

Cofnod y Trafodion

The Record of Proceedings

19/03/2014

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Cyfarfu'r Cynulliad am 13:30 gyda'r Llywydd (Y Fonesig Rosemary Butler) yn y Gadair.

The Assembly met at 13:30 with the Presiding Officer (Dame Rosemary Butler) in the Chair.

13:30	Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	Good afternoon. The National Assembly for Wales is now in session.	Prynhawn da. Mae Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn awr yn eistedd.

Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol

Ysbyty Llwynhelyg

Questions to the Minister for Health and Social Services

Withybush Hospital

13:30	Angela Burns Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	1. A wnaiffy Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am safbwyt Llywodraeth Cymru ar y gwasanaethau presennol yn Ysbyty Llwynhelyg, yn dilyn ei gyfarfod gyda'r Tim Gweithredu i Achub Ysbyty Llwynhelyg? OAQ(4)0408(HSS)	1. Will the Minister provide an update on the Welsh Government's position on the current services at Withybush Hospital, further to his meeting with the Save Withybush Action Team? OAQ(4)0408(HSS)

13:30	Mark Drakeford Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol / The Minister for Health and Social Services	Diolch. Nid wyf wedi cael unrhyw gyfarfod o'r fath. Ar yr amod ei fod yn gallu addasu i amodau sy'n newid, mae dyfodol diogel a llwyddiannus i ysbyty Llwynhelyg.

13:31

Angela Burns [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for that answer, Minister. I would like to express my apologies for clumsily tabling this question, but it was very difficult to get it out. I understand that you met a number of people who came up with the Save Withybush Action Team when they came and demonstrated on the steps of the Senedd. I am interested to know, as are they, whether the concerns that they raised with you have in any way led to you changing some or part of your policy or analysis of the situation. Furthermore, what undertakings are you able to give them that, in turn, can be passed on to the people who came up as to the safety net that might be spread out before services are changed?

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13:31

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank Angela Burns for that question. She is absolutely right to say that I met a group of people, led by Joyce Watson and Rebecca Evans. There were people there who were members of the Save Withybush Action Team, I have no doubt, but that is not the capacity in which I met them. I was very impressed indeed by the people I met. I was impressed by their sincerity, by their commitment to their local services, and by their knowledge of the services that are provided.

In the end, I had to explain to them the expert basis on which my decision was based, and that I was unable to revisit that decision. What I did undertake to do—and will do—is to ensure that their concerns about the implementation of the decision, and the safety net arrangements that I outlined on the floor of the Assembly when I made my decision, are fully implemented by the local health board. I will ensure that my officials work very closely with them to make sure that those safeguards are fully honoured.

Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Hoffwn fynegi fy ymddiheuriadau am gyflwyno'r cwestiwn hwn yn drwsol, ond roedd yn anodd iawn ei gyfleo. Deallaf ichi gwredd â nifer o bobl a gynnuniodd y Tîm Gweithredu i Achub Ysbyty Llwynhelyg pan ddaethant a phrotestio ar risiau'r Senedd. Mae gennylf ddiddordeb mewn gwybod, fel hwythau, a yw'r pryderon a godwyd gyda chi wedi arwain mewn unrhyw ffordd at newid rhywfaint neu ran o'ch polisi neu'ch dadansoddiad o'r sefyllfa. Ar ben hynny, pa ymrwymiadau y gallwch eu rhoi iddynt y gellir, yn eu tro, eu trosglwyddo i'r bobl a ddaeth yma o ran y rhwyd diogelwch y gellid ei lledaenu cyn i wasanaethau gael eu newid?

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13:32

Rebecca Evans [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I was very grateful to you, Minister, for accepting the meeting, which I think everybody felt was open, frank and useful. Minister, at the meeting, you said that Withybush hospital has a secure and successful future, and that it is a necessary hospital for the people of west Wales. Is that still your view?

Diolch i Angela Burns am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Mae'n hollol iawn i ddweud fy mod wedi cyfarfod â grŵp o bobl, wedi'u harwain gan Joyce Watson a Rebecca Evans. Roedd pobl yno, yn ddiau, a oedd yn aelodau o'r Tîm Gweithredu i Achub Ysbyty Llwynhelyg, ond nid dyna pam y gwnaethant gyfarfod â mi. Creodd y bobl y cyfarfûm â hwy argraff fawr arnaf. Gwnaeth eu diffuantrywydd, eu hymrwymiad i wasanaethau lleol, a'u gwybodaeth o'r gwasanaethau a ddarperir argraff fawr arnaf.

Yn y diwedd, bu'n rhaid imi esbonio'r sail arbenigol y seiliwyd fy mhenderfyniad arni, ac nad oeddwn yn gallu ailystyried y penderfyniad hwnnw. Ond yr hyn yr ymrwymais i'w wneud—a byddaf yn ei wneud—yw sicrhau bod eu pryderon yngylch y gweithredu'r penderfyniad, a'r trefniadau rhwyd diogelwch a amlinellwyd ar lawr y Cynulliad pan wnaed y penderfyniad gennylf, yn cael eu rhoi ar waith yn llwyr gan y bwrdd ieichyd lleol. Byddaf yn sicrhau bod fy swyddogion yn gweithio'n agos iawn gyda hwy er mwyn sicrhau bod y camau diogelu hynny yn cael eu hanrhodeddu'n llawn.

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13:33

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

That is absolutely still my view. Not only was I impressed by the knowledge and the sincerity, and so on, of the people I met that day, but I was also very impressed by the careful and courteous way in which they came to express their views, which were very powerfully held. I do not suppose that it was an easy meeting for them, in many ways. I said to them, as I have said on the floor of the Assembly this afternoon, that a secure and successful future awaits that hospital, provided people understand that, like any hospital, in any part of Wales, that future depends on it being able to adapt to changing circumstances. There are those who believe that the way to safeguard its future is to freeze it in aspic, to think that nothing can ever change, but, actually, that is the way to make sure that the future for that hospital does not work out in the way that we want it to do.

Rwy'n ddiolchgar iawn ichi, Weinidog, am dderbyn y cyfarfod, a oedd, fe gredaf, yn un agored, gonest a defnyddiol ym marn pawb. Weinidog, yn y cyfarfod, dywedasoch fod gan ysbyty Llwynhelyg ddyfodol diogel a llwyddiannus, a'i fod yn ysbyty angenrheidiol i bobl y gorllewin. Ai dyna'ch barn chi o hyd?

Yn sicr, dyna fy marn i o hyd. Crëwyd argraff arnaf nid yn unig gan wybodaeth a diffuantrywydd ac ati, y bobl y cyfarfûm â hwy ar y diwrnod hwnnw, ond hefyd gan y ffordd ofalus a chwrtais y daethant i fynegi eu safbwytiau, a oedd yn rhai pwerus iawn. Mae'n siŵr nad oedd yn gyfarfod hawdd iddynt, mewn sawl ffordd. Dywedais wrthynt, fel yr wyf wedi dweud ar lawr y Cynulliad y prynhawn yma, fod dyfodol diogel a llwyddiannus i'r ysbyty, ar yr amod bod pobl yn deall, fel unrhyw ysbyty, mewn unrhyw ran o Gymru, fod y dyfodol hwnnw yn dibynnu ar ei allu i addasu i amgylchiadau sy'n newid. Mae rhai yn credu mai'r ffordd o ddiogelu ei ddyfodol yw drwy ei rewi mewn aspig, a meddwl na all dim byd byth newid, ond, mewn gwirionedd, dyna'r ffordd o sicrhau nad yw dyfodol yr ysbyty hwnnw yn gweithio allan yn y ffordd rydym am iddo wneud.

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13:34

Simon Thomas [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Weinidog, mae bwriad yn ysbty Llwynhelyg i dorri'r gwasanaeth gofal pediatrig o 24 awr i 12 awr y diwrnod. Y gofid sydd gen i, os yw'r bwriad hwnnw'n cael ei weithredu, yw bod hynny'n mynd yn erbyn canllawiau'r Coleg Meddyginaeth Brys, sydd yn sôn am gael pediatreg fel un o'r saith arbenigedd sy'n gefnogol i adran ddamweiniau ac achosion brys. Rydych chi'n gwybod mai'r bwriad yw cadw'r adran ddamweiniau ac achosion brys yn Llwynhelyg. A allwch chi ymrwymo i hynny fel bwriad ar ran y Llywodraeth hefyd?

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Minister, the intention at Withybush hospital is to cut the provision of the paediatric care service from 24 hours a day to 12 hours a day. My concern, should the proposal be implemented, is that it would be contrary to the guidance of the College of Emergency Medicine, which refers to paediatrics as one of seven areas of expertise that would support an accident and emergency department. You will know that the intention is to retain the accident and emergency department at Withybush. Can you commit to that as being the Government's intention also?

13:34

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

As far as the paediatric services are concerned, the health board is pursuing the proposal that it outlined over a year ago. It will still continue to provide a 12-hour paediatric ambulatory care service at Withybush hospital. That will be supported by clinicians working in paediatric services within the Hywel Dda health board. It is really important to remember that the vast majority of children who present themselves at a hospital come in as unplanned for assessment and are home again within 12 hours. The relationship between the paediatric service and the continuing 24-hour emergency care at Withybush is an important one, but the health board assures me that it is able to do both these things at once and that it can envisage no circumstances in which 24-hour emergency care at Withybush will not be provided.

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O ran y gwasanaethau pediatrig, mae'r bwrdd iechyd yn mynd ar drywydd y cynnig amlinellodd dros flwyddyn yn ôl. Bydd yn parhau i ddarparu gwasanaeth triniaeth ddydd pediatrig 12 awr yn Ysbyty Llwynhelyg. Caiff hynny ei gefnogi gan glinigwyr sy'n gweithio ym maes gwasanaethau pediatrig ym mwrdd iechyd Hywel Dda. Mae'n bwysig iawn cofio bod y mwyafrif helaeth o blant sy'n mynd i'r ysbty yn dod i mewn fel asesiad heb ei gynllunio a'u bod gartref eto o fewn 12 awr. Mae'r berthynas rhwng y gwasanaeth pediatrig a'r gofal brys 24 awr parhaus yn Ysbyty Llwynhelyg yn un pwysig, ond mae'r bwrdd iechyd yn fy sicrhau y gall wneud y ddau beth hyn ar unwaith ac na all ragweld unrhyw amgylchiadau lle na fyddai gofal brys 24 awr yn cael ei ddarparu yn Ysbyty Llwynhelyg.

Y Sbectrwm Awtistig

The Autistic Spectrum

13:35

Peter Black [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

2. Pa ddarpariaeth y mae'r Gweinidog yn ei gwneud ar gyfer diagnosis a chymorth i'r rhai ar y sbectrwm awtistig? OAQ(4)0404(HSS)

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13:35

Gwenda Thomas [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Y Diprwy Weinidog Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol / The Deputy Minister for Social Services

It is for statutory authorities to assess people on the autistic spectrum and provide support to meet their assessed needs. We are presently refreshing the autistic spectrum disorder strategic action plan and considering what action needs to be taken to improve access to diagnostic services and the support available.

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13:36

Peter Black [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for that answer, Deputy Minister. Constituents who have issues around autism have been to see me to tell me that one of the problems that they face in dealing with the health service and with social services is the shortage of specialists in autism, particularly at consultant level in Wales, who are able to quickly diagnose and deal with their complaint. This obviously causes delays in the system, especially in terms of putting support in place. Is the Government looking at this issue and will it be able to address it in the near future?

Diolch i chi am yr ateb hwnnw, Ddirprwy Weinidog. Mae etholwyr sydd â phroblemau o ran awtisiaeth wedi dod i'm gweld i ddweud wrthyf mai un o'r problemau a wynebant wrth ddelio â'r gwasanaeth iechyd a chyda gwasanaethau cymdeithasol yw'r prinder arbenigwyr ym maes awtisiaeth, yn enwedig ar lefel meddygon ymgynghorol yng Nghymru, sy'n gallu rhoi diagnosis cyflym a delio â'u cwyn. Mae hyn yn amlwg yn achosi oedi yn y system, yn enwedig o ran rhoi cymorth ar waith. A yw'r Llywodraeth yn ystyried y mater hwn ac a fydd yn gallu ymdrin ag ef yn y dyfodol agos?

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13:36

Gwenda Thomas [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Yes. There is an advisory group presently working with officials to refresh the ASD strategic action plan. A public consultation will begin on that later this year. The ASD advisory group has, in fact, recommended that a task and finish group be established to look at improvements to children's ASD diagnostic services, and, since 2010, insofar as adults are concerned, we know that we have developed a diagnostic network. I take your point on the consultant issue, and I do believe that, when we publish this consultation, we need to feed all of that into it so that we do move forward with a refreshed plan that will definitely cover diagnostics.

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Ydy. Mae grŵp cyngori ar hyn o bryd yn gweithio gyda swyddogion i adnewyddu'r cynllun gweithredu strategol ar gyfer ASD. Bydd ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus yn dechrau ar hynny yn ddiweddarach eleni. Mae grŵp cyngorï'r ASD, mewn gwirionedd, wedi argymhell y dylid sefydlu grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen i edrych ar welliannau i wasanaethau diagnostig ASD plant, ac, ers 2010, o ran oedolion, gwyddom ein bod wedi datblygu rhwydwaith diagnostig. Derbyniad eich pwyt yngylch meddygon ymgynghorol, a chredaf, pan gyhoeddwn yr ymgynghoriad hwn, fod angen inni fwydo'r cyfan i mewn iddo fel ein bod yn symud ymlaen gyda chynllun o'r newydd a fydd yn sicr yn ymdrin â diagnosteg.

13:37

Mark Isherwood [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

When Careers Wales—I know it is not exactly your brief, but this will make sense—refers funding applications for college placements for young people with autistic spectrum conditions, it requires letters of support from social services in the relevant county council. The cross-party autism group has heard evidence from many families of severely autistic young people who are often given under a week between a decision on funding and their child starting college, despite the recommendations of the Enterprise and Learning Committee in the last Assembly, the casework of parents and Careers Wales being unable to get letters from social services by the 31 January deadline. Would you look at that with regard to the key role that social services plays, so that those funding applications from Careers Wales can get in in time to meet the needs of young people with autistic spectrum conditions?

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Pan fydd Gyfra Cymru—gwn nad eich briff chi yn union ydyw, ond bydd hyn yn gwneud synnwyr—yn cyfeirio ceisiadau cylido am leoliadau coleg i bobl ifanc â chyflyrau ar y sbectrwm awtistig, mae angen llythyrau cefnogi gan wasanaethau cymdeithasol yn y cyngor sir perthnasol. Mae'r grŵp awtistiaeth trawsbleidiol wedi clywed tystiolaeth gan lawer o deuluoedd pobl ifanc awtistig iawn sy'n cael llai nag wythnos yn aml rhwng gwneud penderfyniad ar gyllid a dyddiad dechrau yn y coleg i'w plentyn, er gwaethaf argymhellion y Pwyllgor Menter a Dysgu yn y Cynulliad diwethaf, gwaith achos rhieni a'r ffaith na all Gyfra Cymru gael llythyrau gan wasanaethau cymdeithasol erbyn y dyddiad cau, sef 31 Ionawr. A wnewch chi edrych ar hynny o ran y rôl allweddol y mae gwasanaethau cymdeithasol yn ei chwarae, fel y gellir anfon y ceisiadau cylido hynny gan Gyfra Cymru mewn pryd i ddiwallu anghenion pobl ifanc â chyflyrau ar y sbectrwm awtistig?

13:38

Gwenda Thomas [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I certainly will look at that. It has not been brought to my attention until now. I can see my colleague, Ken Skates, nodding his head and I am sure that we will want to look at this together. I will certainly take that away from the Chamber and come back to you.

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Yn sicr, edrychaf ar hynny. Nid yw hyn wedi cael ei ddwyn i'm sylw tan nawr. Gallaf weld fy nghyd-Aelod, Ken Skates, yn nodio ei ben ac rwy'n siŵr y byddwn am edrych ar hyn gyda'n gilydd. Yn sicr ystyriaf hynny ar ôl gadael y Siambra a dof yn ôl atoch.

Apwyntiadau a Gollwyd

13:38

Mohammad Asghar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

3. Pa gamau y bydd y Gweinidog yn eu cymryd yn 2014 i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem o apwyntiadau meddyg teulu a gollwyd yng Nghymru? OAQ(4)0409(HSS)

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Missed Appointments

3. What action will the Minister take in 2014 to tackle the problem of missed GP appointments in Wales?
 OAQ(4)0409(HSS)

13:38

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for that question. Nineteen million patient consultations took place in primary care in Wales last year. The vast majority were taken up as planned. We continue to work closely with GP colleagues to reduce missed appointments, where those happen.

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Diolch ichi am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Cynhaliwyd pedwar miliwn ar bymtheg o ymgynghoriadau cleifion ym maes gofal sylfaenol yng Nghymru y llynedd. Cynhaliwyd y mwyafrif llethol yn ôl y disgwyl. Rydym yn parhau i weithio'n agos gyda meddygon teulu i leihau apwyntiadau a gollwyd, lle maent yn digwydd.

13:39

Mohammad Asghar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for your reply, Minister. The head of the NHS in Wales, David Sissling, told the Public Accounts Committee last year that reducing the number of patients missing doctors appointments was his top priority. Given that the Welsh Government does not collect information on missed appointments, will the Minister advise on how he intends to monitor progress in this regard?

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Diolch ichi am eich ateb, Weinidog. Dywedodd pennaeith y GIG yng Nghymru, David Sissling, wrth y Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus y llynedd mai lleihau nifer y cleifion a oedd yn colli apwyntiadau meddygon oedd ei brif flaenoriaeth. O gofio nad yw Llywodraeth Cymru yn casglu gwybodaeth am apwyntiadau a gollwyd, a fydd y Gweinidog yn rhoi cyngor ar sut y mae'n bwriadu monitro cynnydd yn hyn o beth?

13:39

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

It is for local health boards to do the direct monitoring of this issue, and I know that they work closely with their GP practices in doing so. They do it in a number of ways and they do it by spreading good practice between GP surgeries. There are many new ways in which GP practices now work to reduce missed appointments, such as text messaging people in advance of their appointment to remind them. A very simple thing is getting the patient to repeat over the telephone the date and time of the appointment that has been offered to them, to make it completely secure in their mind. It is surprising how that very simple thing has actually had an impact on reducing missed appointments. We work with our colleagues in local health boards to spread that best practice.

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Penderfyniad byrddau iechyd lleol yw gwneud y gwaith o fonitro'r mater hwn yn uniongyrchol, a gwn eu bod yn gweithio'n agos gyda'u practisau meddygon teulu i wneud hynny. Gwnânt hynny mewn sawl ffordd a gwnânt hynny drwy ledaenu arferion da rhwng practisau meddygon teulu. Defnyddir sawl ffordd newydd o leihau apwyntiadau a gollir mewn practisau meddygon teulu bellach, megis anfon neges destun at bobl cyn eu hapwyntiad i'w hatgoffa. Un peth syml iawn a wneir yw cael y claf i ailadrodd dyddiad ac amser yr apwyntiad a gynigir iddo dros y ffôn, fel ei fod yn holol glir yn ei feddwl. Mae'n syndod sut mae'r peth syml hwnnw wedi cael effaith wirioneddol ar leihau apwyntiadau a gollir. Rydym yn gweithio gyda'n cydweithwyr mewn byrddau iechyd lleol i ledaenu'r arferion gorau hynny.

13:40

Jenny Rathbone [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, last week, I visited one of the GP practices in my constituency. I am sure that it does most, if not all, of the things that you describe. In fact, it gave me a read-out of all the missed appointments, by clinician and by month, in the last year; there were 2,300 appointments missed. In the main, these are not elderly people with dementia; these are, in the main, younger people. It does write to patients when they do not turn up to warn them that they will be removed from the list if they miss three appointments. What can we do to ensure that such good practice is replicated across other GP practices and to make younger people aware that these are public services that they have to use with discretion?

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Weinidog, yr wythnos diwethaf, ymvelais ag un o'r practisau meddygon teulu yn fy etholaeth. Rwy'n siŵr ei fod yn gwneud y rhan fwyaf, os nad popeth, o'r pethau a ddisgrifiwch. A dweud y gwir, rhoddodd gopi imi o'r holl apwyntiadau a gollwyd y llynedd, fesul clinigydd a fesul mis; collwyd 2,300 o apwyntiadau. Ar y cyfan, nid pobl oedrannus â dementia ydynt; pobl iau ydynt ar y cyfan. Mae'n ysgrifennu at unrhyw glaf sy'n methu â dod i'w apwyntiad i'w rybuddio y caiff ei enw ei ddileu o'r rhestr os bydd yn colli tri apwyntiad. Beth y gallwn ni ei wneud i sicrhau yr efelychir arferion da o'r fath mewn practisau meddygon teulu eraill a gwneud pobl iau yn ymwybodol mai gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yw'r rhain y mae'n rhaid iddynt eu defnyddio yn ddoeth?

13:41

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

It is hugely frustrating for GP practices, which are under pressure much of the time to find appointments for patients, when they have appointments made that people do not then turn up for. When you look at the analysis of why that is, you find that, very often, it is for reasons beyond the control of the individual patient and that these are not wilful missed appointments. It is a matter, sometimes, of education. It is a matter of being able to make appointments in a more convenient way for people. The way that we spread good practice in future will depend on the new cluster of GP arrangements that we introduce on 1 April, as part of the new contract arrangements, which will allow GPs to talk to each other about techniques that they have developed to try to bear down on this issue.

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Mae'n hynod o rwystredig i bractisau meddygon teulu, sydd o dan bwysau y rhan fwyaf o'r amser i dddod o hyd i apwyntiadau i gleifion, pan fydd ganddynt apwyntiadau nad yw pobl yn dod iddynt. Pan edrychwch ar y dadansoddiad o'r rheswm pam fod hynny'n digwydd, fe welwch, yn aml iawn, eu bod am resymau sydd y tu hwnt i reolaeth y claf unigol ac nad apwyntiadau a gollir yn fwriadol ydynt. Weithiau, y rheswm am hyn yw addysg. Mae'n golygu gallu gwneud apwyntiadau mewn ffordd fwy cyfleus i bobl. Bydd y ffordd rydym yn lledaenu arferion da yn y dfyfodol yn dibynnu ar y clwstwr newydd o drefniadau meddygon teulu a gyflwynwn ar 1 Ebrill, fel rhan o'r trefniadau contract newydd, a fydd yn galluogi meddygon teulu i siarad â'i gilydd am dechnegau y maent wedi'u datblygu i geisio datrys y broblem hon.

Elin Jones [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Weinidog, fe wnaethoch chi sôn yn eich ateb i Mohammad Asghar am bwysigrwydd datblygu negeseuon testun. Os wyf yn mynd i dorri fy ngwallt neu'n mynd at y deintydd, rwy'n cael sawl atgoffâd drwy neges destun neu e-bost ynglŷn â'r apwyntiad. Nid wyf byth yn methu'r rheini, neu rwy'n gallu eu hateb. A yw'n destun rhwystredigaeth i chi nad yw pob practis GP erbyn hyn yn defnyddio negeseuon testun a thechnoleg gwybodaeth er mwyn hyrwyddo apwyntiadau? Ymhellach i hynny, cyfrifoldeb pwy yw datblygu systemau o'r math hynny ac i fuddsoddi? A oes raid i'r NHS dalu am hynny i bob practis, neu a yw'r practis yn gyfrifol am ariannu gwell systemau, felly, ei hunan?

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Minister, you mentioned in your response to Mohammad Asghar about the importance of developing text messages. If I am going to have my hair cut or going to the dentist, I receive several reminders via text message or e-mail about the appointment. I never fail to attend, or I can respond to those messages. Is it a frustration to you that not all GP practices are using text messages and information technology to promote appointments? Further to that, whose responsibility is the development of systems of this kind and to invest in them? Does the NHS have to pay for that for all practices, or is it up to the practice to fund improvements itself?

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Diolch am y cwestiwn. Mae mwy o feddygon teulu yn defnyddio 'text messaging' fel rhan o'r pethau y maen nhw'n eu gwneud i wneud yn siŵr fod pobl yn dod i'r apwyntiadau sydd ganddynt.

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Thank you for the question. More GPs are using text messaging as part of what they do to ensure that people do attend appointments.

We are moving to a new GP computer system in Wales, which is a once-for-Wales contract covering the whole of NHS Wales. We are very close to that happening now. It is paid for by the Welsh Government, not by individual practices. It will have a facility that will allow all GPs, everywhere in Wales, to use text messaging as a way of reminding patients of appointments.

Rydym yn symud i system gyfrifiadurol newydd i feddygon teulu yng Nghymru, sydd yn gcontract unwaith-i-Gymru sy'n cwmpasu pob rhan o GIG Cymru. Rydym yn agos iawn at weld hynny'n digwydd yn awr. Llywodraeth Cymru sy'n talu amdano, nid practisau unigol. Bydd ganddo gyfleuster a fydd yn galluogi pob meddyg teulu, ym mhobman yng Nghymru, i ddefnyddio negeseuon testun fel ffodd o atgoffa cleifion o apwyntiadau.

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

I call on the opposition spokesperson, Darren Millar.

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Galwaf ar lefarydd yr wrthblaid, Darren Millar.

Darren Millar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, I know that you agree with me that this is a problem in Wales, in terms of missed GP appointments. We know that, for every missed appointment, somebody else is deprived of an appointment. That could result in them going elsewhere for their care, including to emergency departments. There is a potential opportunity to address some of the concerns regarding missed appointments through the public health (Wales) Bill coming up. What action might you be able to take to ensure that patients are more responsible for the way in which they use the NHS and its resources through that particular legislative vehicle?

Weinidog, gwn eich bod yn cytuno â mi bod hyn yn broblem yng Nghymru, o ran apwyntiadau meddygon teulu a gollir. Gwyddom, am bob apwyntiad a gollir, fod rhywun arall yn methu â chael un. Gallai hynny olygu eu bod yn mynd i rywle arall i gael gofal, gan gynnwys i adrannau gwasanaeth brys. Mae cyfle posibl yma i fynd i'r afael â rhai o'r pryderon yng hylch apwyntiadau a gollir drwy Fil iechyd y cyhoedd (Cymru) sydd ar droed. Pa gamau y gallech eu cymryd efallai i sicrhau bod cleifion yn fwy cyfrifol am y ffodd y defnyddiant y GIG a'i adnoddau drwy'r cyfrwng deddfwriaethol penodol hwnnw?

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Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I agree with the analysis that Darren Millar has just set out of the impact on others of people missing appointments. He is quite right to point to the fact that there is a real responsibility on individuals who have appointments to make sure that every effort is made to keep those appointments. The bargain between the service and the citizen is one that, in future, we will have to be more explicit about with people in terms of the responsibilities that they have. That will be a theme of the public health White Paper, which I hope to bring before the Assembly before very many more weeks. There is a problem, when you move on from the general proposition in relation to appointments, as some people do, then argue that people who miss appointments should be fined or charged for the appointment that has been missed. That leads us into a whole series of practical and ethical problems. While I am keen, as Darren Millar has said, to reinforce the issue of responsibility through education and information, I do not think that we will be going beyond that.

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Darren Millar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, thank you for your answer. I appreciate you giving an indication that the public health (Wales) Bill may be something that can be used to address one of these problems. Would you agree that one of the pressures on unscheduled care—particularly for GP appointments—has arisen as a result of your free prescription policy? Many people will make an appointment with a GP in order to access a free prescription for an inexpensive medicine that is available at their local pharmacy. Figures that have been released today indicate that, on average, people are accessing 25 prescriptions per head in Wales on an annual basis, at a huge cost. This is obviously costing the NHS money that could be invested elsewhere. Will you reconsider the free prescriptions policy for all and ensure that millionaires in Wales are not able to access prescriptions in the future, in order that those people who need access—

Cytunaf â'r dadansoddiad y mae Darren Millar newydd ei nodi ynghylch yr effaith a gaiff apwyntiadau a gollir ar bobl eraill. Mae'n hollol iawn i dynnu sylw at y ffaith bod cyrifoldeb gwirioneddol ar unigolion sydd ag apwyntiadau i wneud yn siŵr bod pob ymdrech yn cael ei wneud i gadw'r apwyntiadau hynny. Mae'r fargen rhwng y gwasanaeth a'r dinesydd yn un y bydd yn rhaid inni, yn y dyfodol, fod yn fwy clir yn ei chylch gyda phobl o ran y cyrifoldebau sydd ganddynt. Bydd honno'n thema yn y Papur Gwyn ar iechyd y cyhoedd, yr wyf yn gobethio ei ddwyn gerbron y Cynlliad o fewn ychydig wythnosau. Cyfyd problem, pan symudwch o'r cynnig cyffredinol mewn perthynas ag apwyntiadau, fel y gwna rhai pobl, gan ddadlau wedyn y dylai pobl sy'n colli apwyntiadau gael dirwy neu y dylid codi tâl arnynt am yr apwyntiad a gollwyd. Mae hynny'n ein harwain at gyfres gyfan o broblemau ymarferol a moesegol. Er fy mod yn awyddus, fel y dywedodd Darren Millar, i atgyfnerthu'r mater o gyrifoldeb drwy addysg a gwybodaeth, ni chredaf y byddwn yn mynd y tu hwnt i hynny.

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

Are you coming to the question?

Weinidog, diolch i chi am eich ateb. Gwerthfawrogaf y ffaith eich bod yn awgrymu y gall Bil iechyd y cyhoedd (Cymru) fod yn rhywbeth y gellir ei ddefnyddio i fynd i'r afael ag un o'r problemau hyn. A fydddech yn cytuno bod un o'r pwysau ar ofal heb ei gynllunio—yn enwedig o ran apwyntiadau meddygon teulu—wedi codi o ganlyniad i'ch polisi presgripsiynau am ddim? Bydd llawer o bobl yn gwneud apwyntiad gyda meddyg teulu er mwyn cael presgripsiwn am ddim ar gyfer meddyginaeth rad sydd ar gael yn eu fferyllfa leol. Mae ffigurau a gyhoeddwyd heddiw yn dangos, ar gyfartaledd, fod pobl yn cael 25 presgripsiwn yr un yng Nghymru bob blwyddyn, ar gost enfawr. Mae hyn yn amlwg yn costio arian i'r GIG y gellid ei fuddsoddi rywle arall. A wnewch chi ailystyried y polisi presgripsiynau am ddim i bawb a sicrhau na all milwyrddion yng Nghymru gael presgripsiynau am ddim yn y dyfodol, fel y gall y bobl hynny mae angen iddynt gael gafael ar—

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Darren Millar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

[Continues.]—such as cancer victims can access the medicines that they are currently denied?

A ydych yn dod at y cwestiwn?

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Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

There is absolutely no evidence at all to back up the assertion that the Member began with. There is no evidence of people making unnecessary appointments because of free prescriptions. What there is is evidence of people not needing far more expensive forms of treatment and far more time-consuming forms of treatment because they were unable to afford the medication that they needed in order to deal with a condition when it was created.

Nid oes dystiolaeth o gwbl i ategu'r honiad y dechreuodd yr Aelod gydag ef. Nid oes unrhyw brawf bod pobl yn gwneud apwyntiadau diangen er mwyn cael presgripsiynau am ddim. Yr hyn sydd ar gael yw dystiolaeth sy'n dangos nad oes angen mathau drutach o driniaeth ar bobl neu nad oes angen mathau o driniaeth arnynt sy'n cymryd llawer iawn mwy o amser am nad oeddent yn gallu fforddio'r feddyginaeth yr oedd ei hangen arnynt er mwyn delio â chyflwr pan ddatblygodd y tro cyntaf.

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The Member's acquaintance with millionaires is a good deal closer than mine, but the evidence that Welsh NHS appointments in GP surgeries are cluttered with millionaires looking for free prescriptions is, I think, fanciful, even by his standards. [Laughter.]

Mae adnabyddiaeth yr Aelod o filiwnyddion yn llawer mwy na'm hadnabyddiaeth i ohonynt, ond mae'r dystiolaeth fod awyntiadau GIG Cymru mewn practisau meddygon teulu yn llawn miliwnyddion yn edrych am bresgripsiynau am ddim yn rhyfeddol, yn fy marn i, hyd yn oed yn ôl ei safonau ef. [Chwerthin.]

Ysbyty Tywysoges Cymru

13:47

Peter Black [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

4. A wnaiff y Gweinidog gadarnhau a fydd yr ymchwiliad gan yr Athro June Andrews i Ysbyty Tywysoges Cymru yn ymdrin â chwynion hanesyddol sydd dros dair blwydd oed? OAQ(4)0403(HSS)

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Princess of Wales Hospital

4. Will the Minister confirm whether the inquiry by Professor June Andrews into the Princess of Wales Hospital will deal with historic complaints more than three years old? OAQ(4)0403(HSS)

13:47

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

This is an independent review, and the matter raised by the Member is for the review team to determine. Based on its initial investigations, the team is now seeking the views of patients and families in reviewing how complaints have been handled between 2010 and 2013. Nothing in its terms of reference prevents the team from considering material more than three years old.

