdd tai Cymru ymhen 10 mlynedd.

Mae angen inni gyflwyno cynigion a fyddai’n sicrhau bod pob cartref yng Nghymru yn cyrraedd safon ansawdd tai Cymru. Ar ddiwedd 2000, rhentwyd 15 y cant o gyfanswm stoc anheddau Cymru oddi wrth awdurdodau lleol. Pe bai’r duedd bresennol yn parhau, erbyn 2010—sef y flwyddyn y mae’r Cynulliad wedi ymrwymo i ddarparu tai o safon uwch—bydd cyfanswm y stoc anheddau a rentir oddi wrth awdurdodau lleol wedi gostwng i ychydig dros 10 y cant. Fodd bynnag, gallai’r ganran hon o bosibl fod cryn dipyn yn is erbyn 2010. Ym mis Mai y llynedd, ystyriodd y Cynulliad yr opsiynau ar gyfer trosglwyddo stoc tai. Yn yr adroddiad ategol, nodwyd yn glir bod:

[Trosglwyddo stoc]... yw’r unig ddewis sydd ar gael ar hyn o bryd a fyddai’n gallu darparu buddsoddiad ychwanegol yn stoc tai awdurdodau lleol ar y raddfa sy’n angenrheidiol i ddelio’n llwyr â’r llwyth gwaith sydd wedi ei nodi o ran trwsio a moderneiddio.’

Os bydd ein hawdurdodau llethol yn dewis yr unig opsiwn sydd ar gael, erbyn 2010 mae’n bosibl y bydd ein stoc tai wedi gostwng ymhell o dan 10 y cant o gartrefi yng Nghymru.

Os ydym am gael Cymru sy’n gynaliadwy, yn gynhwysol ac yn gyfartal, rhaid inni ddiwallu anghenion mwyafrif lleol pobl Cymru, sy’n nodi dro ar ôl tro eu bod yn dymuno bod yn berchen ar eu cartrefi. Os bydd rôl awdurdodau lleol o ran darparu tai yn mynd yn llai, rhaid inni ystyried sefydliadau eraill a all weithredu’r cynigion a wnawn heddiw yn fwy effeithiol. Byddai’r sefydliadau hyn ar flaen y gad o ran cynllunio cartrefi sy’n ateb gofynion pobl a byddai ganddynt brofiad o addasu cartrefi i ddiwallu anghenion unigolion ac anghenion penodol.

The standards that we consider today identify numerous specifications on the age of appliances, safety features, inspections and adequate space, most of which are covered by the current health and safety law or by building regulations. They are design features that must be taken into account by independent homebuilders, who must meet their customers' requirements in order to sell their properties.

It has long been claimed that the right to buy scheme has left local authorities with undesirable homes. If this were true, why were the right to buy sales in 2000 higher than in any year since 1991? There are also indications that they will continue at this high level. Is this a sign that local authorities are being left with undesirable properties or a realisation by tenants that local authorities can no longer adequately meet the housing needs of the people of Wales?

Another false claim concerns the availability of funding for house stock repairs. Successive governments have made such funds available, but local authorities have chosen not to spend that money on effective repair programmes. We all recall that, for many councils years ago, the housing revenue account successfully subsidised the general rate fund.

There is an underlying assumption in the Welsh housing quality standard document and 'Better Homes for People in Wales', that local authorities are best placed to determine and identify local housing needs. The Conservative group believes that the independent sector is also geared towards identifying and meeting the needs of its communities. It will consider local amenities, transport networks and employment opportunities in the same way. It would invest in the construction and renovation required for the improvement of local housing. It has flexibility in resources and development, together with the management expertise, to ensure that projects are executed efficiently and within budget limits.

In addition to focusing on local authorities,

Noda'r safonau a ystyriwn heddiw nifer o ragofynion ynglŷn ag oedran cyfarpar, nodweddion diogelwch, arolygiadau a lle digonol, y mae'r rhan fwyaf ohonynt wedi'u cwmpasu gan y ddeddfwriaeth gyfredol sy'n ymwneud ag iechyd a diogelwch neu gan reoliadau adeiladu. Maent yn nodweddion cynllunio y mae'n rhaid iddynt gael eu hystyried gan adeiladwyr tai annibynnol sy'n gorfod bodloni gofynion eu cwsmeriaid er mwyn gwerthu eu heiddo.

Honnwyd ers tro bod y cynllun hawl i brynu yn golygu mai cartrefi annerbyniol sydd ar ôl gan awdurdodau lleol. Os yw hyn yn wir, pam bod mwy o gartrefi wedi'u gwerthu drwy'r hawl i brynu yn 2000 nag mewn unrhyw flwyddyn ers 1991? Mae arwyddion hefyd y bydd gwerthiannau yn parhau yr un mor uchel. Ai arwydd ydyw mai dim ond cartrefi annerbyniol sydd yn eiddo awdurdodau lleol neu bod tenantiaid wedi sylweddoli na all awdurdodau lleol ddiwallu anghenion tai pobl Cymru yn llawn bellach?

Gwneir honiad anwir arall ynglŷn â'r arian sydd ar gael ar gyfer trwsio stoc tai. Darparwyd yr arian hwnnw gan nifer o lywodraethau, ond ni ddewisodd yr awdurdodau lleol ei wario ar raglenni trwsio effeithiol. Cofiw'n oll i'r cyfrif refeniw tai sybsideiddio cronfa trethi cyffredinol llawer o gynghorau yn y gorffennol.

Mae tybiaeth sylfaenol yn y ddogfen ar safon ansawdd tai Cymru a 'Cartrefi Gwell i Bobl Cymru' bod awdurdodau lleol yn y sefyllfa orau i bennu a nodi anghenion tai lleol. Cred grŵp y Ceidwadwyr fod y sector annibynnol hefyd wedi'i anelu at nodi a diwallu anghenion ei gymunedau. Bydd yn ystyried amwynderau lleol, rhwydweithiau trafndiaeth a chyfleoedd gwaith yn yr un modd. Byddai'n buddsoddi yn y gwaith adeiladu ac adnewyddu sydd ei angen i wella tai lleol. Mae ganddo hyblygrwydd o ran adnoddau a datblygiad ynghyd ag arbenigedd rheoli, er mwyn sicrhau y caiff prosiectau eu cwblhau mewn modd effeithlon ac o fewn terfynau cyllideb.

Yn ogystal â'i phwyslais ar awdurdodau

this document does not fully reflect many of the specific needs of people who reside in rural areas. Many properties in rural areas make up the 35 per cent of Welsh homes built before 1919 and which therefore require individual proposals to ensure their refurbishment.

We need to look beyond our local authorities and find ways of joining together the experience of the independent sector and voluntary organisations if we are to achieve the targets outlined in this document.

Janet Davies: I propose the following amendments in the name of Jocelyn Davies.

I propose amendment 2. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

notes that the assessment process to achieve the Welsh housing quality standard applies only to local authority housing, and requires that this also apply to registered social landlords and private landlords in order to ensure equality of housing for all tenanted properties.

I propose amendment 3. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

notes that the National Assembly guidelines for assessment of stock condition of local authority housing referred to within the Welsh housing quality standard, must be clear enough to ensure that information obtained and recorded is comparable throughout Wales.

I propose amendment 4. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

supports the location of homes in an attractive and safe environment, but acknowledges that this also is not necessarily in estate form, as this will not be the most suitable form of housing in every community.

I propose amendment 5. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

calls on the Minister to make further

lleol, nid yw'r ddogfen hon yn adlewyrchu llawer o anghenion penodol pobl sy'n byw mewn ardaloedd gwledig yn llawn. Mae llawer o anheddau mewn ardaloedd gwledig yn y 35 y cant o gartrefi yng Nghymru a adeiladwyd cyn 1919 ac felly mae angen cynigion unigol i sicrhau y cânt eu hadnewyddu.

Mae angen inni edrych y tu hwnt i'n hawdurdodau lleol a dod o hyd i ffyrdd o gydlyn profiad y sector annibynnol a'r mudiadau gwirfoddol er mwyn inni gyflawni'r targedau a nodir yn y ddogfen hon.

Janet Davies: Cynigaf y gwelliannau canlynol yn enw Jocelyn Davies.

Cynigaf welliant 2. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn nodi bod y broses asesu i gyrraedd safon ansawdd tai Cymru yn gymwys i dai awdurdodau lleol yn unig, ac yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol fod hyn hefyd yn gymwys i landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig a landlordiaid preifat er mwyn sicrhau tai cyfartal i bob eiddo sydd â thenantiaid ynddynt.

Cynigaf welliant 3. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn nodi bod canllawiau'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ar gyfer asesu cyflwr stoc tai awdurdodau lleol y cyfeirir atynt o fewn safon ansawdd tai Cymru yn ddigon clir i sicrhau bod y wybodaeth a geir ac a gofnodir yn gymaradwy ledled Cymru.

Cynigaf welliant 4. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn cefnogi lleoli cartrefi mewn amgylchedd deniadol a diogel, ond yn cydnabod nad yw hyn hefyd o angenrheidrwydd ar ffurf ystadau, gan nad dyna'r tai mwyaf addas ym mhob cymuned.

Cynigaf welliant 5. Ychwanegu ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn galw ar y Gweinidog i wneud

representation to the UK Government and request a change in the public spending borrowing rules to allow local authorities to borrow adequate finances to tackle the repair backlog in council housing themselves if they wish to do so.

I will speak in particular to amendments 2 and 5.

The motion refers to the significant contribution of the Welsh housing quality standard to the vision of a 'sustainable, inclusive and equal Wales'. Despite the odd grammar, Plaid Cymru supports a vision of sustainability, inclusivity and equality within Wales.

The question we must ask is whether this standard makes a significant contribution to that vision. The meat of the document is relevant—it refers to the actual requirements of good housing. Who would quarrel with the seven principles outlined on page 2 and expanded on in later pages? It could, of course, be said that these are obvious and should already be in place. However, we know that they are not. Therefore, it is important to consider ways in which the Government of Wales can ensure that a steadily increasing proportion of homes meets this standard and, if possible, reach 100 per cent well before 2012.

Everybody has a right to a decent home. It reduces physical and mental illness and trauma, and increases contentment. It reduces the cost to the national health service. Well-built homes in the right place reduce heating and transport costs. They help people develop and benefit from education.

Taking part in decisions that affect your community gives you a sense of belonging. However, that feeling can be easily destroyed when local views are ignored or communities are duped into supporting fancy-sounding schemes.

However, my problem with this document is that towards the end, the detailed assessment process only refers to local authority

cynrychioliadau pellach i Lywodraeth y DU ac yn gwneud cais am newid yn y rheolau benthyca gwariant cyhoeddus i ganiatáu i awdurdodau lleol fenthyca digon o arian i fynd i'r afael â'r dagfa o waith atgyweirio sy'n aros i'w wneud yn y tai cyngor eu hunain os dymunant wneud hynny

Ymdriniaf â gwelliannau 2 a 5 yn benodol.

Cyfeiria'r cynnig at gyfraniad sylweddol safon ansawdd tai Cymru i weledigaeth o 'Gymru sy'n gynaliadwy, yn gynhwysol ac yn gyfartal'. Er gwaethaf y ramadeg ryfedd, cefnoga Plaid Cymru weledigaeth o gynaliadwyedd, cynhwysedd a chyfartalwch yng Nghymru.

Y cwestiwn y mae'n rhaid inni ei ofyn yw a yw'r safon hon yn gwneud cyfraniad sylweddol i'r weledigaeth honno. Mae prif fyrdwn y ddogfen yn berthnasol—cyfeiria at ofynion gwirioneddol tai o ansawdd da. Pwy fyddai'n anghytuno â'r saith egwyddor a nodir ar dudalen 2, yr ymhelaethir arnynt yn y tudalennau dilynol? Gellid dweud wrth gwrs fod y rhain yn amlwg ac y dylent fod ar waith eisoes. Fodd bynnag, gwyddom nad ydynt ar waith. Felly, mae'n bwysig ystyried ym mha fodd y gall Llywodraeth Cymru sicrhau bod canran gynyddol gyson o dai yn cyrraedd y safon hon, ac os yw'n bosibl, bod 100 y cant yn ei chyrraedd erbyn 2012.

Mae gan bawb yr hawl i gartref safonol. Mae'n lleihau salwch corfforol, salwch meddwl a thrawma, ac yn arwain at fwy o foddhad. Mae'n lleihau costau'r gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol. Mae cartrefi wedi'u hadeiladu'n dda yn y lleoliad cywir yn lleihau costau gwresogi a chludiant. Gallant helpu pobl i ddatblygu ac elwa ar addysg.

Mae cymryd rhan mewn penderfyniadau sy'n effeithio ar eich cymuned yn creu ymdeimlad o berthyn i'r gymuned honno. Fodd bynnag, gellir chwalu'r teimlad hwnnw yn hawdd os caiff barn pobl leol ei diystyru neu os caiff cymunedau eu twyllo i gefnogi rhyw gynllun crand.

Fodd bynnag, yr hyn sydd yn fy mhoeni ynglŷn â'r ddogfen hon yw'r ffaith mai dim ond at dai awdurdodau lleol y cyfeiria'r

housing. The earlier part refers to all housing, regardless of tenure, or whether it is existing or new housing. Surely, particularly in light of Government incentives to move housing out of local government control, this process must apply to other social housing. It must also apply to privately rented housing. While the National Assembly does not have the same control over privately rented housing, there are means of encouraging better quality. Many of the actions that could be taken remain within the remit of the UK Government. Will it subscribe to this motion's vision?

Therefore, we must support a licensing system and the payment of housing benefit only when the quality is acceptable. We must get an agreement on the transfer of responsibility for building regulations to the Assembly. Or is that agenda too nationalist for this Government? It must be made crystal clear in this debate that we expect private landlords to accept and work towards these standards.

Without enough money, none of this can be achieved. I know that changes to the public sector borrowing requirement, to conform to rules prevailing in other European Union countries, are crucial in housing. That point has been made many times. Nevertheless, the fact remains that the UK is out of line in restricting public investment, which is considered to be just that under more rational regimes.

When the Assembly was established in 1999, we had powers to exempt local authority companies from those controls on borrowing. However, just as the then First Secretary, Alun Michael, was about to implement that for local authority housing companies, the Treasury changed the statement of funding policy so that such borrowing would count against our budget, effectively stopping the First Secretary dead in his tracks.

When the prudential borrowing system replaces the 1989 Act, this oddity will, I understand, disappear, but perhaps it will be

broses asesu fanwl tua diwedd y ddogfen. Mae'r rhan gyntaf yn cyfeirio at bob math o dai, o ba ddaliadaeth bynnag, boed yn dai sy'n bodoli eisoes neu'n dai newydd. Tybed nad yw'r broses hon yn berthnasol i fathau eraill o dai cymdeithasol, yn enwedig yng ngoleuni cymhellion y Llywodraeth i dynnu tai o reolaeth llywodraeth leol. Rhaid iddi hefyd fod yn berthnasol i dai a rentir yn breifat. Er na all y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol reoli tai a rentir yn breifat yn yr un modd, gall hyrwyddo gwell ansawdd. Erys llawer o'r camau y gellid eu cymryd fel rhan o gyfrifoldebau Llywodraeth y DU. A fydd yn cefnogi gweledigaeth y cynnig hwn?

Felly, rhaid inni gefnogi system drwyddedu lle na chaiff budd-dal tai ei dalu oni fydd ansawdd tai yn dderbyniol. Rhaid inni ddod i gytundeb ynglŷn â throsglwyddo'r cyfrifoldeb dros reoliadau adeiladu i'r Cynulliad. Neu a yw'r agenda honno'n rhy genedlaetholaidd i'r Llywodraeth hwn? Rhaid inni fod yn gwbl glir yn y ddadl hon ein bod yn disgwyl i landlordiaid preifat dderbyn y safonau hyn a gweithio tuag atynt.

Heb arian digonol, nid oes modd cyflawni dim o hyn. Gwn fod newidiadau i ofyniad benthycar sector cyhoeddus, er mwyn cydymffurfio â'r rheolau sydd mewn grym mewn gwledydd eraill yn yr Undeb Ewropeaidd, yn hollbwysig i'r maes hwn. Gwnaed y pwynt hwnnw droeon. Eto i gyd, y gwir amdani yw nad yw'r DU yn gweithredu'n unol â gwledydd eraill wrth gwtogi ar fuddsoddiad cyhoeddus. Felly y mae llywodraethau mwy rhesymol yn ystyried hynny.

Pan sefydlwyd y Cynulliad yn 1999, yr oedd gennym y pwerau i eithrio cwmnïau awdurdodau lleol o'r rheolaethau benthycar hynny. Fodd bynnag, pan oedd y Prif Ysgrifennydd ar y pryd, Alun Michael, ar fin gweithredu hynny ar gyfer cwmnïau tai awdurdodau lleol, newidiodd y Trysorlys y datganiad polisi ariannol fel y byddai benthycar o'r fath yn rhan o'n cyllideb, gan roi terfyn ar gynnig y Prif Ysgrifennydd i bob diben.

Pan fydd y system benthycar darbodus yn disodli Deddf 1989, caiff yr anghysondeb hwn ei ddileu, fe ddeallaf, ond efallai y bydd

too late for local authority housing. There is therefore a case to revisit the issue now, when it is important for the future of local authority housing. We must remember that Manchester Airport has been exempted, so why not housing in Wales? I fear that, sadly, shades of Thatcherism still lie heavily on New Labour Governments and it is surely time to lift them.

4:40 p.m.

Karen Sinclair: One of the most important factors in preserving and improving housing stock must be the provision of central heating. I welcome the priority given in the document and in 'Better Homes for the people in Wales', to adequate heating and fuel efficient and well-insulated housing. The UK Labour Government's commitment to prioritising heating provision is also evident in its continuing the payment of the winter fuel allowance, which has been warmly received—pardon the pun—and increased year-on-year. The social and health benefits to people, especially the elderly, of a warm home are well documented. As part of this strategy, the home energy efficiency scheme has been well used and has benefited many households in Wales. Its second stage is due to end in June 2002. However, the current scheme has several anomalies that must be addressed in future guidelines.

Two families in my constituency have fallen foul of an arbitrary rule, namely that if a household has three forms of heating it is not eligible for a central heating grant, regardless of the claimants' personal circumstances or the condition of the existing equipment. One family is elderly, with the husband receiving disability living allowance. The other family has a several months' old baby. Both families' circumstances are totally different, yet their heating problems are the same. Both have three forms of heating—two gas fires and one radiator. All their appliances are old, and both families were told that the appliances are near irreparable if they break down. However, in both cases, the home energy efficiency scheme surveyor must ignore the age and condition of the

yn rhy hwyr i dai awdurdod lleol. Felly gellir dadlau o blaid dychwelyd at y mater hwn yn awr, pan fo'n bwysig i ddyfodol tai awdurdodau lleol. Rhaid inni gofio i Faes Awyr Manceinion gael ei eithrio, felly pam na chaiff tai yng Nghymru eu heithrio? Ofnaf, yn anffodus, fod arlliw cryf Thatcheriaeth o hyd ar Lywodraethau Llafur Newydd ac onid yw'n bryd ei ddileu?

Karen Sinclair: Rhaid mai un o'r ffactorau pwysicaf i gadw a gwella stoc tai yw' darparu gwres canolog. Croesawaf y flaenoriaeth a roddir yn y ddogfen ac yn 'Cartrefi Gwell i Bobl Cymru' i wresogi tai yn ddigonol a chael tai wedi'u hinswleiddio'n dda sy'n effeithlon o ran tanwydd. Mae ymrwymiad Llywodraeth Lafur y DU i roi blaenoriaeth i'r ddarpariaeth gwresogi hefyd yn amlwg yn ei benderfyniad i barhau i dalu'r lwfans tanwydd gaeaf, a gafodd dderbyniad cynnes—maddeuwch y mwysair—ac sydd wedi cynyddu o flwyddyn i flwyddyn. Ceir tystiolaeth dda o fanteision cartref cynnes i bobl, yn arbennig yr henoed, o safbwynt cymdeithasol ac iechyd. Fel rhan o'r strategaeth hon, gwnaed defnydd helaeth o'r cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref ac mae llawer o gartrefi wedi elwa ohono yng Nghymru. Daw ail gam y cynllun i ben ym mis Mehefin 2002. Fodd bynnag, mae sawl anghysondeb yn y cynllun presennol y mae'n rhaid mynd i'r afael â hwy yng nghanllawiau'r dyfodol.

Mae dau deulu yn fy etholaeth i ar eu colled oherwydd rheol fympwyol, sef os oes gan bobl dri math o gyfarpar gwresogi yn eu cartref, nid ydynt yn gymwys i gael grant gwres canolog, waeth beth fo amgylchiadau personol y ceiswyr, neu gyflwr y cyfarpar presennol. Mae'r naill deulu mewn oed ac mae'r gŵr yn cael lwfans byw i'r anabl. Mae gan y llall faban bach. Mae amgylchiadau y naill a'r llall yn hollol wahanol, ond yr un yw eu problemau gwresogi. Mae gan y naill a'r llall dri math o gyfarpar gwresogi—dau dân nwy ac un rheiddiadur. Mae eu cyfarpar i gyd yn hen, a dywedwyd wrth y ddau deulu ei bod yn annhebygol iawn y bydd modd trwsio'r cyfarpar eto os ydynt yn methu. Fodd bynnag, yn y naill achos a'r llall, rhaid i arolygwr y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni

appliances. If they are in situ and working when a visit is made, they count toward the assessment and disqualify the householder from help. In both cases, the likely scenario is that, within a few months, at least one appliance will be declared irreparable. Another application will have to be made, necessitating further paperwork and another survey as well as, presumably, causing severe distress and inconvenience to families without adequate heating. The time that heating appliances are used most is in mid-winter. During the summer, the equipment will not have been used much.

It seems cost-effective and fairer to allow the HEES surveyor to exercise discretion. He or she is an independent, competent professional, and should be allowed to decide to install heating where it is obvious that the existing system will not be adequate to last, say, the next three months. That would be a fairer system. Both families in those cases had difficulty accepting what appears to be an inflexible and arbitrary attitude.