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13:48

Peter Black [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for that answer, Minister. There is a huge level of concern about incidents at the Princess of Wales, particularly among the families of patients who have had an unfortunate experience. I think that the majority experience is that the hospital has been good, but clearly there are exceptions to that. I think that it would be right and proper for you to make it clear to the inquiry that, although it would be independent, it would benefit everyone if it went back further than 2010 to take account of all those who have complaints about the hospital, so that we can get some closure on this issue and move on. I would be grateful if you would give me your thoughts on that point.

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13:48

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank Peter Black for that very constructive way of putting things and for his recognition that the vast majority of care at the Princess of Wales is of a very high and compassionate quality. Part of the purpose of the June Andrews review is to try to provide some closure for those people whose experience has been otherwise. I think that it is an important point of principle, however, that, where we set up an independent review, we do not seek to direct the panel in a very explicit way as to how it should go about its business.

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Professor Andrews has completed the first part of her work —the deep-dive into conditions currently at the hospital. Her team decided that it wished to seek experiences from people between 2010 and the present day. It is currently competing that work. I will say again, and I have said this directly to the panel, that if that work leads it to believe that it is necessary for it to look back beyond the three-year horizon, there is nothing in the terms of reference that I have provided that would prevent it from doing so. It is a judgment for the panel to make.

Diolch i Peter Black am y ffordd adeiladol iawn o fynegi pethau ac am gydnabod bod y rhan fwyaf o'r gofal yn Ysbyty Tywysoges Cymru o ansawdd uchel iawn ac yn dosturiol. Rhan o wrpas adolygiad June Andrews yw ceisio dod â'r mater hwn i ben i rai o'r bobl hynny sydd wedi cael profiad gwahanol. Credaf ei fod yn bwyt pwysig o egwyddor, foddy bynnag, lle y sefydlwn adolygiad annibynnol, nad ydym yn ceisio cyfeirio'r panel mewn ffordd hollol amlwg o ran sut y dylai weithredu.

Mae'r Athro Andrews wedi cwblhau rhan gyntaf ei gwaith —y plymio'n ddwfn i amodau yn yr ysbyty ar hyn o bryd. Penderfynodd ei thîm ei fod am glywed am brofiadau pobl rhwng 2010 a heddiw. Mae wrthi'n cwblhau'r gwaith hwnnw. Dywedaf eto, fel y dywedais wrth y panel yn uniongyrchol, os bydd y gwaith hwnnw yn ei arwain i gredu bod angen iddo edrych yn ôl y tu hwnt i'r cyfnod o dair blynedd, nad oes dim yn y cylch gorchwyl a ddarperais a fyddai'n ei atal rhag gwneud hynny. Penderfyniad i'r panel ydyw.

13:49

David Rees [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, Professor Andrews is independent, as you pointed out, from ABMU, the Princess of Wales Hospital and Neath Port Talbot Hospital, but ABMU also has concerns clinics, which have now been established. Do you welcome those? Could you clarify any details regarding the progress of those within ABMU?

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Weinidog, mae'r Athro Andrews yn annibynnol, fel y nodwyd gennych, ar Brifysgol Abertawe Bro Morgannwg, Ysbyty Tywysoges Cymru ac Ysbyty Castell-nedd Port Talbot, ond mae gan Brifysgol Abertawe Bro Morgannwg glinigau pryderon, sydd bellach wedi'u sefydlu. A ydych yn croesawu'r rhain? A allech egluro unrhyw fanylion ynghylch eu cynnydd o fewn Prifysgol Abertawe Bro Morgannwg?

13:50

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank David Rees for that question. The board announced on 7 February that it was going to set up a series of concerns clinics. My understanding from the board is that the early series have been very successful. They provide direct access for patients who have concerns to senior clinicians and senior staff of the board, where they are able to discuss face-to-face the concerns that patients have. I understand that, as a result of the experience of the early clinics, the board has decided to continue them. There will be one at the start of April, and they will continue monthly thereafter, and some of the practical arrangements will have been altered as a result of the advice of the people who used the early clinics. However, the news so far is that the board believes that they are playing an invaluable role in learning from patients' experiences and providing reassurances to those who need them.

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Diolch i David Rees am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Cyhoeddodd y bwrdd ar 7 Chwefror ei fod yn mynd i sefydlu cyfres o glinigau pryderon. Yn ôl yr hyn a ddeallaf gan y bwrdd, bu'r cyfresi cyntaf yn llwyddiannus iawn. Maent yn sicrhau bod cleifion sydd â phryderon yn gallu cael gafaen yn uniongyrchol ar uwch glinigwyr ac uwch aelodau o staff y bwrdd, lle y gallant drafod wyneb yn wyneb y pryderon sydd gan gleifion. Deallaf, o ganlyniad i brofiad y clinigau cynnar, fod y Bwrdd wedi penderfynu parhau â nhw. Bydd un ar ddechrau Ebrill, a byddant yn parhau bob mis wedi hynny, a bydd rhywfaint o'r trefniadau ymarferol wedi cael eu newid o ganlyniad i gyngor y bobl sydd wedi defnyddio'r clinigau cynnar. Fodd bynnag, y newyddion hyd yma yw fod y bwrdd yn credu eu bod yn chwarae'r rôl werthfawr drwy ddysgu o brofiadau cleifion a thawelu meddyliau'r rheini sydd angen hynny.

13:51

Andrew R.T. Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid / The Leader of the Opposition

Minister, I listened intently to what you said in response to the previous questions that have been asked, and I commend you for setting up the review and for taking the actions that have been taken so far. I am comforted by your saying that there is nothing to stop the review from going beyond the initial three years, because there are many people who will take great comfort from allowing that time frame to be examined so that it includes the time before 2010. Can you enlighten us as to exactly how you will be dealing with the report when it comes forward? Specifically, what time frame will you be specifying to deal with the recommendations that might flow from it? I appreciate that that is difficult in the absence of clear recommendations at the moment, but a lot of people are interested to know how this action will be taken forward.

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Weinidog, gwrandewais yn astud ar yr hyn a ddywedasoch mewn ymateb i'r cwestiynau blaenorol a ofynnwyd, a hoffwn eich canmol am sefydlu'r adolygiad ac am gymryd y camau gweithredu a gymerwyd hyd yn hyn. Mae eich clywed yn dweud nad oes dim yn mynd i atal yr adolygiad rhag mynd y tu hwnt i'r tair blynedd gychwynnol yn gysur imi, oherwydd bydd llawer o bobl yn cymryd cysur mawr c'r ffaith y caiff y ffrâm amser hwnnw ei ystyried fel ei fod yn cynnwys y cyfnod cyn 2010. A allwch ein goleuo ynghylch pryd yn union y byddwch chi'n delio â'r adroddiad hwnnw pan gaiff ei gyflwyno? Yn benodol, pa ffrâm amser y byddwch chi'n ei nodi i ddelio â'r argymhellion a llai ddeillio ohono? Gwerthfawrogaf ei fod yn anodd heb argymhellion clir ar hyn o bryd, ond mae gan lawer o bobl ddiddordeb i wybod sut y gweithredir ar hyn?

13:51

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank Andrew R.T. Davies for that question. The information that I have from the review team at present on the scale of work that it currently sees itself carrying out is that it expects to complete that work and to provide a report to me just before our Easter recess. My plan will then be to respond to that report as quickly as possible. After Easter, the report will quite certainly be published and be in the public domain. I will be very happy to discuss its conclusions with those who have an interest in them, and I hope to be able to act on those conclusions as quickly as possible, while allowing anybody who wants to be engaged in that process to have a chance to be engaged in it.

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Diolch i Andrew RT Davies am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Mae'r wybodaeth sydd gennyl gan y tîm adolygu ar hyn o bryd ar faint o waith y mae'n credu y bydd yn ei gyflawni yn nodi ei fod yn disgwyl cwblhau'r gwaith hwnnw a rhoi adroddiad i mi ychydig cyn toriad y Pasg. Fy mwriad wedyn fydd ymateb i'r adroddiad hwnnw cyn gynted â phosibl. Ar ôl y Pasg, caiff yr adroddiad yn sicr ei gyhoeddi a bydd ar gael i'r cyhoedd. Rwy'n hapus iawn i drafod ei gasgliadau gyda'r rheini sydd â diddordeb ynddynt, ac rwy'n gobeithio gallu gweithredu ar y casgliadau hynny mor gyflym â phosibl, tra'n caniatáu i unrhyw un sy'n awyddus i fod yn rhan o'r broses honno wneud hynny.

13:52

Bethan Jenkins [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Weinidog, nid oes unrhyw un yn dadlau na ddylai'r adolygiad hwn fod yn annibynnol, ond hyd yn hyn, rwyf wedi cyfrif tua wytch gwahanol adolygiad neu ymchwiliad i'r maes hwn, i ABMU, mewn un ffordd neu'r llall. Hoffwn nid yn unig ofyn cwestiwn ynglŷn â sut y byddwch yn ymateb i hwn yn benodol, ond sut y byddwch yn tynnu ynghyd yr hyn sy'n cael ei ddweud yn yr adolygiadau eraill fel bod teuluoedd a'r bobl sy'n defnyddio'r gwasanaeth ar hyn o bryd yn gallu deall sut y byddwch chi, fel Gweinidog, yn gallu gwella'r sefyllfa yn strategol ar gyfer y dyfodol. Pam rydych wedi dewis cael yr adolygiadau hyn yn hytrach nag un prif adolygiad cyhoeddus i edrych ar y sefyllfa yn ABMU?

13:53

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

It is an important question that Bethan Jenkins raises, but there is not an easy answer to it, I am afraid, because a number of the inquiries to which she refers are not inquiries that are being conducted under the control of my department or, indeed, under the control of the National Assembly for Wales. Therefore, I do not have the authority, necessarily, to draw all of the different strands to which she refers together in the way that she suggested. I felt that it was very important for me to begin with the things for which I was most able to try to provide a remedy. Of course, as other strands emerge, we will take them carefully into consideration.

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Minister, no-one is arguing that this review should not be independent, but to date, I have counted that some eight different reviews or inquiries into this area, namely ABMU, are ongoing in one way or another. I would like not only to ask a question as to how you would respond to that specifically, but how you will draw all of the things that are being said in the other reviews and inquiries together so that families and people who use the service at present can understand how you, as the Minister, can improve the situation strategically for the future. Why have you taken this option of having various inquiries rather than having a single public inquiry into the situation in ABMU?

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Mae Bethan Jenkins yn codi cwestiwn pwysig, ond mae arnaf ofn nad oes ateb hawdd iddo, gan nad yw nifer o'r ymholiadau y mae'n cyfeirio atynt yn ymholiadau sy'n cael eu cynnal o dan reolaeth fy adran nac, yn wir, o dan reolaeth Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru. Felly, nid oes gennyl yr awdurdod, o reidrwydd, i dynnu pob un o'r gwahanol feysydd y mae'n cyfeirio atynt ynghyd yn y ffordd a awgrymwyd ganddi. Teimlais ei fod yn hollbwysig imi ddechrau gyda'r pethau yr oedd hawsaf imi geisio cynnig ateb ar eu cyfer. Wrth gwrs, wrth i feysydd eraill ddod i'r amlwg, byddwn yn eu hystyried yn ofalus.

Llawdriniaethau a Drefnwyd

13:54

William Graham [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

5. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am nifer y llawdriniaethau a drefnwyd sydd wedi cael eu canslo dros y chwe mis diwethaf mewn ysbytai yn Nwyrain De Cymru? OAQ(4)0410(HSS)

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Scheduled Operations

5. Will the Minister make a statement on the number of scheduled operations that have been cancelled over the last 6 months in hospitals in South Wales East?
OAQ(4)0410(HSS)

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

13:54

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank William Graham. The number of scheduled operations postponed in the six months from August 2013 to January 2014 in south-east Wales is 23% lower than in the same period 12 months earlier.

Diolch i William Graham. Mae nifer y llawdriniaethau a drefnwyd a gafodd eu gohirio yn y chwe mis rhwng mis Awst 2013 a mis Ionawr 2014 yn y de-ddwyrain 23% yn is nag yn yr un cyfnod 12 mis yn gynharach.

William Graham [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am grateful to the Minister for his answer. Those figures are, probably, alarming and therefore mean that the costs will be transferred to the next financial year, therefore easing some of the burden on the health authority. However, I am particularly grateful to the Minister for being most assiduous in dealing with letters forwarded from constituents. Unfortunately, in one case, despite an internal inquiry, the operation was cancelled yet again. May I emphasise to the Minister the human cost of these cancellations? People, clearly, if they are going in for an operation are unwell. Very often, they are elderly or infirm. They psyche themselves up for the operation, they make arrangements with friends and family and then it is cancelled. Not only is it cancelled like that, Minister, but it is not a question of saying 'Come in in a fortnight', or 'Come in in a week's time'; it is 'We will let you know'. That is not helpful.

Rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog am ei ateb. Mae'n siŵr bod y ffigurau hynny yn peri braw ac felly'n golygu y caiff y costau eu trosglwyddo i'r flwyddyn ariannol nesaf, gan leddfu rhywfaint o'r baich ar yr awdurdod iechyd. Fodd bynnag, rwy'n arbennig o ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog am fod yn ddiwyd iawn wrth ddelio â llythyrau a anfonwyd ymlaen gan etholwyr. Yn anffodus, mewn un achos, er gwaethaf ymchwiliad mewnol, caffod y llawdriniaeth ei chanslo unwaith eto. A allaf bwysleisio i'r Gweinidog beth yw cost ddynol yr achosion hynny o ganslo? Yn amlwg, mae pobl sy'n mynd i'r ysbyty i gael llawdriniaeth yn sâl. Yn aml iawn, maent yn oedrannus neu'n fregus. Maent yn paratoi eu hunain yn feddyliol am y llawdriniaeth, yn gwneud trefniadau gyda'u ffrindiau a'u teulu ac yna caiff y llawdriniaeth ei chanslo. Yn ogystal â chanslo'r llawdriniaeth yn y ffordd honno, Weinidog, rhaid iddynt hefyd ymdopi â chlywed y geiriau 'Byddwn yn rhoi gwybod i chi' yn hytrach na 'Dewch mewn pythefnos' neu 'Dewch mewn wythnos'. Nid yw hynny'n helpu.

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am very aware indeed of the human cost of cancelled operations. It is not just a matter of the numbers. I completely understand. These are traumatic events for people and when they find themselves unable to receive the treatment, the effect is more than just physical on their health. I am very well aware of that. That is why I am glad that the figures are 23% lower than they were this time last year. I cannot avoid saying, thinking of Mohammad Asghar's earlier question, that, from memory, the single largest group of cancellations for hospital operations are cancellations by patients rather than by the service. There are some lessons to be drawn there, too, in making maximum use of the capacity that we have.

Rwy'n ymwybodol iawn o gost ddynol llawdriniaethau a gaiff eu canslo. Nid mater o niferoedd yn unig ydyw. Deallaf yn llwyr. Mae'r rhain yn ddigwyddiadau trawmatig i bobl a phan welant na allant gael y driniaeth, mae'r effaith ar eu hiechyd yn fwy nag un corfforol. Rwy'n ymwybodol iawn o hynny. Dyna pam rwy'n falch bod y ffigurau 23% yn is nag oeddent yr adeg hon y llynedd. Ni allaf osgoi dweud, wrth feddwl am gwestiwn cynharach Mohammad Asghar, os cofiaf yn iawn, fod y nifer fwyaf o lawdriniaethau ysbyty yn cael eu canslo gan gleifion yn hytrach na chan y gwasanaeth ei hun. Mae rhai gwrsi i'w dysgu, hefyd, wrth wneud y defnydd mwyaf o'r capaciti sydd gennym.

Keith Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Weinidog, oni fyddai'n well dilyn beth ddigwyddodd yn y pen draw ym Mwrrd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda, sef nid dileu triniaethau ond eu gohirio? Roedd hyn yn llawer mwy llwyddiannus, oherwydd roedd yn drefniant ymlaen llaw ac ni chafodd yr un driniaeth ei dileu.

Minister, would it not be better to do what happened at the end of the day in the Hywel Dda Local Health Board, which is that operations were postponed rather than cancelled? It was much more successful, because it was done by prior arrangement and no operations were cancelled.

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Diolch yn fawr am y cwestiwn. Rwy'n cofio, wrth gwrs, y trafodaethau a gawsom yma ar lawr y Cynulliad yn ôl ym mis Hydref pan oedd Hywel Dda yn awgrymu'r cynllun y mae wedi ei gyflwyno yn ystod y gaeaf. Wrth gwrs, mae hwn wedi bod yn llwyddiannus. Mae hon yn neges i'r byrddau iechyd eraill, rwy'n meddwl.

Thank you for the question. I remember, of course, the discussions that we had here on the floor of the Assembly back in October when Hywel Dda suggested the plan that it has introduced over the winter. Of course, this has been successful. There is a message there for the other health boards, I think.

Hywel Dda has not cancelled any planned orthopaedic operations since making its original decision to reduce the number that it had planned over the winter in order to be able to calibrate its capacity against the demand. There may be lessons for other health boards in planning work over the winter period so that they are better able to match emergency demands with planned operations.

Nid yw Hywel Dda wedi canslo unrhyw lawdriniaethau orthopedig a gynlluniwyd ers gwneud ei benderfyniad gwreiddiol i leihau'r nifer yr oedd wedi bwriadu eu cynnal dros y gaeaf er mwyn gallu graddnodi ei gapasiti yn erbyn y galw. Efallai y bydd gwrsi i fyrrdau iechyd eraill eu dysgu wrth gynllunio gwaith dros y gaeaf, fel y gallant gyfateb galwadau brys i lawdriniaethau a gynlluniwyd yn well.

13:57

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

Coming back to south-east Wales, one of my constituents, Mrs RD, attended the Royal Gwent Hospital on 13 March at 7.30 a.m. for an exploratory thyroid operation. She was one of 20 patients, and 17 of them were sent home because only three beds were available. The situation is made worse because the surgeon has told her he will operate on her on 1 April 2014, on his day off, but, again, he cannot guarantee that a bed will be available. Minister, what efforts are made by the hospital to try to arrange for operations to be carried out at another hospital within reasonable travelling distance? I know that you care for these patients but this is not helping your waiting time targets at all.

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13:58

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Huge efforts are made by hospitals to try to maximise the number of procedures that they are able to carry out. Spreading the load of planned surgery across hospitals is one of the ways in which they try to do that. I know that Keith Davies's question was not about south-east Wales, but my point was exactly relevant to what Lindsay Whittle has just said. The way Hywel Dda has gone about things—not over-programming operations and then finding that it had to cancel them because beds were not available—is, I think, something that other health boards will wish to look at and reflect on.

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Gan droi yn ôl at y de-ddwyrain, aeth un o'm hetholwyr, Mrs RD i Ysbyty Brenhinol Gwent ar 13 Mawrth am 7.30 a.m. am lawdriniaeth thyroid archwiliadol. Roedd yn un o 20 o gleifion, a chafodd 17 ohonynt eu hanfon adref gan mai dim ond tri gwely oedd ar gael. Mae'r sefyllfa yn waeth oherwydd bod y llawfeddyg wedi dweud wrthi y bydd yn gwneud y llawdriniaeth ar 1 Ebrill 2014, ar ei ddiwrnod i ffwrdd, ond, unwaith eto, ni all warantu y bydd gwely ar gael. Weinidog, pa ymdrechion a wneir gan yr ysbyty i geisio trefnu i lawdriniaethau gael eu cynnal mewn ysbyty arall o fewn pellter teithio rhesymol? Gwn eich bod yn gofidio am y cleifion hyn ond nid yw hyn yn helpu eich targedau o ran amseroedd aros o gwbl.

Mae ysbytai'n gwneud ymdrech fawr i geisio cynnal y nifer fwyaf o lawdriniaethau â phosibl. Mae rhannu'r baich o lawdriniaethau a gynlluniwyd rhwng ysbytai yn un o'r ffyrdd y maent yn ceisio gwneud hyunny. Gwn nad oedd cwestiwn Keith Davies yn ymwneud â'r de-ddwyrain, ond roedd fy mhywynt yn holol berthnasol i'r hyn y mae Lindsay Whittle newydd ei ddweud. Mae'r ffordd y mae Hywel Dda wedi mynd ati—peidio â threfnu gormod o lawdriniaethau a gorfol eu canslo wedyn am nad oes gwelyau ar gael—yn rhywbehd, fe gredaf, y bydd byrddau iechyd eraill am edrych arno a'i ystyried.

Ymdrin â Chwynion

13:59

Andrew R.T. Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

6. Pryd y mae'r Gweinidog yn disgwyli gweld gwelliannau systematig i brosesau'r GIG o ymdrin â chwynion, yng ngoleuni'r adolygiad o'r mater hwn a gyhoeddwyd yn ddiweddar? OAQ(4)0416(HSS)

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Complaints Processes

6. When does the Minister expect to see systematic improvements to the NHS's complaints handling processes, in light of the recently announced review into this issue? OAQ(4)0416(HSS)

13:59

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The review conducted by Keith Evans, former chief executive and managing director of Panasonic UK and Ireland, began immediately after it was announced in February. It will last for three months and report as quickly as possible thereafter. In the meantime, the NHS in Wales does not stand still but continues to make improvements and learn lessons based on patient feedback.

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Dechreuodd yr adolygiad a gynhaliwyd gan Keith Evans, cyn-brif weithredwr a rheolwr gyfarwyddwr Panasonic y DU ac Iwerddon, yn syth ar ôl iddo gael ei gyhoeddi ym mis Chwefror. Bydd yn para am dri mis ac adroddir arno cyn gynted â phosibl wedi hyunny. Yn y cyfamser, nid yw'r GIG yng Nghymru yn aros yn ei unfan ond mae'n parhau i wneud gwelliannau a dysgu gwersi yn seiliedig ar adborth gan gleifion.

13:59

Andrew R.T. Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you, Minister, for that answer. I commend you on establishing the review. The important thing in your answer to me, I think, was that the NHS does not stand still and does not wait in its entirety on this review. You will be conscious that many of the concerns that were raised in the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg area related to the way complaints were handled by that particular health board. I do not think that they are in isolation. What efforts are you making to engage with the health boards to make sure that they do not sit back and wait for the review to report, but are proactively dealing with complaints across the NHS so that patients and clinicians can have confidence that their concerns are being taken seriously?

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Diolch ichi, Weinidog, am yr ateb hwnnw. Hoffwn eich canmol am sefydlu'r adolygiad. Yn fy marn i, y peth pwysig yn eich ateb i mi oedd nad yw'r GIG yn sefyll yn ei unfan ac nad yw'n aros yn ei gyfanwydd am yr adolygiad hwn. Byddwch yn ymwybodol i lawer o'r pryderon a godwyd yn ardal Abertawe Bro Morgannwg ymwneud â'r ffordd yr ymdriniodd y bwrdd iechyd penodol hwnnw â chwynion. Nid ydynt ar eu pen eu hunain yn fy marn i. Pa ymdrechion a wnewch i ymgysylltu â'r byrddau iechyd er mwyn sicrhau nad ydynt yn llaesu dwylo ac yn aros i'r adolygiad gyflwyno adroddiad, ond eu bod yn delio'n rhagweithiol â chwynion o bob rhan o'r GIG fel y gall cleifion a chlinigwyr fod yn hyderus bod eu pryderon yn cael eu cymryd o ddifrif.

14:00

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I agree with a great deal of what Andrew R.T. Davies has said. 'Putting Things Right', our policy approach to complaints in the Welsh NHS, is highly regarded and has been used elsewhere. The problem has been about some of the ways in which that policy has been put into practice. We know from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales's reports, as well as others, that hospitals struggle sometimes to get clinicians to take a direct interest in and responsibility for dealing with the complaints that come their way, and that it is left to people too low in the professional hierarchy to respond to those complaints and that they can become defensive in the way that they respond to patients. We absolutely know that what patients want is a timely sense that people are listening carefully to what they say, and that they are responded to in a human way. That message is well understood in health boards, well in advance of the Keith Evans review.

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Cytunaf â llawer iawn o'r hyn y mae Andrew RT Davies wedi ei ddweud. Mae parch mawr at y prosiect 'Gweithio i Wella', ein dull polisi o ymdrin â chwynion yn y GIG yng Nghymru, ac mae wedi cael ei ddefnyddio mewn llefydd eraill. Mae'r broblem wedi ymwneud â rhai o'r ffyrdd y rhoddyd y polisi hwnnw ar waith. Gwyddom o adroddiadau Ombwdsmon Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus Cymru, yn ogystal â rhai eraill, fod ysbtyai weithiau yn cael trfferth i gael cliningwyr i ymddiddorï'n uniongyrchol yn y cwynion a dderbynant a chymryd cyfrifoldeb am ddelio â hwy, ac y caiff hyn ei aadel i bobl sy'n rhy isel yn yr hierarchaeth broffesiynol i ymateb i'r cwynion hynny ac y gallant fynd yn amddiffynol yn y ffordd y maent yn ymateb i gleifion. Gwyddom yn iawn mai'r hyn y mae cleifion am ei gael yw ymdeimlad amserol fod pobl yn gwrando'n ofalus ar yr hyn a ddywedant, ac yr ymatebir iddynt mewn ffordd ddynol. Mae'r byrddau iechyd yn deall y neges honno yn iawn, ymhell cyn adolygiad Keith Evans.

14:01

Rhun ap Iorwerth [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Rydym i gyd yn delio, rwy'n siŵr, efo pryderon cleifion ynglŷn â'r gwasanaeth maent yn ei dderbyn, ac rwy'n siŵr hefyd fod pawb yma wedi clywed pryderon staff clinigol a staff gweinyddol. Cafodd achos ei ddwyn at fy sylw yn ddiweddar, lle mae staff yng ngogledd-orllewin Cymru yn bryderus nad yw staff gweinyddol yn y gogledd-ddwyrain, er enghraifft, yn rhoi'r sylw priodol i anghenion iechyd y gogledd-orllewin. Pa sicrwydd y gallwch ei roi y bydd broses deg i ddelio efo cwynion sydd gan staff ynglŷn ag uwch-reolwyr, yn ogystal â chwynion sydd gan gleifion ynglŷn â'r gwasanaeth?

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I am sure that we all deal with patient concerns about the services that they receive, and I am sure that everyone here will have heard concerns expressed by staff, both clinical and administrative. One case was brought to my attention recently where staff in north-west Wales are concerned that administration staff in the north-east, for example, are not giving appropriate consideration to the health needs of the north-west. What assurance can you give that there will be a fair process to deal with complaints from staff against senior managers, as well as complaints by patients in terms of the service that they receive?

14:01

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

It is very important that staff feel that they work in a culture where they know that if they have issues that they need to raise about the service that they provide or the way that they are treated, the service is open to hearing their voices. Some Members here will remember the staff survey that was published more or less this time last year. There was clear ground to be made up in our local health boards in making their staff feel that they worked in listening organisations. The First Minister and I spent a great deal of the summer out in every single health board and hospital in Wales, talking to staff and urging health boards to make sure that they create that sort of listening culture, where people are confident that when they come forward with genuine concerns, those concerns will receive a genuine response.

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Mae'n bwysig iawn bod staff yn teimlo eu bod yn gweithio mewn diwylliant lle y gwyddant, os oes ganddynt faterion y mae angen iddynt eu codi am y gwasanaeth a ddarparant neu am y ffordd y cânt eu trin, fod y gwasanaeth yn agored i glywed eu lleisiau. Bydd rhai Aelodau yma'n cofio yr arolwg staff a gyhoeddwyd fwy neu lai ar yr adeg hon y llynedd. Roedd llawer o waith i'w wneud yn ein byrddau iechyd lleol er mwyn sicrhau bod eu staff yn teimlo eu bod yn gweithio mewn sefydladau sy'n gwrando. Treuliodd y Prif Weinidog a minnau lawer iawn o'r haf ym mhob bwrdd iechyd ac ysbty yng Nghymru, yn siarad â staff ac yn annog byrddau iechyd i sicrhau eu bod yn creu'r math o ddiwylliant gwrando, lle mae pobl yn hyderus y caiff y pryderon gwirioneddol sydd ganddynt ymateb gwirioneddol.

14:02

Kirsty Williams [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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

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Minister, as you said, there was a great deal of consensus around the content of 'Putting Things Right'. Once again in the Welsh NHS, it seems that implementation has been the difficulty. The guidance that you have set out to local health boards says that concerns need to be managed and investigated in line with Welsh Ministers' guidance. Could you tell this Chamber what steps your department has taken to monitor the implementation of 'Putting Things Right', and what the levels of compliance are for timeliness of reporting back on complaints?

Weinidog, fel y dywedasoch, roedd llawer iawn o gonsensws ynglŷn â chynnwys 'Gweithio i Wella'. Unwaith eto yn y GIG yng Nghymru, mae'n ymddangos mai gweithredu oedd y broblem. Mae'r canllawiau rydych wedi'u nodi ar gyfer byrddau iechyd lleol yn dweud bod angen i bryderon gael eu rheoli a bod angen ymchwilio iddynt yn unol â chanllawiau Gweinidogion Cymru. A allech ddweud wrth y Siambwr hon pa gamau y mae eich adran wedi'u cymryd i fonitro'r gwaith o weithredu 'Gweithio i Wella', a beth yw'r lefelau cydymffurfio ar gyfer prydlondeb adrodd yn ôl ar gwynion?

14:03

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I can certainly assure Kirsty Williams that senior members of my department—the chief nursing officer and others—take a very close and direct interest in the ‘Putting Things Right’ policy and the way that it is implemented on the ground. Lots of their visits out to the health service involve them in talking to staff and those responsible for that policy about the way that it is being implemented.

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Yn sicr, gallaf sicrhau Kirsty Williams bod uwch aelodau fy adran—y prif swyddog nrysio ac eraill—yn cymryd diddordeb agos ac uniongyrchol iawn yn y polisi ‘Gweithio i Wella’ a’r ffordd y mae’n cael ei weithredu ar lawr gwlad. Mae llawer o’u hymweliadau â’r gwasanaeth iechyd yn golygu eu bod yn siarad â staff, a’r rhai sy’n gyfrifol am y polisi hwnnw, am y ffordd y mae’n cael ei weithredu.

I do not think that we should disguise from ourselves the fact that dealing with complaints is in itself a difficult area; you are talking with people who are distressed and who feel that they have been let down sometimes. Having a conversation with people where everyone is satisfied is not always an easy thing to do. However, we have to improve people’s skills and confidence in doing that. I do not have figures to hand on the final part of your question, but I will try to secure them for you.

14:04

Kirsty Williams [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am grateful for that. Given that the chief nursing officer and others have been so busy in their visits, I am sure that such figures with regard to compliance with timescales will be readily available to you. There is also the issue of training. The guidance says that all staff in the NHS should receive training in the implementation of putting things right and that policy. When you write to me with regard to timeliness compliance, will you also be able to outline how many staff in the NHS have undergone training in putting things right?

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Rwy’n ddiolchgar am hynny. O gofio bod y prif swyddog nrysio ac eraill wedi bod mor brysur yn ystod eu hymweliadau, rwy’n siŵr y bydd ffigurau o’r fath o ran cydymffurfio ag amserleni ar gael yn hawdd i chi. Ceir mater hyfforddiant hefyd. Dywed y canllawiau y dylai pob aelod o staff yn y GIG gael hyfforddiant ar weithredu prosiect Gweithio i Wella a’r polisi hwnnw. Pan ysgrifennwch ataf o ran cydymffurfio a phrydloneb, a fyddwch hefyd yn gallu nodi sawl aelod o staff yn y GIG sydd wedi cael hyfforddiant ar Weithio i Wella?

14:04

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am very willing to try to secure that information for the Member. She is absolutely right that if we expect people to have these conversations and to interact with patients in those difficult circumstances, we have to help them to do that successfully.

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Rwy’n barod iawn i geisio cael gafael ar y wybodaeth honno i’r Aelod. Mae’n llygad ei lle iawn i ddweud, os ydym yn disgwl i bobl gael y sgyrsiau hyn a rhngweithio â chleifion o dan yr amgylchiadau anodd hynny, fod yn rhaid inni eu helpu i wneud hynny’n llwyddiannus.

Triniaeth y Galon

14:05

Elin Jones [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

7. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am lefelau'r rhestrau aros ar gyfer triniaeth y galon yn ne a gorllewin Cymru? OAQ(4)0406(HSS)

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Cardiac Treatment

7. Will the Minister make a statement on waiting list levels for cardiac treatment in south and west Wales? OAQ(4)0406(HSS)

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14:05

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Mae nifer o fentrau wedi cychwyn i wella mynediad i gleifion sydd angen llawdriniaeth gardiaidd ledled Cymru, gan gynnwys yn y de-orllewin. Bwriad y camau gweithredu hyn yw lleihau nifer y cleifion sy’n aros yn y tymor byr, a datblygu gwasanaeth cynaliadwy yn yr hirdymor.