My second point concerns the situation regarding people's statutory rights as consumers. In my constituency, a heating system was installed in one home only for the family to discover that the boiler was faulty. The occupier in question had a partner who had recently been discharged from hospital following a major operation. That family was without hot water for two weeks. Their situation was worse than when they had applied for the grant. Under normal circumstances, a person buying a new boiler would have the legal right to reject faulty goods and ask for a replacement or a refund. However, in these circumstances, the family had no such right. The heating company was contracted to HEES, which, in turn, advised the client to deal with the fault herself. This situation could quickly become a stalemate. During protracted negotiations, things go from bad to worse. It is vital that the legal situation is clarified to contractors.

cartref ddiystyru oedran a chyflwr y cyfarpar. Os ydynt yn eu lle ac yn gweithio pan fydd yn ymweld â'r cartref, maent yn rhan o'r asesiad ac yn peri i'r sawl sy'n byw yn y cartref fod yn anghymwys i gael cymorth. Yn y ddau achos, y sefyllfa fwyaf tebygol yw y bydd o leiaf un cyfarpar yn methu'n gyfan gwbl ymhen yr ychydig fisoedd nesaf. Bydd yn rhaid gwneud cais arall, gan arwain at ragor o waith papur ac arolwg arall hefyd, a fydd, siŵr o fod, yn achosi cryn ofid ac anghyfleuster i'r teuluoedd sydd heb system wresogi ddigonol. Yng nghanol gaeaf y gwneir y defnydd mwyaf o gyfarpar gwresogi. Yn ystod yr haf, ni wnaed llawer o defnydd o'r cyfarpar.

Ymddengys imi y byddai'n gost effeithiol ac yn decach i roi rhywfaint o ddisgresiwn i arolygwr y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref. Gweithiwr proffesiynol annibynnol, cymwys ydyw, a dylid caniatáu iddo/iddi wneud penderfyniad i osod system wresogi os yw'n amlwg na all y system bresennol barhau am y tri mis nesaf, dyweder. Byddai hynny yn system decach. Yr oedd yn anodd i'r ddau deulu yn yr achosion hynny dderbyn agwedd a oedd yn anhyblyg ac yn fympwyol yn eu tyb hwy.

Mae fy ail bwynt yn ymwneud â'r sefyllfa o ran hawliau statudol pobl fel defnyddwyr. Yn fy etholaeth i, ar ôl i system wresogi gael ei gosod mewn cartref, darganfu'r teulu fod y boeler yn ddiffygiol. Yr oedd gan y deiliad dan sylw bartner a oedd wedi ei ryddhau o'r ysbyty yn ddiweddar yn dilyn llawdriniaeth ddifrifol. Yr oedd y teulu heb ddŵr poeth am bythefnos. Yr oedd eu sefyllfa yn waeth na'r adeg pan wnaed cais am y grant. O dan amgylchiadau arferol, byddai gan berson sy'n prynu boeler newydd yr hawl gyfreithiol i wrthod nwyddau diffygiol a gofyn am nwyddau newydd neu ad-daliad. Fodd bynnag, o dan yr amgylchiadau hyn, nid oes gan y teulu yr hawl honno. Yr oedd y cwmni gwresogi o dan gytundeb i'r cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref, a oedd, yn ei dro, wedi cynghori'r cleient ei hun i drefnu i'r boeler diffygiol gael ei drwsio. Gallai'r sefyllfa hon fod wedi mynd yn amhosibl i'w datrys yn gyflym. Yn ystod y negodiadau hirfaith, aeth y sefyllfa o ddrwg i waeth. Mae'n hollbwysig bod y sefyllfa gyfreithiol yn eglur i gontractwyr.

Having said that, I remain hopeful that, if these problems are ironed out—and ironed out they must be—the HEES scheme presents an excellent opportunity to achieve the aims set out in the Wales quality housing standard. The scheme has met with much success and few problems in my constituency. However, those problems are specific problems. We can address them and ensure that we do not keep encountering them. I ask for these matters to be seriously considered and that the problems that I have highlighted be addressed.

Janet Ryder: We would all like to see the standards outlined in this document achieved for housing in Wales. However, what is missing is 'how'. How are we going to achieve this standard? One way would be to develop a licensing scheme, as has been said, for rented accommodation.

First, Plaid Cymru emphasises—it has done so for many years, as the Minister is aware—that you need to know from where you are starting. At present, it is impossible to produce a national picture of the condition of housing in Wales, because the information is not available. We can guess, but we do not know the current state and condition of housing.

The assessment of conditions and needs is complex and costly, and grants have been made available to local authorities to carry out such surveys. As the Minister has said, 12 authorities have taken up the grants. The date set for completing the surveys is 2006. Plaid Cymru supports that bottom-up approach of each council carrying out its own survey, but we stress the need for a national framework to ensure consistency of information. The Assembly should ensure that all councils carry out the survey and that the data gathered is consistent and comparable, and thus capable of producing a national picture. That is the basis of our amendment 3.

As previously stated, quality housing need not apply only to properties owned by local authorities. Assessments of all housing stock are needed. How will the Minister tackle the problem that exists in the privately owned

Wedi dweud hynny, fy ngobaith i o hyd yw y bydd y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref, os caiff y problemau hyn eu datrys—a rhaid eu datrys—yn gyfle gwych i gyflawni nodau safon ansawdd tai Cymru. Yn fy etholaeth I, bu'r cynllun yn llwyddiannus iawn ac ni chafwyd llawer o broblemau. Fodd bynnag, problemau penodol yw'r problemau hynny. Gallwn fynd i'r afael â hwy a sicrhau na fyddwn yn eu hwynebu o hyd. Gofynnaf i'r materion hyn gael eu hystyried o ddifrif ac inni fynd i'r afael â'r problemau a nodwyd gennyf.

Janet Ryder: Yr ydym oll yn awyddus i weld y safonau a nodir yn y ddogfen hon yn cael eu cyflawni ar gyfer tai yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, yr hyn a hepgorir yw 'sut'. Sut y byddwn yn cyflawni'r safon hon? Un ateb fyddai datblygu cynllun trwyddedu, fel y dywedwyd, ar gyfer llety wedi'i rentu.

Yn gyntaf, pwysleisia Plaid Cymru—fel y gwnaeth ers blynnyddoedd lawer, fel y gwyr y Gweinidog—fod angen ichi wybod o ble yr ydych yn dechrau. Ar hyn o bryd, nid oes modd rhoi darlun o gyflwr tai'r genedl gyfan, am nad yw'r wybodaeth ar gael. Gallwn ddyfalu, ond ni wyddom gyflwr presennol tai.

Mae'r asesiad o gyflwr ac anghenion yn gymhleth ac yn gostus, a bu grantiau ar gael i awdurdodau lleol gynnal arolygon o'r fath. Fel y dywedodd y Gweinidog, gwnaeth 12 o awdurdodau gais am grant. Y dyddiad ar gyfer cwblhau'r arolygon yw 2006. Cefnoga Plaid Cymru y penderfyniad i ganiatáu i bob cyngor gynnal ei arolwg ei hun, ond pwysleisiwn fod angen fframwaith cenedlaethol er mwyn sicrhau bod y wybodaeth hon yn gyson. Dylai'r Cynulliad sicrhau fod pob cyngor yn cynnal arolwg a bod y data a gesglir yn gyson ac yn gymaradwy, ac o ganlyniad yn gallu rhoi darlun o'r genedl gyfan. Dyna sylfaen ein gwelliant 3.

Fel y nodwyd yn gynharach, nid oes angen i safon ansawdd tai fod yn berthnasol i eiddo awdurdodau lleol yn unig. Mae angen asesu'r holl stoc tai. Sut y bydd y Gweinidog yn ymdrin â'r broblem sy'n bodoli yn y stoc

stock, both rented and owner-occupied? The private sector poses a great challenge, and one way of tackling that would be by developing a licensing scheme, perhaps based on the outlines contained in this document. A national licensing scheme can be developed for the private rented sector. Only a nationally enforceable licensing scheme will improve conditions in the rented sector.

Currently, much is left to local authorities to develop their own schemes, and many are making good progress, which should be acknowledged and supported. However, would it not be better to develop a national scheme for the entire rented sector, and not only for houses in multiple occupation?

Many north Wales coastal towns are prime examples of places where a licensing scheme is needed to provide a basic standard of warm, safe accommodation. Will the Assembly Labour Government support the development of such a scheme, unlike its Westminster colleagues? While there is little with which to disagree in this document, several questions remain unanswered as to how the scheme can be implemented and monitored without a national base survey and licensing scheme. Without those, these fine words may remain just that, like with many Government documents.

Peter Law: I am pleased to welcome the national housing strategy—sorry, it is not the national housing strategy. However, this gives me an opportunity to pay tribute to the professional people in the office of the Record of Proceedings, who correct everything that others and I occasionally say incorrectly. I have wanted to say that for a long time. I am pleased to welcome the Welsh housing quality standard document that the Minister has presented to us today. It is an important link to the housing strategy, ‘Better Homes for People in Wales’, which sets out the vision to which we should all subscribe.

Sometimes, I find it difficult to sit and listen to people such as William Graham. Each time

sy'n eiddo i berchenogion preifat, boed yn dai wedi'u rhentu neu'n berchendeiliadaethau? Mae'r sector preifat yn cynnig her fawr, ac un ffordd o fynd i'r afael â hynny fyddai datblygu cynllun trwyddedu, efallai yn seiliedig ar yr hyn a amlinellir yn y ddogfen hon. Gellir datblygu cynllun trwyddedu cenedlaethol ar gyfer y sector rhentu preifat. Dim ond cynllun trwyddedu y gellir ei orfodi'n genedlaethol a fydd yn gwella cyflwr tai yn y sector rhentu.

Ar hyn o bryd, yr ydym yn ymddiried i raddau helaeth yn yr awdurdodau lleol i ddatblygu eu cynlluniau eu hunain, ac mae llawer yn gwneud cynnydd da, a dylid cydnabod a chefnogi hynny. Fodd bynnag, oni fyddai'n well datblygu cynllun cenedlaethol ar gyfer y sector cyfan, ac nid dim ond ar gyfer tai amlfeddiant?

Mae llawer o'r trefi arfordirol yn y Gogledd yn enghreifftiau gwych o'r lleoedd lle mae angen cynllun trwyddedu i sicrhau llety clyd a diogel o safon sylfaenol. A fydd Llywodraeth Lafur y Cynulliad yn cefnogi'r ymgais i ddatblygu cynllun o'r fath, yn wahanol i'w chyd-Aelodau yn San Steffan? Er nad oes llawer yn y ddogfen hon yr anghytunwn ag ef, erys sawl cwestiwn heb ei ateb o hyd ynglŷn â'r ffordd y caiff y cynllun ei weithredu a'i fonitro heb arolwg sylfaenol a chynllun trwyddedu cenedlaethol. Hebddynt, ni fydd y geiriau teg hyn ond yn eiriau teg, fel llawer o ddogfennau'r Llywodraeth.

Peter Law: Mae'n dda gennyf groesawu'r strategaeth dai genedlaethol—mae'n ddrwg gennyf, nid strategaeth dai genedlaethol ydyw. Fodd bynnag, rhydd hyn gyfle imi dalu teyrnged i'r bobl broffesiynol yn swyddfa Cofnod y Trafodion, sy'n cywiro popeth yr wyf fi a phobl eraill yn ei ddweud yn anghywir o bryd i'w gilydd. Yr wyf wedi dymuno dweud hynny ers tro. Yr wyf yn falch o groesawu dogfen safon ansawdd tai Cymru a gyflwynwyd inni gan y Gweinidog heddiw. Mae'n ddolen gyswllt bwysig â'r strategaeth dai, ‘Cartrefi Gwell i Bobl Cymru’, sy'n nodi'r weledigaeth y dylem oll ei chefnogi.

Weithiau, mae'n anodd imi eistedd a gwrando ar bobl megis William Graham. Bob

I hear the Conservatives speak on housing, I feel the need to call for the sick bucket. They are the reason that we have these problems today. That is the irony of it, as they well know. However, we must put up with it and, as usual, allow them to indulge themselves.

I will talk briefly about local authority houses in particular. It is important for us to remember that, for many people living on local authority estates, these standards are only dreams. I know that from tenants in my constituency, as will many of you. It is important that we give them the opportunity to enjoy such standards. These are the types of things that we must strive to achieve. It is about making homes for people out of houses.

I am delighted to read some of the items in the document. The section on security refers to Secured by Design, a revolutionary scheme that we should welcome in co-operation with the police. I also welcome the adaptations for the disabled. Members of the Local Government and Housing Committee know how often we receive representations from wonderful and valued organisations such as the Royal National Institute for the Blind and the Royal National Institute for Deaf People. Their lobbies must be taken into account, which is why I welcome the Minister's strategy.

I also welcome the opportunity to provide mains-powered smoke detectors in all properties. Some local authorities have already provided them, but many more are needed. It is vitally important in protecting lives. Providing adequate heating is also mentioned in the document, as is a release from fuel poverty. If you live in a constituency where tenants live 1,400 feet above sea level, fuel poverty is an important issue. Places like Ebbw Vale or Brynmawr, in my constituency, are four or five degrees colder than here in Cardiff. It is important, as so many people suffer from fuel poverty.

4:50 p.m.

We will only achieve all that by working

tro yr wyf yn clywed y Ceidwadwyr yn siarad am dai, yr wyf am chwydu. Hwy yw'r rheswm pam bod gennym y problemau hyn heddiw. Dyna'r peth eironig, fel y gwyddant hwy eu hunain. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni ddygymod â hynny ac, yn ôl ein harfer, gadael iddynt ymblesera.

Siaradaf yn fyr am dai awdurdodau lleol yn arbennig. Mae'n bwysig inni gofio mai breuddwyd yn unig yw'r safonau hyn i lawer o bobl sy'n byw ar ystadau tai awdurdodau lleol. Gwn hynny ar ôl siarad â thenantiaid yn fy etholaeth, fel y gwna llawer ohonoch. Mae'n bwysig inni roi'r cyfle iddynt fwynhau safonau o'r fath. Dyma'r math o bethau y mae'n rhaid inni ymdrechu i'w cyflawni, sef troi tai yn gartrefi i bobl.

Yr wyf yn falch o ddarllen rhai o'r eitemau yn y ddogfen. Cyfeiria'r adran ar ddiogelwch at Ddiogelu Drwy Ddylunio, sef cynllun chwyldroadol y dylem ei groesawu mewn cydweithrediad â'r heddlu. Croesawaf hefyd yr addasiadau ar gyfer yr anabl. Gŵyr aelodau o'r Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai pa mor aml y cawn sylwadau gan fudiadau gwych, gwerthfawr megis y Sefydliad Brenhinol Cenedlaethol i'r Deillion a Sefydliad Brenhinol Cenedlaethol Pobl Fyddar. Rhaid ystyried yr hyn a ddywedant wrthym, a dyma pam y croesawaf strategaeth y Gweinidog.

Croesawaf hefyd y cyfle i ddarparu synwryddion mwg a weithredir o'r prif gyflenwad trydan ym mhob eiddo. Mae rhai awdurdodau lleol eisoes wedi eu darparu, ond mae angen llawer mwy. Maent yn hollbwysig i ddiogelu bywydau. Sonia'r ddogfen am sicrhau system wresogi ddigonol hefyd, fel ffordd o ddianc rhag tlodi tanwydd. Os ydych yn byw mewn etholaeth lle mae tenantiaid yn byw 1,400 troedfedd uwchben lefel y môr, mae tlodi tanwydd yn fater pwysig. Mae lleoedd megis Glynebwy neu Frynmawr, yn fy etholaeth i, yn bedwar neu bump o raddau yn oerach nag yma yng Nghaerdydd. Mae'n bwysig, gan fod cymaint o bobl yn dioddef o dlodi tanwydd.

Dim ond drwy weithio'n agos gyda'n

closely with our local authorities. I pay tribute to their work. It is not their fault that we are in this state today. They have not had adequate resources to enable them to maintain these properties for such a long time. That is why it is important that we face this up-front and tackle it head-on. By working with the Welsh Local Government Association and those local authorities we will be able to improve standards for all our tenants. It is important that the stock condition surveys that we are funding will help with the regeneration plans that we expect from local authorities. I am sure that they will all be put in place. We should not damn the local authorities with feigned praise, Janet. They will conform, and they will support this, because they know what it means to the people in their communities. Although only 12 authorities have announced their intentions at present, I am confident that the others will be on board with the Minister's encouragement. Who knows the local area and the housing stock better than the local authorities? We are always trying to second-guess the people out there. However, I do not believe in a centralist approach. As has been said many times in the Committee, we want to devolve power to those communities so that they may decide the best way forward. In working in partnership with the Minister on this document we have the opportunity to achieve that.

Our Minister will skilfully negotiate for appropriate allocations because it will take an increase in resources. I would be unrealistic if I did not say that. The Minister has made strong representations, as did her predecessor and others—including the First Secretary at the time—to the Treasury about changing the borrowing rate rule. Unfortunately, we did not succeed with that. That does not mean that she is not trying hard or that she is not totally committed. I compliment her on the work that she is doing. It is one thing to be in opposition and say, as Plaid does, that you could do it better. However, if we were to follow the Plaid scenario in a nationalist agenda, with independence there would be no stability, no security and no opportunity for the people of Wales. You could not raise the resources that we spend now. That is the reality of life. We must all work in partnership, because we are talking about

hawdurdodau lleol y gallwn gyflawni hyn oll. Talaf deyrnged i'w gwaith. Nid hwy sydd ar fai am y sefyllfa sydd ohoni heddiw. Nid ydynt wedi cael digon o adnoddau i'w galluogi i gynnal a chadw eiddo ers cymaint o amser. Dyna pam ei bod yn bwysig inni wynebu'r broblem hon a mynd i'r afael â hi. Drwy weithio gyda Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru a'r awdurdodau lleol hynny gallwn wella safonau ar gyfer pob un o'n tenantiaid. Mae'n bwysig y bydd yr arolygon o gyflwr tai a ariennir gennym o gymorth i'r cynlluniau adfywio yr ydym yn eu disgwyl gan yr awdurdodau lleol. Yr wyf yn siŵr y cânt eu rhoi ar waith. Ni ddylem roi canmoliaeth wag i'r awdurdodau lleol, Janet. Byddant yn ufuddhau, a byddant yn cefnogi hyn, am eu bod yn gwybod yr hyn a olyga i'r bobl yn eu cymunedau. Er mai dim ond 12 awdurdod sydd wedi cyhoeddi eu bwriadau hyd yma, yr wyf yn ffyddiog y bydd eraill yn ymrwymo i hyn gydag anogaeth y Gweinidog. Pwy sy'n adnabod yr ardal leol a'r stoc tai yn well na'r awdurdodau lleol? Yr ydym bob amser yn ceisio rhagweld amcanion y bobl y tu allan i'r Cynulliad. Fodd bynnag, ni chredaf mewn ymagwedd ganolog. Fel y dywedwyd llawer gwaith yn y Pwyllgor, yr ydym am ddatganoli pŵer i'r cymunedau hynny fel y gallant benderfynu ar y ffordd orau ymlaen. Drwy weithio mewn partneriaeth â'r Gweinidog ar y ddogfen hon, mae gennym gyfle i gyflawni hynny.

Bydd ein Gweinidog yn negodi'r dyraniadau priodol yn fedrus gan y bydd angen mwy o adnoddau. Byddwn yn afrealistig pe na bawn yn dweud hynny. Mae'r Gweinidog wedi cyflwyno sylwadau cryf, fel y gwnaeth ei rhagflaenydd ac eraill—yn cynnwys y Prif Ysgrifennydd ar y pryd—i'r Trysorlys ynghylch newid y rheol ar y gyfradd fenthyca. Yn anffodus, ni lwyddwyd i wneud hynny. Nid yw hynny'n golygu nad yw hi'n ymdrechu'n galed nac yn gwbl ymrwymedig. Yr wyf yn ei chanmol am y gwaith a wna. Mae'n hawdd bod yn llais gwrthwynebus a dweud, fel y dywed Plaid Cymru, y gellid gwneud yn well. Fodd bynnag, pe baem yn dilyn senario Plaid Cymru ac agenda'r cenedlaetholwyr, gydag annibyniaeth, ni fyddai unrhyw sefydlogrwydd, na diogelwch na chyfle i bobl Cymru. Ni ellid codi'r arian a wariwn yn awr. Dyna'r gwir amdani. Rhaid inni oll weithio mewn partneriaeth am mai

people's futures—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. Another reality, Peter, is that you are out of time.

Peter Law: If we are to give people the quality of life that they want from warm, modern, secure homes, this standard should be embraced by all of us in all parties.

David Lloyd: Datganaf fuddiant fel meddyg teulu a chynghorydd ar Gyngor Dinas a Sir Abertawe. Mae tŷ o ansawdd derbyniol yn hawl sylfaenol, fel y clywsom lawer tro. Dyna bwysigrwydd dogfen o'r fath. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn gweithredu ar ei geiriau clodwiw, fel y nododd Janet Ryder eisoes. Mae cysylltiad anochel rhwng tai gwael ac ystadegau iechyd gwael, sydd wedi'i nodi lawer tro.

I have two brief points. In paragraph 6 on page 6 of the document, it states that homes should be located in an estate layout. There are places where this is ideal. There are also places, particularly with existing housing, where insistence on this approach would not contribute to sustainability or community contentment. That is the rationale behind our amendment 4.

Secondly, on licensing, as has been said already, the development of a licensing scheme is the responsibility of each local authority should it choose to do so. Even when authorities follow this path and develop schemes, they are voluntary. Given the poor quality of some private, rented accommodation—not only multiple occupation houses, but other private, rented accommodation—it is now time to move to a licensing scheme that is set at a national level, that has teeth and is enforceable. That would do more than anything else to raise the standard of housing, particularly throughout the rented sector.

Ann Jones: I welcome this document and much of what has been said on standards for homes for people in Wales. I am pleased that there is reference to the need for mains-powered smoke detectors in all properties and

dyfodol pobl sydd yn y fantol—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Un peth arall sy'n wir, Peter, yw bod eich amser wedi dod i ben.

Peter Law: Er mwyn inni roi ansawdd bywyd y mae pobl yn ei ddymuno drwy gartrefi clyd, diogel a modern, dylai'r safon hon gael ei chroesawu gan bob un ohonom ym mhob plaid.

David Lloyd: I declare an interest as a general practitioner and as a councillor on Swansea City and County Council. A house of an acceptable standard is a basic right, as we have heard on many occasions. That is the importance of a document such as this. It is important that we act upon its laudable sentiments, as Janet Ryder has already stated. There is an unavoidable link between poor housing and poor health statistics, which has been noted often.