A number of initiatives are under way to improve access to treatment for patients needing cardiac surgery throughout Wales, including south-west Wales. These actions are designed to reduce the number of patients waiting in the short term, and to develop a sustainable service in the longer term.

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14:05

Elin Jones [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Weinidog, mae'n hysbys i bawb 'nawr fod diffyg capaciti yn y gwasanaeth llawdriniaeth yn Nhrefforys ac yn yr Heath. Un o sgil-effeithiau hyn ar gleifion yn fy etholaeth i yw bod cleifion cardiac brys yn mynd mewn i Fronglais ond yn aros am drosglwyddiad i Dreforys am lawdriniaeth, ac yn aros mewn gwely ym Mronglais am wythnosau. Rwy'n gallu meddwl am un etholwr sydd wedi bod yno am dair wythnos. Cafodd ei symud ddoe, fel peta'i'n gwybod fy mod i'n mynd i ofyn y cwestiwn hwn ichi heddiw. Mae pobl yn disgwyl gwely yn Nhrefforys heb fod hynny ar gael. Beth yw eich cynlluniau chi i gynyddu'r capaciti yn Nhrefforys ac yn yr Heath ar gyfer llawdriniaeth, ac i sicrhau bod gwell cydlynu rhwng yr ysbytai arbenigol cardiac yma a'r cleifion sydd mewn byrddau iechyd eraill heblaw'r ddau fwrdd iechyd hyn?

14:06

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Diolch yn fawr am y cwestiwn. Rwy'n cydnabod y pwytiau y mae'r Aelod yn eu gwneud.

I read in the report that Hywel Dda health board has secured from the Royal College of Physicians exactly the point that she raised. It says that patients at Bronglais wait 6.9 days for transfer to Morriston. There are capacity issues at Morriston. We are increasing the number of cardiac operations that will be done there next year and there are plans that the royal college report points to very directly for a third catheterisation laboratory at Morriston. It is about more than capacity; it is also about the relationship between the service in Hywel Dda and at Morriston. The hub-and-spoke model proposed in the report is one potential solution to that and Morriston has to play its full part in it.

14:07

Elin Jones [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Rwy'n gwerthfawrogi eich bod chi wedi cyfeirio at adroddiad Coleg Brenhinol y Ffisigwyr yr wythnos yma. Nid wyf yn dweud hyn yn ysgafn; rwyf wedi darllen yr adroddiad yn fanwl iawn—mae'n adroddiad gan goleg brenhinol, wrth gwrs—ac mae yna ddiffyg cyflawnhad difrifol yn yr adroddiad, yn fy marn i, dros symud tuag at argymhelliaid sydd mor bellgyraeddol â chanoli gwasanaethau cardioleg ymgynghorol o Fronglais, ac o Lwynhelyg o ran hynny, i Glangwili, sydd dim ond 20 munud bant o Dreforys. Rydych chi wedi comisiynu gwaith ar gyfer adroddiad annibynnol ar ddyfodol y gwasanaeth iechyd o gwmpas ardal Bronglais. A ydych chi'n barod, felly, i ganiatáu i'r bwrdd iechyd gymryd penderfyniad mor bellgyraeddol â chanoli gwasanaethau cardioleg cyn i'r adroddiad annibynnol ddod i'w gasgliadau ei hun?

14:08

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I made sure, on the day that the royal college report was published, that a copy was sent directly to the team that is carrying out the work to which the Member referred. I expect the health board and that team to make sure that they talk to each other about the implications of this report for the work that they are doing. It is for them to discuss that and to resolve the timing issue that the Member refers to, rather than me imposing a solution on them from the centre.

Minister, it is clear to everyone now that there is a lack of capacity in the surgical service at the Heath and in Morriston. One of the effects of that on patients in my area is that emergency cardiac patients are going into Bronglais but are waiting to be transferred to Morriston for surgery, and they are waiting in beds in Bronglais for weeks. I can think of one constituent who has been there for three weeks. He was moved yesterday, as if he knew that I was going to ask this question of you today. People are waiting for a bed in Morriston but there is no bed available. What are your plans to increase the capacity in Morriston and in the Heath for surgery, and to ensure that there is better co-ordination between these specialist cardiac hospitals and patients who are in health boards other than those two health boards?

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Thank you very much for the question. I acknowledge the points that the Member makes.

Darllenais yn yr adroddiad a gafodd bwrdd iechyd Hywel Dda gan Goleg Brenhinol y Ffisigwyr yr union bwnt a gododd. Dywed fod cleifion yn ysbyty Bronglais yn aros 6.9 diwrnod i gael eu trosglwyddo i ysbyty Treforys. Mae problemau o ran capaciti yn ysbyty Treforys. Rydym yn cynyddu nifer y llawdriniaethau cardiaidd a wneir yno y flwyddyn nesaf ac mae cynlluniau, y mae adroddiad y coleg brenhinol yn cyfeirio'n benodol iawn atynt, i greu trydydd labordy cathetreiddio yn ysbyty Treforys. Mae a wnelo â mwy na chapasiti; mae a wnelo hefyd â'r berthynas rhwng y gwasanaeth yn Hywel Dda ac yn ysbyty Treforys. Mae'r model a gynigiwyd yn yr adroddiad yn un ateb canolog a chysylltiedig posibl i hynny a rhaid i ysbyty Treforys chwaraei ei ran lawn yn hynny.

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I appreciate that you have referred to the Royal College of Physicians' report this week. I am not saying this lightly; I have read the report very thoroughly—it is a report by a royal college, of course—and there is a serious lack of justification in the report, I believe, for moving towards a recommendation that is as far reaching as centralising consultant cardiac services from Bronglais, and Withybush in that regard, in Glangwili, which is only 20 minutes away from Morriston. You have commissioned work for an independent report on the future of the health service around the Bronglais area. Are you willing, therefore, to allow the health board to make such a far-reaching decision as centralising cardiac services before the independent report has reached its own conclusions?

Sicrheais, ar y diwrnod y cyhoeddwyd adroddiad y coleg brenhinol, fod copi yn cael ei anfon yn uniongyrchol at y tim sy'n cynnal y gwaith y cyfeiriodd yr Aelod ato. Rwy'n disgwyl i'r bwrdd iechyd a'r tim hwnnw wneud yn siŵr eu bod yn siarad â'i gilydd am oblygiadau'r adroddiad hwn i'r gwaith y maent yn ei wneud. Eu cyfrifoldeb hwy yw trafod hynny a datrys y problem o ran amseru y mae'r Aelod yn cyfeirio ati, yn hytrach na minnau yn gorfodi ateb arnynt o'r canol.

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14:09

Joyce Watson [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, the Royal College of Physicians' report places great emphasis on extending the role of specialist nurses in cardiac care. Has the Government taken, or will the Government be taking, steps to increase the number of such nurses in the Welsh NHS, especially in parts of mid and west Wales where it is proving difficult to recruit consultants with an interest in cardiology?

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Weinidog, mae adroddiad Coleg Brenhinol y Ffisigwyr yn rhoi pwyslais mawr ar ehangu rôl nyrsys arbenigol mewn gofal cardiaidd. A yw'r Llywodraeth wedi cymryd, neu a fydd y Llywodraeth yn cymryd camau i gynyddu nifer y nyrsys o'r fath yn y GIG yng Nghymru, yn enwedig mewn rhannau o'r canolbarth a'r gorllewin lle mae'n anodd recriwtio meddygon ymgynghorol sydd â diddordeb mewn cardioleg?

14:09

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

For anyone with an interest in the reputation of the Welsh NHS, the strongly positive things that the report, from people independent of Wales, says about the calibre and the quality of the specialist nurses providing those services in west Wales is immensely cheering. The future of the NHS will depend upon us maximising the contribution that people can make in that way. I was very pleased in announcing the £80 million-investment we will be making in training for nurses and allied staff only a week or two ago to be able to say that we have moved significant amounts of money into training extra specialist nurses in mental health, child health and especially adult health.

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I unrhyw un sydd â diddordeb yn enw da'r GIG yng Nghymru, mae'r pethau cadarnhaol cryf a ddywed yr adroddiad, gan bobl sy'n annibynnol ar Gymru, am galibr ac ansawdd y nyrsys arbenigol sy'n darparu'r gwasanaethau hynny yn y gorllewin yn hynod galonogol. Bydd dyfodol y GIG yn dibynnu ar fanteisio i'r eithaf ar y cyfraniad y gall pobl ei wneud yn y ffordd honno. Wythnos neu ddwy yn ôl yn unig, roeddwn yn falch iawn, wrth gyhoeddi'r buddsoddiad gwerth £80 miliwn y byddwn yn ei wneud mewn hyfforddiant i nyrsys a staff cysylltiedig, o allu dweud ein bod wedi neilltu symiau sylwedol o arian ar gyfer hyfforddi nyrsys arbenigol ychwanegol ym maes iechyd meddwl, iechyd plant ac yn enwedig iechyd oedolion.

14:10

Byron Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, you will be aware, of course, of the exchange between the Royal College of Surgeons and Healthcare Inspectorate Wales in July last year, warning that patient safety was being put at risk. The RCS was told at the time that the issues were being raised and addressed, but has not had an update since and, I understand, has written again this year. So, I welcome the fact that you are paying for some cardiac patients to be treated at a private clinic in Bristol to reduce the waiting list, but why did it take so long to authorise this action and can you explain why this was not done last year after the RCS raised concerns?

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Weinidog, byddwch yn ymwybodol, wrth gwrs, o'r cyfnewid rhwng Coleg Brenhinol y Llawfeddygon ac Arolygiaeth Gofal Iechyd Cymru fis Gorffennaf y llynedd, yn rhybuddio bod diogelwch cleifion yn cael ei roi mewn perygl. Dywedwyd wrth Goleg Brenhinol y Llawfeddygon ar y pryd fod y problemau'n cael eu codi a bod gwaith yn mynd rhagddo i fynd i'r afael â hwy, ond nid yw wedi cael diweddariad ers hynny a deallef ei fod wedi ysgrifennu eto eleni. Felly, croesawaf y ffaith eich bod yn talu i rai cleifion cardiaidd gael eu trin mewn clinig preifat ym Mryste er mwyn lleihau'r rhestr aros, ond pam y gwnaeth gymryd cymaint o amser i awdurdodi'r cam gweithredu hwn ac a llwch egluro pam na wnaed hyn y llynedd ar ôl i Goleg Brenhinol y Llawfeddygon godi pryderon?

14:10

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Let me just make sure that the facts are properly on the record. On the documents that the Royal College of Surgeons asked HIW for, one of them had already been published many weeks earlier and the second has since been made available to it. The report into cardiac services in Morriston, which was a shocking report in some ways, points the finger very firmly at members of the Royal College of Surgeons as being at the source of the difficulty experienced there. I am very pleased that we are able to assist in providing care for people who need it more urgently than we are able to provide it with our current capacity. We have agreed to do that. We will continue to do it in the early part of next year, and I believe that it has been done in a timely fashion.

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Gadewch imi wneud yn siwr bod y ffeithiau'n gywir ar y cofnod. Ar y dogfennau y gofynnodd Coleg Brenhinol y Llawfeddygon i AGIC amdanynt, roedd un ohonynt eisoes wedi cael ei gyhoeddi sawl wythnos ynghynt ac mae'r ail wedi bod ar gael iddo ers hynny. Mae'r adroddiad ar wasanaethau cardiaidd yn ysbyty Treforys, a oedd yn adroddiad cywilyddus mewn rhai ffurdd, yn pwntio'r bys yn gadarn iawn at aelodau o Goleg Brenhinol y Llawfeddygon fel ffynhonnell yr anhawster a gafwyd yno. Rwy'n falch iawn ein bod yn gallu helpu i ddarparu gofal i bobl sydd ei angen yn fwy dybryd nag y gallwn ei ddarparu gyda'n capasiti presennol. Rydym wedi cytuno i wneud hynny. Byddwn yn parhau i'w wneud hyd at ddechrau'r flwyddyn nesaf, a chredaf iddo gael ei wneud mewn ffordd amserol.

14:11

William Powell [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, as you may be aware, the royal college report has come under some criticism from clinicians in Ceredigion, particularly because it completely ignores two major areas of coronary care, namely heart failure and arrhythmia. Do you agree that it would be wholly inappropriate for significant service changes to be put in place based on a report that has significant omissions? Would you please further undertake to charge those undertaking your own review with addressing fully those important conditions?

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14:12

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am happy to repeat what I said to Elin Jones. I sent a copy of the report to that team on the day that it was published to make sure that they are well aware of it.

Weinidog, fel y gwyddoch efallai, mae adroddiad y coleg brenhinol wedi cael ei feirniadu rywfaint gan glinigwyr yng Ngheredigion, yn enwedig am ei fod yn anwybyddu'n llwyr ddau brif faes gofal cardiaidd, sef methiant y galon ac arrhythmia. A gytunwch y byddai'n hollol amhriodol i newidiadau sylweddol i'r gwasanaeth gael eu rhoi ar waith yn seiliedig ar adroddiad sydd â hepgoriadau pwysig? A wnewch chi ymrwymo ymhellach i fynnu bod y rhai sy'n cynnal eich adolygiad eich hun yn mynd i'r afael yn llawn â'r amodau pwysig hynny?

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Gwasanaethau Ffisiotherapi

14:12

Janet Finch-Saunders [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

8. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am wasanaethau ffisiotherapi yng Nghymru? OAQ(4)0418(HSS)

Physiotherapy Services

14:12

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Rapid reductions in waiting times for physiotherapy in Wales mean that such services are now more readily available to patients. Waiting times are shortest in the Betsi Cadwaladr University Local Health Board area, where more than 80% of referrals are seen within eight weeks and no patient currently waits more than 14 weeks for treatment.

Mae gostyngiadau cyflym mewn amseroedd aros ar gyfer ffisiotherapi yng Nghymru yn golygu bod gwasanaethau c'r fath ar gael yn haws i gleifion bellach. Mae'r amseroedd aros byrraf yn ardal Bwrdd lechyd Lleol Prifysgol Betsi Cadwaladr, lle mae mwy nag 80% o atgyfeiriadau yn cael eu gweld o fewn wyth wythnos ac ar hyn o bryd nid oes un claf yn aros mwy na 14 wythnos am driniaeth.

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14:12

Janet Finch-Saunders [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you, Minister. My question is actually in relation to people with ankylosing spondylitis. You will be aware that it can take up to eight and a half years to diagnose this. What is your Government planning to do to improve access to physiotherapy for people with ankylosing spondylitis, because their society has highlighted that 70% of people with AS are not accessing physiotherapy?

Diolch ichi, Weinidog. Mae fy nghwestiwn mewn gwirionedd mewn perthynas â phobl sydd â spondylitis asiol. Byddwch yn ymwybodol y gall gymryd hyd at wyth mlynedd a hanner i gael diagnosis o hyn. Beth mae eich Llywodraeth yn ei wneud i wella mynediad at ffisiotherapi i bobl sydd â spondylitis asiol, oherwydd mae eu cymdeithas wedi tynnu sylw at y ffaith nad yw 70% o bobl sydd â'r cyflwr hwn yn cael ffisiotherapi?

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14:13

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Member for her question. I was very pleased to speak at the event here in the Assembly when the society launched its new presence here in Wales. She is absolutely right to say, as it said then, that the real problem for sufferers of this condition is that it is very often masked by other conditions. It takes a long time to identify. Raising awareness, which is what it puts emphasis on, is the most important thing among the clinical community. Indeed, clinicians from north Wales are at the forefront of making sure that that happens. Once people know that they have the condition, access to physiotherapy follows in a reasonably timely fashion, but I am sure that there is more that we can do to improve that too.

Diolch i'r Aelod am ei chwestiwn. Roeddwn yn falch iawn o siarad yn y digwyddiad yma yn y Cynulliad pan lansiodd y gymdeithas ei phresenoldeb newydd yma yng Nghymru. Mae'n hollol iawn i ddweud, fel y dywedodd bryd hynny, mai'r broblem go iawn i ddioddefwyr y cyflwr hwn yw ei fod yn cael ei guddio yn aml iawn gan gyflyrau eraill. Mae'n cymryd amser hir i'w nodi. Codi ymwybyddiaeth, sef yr hyn y mae'n rhoi pwyslais arno, yw'r peth pwysicaf i'r gymuned glinigol. Yn wir, mae clinigwyr o'r gogledd ar flaen y gad o ran sicrhau bod hynny'n digwydd. Unwaith mae pobl yn gwybod eu bod yn dioddef o'r cyflwr, mae mynediad at ffisiotherapi yn dilyn yn weddol gyflym, ond rwy'n siŵr y gallwn wneud mwy i wella hynny hefyd.

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14:13

Julie Morgan [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

In view of the fact that physiotherapists are such highly trained clinicians, when will the Government bring forward regulation for independent prescribing by physiotherapists in Wales?

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O gofio bod ffisiotherapyddion yn glinigwyr sydd wedi eu hyfforddi i safon uchel, pryd y bydd y Llywodraeth yn cyflwyno rheoliadau ar gyfer rhagnodi annibynnol gan ffisiotherapyddion yng Nghymru?

14:14

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I entirely agree with Julie Morgan that it is very important that we move to giving physiotherapists, appropriately trained and so on, independent prescribing rights. I hope to bring forward regulations at the start of June this year. Subject to the agreement of the Assembly, they will be able to come into force before the end of that month.

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Cytunaf yn llwyr â Julie Morgan ei bod yn bwysig iawn ein bod yn mynd ati i roi hawliau rhagnodi annibynnol i ffisiotherapyddion, sydd wedi'u hyfforddi'n briodol ac yn y blaen. Ryw'n gobeithio cyflwyno rheoliadau ar ddechrau mis Mehefin eleni. Yn amodol ar gytundeb y Cynulliad, byddant yn dod i rym cyn diwedd y mis hwnnw.

14:14

Rhodri Glyn Thomas [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Weinidog, rwyf yn croesawu yn fawr iawn yffaith eich bod yn dweud bod mynediad at ffisiotherapi ar gael yn gynharach yn awr nag y mae wedi bod. Fe gyfeirioch chi at fwrrdd iechyd Betsi Cadwaladr; nid wyf yn siŵr a yw'r un peth yn wir am fwrrdd iechyd Hywel Dda. Yn fy etholaeth i, y broblem yw bod pobl yn derbyn triniaeth neu'n cael gwybodaeth y byddai cwrs cynhwysfawr o ffisiotherapi yn gallu sefydlogi neu wella eu cyflwr, ond er eu bod yn cael mynediad at ffisiotherapi, mae'n gyfyngedig, ac felly mae effaith hynny arnynt hyd yn oed yn fwy. Maent yn gwybod, petaent yn gallu cael y driniaeth gynhwysfawr, bydd yn gwella eu cyflwr, ond nid yw'r driniaeth gynhwysfawr hwnnw ar gael.

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Minister, I warmly welcome the fact that you say that access to physiotherapy is available at an earlier stage now than has been the case in the past. You mentioned the Betsi Cadwaladr health board; I am not sure whether the same is true of the Hywel Dda health board. In my constituency, the problem is that people receive treatment or are told that a comprehensive course of physiotherapy could stabilise or improve their condition, but although they can access physiotherapy, it is limited, and therefore the impact on them is even greater. They know, if they were able to access the comprehensive course of treatment, that would improve their condition, but that comprehensive treatment is not available to them.

14:15

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Well, I am disappointed to hear that that would be the position, because I agree with what the Member has said about the importance of making sure that courses of treatment are fully available to people who know that they would benefit from them. If he would like to give me some further details of where those difficulties are occurring, I would be very happy to pursue them.

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Wel, rwy'n siomedig i glywed mai dyna fyddai'r sefyllfa, oherwydd cytunaf â'r hyn a ddywedodd yr Aelod am bwysigrwydd sicrhau bod triniaethau ar gael yn llawn i bobl sy'n gwybod y byddent yn cael budd ohonynt. Pe bai'n rhoi rhagor o fanylion imi am ble y mae'r anawsterau hynny'n codi, byddwn yn hapus iawn i fynd ati i'w datrys.

14:15

Christine Chapman [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, we know that access to therapy and diagnostic services is vital, generally, in ensuring equity of treatment across Wales. What steps is the Welsh Government taking to improve access to these very important services?

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Weinidog, gwyddom fod mynediad i therapi a gwasanaethau diagnostig yn hanfodol, yn gyffredinol, o ran sicrhau triniaeth gyfartal ledled Cymru. Pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu cymryd i wella mynediad at y gwasanaethau pwysig iawn hyn?

14:15

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Seventy per cent of Welsh patients continue to receive access to therapy services within our eight-week target, but that means that 30% do not and that is not a satisfactory condition for me. I have announced in the last month significant new investment—both capital and revenue—to make sure that we are able to redesign services over the months ahead to ensure that we bear down on that remaining 30% and reduce the waiting times for them too.

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Mae saith deg y cant o gleifion Cymru yn parhau i gael mynediad at wasanaethau therapi o fewn ein targed o wylt wythnos, ond mae hynny'n golygu nad yw 30% yn gwneud ac nid yw hynny'n sefyllfa fodhaol i mi. Rwyf wedi cyhoeddi yn ystod y mis fuddsoddiad newydd sylwedol—cyfalaf a refeniu—er mwyn sicrhau y gallwn ailgynllunio gwasanaethau dros y misoedd i ddod er mwyn sicrhau ein bod yn mynd i'r afael â'r 30% sy'n weddill ac yn lleihau'r amseroedd aros iddynt hwy hefyd.

14:16

Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi

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

Question 1 is from Aled Roberts, and it will be answered by the Deputy Minister.

Questions to the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty

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Dechrau'n Deg

14:16

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

1. Pa safonau sydd ar waith o ran darparu rhaglenni Dechrau'n Deg? OAQ(4)0158(CTP)

Flying Start

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1. What standards are applied in relation to the provision of Flying Start programmes? OAQ(4)0158(CTP)

14:16

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Y Dirprwy Weinidog Trechu Tlodi / The Deputy Minister for Tackling Poverty

I thank Aled Roberts for that question. There is clear programme guidance in place that sets out the standards and quality of services that we expect to see delivered in Flying Start. This is provided directly to Flying Start management settings and it is published and available on the Welsh Government website.

Diolch i Aled Roberts am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Mae canllawiau rhaglen clir ar waith sy'n nodi'r safonau ac ansawdd y gwasanaethau yr ydym yn disgwyl iddynt gael eu cyflawni yn Dechrau'n Deg. Darperir hyn yn uniongyrchol i leoliadau rheoli Dechrau'n Deg a chaff ei hyoeddi ac mae ar gael ar wefan Llywodraeth Cymru.

14:17

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

Thank you for that answer. I am sure that you are aware that the evaluation report pointed to variation as far as the achievement of those standards was concerned. Within different Flying Start areas, there was reference to childcare provision varying from county to county, as well as advanced health visitor practice. Have you taken any additional steps as a Government to increase the monitoring or reporting arrangements since the evaluation report indicated that the application of standards was variable from area to area?

Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw. Rwy'n siŵr eich bod yn ymwybodol i'r adroddiad gwerthuso dynnu sylw at yr amrywiaeth o ran cyflawni'r safonau hynny. O fewn ardaloedd Dechrau'n Deg, cyfeiriwyd at y ffaith bod y ddarpariaeth o ran gofal plant yn amrywio o sir i sir, yn ogystal ag uwch ymarfer ymwelwyr iechyd. A ydych wedi cymryd unrhyw gamau ychwanegol fel Llywodraeth i gynyddu'r trefniadau monitro neu adrodd, gan i'r adroddiad gwerthuso nodi bod y ffodd yr oedd y safonau'n cael eu cymhwysyo yn amrywio o ardal i ardal?

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14:17

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

This is a point that I have made myself in scrutiny, and previously, when the statistical release came out last autumn about the performance of Flying Start, I recognised that there is variance in achievement in different Flying Start settings. I want to see a greater consistency and a levelling up of quality. Account managers from Welsh Government now have quality improvement plans for each Flying Start setting to ensure that we deliver that greater consistency and achievement right across Flying Start.

Mae hwn yn bwynt yr wyf fi fy hun wedi'i wneud o ran craffu, a chyn hynny, pan gyhoeddwyd y datganiad ystadegol yr hydref diwethaf am berfformiad Dechrau'n Deg, cydnabûm fod amrywiaeth o ran cyflawni yn lleoliadau gwahanol Dechrau'n Deg. Rwyf am weld mwy o gysondeb a lefelu ansawdd. Mae gan reolwyr cyfrifon Llywodraeth Cymru gynlluniau gwella ansawdd bellach ar gyfer pob lleoliad Dechrau'n Deg er mwyn sicrhau ein bod yn cyflawni'r cysondeb gwell hwnnw ac yn cyflawni ym mhob lleoliad Dechrau'n Deg.

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14:18

Mike Hedges [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

In my constituency, Flying Start is working incredibly well and is incredibly popular with parents, schoolteachers and headteachers. My question is: what is being done by Welsh Government to ensure that adequate Flying Start provision is available through the medium of Welsh?

Yn fy etholaeth i, mae Dechrau'n Deg yn gweithio'n eithriadol o dda ac yn hynod o boblogaidd gyda rhieni, athrawon ysgol a phenaethiaid. Fy nghwestiwn yw: beth mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod darpariaeth ddogonol ar gael o ran Dechrau'n Deg drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg?

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14:18

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Again, this is a subject that has come up in previous scrutiny and in questions in this Chamber on the last oral statement that I made. It is a fact that, within Flying Start, there is a very high rate of achievement in meeting parental requests for Flying Start to be delivered through the medium of Welsh, although those are not always successful, and particular examples of that have been given. I am pleased to report that Flying Start settings are now in a better place to deliver Flying Start through the medium of Welsh in response to parental requests, and we have reiterated our guidance at the end of October last year that local authorities must proactively offer Flying Start through the medium of Welsh to parents.

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Unwaith eto, mae hwn yn bwnc sydd wedi codi mewn sesiynau craffu o'r blaen ac mewn cwestiynau yn y Siambra hon ar y datganiad llafar diwethaf a wneuthum. Y gwir yw, o fewn Dechrau'n Deg, mae cyfradd cyflawni uchel iawn o ran bodloni ceisiadau rhieni am i raglenni Dechrau'n Deg gael eu darparu drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg, er nad yw'r ceisiadau hynni bob amser yn llwyddiannus, a rhoddwyd enghreifftiau penodol o hynni. Ryw'n falch o nodi bod lleoliadau Dechrau'n Deg mewn sefyllfa well bellach i ddarparu Dechrau'n Deg drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg mewn ymateb i geisiadau rhieni, ac rydym wedi ategu ein canllawiau ddiwedd mis Hydref y llynedd fod yn rhaid i awdurdodau lleol gynnig Dechrau'n Deg yn rhagweithiol drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg i rieni.

14:19

William Graham [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The Welsh Conservatives have always endorsed this particular policy since its inception and we are very pleased that it seems to be working very well across Wales. However, Minister, have you addressed the anomaly whereby the Welsh Government insists on a rigid spend rather than delivering this programme to the largest number of children, which was a problem encountered by Newport City Council in the previous administration?

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Mae'r Ceidwadwyr Cymreig bob amser wedi cymeradwyo'r polisi penodol hwn ers ei sefydlu, ac rydym yn falch iawn ei fod, yn ôl pob golwg, yn gweithio'n dda iawn ledled Cymru. Fodd bynnag, Weinidog, a ydych wedi mynd i'r afael â'r anghysondeb lle mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn mynnu ar wariant anhyblyg yn hytrach na darparu'r rhaglen hon i'r nifer fwyaf o blant, a oedd yn broblem a wynebwyd gan Gyngor Dinas Casnewydd yn y weinyddiaeth flaenorol?

14:19

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am not aware of any particular issue about the rigid nature of the spend. It is a geographically targeted programme and I know that there have been concerns raised by a number of Members about that, and that is an issue that I am actively considering. We have already introduced an element of flexibility, but this goes back to the earlier point about being able to demonstrate that Flying Start money is being spent effectively to be able to demonstrate that the quality is rising and improving and being more consistent. That will be the overriding base upon which funding is allocated and the way that I expect it to be measured and tested within this Chamber.

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Nid wyf yn ymwybodol o unrhyw fater penodol ynglŷn â natur anhyblyg y gwartiant. Mae'n rhaglen a dargedir yn ddaearyddol a gwn i bryderon gael eu codi gan nifer o Aelodau ynglŷn â hynni, ac mae hynni'n rhywbeth yr wyf yn ei ystyried. Rydym eisoes wedi cyflwyno elfen o hyblygrwydd, ond mae hyn yn mynd yn ôl at bwynt cynharach ynglŷn â gallu dangos bod arian Dechrau'n Deg yn cael ei wario'n effeithiol er mwyn gallu dangos bod yr ansawdd yn gwella a'i fod yn fwy cyson. Ar y sail honno yn unig y caiff arian ei ddyrrannu a dyma'r ffordd rwy'n disgwyl i'r arian gael ei fesur a'i brofi yn y Siambra hon.

14:19

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

I call the Plaid Cymru spokesperson, Jocelyn Davies.

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14:19

Jocelyn Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you, Presiding Officer. Deputy Minister, I wonder whether you could explain why the evaluation found no evidence that the programme has had an impact on immunisation take-up rates among young children and that, despite access to various enhanced services, levels of parenting self-confidence are the same as matched comparisons outside of the Flying Start areas.

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Diolch ichi, Lywydd. Ddirprwy Weinidog, tybed a allech egluro pam na chanfu'r gwerthusiad unrhyw dystiolaeth bod y rhaglen wedi cael effaith ar gyfraddau'r plant ifanc sy'n cael eu himiwrneiddio a bod lefelau hunan-hyder rhieni, er y gallant gael gafaol ar wasanaethau amrywiol gwell, yr un peth â chymariaethau cyfatebol y tu allan i ardaloedd Dechrau'n Deg.

14:20

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

There are two points there. I will deal with the last one first, which was the point around the similarity with the comparison areas. The comparator areas are financially more advantaged. Broadly, the Flying Start communities are less advantaged areas, so having a similar level of engagement, I would say, is good evidence to show that there has been an increase through Flying Start, given all that we know about different communities. On the second aspect of your question, around immunisation rates, we have actually committed additional money from Flying Start, working in conjunction with the health service, to deliver an enhanced programme to improve the rates of immunisation in Flying Start communities, because, again, I recognise that this was an area of uneven performance, and it is one that we are already seeking to address.

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14:21

Jocelyn Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you, Deputy Minister. Of course, Flying Start is based on the assumption that, when parents are supported, the home environment will be better for child development and learning. So, when do you expect to be able to demonstrate that Flying Start has made a significant difference in the home setting?

14:21

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The outcomes that we are looking for are set out within the programme for government and within the tackling poverty action plan. In terms of the child development goals, they are to ensure that we have a 5% increase in outcomes for children, and I have been very clear with officials that I want to see not just anecdotal evidence, but more objective evidence on the improvement in the position of the whole family, including parents and their engagement in additional forms of education, training and employment. Also, with the evaluation going forward, we will continue to measure and assess the level of parental confidence and their attitude to local services. So, I think that you will see, going forward, that we will be able to set out what sort of difference is being made and how much improvement we are making, but we already have clear targets within the tackling poverty action plan for the improvement that we expect to see from Flying Start.

Mae dau bwynt yn gysylltiedig â hyn. Ymdriniaf â'r olaf i ddechrau, sef y pwyt ynglŷn â'r tebygrwydd â'r ardaloedd cymharu. Mae gan yr ardaloedd cymharu fwy o fantais yn ariannol. Yn fras, mae cymunedau Dechrau'n Deg yn ardaloedd llai breintiedig, felly mae cael lefel debyg o ymgysylltu, yn fy marn i, yn dystiolaeth dda i ddangos bod cynnydd wedi bod drwy raglenni Dechrau'n Deg, o gofio'r cyfan a wyddom am gymunedau gwahanol. O ran ail ran eich cwestiwn, ynglŷn â chyfraddau imiwrneiddio, rydym o ddifrif wedi neilltuo arian ychwanegol gan Dechrau'n Deg, gan weithio ar y cyd â'r gwasanaeth iechyd, i gyflawni rhaglen well i wella cyfraddau imiwrneiddio yng nghymunedau Dechrau'n Deg, oherwydd, unwaith eto, rwy'n cydnabod bod hwn yn faes lle cafwyd perfformiad anghyson, ac mae'n un yr ydym eisoes yn ceisio mynd i'r afael ag ef.