Hoffwn wneud dau bwynt byr. Ym mharagraff 6 ar dudalen 6 o'r ddogfen, nodir y dylid lleoli cartrefi ar gynllun ystad. Mae hyn yn ddelfrydol mewn rhai lleoedd. Mae lleoedd hefyd, yn enwedig o ran tai sy'n bodoli eisoes, lle na fyddem yn cyfrannu at gynaliadwyedd na boddhad cymuned pe baem yn mynnu'r ymagwedd hon. Dyna'r rhesymeg sy'n sail i'n gwelliant 4.

Yn ail, o ran trwyddedu, fel y dywedwyd eisoes, awdurdodau lleol sy'n gyfrifol am ddatblygu cynlluniau trwyddedu, pe baent yn dewis gwneud hynny. Hyd yn oed pan fydd awdurdodau yn dilyn y llwybr hwn ac yn datblygu cynlluniau, rhai gwirfoddol ydynt. O gofio ansawdd gwael llety wedi'i rentu mewn rhai achosion—nid yn unig tai amlfeddiant, ond mathau eraill o dai preifat wedi'u rhentu—mae'n bryd bellach symud tuag at gynllun trwyddedu ar lefel genedlaethol, cynllun sydd â phwerau ac y gellir ei orfodi. Byddai hynny yn well na dim byd arall i godi safon tai, yn enwedig ar draws y sector rhentu.

Ann Jones: Croesawaf y ddogfen hon a llawer o'r hyn a ddywedwyd ynglŷn â safonau ar gyfer cartrefi pobl yng Nghymru. Yr wyf yn falch o nodi y cyfeirir at yr angen i osod synwryddion mwg a weithredir o'r prif

on each floor. That is important. We have won the battle on smoke alarms because I think that most people now understand the need for them, in particular for hardwired or mains-powered smoke alarms rather than battery-powered ones.

I will move the debate on to discuss residential sprinkler systems. We should, perhaps, be focusing on these systems and making them our clarion call in terms of fire safety and safety in our homes. I highlight the work carried out by the fire services across Wales, but in particular by the north Wales fire service, which has embarked on a residential sprinkler system project following on from the work that was undertaken by the Local Government and Housing Committee and the recent publication of the 'Wired for Safety' report. The presentation on residential sprinkler systems that was held in the Assembly last year has, I hope, allayed people's fears that they would be presented with a New York-style system in which a whole house is automatically flooded when somebody burns toast. That is not the reality of a sprinkler system, as people will know. In fact, such systems use less water than is used by the fire service, but as a previous employee of the fire service, I do not advocate that people should not call it because of the amount of water that it would spray around. Far be it from me to say that that would be the case.

It is important that we consider moving away from battery-powered smoke alarms to mains-powered smoke alarms and residential sprinkler systems, which I believe to be the natural progression in terms of fire safety in our homes across Wales. I would like assurance from the Minister that these proposals will be carried forward in conjunction with partners such as the fire service and others.

Brian Gibbons: One of my tasks as an Assembly Deputy Minister is Chairing the steering group on devising a strategy for older people in Wales. There is no doubt that the housing issue is a big one that must be addressed by that strategy. I will make three brief points relating to that view. First, the right to a warm, dry house is important.

gyflenwad trydan ac ar bob llawr. Mae hynny yn bwysig. Yr ydym wedi ennill y frwydr ar synwryddion mwg am fod y rhan fwyaf o bobl yn deall erbyn hyn bod eu hangen arnynt, fe gredaf, yn enwedig synwryddion gwifredig neu rai a weithredir o'r brif gyflenwad trydan yn hytrach na rhai â batri.

Hoffwn symud ymlaen i drafod systemau taenellu mewn cartrefi. Dylem, o bosibl ganolbwyntio ar y systemau hyn a'u hybu fel ein prif ddull o ddiogelwch tân a diogelwch yn ein cartrefi. Hoffwn dynnu sylw at y gwaith a wna'r gwasanaethau tân ledled Cymru, ond yn enwedig gwasanaeth tân gogledd Cymru, a ddechreuodd brosiect y system daenellu mewn cartrefi yn dilyn y gwaith a wnaed gan y Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai a'r adroddiad o'r enw 'Wired for Safety' a gyhoeddwyd yn ddiweddar. Mae'r cyflwyniad ar systemau taenellu mewn cartrefi a roddwyd yn y Cynulliad y llynedd, wedi lleddfu ofnau pobl, gobeithio, y byddent yn cael system yn null systemau Efrog Newydd lle mae'r tŷ cyfan yn mynd dan ddŵr yn awtomig pan fydd rhywun yn llosgi'r tost. Nid yw hynny'n wir am system daenellu, fel y gŵyr pobl. Yn wir, mae'r systemau hynny yn defnyddio llai o ddŵr na'r gwasanaeth tân, ond fel un a fu'n gweithio i'r gwasanaeth tân, nid awgrymaf na ddylai pobl gysylltu â'r gwasanaeth oherwydd y dŵr y byddai'n ei daenellu yn y tŷ. Ni hoffwn awgrymu y byddai'n hynny'n wir, o bell ffordd.

Mae'n bwysig inni ystyried symud o larwm mwg â batris i larwm mwg a systemau taenellu mewn cartrefi a weithredir o'r prif gyflenwad trydan, a fydd yn ddatblygiad naturiol, fe gredaf, o ran diogelwch tân yn ein cartrefi ledled Cymru. Hoffwn gael sicrwydd gan y Gweinidog y caiff y cynigion hyn eu rhoi ar waith mewn cydweithrediad â phartneriaid megis y gwasanaeth tân ac eraill.

Brian Gibbons: Un o'm tasgau fel Dirprwy Weinidog yn y Cynulliad yw cadeirio'r grŵp llywio ar gyfer llunio strategaeth i bobl hŷn yng Nghymru. Nid oes amheuaeth bod tai yn fater pwysig y mae'n rhaid mynd i'r afael ag ef yn y strategaeth honno. Gwnaf dri phwynt byr mewn cysylltiad â'r farn honno. Yn gyntaf, mae'r hawl i dŷ cynnes, sych yn

Karen Sinclair highlighted the importance of the home energy efficiency scheme and winter fuel allowance. It is also important to underline the key issue of insulation standards in our houses to keep people warm, particularly older people. It is a great scandal in the UK that the temperature must only drop by one or two degrees in winter before there are hundreds of excess deaths every year, not only from hypothermia but from many other illnesses to which people are more prone in bad weather. That is in marked distinction to other European countries with colder and more hostile climates. As their housing is better adjusted to such climates, there is not the same variation in mortality, particularly in older people, as that of the UK. The standards outlined in this document, particularly in terms of insulation, are welcome and will make a contribution towards preventing those excess deaths.

Another issue for older people is that of personal security. The security standards in older people's homes are important to them in terms of being able to use peep-holes to see who is at the door and having chain locks to prevent unwelcome intruders. The recognition of the locality of a house, where young people cannot congregate and become an anti-social nuisance thereby undermining the quality of life of so many people, is also important. Older people are disproportionately affected by this type of anti-social activity.

5.00 p.m.

I would like to see more emphasis on the ability of modern housing to adapt to changing needs, namely a focus on lifelong design for houses. There is a general recognition of the importance of lifelong design for houses, but this document could have brought that need out a little more. The Minister could perhaps consider that in her response—possibly a little more emphasis on that, so that people, when they move into a house, have the flexibility in design, for example, to allow stair lifts and so forth to be installed as their needs change.

John Griffiths: I welcome this initiative to substantially improve housing in Wales. As

bwysig. Nododd Karen Sinclair bwysigrwydd y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref a'r lwfans tanwydd gaeaf. Mae'n bwysig hefyd nodi mater allweddol safonau inswleiddio yn ein cartrefi i sicrhau bod pobl yn gynnes, yn enwedig pobl hŷn. Mae'n warthus yn y DU bod cannoedd yn fwy o bobl yn marw bob blwyddyn pan fydd y tymheredd ond yn gostwng un neu ddwy radd yn ystod y gaeaf a hynny nid yn unig oherwydd hypothermia ond oherwydd sawl math arall o salwch y mae pobl yn fwy tebygol o ddiodeff ohonynt mewn tywydd gwael. Mae hynny'n wahanol iawn i wledydd Ewropeaidd eraill â hinsawdd oerach a llymach. Gan fod eu tai wedi'u haddasu'n well i hinsawdd o'r fath, ni cheir yr un amrywiad yn nifer y bobl sy'n marw, yn enwedig ymhlith pobl hŷn, ag sydd yn y DU. Mae'r safonau a nodir yn y ddogfen hon, yn enwedig o ran inswleiddio, i'w croesawu a gwnânt gyfraniad at atal y marwolaethau ychwanegol hynny.

Mater arall sydd o bwys i bobl hŷn yw diogelwch personol. Mae'r safonau diogelwch yng nghartrefi pobl hŷn yn bwysig iddynt o ran eu gallu i ddefnyddio cildyllau i weld pwy sydd wrth y drws a gosod cloeon â chadwyn i atal tresmaswyr rhag dod i mewn. Mae cydnabod lleoliad tŷ lle na all pobl ifanc ymgynnull ac ymddwyn yn wrth-gymdeithasol, a thrwy hynny danseilio ansawdd bywyd cymaint o bobl hefyd yn bwysig. Mae'r math hwn o ymddygiad gwrth-gymdeithasol yn effeithio ar bobl hŷn yn fwy na neb arall.

Hoffwn weld mwy o bwyslais ar y gallu i addasu tai modern i anghenion sy'n newid, sef pwyslais ar gynllun gydol oes ar gyfer tai. Cydnabyddir yn gyffredinol bwysigrwydd cynllun gydol oes ar gyfer tai, ond gallai'r ddogfen hon fod wedi ymhelaethu ar hynny. Efallai yr hoffai'r Gweinidog ystyried hynny yn ei hymateb—a rhoi ychydig mwy o bwyslais ar hynny o bosib, fel y bydd gan bobl wrth symud i mewn i dŷ, hyblygrwydd o ran cynllun, er enghraifft, i osod cadair esgyn wrth i'w hanghenion newid.

John Griffiths: Croesawaf y fenter hon i wella tai yng Nghymru yn sylweddol. Fel y

we all know, it is important right across the board—for health, education, and the general quality of life. As we also know, there is much to be done in Wales to improve the quality of housing.

I welcome the commitment to sustainability, inclusivity, and equality—all of these are basic rights that are cross-cutting in terms of the Assembly's responsibilities. I join others in urging Edwina to continue to press the case at every available opportunity for the Treasury to relax the rules with regard to local authorities borrowing against their housing stock. This is a big issue, which is brought to my attention again and again by my local authority. Edwina has been pressing for this, and I urge her to continue to do so.

I will mention three specific constituency issues. First, the redevelopment of prefabs in my constituency. Edwina is aware that good quality bungalows are being provided in place of prefabs. However, there is one big issue that people are unhappy about, and I have received hundreds of letters on this. It is the question of fair treatment for tenants, compared with owners, in terms of home-loss compensation. At the moment, there is a maximum threshold of £1,500 for tenants, whereas owner-occupiers can get 10 per cent of the market value of their property. In many cases, therefore, there is a huge disparity, although the inconvenience and the general difficulty involved is the same, be it a tenant or an owner. The thresholds have not changed since 1991. The Department for Transport, Local Government and the Regions is currently proposing reform for England. I would like us in Wales, prior to new primary legislation that would equalise the position between tenants and owners, to consult with a view to raising compensation levels as soon as possible by Assembly secondary legislation. Time is of the essence on this point. The prefab residents who are waiting for new bungalows in Newport East want to see these changes made, and made as quickly as possible. I would therefore like to know what the Assembly Government position is on that.