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Diolch ichi, Ddirprwy Weinidog. Wrth gwrs, mae Dechrau'n Deg yn seiliedig ar y rhagdybiaeth, pan gaiff rhieni eu cefnogi, y bydd yr amgylchedd cartref yn well ar gyfer datblygiad a dysgu plant. Felly, pryd rydych yn disgwyl gallu dangos bod Dechrau'n Deg wedi gwneud gwahaniaeth sylwedol yn y cartref?

14:21

Mae'r canlyniadau rydym yn chwilio amdanynt wedi'u nodi yn y rhaglen lywodraethu ac yn y cynllun gweithredu ar gyfer trechu tlodi. O ran datblygiad plant, y nod yw sicrhau y cawn gynnnydd o 5% mewn canlyniadau i blant, ac rwyf wedi bod yn agored iawn gyda swyddogion, gan nodi nad dystiolaeth anecdotaidd yn unig yr wyf am ei gweld, ond mwy o dystiolaeth wrthrychol ar wella'r sefylfa i'r teulu cyfan, gan gynnwys rhieni a'u hymgysylltiad â mathau ychwanegol o addysg, hyfforddiant a chyflogaeth. Hefyd, o ran gwerthuso yn y dyfodol, byddwn yn parhau i fesur ac asesu lefel hyder rhieni a'u hagwedd at wasanaethau lleol. Felly, credaf y gwelwch, yn y dyfodol, y gallwn nodi'r math o wahaniaeth sy'n cael ei wneud a faint o welliant rydym yn ei wneud, ond mae gennym dargedau dir eisoes yn y cynllun gweithredu ar gyfer trechu tlodi o ran y gwelliant rydym yn disgwyl ei weld gan Dechrau'n Deg.

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Agenda Datblygu Cynaliadwy

14:22

Russell George [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

2. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddeddfwriaeth Llywodraeth Cymru a fydd yn cyflawni ei hagenda datblygu cynaliadwy? OAQ(4)0154(CTP)

Sustainable Development Agenda

14:22

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Y Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi / The Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty

Thank you for that question. Making sure that we get the right long-term development path for Wales is central to our legislative programme. The future generations Bill, for which I am responsible, the environment Bill, the planning Bill, and all our legislation, work together towards the long-term wellbeing of Wales.

2. Will the Minister make a statement on Welsh Government legislation that will deliver its sustainable development agenda? OAQ(4)0154(CTP)

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Diolch ichi am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Mae gwneud yn siŵr bod gennym lwybr datblygu hirdymor cywir i Gymru yn ganolog i'n rhaglen ddeddfwriaethol. Mae Bil Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol, yr wyf yn gyfrifol amdano, Bil yr Amgylchedd, y Bil Cynllunio, a'n holl ddeddfwriaeth, yn cydweithio tuag at les hirdymor Cymru.

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14:22

Russell George [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

May I also thank the Minister for the briefing session that he held recently with me and other spokespeople on the forthcoming Bill? Moving forward in a consensual way is vital for the success of this important piece of legislation. The issue of compliance reporting has been raised as a significant challenge by public bodies in Wales. Current processes are deemed inflexible and they often look at single issues in isolation, and are often not focused on outcomes, all of which impacts, of course, on an organisation's ability to deliver. So, through the Bill, how will the Government ensure that compliance and reporting mechanisms are streamlined, focused on key outcomes, and geared up to long-term planning as well?

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A llaf hefyd ddiolch i'r Gweinidog am y sesiwn friffo a gynhaliodd yn ddiweddar gyda mi a llefarwyr eraill ar y Bil sydd ar droed? Mae symud ymlaen mewn ffordd gydysniol yn hollbwysig i lwyddiant y darn pwysig hwn o ddeddfwriaeth. Codwyd y mater o adrodd ar gydymffurfiaeth fel her sylweddol gan gyrrf cyhoeddus yng Nghymru. Ystyrir bod prosesau presennol yn anhyblyg a'u bod yn aml yn edrych ar faterion unigol ar eu pen eu hunain, ac nad ydynt yn aml yn canolbwytio ar ganlyniadau, sy'n cael effaith, wrth gwrs, ar allu sefydliad i gyflawni. Felly, drwy'r Bil, sut y bydd y Llywodraeth yn sicrhau bod dulliau cydymffurfio ac adrodd yn cael eu symleiddio, eu bod yn canolbwytio ar ganlyniadau allweddol a'u bod yn paratoi ar gyfer cynllunio hirdymor hefyd?

14:23

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for the question and thank you for your kind remarks about the briefing session. The issues that you raise are, of course, very important. The Bill will place local service boards and the single integrated plans on a statutory basis and these will be subject to auditing by the Auditor General for Wales. So, where there are issues in terms of reporting arrangements, these need to be identified and planned for. It is also important that, during the national conversation that is under way currently, where there are practical problems that can be identified, they are fed into the system so that they can be looked at further. The future generations commissioner will also have a role to advise and guide in terms of procedures and reporting arrangements.

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Diolch ichi am y cwestiwn a diolch ichi am eich sylwadau caredig am y sesiwn friffo. Mae'r materion a godwch, wrth gwrs, yn bwysig iawn. Bydd y Bil yn gosod byrddau gwasanaethau lleol a'r cynlluniau integredig sengl ar sail statudol a bydd y rhain yn destun archwilio gan Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru. Felly, lle mae materion o ran trefniadau adrodd, mae angen i'r rhain gael eu nodi a chynllunio ar eu cyfer. Mae hefyd yn bwysig, yn ystod y sgwrs genedlaethol sy'n mynd rhagddi ar hyn o bryd, lle mae problemau ymarferol y gallir eu nodi, y cânt eu bwydo i mewn i'r system fel y gallir eu hystyried ymhellach. Bydd gan gomisiynydd cenedlaethau'r dyfodol rôl hefyd i'w chwarae i gynghori ac arwain o ran gweithdrefnau a threfniadau adrodd.

14:24

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

Minister, the future generations Bill is potentially a very radical and progressive piece of legislation. Could you outline how you envisage the Bill supporting and promoting socio-economic sustainability and justice?

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Weinidog, gallai Bil cenedlaethau'r dyfodol fod yn ddarn radical a blaengar iawn o ddeddfwriaeth. A allech amlinellu sut rydych yn rhagweld y bydd y Bil yn cefnogi ac yn hyrwyddo cynaliadwyedd a chyflawnder economaidd-gymdeithasol?

14:24

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Member very much for that question. He will be aware that two of the goals are that Wales is prosperous and innovative and that Wales is a more equal nation. It is very important that the economic and community aspects of sustainable development are at the forefront of the Bill. So, we certainly believe that we will be working towards a more equal Wales by 2050, which certainly includes the economic prospects for some of our most vulnerable and poorer communities.

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Diolch yn fawr i'r Aelod am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Bydd yn ymwybodol mai dau o'r nodau yw bod Cymru yn ffyniannus ac arloesol a bod Cymru yn genedl fwy cyfartal. Mae'n bwysig iawn sicrhau mai'r agweddu economaidd a chymunedol ar ddatblygu cynaliadwy sydd ar frig y Bil. Felly, rydym yn sicr yn credu y byddwn yn gweithio tuag at greu Cymru fwy cyfartal erbyn 2050, sy'n sicr yn cynnwys y rhagolygon economaidd ar gyfer rhai o'n cymunedau slotach a mwyaf agored i niwed.

14:25

Llyr Gruffydd [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Sefydwyd grŵp ymgynghori annibynnol i roi cyngor i'r Llywodraeth ar ddatblygu'r Bil cynllunio. Mae argymhelliaid yn hwnnw y dylid cynnwys diben statudol i gynllunio yng Nghymru. Y rheswm yr wyf yn gofyn y cwestiwn hwn i chi yw oherwydd y diben statudol a awgrymwyd oedd y dylai'r drefn gynllunio gyfrannu at gyflawni datblygu cynaliadwy. Fel y Gweinidog â chyfrifoldeb trawsbynciol dros ddatblygu cynaliadwy yn y Llywodraeth hon, a ydych yn cytuno y byddai gwneud hynny yn tanlinellu ymrwymiad eich Llywodraeth chi tuag at ddatblygu cynaliadwy?

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An independent advisory group was established to advise the Government on developing the planning Bill. A recommendation is contained therein that there should be a statutory purpose for planning in Wales. The reason why I am asking this question of you is because the statutory purpose suggested was that the planning system should contribute towards achieving sustainable development. As the Minister with overarching responsibility for sustainable development within the Government, do you agree that doing that would underline your Government's commitment to sustainable development?

14:25

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Yes. There will also be an advisory group for the future generations Bill set out in legislation, but the planning Bill, as I have said, is a key component in terms of sustainable development. The planning Bill is intended to secure the reforms needed to deliver an improved, more consistent and timely planning service. I will certainly be consulting with my colleague the Minister for Housing and Regeneration on that matter.

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Ydw. Nodir grŵp cynghori hefyd ar gyfer Bil Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol mewn deddfwriaeth, ond mae'r Bil cynllunio, fel y dywedais, yn elfen allweddol o ran datblygu cynaliadwy. Bwriad y Bil cynllunio yw sicrhau'r diwygiadau sydd eu hangen i ddarparu gwasanaeth cynllunio gwell, mwy cyson ac amserol. Byddaf yn sicr yn ymgynghori â'm cyd-Weinidog, y Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio ar y mater hwnnw.

14:26

Julie Morgan [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Does the Minister think that there will be any scope in the future generations Bill to promote the use of fair trade products by public bodies in Wales, thereby helping to ensure that products that are grown in other countries are grown sustainably and that we look at Wales in its global context?

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A yw'r Gweinidog yn credu, ym Mil cenedlaethau'r dyfodol, y bydd yn bosibl hyrwyddo'r defnydd o gynhyrchion masnach deg gan gyrrf cyhoeddus yng Nghymru, gan helpu i sicrhau bod cynhyrchion a dyfir mewn gwledydd eraill yn cael eu tyfu'n gynaliadwy a'n bod yn edrych ar Gymru yn ei chyd-destun byd-eang?

14:26

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Member for that question. I am well aware of the good work done by fair trade and would want to see it flourish. That requirement could not be put on the face of the Bill, but I see no reason why it could not be included as one of the steps that could be taken. I will certainly discuss this further with officials.

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Diolch i'r Aelod am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Rwy'n ymwybodol iawn o'r gwaith da a wneir gan fasnach deg a byddwn am weld hynny'n ffynnu. Ni allai'r gofyniad hwnnw gael ei roi ar wyneb y Bil, ond ni welaf unrhyw reswm pam na ellid ei gynnwys fel un o'r camau y gallid eu cymryd. Byddaf yn sicr yn trafod hyn ymhellach gyda swyddogion.

Y Sector Gwirfoddol yng Ngorllewin Cymru

The Voluntary Sector in West Wales

14:27

Paul Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

3. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ei flaenoriaethau ar gyfer y sector gwirfoddol yng ngorllewin Cymru? OAQ(4)0142(CTP)

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3. Will the Minister make a statement on his priorities for the voluntary sector in west Wales? OAQ(4)0142(CTP)

14:27

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Member for that question. I outlined priorities for the third sector in my oral statement last November. Regional collaboration linked to public service delivery is being further developed by county voluntary councils and volunteer centres in west Wales, building on existing excellent support for communities and volunteers, with an increasing focus on tackling poverty.

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Diolch i'r Aelod am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Amlinellais flaenoriaethau ar gyfer y trydydd sector yn fy natganiad llafar fis Tachwedd diwethaf. Mae cydweithrediad rhanbarthol sy'n gysylltiedig â darparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yn cael ei ddatblygu ymhellach gan gynghorau gwirfoddol sirol a chanolfannau gwirfoddoli yng ngorllewin Cymru, gan adeiladu ar gefnogaeth ardderchog sydd eisoes yn bodoli i gymunedau a gwirfoddolwyr, gyda ffocws cynyddol ar fynd i'r afael â thlodi.

14:27

Paul Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am grateful to the Minister for that answer. I recently had the privilege of re-opening a Paul Sartori charity shop in Fishguard, which is a great local charity. Given the valuable contribution that charity shops make to the organisations that they represent, and the essential services that they help to provide, will the Minister tell us what discussions he is having with his colleague the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport on ways in which the Welsh Government can actually support charity shops, particularly those run by smaller organisations?

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Rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog am yr ateb hwnnw. Yn ddiweddar, cefas y fraint o ail-agor siop elusen Paul Sartori yn Abergwaun, sy'n elusen leol wych. O ystyried y cyfraniad gwerthfawr a wnaio siopau elusen i'r sefydliadau y maent yn eu cynrychioli, a'r gwasanaethau hanfodol y maent yn helpu i'w darparu, a wnaiff y Gweinidog ddweud wrthym pa drafodaethau y mae'n eu cael gyda'i gyd-Weinidog, Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth ar ffyrdd y gall Llywodraeth Cymru mewn gwirionedd gefnogi siopau elusen, yn enwedig y rhai a gaiff eu rhedeg gan sefydliadau llai?

14:28

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I have not had discussions on that particular matter. I am happy to do so. However, I would certainly encourage charity shops to join in the discussions of the volunteer centres and the local councils for voluntary organisations, so that their concerns and their issues are brought to the front. I will have discussions with my colleague to see whether there is any further work that we can do to assist them.

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Nid wyf wedi cael trafodaethau ar y mater penodol hwnnw. Ryw'n hapus i wneud hynny. Fodd bynnag, byddwn yn sicr yn annog siopau elusen i ymuno yn nhrafodaethau'r canolfannau gwirfoddoli a'r cyngorau lleol ar gyfer sefydliadau gwirfoddol, fel bod eu pryderon a'u problemau yn cael y sylw pennaf. Caf drafodaethau â'm cyd-Weinidog i weld a oes unrhyw waith pellach y gallwn ei wneud i'w cynorthwyo.

14:28

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

Question 4 is from opposition spokesperson, Mark Isherwood.

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Daw Cwestiwn 4 oddi wrth lefarydd yr wrthblaid, Mark Isherwood.

Cyllid y Trydydd Sector

14:28

Mark Isherwood [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

4. A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu polisi Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyllid y trydydd sector? OAQ(4)0148(CTP)

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Third Sector Funding

14:28

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Member for that question. I have recently reaffirmed the importance of our relationship with the third sector and committed to re-invigorating our engagement structures and infrastructure organisations. The amount of funding that the third sector receives from the Welsh Government—£323 million in 2012-13—is testament to the value that we place on the sector.

4. Will the Minister outline the Welsh Government's policy on third sector funding? OAQ(4)0148(CTP)

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Diolch i'r Aelod am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Yn ddiweddar, ategais bwysigrwydd ein cydberthynas â'r trydydd sector ac ymrwymais i ailfwiogi ein strwythurau ymgysylltu a'n sefydliadau seilwaith. Mae swm y cyllid y mae'r trydydd sector yn ei gael gan Lywodraeth Cymru—£323 miliwn yn 2012-13—yn dyst i'r gwerth a roddwn ar y sector.

14:29

Mark Isherwood [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

There has been increasing concern that what is termed the third society is increasingly being seen as a vehicle for delivering programmes and strategies as an extension of Welsh Government, increasingly conditional on processes and box-ticking. When, therefore, will the Welsh Government empower communities and front-line professionals as real partners, allowing them to identify what is going to deliver the best outcomes, reable communities, and deliver potentially more with the public sector for the resource available?

Bu pryer cynyddol bod yr hyn a elwir yn drydedd gymdeithas yn cael ei gweld yn gynyddol fel ffordd o gyflwyno rhaglenni a strategaethau fel estyniad o Lywodraeth Cymru, yn gynyddol amodol ar brosesau a thicio blychau. Pryd, felly, y bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn grymuso cymunedau a gweithwyr proffesiynol rheng flaen fel partneriaid go iawn, a'u galluogi i nodi'r hyn sy'n mynd i gyflawni'r canlyniadau gorau, ailalluogi cymunedau a chyflwyno mwy o bosibl gyda'r sector cyhoeddus ar gyfer yr adnodd sydd ar gael?

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14:29

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

We see the third sector as a very important partner indeed in terms of the delivery of public services. As a result of the 'Continuity and Change—Refreshing the Relationship' review, we have improved the status of the third sector partnership council. As I have said, we are working heavily on a regional basis. It is certainly for public bodies to decide which services they wish to use third sector organisations for, so that there is a good partnership. Additionally, of course, we have improved the focus of meetings between the third sector and Ministers, so that there is a clear focus on the issues within their portfolio.

Gwelwn y trydydd sector fel partner pwysig iawn yn wir o ran darparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus. O ganlyniad i'r adolygiad 'Parhad a Newid-Adnewyddu'r Berthynas', rydym wedi gwella statws cyngor partneriaeth y trydydd sector. Fel y dywedais, rydym yn gweithio'n galed yn rhanbarthol. Mater i gyrrf cyhoeddus yn bendant yw penderfynu pa wasanaethau y maent yn dymuno defnyddio sefydliadau'r trydydd sector ar eu cyfer, fel bod partneriaeth dda. Rydym hefyd, wrth gwrs, wedi gwella ffocws cyfarfodydd rhwng y trydydd sector a Gweinidogion, fel bod ffocws clir ar y materion o fewn eu portffolio.

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14:30

Mark Isherwood [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

You will be aware of the growing call, in the budgetary environment and more broadly on principle, for more co-production and co-design, and the joint commissioning of services. How do you respond to the statements in this month's briefing from Age Alliance Wales—an alliance of 18 voluntary organisations—on the role of the third sector in delivering integrated health and social services for older people? That briefing identifies a pressing need to develop new ways of working that deliver outcomes for the individual at minimum cost. It also calls on the Welsh Government to involve the third sector in the design, planning and delivery of services, in this case for older people.

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Byddwch yn ymwybodol o'r alwad gynyddol, yn yr amgylchedd cyllidebol ac yn fwy cyffredinol, mewn egwyddor, am fwy o gyd-gynhyrchu a chyd-gyllunio, a chomisiynu gwasanaethau ar y cyd. Sut rydych yn ymateb i'r datganiadau yn y papur briffio y mis hwn gan Gynghrair Henoed Cymru—cynghrair o 18 o sefydliadau gwirfoddol—ar rôl y trydydd sector o ran darparu gwasanaethau iechyd a chymdeithasol integredig i bobl hŷn? Mae'r papur briffio hwnnw yn nodi angen dybryd i ddatblygu ffyrdd newydd o weithio sy'n sicrhau canlyniadau i'r unigolyn am y gost leiaf. Mae hefyd yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i gynnwys y trydydd sector wrth ddylunio, cynllunio a darparu gwasanaethau, yn yr achos hwn i bobl hŷn.

14:31

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you very much for that. Certainly, we support the principles of co-production, and we would encourage that. There are values, in terms of experiences, that can be shared. In terms of the specific issues that you raise with Age Concern, and in the delivery, particularly, of health-related matters, I think that that is really a matter for the Minister for Health and Social Services. I would urge you to urge Age Concern to contact the Minister in that regard.

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Diolch yn fawr iawn am hynny. Yn sicr, rydym yn cefnogi egwyddorion cyd-gynhyrchu, a byddem yn annog hynny. Mae gwerthoedd, o ran profiadau, y gellir eu rhannu. O ran y materion penodol a godwch gydag Age Concern, ac wrth gyflwyno, yn arbennig, faterion sy'n gysylltiedig ag iechyd, credaf fod hynny'n fater i'r Gweinidog lechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yn sicr. Byddwn yn eich annog chi i annog Age Concern i gysylltu â'r Gweinidog yn hynny o beth.

14:31

Alun Ffred Jones [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Un o broblemau cyson cyrff y trydydd sector yw cyllid yn cyrraedd yn hwyr. Maent yn cael eu cyllido'n aml drwy gyrrff statudol, fel y cynghorau sir, ac, oherwydd nad yw'r rheini'n cael cadarnhad o'u cyllid gan y Llywodraeth, mae'n golygu bod cyrff y trydydd sector yn aml iawn yn diswyddo staff, ac yn colli momentwm; yn aml, mae'n hanner ffordd drwy'r flwyddyn cyn eu bod yn gallu ail-afael yn eu gwaith. Prys mae'r Llywodraeth yn mynd i sicrhau bod y trydydd sector yn cael chwarae teg cyllidol er mwyn cyflawni ei waith yn effeithiol?

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One of the persistent problems of third sector organisations is funding arriving late. They are often funded by statutory bodies, such as county councils, and because those are not receiving confirmation of their funding from the Government, it means that third sector bodies often make staff redundant, and lose momentum; often, it is halfway through the year before they are able to pick up their work again. When is the Government going to ensure that the third sector receives financial fair play in order to do its work effectively?

14:32

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thanks for that question. As I have said, in 2012-13, we paid £323 million to third sector organisations. That was in terms of grant funding and procured services. Now, there are issues in terms of when invoices are received, indeed, by the Government, so it may not be one-way traffic here. However, if you are aware of particular organisations that have problems, I would be grateful if you would pass those details on to me.

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Diolch am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Fel y dywedais, yn 2012-13, talwyd £323 miliwn i sefydliadau'r trydydd sector. Roedd hynny o ran cyllid grant a gwasanaethau a gaffaelwyd. Bellach, mae problemau o ran pryd y caiff anfonebau eu derbyn, yn wir, gan y Llywodraeth, felly efallai nad traffig un ffordd mohono i gyd. Fodd bynnag, os ydych yn ymwybodol o sefydliadau penodol sydd â phroblemau, byddwn yn ddiochgar pe byddech yn rhoi eu manylion i mi.

Undebau Credyd

Credit Unions

14:32

Paul Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

5. *Beth y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i hyrwyddo undebau credyd ledled Cymru? OAQ(4)0143(CTP)*

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5. *What is the Welsh Government doing to promote credit unions across Wales? OAQ(4)0143(CTP)*

14:32

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for the question. I have just committed nearly £1.9 million, over the next three years, for the credit union movement, to work with our most financially excluded members. This will build on existing support that we have given, such as the £679,000 that I approved in January for a national credit union marketing campaign.

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Diolch i chi am y cwestiwn. Rwyf newydd neilltuo bron £1.9 miliwn, dros y tair blynedd nesaf, i'r mudiad undebau credyd, i weithio gyda'n haelodau sydd wedi'u hallgáu fwyaf yn ariannol. Bydd hyn yn adeiladu ar y cymorth presennol yr ydym wedi'i roi, megis y £679,000 a gymeradwyaïs ym mis Ionawr ar gyfer ymgrych farchnata undebau credyd genedlaethol.

14:33

Paul Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, I note that, last November, you met with the Archbishop of Wales to discuss ways to promote the use of credit unions across all sectors and communities in Wales, and you agreed that you would work together to continue to promote them. Could you therefore provide an update on the work that you have done since those discussions, as well as outlining how you have been specifically promoting credit unions since that working with the Archbishop of Wales?

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Weinidog, nodaf, fis Tachwedd diwethaf, i chi gwrrdd ag Archesgob Cymru i drafod ffyrdd o hyrwyddo'r defnydd o undebau credyd ar draws pob sector a chymuned yng Nghymru, a gwnaethoch gytuno y byddech yn cydweithio i barhau i'w hyrwyddo. Felly, a allech roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y gwaith rydych wedi ei wneud ers y trafodaethau hynny, yn ogystal ag amlinellu sut rydych wedi bod yn hyrwyddo yn benodol undebau credyd ers gweithio gydag Archesgob Cymru?

14:33

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

There are a number of issues here. The £679,000 that I referred to is for a marketing campaign that will be led by the North Wales Credit Union. That is a Wales-wide campaign that will seek to increase awareness of the role of credit unions, as well as increasing their membership base. In terms of further work, I will be shortly making an announcement on the relationship with credit unions and how we are going to move forward. That will certainly include focused work with clear partners, such as the Church in Wales.

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Mae nifer o faterion yma. Mae'r £679,000 y cyfeiriad ato yn arian ar gyfer ymgrych farchnata a gaiff ei harwain gan Undeb Credyd Gogledd Cymru. Mae honno'n ymgrych ar gyfer Cymru gyfan a fydd yn ceisio gwella ymwybyddiaeth o rôl undebau credyd, yn ogystal â chynnyddu nifer eu haelodau. O ran gwaith pellach, byddaf yn gwneud cyhoeddiad cyn bo hir ar y gydberthynas ag undebau credyd a sut rydym yn bwriadu ei datblygu. Bydd hynny'n sicr yn cynnwys gwaith penodol gyda phartneriaid clir, megis yr Eglwys yng Nghymru.

14:34

Simon Thomas [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Weinidog, a ydych chi wedi cael cyfle i edrych ar Fil llythrennedd ariannol, sydd wedi cael ei hyrwyddo gan fy nghyfaill Bethan Jenkins? Mae ran o'r Bil hwn yn ymneud ag awdurdodau lleol, a'u rôl nhw o ran hyrwyddo a chefnogi undebau credyd fel dewis amgen i bobl sy'n cael eu trin a'u cau i mewn, yn aml, gan fenthycwyr llog uchel ar hyn o bryd ar y stryd fawr. A ydych yn credu bod gwerth mewn Bil o'r fath, i helpu ym mhroses y Llywodraeth o hyrwyddo a chefnogi undebau credyd?

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Minister, have you had an opportunity to look at the financial literacy Bill, promoted by my colleague Bethan Jenkins? Part of this Bill relates to local authorities, and their role in promoting and supporting credit unions as an alternative for people who are often locked in to high-interest lenders on the high street at present. Do you think that there is value in such a Bill, to help the Government in its process of promoting and supporting credit unions?

14:35

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for that question. Financial literacy is, of course, very important and I know that a lot of very good work is being done by educators, and indeed credit unions and other organisations, to improve financial literacy. I am not convinced at this point that there is a need for an additional Bill. Matters that are in hand, in terms of the curriculum, would be satisfactory, but there is no doubting the importance of that matter.

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Diolch i chi am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Mae llythrennedd ariannol, wrth gwrs, yn bwysig iawn a gwn fod llawer o waith da iawn yn cael ei wneud gan addysgwyr, ac yn wir undebau credyd a sefydliadau eraill, er mwyn gwella llythrennedd ariannol. Nid wyf wedi fy argyhoeddi ar hyn o bryd bod angen Bil ychwanegol. Byddai'r materion sydd dan sylw, o ran y cwricwlwm, yn fodhaol, ond nid oes amheuaeth ynglŷn â phwysigrwydd y mater hwnnw.

14:35

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

I call on the Welsh Liberal Democrat spokesperson, Peter Black.

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Galwaf ar lefarydd Democratioaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru, Peter Black.

14:35

Peter Black [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Out of the £4.7 million that the Government has provided to credit unions over the last few years, just under £1 million has been spent on consultancy and administration. Given that the amount of money that you have made available for credit unions next year is roughly half of what you have made available this year, can you say how you intend to support the credit union movement with financial resources so that it can become sustainable?

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Allan o'r £4.7 miliwn y mae'r Llywodraeth wedi ei ddarparu i undebau credyd dros yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf, gwariwyd ychydig o dan £1 filiwn ar ymgynghori a gweinyddu. O ystyried bod y swm o arian yr ydych wedi ei ryddhau ar gyfer undebau credyd y flywyddyn nesaf tua hanner yr hyn yr ydych wedi ei ryddhau eleni, a allwch ddweud sut rydych yn bwriadu cefnogi'r mudiad undebau credyd gydag adnoddau ariannol fel y gall ddod yn gynaliadwy?

14:36

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Our drive, of course, is for credit unions to become sustainable and no longer dependent on public money. The whole purpose of the additional investment was to achieve the goal, or to work significantly towards the goal, of accelerating the development of credit unions and accessing financial services through credit unions. I will be making announcements soon on the way in which we will support credit unions, other than the issue of money, and all of them are now aware of the funding that they are going to have over the next three years. I will be making announcements on that very shortly.

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Ein hymgyrch, wrth gwrs, yw sicrhau bod undebau credyd yn dod yn gynaliadwy ac nad ydynt bellach yn ddibynnol ar arian cyhoeddus. Holl bwrrpas y buddsoddiad ychwanegol oedd cyflawni'r nod, neu weithio'n sylweddol tuag at y nod, o gyflymu'r broses o ddatblygu undebau credyd a chael gafael ar wasanaethau ariannol drwy undebau credyd. Byddaf yn gwneud cyhoeddiadau maes o law ar y ffordd y byddwn yn cefnogi undebau credyd, heblaw am fater arian, ac mae pob un ohonynt bellach ynymwybodol o'r arian a gânt dros y tair blynedd nesaf. Byddaf yn gwneud cyhoeddiadau ar hynny maes o law.

14:36

Peter Black [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for that answer, Minister. Clearly, your intention that credit unions are not going to be dependent on public money is quite evident in the way that you spent that money. Therefore, in terms of the sustainability of credit unions, the vast majority of them in Wales are not sustainable in the medium-to-long term. Will you be working with the credit union movement to try to ensure that we have a smaller number of credit unions that can be sustainable and self-financing in that capacity?

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Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Yn amlwg, mae eich bwriad i sicrhau na fydd undebau credyd yn ddibynnol ar arian cyhoeddus yn eithaf amlwg yn y ffordd rydych yn gwario'r arian hwnnw. Felly, o ran cynaliadwyedd undebau credyd, nid yw'r mwyaf helaeth ohonynt yng Nghymru yn gynaliadwy yn y tymor canolig i'r hirdymor. A fyddwch yn gweithio gyda'r mudiad undebau credyd i geisio sicrhau bod gennym nifer lai o undebau credyd a all fod yn gynaliadwy ac yn ariannu eu hunain?

14:37

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

We support the process of mergers where that is justifiable. It is important that they have a satisfactory financial base so that they are able to provide support for some of the financially excluded people they traditionally deal with. We are looking at a range of measures to support that, such as payroll deduction and, indeed, encouraging people who are, shall we say, better off, to use credit unions as a means of accessing loans so that there is an income stream for those credit unions. That may well result in a mergers process through natural selection.

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Rydym yn cefnogi'r broses uno lle bo cyflawnhad dros hynny. Mae'n bwysig bod ganddynt sylfaen ariannol fodhaol fel y gallant ddarparu cymorth i rai o'r bobl sydd wedi'u hallgáu'n ariannol y maent yn draddodiadol yn delio â hwy. Rydym yn edrych ar ystod o fesurau i gefnogi hynny, fel didyniad o'r gyflogres ac, yn wir, annog pobl sydd, yn ein barn ni, yn well eu byd, i ddefnyddio undebau credyd fel ffordd o gael gafael ar fenthyciadau fel bod ffrwd incwm ar gyfer yr undebau credyd hynny. Gall hynny arwain at broses uno drwy ddetholiad naturiol.

Benthyciadau Llog Uchel

14:37

Gwyn R. Price [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

6. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am nifer y bobl sy'n trefnu benthyciadau llog uchel yng Nghymru?
 OAQ(4)0150(CTP)

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High-interest Loans

6. Will the Minister make a statement on the number of people taking out high interest loans in Wales?
 OAQ(4)0150(CTP)

14:38

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

There has been an increase in the number of people turning to high-interest loan companies, and this is alarming. Alternative affordable credit, such as that through credit unions, is one way to combat this worrying rise, along with stronger regulation when the Financial Conduct Authority comes into being in April.

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14:38

Gwyn R. Price [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for that answer. I am aware that individuals have been contacted by lenders, with one individual receiving 400 calls, nearly 700 texts and over 1,000 e-mails in a two-week period. Do you agree with me that such contact is totally unacceptable and could see people taking out loans that they just cannot afford?

Bu cynnydd yn nifer y bobl sy'n troi at gwmniau benthyciadau llog uchel, ac mae hyn yn peri braw. Mae credyd fforddiadwy amgen, fel yr un a geir drwy undebau credyd, yn un ffodd o wrthsefyll y cynnydd hwn sy'n peri pryder, ynghyd â rheoleiddio cryfach pan ddaw'r Awdurdod Ymddygiad Ariannol i fodolaeth ym mis Ebrill.

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14:38

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

That is a truly alarming statistic. I, like probably everybody else in the Chamber, receive such texts and e-mail messages from time to time, but the number you allude to must be extremely distressing for the individual concerned. The actual issue of the regulation of these companies is a non-devolved matter, but I know that new regulations are to be introduced by the Financial Conduct Authority when it takes over responsibility on 1 April. In addition, I will write to the new Competition and Markets Authority, the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and Ofcom about nuisance calls to see what they are able to do about it.

Diolch i chi am yr ateb hwnnw. Ryw'n ymwybodol bod benthycwyr wedi cysylltu ag unigolion ac mae un unigolyn wedi cael 400 o alwadau, bron 700 o negeseuon testun a thros 1,000 o negeseuon e-bost mewn pythefnos. A gytunwch â mi fod cyswllt o'r fath yn holol annerbyniol ac y gallai arwain at bobl yn trefnu benthyciadau na allant eu fforddio o gwbl?

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14:39

Mohammad Asghar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Glasgow City Council has put together a comprehensive package of measures to tackle the problem of people using pay-day loan companies, pawnbrokers and other non-standard lenders, including loan sharks. Glasgow promotes financial education, including advice on how to deal with personal finances and promoting the role of credit unions. What measures does the Minister intend to take with his colleagues to widen financial education in Wales in all sectors, from children to adults?

Mae hwnnw'n ystadegyn gwirioneddol frawychus. Rywf i, fel pob un arall mae'n siŵr yn y Siambra, yn cael negeseuon testun a negeseuon e-bost o'r fath o bryd i'w gilydd, ond rhaid bod y nifer y cyfeiriwr ati yn peri llawer o ofid i'r unigolyn dan sylw. Mae'r mater gwirioneddol o reoleiddio'r cwmniau hyn yn fater annatganoledig, ond gwn y caiff rheoliadau newydd eu cyflwyno gan yr Awdurdod Ymddygiad Ariannol pan fydd yn ymgymryd â'r cyfrifoldeb ar 1 Ebrill. Hefyd, ysgrifennaf at yr Awdurdod Cystadlaethau a Marchnadodd newydd, yr Adran Busnes, Arloesedd a Sgiliau ac Ofcom ynglŷn â galwadau niwsans i weld beth y gellir ei wneud am hyn.

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14:40

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Member for that supplementary question. I am aware of these matters. Some weeks ago, I took part in an event here at the Assembly, called 'Don't get bitten by loan sharks', where the Wales illegal moneylending unit, for example, was a key speaker. In terms of the main question about financial literacy, I believe that I have already answered that in response to an earlier question. I would just re-emphasise that I think that we are doing an awful lot of work now—in terms of the current education curriculum and through voluntary organisations, credit unions and our advice services—in order to help people to cope better with their financial situations.

Mae Cyngor Dinas Glasgow wedi llunio pecyn cynhwysfawr o fesurau i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem o bobl yn defnyddio cwmniau benthyciad diwrnod cyflog, gwystlwyr a benthycwyr ansafonol eraill, gan gynnwys benthycwyr arian didrwydded. Mae Glasgow yn hyrwyddo addysg ariannol, gan gynnwys cyngor ar sut i ddelio â chyllid personol a hyrwyddo rôl undebau credyd. Pa gamau y mae'r Gweinidog yn bwriadu eu cymryd gyda'i gyd-Weinidogion i ehangu addysg ariannol yng Nghymru ym mhob sector, o blant i oedolion?

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Diolch i'r Aelod am y cwestiwn atodol hwnnw. Ryw'n ymwybodol o'r materion hyn. Rai wythnosau yn ôl, cymerais ran mewn digwyddiad yma yn y Cynulliad, o'r enw 'Peidiwrch â chael eich brathu gan siarcod benthyca', ac un o'r prif siaradwyr, er enghraifft, oedd cynrychiolydd o uned benthyca arian anghyfreithlon Cymru. O ran y prif gwestiwn yngylch llythrennedd ariannol, credaf fy mod eisoes wedi ateb hwnnw mewn ymateb i gwestiwn cynharach. Hoffwn bwysleisio eto ein bod, yn fy marn i, yn gwneud llawer iawn o waith ar hyn o bryd—o ran y cwrwicwlwm addysg presennol a thrwy sefydliadau gwirfoddol, undebau credyd a'n gwasanaethau cyngor—er mwyn helpu pobl i ymdopi'n well â'u sefyllfaeodd ariannol.

14:41

Bethan Jenkins [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, I heard your response to my colleague Simon Thomas in relation to the proposal for my financial education and inclusion Bill. You said that, at the moment, you believe that what the Welsh Government is doing is adequate. However, do we not want to strive for more in Wales and to be more than adequate? In relation to the number of people who are getting high-interest loans, the information that I received this week through a freedom of information request was that, in schools across Wales, there are huge disparities in terms of the amount of education that young people are receiving. Surely you should be open to new ideas from other people in Welsh society who want to contribute to this most important agenda.

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Weinidog, clywais eich ymateb i'm cyd-Aelod Simon Thomas mewn perthynas â'r cynnig ar gyfer fy Mil addysg a chynhwysiant ariannol. Dywedasoch eich bod, ar hyn o bryd, yn credu bod yr hyn y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud yn ddigonol. Fodd bynnag, onid ydym am ymdrechu i gael mwy yng Nghymru a bod yn fwy na digonol? O ran nifer y bobl sy'n cael benthyciadau llog uchel, y wybodaeth a gefais yr wythnos hon drwy gais rhyddid gwybodaeth oedd bod gwahaniaethau enfawr, mewn ysgolion ledled Cymru, o ran faint o addysg y mae pobl ifanc yn ei chael. Oni ddylech fod yn agored i syniadau newydd gan bobl eraill mewn cymdeithas yng Nghymru sydd am gyfrannu at yr agenda hollbwysig hon.

14:41

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Member for that, and I recognise the amount of work that she must be doing in terms of her Bill. We can argue over words. I used the word 'adequate'—we can always do better; I appreciate that. The issue is this: do we need more legislation on the matter? I do not think that we do.

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Diolch i'r Aelod am hynny, ac rwy'n cydnabod y gwaith y mae'n rhaid ei bod yn ei wneud o ran ei Bil. Gallwn ddadlau dros eiriau. Defnyddias y gair 'digonol'—gallwn bob amser wneud yn well; gwerthfawrogaf hynny. Y broblem yw hyn: a oes angen mwy o ddeddfwriaeth arnom ar y mater? Nac oes, yn fy marn i.

14:41

Mike Hedges [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, will you join with me in welcoming the news that, over the past two months, access to 642—yes, 642—payday loan websites has been blocked by Labour-run Swansea council on its public and communal-use computers, to stop people from falling victim to the sky-high interest rates of these companies? Do you also agree that other Welsh local councils would do well to follow Swansea's approach to combating these high interest rate loans?

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Weinidog, a wnewch chi ymuno â mi i groesawu'r newyddion bod mynediad at 642—ie, 642—o wefannau benthyciad diwrnod cyflog wedi cael eu blocio gan gyngor Abertawe dan arweiniad y blaid Lafur ar ei gyfrifiaduron cyhoeddus a defnydd cymunol, er mwyn atal pobl rhag cael eu denu gan gyfraddau llog eithriadol o uchel y cwmniâu hyn? A gytunwch hefyd y byddai'n syniad i gynghorau lleol eraill Cymru ddilyn esiampl Abertawe a gwrthsefyll y benthyciadau cyfradd llog uchel hyn?

14:42

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Member very much for that. I am aware of the work that Swansea council has done in this regard, and I would very much encourage other local authorities to see whether they could follow suit. It is good to see that it is working in partnership with the LASA Credit Union Ltd and other organisations through the Movement for Change. I was very pleased to meet Serai Hann from Bonymaen at the St David Awards, where she was a runner-up in the youth section for her work for the Movement for Change.

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Diolch yn fawr iawn i'r Aelod am hynny. Rwy'n ymwybodol o'r gwaith y mae cyngor Abertawe wedi'i wneud yn hyn o beth, a byddwn yn sicr yn annog awdurdodau lleol eraill i weld a allent wneud yr un peth. Mae'n dda gweld ei fod yn gweithio mewn partneriaeth ag Undeb Credyd LASA Cyf a sefydliadau eraill drwy'r Movement for Change. Roeddwn yn falch iawn o gwrdd â Serai Hann o Fonymaen yng Ngwobrau Dewi Sant, lle y daeth yn ail yn yr adran ieuengtid ar gyfer ei gwaith gyda'r Movement for Change.

Trechu Tlodi

14:43

Alun Ffred Jones [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

7. A wnaiffy Gweinidog ddatganiad am ymdrechion Llywodraeth Cymru i drechu tlodi yn Arfon?
 OAQ(4)0146(CTP)

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

Tackling Poverty

7. Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Government's efforts to tackle poverty in Arfon?
 OAQ(4)0146(CTP)

14:43

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The Welsh Government's tackling poverty action plan sets out targets and milestones on how we will tackle poverty. I am pleased that the Welsh Government agenda is shared by partners in the voluntary, health and local government sectors. That shared commitment was reiterated in my recent discussions with Gwynedd Council on how it is taking this work forward with Flying Start, Families First and Communities First programmes in Arfon.

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Mae cynllun gweithredu ar gyfer trechu tlodi Llywodraeth Cymru yn nodi targedau a cherrig milltir ar sut y byddwn yn trechu tlodi. Rwy'n falch bod agenda Llywodraeth Cymru yn cael ei rhannu gan bartneriaid yn y sectorau gwirfoddol, iechyd a llywodraeth leol. Ategwyd yr ymrwymiad cyffredin hwnnw yn fy nhrafodaethau diweddar â Chyngor Gwynedd ar sut y mae'n datblygu'r gwaith hwn gyda rhaglenni Dechrau'n Deg, Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf a Chymunedau yn Gyntaf yn Arfon.

14:43

Alun Ffred Jones [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Diolch yn fawr am yr ateb hwnnw. Byddaf yn annerch cynhadledd rhwydwaith Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf yng Nghaernarfon ddydd Gwener. Mae'r partneriaid i gyd wedi dod at ei gilydd. Hoffwn ofyn ichi longyfarch y tîm a'r bartneriaeth sy'n gweithio ar y cynllun ac wedi cael rhai llwyddiannau yn barod, a hefyd y cydweithio sydd wedi digwydd â thîm Judy Hutchings ym Mhrifysgol Bangor, sydd wedi gwneud cymaint o waith gyda Blynnyddoedd Rhyfeddol, sy'n rhan, mewn gwirionedd, o'r un rhaglen.

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Thank you very much for that answer. I will be addressing the Families First network conference in Caernarfon on Friday. The partners have all come together. I would like to ask you to congratulate the team and the partnership working on the scheme, which has already had some success, and also the work that has taken place with Judy Hutchings's team at Bangor University, which has done so much work with Incredible Years, which, in fact, is part of the same programme.

14:44

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am happy to recognise the work that is being done and led by Gwynedd Council and partners—not only within Gwynedd, but also the partnership that is developing across the whole of north Wales. I spoke at a conference last week on bringing partners together across the sector. The example of what is being done in Families First partnerships, working with Flying Start as well, is impressive. I want to see more of that happening and for there to be a more consistent approach that joins up the work that they do with Communities First in order to have a much greater, bigger and deeper impact for communities that are living with the reality of poverty day-to-day.

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Rwy'n hapus i gydnabod y gwaith sy'n cael ei wneud a'i arwain gan Gyngor Gwynedd a'i bartneriaid—nid yn unig o fewn Gwynedd, ond hefyd y bartneriaeth sy'n datblygu ar draws pob rhan o'r gogledd. Siaradais mewn cynhadledd yr wythnos diwethaf ar ddod â phartneriaid at ei gilydd ar draws y sector. Mae'r engrai�ffit o'r hyn sy'n cael ei wneud ym mharteriaethau Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf, gan weithio gyda Dechrau'n Deg hefyd, yn drawiadol. Rwyf am weld mwy o hynny'n digwydd ac rwyf am gael dull mwy cyson sy'n cysylltu'r gwaith a wnânt gyda Cymunedau yn Gyntaf er mwyn cael mwy o effaith ac effaith ddyfnach ar gymunedau sy'n byw gyda realiti tlodi o ddydd i ddydd.

14:44

Antoinette Sandbach [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Deputy Minister, I am sure that you are aware of the report by Save the Children that identified that those parents living in severe poverty are most likely to be found in areas that are deprived, but also rural. It concluded that difficulties in accessing childcare are significantly affecting the ability of parents in severe poverty not only to work, but to train and study. What are you doing under your obligations in relation to the Childcare Act 2006 to ensure that local authorities are providing accessible and affordable childcare, particularly where a recent report found that no local authority in Wales felt that it had sufficient childcare in rural areas?

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Ddirprwy Weinidog, rwy'n siŵr eich bod yn ymwybodol o'r adroddiad gan Achub y Plant a nododd fod y rhieni hynny sy'n byw mewn tlodi drifrifol yn fwyaf tebygol o gael eu canfod mewn ardaloedd sy'n ddfireintiedig, ond sydd hefyd yn wledig. Daeth i'r casgliad bod anawsterau wrth geisio cael gafael ar ofal plant yn effeithio'n sylweddol ar allu rhieni mewn tlodi drifrifol, nid yn unig i weithio, ond i hyfforddi ac astudio. Beth rydych yn ei wneud o dan eich rhwymedigaethau mewn perthynas â Deddf Gofal Plant 2006 i sicrhau bod awdurdodau lleol yn darparu gofal plant hygyrch a ffoddiadwy, yn enwedig o gofio adroddiad diweddar a nododd nad oedd unrhyw awdurdod lleol yng Nghymru yn teimlo bod ganddo ddigon o ofal plant mewn ardaloedd gwledig?

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for the question. We have discussed childcare in previous debates and I am sure that it will continue to be a subject of debate. The childcare sufficiency assessments that are currently ongoing are being drawn to a close, and I will have advice on how we actually see the pattern of childcare across Wales in recent form. I am especially interested in points around the affordability of childcare, which is an issue not just in rural communities, but right across Wales. The recent survey on childcare costs did reveal that they have risen in Wales, but they are still cheaper than in England. However, we cannot get away from the reality that the tax and benefits system is often the biggest support that people have in terms of making childcare affordable. We are dealing with a UK Government that chose to reduce that support for low and middle-income parents. Here in Wales, we have a commitment to improve the amount of childcare available. We want to support new childcare businesses, and that is what we will continue to do. I look forward to reporting back to this Chamber once we see the three further pilot schemes in the future.

Diolch i chi am y cwestiwn. Rydym wedi trafod gofal plant mewn dadleuon blaenorol, ac rwy'n siŵr y bydd yn parhau i fod yn destun dadl. Mae'r asesiadau o ddigonolrwydd gofal plant sy'n mynd rhagdynt ar hyn o bryd yn cael eu cwblhau, a chaf gyngor ar beth oedd y batrwm gofal plant ledled Cymru yn ddiweddar. Mae gennylf ddiddordeb penodol mewn pwyntiau sy'n ymwnneud â fforddiadwyedd gofal plant, sydd yn broblem nid yn unig mewn cymunedau gwledig, ond ledled Cymru. Datgelodd yr arolwg diweddar ar gostau gofal plant eu bod wedi codi yng Nghymru, ond eu bod yn rhattach o hyd na Lloegr. Fodd bynnag, ni allwn wadu'r ffaith mai'r system treth a budd-daliadau yw'r cymorth mwyaf a gaiff pobl yn aml, o ran gwneud gofal plant yn fforddiadwy. Rydym yn delio â Llywodraeth y DU a ddewisodd leihau'r cymorth hwnnw i rieni ar incwm isel ac incwm canolig. Yma yng Nghymru, mae gennym ymrwymiad i gynyddu'r gofal plant sydd ar gael. Rydym am gefnogi busnesau gofal plant newydd, a dyna beth y byddwn yn parhau i'w wneud. Edrychaf ymlaen at adrodd yn ôl i'r Siambwr hon pan welwn y tri chynllun peilot ar waith yn y dyfodol.

Cyllid Dechrau'n Deg

14:47

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

8. Pa feini prawf y mae'r Gweinidog yn eu defnyddio i ddyrannu cyllid Dechrau'n Deg i awdurdodau lleol?
 OAQ(4)0157(CTP)

Flying Start Funds

14:47

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank Aled Roberts for the question. Flying Start funding was previously allocated using the children's personal social services formula, which drew on a range of indicators for the 0-18 age group. Flying Start is now based upon the more age and need-appropriate assessment of the numbers of children under the age of four living in income-benefit households. This update on allocating Flying Start funds was set out in my written evidence to the Children, Young People and Education Committee last month.

Diolch i Aled Roberts am y cwestiwn. Dyrannwyd cyllid Dechrau'n Deg yn y gorffennol gan ddefnyddio fformiwlw gwasanaethau cymdeithasol personol plant, a ddefnyddiodd amrywiaeth o ddangosyddion ar gyfer y grŵp oedran 0-18. Mae Dechrau'n Deg bellach yn seiliedig ar asesiad mwy priodol o ran oedran ac angen o nifer y plant dan bedair oed sy'n byw mewn cartrefi budd-dal incwm. Nodwyd y diweddarriad hwn ar ddyrannu cyllid Dechrau'n Deg yn fy nhystiolaeth ysgrifenedig i'r Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg fis diwethaf.

14:47

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

Yes, I remember the evidence. I am just wondering what assessment the Government has undertaken of the variation in funding of childcare places within local authorities—that is, the way in which the authorities themselves spend it. I have become aware of instances in north-east Wales where there is a 40% difference in the level of funding for childcare places through Flying Start between neighbouring authorities. One authority has not reviewed its funding of childcare placements for three years.

Ie, cofiaf y dystiolaeth. Tybed pa asesiad y mae'r Llywodraeth wedi ei gynnwl o'r amrywiad yng nghyllid lleoedd gofal plant mewn awdurdodau lleol —hynny yw, y ffordd y mae'r awdurdodau eu hunain yn ei wario. Rwyf wedi dod yn ymwybodol o achosion yn y gogledd-ddwyrain lle mae 40% o wahaniaeth yn lefel y cyllid ar gyfer lleoedd gofal plant drwy Dechrau'n Deg rhwng awdurdodau cyfagos. Mae un awdurdod wedi methu ag adolygu ei ddull ariannu lleoliadau gofal plant ers tair blynedd.

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

If there are particular examples that the Member wants to raise, then I will be happy to look at those in detail and have a discussion with him at a future date. My special interest is not just how the money is allocated; it is what outcomes are coming from that money. I want to see high-quality childcare made available through Flying Start in accordance with the guidance that we set out for Flying Start settings. In particular, I want to see an improvement in the level of take-up of those childcare places to make sure that the money used is being spent most effectively for the benefit of the largest number of families.

Os oes enghreifftiau penodol y mae'r Aelod am eu codi, yna byddaf yn hapus i edrych ar reini'n fanwl a chael trafodaeth ag ef rywbryd yn y dyfodol. Mae a wnelo fy niddordeb arbennig nid yn unig â'r modd y caiff yr arian ei ddyrannu; mae a wnelo hefyd â pha ganlyniadau sy'n deillio o'r arian hwnnw. Rwyf am weld gofal plant o ansawdd uchel yn cael ei ddarparu drwy Dechrau'n Deg, yn unol â'r canllawiau a nodwn ar gyfer lleoliadau Dechrau'n Deg. Yn benodol, rwyf am weld gwelliant yn nifer y rhieni sy'n manteisio ar y lleoedd gofal plant hynny er mwyn sicrhau bod yr arian yn cael ei wario yn y ffordd fwyaf effeithiol er budd y nifer fwyaf o deuluoedd.

Angela Burns [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, it is evident that one of the frustrations of government is an inability for policy to be carried through. To build on Robert Aled's point—Aled Roberts, my apologies. To build on Aled Roberts's question to you, every local authority is supposed to do a three-year child sufficiency assessment and a yearly progress report that is sent up to some black hole here. I just wanted to know who actually assesses that, looks at that and monitors it, because if they were doing their job properly, then the kind of example that Aled Roberts so briefly brought up would not be occurring, because it would be identified, and you would be able to put forward your policies, and they would be based on outcomes that are truly monitored properly.

Weinidog, mae'n amlwg mai un o rwystredigaethau'r Llywodraeth yw anallu i gyflawni polisi'n llwyr. Gan ychwanegu at bwynt Robert Aled—ymddiheuriadau Aled Roberts. Gan ychwanegu at bwynt Aled Roberts, mae pob awdurdod lleol i fod i wneud asesiad o ddigonolrwydd plant bob tair blynedd ac adroddiad blynnyddol ar gynnydd sy'n cael ei anfon i ryw dwll du yma. Yn syml, roeddwn am wybod pwy sy'n asesu hynny mewn gwirionedd, yn edrych ar hynny ac yn ei fonitro, oherwydd pe baent yn gwneud eu gwaith yn iawn, yna ni fyddai'r math o enghraift a grybwyllyd yn fras gan Aled Roberts yn digwydd, oherwydd byddai'n cael ei nodi, a byddech yn gallu cyflwyno eich polisiau, a byddent yn seiliedig ar ganlyniadau sydd wir yn cael eu monitro'n briodol.

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I think that is rather unfair. The childcare sufficiency assessments are undertaken, and we have had the recent three-year full review. I am going to receive advice on the gaps and the main areas for us to deal with that come from those. However, the honest reality is that, in terms of trying to develop and promote the availability of childcare, we recognise that there are gaps, and there are issues around the accessibility of childcare and its affordability. We have a range of policy levers available to us, but not the complete suite. Our response must be to look at the most effective use of that money, how we use the intervention programmes we have, and how we try to level up quality where we recognise that variation exists. We are undertaking a range of work on this particular issue with the childcare sector itself, with businesses and the maintained sector. We are meeting these people at the start of April again to try to work though how we deliver on the shared ambitions within the 10-year early years and childcare plan.

Credaf fod hynny braidd yn annheg. Cynhelir yr asesiadau digonolrwydd gofal plant ac rydym wedi cael adolygiad llawn tair blynedd yn ddiweddar. Caf gyngor ar y bylchau a'r prif feysydd inni ddelio â hwy sy'n deillio ohonynt. Fodd bynnag, y gwir yw, o ran ceisio datblygu a hyrwyddo argaeedd gofal plant, cydnabyddwn fod bylchau, a bod problemau ynghylch hygyrchedd gofal plant a'i fforddiadwyedd. Mae gennym amryviaeth o ddulliau ysgogi polisi, ond nid yngrys gyan. Rhaid inni ymateb drwy edrych ar y defnydd mwyaf effeithiol o'r arian hwnnw, sut rydym yn defnyddio'r rhagleni ymyrryd sydd gennym, a sut rydym yn ceisio lefelu'r ansawdd lle y cydnabyddwn fod amrywiadau'n bodoli. Rydym yn cynnal gwaith amrywiol ar y mater penodol hwn gyda'r sector gofal plant ei hun, gyda busnesau a'r sector a gynhelir. Byddwn yn cyfarfod â'r bobl hynny ddechrau mis Ebrill er mwyn ceisio gweithio drwy'r ffordd rydym yn cyflawni'r uchelgeisiau a rennir o fewn y cynllun blynnyddoedd cynnar a gofal plant 10 mlynedd.

14:50

Rhodri Glyn Thomas [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Ddirprwy Weinidog, roeddwn yn falch i'ch clywed yn gynharach yn dweud bod y ddarpariaeth drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg yn cynyddu o fewn gwasanaeth Dechrau'n Deg. Byddwn yn awgrymu bod gwaith eto i'w wneud er mwyn sicrhau bod rhieni sy'n dymuno derbyn y gwasanaeth i'w plant drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg yn cael yr un cyfle â'r rhieni sy'n dymuno'r gwasanaeth drwy'r Saesneg. A ydych, o ran y meinu prawf o ran ariannu awdurdodau lleol ac ariannu'r gwasanaeth hwn, wedi rhoi ystyriaeth i'r ffaith, os bydd gwasanaeth yn y ddwy iaith yn cael ei gynnig, y bydd y costau yn uwch oherwydd hynny? A oes ystyriaeth wedi'i roi i hynny yn y meinu prawf yr ydych yn eu gosod o ran ariannu'r gwasanaeth?

14:51

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Our view is that Flying Start is adequately funded to be provided through the medium of Welsh where it is required. For example, in Gwynedd and Anglesey, Flying Start is provided through the medium of Welsh, as you would expect. In other parts of the country, where there is a language need and a parental preference for Flying Start to be provided through the medium of Welsh, our view is that there is adequate funding to do that. I have had a number of constructive discussions with Members and outside organisations about how we achieve Flying Start provision through the medium of Welsh of the appropriate quality in both languages. I am continuing to have that discussion, which is constructive and ongoing. I recognise that we are certainly not at an end point where we can say that this is done and dusted and there is no more work to do. I expect the expansion of Flying Start to deliver more Welsh-medium settings right across the country.

Deputy Minister, I was pleased to hear you say earlier that Welsh-medium provision is increasing within the Flying Start service. I would suggest that there is work yet to be done to ensure that parents who wish to receive the service for their children through the medium of Welsh have the same opportunity as the parents who wish to receive the service through the medium of English. Have you, in terms of the criteria for funding local authorities and funding this service, taken account of the fact that, if a service in both languages is offered, the costs will be higher as a result? Has consideration been given to that in the criteria that you set for funding the service?

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14:52

Kirsty Williams [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

9. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y Rhaglen Cyfleusterau Cymunedol? OAQ(4)0147(CTP)

14:52

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Member for that question. The community facilities programme is the Welsh Government's capital grant scheme for the retention and improvement of community facilities that are helping to tackle poverty. My officials are currently in the process of sending out guidance and expression of interest forms to organisations already seeking to make an application.

Yn ein barn ni, mae Dechrau'n Deg yn cael ei hariannu'n ddigonol drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg lle bo angen. Er enghraifft, yng Ngwynedd ac Ynys Môn, darperir Dechrau'n Deg drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg, fel y byddech yn ei ddisgwyl. Mewn rhannau eraill o'r wlad, lle mae galw am ddarparu Dechrau'n Deg drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg oherwydd yr angen am yr iaith a devis rhieni, ein barn ni yw bod cyllid digonol ar gael i wneud hynny. Cefais nifer o drafodaethau adeiladol gydag Aelodau a sefydliadau allanol am y ffordd rydym yn darparu Dechrau'n Deg trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg o'r ansawdd priodol yn y ddwy iaith. Rwy'n parhau i gael y drafodaeth honno, sy'n adeiladol ac yn mynd rhagddi. Cydnabyddaf nad ydym ar gam olaf y broses yn sicr, lle y gallwn ddweud bod hyn wedi ei gwblhau ac nad oes rhagor o waith i'w wneud. Drwy ehangu Dechrau'n Deg rwy'n disgwyl iddi gael ei darparu mewn mwy o leoliadau cyfrwng Cymraeg ledled y wlad.

Community Facilities Programme

9. Will the Minister make a statement on the Community Facilities Programme? OAQ(4)0147(CTP)

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Diolch i'r Aelod am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Y rhaglen cyfleusterau cymunedol yw cynllun grant cyfalaf Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer cadw a gwella cyfleusterau cymunedol sy'n helpu i drechu tlodi. Mae fy swyddogion wrthi'n anfon canllawiau a ffurflenni mynegi diddordeb i sefydliadau sydd eisoes yn ceisio gwneud cais.

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14:52

Kirsty Williams [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Minister for that answer. Can you give me a timescale for when you would expect those community groups that are seeking to make an application to be able to do so? The previous community facilities and activities programme has been vital in Brecon and Radnorshire in ensuring the survival of many community facilities, especially village halls where there is no other public space for people to congregate. I know that there are other communities in danger of losing their village halls that are very anxious to make an application to the fund and have very strong cases for doing so.

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Diolch i'r Gweinidog am yr ateb hwnnw. A allwch roi amserlen imi yn nodi pryd rydych yn disgwyl i'r grwpiau cymunedol hynny sy'n ceisio gwneud cais allu gwneud hynny? Mae'r rhaglen cyfleusterau a gweithgareddau cymunedol flaenorol wedi bod yn hanfodol ym Mrycheiniog a Sir Ffynwy i sicrhau bod llawer o gyfleusterau cymunedol yn parhau, yn enwedig neuaddau pentref lle nad oes man cyhoeddus arall i bobl ymgynnnull yn ddo. Gwn fod cymunedau eraill sydd mewn perygl o golli eu neuaddau pentref yn awyddus iawn i wneud cais i'r gronfa ac mae ganddynt achosion cryf iawn dros wneud hynny.

14:53

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I hope that this will be positive news for you. The community facilities programme has been refocused to be very clearly about tackling poverty. It is a pan-Wales programme, so your constituents will be able to make applications. I expect expression of interest forms and accompanying guidance to be made publicly available within a week.

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Gobeithio y bydd hyn yn newyddion cadarnhaol i chi. Rhoddwyd ffocws newydd i'r rhaglen cyfleusterau cymunedol er mwyn bod yn glir iawn yngylch trechi tlodi. Mae'n rhaglen ar gyfer Cymru gyfan, felly bydd eich etholwyr yn gallu gwneud cais. Rwy'n disgwyl i ffurflenni mynegi diddordeb a chanllawiau ategol fod ar gael i'r cyhoedd ymhengwyd.

14:53

Nick Ramsay [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, we are clearly in a transition phase from the old scheme, which Kirsty Williams has said helped out her constituents, to the new scheme, which you have mentioned. In the previous question, Angela Burns spoke about the importance of monitoring outcomes; not something that the Welsh Government is always traditionally the best at. I am sure that you would agree with that—or probably not, actually, but that is what my group would say. In terms of monitoring outcomes, how long will it be before you expect the sort of results from this scheme that were achieved, in part, by the last scheme? If this new scheme is not delivering what is says on the tin, how will you make sure that you know that straight away and that you will not waste the sort of money on this that the Welsh Government has wasted on previous schemes?

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Weinidog, yn amlwg rydym mewn cyfnod o newid o'r hen gynllun, a helpodd ei hetholwyr yn ôl Kirsty Williams, i'r cynllun newydd, yr ydych wedi sôn amdano. Yn y cwestiwn blaenorol, siaradodd Angela Burns am bwysigrwydd monitro canlyniadau; nid yw hyn yn rhywbeth y mae Llywodraeth Cymru bob amser yn draddodiadol yn dda am ei wneud. Rwy'n siŵr y byddech yn cytuno â hynny—neu efallai ddim, a dweud y gwir, ond dyna beth fyddai fy ngrŵp i'n ei ddweud. O ran monitro canlyniadau, pa mor hir fydd hi cyn y gallwch ddisgwyl y math o ganlyniadau o'r cynllun hwn a gyflawnwyd, yn rhannol, gan y cynllun diwethaf? Os nad yw'r cynllun newydd hwn yn gwneud yr hyn y mae disgwyl iddo ei wneud, sut y byddwch yn sicrhau eich bod yn gwybod hynny ar unwaith ac na fyddwch yn gwastraffu'r math o arian ar hyn a wastraffwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru ar gynlluniau blaenorol?

14:54

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am not sure if the Member is attacking the previous CFAP programme. That was a rather strange end to the question. The community facilities programme is being rolled out. As I said, I expect expression of interest forms to be available, with guidance, within a week. We then need to deal with the applications that come forward. They will be robustly assessed. There will be an opportunity for people to make applications and set out the evidence that they have. We will, through this year, when those applications come forward, be able to see how that capital funding is used. Of course there will be a review of what that programme delivers, but I am not going to give an artificial timescale here and now. I trust that constituents in Monmouth will take up the opportunities that this fund presents.

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Nid wyf yn siŵr a yw'r Aelod yn beirniadu'r Rhaglen Cyfleusterau a Gweithgareddau Cymunedol flaenorol. Roedd hwnnw'n ddiwedd braidd yn rhyfedd i'r cwestiwn. Mae'r rhaglen cyfleusterau cymunedol yn cael ei chyflwyno. Fel y dywedais, rwy'n disgwyl i ffurflenni mynegi diddordeb fod ar gael, gyda chanllawiau, o fewn wythnos. Yna mae angen inni ddelio â'r ceisiadau a gyflwynir. Cân eu hasesu'n gadarn. Bydd cyfle i bobl wneud ceisiadau a nodi'r dystiolaeth sydd ganddynt. Gallwn weld eleni, pan gyflwynir y ceisiadau hynny, sut y caiff yr arian cyfalaif hwnnw ei ddefnyddio. Wrth gwrs, caiff yr hyn y mae'r rhaglen honno yn ei gyflwyno ei adolygu, ond nid wyf yn bwriadu rhoi amserlen ffug yn y fan hon. Hyderaf y bydd etholwyr yn Nhreftynwyd yn manteisio ar y cyfleoedd a ddaw yn sgil y gronfa hon.

14:55

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

Minister, what evidence will you be seeking in order to discover whether any of these community facilities programmes prove successful in reducing poverty? As you know, this scheme comes to an end at the end of this year, so what hope do you have that it will have a major impact, or will the impact just be adequate as we have heard today in this Chamber?

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Weinidog, pa dystiolaeth y byddwch yn ei cheisio er mwyn gweld a lwyddodd unrhyw un o'r rhaglenni cyfleusterau cymunedol hyn i leihau tlodi? Fel y gwyddoch, daw'r cynllun hwn i ben ar ddiwedd y flwyddyn hon, felly pa obaith sydd gennych y caiff effaith fawr, neu ai digonol yn unig y bydd yr effaith fel y clwsom heddiw yn y Siambra?

14:55

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Again, that is a rather unfair attempt to make one word mean something rather different. The new community facilities programme is funded for the next two years; it is a capital programme. Each application will need to demonstrate how it tackles poverty, with a business case that it expects to meet. In any application process, you have to try to judge the soundness of the application that comes forward. It is no guarantee of success, but this is about retaining facilities and services within communities that might otherwise be lost. I am sure that members of every party, in every constituency and region, will want their community to take full advantage of this fund and to make applications. I will be very happy to come back to the Chamber to outline what progress has been made both on getting—[Inaudible.]