On the Alway council estate in my constituency, there is a regeneration project—

gŵyr pob un ohonom, mae'n bwysig i bob agwedd ar fywyd—iechyd, addysg ac ansawdd bywyd yn gyffredinol. Fel y gŵyr pob un ohonom hefyd, mae llawer i'w wneud yng Nghymru i wella ansawdd bywyd.

Croesawaf yr ymrwymiad i gynaliadwyedd, cynhwysedd a chyfartalwch—maent oll yn hawliau sylfaenol sy'n rhychwantu cyfrifoldebau'r Cynulliad. Ymunaf â'm cyd-Aelodau eraill i apelio ar Edwina i barhau i ddadlau'r achos ar bob cyfle posibl gyda'r Trysorlys dros lacio'r rheolau o ran awdurdodau lleol yn benthyca yn erbyn eu stoc tai. Mae hwn yn fater pwysig, ac mae fy awdurdod lleol tynnu'm sylw ato dro ar ôl tro. Bu Edwina yn pwysu am hyn, ac fe'i hanogaf i barhau i wneud hynny.

Crybwyllaf dri mater etholaethol penodol. Yn gyntaf, ailddatblygu tai parod yn fy etholaeth. Mae Edwina yn ymwybodol bod byngalos o ansawdd da yn cael eu darparu yn lle'r tai parod. Fodd bynnag, mae un mater pwysig y mae pobl yn anfodlon yn ei gylch, ac yr wyf wedi cael cannoedd o lythyrau ar hyn sef trin tenantiaid a pherchnogion yn gyfartal o ran iawndal oherwydd colli cartref. Ar hyn o bryd, mae uchafswm trothwy o £1,500 ar gyfer tenantiaid, tra bod perchen-ddeiliaid yn gallu hawlio 10 y cant o werth eu heiddo ar y farchnad. Mewn llawer o achosion, felly, mae amrywiaeth mawr, er bod pobl, boed yn denantiaid, neu'n berchnogion, yn wynebu'r un anghyfleustra ac anawsterau cyffredinol. Nid yw'r trothwyon wedi newid ers 1991. Mae'r Adran Drafnidiaeth, Llywodraeth Leol a'r Rhanbarthau yn cynnig diwygiadau yn Lloegr ar hyn o bryd. Hoffwn pe baem ni yng Nghymru, cyn cyflwyno deddfwriaeth sylfaenol newydd a fyddai'n sicrhau bod tenantiaid a pherchnogion yn cael eu trin yn gyfartal, yn ymgynghori gyda'r bwriad o godi lefel yr iawndal mor fuan â phosibl drwy is-ddeddfwriaeth y Cynulliad. Ni ellir oedi ar y pwynt hwn. Mae pobl sy'n byw yn y tai parod ac yn aros am fyngalos newydd yn Nwyrain Casnewydd am weld y newidiadau hyn yn cael eu gwneud, a hynny mor fuan â phosibl. Felly hoffwn wybod beth yw safbwynt Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ar hynny.

Ar ystod tai cyngor Alway yn fy etholaeth, mae prosiect adfywio—

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I was under the impression, following the ruling by the Presiding Officer earlier this afternoon, that Deputy Ministers were included in the Assembly Government. I am rather bemused, therefore, that you are asking for the views of the Assembly Government on this issue. You are part of the Assembly Government and should be in a position to offer those views rather than seeking them from, I presume, the Assembly Cabinet, which is a different body to the Assembly Government, according to the ruling that we had earlier this afternoon.

John Griffiths: You should know from the general guidelines, Rhodri, that it is clearly set out that on some occasions Deputy Ministers speak as Deputy Ministers when they state that that is the case. On other occasions, and obviously with respect to constituency issues, it is otherwise.

A substantial scheme is ongoing on the Alway council estate whereby the local authority is working with the Assembly to improve not only the quality of housing, but of the whole environment, and build community capacity. It is an impressive scheme. I highlight it in terms of the important points that the tenants have raised—they see that there must be improvements to the housing quality if the whole scheme is to be sustainable and hang together. Improving the quality of housing is vital, and we must always keep that at the forefront of our minds. I am pleased that this debate enables us to do that.

My final point involves a third local issue which, like the others, is generally applicable across Wales. It relates to the part of the scheme that refers to attractive and safe environments. One significant issue that has been brought to my attention is abandoned cars. If we can deal effectively with that issue, it will lead to cleaner streets and safer communities. It will also reduce the temptation of crime, fear of crime and crime itself, as well as boosting pride in neighbourhoods. A consultation scheme on reducing red tape to allow local authorities to deal with this problem quicker is ongoing in

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Cefais yr argraff, yn dilyn dyfarniad y Llywydd yn gynharach y prynhawn yma, fod Dirprwy Weinidogion yn rhan o Lywodraeth y Cynulliad. Felly yr wyf yn synnu braidd eich bod yn gofyn am farn Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ar y mater hwn. Yr ydych yn rhan o Lywodraeth y Cynulliad a dylech fod mewn sefyllfa i gynnig y sylwadau hynny yn hytrach na'u ceisio gan Gabinet y Cynulliad, mae'n debyg, sy'n gorff gwahanol i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad, yn ôl y dyfarniad a roddwyd inni yn gynharach y prynhawn yma.

John Griffiths: Dylech wybod o'r canllawiau cyffredinol, Rhodri, ei bod wedi'i nodi'n glir bod Dirprwy Weinidogion yn siarad fel Dirprwy Weinidogion ar adegau pan fyddant yn nodi mai yn rhinwedd y swydd honno y maent yn siarad. Ar adegau eraill, ac yn amlwg, mewn cysylltiad â materion etholaethol, mae'r gwrthwyneb yn wir.

Mae cynllun o bwys yn mynd rhagddo ar ystad tai cyngor Alway lle mae'r awdurdod lleol yn gweithio gyda'r Cynulliad i wella nid yn unig ansawdd tai, ond yr amgylchedd cyfan, gan ddatblygu'r gymuned. Mae'n gynllun ardderchog. Tynnaf sylw ato yn nhermau'r pwyntiau pwysig a godwyd gan y tenantiaid—gwelant fod yn rhaid gwella ansawdd tai er mwyn i'r cynllun cyfan fod yn gynaliadwy ac yn gydlynus. Mae gwella ansawdd tai yn hollbwysig, a rhaid inni gadw hynny mewn cof bob amser. Yr wyf yn falch bod y ddadl hon yn fodd inni wneud hynny.

Mae fy mhwynt olaf yn ymwneud â'm trydydd mater lleol, sydd fel y lleill, yn berthnasol yn gyffredinol i bob rhan o Gymru. Mae'n ymwneud â'r rhan o'r cynllun sy'n cyfeirio at amgylchedd deniadol a diogel. Un mater o bwys a dynnwyd i'm sylw yw ceir wedi'u gadael. Os gallwn ymdrin â'r mater hwnnw yn effeithiol, bydd yn arwain at strydoedd glanach a chymunedau mwy diogel. Bydd hefyd yn lleihau'r temtasiwn i droseddu, ofn troseddau a nifer y troseddau a gyflawnir, yn ogystal â gwneud i bobl ymfalchïo'n fwy yn eu cymunedau. Mae cynllun ymgynghorol ar leihau biwrocratiaeth

England. This is not directly relevant to housing, but it is relevant to part of the programme that refers to attractive and safe environments. Could a consultation scheme on this issue be taken forward as quickly as possible in Wales?

Peter Black: I declare an interest as a councillor in Swansea City and County Council.

Peter Law: Are you a Minister? [*Laughter.*]

Peter Black: The condition of the Welsh housing stock has been a major concern since the National Assembly was established, and prior to that. It is a credit to the National Assembly Government that it has taken the issue seriously and has started to introduce measures to put it right. A range of measures have been introduced. We have increased the amount of capital resources available to local councils for housing by £41 million over the next three years. That is the first such increase since the early 1990s. We have also produced a comprehensive housing strategy, which has been referred to several times during the debate. It is aimed at raising the quality of the housing stock in Wales. The much-improved Welsh home energy efficiency scheme has also been mentioned, as has stock transfer. We are developing a distinctive community mutual model of housing stock transfer to enable us to attract sufficient resources to improve the council housing stock while empowering tenants.

The Welsh housing quality standard fits into that pattern of measures to drive up the standard of public sector homes in Wales. The assessment of the condition of the public sector housing stock, which forms part of it, and the introduction of local housing strategies are essential management tools to guide investment decisions and to enable well-informed decisions by landlords and tenants on their futures. We have already issued guidance on this, and we are helping local councils to fund the necessary surveys. Janet Ryder referred to a need for a national survey. Plaid Cymru must make up its mind. Does it believe in local democracy and local

er mwyn i awdurdodau lleol ymdrin â'r broblem hon yn gyflymach yn mynd rhagddo yn Lloegr. Nid yw hyn yn berthnasol yn uniongyrchol i dai, ond mae'n berthnasol i'r rhan o'r rhaglen sy'n cyfeirio at amgylchedd deniadol a diogel. A ellid datblygu cynllun ymgynghorol ar y mater hwn mor fuan â phosibl yng Nghymru?

Peter Black: Datganaf fuddiant fel cynghorydd yng Nghyngor Dinas a Sir Abertawe.

Peter Law: Ai Gweinidog ydych chi? [*Chwerthin.*]

Peter Black: Bu cyflwr stoc tai Cymru yn achosi pryder mawr ers sefydlu'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, a chyn hynny. Mae'n glod i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ei bod wedi cymryd y mater o ddifrif ac wedi dechrau cyflwyno mesurau i unioni'r sefyllfa. Cyflwynwyd ystod o fesurau. Yr ydym wedi cynyddu'r adnoddau cyfalaf sydd ar gael i gynghorau lleol ar gyfer tai o £41 miliwn dros y tair blynedd nesaf. Dyma'r cynnydd cyntaf o'r fath ers dechrau'r 1990au. Yr ydym hefyd wedi llunio strategaeth dai gynhwysfawr, a grybwyllwyd sawl gwaith yn ystod y ddadl. Ei nod yw codi safon stoc tai Cymru. Crybwyllwyd hefyd y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref sydd llawer gwell erbyn hyn, a throsglwyddo stoc hefyd. Yr ydym yn datblygu model cyd-gymunedol unigryw o drosglwyddo stoc tai er mwyn inni ddenu digon o adnoddau i wella stoc tai cyngor tra'n grymuso tenantiaid.

Mae safon ansawdd tai Cymru yn gweddu i'r patrwm hwnnw o fesurau i sicrhau cartrefi o well safon yn y sector cyhoeddus yng Nghymru. Mae asesu cyflwr stoc tai'r sector cyhoeddus, sy'n rhan ohono, a chyflwyno strategaethau tai lleol yn ddulliau rheoli hanfodol i lywio penderfyniadau ar fuddsoddi ac i alluogi landlordiaid a thenantiaid i wneud penderfyniadau hyddysg at y dyfodol. Yr ydym eisoes wedi cyhoeddi canllawiau ar hyn, ac yr ydym yn helpu cynghorau lleol i ariannu'r arolygon angenrheidiol. Cyfeiriodd Janet Ryder at yr angen am arolwg cenedlaethol. Rhaid i Blaid Cymru benderfynu. A yw'n credu mewn

services, or does it want to enforce a national standard throughout Wales? It cannot have it both ways.

Janet Davies: Did you understand that what Janet Ryder said was that we are happy with local surveys but that they should adhere to national guidelines and consistent standards? That is different to calling for a national survey.

Peter Black: That was not what I heard Janet Ryder say. However, if you say that that is what she said, I accept it. There are standards for these surveys but, in the past, Plaid Cymru has promoted a national survey. That is inconsistent with its call for local democracy.

It is important that this standard forms part of an overarching strategy. Our vision for housing in the Welsh housing strategy stresses our commitment to good quality, affordable housing, to choice and to a mixed housing sector. The need to establish a licensing scheme for privately rented accommodation and the new fitness standard that may go hand in hand with that is crucial. If we also want to promote choice, it would help if local councils could borrow on the same terms as registered social landlords. That requires changes to the public sector borrowing requirement.

Both of those issues require action at a UK Government level. Ministers in the UK Government are in no doubt as to where the National Assembly stands on these matters and what we want and need for Wales. There are also changes in hand to the grant regime to help owner-occupiers. Despite the implication in Jonathan Morgan's amendment, the Assembly has not forgotten the private sector.

We have discussed issues such as the reform of the public sector borrowing requirement ad nauseam in the Assembly, and I see little point in repeating ourselves. Everyone is clear on where we stand, and delivery must now be the key issue. We are restricted by the resources available to us and our powers, but

democratiaeth leol a gwasanaethau lleol, neu a hoffai orfodi safon genedlaethol ledled Cymru? Nid oes modd cael y ddau.

Janet Davies: A ddeallasoch mai'r hyn a ddywedodd Janet Ryder oedd ein bod yn fodlon ar arolygon lleol ond y dylent gadw at ganllawiau cenedlaethol a safonau cyson? Mae hynny yn wahanol i alw am arolwg cenedlaethol.

Peter Black: Nid dyna'r hyn a glywais i gan Janet Ryder. Fodd bynnag, os dywedwch mai hynny a ddywedodd, fe'i derbynïaf. Mae safonau ar gyfer yr arolygon hyn, ond yn y gorffennol bu Plaid Cymru yn hyrwyddo arolwg cenedlaethol. Mae hynny yn anghyson â'r galw a wna am ddemocratiaeth leol.

Mae'n bwysig bod y safon hon yn rhan o strategaeth gyffredinol. Mae ein gweledigaeth ar gyfer tai yn y strategaeth dai i Gymru yn pwysleisio ein hymrwymiad i dai fforddiadwy o safon, i ddewis ac i sector tai cymysg. Mae'r angen i sefydlu cynllun trwyddedu ar gyfer llety wedi'i rentu yn breifat a'r safon addasrwydd newydd a fydd yn mynd law yn llaw â hynny o bosibl, yn hollbwysig. Os ydym am hyrwyddo dewis hefyd, byddai o gymorth pe gallai cynghorau lleol fenthycu ar yr un telerau â landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig. Mae hynny yn gofyn am newid gofyniad benthycu'r sector cyhoeddus.

Mae'r ddau fater hyn yn gofyn am weithredu ar lefel Llywodraeth y DU. Gŵyr Gweinidogion yn Llywodraeth y DU beth yw safbwynt y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ar y materion hyn a'r hyn y mae ei heisiau a'i hangen arnom i Gymru. Mae newidiadau hefyd ar y gweill i'r drefn grantiau er mwyn helpu perchen-ddeiliaid. Er gwaethaf yr awgrym yng ngwelliant Jonathan Morgan, nid yw'r Cynulliad wedi anghofio'r sector preifat.

Yr ydym wedi trafod materion megis diwygio gofyniad benthycu'r sector cyhoeddus hyd at syrffed yn y Cynulliad, ac ni welaf fod fawr o bwynt ailadrodd hynny. Gŵyr pawb beth yw ein safbwynt, a rhaid mai cyflwyno yw'r mater allweddol yn awr. Mae'r adnoddau sydd ar gael inni a'n pwerau yn ein cyfyngu,

we are not here as a debating society, as the Plaid amendment implies, but to improve the quality of people's lives. We are doing that slowly but surely, and this measure is one more step in that direction.

5:10 p.m.

The phraseology of William Graham's amendment is obscure, but I believe that it contains a clear reference to Conservative housing policies in the 1980s and 1990s, when the only game in town was owner occupation and the social housing sector was left to rot. Of course, housing is so important now, particularly to the Conservatives, yet it did not even feature in their 2001 general election manifesto. However, it was under a Conservative Government that the decline in investment in public sector housing began. Councils' freedom to invest in their housing stock was curtailed and registered social landlords were sent to the money markets to raise cash for new homes.

David Davies: I thank the Deputy Minister, the Member for Swansea, or whoever he is at the moment, for giving way. It has been statistically proven time after time that the majority of people seek to buy their own houses. The last Conservative Government enabled vast numbers of people to buy their own houses. That would have been denied to them had any other political party been running this country.

Peter Black: As a result of that policy, rural housing suffered particularly badly because of a shortage of homes, investment in council and public sector housing decreased considerably, and there was a record number of repossessions. We must take that into account.

ond ni ddeuwn yma fel cymdeithas ddadlau, fel yr awgryma gwelliant Plaid Cymru, ond i wella ansawdd bywydau pobl. Gwnawn hynny fesul cam, ac mae'r mesur hwn yn gam arall i'r cyfeiriad hwnnw.

Mae geiriad gwelliant William Graham yn amwys, ond credaf iddo gynnwys cyfeiriad amlwg at bolisiau tai'r Ceidwadwyr yn y 1980au a'r 1990au pan oedd percheddeiliadaeth yn tra-arglwyddiaethu a gadawyd y sector tai cymdeithasol i bydru. Wrth gwrs, mae tai mor bwysig bellach, yn enwedig i'r Ceidwadwyr, ac eto nis crybwyllwyd yn eu maniffesto ar gyfer etholiad cyffredinol 2001. Fodd bynnag, o dan Lywodraeth Geidwadol y dechreuodd y buddsoddiad yn y sector tai cyhoeddus ostwng. Cyfyngwyd ar ryddid cynghorau i fuddsoddi yn eu stoc tai ac anfonwyd landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig i'r marchnadoedd arian i godi arian am dai newydd.

David Davies: Diolchaf i'r Dirprwy Weinidog, yr Aelod dros Abertawe, neu pwy bynnag ydyw ar hyn o bryd, am ildio. Profwyd yn ystadegol dro ar ôl tro bod y mwyafrif o bobl yn ceisio prynu eu cartrefi eu hunain. Yr oedd y Llywodraeth Geidwadol ddiwethaf wedi galluogi nifer fawr iawn o bobl i brynu eu cartrefi eu hunain. Ni fyddent wedi cael y cyfle hwnnw pe bai unrhyw blaid wleidyddol arall wedi bod mewn grym.

Peter Black: O ganlyniad i'r polisi hwnnw, bu'r sector tai gwledig yn arbennig yn dioddef yn enbyd oherwydd prinder cartrefi, bu gostyngiad sylweddol mewn buddsoddi mewn tai cyngor a thai'r sector cyhoeddus, a chafwyd y nifer uchaf erioed o achosion o ailfeddiannu tai. Rhaid inni ystyried hynny.

The fact is that we cannot afford to be ideological about housing tenure, investment or standards. That applies to those who think that they know what is best for their tenants, as well as those who ask them to hand over social housing to the private sector. Good quality housing is key to so many of our policies on social inclusion, good health, sustainability and economic development. I am happy to support this motion as another practical advance towards that goal.

The Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities (Edwina Hart): First, I will deal with the amendments. Amendment 1, in the name of Jonathan Morgan, is already catered for through the current building regulations, which set the standards for new private sector homes and also local authorities who reflect demographics in their strategic assessments. In relation to Janet Davies's point, you cannot steal my clothes on this issue—it is I who wanted building regulations before any opposition party suggested it. I keenly want that matter devolved to me in the National Assembly.

Amendment 2, in the name of Jocelyn Davies, does not account for the fact that the standard already applies to registered social landlords who are well on their way to achieving it. As far as private landlords are concerned, we do not have the necessary powers to require them to achieve this standard. However, I am currently consulting on licensing. Dai Lloyd and Janet Ryder are behind the game on this. I am consulting on what could be introduced and included so that the achievement of the standard could be a condition of granting a licence. All these issues are in hand.

Amendment 3 concerns technical issues which are already addressed in the standard and guidance issued to local authorities on stock condition surveys in 2001.

Regarding amendment 4, in the name of Jocelyn Davies, there are again several technical issues addressed in guidance documents that we have already issued. In

Y gwir amdani yw na fyddai'n talu inni fod yn ideolegol ynglŷn â daliadaeth tai, buddsoddi na safonau. Mae hynny yn berthnasol i'r rhai sy'n credu eu bod yn gwybod beth sydd orau i'w tenantiaid, yn ogystal â'r rhai sy'n gofyn iddynt drosglwyddo tai cymdeithasol i'r sector preifat. Mae tai o ansawdd da yn allweddol i gymaint o'n polisïau ar gynhwysedd cymdeithasol, iechyd da, cynaliadwyedd a datblygu economaidd. Yr wyf yn barod i gefnogi'r cynnig hwn fel datblygiad ymarferol arall tuag at y nod hwnnw.

Y Gweinidog dros Gyllid, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau (Edwina Hart): Yn gyntaf, ymdriniaf â'r gwelliannau. Cwmpesir gwelliant 1, yn enw Jonathan Morgan, eisoes drwy'r rheoliadau adeiladu presennol, sy'n nodi'r safonau ar gyfer cartrefi newydd yn y sector preifat a hefyd awdurdodau lleol sy'n adlewyrchu demograffeg yn eu hasesiadau strategol. Ynglŷn â phwynt Janet Davies, ni allwch ddwyn fy syniadau i ar y mater hwn—fi oedd am gael rheoliadau adeiladu cyn i unrhyw wrthblaid awgrymu hynny. Yr wyf yn awyddus iawn i'r mater hwnnw gael ei ddatganoli imi yn y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol.

Nid yw gwelliant 2, yn enw Jocelyn Davies, yn ystyried y ffaith bod y safon eisoes yn berthnasol i landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig sydd ar eu ffordd i gyrraedd y nod hwnnw. O ran landlordiaid preifat, nid oes gennym y pwerau angenrheidiol i'w gwneud yn ofynnol iddynt gyrraedd y safon hon. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn ymgynghori ar hyn o bryd ynglŷn â thrwyddedu. Mae Dai Lloyd a Janet Ryder ar ei hôl hi o ran hynny. Yr wyf yn ymgynghori ynglŷn â'r hyn y gellid ei gyflwyno a'i gynnwys fel y gallai cyrraedd y safon fod yn un o'r amodau trwydded. Mae'r holl faterion hyn dan sylw.

Mae gwelliant 3 yn ymwneud â materion technegol yr ymdrinnir â hwy eisoes yn y safon a'r canllawiau a roddwyd i'r awdurdodau lleol ar arolygon o gyflwr stoc yn 2001.