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Unwaith eto, mae hynny'n ymgais braidd yn annheg i roi ystyr ychydig yn wahanol i air. Caiff y rhaglen cyfleusterau cymunedol newydd ei hariannu am y ddwy flynedd nesaf; rhaglen gyfalaf ydyw. Bydd angen i bob cais ddangos sut y mae'n mynd i'r afael â thlodi, gydag achos busnes y mae'n disgwyl ei gyflawni. Mewn unrhyw broses gwneud cais, rhaid ichi geisio barnu cadernid y cais sy'n cael ei gyflwyno. Nid yw'n sicr o lwyddo, ond mae a wnelo hyn â chadw cyfleusterau a gwasanaethau o fewn cymunedau a allai gael eu colli fel arall. Rwy'n siŵr y bydd aelodau o bob plaid, ym mhob etholaeth a rhanbarth, am i'w cymuned fanteisio'n llawn ar y gronfa hon a gwneud ceisiadau. Byddaf yn hapus iawn i ddod yn ôl i'r Siambra i amlinellu pa gynnnydd a wnaed o ran cael—[Anghlywadwy.]

Cryfhau'r Sector Gwirfoddol

14:56

Russell George [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

10. Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cryfhau'r sector gwirfoddol yng Nghymru? OAQ(4)0155(CTP)

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14:56

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you very much for that question. The Welsh Government is committed to engaging with and promoting the third sector. The recently revised third sector scheme makes a long-term commitment to its continued development and to an integrated infrastructure. I have recently announced just under £7.2 million to support volunteering and enable community and grass-roots organisations to thrive. I am sure you will agree that that is a commitment that is far more than just adequate.

Strengthening the Voluntary Sector

14:57

Russell George [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for your answer, Minister. You were clear in November that 2014 would be a year in which the Welsh Government strengthened its relationship with the Welsh voluntary sector and implemented some of the structures that emerged from its review process to make that relationship more sustainable. Long-term financial security is important to allow the sector to plan effectively. At present, a lot of grants are annual, and there is some work towards three-year plans. To have real and effective change takes at least 10 years, so it is difficult to look at long-term outcomes when funding is so short term. What are the Government's long-term investment plans for the sector and how will you set out those plans this year?

Diolch yn fawr iawn ichi am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi ymrwymo i ymgysylltu â'r trydydd sector a'i hyrwyddo. Mae'r cynllun trydydd sector a ddiwygiwyd yn ddiweddar yn gwneud ymrwymiad hirdymor i'w ddatblygiad parhaus ac i seilwaith integredig. Yn ddiweddar, cyhoeddais fod ychydig o dan £7.2 miliwn ar gael i gefnogi gwirfoddoli a galluogi sefydliadau cymunedol a sefydliadau llawr gwlad i ffynnu. Rwy'n siŵr y cytunwch fod hynny'n ymrwymiad sy'n llawer mwy na digonol.

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Diolch ichi am eich ateb, Weinidog. Gwnaethoch nodi'n glir ym mis Tachwedd y byddai 2014 yn flwyddyn lle y byddai Llywodraeth Cymru yn atgyfnherthu ei pherthynas â'r sector gwirfoddol yng Nghymru ac yn gweithredu rhai o'r strwythurau a ddeilliodd o'i phroses adolygu er mwyn gwneud y berthynas honno yn fwy cynaliadwy. Mae diogelwch ariannol hirdymor yn bwysig er mwyn caniatáu i'r sector gynllunio'n effeithiol. Ar hyn o bryd mae llawer o grantiau yn rhai blynnyddol, ac mae rhywfaint o waith yn cael ei wneud tuag at gynlluniau tair blynedd. Mae sicrhau newid real ac effeithiol yn cymryd o leiaf 10 mlynedd, felly mae'n anodd edrych ar ganlyniadau hirdymor pan fo'r cyllid mor fyrdymor. Beth yw cynlluniau buddsoddi hirdymor y Llywodraeth ar gyfer y sector a sut y byddwch yn nodi'r cynlluniau hynny eleni?

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

As I said in response to earlier questions, for the last full accounting year for which we have records, we paid £323 million to the third sector. The figures for this year will be available towards the end of next month and, no doubt, people will look at the comparisons. What the size of that figure should show is that there is a clear commitment to work with the third sector. The amount of money that we have to be able to do that is shrinking as a result of the reduced settlements from the UK Government. Over the next few years, we are looking at something like a £1.8 billion reduction in our budgets. That is bound to impact on our relationship with the third sector, as with all other organisations that draw money from the public purse. However, our commitment to the third sector is absolutely clear.

Fel y dywedais mewn ymateb i gwestiynau cynharach, am y flwyddyn gyfrifo lawn ddiwethaf y mae gennym gofnodion, talwyd £323 miliwn i'r trydydd sector. Bydd y ffigurau ar gyfer eleni ar gael tua diwedd y mis nesaf ac, yn ddiau, bydd pobl yn edrych ar y cymariaethau. Beth y dylai maint y ffigur hwnnw ei ddangos yw bod ymrwymiad clir i weithio gyda'r trydydd sector. Mae'r arian sydd gennym i wneud hynny yn lleihau o ganlyniad i'r setliadau llai gan Lywodraeth y DU. Dros yr ychydig flynyddoedd nesaf, rydym yn edrych ar leihad o tua £1.8 biliwn yn ein cyllidebau. Mae hynny'n rhwym o gael effaith ar ein perthynas â'r trydydd sector, fel gyda phob sefydliad arall sy'n hawlio arian o bwrs y wlad. Fodd bynnag, mae ein hymrwymiad i'r trydydd sector yn gwbl glir.

Blaenoriaethau
Andrew R.T. Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

11. A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu'r newidiadau disgwyliedig yn ei flaenoriaethu ar gyfer trechu tlodi yng Nghaerdydd ym mlwyddyn ariannol 2014/15?
OAQ(4)0151(CTP)

Will the Minister outline any expected changes in tackling poverty in Cardiff in 2013-14?

Priorities

11. Will the Minister outline any expected changes in his priorities for tackling poverty in Cardiff in the 2014/15 financial year? OAQ(4)0151(CTP)

A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu unrhyw newidiadau a ddisgwyliwr wrth fynd i'r afael â thlodi yng Nghaerdydd yn 2013-14?

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The question that I have says 2014-15. I expect action on tackling poverty in Cardiff to be consistent with the priorities identified in the Welsh Government's tackling poverty action plan. In the year ahead, Cardiff east cluster will begin its Lift programme work to provide opportunities for people out of work. There is widespread buy-in for these priorities from our partners, as demonstrated at the recent Cardiff anti-poverty conference in the Butetown Pavilion.

Mae'r cwestiwn sydd gennyl i yn dweud 2014-15. Ryw'n disgwyli i gamau gweithredu ar drechu tlodi yng Nghaerdydd fod yn gyson â'r blaenoriaethau a nodir yng nghyflun gweithredu ar gyfer trechu tlodi Llywodraeth Cymru. Yn y flwyddyn i ddod, bydd clwstwr dwyrain Caerdydd yn dechrau ar ei waith Estyn i ddarparu cyfleoedd i bobl sy'n ddiwaith. Yn gyffredinol, mae ein partneriaid yn gefnogol i'r blaenoriaethau hyn, fel y dangoswyd yng nghynhadledd gwrth-dlodi Caerdydd yn ddiweddar ym Mhafiliwn Butetown.

Andrew R.T. Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Minister for that answer. One of the issues that causes great concern, and is one of the side-effects of some aspects of poverty, is rough sleeping in the city. The Welsh Government, along with charities, has made some progress in this field. It was brought to my attention recently that the collation of the figures across Cardiff is very poor, so the action streams that you might be able to put in place are limited. Are you working with local authorities and other parties, such as charities, to get the bigger picture regarding what is going on with the rough-sleeping community in Cardiff so that the Welsh Government can work with charities to offer the support that they require?

Diolch i'r Gweinidog am yr ateb hwnnw. Un o'r materion sy'n achosi pryder mawr, ac sy'n un o sgil-effeithiau rhai agweddau ar dlodi, yw cysgu ar y stryd yn y ddinas. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru, ynghyd ag elusennau, wedi gwneud rhywfaint o gynnhyd yn y maes hwn. Tynnwyd fy sylw yn ddiweddar at y ffaith fod y gwaith o gasglu ffigurau ar draws Caerdydd yn wael iawn, felly mae'r ffrydau gweithredu y gallech eu rhoi ar waith yn gyfngedig. A ydych yn gweithio gydag awdurdodau lleol a phartïon eraill, fel elusennau, i ddeall yn well yr hyn sy'n digwydd o ran y gymuned cysgu ar y stryd yng Nghaerdydd fel y gall Llywodraeth Cymru weithio gydag elusennau i gynnig y cymorth sydd ei angen arnynt?

15:00

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

This is more likely to be an initiative to discuss either with the Minister for Housing and Regeneration or the Minister for Local Government and Government Business. I will talk to them and I will also talk to the local authority about the work that it is doing to support homeless people in the city of Cardiff.

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Mae hyn yn fwy tebygol o fod yn fenter i'w thraffod naill ai gyda'r Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio neu'r Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Busnes y Llywodraeth. Byddaf yn siarad â nhw a byddaf hefyd yn siarad â'r awdurdod lleol ynghylch y gwaith y mae'n ei wneud i gefnogi pobl ddigartref yn ninas Caerdydd.

15:00

Leanne Wood [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Arweinydd Plaid Cymru / The Leader of Plaid Cymru

Inequality has grown under successive Labour and Conservative Governments, and this rise in inequality was underlined this week by the report published by Oxfam, which showed that the five richest families in the UK own more wealth than the poorest 20% of families. The Party of Wales is calling for an economic fairness Bill, which would place a duty to increase the gross value added of underperforming nations and regions within the United Kingdom. This is a policy that is successfully pursued in Germany. Do you support Plaid Cymru's call for this proactive policy, which would tackle poverty and inequality head on?

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Mae anghydraddoldeb wedi cynyddu dan Lywodraethau Llafur a Cheidwadol olynol, a thanlinellwyd yr anghydraddoldeb hwn yr wythnos hon mewn adroddiad a gyhoeddwyd gan Oxfam, a ddangosodd fod y pum teulu cyfoethocaf yn y DU yn berchen ar fwy o gyfoeth na'r 20% o deuluoedd tloaf. Mae Plaid Cymru yn galw am Fil tegwch economaidd, a fyddai'n creu dyletswydd i gynyddu gwerth ychwanegol crynswth gwledydd a rhanbarthau sy'n tanberfformio yn y Deyrnas Unedig. Mae hwn yn bolisi a ddilynwyd yn llwyddiannus yn yr Almaen. A ydych yn cefnogi galwad Plaid Cymru am y polisi rhagweithiol hwn, a fyddai'n trechu tloidi ac anghydraddoldeb yn uniongyrchol?

15:01

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

This Government has a clear commitment to tackling poverty. That is why we have created this department and it is the reason behind our tackling poverty action plan. I will not commit to an alternative proposal that has been made to me in the Chamber today without knowing the detail of it. I am determined, though, to deliver on the priorities set out in the Welsh Government's tackling poverty action plan. We should be proud of the commitment that we have here in Wales. Objective commentators recognise that the approach of this Government is the best of the four UK nations. In contrast, the UK Government's approach to tackling poverty has been universally criticised, following the recent publication of the draft child poverty strategy. We are in a good place with our commitment, with our levers and with our responsibilities, and I am more than happy to be held to account for those responsibilities in the Chamber.

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Mae gan y Llywodraeth ymrwymiad clir i drechu tloidi. Dyna pam rydym wedi creu'r adran hon, a dyma'r rheswm sy'n sail i'n cynllun gweithredu ar gyfer trechu tloidi. Nid wyf am ymrwymo i gynnig amgen a gyflwynwyd i mi yn y Siambra heddiw heb wybod ei famylion. Er hynny, rwy'n benderfynol o gyflawni'r blaenoriaethau a nodwyd yng nghynllun gweithredu ar gyfer trechu tloidi Llywodraeth Cymru. Dylem fod yn falch o'r ymrwymiad sydd gennym yma yng Nghymru. Mae sylwebyddion gwthrhyrchol yn cydnabod mai dull gweithredu'r Llywodraeth hon yw'r gorau o blith pedair gwlad y DU. Mewn cyferbyniad â hynny, mae dull gweithredu Llywodraeth y DU o drechu tloidi wedi cael ei feirniadu'n gyffredinol, yn dilyn cyhoeddi fersiwn ddrafft y strategaeth tloidi plant yn ddiweddar. Rydym yn gwneud gwaith da o ran ein hymrwymiad, gyda'n hysgogiadau a'n cyrifoldebau, ac rwy'n fwy na pharod i gael fy nwyn i gyfrif am y cyrifoldebau hynny yn y Siambra.

Cynorthwyo Teuluoedd

15:01

Julie James [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

12. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am integreiddio rhagleni sydd wedi eu cynllunio i gynorthwyo teuluoedd? OAQ(4)0153(CTP)

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

Assisting Families

12. Will the Minister make a statement on the integration of programmes designed to assist families?
 OAQ(4)0153(CTP)

15:02

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I expect those delivering programmes of support for families to collaborate and maximise resources in order to achieve the best possible outcomes. I have consistently promoted this message since my appointment and I am considering how we can identify and consistently implement best and improving practice for the co-ordinated action between Families First, Flying Start and Communities First.

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Rwy'n disgwyl i'r rheini sy'n cyflwyno rhagleni cymorth i deuluoedd gydweithredu a sicrhau'r adnoddau gorau er mwyn cyflawni'r canlyniadau gorau posibl. Rwyf wedi hyrwyddo'r neges hon yn gyson ers imi gael fy mhenodi ac rwy'n ystyried beth yw'r ffordd orau o nodi a gweithredu arfer gorau ac arfer sy'n gwella yn gyson ar gyfer y gwaith cydgysylltiedig rhwng Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf, Dechrau'n Deg a Cymunedau yn Gyntaf.

15:02

Julie James [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for that answer, Deputy Minister. Following your very successful visit to my constituency recently, I have been making a number of inquiries about the integration of your programmes, which are working very satisfactorily in Swansea, with a number of other programmes that the Government sponsors, which are not necessarily within your portfolio. In particular, we have been looking at other EU-funded opportunities for children and young people in Wales. They are doing very well, but, unfortunately, not all of the families affected by the targeting of your programmes are accessing programmes such as Comenius, Erasmus and Youth in Action—European-funded programmes that are designed to increase their learning opportunities and their ambition. Deputy Minister, could you look at whether we can ensure that those families in the most need have better access to some of those funding opportunities?

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Diolch i chi am yr ateb hwnnw, Ddirprwy Weinidog. Yn dilyn eich ymweliad llwyddiannus iawn â'm hetholaeth yn ddiweddar, rwyf wedi bod yn gwneud nifer o ymholiadau ynghylch integreiddio eich rhaglenni, sy'n gweithio'n dda iawn yn Abertawe, gyda nifer o raglenni eraill y mae'r Llywodraeth yn eu noddi, nad ydnt o reidrwydd o fewn eich portffolio. Yn benodol, rydym wedi bod yn edrych ar gyfleoedd eraill a ariennir gan yr UE ar gyfer plant a phobl ifanc yng Nghymru. Maent yn gwneud yn dda iawn, ond, yn anffodus, nid yw pob un o'r teuluoedd yr effeithir arnynt gan y gwaith o dargedu eich rhaglenni yn gallu manteisio ar raglenni fel Comenius, Erasmus ac leuenctid ar Waith—rhaglenni a ariennir gan Ewrop y bwriedir iddynt gynyddu eu cyfleoedd dysgu a'u huchelgais. Ddirprwy Weinidog, a allech edrych i weld a llwn sicrhau bod y teuluoedd hynny sydd â'r angen mwyaf yn gallu manteisio'n well ar y cyfleoedd ariannu hynny?

15:03

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I will happily look at that with colleagues across Government. We are currently considering how we use our main tackling poverty programmes now and in the future, and thinking about future European Union-funded programmes, particularly those funded through the European social fund. The work that we are doing is consistent with action being taken by all of the particular programmes that I have responsibility for. For example, on how we expect Welsh higher education to expand access to higher education for those in our poorest communities, that is work that I am doing in tandem with the Minister for Education and Skills. I would be very happy to meet you at a later date to discuss this in more detail.

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Byddaf yn falch o edrych ar hynny gyda chyd-Weinidogion ym mhob rhan o'r Llywodraeth. Ar hyn o bryd rydym yn ystyried sut rydym yn defnyddio ein prif raglenni trechu tloidi nawr ac yn y dyfodol, ac yn meddwl am raglenni a ariennir gan yr Undeb Ewropeaidd yn y dyfodol, yn enwedig y rhai a ariennir drwy gronfa gymdeithasol Ewrop. Mae'r gwaith a wnawn yn gyson â'r camau a gymerir gan bob un o'r rhaglenni penodol yr wyf yn gyfrifol amdanynt. Er enghraift, ar sut rydym yn disgwyli addysg uwch Cymru ehangu mynediad i addysg uwch i'r rheini yn ein cymunedau tlataf, hynny yw gwaith yr wyf yn ei wneud ar y cyd â'r Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau. Byddwn yn hapus iawn i gyfarfod â chi rywbryd i drafod hyn yn fanylach.

15:03

Paul Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Deputy Minister, in evidence to the Children, Young People and Education Committee, you said that it was difficult to evaluate which schemes were delivering due to the overlap between Families First, Flying Start and various other third sector schemes. What steps is your Government taking to ensure that each programme is fully evaluated so that decisions can be taken to expand the programmes that are working and remove those schemes that do not deliver recognised benefits?

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Ddirprwy Weinidog, mewn dystiolaeth i'r Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg, dywedasoch ei fod yn anodd gwerthuso pa gynlluniau oedd yn cyflawni oherwydd y gorgyffwrdd rhwng Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf, Dechrau'n Deg a chynlluniau amrywiol trydydd sector eraill. Pa gamau y mae eich Llywodraeth yn eu cymryd i sicrhau bod pob rhaglen yn cael ei gwerthuso'n llawn fel y gellir gwneud penderfyniadau i ehangu'r rhaglenni sy'n gweithio a chael gwared ar y cynlluniau hynny nad ydnt yn sicrhau manteision cydnabyddedig?

15:04

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

There are two particular points to raise here. First, we have a programme of activity to evaluate Families First, Flying Start and Communities First. Therefore, objective evaluation does exist. As I said earlier in response to Julie James, I expect those programmes to work more consistently and coherently together at a local level. However, I also expect them to be able to improve their reach into mainstream services and mainstream activity. When I look at evaluation outcomes, I am most interested in whether we are making a difference. If we cannot decide whether it is Flying Start or Communities First working together, but we do know that there is a difference being made to that community, that is the difference that I am looking for; it is the outcome from the spend that we have. That is why I am especially interested in looking at whether we can do more to have a more consistent outcomes framework that drives together partnership working between those programmes for the same families and the same communities. That is work that I look forward to reporting back on to this Chamber or to scrutiny committees in the future.

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Mae dau bwynt penodol i'w codi yma. Yn gyntaf, mae gennym raglen o weithgareddau i werthuso Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf, Dechrau'n Deg a Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Felly, mae gwerthuso gwrrhrychol yn bodoli. Fel y dywedais yn gynharach wrth ymateb i Julie James, rwy'n disgwyl i'r rhaglenni hynny weithio'n fwy cyson a gyda'i gilydd yn gydlynol ar lefel leol. Fodd bynnag, rwyf hefyd yn disgwyl iddynt allu gwella eu cyrhaeediad i wasanaethau prif ffrwd a gweithgarwch prif ffrwd. Pan edrychaf ar ganlyniadau gwerthuso, yr hyn y mae gennyl y diddordeb mwyaf ynddo yw gweld a ydym yn gwneud gwahaniaeth. Os na allwn benderfynu ai Dechrau'n Deg neu Cymunedau yn Gyntaf sy'n gweithio gyda'i gilydd, ond gwyddom fod gwahaniaeth yn cael ei wneud i'r gymuned honno, dyna'r gwahaniaeth rwy'n chwilio amdano; dyna'r canlyniad o'r gwariant sydd gennym. Dyna pam mae gennyl ddiddordeb penodol mewn edrych i weld a allwn wneud mwy na chael fframwaith canlyniadau mwy cyson sy'n hyrwyddo gwaith partneriaeth rhwng y rhaglenni hynny i'r un teuluoedd a'r un cymunedau. Mae hwn yn waith rwy'n edrych ymlaen at gyflwyno adroddiad arno i'r Siambr hon neu i bwylgorau craffu yn y dyfodol.

15:05

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

Thank you, Deputy Minister and Minister.

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Diolch ichi, Ddirprwy Weinidog a Gweinidog.

Cwestiynau i'r Cwnsler Cyffredinol

Y Goruchaf Llys

15:05

Simon Thomas [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

1. A wnaiffy Cwnsler Cyffredinol ddatganiad am gyfeirio Biliau'r Cynulliad i'r Goruchaf Lys? OAQ(4)0058(CG)

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Questions to the Counsel General

The Supreme Court

15:05

Theodore Huckle

Y Cwnsler Cyffredinol / The Counsel General

Good afternoon, everyone. I am able to make a reference in relation to a Bill at any time during the four-week intimation period following the passing of the Bill.

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Prynhawn da, bawb. Gallaf gyfeirio Bil ar unrhyw adeg yn ystod y cyfnod hysbysu o bedair wythnos ar ôl i Bil gael ei basio.

15:05

Simon Thomas [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Diolch, Gwnsler, am yr ateb. A fyddch yn gallu cadarnhau hefyd, wrth gyfeirio yn y fath ffodd, bod modd ichi weithredu'n annibynnol yn ôl statud Llywodraeth Cymru? Yn y cyd-destun hwnnw, ai dyna sut y gwnaethoch chi weithredu wrth gyfeirio Bil Mick Antoniw ar asbestos i'r Goruchaf Lys? A llwch chi ddweud wrthym pwy fydd yn talu am gostau cyfeirio felly?

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Thank you, Counsel General, for that answer. Would you be able to confirm, in making such references, that you can act independently, according to Welsh Government statute? In that context, is that how you acted with regard to the reference of Mick Antoniw's Bill on asbestos to the Supreme Court? Can you tell us who will pay for the costs of such references?

15:06

Theodore Huckle

First, I can confirm that I can act independently of Government for the purposes of considering a section 112 reference. I am bound to do so, if not strictly by the statute itself, certainly by the ministerial code, which makes it very clear that that is the way in which I must approach the role. As I have said in this Chamber before by reference to the particular reference that you are asking me about, I consider that the only proper approach to it is to consider what I believe to be in the public interest so far as reference is concerned. That is the way that I have tried to approach it. As for who is going to pay the cost, as I understand it—I stand to be corrected about this if I am wrong—it must lie within the budget of the health department, I believe.

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15:07

Mike Hedges [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Counsel General, do you join with me in welcoming the Silk commission's recommendation of a change in the current conferred-powers model to a reserved-powers model in order to provide greater clarity over the devolution settlement? Do you believe that this change would avoid the excessive referral of Bills to the Supreme Court?

15:07

Theodore Huckle

Yes. Obviously it is a matter of record that, in submissions to the Silk commission, one of the primary submissions of Welsh Government was that that is what should happen. We are very pleased that that recommendation has been made. Yes, I believe that it will give clarity to the Welsh devolution settlement, although perhaps I should enter a note of caution. I do not think that it is a panacea. There is still scope to have an argument about which side of the line a particular provision falls. Nevertheless, as we lawyers would say, it is a burden of proof point. It is much easier to establish that you are within the default general devolved area than establishing that you are within particular defined categories.

Bil Drafft Cymru

15:08

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

2. Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Cwnsler Cyffredinol wedi eu cael gyda Chomisiwn y Gyfraith ynglyn ag Adran 21 o Fil drafft Cymru? OAQ(4)0060(CG)

15:08

Theodore Huckle

I have had no recent discussions, but I hope to meet the chairman of the commission soon. Clause 21 will no doubt be mentioned in our discussion.

Yn gyntaf, gallaf gadarnhau fy mod yn gallu gweithredu'n annibynnol ar y Llywodraeth at ddibenion ystyried cyfeirio Bil o dan adran 112. Mae rhwymedigaeth arnaf i wneud hynny, os nad o dan y statud ei hun, a bod yn fanwl gywir, ond yn sicr o dan y cod gweinidogol, sy'n ei gwneud yn glir iawn mai dyna'r ffordd y mae'n rhaid imi ymgymryd â'r rôl. Fel rwyf wedi dweud yn y Siambri hon o'r blaen drwy gyfeirio at y Bil penodol a gyfeiriwyd yr ydych yn fy holi yn ei gylch, rwyf o'r farn mai'r unig ffordd briodol o weithredu yw ystyried yr hyn sydd er budd y cyhoedd yn fy marn i, o ran cyfeirio Bil. Dyna'r ffordd yr wyf wedi ceisio mynd ati. O ran pwy fydd yn talu'r gost, yn ôl a deallaf—rwy'n fodlon cael fy nghywiro os nad yw hyn yn gywir—rhaid i'r gost gael ei thalu o gyllideb yr adran iechyd, fe gredaf.

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Gwnsler Cyffredinol, a ydych yn ymuno â mi i groesawu argymhelliaid comisiwn Silk y dylid newid y model presennol o roi pwerau i fodel cadw pwerau er mwyn rhoi mwy o eglurder ynghyllch y setliad datganoli? A gredwch y byddai'r newid hwn yn osgoi gormod o achosion o gyfeirio Bil at y Llys Goruchaf?

Cytunaf. Yn amlwg, mae ar glawr, mewn argymhellion i gomisiwn Silk, mai un o brif argymhellion Llywodraeth Cymru oedd mai dyna beth ddylai ddigwydd. Rydym yn falch iawn bod yr argymhelliaid hwnnw wedi ei dderbyn. Rwy'n wir gredu y bydd yn gwneud setliad datganoli Cymru yn fwy eglur, ond effalai y dylwn seinio ychydig o rybudd. Ni chredaf y bydd yn ateb i bopeth. Mae lle o hyd i gael dadl ynghyllch ar ba ochr i'r llinell y mae darpariaeth benodol. Serch hynny, fel y byddem ni, gyfreithwyr yn ei ddweud, mae'n ymwneud â'r baich profi. Mae'n llawer haws profi eich bod o fewn maes datganoledig cyffredinol diofyn na phrofi eich bod y tu mewn i'r categorïau diffiniedig penodol.

Draft Wales Bill

2. What discussions has the Counsel General had with the Law Commission regarding Section 21 of the Draft Wales Bill? OAQ(4)0060(CG)

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Nid wyf wedi cael unrhyw drafodaethau yn ddiweddar, ond rwy'n gobeithio cyfarfod â chadeirydd y comisiwn yn fuan. Yn ddi-os, bydd cymal 21 yn cael ei grybwyllyn ystod ein trafodaeth.

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15:08

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

Counsel General, on the involvement of the Law Commission, one of the good parts of the draft Wales Bill is the significant step forward in terms of this Assembly as a legislature, because it provides for an ongoing review and recommendations in respect of the legislative programme and legislation affecting Wales. Do you agree, Counsel General, that this is an important step forward for Wales as a legislature and that, at all levels, we should be working and co-operating with the Law Commission to ensure that we have a clear and transparent relationship with it?

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Gwnsler Cyffredinol, o ran ymneud Comisiwn y Gyfraith, un o rannau da y Bil Cymru drafft yw'r cam sylwedol ymlaen o ran y Cynulliad hwn fel deddfwrfa, oherwydd mae'n darparu ar gyfer adolygiad parhaus ac argymhellion mewn perthynas â'r rhaglen ddeddfwriaethol a deddfwriaeth sy'n effeithio ar Gymru. A gytunwch, Gwnsler Cyffredinol, fod hwn yn gam pwysig ymlaen i Gymru fel deddfwrfa ac, ar bob lefel, dylem fod yn gweithio a chydweithio â Chomisiwn y Gyfraith er mwyn sicrhau bod gennym berthynas glir a thryloyw ag ef?

15:09

Theodore Huckle

I absolutely do agree. I suppose that I could put it in this way: every legislature needs a Law Commission. With the Law Commission that we currently have, which is shared with England, it is absolutely vital that Ministers, in promoting, or seeking to promote, policy agendas and legislation have access to the commission in the same way that Ministers in Westminster do. That is the point of clause 21. As I have said before in the Chamber, it is not perfect, in the sense that we believe that the Law Commissions Act 1965 should be amended to make this position equal as between the two parts of the United Kingdom. However, this is definite progress.

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Cytunaf yn llwyr. Gallwn fynegi'r peth yn y ffodd hon, efallai: mae angen Comisiwn y Gyfraith ar bob deddfwrfa. Yn achos y Comisiwn sydd gennym ar hyn o bryd, sy'n cael ei rannu â Lloegr, mae'n gwbl hanfodol bod Gweinidogion, wrth hyrwyddo, neu geisio hyrwyddo, agendâu polisi a deddfwriaeth yn cael mynediad at y comisiwn yn yr un modd ag y mae Gweinidogion yn San Steffan yn ei gael. Dyna ddiben cymal 21. Fel rwyf wedi dweud o'r blaen yn y Siambra, nid yw'n berffaith, yn yr ystyr ein bod o'r farn y dylai Deddf Comisiynau'r Gyfraith 1965 gael ei diwygio er mwyn gwneud y sefyllfa hon yn gyfartal rhwng y ddwy ran c'r Deyrnas Unedig. Fodd bynnag, mae hyn yn gynnydd yn sicr.

Hygyrchedd Deddfwriaeth

15:09

Simon Thomas [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

3. A wnaiff y Cwnsler Cyffredinol ddatganiad am hygyrchedd deddfwriaeth Llywodraeth Cymru?
OAQ(4)0059(CG)

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Accessibility of Legislation

3. Will the Counsel General make a statement on the accessibility of Welsh Government legislation?
OAQ(4)0059(CG)

15:10

Theodore Huckle

Work is ongoing to improve the situation. Legislation.gov.uk remains on track to be up-to-date by 2015. In addition, work has commenced on a further phase, which is intended, among other things, to better demarcate on the website which laws apply to Wales. The statute book is also developing, with more Assembly Acts setting out stand-alone Welsh laws. The Government has noted with interest calls by the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee and the Silk commission for the creation of a Welsh statute book.

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

Mae gwaith yn mynd rhagddo i wella'r sefyllfa. Mae legislation.gov.uk yn parhau i fod ar y trywydd iawn i fod yn gyfredol erbyn 2015. At hynny, mae gwaith wedi cychwyn ar gam pellach, y bwriedir iddo, ymhlið pethau eraill, ddynodi'n well ar y wefan pa gyfreithiau sy'n gymwys i Gymru. Mae'r llyfr statud hefyd yn datblygu, gyda mwy o Ddeddfau'r Cynulliad yn pennu cyfreithiau ar wahân i Gymru. Mae'r Llywodraeth wedi nodi gyda diddordeb y galwadau gan y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol a Deddfwriaethol a chomisiwn Silk i greu llyfr statud i Gymru.

15:10

Simon Thomas [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Rwyf eisiau edrych ar enghraifft o ddeddfwriaeth sydd wedi mynd drwy'r lle hwn yn ddiweddar, drannoeth y ffair, sef y Bil Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Llesiant (Cymru) a basiwyd neithiwr. Yn ystod y broses honno, trafododd y Cynulliad dros 1,000 o welliannau. Mae gennyd gydymdeimlad dwys â'r Dirwy Weinidog, a oedd yn gorfol cynnig y rhan fwyaf o'r gwelliannau hynny. Wrth edrych yn ôl ar y broses hon, fel prif ymgynghorydd y Llywodraeth ond hefyd fel y person sy'n gyfrifol am uniondeb y proffesiwn cyfreithiol yng Nghymru, pa wersi sydd i'w dysgu o'r broses hon er mwyn inni wella'r ffodd rydym yn rhoi'r llyfr statud at ei gilydd?

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I want to look at an example of legislation that has gone through this place recently—the day after the Lord Mayor's show—namely the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) passed last night. During that process, the Assembly discussed over 1,000 amendments. I have great sympathy for the Deputy Minister, who had to move the majority of those amendments. Looking back on this process, as the Government's chief adviser but also as the person responsible for the integrity of the legal profession in Wales, what lessons are to be learned from this process so that we can improve the way that we put the statute book together?

Theodore Huckle

The first point to make about that Bill is that it is by far the most complex Bill that the Assembly has had to deal with; its very complexity meant that it was a task for all concerned in achieving its passage. Frankly, my congratulations go out to everybody concerned with it, from the Deputy Minister and her teams through to Assembly Members in scrutinising it and dealing with it.