O ran gwelliant 4, yn enw Jocelyn Davies, ymdrinnir unwaith eto â sawl mater technegol yn nogfennau'r canllawiau a gyhoeddwyd gennym eisoes. Yn ogystal, yr ydym wrthi'n

addition, we are currently working on further detail and guidance on the application of the standard in relation to this issue.

As far as amendment 5 is concerned, Peter Black expressed it well, we have continually made the necessary representations to the UK Government on public spending for policy areas. When the opportunity arises I will continue to do so, but it is not necessary to reiterate that as a debating point for this discussion.

I welcome the broad support that William gave in many key areas for the policy. There is broad agreement in the Assembly on the importance of housing. It has been a pleasure to discuss these issues in the Local Government and Housing Committee, because there is a general understanding of the importance of the housing agenda. However, I agree with Peter Black, in that I do not think that there should be dogma in the definition of home ownership. We must provide a choice and we must understand that people value the choice that they make. It is also important to recognise the important contribution made by local government in identifying local solutions. That relates to the point made by Peter Law.

Janet Davies is right that it would be nice if the seven principles listed on page 2 of the document were self-evident and real. We must discuss some of these issues. Unfortunately, housing has been on the back foot for a long time in terms of government priorities. I am delighted that it is a priority for the administration in the National Assembly, and will continue to be so.

Janet alluded to the prudential borrowing that is to be introduced, and that is to be welcomed in the Government's White Paper. However, I do not think that that will be a panacea to all the housing ills. That is why it is important that we continue to examine and undertake further work on the community mutual options.

Important points on heating were made by Karen Sinclair and Brian Gibbons. We must take the opportunity to improve the scheme when we can, and I will take Karen's points on board. I have received much

gweithio ar fanylion a chanllawiau pellach ar gyfer cymhwyso'r safon mewn perthynas â'r mater hwn.

O ran gwelliant 5, eglurodd Peter Black y sefyllfa yn dda, yr ydym wedi bod yn cyflwyno'r sylwadau sydd eu hangen i Lywodraeth y DU ar wariant cyhoeddus ar gyfer meysydd polisi dro ar ôl tro. Byddaf yn parhau i wneud hynny ar bob cyfle, ond nid oes angen pwysleisio hynny fel pwynt dadlau ar gyfer y drafodaeth hon.

Croesawaf gefnogaeth gyffredinol William i sawl maes allweddol o'r polisi. Mae cytundeb cyffredinol yn y Cynulliad ynglŷn â phwysigrwydd tai. Bu'n bleser trafod y materion hyn yn y Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai, am fod pawb yn gyffredinol yn deall pwysigrwydd yr agenda tai. Fodd bynnag, cytunaf â Peter Black, yn yr ystyr na ddylem fod yn ddogmatig wrth ddiffinio perchenogaeth cartrefi. Rhaid inni roi dewis a rhaid inni ddeall bod pobl yn gwerthfawrogi'r dewis a wnânt. Mae'n bwysig hefyd cydnabod cyfraniad pwysig llywodraeth leol wrth nodi atebion lleol. Mae hyn yn gysylltiedig â phwynt Peter Law.

Mae Janet Davies yn gywir i ddweud y byddai'n braf pe bai'r saith egwyddor a restrir ar dudalen 2 y ddogfen yn amlwg ohonynt eu hunain ac yn real. Rhaid inni drafod rhai o'r materion hyn. Yn anffodus, bu tai yn isel ar restr blaenoriaethau'r llywodraeth ers amser. Yr wyf yn falch ei fod yn flaenoriaeth i weinyddiaeth y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, ac bydd yn parhau i fod.

Cyfeiriodd Janet at y benthyca darbodus sydd i'w gyflwyno, ac mae hynny i'w groesawu ym Mhapur Gwyn y Llywodraeth. Fodd bynnag, ni chredaf y bydd yn datrys pob problem ym maes tai. Dyna pam ei bod yn bwysig inni barhau i ystyried a gwneud gwaith pellach ar yr opsiynau cyd-gymunedol.

Gwnaeth Karen Sinclair a Brian Gibbons bwyntiau pwysig ar wresogi. Rhaid inni fachu ar y cyfle i wella'r cynllun lle bo modd, a byddaf yn ystyried pwyntiau Karen. Cefais lawer o lythyrau gan Aelodau yn awgrymu

correspondence from Members suggesting improvements to this home energy efficiency scheme, and I will review the scheme in light of these comments.

Ann Jones alluded to the important work that we have undertaken with the fire services and others on hardwire smoke alarms and sprinkler systems. I wish to continue this work with the fire service. I met the North Wales Fire Authority before Christmas and it was delighted with the work that the Assembly is undertaking and the commitment we are showing to addressing these issues. We can tell ourselves that we are taking a lead in the UK in this area, and we must continue to do so. Perhaps if these policies had been operational, some of the tragic deaths that have occurred recently may not have occurred. That is the importance of the strategy. It will deliver something on the ground that can save people or improve their lives.

I also think that it is important, as Brian said, that we examine the issue of flexibility in housing and the idea of a house as a lifetime home, so that your house suits your needs when you are young and have a family and also enables you to cope when you are older. That is a key area of policy within the housing strategy.

On John Griffiths's comments, everybody in the Chamber could allude to issues in their constituency because housing is an issue for all of us. I am aware of the prefabricated housing issue, and I am currently considering this.

On abandoned cars, there are good initiatives in Wales. One such initiative is that in which Swansea City and County Council is involved. We hope that these good practices that are emerging across local government in conjunction with other partners can be merged across Wales.

We know that there are many challenges in this document, and that it will be a difficult agenda to drive forward, but the important thing is that through the Welsh housing quality standard we are embarking upon the important first step towards improving people's lives.

gwelliannau i'r cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref hwn, a byddaf yn adolygu'r cynllun yng ngoleuni'r sylwadau hyn.

Cyfeiriodd Ann Jones at bwysigrwydd y gwaith a wnaethom gyda'r gwasanaethau tân ac eraill ynglŷn â synwryddion mwg gwifredig a systemau taenellu. Hoffwn barhau â'r gwaith hwn gyda'r gwasanaeth tân. Cyfarfûm ag Awdurdod Tân Gogledd Cymru cyn y Nadolig ac yr oedd yn fodlon iawn ar waith y Cynulliad yn hyn o beth a'n hymrwymiad i fynd i'r afael â'r materion hyn. Gallwn ddweud ein bod yn arwain y DU yn y maes hwn, a rhaid inni barhau i wneud hyn. Pe bai'r polisïau hyn wedi bod ar waith mae'n bosibl na fyddai rhai o'r bobl a fu farw o dan amgylchiadau trychinebus yn ddiweddar wedi marw. Dyna bwysigrwydd y strategaeth. Bydd yn cyflwyno rhywbeth ar lawr gwlad a all achub neu wella bywydau pobl.

Credaf hefyd ei bod yn bwysig, fel y dywedodd Brian, inni ystyried mater hyblygrwydd tai a'r syniad o dŷ fel cartref am oes, fel bod eich cartref yn gweddu i'ch anghenion pan ydych yn ifanc gyda theulu a hefyd yn eich galluogi i ymdopi pan fyddwch yn hŷn. Mae hwn yn faes polisi allweddol o fewn y strategaeth dai.

Ynglŷn â sylwadau John Griffiths, gallai pawb yn y Siambr grybwyll materion yn eu hetholaeth am fod tai yn fater i bawb ohonom. Yr wyf yn ymwybodol o'r broblem sy'n gysylltiedig â thai parod, ac yr wyf yn ei hystyried ar hyn o bryd.

Ynglŷn â cheir wedi'u gadael, mae mentrau da ar waith yng Nghymru. Un fenter o'r fath yw menter Cyngor Dinas a Sir Abertawe. Gobeithiwn y bydd modd uno'r holl arferion da sy'n dod i'r amlwg ar draws llywodraeth leol ledled Cymru mewn cydweithrediad â phartneriaid eraill.

Gwyddom fod llawer o heriau yn y ddogfen hon, a bydd yn agenda anodd i'w datblygu, ond yr hyn sy'n bwysig yw ein bod, drwy safon ansawdd tai Cymru, yn dechrau cymryd y cam pwysig cyntaf tuag at wella bywydau pobl.

*Gwelliant 1: O blaid 7, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 44.
Amendment 1: For 7, Abstain 0, Against 44.*

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

Bourne, Nick
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Graham, William
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Rogers, Peter

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:
The following Members voted against:

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Geraint
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Davies, Ron
Edwards, Richard
Essex, Sue
Evans, Delyth
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Halford, Alison
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Jarman, Pauline
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty
Williams, Phil

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 2: O blaid 19, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 32.
Amendment 2: For 19, Abstain 0, Against 32.*

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

Bourne, Nick
Davies, David
Davies, Geraint
Davies, Glyn

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:
The following Members voted against:

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor

Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Graham, William
 Jarman, Pauline
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Gareth
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lloyd, David
 Melding, David
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Rogers, Peter
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Phil

Butler, Rosemary
 Chapman, Christine
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, Ron
 Edwards, Richard
 Essex, Sue
 Evans, Delyth
 German, Michael
 Gibbons, Brian
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Halford, Alison
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Middlehurst, Tom
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Williams, Kirsty

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 3: O blaid 19, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 31.
 Amendment 3: For 19, Abstain 0, Against 31.*

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

Bourne, Nick
 Davies, David
 Davies, Geraint
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Graham, William
 Jarman, Pauline
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Gareth
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lloyd, David
 Melding, David
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Rogers, Peter
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Phil

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:
 The following Members voted against:

Barrett, Lorraine
 Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Butler, Rosemary
 Chapman, Christine
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, Ron
 Edwards, Richard
 Essex, Sue
 Evans, Delyth
 German, Michael
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gwyther, Christine
 Halford, Alison
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Middlehurst, Tom
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny

Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda
Williams, Kirsty

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 4: O blaid 19, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 32.
Amendment 4: For 19, Abstain 0, Against 32.*

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

Bourne, Nick
Davies, David
Davies, Geraint
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Graham, William
Jarman, Pauline
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Rogers, Peter
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Phil

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:
The following Members voted against:

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Ron
Edwards, Richard
Essex, Sue
Evans, Delyth
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Halford, Alison
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, Val
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda
Williams, Kirsty

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 5: O blaid 12, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 39.
Amendment 5: For 12, Abstain 0, Against 39.*

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

Davies, Geraint
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Jarman, Pauline
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Ryder, Janet

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:
The following Members voted against:

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew

Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Phil

Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Ron
Edwards, Richard
Essex, Sue
Evans, Delyth
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Halford, Alison
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Rogers, Peter
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda
Williams, Kirsty

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

*Cynnig: O blaid 49, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 2.
Motion: For 49, Abstain 0, Against 2.*

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

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Geraint
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Davies, Ron
Edwards, Richard
Essex, Sue
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Jarman, Pauline
Jones, Ann

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:
The following Members voted against:

Evans, Delyth
Halford, Alison

Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Rogers, Peter
Ryder, Janet
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty
Williams, Phil

Derbyniwyd y cynnig.

Motion carried.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: That brings today's proceedings to a close. **Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Daw hynny â chyfarfod heddiw i ben.

Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 5.17 p.m.

The session ended at 5.17 p.m.