As far as lessons learned are concerned, I suppose that one could put it in this way: it is not ideal to have so many amendments but, on the other hand, if one is dealing with a great deal of complexity, it is right that the scrutinisation process throws up the need to amend. If it does, the amendments have to be made. These are really matters of the handling of business within the Assembly, I think, rather than ones on which I can speak in any great detail.

Y pwysynt cyntaf i'w wneud am y Bil hwnnw yw mai hwnnw oedd y Bil mwyaf cymhleth y bu'n rhaid i'r Cynulliad ymdrin ag ef o bell ffordd; oherwydd ei fod mor gymhleth bu'n dasg i bawb dan sylw sicrhau ei hynt. A dweud y gwir, rhaid imi longfarch pawb a fu'n ymwned ag ef, o'r Dirprwy Weinidog a'i thimau i Aelodau'r Cynulliad am graffu arno ac ymdrin ag ef.

O ran gwrsi a ddysgywyd, efallai y gellid dweud hyn: nid yw'n ddelfrydol cael cymaint o welliannau, ond, ar y llaw arall, os oes rhywun yn ymdrin â chryn gymhlethdod, mae'n briodol bod y broses graffu yn esgor ar yr angen i gyflwyno gwelliannau. Os gwna hynny, rhaid i'r gwelliannau gael eu gwneud. Materion sy'n ymwned â'r ffordd yr ymdrinnir â busnes yn y Cynulliad yw'r rhain, fe gredaf, yn hytrach na materion y gallaf eu trafod yn fanwl iawn.

Eluned Parrott [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Counsel General, I welcome the progress that has been made in terms of adding references to the Record of Proceedings to legislation.gov.uk. However, I note that at this point in time, only the three 2014 Acts of the Assembly have that kind of referencing; none of the nine previous Acts yet have that. As it is only a matter of adding a link to a single website in each of those nine cases, what has been the delay in making that happen?

Gwnsler Cyffredinol, croesawaf y cynnydd a wnaed o ran ychwanegu cyfeiriadau at Gofnod y Trafodion i legislation.gov.uk. Fodd bynnag, nodaf, ar hyn o bryd, mai dim ond tair Deddf Cynulliad 2014 sydd â'r math hwnnw o gyfeiriadau; nid oes gan yr un o'r naw Deddf flaenorol unrhyw gyfeiriadau eto. Gan mai dim ond mater o ychwanegu dolen i wefan unigol ym mhob un o'r naw achos y mae angen ei wneud, beth yw'r rheswm dros yr oedi wrth wneud hynny?

Theodore Huckle

The Member makes it sound very straightforward. This is referencing a question you asked me the last time this matter came up. Perhaps for other Members to understand, the question was based upon the proposition that, in Westminster, there is direct linkage between provisions published and the record of Hansard. Members may remember that I did not immediately have the answer and that, in due course, I provided a written answer. The written answer was to say that we are working with the National Archives because it is a very good point, and that it has been appreciated that there is apparently no direct linkage, although the notes published on legislation.gov.uk in relation to Welsh legislation enable you to find, by a slightly tortuous route, the Record of Proceedings, but not in an easily accessible way. We took that up with the National Archives, and my understanding was that it was being dealt with. However, if you again point out a matter which needs looking into, I will have it looked into. I am sorry that I am not in a position to give you an immediate response. All I can say is that we thought that we had dealt with it, and I will ask that it be looked at again.

Mae'r Aelod yn gwneud i'r peth swnio'n symbl iawn. Mae hyn yn cyfeirio at gwestiwn a ofynnwyd imi y tro diwethaf y codwyd y mater hwn. Er mwyn i Aelodau eraill ddeall, roedd y cwestiwn yn seiliedig ar y cynnig bod cyswllt uniongyrchol, yn San Steffan, rhwng darpariaethau a gyhoeddwyd a chofnod Hansard. Efallai y bydd Aelodau'n cofio nad oedd gennyl ateb parod ac, imi roi ateb ysgrifenedig maes o law. Nododd yr ateb ysgrifenedig ein bod yn gweithio gyda'r Archifau Cenedlaethol am ei fod yn bwynt da iawn, ac y sylweddolwyd nad oes unrhyw gyswllt uniongyrchol i bob golwg, er bod y nodiadau a gyhoeddwyd ar legislation.gov.uk mewn perthynas â deddfwriaeth Cymru yn eich galluogi, drwy lwybr ychydig yn drafferthus, i ddod o hyd i Gofnod y Trafodion, ond nid mewn ffordd hawdd iawn. Codwyd y pwyt hwnnw gennym gyda'r Archifau Cenedlaethol, ac roeddwn ar ddeall eu bod yn ymdrin ag ef. Fodd bynnag, os ydych yn tynnu sylw unwaith eto at fater y mae angen ymchwilio iddo, byddaf yn trefnu iddo gael ei ystyried. Mae'n ddrwg gennyl na allaf roi ymateb ar unwaith ichi. Y cyfan y gallaf ei ddweud yw ein bod yn meddwl ein bod wedi ymdrin ag ef, a byddaf yn gofyn am iddo gael ei ystyried eto.

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

Counsel General, I understand that the Welsh Government-funded Information Link initiative, where Welsh Government publications, including legislation, were placed in public libraries, has recently changed so that only lists of publications from the Welsh Government are now handed to the head librarian, who then decides whether they stock individual items. Can you give us any indication as to whether legislation and draft legislation is made available under that scheme?

Gwnsler Cyffredinol, caf ar ddeall bod menter Cyswllt Gwybodaeth a ariennir gan Lywodraeth Cymru, lle roedd cyhoeddiadau Llywodraeth Cymru, gan gynnwys deddfwriaeth, yn cael eu rhoi mewn llyfrgelloedd cyhoeddus, wedi newid yn ddiweddar fel mai dim ond rhestrau o gyhoeddiadau gan Lywodraeth Cymru sy'n cael eu rhoi i'r prif llyfrgellydd erbyn hyn, sydd wedyn yn penderfynu a ydynt yn stocio eitemau unigol. A allwch roi unrhyw syniad inni pa ddeddfwriaeth a deddfwriaeth ddrafft a ddarperir o dan y cynllun hwnnw?

15:14

Theodore Huckle

I am afraid that I am not in a position to help with that. Again, I can look into it and provide a written reply in due course. It sounds like the provision that you are talking about is much more general than that relating purely to the publication of legislation. As Members will know, my focus has been on ensuring that the online publication of legislation has been up-to-date and in good order, but I will look into that matter.

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Nid wyf mewn sefyllfa i helpu gyda hynny, mae arnaf ofn. Unwaith eto, gallaf ymchwilio i'r peth a rhoi ymateb ysgrifenedig maes o law. Mae'n swnio fel petai'r ddarpariaeth yr ydych yn sôn amdani yn llawer mwy cyffredinol na'r hyn sy'n ymwneud â deddfwriaeth gyhoeddodig yn unig. Fel y gŵyr yr Aelodau, rwyf wedi bod yn canolbwytio ar sicrhau bod y broses o gyhoeddi deddfwriaeth ar-lein yn gyfredol ac yn drefnus, ond gwnaf ymchwilio i'r mater hwnnw.

15:14

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

Thank you, Counsel General.

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Introduction of a Member-proposed Bill—Holiday Caravan Sites (Wales) Bill

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Cyflwyno Bil Arfaethedig Aelod—Bil Safleoedd Carafannau Gwyliau (Cymru)

Darren Millar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

On 24 April last year, I was successful in a legislative ballot under Standing Order 26 to allow me to seek leave to introduce a Bill to address concerns regarding the management and regulation of holiday caravan parks. Following a debate in the Senedd 19 June, I was given leave to proceed with this Bill. On Monday, I formally laid the Holiday Caravan Sites (Wales) Bill before the Assembly.

Ar 24 Ebrill y llynedd, llwyddais mewn balot deddfwriaethol o dan Reol Sefydlog 26 i gael caniatâd i gyflwyno Bil yn ymwneud â phryderon o ran rheoli a rheoleiddio parciau carafannau gwyliau. Yn dilyn dadl yn y Senedd ar 19 Mehefin, cefais ganiatâd i fwrw ymlaen â'r Bil hwn. Ddydd Llun, gosodais Fil Meysydd Carafannau Gwyliau (Cymru) yn ffurfiol gerbron y Cynulliad.

The purpose of the Bill is to modernise the licensing regime for holiday caravan sites. It seeks to give local authorities new inspection duties and enforcement powers so that they can ensure that holiday caravan sites in their areas are safe and well managed. These duties and powers will allow local authorities to identify and robustly tackle breaches of licence conditions through a combination of maximum inspection intervals, statutory enforcement action and financial penalties to provide an effective deterrent. The Bill seeks to end the residential misuse of holiday caravans by requiring caravan owners and long-term occupiers to demonstrate that their main residence is elsewhere through compliance with a residence test and by giving local authorities powers to deal with caravan occupiers who fail this test.

Diben y Bil yw moderneiddio'r gyfundrefn drwyddedu ar gyfer meysydd carafannau gwyliau. Ei nod yw rhoi dyletswyddau arolygu a phwerau gorfodi newydd i awdurdodau lleol fel y gallant sicrhau bod meysydd carafannau gwyliau yn eu hardaloedd yn ddiogel ac yn cael eu rheoli'n dda. Bydd y dyletswyddau a'r pwerau hyn yn galluogi awdurdodau lleol i nodi achosion o dorri amodau trwyddedau a mynd i'r afael â hwy drwy gyfuniad o gamau fel pennu'r bylchau mwyaf y gellid eu gadael rhwng arolygiadau, camau gorfodi statudol a chosbau ariannol er mwyn darparu ataliad effeithiol. Mae'r Bil yn ceisio rhoi terfyn ar yr arfer o gamddefnyddio carafannau gwyliau at ddibenion preswyl drwy ei gwneud yn ofynnol i berchnogion a meddianwyr hirdymor carafannau ddangos bod eu prif breswylfa mewn man arall drwy gydymffurfio â phrawf preswylio a thrwy roi pwerau i awdurdodau lleol ddelio â meddianwyr carafannau sy'n methu'r prawf hwn.

In addition to this, the Bill will seek to give caravan owners and long-term occupiers rights: rights to protection from harassment; rights to be included in decisions about changes to sites; and, the right to a written statement of the terms and conditions under which a pitch on a holiday caravan site can be occupied. The Bill also seeks to empower caravan site owners to be able to resolve disputes with caravan owners and to tackle residential misuse of holiday caravans through the introduction of implied terms, which will apply to all holiday caravan agreements. It seeks to safeguard the future prosperity of their holiday caravan sites by promoting good practice and protecting the industry from rogue operators who damage its reputation. The Bill is a considered response to the problems faced by the holiday caravan industry and allows for greater consistency in the way in which site licences are managed by owners and enforced by local authorities.

This Bill has been developed in co-operation with the British Holiday and Home Parks Association and the National Caravan Council, which, together, represent the majority of sites owners in Wales. I want to put on record my thanks to both organisations for their engagement and for the positive work that they have undertaken to date to promote good practice in the holiday caravan industry. I also want to pay tribute to the National Association of Caravan Owners for its input into the Bill and for the way in which it has encouraged responses from those it represents during the extensive engagement process that has been undertaken. In addition to my ongoing and extensive engagement with the industry, I also conducted two formal public consultations—the first on the principles and policies that I wanted to see addressed in legislation and the second on a draft Bill. The Bill that I have laid takes into account the feedback that was received in those consultations. It seeks to safeguard the interests of the holiday caravan industry and recognises the significant positive economic impact that it has on the Welsh economy.

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 is the most recent licensing legislation for holiday caravan sites, but it is no longer fit for the modern holiday caravan industry. Under the 1960 Act, licences are issued for indefinite periods and can be in place for decades without review. Local authorities have limited enforcement powers and are under no duty to inspect sites or to take action when licensing conditions are breached.

The Bill sits alongside the Mobile Homes (Wales) Act 2013, which was introduced by Peter Black to address concerns and modernise the licensing regime in the residential mobile home industry. While there are some similarities between the residential mobile home industry and the holiday caravan industry, the nature of both industries is very different and the scale of the latter is much larger, with around 70,000 holiday caravan units in Wales, compared to approximately 3,400 residential mobile homes. The Mobile Homes (Wales) Act has, therefore, provided a helpful basis for Welsh licensing law and has assisted the development of the Bill that I have laid, but industry differences have required that alternative legislative solutions be adopted to account for these.

Yn ogystal â hyn, bydd y Bil yn ceisio rhoi hawliau i berchnogion a meddianwyr hirdymor carafannau: hawliau i ddiogelwch rhag aflonyddwch; hawliau i gael eu cynnwys mewn penderfyniadau am newidiadau i safleoedd; a'r hawl i gael datganiad ysgrifenedig o'r telerau ac amodau ar gyfer meddiannu llain ar faes carafannau gwyliau. Mae'r Bil hefyd yn ceisio rhoi pŵer i berchnogion meysydd carafannau ddatrys anghydfodau gyda pherchnogion carafannau a mynd i'r afael ag achosion o gamddefnyddio carafannau gwyliau at ddibenion preswyl trwy gyflwyno telerau ymhlyg, a fydd yn berthnasol i bob cytundeb carafan gwyliau. Mae'n ceisio diogelu ffyniant eu meysydd carafannau gwyliau yn y dyfodol drwy hyrwyddo arfer da ac amddiffyn y diwydiant rhag gweithredwyr twyllodrus sy'n niweidio ei enw da. Mae'r Bil yn ymateb ystyriol i'r problemau sy'n wynebu'r diwydiant carafannau gwyliau a bydd yn arwain at fwy o gysondeb yn y modd y caiff trwyddedau safleoedd eu rheoli gan berchnogion a'u gorfodi gan awdurdodau lleol.

Mae'r Bil hwn wedi cael ei ddatblygu mewn cydweithrediad â Chymdeithas Parciau Gwyliau a Pharciau Cartrefi Prydain a'r Cyngor Carafannau Cenedlaethol sydd, gyda'i gilydd, yn cynrychioli'r rhan fwyaf o berchnogion safleoedd yng Nghymru. Rwyf am gofnodi fy niolch i'r ddua sefydliad am eu cyfraniad a'r gwaith cadarnhaol y maent wedi'i wneud hyd yma i hyrwyddo arfer da yn y diwydiant carafannau gwyliau. Rwyf hefyd am dalu teyrnedig i'r Gymdeithas Perchnogion Carafannau Genedlaethol am ei chyfraniad i'r Bil ac am y modd y mae wedi annog y rhai y mae'n eu cynrychioli i ymateb yn ystod y broses ymgysylltu helaeth. Yn ychwanegol at fy nghyswilt parhaus a helaeth â'r diwydiant, cynhaliais ddua ymgyngchoriad cyhoeddus ffurfiol hefyd—y cyntaf ar yr egwyddorion a'r polisiau yr oeddwn am roi sylw iddynt yn y ddeddfwriaeth a'r ail ar Fil drafft. Mae'r Bil yr wyf wedi'i osod yn ystyried yr adborth a dderbynwyd drwy'r ymgyngchoriadau hynny. Mae'n ceisio diogelu buddiannau'r diwydiant carafannau gwyliau ac yn cydnabod yr effaith economaidd gadarnhaol sylweddol a gaiff ar economi Cymru.

Deddf Safleoedd Carafannau a Rheoli Datblygu 1960 yw'r ddeddfwriaeth drwyddedu fwyaf diweddar ar gyfer meysydd carafannau gwyliau, ond nid yw'n addas bellach i'r diwydiant carafannau gwyliau modern. O dan Ddeddf 1960, caiff trwyddedau eu rhoi am gyfnodau amhenadol a gallant bara degawdau heb gael eu hadolygu. Mae pwerau gorfodi awdurdodau lleol yn gyfyngedig ac nid oes arnynt unrhyw ddyletswydd i arolygu safleoedd na gweithredu pan fydd amodau trwyddedu yn cael eu torri.

Mae'r Bil yn cyd-fynd â Deddf Cartrefi Symudol (Cymru) 2013, a gyflwynwyd gan Peter Black i ymateb i bryderon a moderneiddio'r drefn drwyddedu yn y diwydiant cartrefi symudol preswyl. Er bod rhai nodweddion tebyg rhwng y diwydiant cartrefi symudol preswyl a'r diwydiant carafannau gwyliau, mae'r ddua ddiwydiant yn wahanol iawn ac mae'r diwydiant carafannau gwyliau yn llawer mwy o faint, gyda thua 70,000 o unedau carafannau gwyliau yng Nghymru, o gymharu â thua 3,400 o gartrefi symudol preswyl. Felly, mae Deddf Cartrefi Symudol (Cymru) wedi bod yn sylfaen ddefnyddiol i gyfraith drwyddedu yng Nghymru a bu'n ddefnyddiol wrth ddatblygu'r Bil yr wyf wedi ei osod, ond mae gwahaniaethau rhwng y diwydiannau yn golygu bod yn rhaid mabwysiadu atebion deddfwriaethol amgen i fynd i'r afael â hwy.

The holiday caravan industry is a great Welsh success story. It brings thousands of tourists to Wales each year and, in doing so, makes a significant contribution to the Welsh economy, providing much needed employment and supporting businesses throughout Wales. However, the industry is not without its problems. The misuse of holiday caravans as main homes and the lack of enforcement action to address this issue represent a real and growing threat to the industry going forward, to the wider tourism economy and to providers of public services. It is for these reasons that the Holiday Caravan Sites (Wales) Bill is necessary.

In conclusion, I want to put on record my thanks to the Minister and his officials for the useful discussions that we have had during the course of the development of the Bill; to Peter Black for his work on the park homes sector, which has also helped to inform the development of my Bill; and to all those who took part in the engagement events and responded to the public consultations that were undertaken. Finally, I want to give a very special note of thanks to Stephen George, Gareth Howells, Joanez Jackson, Jonathan Baxter, Martin Jennings, Kath Thomas and all of the other Assembly support staff and teams that have helped by giving their advice and support and helped me to bring this Bill forward. I commend the Bill to the National Assembly.

Mae'r diwydiant carafannau gwyliau yn stori lwyddiant wych yng Nghymru. Mae'n denu miloedd o dwristiaid i Gymru bob blwyddyn ac, wrth wneud hynny, yn gwneud cyfraniad sylweddol i economi Cymru, gan ddarparu swyddi y mae mawr eu hangen a chefnogi busnesau ledled Cymru. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'r diwydiant yn berffaith. Mae'r arfer o gamddefnyddio carafannau gwyliau fel prif gartrefi a'r diffyg camau gorfodi i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem hon yn fygythiad gwirioneddol a chynyddol i'r diwydiant yn y dyfodol, yr economi dwristiaeth ehangach a darparwyr gwasanaethau cyhoeddus. Am y rhesymau hyn mae Bil Meysydd Carafannau Gwyliau (Cymru) yn angenrheidiol.

I gloi, hoffwn gofnodi fy niolch i'r Gweinidog a'i swyddogion am y trafodaethau defnyddiol yr ydym wedi'u cael wrth ddatblygu'r Bil hwn; i Peter Black am ei waith ar y sector cartrefi mewn parciau, a fu hefyd o gymorth wrth imi ddatblygu'r Bil; ac i bawb a wnaeth gymryd rhan yn y digwyddiadau ymgysylltu ac ymateb i'r ymgynghoriadau cyhoeddus a gynhalwyd. Yn olaf, hoffwn ddiolch yn arbennig i Stephen George, Gareth Howells, Joanez Jackson, Jonathan Baxter, Martin Jennings, Kath Thomas a holl staff cymorth a thimau eraill y Cynulliad sydd wedi helpu drwy roi cyngor a chymorth ac wedi fy helpu i gyflwyno'r Bil hwn. Cymeradwyaf y Bil i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol.

15:20

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

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I call the Minister for Housing and Regeneration, Carl Sargeant.

Galwaf ar y Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio, Carl Sargeant.

15:20

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

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

Thank you, Presiding Officer. I know that the Member in charge has put a lot of effort into the significant task of producing the Bill, and his efforts have been clearly appreciated. I have not had an awful lot of time to look at the consequences of this Bill, but I have a few initial observations on it.

Diolch ichi, Lywydd. Gwn fod yr Aelod sy'n gyfrifol wedi mynd i gryn ymdrech i gyflawni'r dasg sylweddol o lunio'r Bil, ac mae ei ymdrechion wedi cael eu gwerthfawrogi yn amlwg. Nid wyf wedi cael llawer iawn o amser i edrych ar ganlyniadau'r Bil hwn, ond mae gennyl rai sylwadau cychwynnol arno.

First, I support the sentiment behind the Bill. If people are living in holiday caravans as their main residence, that is something that I would not support. This has obvious implications for local councils, as individuals are not likely to be paying council tax while continuing to access local services. My issue is the size and scale of the matter that the Member in charge brings to the Chamber. I am not yet fully aware of this issue and want to better understand the problem of the unlawful occupation of caravan sites and whether it is sufficiently widespread to necessitate the seemingly heavy-handed approach of legislation that may in future be required.

Yn gyntaf, rwy'n cefnogi'r syniad sydd wrth wraidd y Bil. Os yw pobl yn byw mewn carafannau gwyliau fel eu prif breswylfa, ni fyddwn yn cefnogi hynny. Mae gan hyn oblygiadau amlwg i gynghorau lleol, gan nad yw unigolion yn debygol o fod yn talu'r dreth gyngor er eu bod yn parhau i ddefnyddio gwasanaethau lleol. Yr hyn sy'n fy mhoeni i yw maint a graddfa'r broblem y mae'r Aelod cyfrifol yn ei chyflwyno i'r Siambwr. Nid wyf yn gwbl hyddysg â'r mater hwn eto a hoffwn gael dealtwriaeth well o'r broblem o feddianeth anghyfreithlon ar feysydd carafannau a ph'un a yw'n ddigon cyffredin i olygu bod angen y ddeddfwriaeth ymddangosiadol lawdrom y gall fod ei hangen yn y dyfodol.

I am also yet to be convinced as to the cost of the implementation of the Bill. Much of the burden now falls to site owners, and costs will inevitably be passed on to legitimate holidaymakers at a time when the tourism industry, as acknowledged by the Member, needs every little bit of help it can get. Increased costs and bureaucracy could put Welsh sites at a disadvantage when compared to their English counterparts. In fact, I received today a letter from the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport setting out similar concerns, including those about the potential risk for unintended consequences that could seriously disadvantage holiday caravan parks in Wales.

Darren mentioned the Mobile Homes (Wales) Act 2013, which was used as the basis for the approach taken here. The Act was conceived to tackle some very specific problems encountered by people living in permanent mobile homes. The circumstances here are, I believe, very different. However, again, the work that Peter Black and the team were engaged in has given you some basis on which to move forward.

Llywydd, I want to see something done, as Darren Millar does, if there is a problem, but—and this is my whole point about the debate—I want to be clear that there is, in fact, a problem and, if so, that it is of a sufficient size and scale to warrant a regulatory approach. Therefore, I would like to see, during the scrutiny process and progression of this Bill, a study of the full economic impact of the proposals, particularly on the Wales tourism industry, and the evidence of the need for a Bill. However, I wish the Member well in his pursuit of his backbench legislation.

Nid wyf yn argyhoeddedig chwaith ynglŷn â chost gweithredu'r Bil. Mae llawer o'r baich yn disgyn ar berchnogion safleoedd ar hyn o bryd, ac mae'n anochel y bydd costau'n cael eu trosglwyddo i dwristiaid diliys ar adeg pan fo angen pob cymorth posibl ar y diwydiant twristiaeth, fel y cydnabu'r Aelod. Gallai mwy o gostau a biwrocratiaeth roi safleoedd yng Nghymru o dan anfantais o'u cymharu â'u cymheiriaid yn Lloegr. Yn wir, derbyniais lythyr heddiw gan Weinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth yn nodi pryderon tebyg, gan gynnwys pryderon am y risg bosibl o ganlyniadau anfwriadol a allai roi parciau carafannau gwyliau yng Nghymru o dan anfantais ddifrifol.

Cyfeiriodd Darren at Ddeddf Cartrefi Symudol (Cymru) 2013, a ddefnyddiwyd fel sail i'r dull gweithredu a gyflwynir yma. Cafodd y Ddeddf ei llunio i fynd i'r afael â rhai problemau penodol iawn sy'n wynebu pobl sy'n byw mewn cartrefi symudol parhaol. Credaf fod yr amgylchiadau yma yn wahanol iawn. Fodd bynnag, unwaith eto, mae'r gwaith a wnaeth Peter Black a'r tîm wedi rhoi sail i chi weithredu arni.

Llywydd, rwyf am weld rhywbeth yn cael ei wneud, fel Darren Millar, os oes problem yn bodoli, ond—a dyma fy mhwyt ynglŷn â'r ddadl—rwyf am wybod yn glir bod problem yn bodoli mewn gwirionedd ac, os felly, ei bod yn ddigon mawr i gyflawnhau camau rheoleiddio. Felly, yn ystod y broses graffu a hynt y Bil hwn, hoffwn weld astudiaeth o effaith economaidd lawn y cynigion, yn enwedig ar y diwydiant twristiaeth yng Nghymru, a'r dystiolaeth o'r angen am Fil. Fodd bynnag, dymunaf yn dda i'r Aelod wrth iddo geisio cyflwyno ei ddeddfwriaeth o'r meinciau cefn.

15:23

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

I have nine speakers on this item, so I just remind Members that this is time for questions to the proposer. I call Mick Antoniw—[Interruption.] Sorry, I was under the impression that you would reply to the Minister at the end, but if you would like to do that now, that is fine.

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Mae gen i naw siaradwr ar gyfer yr eitem hon, felly hoffwn atgoffa Aelodau mai dyma'r amser i ofyn cwestiynau i'r cynigiwr. Galwaf ar Mick Antoniw— [Torri ar draws.] Mae'n ddrwg gennyr, roeddwn dan yr argraff y byddech yn ymateb i'r Gweinidog ar y diwedd, ond os hoffech wneud hynny yn awr, mae hynny'n iawn.

Darren Millar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Minister for his tentative support for the sentiment behind my Bill. He is aware that this is an issue that I have raised with him on a number of occasions in the past, and I know that the scale of the problem is actually rather difficult to establish. There is some evidence of residential misuse, which I have cited in the explanatory memorandum tabled with the Bill. For example, around 400 people across six local authorities are living in holiday caravans that are registered for council tax. There are 62 housing benefit claims across six local authorities and 82 GP registrations from just a small sample of sites in the Conwy County Borough Council area. Over a 12-month period, 83 people were arrested or named as suspects by North Wales Police who gave holiday caravan sites as their addresses. There were 361 concessionary bus passes issued to people who had holiday caravan site addresses in Conwy in 2007 and 2008. I think that one of the other telling statistics was that the 2011 census suggested that around 6,000 households were in caravans or mobile structures—with around 3,400 households on park home sites, that leaves 2,600 that were on holiday caravan park sites. Therefore, there is evidence, and I agree with you that we need to establish more. I think that the committee, through the Stage 1 process, will be able to do just that.

In terms of concerns about costs, you are quite right, Minister, that we have to make sure that there is minimum impact in terms of costs on the industry. That is why, in the explanatory memorandum, we have set out some examples of the sorts of costs that we would expect to see as a result of this legislation if it were to be implemented. It is encouraging to note that the annual cost per unit would be around £3.43 per caravan unit per year here in Wales should the Bill be introduced. So, I do not think that that is an onerous price to pay for protecting and safeguarding the industry and dealing with this problem of residential misuse in the future.

You have highlighted the difference between both industries, as I did in my opening statement. That is why there are significant differences between my Bill and the Bill that Peter Black brought before the Assembly last year.

Diolch i'r Gweinidog am ei gefnogaeth betrus i'r syniad sydd wrth wraidd fy Mil. Gŵyr fod hwn yn fater yr wyf wedi'i godi gydag ef ar sawl achlysur yn y gorffennol, a gwn ei bod yn eithaf anodd mesur maint y broblem mewn gwirionedd. Mae rhywfaint o dystiolaeth o gamddefnydd preswyll, yr wyf wedi cyfeirio ato yn y memorandwm esboniadol a gyflwynwyd gyda'r Bil. Er enghraift, mae tua 400 o bobl mewn chwe awdurdod lleol yn byw mewn carafannau gwyliau sydd wedi'u cofrestru ar gyfer y dreth gyngor. Mae 62 o hawliadau am fudd-dal tai mewn chwe awdurdod lleol ac 82 o gofrestriadau â Meddygon Teulu dim ond o sampl fechan o safleoedd yn ardal Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Conwy. Dros gyfnod o 12 mis, cafodd 83 o bobl eu harestio gan Heddlu Gogledd Cymru neu eu henwi ganddo fel pobl dan amheuaeth a roddodd feisydd carafannau gwyliau fel eu cyfeiriadau. Rhoddwyd 361 o docynnau bws rhatach i bobl oedd â chyfeiriadau ar feisydd carafannau gwyliau yng Nghonwy yn 2007 a 2008. Un o'r ystadegau arwyddocaol eraill yn fy marn i oedd bod cyfrifiad 2011 wedi awgrymu bod tua 6,000 o aelwydydd yn byw mewn carafannau neu strwythurau symudol—gyda thua 3,400 o aelwydydd ar safleoedd cartrefi mewn parciau, sy'n gadael 2,600 ar barciau carafannau gwyliau. Felly, mae dystiolaeth ar gael, ac rwy'n cytuno â chi bod angen rhagor arnom. Credaf y gall y pwylgor wneud hynny drwy broses Cam 1.

O ran pryderon am gostau, rydych yn llygad eich lle, Weinidog, fod yn rhaid inni sicrhau bod hyn yn cael cyn lleied o effaith â phosibl ar y diwydiant o ran costau. Dyna pam y gwnaethom gynnwys yn y memorandwm esboniadol rai engrifftiau o'r mathau o gostau y byddem yn disgwyli eu gweld o ganlyniad i'r ddeddfwriaeth hon pe cāi ei gweithredu. Mae'n galonogol nodi mai'r gost flynyddol fesul uned fyddai tua £3.43 fesul carafān y flwyddyn yma yng Nghymru pe cāi'r Bil ei gyflwyno. Felly, ni chredaf fod hwnnw'n bris sylweddol i'w dalu am amddiffyn a diogelu'r diwydiant a delio â'r broblem hon o gamddefnydd preswyll yn y dyfodol.

Rydych wedi tynnu sylw at y gwahaniaeth rhwng y ddau ddiwydiant, fel y gwneuthum innau yn fy natganiad agoriadol. Dyna pam y mae gwahaniaethau sylweddol rhwng fy Mil i a'r Bil y cyflwynodd Peter Black i'r Cynulliad y llynedd.

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

I am glad that you brought this Bill forward. In fact, I have a constituent who has come down especially to hear you, because it is a matter of concern to my constituents and quite a number of others. You have given a bit of information about the scale of the problem. What sort of work do you intend to carry out? What sort of research will be carried out now in order to identify more accurately the scale and nature of the problem? That will be one of the key issues when it comes to the scrutiny stage, in terms of the issues that the Minister has raised and I am sure that many others will be concerned about. I am glad that it has been brought forward, because I do not think that people appreciate the scale and number of people who are involved in caravans and mobile homes and so on.

Rwy'n falch ichi gyflwyno'r Bil hwn. Yn wir, mae gennyl un etholwr sydd wedi teithio i lawr yn unswydd i'ch clywed, oherwydd mae'n fater o bwys i'm hetholwyr a chryn dipyn o bobl eraill. Rydych wedi rhoi rhywfaint o wybodaeth am faint y broblem. Pa fath o waith yr ydych yn bwriadu ei wneud? Pa fath o waith ymchwil fydd yn cael ei gynnal yn awr er mwyn cael syniad mwy cywir o faint a natur y broblem? Dyna fydd un o'r materion allweddol pan ddaw i'r cam craffu, o ran y materion y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u codi ac yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd llawer o bobl eraill yn poeni amdanynt hefyd. Rwy'n falch i'r mater gael ei gyflwyno, oherwydd ni chredaf fod pobl yn sylweddoli faint o bobl sy'n ymwneud â charafannau a chartrefi symudol ac yn y blaen.

Darren Millar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for that particular question. As I indicated earlier, there is a suite of information already in the public domain that points to the fact that there is a problem. However, it is impossible for anybody to establish completely accurate figures. By the nature of the problem, because it is residential misuse, it is hidden within the holiday caravan industry. I think that the statistics that I just gave you are interesting, particularly that one in respect of the number of people who responded to the 2011 census, which suggests that there could be up to 2,600 households living on holiday caravan parks in Wales.

Of course, it will be for the committee to consider during the Stage 1 process whether that evidence is sufficient to be able to legislate. I feel that it is. In my constituency, obviously, the holiday caravan industry is extremely important. I do not want to do anything that jeopardises that industry, but it is jeopardising itself in not dealing with this particular problem of residential misuse and that is why we have to bring forward legislation to deal with it.

15:28

Jocelyn Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I should declare an interest straight away as a caravan owner. I very much welcome the statement today from Darren Millar. As you know, in Wales, we are well known for loving our caravans and it is a very brave politician indeed who places himself between caravan owners and the unfettered use of those vans, so I will follow the progress of this Bill with some interest.

I agree with the thrust of the argument that sites licensed for holiday use should not be used as permanent residences. In the last Government, I was invited on a number of occasions to caravan parks by the proposer along the north Wales coast to explore this very problem. Modern caravans probably are suitable for accommodation, even in the colder months, but no site owner should allow breaches of their site licences and planning consents, because I am sure that we would all agree that they exist for very good reasons.

So, why not just insist on the enforcement of current law? If access to public services is the issue, why place the onus on the site owner to police it and why should they be the gatekeeper of public services in Wales? Why not just prevent local authorities from allowing those bus passes, housing benefits, and registration to schools from addresses on holiday sites? They process these things, so why not just insist that they stop doing that?

In the explanatory memorandum, you mention the research that was carried out to underpin the Bill. I wonder whether you intend to publish that research, so that we may see it.

Diolch i chi am y cwestiwn penodol hwnnw. Fel y dywedais yn gynharach, mae cyfres o wybodaeth eisoes ar gael yn gyhoeddus sy'n dangos bod problem. Fodd bynnag, mae'n amhosibl i unrhyw un gael ffigurau hollol gywir. Oherwydd natur y broblem, am mai camddefnydd preswyl ydyw, mae'n cael ei chuddio o fewn y diwydiant carafannau gwyliau. Credaf fod yr ystadegau yr wyf newydd eu rhoi ichi yn ddiddorol, yn enwedig yr un ynghylch nifer y bobl a ymatebodd i gyfrifiad 2011, sy'n awgrymu y gallai fod hyd at 2,600 o aelwydydd yn byw ar barciau carafannau gwyliau yng Nghymru.

Wrth gwrs, mater i'r pwylgor fydd ystyried yn ystod proses Cam 1 a yw'r dystiolaeth honno yn ddigonol i allu deddfu. Teimlaf ei bod yn ddigonol. Yn fy etholaeth i, yn amlwg, mae'r diwydiant carafannau gwyliau yn hynod o bwysig. Nid wyf am wneud unrhyw beth i beryglu'r diwydiant hwnnw, ond mae'n peryglu ei hun drwy beidio â delio â'r broblem arbennig hon o gamddefnydd preswyl a dyna pam y mae'n rhaid inni gyflwyno deddfwriaeth i ddelio â hi.

Dylwn ddatgan buddiant yn syth fel perchennog carafán. Croesawaf yn fawr y datganiad heddiw gan Darren Millar. Fel y gwyddoch, yng Nghymru, rydym yn adnabyddus am ein hoffter o garafannau a gwleidydd dewr iawn fyddai'n dod rhwng perchnogion carafannau a'r defnydd dilyffethair o'r faniau hynny, felly byddaf yn dilyn hynt y Bil hwn gyda chryn ddiddordeb.

Cytunaf â byrdwn y ddadl na ddylai safleoedd sydd wedi'u trwyddedu at ddefnydd gwyliau gael eu defnyddio fel preswylfeydd parhaol. Yn ystod y Llywodraeth ddiwethaf, cefais sawl gwahoddiad gan y cynigydd i fynd i barciau carafannau ar hyd arfordir y Gogledd er mwyn asesu'r broblem hon. Mae'n debyg bod carafannau modern yn llety addas, hyd yn oed yn ystod y misoedd oerach, ond ni ddylai unrhyw berchennog safle ganiatáu i unrhyw un dorri trwyddedau ei safle na'i ganiatâd cynllunio, oherwydd rwy'n siŵr y byddem i gyd yn cytuno eu bod yn bodoli am resymau da iawn.

Felly, pam na allwn fynnu bod y gyfraith bresennol yn cael ei gorodi? Os mai mynediad at wasanaethau cyhoeddus yw'r broblem, pam rydym yn rhoi cyfrifoldeb ar berchennog y safle i blismona'r sefyllfa a pham mai nhw ddylai warchod gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru? Pam na allwn atal awdurdodau lleol rhag rhoi tocynnau bws rhatach a budd-daliadau tai i'r rhai sydd â chyfeiriadau ar safleoedd gwyliau a gwrt holl ganiatáu iddynt gofrestru ag ysgolion? Nhw sy'n prosesu'r pethau hyn, felly pam nad ydym yn mynnu eu bod yn rhoi'r gorau i wneud hynny?

Yn y memorandwm esboniadol, rydych yn sôn am y gwaith ymchwil a gynhalwyd i ategu'r Bil. Tybed a ydych yn bwriadu cyhoeddi'r ymchwil honno, fel y gallwn ei gweld.

I have a question on the required documentation for the residence test, because, of course, people will be required to undergo this test every year to prove that they have a residence elsewhere. Now, would these be available for non-UK residents who own caravans in Wales? The list of documentation that you have put there appears to be available only to people who have another home within the UK. So, are you restricting the test to UK residents only, or are you now preventing people who live abroad from owning caravans in Wales?

I just have one or two more questions, Presiding Officer.

If this is an attempt to get more council tax, how do you know that those people will be council tax payers? If this is to ensure that everyone pays their fair share of council tax, why are you restricting this just to caravans, and not including other accommodation normally used by tourists, such as hotels? Why just caravans?

Mae gennyf gwestiwn ar y ddogfennaeth ofynnol ar gyfer y prawf preswylio oherwydd, wrth gwrs, bydd yn rhaid i bobl sefyll y prawf hwn bob blwyddyn i brofi bod ganddynt breswylfa mewn man arall. A fyddai'r rhain ar gael i drigolion nad ydynt yn byw yn y DU sy'n berchen ar garafannau yng Nghymru? Mae'n ymddangos bod y rhestr o ddogfennau yr ydych wedi'i chynnwys ond ar gael i bobl sydd â chartref arall yn y DU. Felly, a ydych yn cyfyngu'r prawf i breswylwyr y DU yn unig, neu a ydych yn awr yn atal pobl sy'n byw dramor rhag bod yn berchen ar garafannau yng Nghymru?

Mae gennyf un neu ddau gwestiwn arall, Lywydd.

Os mai ymgais i gael mwy o dreth gyngor yw hon, sut rydych yn gwybod y bydd y bobl hynny yn bobl sy'n talu'r dreth gyngor? Os mai'r nod yw sicrhau bod pawb yn talu eu cyfran deg o'r dreth gyngor, pam rydych yn cyfyngu hyn i garafannau yn unig ac nid llety arall a ddefnyddir fel arfer gan dwristiaid, megis gwestai? Pam dim ond carafannau?

15:31

Darren Millar [Bywgraffiad Biography](#)

I thank the Member for the questions. There were a lot of questions wrapped up in that particular response.

May I just deal with the current legislation and the need for new legislation? The current arrangements simply are not working. The existing Act that guides the legislation in this area was given Royal Assent in 1960; it is almost pensionable in terms of its age and it was designed, of course, for a very different type, style, and model of caravan industry. Under that legislation, local authorities have no duty to inspect, no duty to enforce, and they are not given any resources to assist them in doing that. That is why there is such a lack of consistency in the way that that happens across Wales. In addition to that, the financial penalties under the 1960 Act are limited—they are capped—and they are at such a low level that it does not provide an effective deterrent for some of the unscrupulous park owners, who, knowingly, allow people to live on their caravan sites. So, it is not working, and that is why we need a completely different approach.

Now, you mentioned the residence test. Of course, there is a suite of information that could easily be complied with from people with a home address overseas—an occupier's address, or for a financial institution, or some documentary evidence in respect of a utility provider. These are things that every household, whether here in the UK or overseas, ought to be able to provide. That test is not an onerous test; it is a very straightforward, simple test, which is actually already undertaken by the best operators in Wales at the moment, and is something that is promoted by the British Holiday and Home Parks Association and, indeed, the National Caravan Council, particularly through the National Caravan Council's approved scheme and code of practice. So, these are things that the best operators are already complying with; it is simply putting that on a statutory footing going forward.

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Diolch i'r Aelod am y cwestiynau. Roedd llawer o gwestiynau yn yr ymateb hwnnw.

A gaf fi ymdrin â'r ddeddfwriaeth bresennol a'r angen am ddeddfwriaeth newydd? Yn syml, nid yw'r trefniadau presennol yn gweithio. Cafodd y Ddeddf bresennol sy'n llywio'r ddeddfwriaeth yn y maes hwn Gydsyniad Brenhinol yn 1960; mae bron â chyraedd oedran pensiwn ac fe'i cynlluniwyd, wrth gwrs, ar gyfer math, steil a model gwahanol iawn o ddiwydiant carafannau. O dan y ddeddfwriaeth honno, nid oes dyletswydd ar awdurdodau lleol i arolygu na gorfodi ac ni roddir unrhyw adnoddau iddynt i'w helpu i wneud hynny. Dyna pam y mae cymaint o anghysondeb yn y ffordd y mae hynny'n digwydd ledled Cymru. Yn ogystal â hynny, mae'r cosbau ariannol o dan Ddeddf 1960 yn gyfyngedig—maent wedi'u capio—ac maent mor isel fel nad ydynt yn ataliad effeithiol i rai o'r perchnogion parciau diegwyddor sydd, yn fwriadol, yn caniatâu i bobl fyw ar eu meysydd carafannau. Felly, nid yw'n gweithio a dyna pam y mae angen trefn hollol wahanol arnom.

Gwnaethoch gyfeirio at y prawf preswylio. Wrth gwrs, mae cyfres o wybodaeth y gallai pobl a chanddynt gyfeiriad cartref dramor gydymffurfio'n hawdd â hi—cyfeiriad meddiannwr, neu ar gyfer sefydliad ariannol, neu ryw dystiolaeth ddogfennol gan ddarparwr cyfleustodau. Mae'r rhain yn bethau y dylai pob aelwyd, boed yma yn y DU neu dramor, allu eu darparu. Nid yw'r prawf hwnnw'n feichus; mae'n brawf syml iawn, a gaiff ei gynnal eisoes gan y gweithredwyr gorau yng Nghymru ar hyn o bryd a'i hyrwyddo gan Gymdeithas Parciau Gwyliau a Pharciau Cartrefi Prydain ac, yn wir, y Cyngor Carafannau Cenedlaethol, yn enwedig drwy gynllun a chod ymarfer cymeradwy'r Cyngor Carafannau Cenedlaethol. Felly, mae'r rhain yn bethau y mae'r gweithredwyr gorau eisoes yn cydymffurfio â hwy; dim ond mater o greu sail statudol i hyn yn y dyfodol sydd ei angen.

15:34

I must correct just one point that you raised. You seem to suggest that the purpose of the Bill is somehow to be able to collect council tax from caravan owners. That is absolutely not the case—there is no suggestion that that is the case at all in the Bill. In fact, people ought not to be paying council tax on a holiday caravan at all. So, the measures in my Bill will prevent such tax from being chargeable in the future.

Peter Black [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

May I start by congratulating Darren Millar on having this opportunity to bring forward a Member-proposed Bill? I have noted, however, that all the Member-proposed Bills that have been proposed by the Conservatives have either increased regulation or have imposed new taxes. So, no doubt this is no exception.

I also want to make the observation that, in terms of the description that Darren Millar gave earlier of the number of people who are using caravan sites as a permanent residence, I am sure that the Minister is making note of that in terms of increasing his affordable home target, and also putting more money into his homelessness prevention budget, because I think that he may well have to do that if this Bill is enacted in its present form. However, we will go through that as part of the scrutiny process.

I have a few questions, Presiding Officer, in terms of the proposals in front of us, in particular in relation to the proposal to end residential misuse of holiday caravans. Darren proposes doing that by, effectively, giving local authorities the power to deal with caravan owners and occupiers who fail the test. I just wonder what penalties would apply to a caravan occupier or to the site owner, if it was found that a number of caravans on a site were being occupied on a permanent basis. In terms of the written statement of the terms and conditions and the other issues in terms of long-term occupiers' rights, what enforcement is the Member proposing to put in place to ensure that councils are able to protect occupiers from harassment and bad decisions regarding changes on sites?

In terms of the proposals on licences, I note that the Member is proposing that licences will not expire, but will need to be reviewed every five years. Could Darren outline what the terms of that review are, what exactly would happen as part of that review, what its purpose is, and whether that review attracts a fee? In other words, is it just a renewal by another name? Finally, in relation to appeals against licence conditions, the Bill proposes that any appeals would go to the magistrates' court rather than the residential property tribunal. Could the Member give a rationale for that, as it seems out of step with previous legislation in this area?

Rhaid imi gywiros un pwynt a godwyd gennych. Ymddengys eich bod yn awgrymu mai diben y Bil yw casglu treth gyngor gan berchnogion carafannau. Nid yw hynny'n wir o gwbl—nid oes unrhyw awgrym o hynny yn y Bil. Yn wir, nid yw'r pobl fod yn talu'r dreth gyngor ar garafannau gwyliau o gwbl. Felly, bydd y mesurau yn fy Mil yn golygu na chaiff treth o'r fath ei chodi yn y dyfodol.

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Hoffwn ddechrau drwy longyfarch Darren Millar ar gael y cyfle hwn i gyflwyno Bil Arfaethedig Aelod. Fodd bynnag, rwyf wedi sylwi bod yr holl Filialu Arfaethedig Aelodau a gynigiwyd gan y Ceidwadwyr naill ai wedi cynyddu trefniadau rheoleiddio neu wedi gosod trethi newydd. Felly, mae'n siŵr nad yw'r Bil hwn yn eithriad.

Rwyf hefyd am nodi, o ran disgrifiad cynharach Darren Millar o nifer y bobl sy'n defnyddio meysydd carafannau fel preswylfa barhaol, fy mod yn siŵr bod y Gweinidog yn gwneud nodyn o hynny o ran cynyddu ei darged cartrefi fforddiadwy a hefyd fuddsoddi mwy o arian yn ei gyllideb atal digartrefedd, oherwydd credaf ei bod yn debygol y gall fod angen iddo wneud hynny os caiff y Bil hwn ei ddeddfu ar ei ffurf bresennol. Fodd bynnag, edrychwn ar hynny fel rhan o'r broses graffu.

Mae gennyr rai cwestiynau, Lywydd, ynglŷn â'r cynigion sydd o'n blaenau, yn enwedig y cynig i roi terfyn ar yr arfer o gamddefnyddio carafannau gwyliau at ddibenion preswyl. I bob pwrras, mae Darren yn cynig y dylid gwneud hynny drwy roi pŵer i awdurdodau lleol ddelio gyda pherchnogion a meddianwyr carafannau sy'n methu'r prawf. Tybed pa gosbau fyddai'n gymwys i feddianwr carafân neu berchennog y safle, os canfyddir bod nifer o carafannau ar safle yn cael eu meddianu'n barhaol. O ran y datganiad ysgrifenedig o'r telerau ac amodau a'r materion eraill yn ymneud â hawliau meddianwyr hirdymor, pa fesurau gorfodi y mae'r Aelod yn bwriadu eu rhoi ar waith er mwyn sicrhau y gall cyngorau amddiffyn meddianwyr rhag aflenyyddwch a phenderfyniadau gwael o ran newidiadau ar safleoedd?

O ran y cynigion ar drwyddedau, nodaf fod yr Aelod yn cynig na fydd trwyddedau yn dod i ben, ond y bydd angen eu hadolygu bob pum mlynedd. A allai Darren amlinellu telerau'r adolygiad hwnnw, beth yn union fyddai'n digwydd fel rhan ohono, beth yw ei ddiben, ac a godir ffi amdan? Hynny yw, ai dim ond gair arall am adnewyddu ydyw? Yn olaf, mewn perthynas ag apeliadau yn erbyn amodau trwydded, mae'r Bil yn cynig y byddai unrhyw apeliadau yn mynd i'r llys ynaden yn hytrach na'r tribiwnlys eiddo preswyl. A all yr Aelod roi'r rhesymeg am hynny, gan ei fod yn ymddangos yn anghyson â deddfwriaeth flaenorol yn y maes hwn?

Darren Millar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank Peter Black for his comments. In terms of the impact of my Bill on the need for new homes, I would point out that the research over in Lincolnshire suggested that those people who misuse holiday caravans as their main residence tend to be people of means; they do not tend to be people who are looking for an affordable housing solution. In fact, my Bill ought to prevent homelessness in the future because, of course, there will be a written statement of agreed terms that will be understood and easy to digest at the outset by caravan owners and site owners. So, we should not get into the situation that happens in my constituency on occasion, whereby people enter into agreements under the misunderstanding that they are allowed to live there all year round and then end up presenting as homeless to the local authority further down the line.

The maximum penalty, under the fixed-penalty system that the Bill will introduce, is £500, and there will be a need for guidance to be issued by the Minister on the use of those fixed penalties under the scheme to allow for consistency and proportionality in terms of the way that they are going to be used.

In terms of the protections from harassment, the Member will be interested to know that a large proportion of the protections that are included on the face of the Bill are lifted, to a large extent, from his own Bill in respect of the Mobile Homes (Wales) Act 2013. So, there are some similarities, but there is going to be a new requirement, as I mentioned in the opening statement, for caravan site owners to consult with caravan owners about significant operational changes on their sites. The only exception to that rule will be an emergency situation such as flooding or fire, as we have seen in recent months.

The reason that we have chosen to keep the existing regime, under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, of the use of magistrates' courts from an appeals point of view is because that system seems to work, it is a system with which the industry is familiar, and, of course, it is not a residential sector, it is a holiday sector, so it would be inappropriate to use the residential property tribunal. Finally, in terms of the review of licences, the review, of course, will ensure that people are subject to a fit-and-proper-person test. It will be undertaken at least every five years—at maximum intervals of five years—and it will allow, for example, for changes to be made to the licence that are appropriate and sensible. So, for example, as Natural Resources Wales updates its flood-risk management maps, if a caravan site that was not in a flood-risk area, or not deemed to be at risk of flooding in the past, suddenly appears to be, then it will provide an opportunity to be able to deal with any consequences for the licence that need to be provided for.

Mark Isherwood [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I welcome the introduction of Darren's Holiday Caravan Sites (Wales) Bill and congratulate him on this achievement. I particularly welcome the fact that you have been developing this in co-operation with the two main industry bodies, something that they called for at the outset.

Diolch i Peter Black am ei sylwadau. O ran effaith fy Mil ar yr angen am gartrefi newydd, hoffwn nodi bod gwaith ymchwil yn Swydd Lincoln yn awgrymu bod y bobl hynny sy'n camddefnyddio carafannau gwyliau fel eu prif breswylfa yn tueddu i fod yn bobl o fod; nid ydynt yn tueddu i fod yn bobl sy'n chwilio am dai fforddiadwy. Yn wir, dylai fy Mil atal digartrefedd yn y dyfodol oherwydd, wrth gwrs, bydd datganiad ysgrifenedig o delerau y cytunwyd arnynt a fydd yn hawdd i berchnogion carafannau a pherchnogion safleoedd ei ddarllen a'i ddeall o'r cychwyn. Felly, ni ddylem ddod ar draws y sefyllfa sy'n digwydd yn fy etholaeth o bryd i'w gilydd, lle mae pobl yn ymrwymo i gytundebau gan gamgymryd bod hawl ganddynt i fyw yno drwy gydol y flwyddyn ac yna'n cysylltu â'r awdurdod lleol yn nes ymlaen i ddweud eu bod yn ddigartref.

Y gosb uchaf, o dan y system cosbau penodedig a gyflwynir gan y Bil, fydd £500 a bydd angen i'r Gweinidog gyhoeddi canllawiau ar ddefnyddio'r cosbau penodedig hynny o dan y cynllun er mwyn sicrhau y cânt eu defnyddio mewn ffordd gyson a chymesur.

O ran y mesurau amddiffyn rhag aflonyddwch, bydd gan yr Aelod ddiddordeb mewn gwybod bod cyfran fawr o'r mesurau amddiffyn yn y Bil wedi'u tynnu, i raddau helaeth, o'i Fil ei hun mewn perthynas â Deddf Cartrefi Symudol (Cymru) 2013. Felly, mae rhai nodweddion tebyg ond bydd gofyniad newydd, fel y soniais yn y datganiad agoriadol, i berchnogion meysydd carafannau ymgynghori â pherchnogion carafannau ynglŷn â newidiadau gweithredol sylweddol ar eu safleoedd. Yr unig eithriad i'r rheol honno fydd argyfwng megis llifogydd neu dâñ, fel y gwelsom dros y misoedd diwethaf.

Ein rheswm dros ddewis cadw'r drefn bresennol, o dan Ddeddf Safleoedd Carafannau a Rheoli Datblygu 1960, o ddefnyddio llysoedd ynaden ar gyfer apeliadau yw bod y system yn ymddangos fel pe bai'n gweithio, mae'r diwydiant yn gyfarwydd â'r system ac, wrth gwrs, nid y sector preswyl sydd dan sylw ond y sector gwyliau, felly byddai'n amhriodol defnyddio'r tribiwnlys eiddo preswyl. Yn olaf, o ran adolygu trwyddedau, bydd yr adolygiad, wrth gwrs, yn sicrhau bod pobl yn sefyll prawf person addas a phriodol. Caiff ei gynnal o leiaf bob pum mlynedd—bob pum mlynedd ar y mwyaf—a bydd yn golygu y gellir gwneud newidiadau priodol a synhwyrol i'r drwydded, er enghraift. Felly, er enghraift, wrth i Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru ddiweddar ei fapiau rheoli'r perygl o lifogydd, os daw i'r amlwg yn sydyn bod maes carafannau nad oedd mewn ardal a oedd yn wynebu perygl o lifogydd, neu na thybiwyd ei fod yn wynebu perygl o lifogydd yn y gorffennol, yn wynebu perygl o'r fath, yna bydd yn rhoi cyfle i allu ymdrin ag unrhyw oblygiadau o ran y drwydded.

Rwy'n croesawu Bil Meysydd Carafannau Gwyliau (Cymru) a gyflwynir gan Darren ac yn ei longyfarch ar y cyflawniad hwn. Croesawaf yn arbennig y ffaith eich bod wedi'i ddatblygu ar y cyd â'r ddau brif gorff yn y diwydiant, rhywbeth y gwnaethant alw amdano o'r cychwyn.

You refer to enforcement powers for local authorities. When we debated the proposed Bill last year, I noted that the industry had said that it is essential that enforcement should be addressed on a case-by-case basis. How are you proposing to ensure that local authorities cannot take a blanket approach and must approach each case individually on that basis?

You referred to the need in future for caravan owners and occupiers to demonstrate that their main residence is elsewhere. In the past, I think that I have referred to the trade bodies themselves stating that, if people live permanently in a holiday home, they would be in breach of planning permission or the site licence, with serious legal consequences. So, how do you propose to reconcile those serious legal consequences identified by the industry with the powers that you propose to give local authorities to deal with occupiers who fail the ownership test?

Last time, I also asked, in terms of the proposed Bill, for the Bill to require local authorities to make checks to ascertain that an applicant—a site owner—was not seeking to circumvent the home park legislation introduced by Peter Black by applying to license a home park as a holiday site, and I am wondering how this might address that.

You referred to the Bill seeking to give caravan owners and long-term occupiers rights and you referred to protection from harassment, and I will conclude with two points on this. How would you address the constituent who e-mailed me to say that the owner of her holiday park had been refusing to allow her to move to another caravan site and that she felt very intimidated by this? She said that there was very little legislation governing the practices of site owners such as hers. Fortunately, that situation was subsequently reconciled because of the intervention of the new site's owner, but, nonetheless, the legislative gap was identified. Similarly, and finally, where a caravan owner may be in dispute with a park owner over a legitimate matter, but is reluctant to take action on their own account in case of reprisals, the holiday caravan arbitration scheme run by the British Holiday and Home Parks Association does not apply when caravan owners are threatened with eviction and relates only to financial recompense. So, how do we stop unscrupulous caravan park owners threatening caravan owners with eviction when they have simply sought to settle a grievance or highlight a problem?

Rydych yn cyfeirio at bwerau gorfodi awdurdodau lleol. Pan wnaethom drafod y Bil arfaethedig y llynedd, nodais i'r diwydiant ddweud ei bod yn hanfodol ymdrin â gorfodi ar sail pob achos unigol. Sut rydych yn bwriadu sicrhau na all awdurdodau lleol ddefnyddio dull cyffredinol a bod yn rhaid iddynt ymdrin â phob achos yn unigol?

Cyfeiriasoch at yr angen yn y dyfodol i berchnogion a meddianwyr carafannau ddangos bod eu prif breswylfa yn rhywle arall. Yn y gorffennol, credaf imi gyfeirio at y ffaith bod y cyrff masnach eu hunain yn datgan, os bydd pobl yn byw'n barhaol mewn cartref gwyliau, y byddent yn torri caniatâd cynllunio neu drwydded y safle, gyda chanlyniadau cyfreithiol dirifol. Felly, sut rydych yn bwriadu cysoni'r canlyniadau cyfreithiol dirifol hynny y mae'r diwydiant yn cyfeirio atynt â'r pwerau yr ydych yn bwriadu eu rhoi i awdurdodau lleol ddelio â meddianwyr sy'n methu'r prawf perchnogaeth?

Y tro diwethaf, o ran y Bil arfaethedig, gofynnais hefyd am i'r Bil ei gwneud yn ofynnol i awdurdodau lleol gynnal gwiriau i gadarnhau nad oedd ymgeisyyd—perchenog safle—yn ceisio osgoi'r ddeddfwriaeth ar barciau cartrefi a gyflwynwyd gan Peter Black trwy wneud cais i drwyddedu parc cartrefi yn barc gwyliau. Tybed sut y gallai hwn fynd i'r afael â hynny.

Cyfeiriasoch at y ffaith bod y Bil yn ceisio rhoi hawliau i berchnogion carafannau a meddianwyr hirdymor a chyfeiriasoch at fesurau amddiffyn rhag aflonyddwch, a byddaf yn cloi gan wneud dau bwynt ar hyn. Sut y byddech yn ymdrin â'r etholwr a wnaeth anfon e-bost ataf i ddweud bod perchenog ei pharc gwyliau wedi bod yn gwrthod caniatâu iddi symud i faes carafannau arall a'i bod yn teimlo dan gryn fygythiad oherwydd hyn? Dywedodd mai ychydig iawn o ddeddfwriaeth sy'n llywodraethu arferion perchnogion safleoedd fel ei un hithau. Yn ffodus, cafodd y sefyllfa honno ei datrys ar ôl i berchennog y safle newydd ymyrryd, ond, serch hynny, gwelwyd bod bwlc'h deddfwriaethol. Yn yr un modd, ac i gloi, pan fo anghydfod rhwng perchenog carafán a pherchenog parc ynglŷn â mater diliys, ond bod perchenog y garafán yn amharod i weithredu ar ei ben ei hun am ei fod yn ofni'r canlyniadau, nid yw'r cynllun cylafareddu ar gyfer carafannau gwyliau a weinyddir gan Gymdeithas Parciau Gwyliau a Pharciau Cartrefi Prydain yn berthnasol pan fydd perchnogion carafannau yn wynebu bygythiad o gael eu troi allan gan ei fod yn ymwneud ag iawndal ariannol yn unig. Felly, sut mae atal perchnogion parciau carafannau diegwyddor rhag bygwth troi perchnogion carafannau allan pan fyddant heb wneud mwy na cheisio setlo cwyn neu dynnu sylw at broblem?

15:43

Darren Millar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank Mark Isherwood for his questions. I think that one thing that it is very important to note is that the British Holiday and Home Parks Association and the National Caravan Council have been extremely helpful in helping me develop the ideas in the Bill, and I want to, again, thank them for the work that they have done and undertaken in engaging with their collective memberships in order to help inform my ideas.

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Diolch i Mark Isherwood am ei gwestiynau. Credaf ei bod yn bwysig iawn nodi bod Cymdeithas Parciau Gwyliau a Pharciau Cartrefi Prydain a'r Cyngor Carafannau Cenedlaethol wedi bod o gymorth mawr imi wrth imi ddatblygu'r syniadau yn y Bil a hoffwn, unwaith eto, ddiolch iddynt am y gwaith y maent wedi'i wneud ac am gysylltu â'u haelodau er mwyn helpu i lunio fy syniadau.

Enforcement powers for local authorities in the Bill will allow for a case-by-case approach to breaches of the residents test. So, this will ensure that there is an opportunity for a situation to be resolved without the need for fixed penalties or for a matter to be taken to the magistrates' court. I think that it is really important to give that discretion to allow local authorities to resolve a matter, if they can, by amicable means with a site owner and, indeed, a caravan occupier. In terms of the opportunities for people to transfer their licences, or to make an application for a licence for a residential park home site to become a holiday site, this was something that was raised as a concern during the passage of Peter Black's Bill through the Assembly and my Bill will help to address that problem by ensuring that anybody who becomes a site operator in the future in Wales has to pass a fit-and-proper-person test in order to obtain a licence.

The protections are in place on the face of the Bill for protection from harassment, so that the sorts of situations that you have described which your constituents are experiencing should be a thing of the past if this Bill is enforced in the future. Many of the situations that have been described to me in correspondence during the course of the development of the Bill could have been easily resolved if written agreements had been in place at the outset that were clear and understandable by caravan owners when they were purchasing their caravans. That has not been the case in the past. Written agreements have to be in place in my Bill in the future.

Bydd pwerau gorfodi i awdurdodau lleol yn y Bil yn eu galluogi i ymdrin ag achosion o dorri'r prawf preswylyr fesul achos. Felly, bydd hyn yn sicrhau bod cyfle i ddatrys sefyllfa heb bod angen cyflwyno cosbau penodedig na mynd â'r mater i'r llys yn nadon. Credaf ei bod yn bwysig iawn rhoi disgrifiwn i awdurdodau lleol ddatrys mater, os gallant, mewn ffordd gyfeillgar gyda pherchennoq safle ac, yn wir, feddianydd carafân. O ran y cyfleoedd i bobl drosglwyddo eu trwyddedau, neu wneud cais am drwydded i droi parc cartrefi preswyl yn safle gwyliau, roedd hwn yn bryder a godwyd yn ystod hynt Bil Peter Black trwy'r Cynulliad a bydd fy Mil i yn helpu i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem honno drwy sicrhau bod yn rhaid i unrhyw un sy'n dod yn weithredwr safle yng Nghymru yn y dyfodol basio prawf person addas a phriodol er mwyn cael trwydded.

Mae'r Bil yn cynnwys mesurau sy'n amddiffyn rhag aflonyddwch, er mwyn sicrhau y bydd y mathau o sefyllfaedd yr ydych wedi eu disgrifio, y mae eich etholwyr yn eu profi yn perthyn i'r gorffennol os caiff y Bil hwn ei orfodi yn y dyfodol. Gallai llawer o'r sefyllfaedd a ddisgrifiwyd imi mewn gohebiaeth wrth i'r Bil gael ei ddatblygu fod wedi cael eu datrys yn hawdd pe bai cytundebau ysgrifenedig wedi'u llunio ar y dechrau a oedd yn glir ac yn ddealladwy i berchnogion carafannau pan oeddent yn prynu eu carafannau. Nid yw hynny wedi digwydd yn y gorffennol. O dan fy Mil i, rhaid i gytundebau ysgrifenedig fod ar waith yn y dyfodol.

15:45

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

I have five more speakers. I ask you to try to curtail your contributions to just questions, if possible. I now call on Ann Jones.

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Mae gennyl bum siaradwr arall. Gofynnaf ichi gyfyngu eich cyfraniadau i gwestiynau yn unig, os yw hynny'n bosibl. Galwaf yn awr ar Ann Jones.

15:45

Ann Jones [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I do have a couple of questions, but I just wanted to say that I think that the way in which Darren has gone about the extensive consultation has moved from where he initially thought that his Bill was going to go. For me, that is quite interesting, given that he and I share the costa del caravan. I just want to make sure, Darren, that you are aware of some of the consequences of duplication of regulation. I have not read the entire Bill, but I am still not sure whether there is that loophole of duplication in your Bill that will allow those poor-practice site owners to be able to play the existing legislation off against your new legislation. I just wanted to make sure that you are aware of that.

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Mae gennyl rai cwestiynau, ond roeddwn am ddweud fy mod yn credu bod y ffordd y mae Darren wedi mynd ati o ran yr ymgynghoriad eang wedi newid o gymharu â'r cyfeiriad gwreiddiol yr oedd ganddo mewn golwg ar gyfer ei Fil. Imi, mae hynny'n eithaf diddorol, o ystyried fod y ddau ohonom yn rhannu'r costa del carafannau. Roeddwn am wneud yn siŵr, Darren, eich bod yn ymwybodol o rai o ganlyniadau dyblygu trefniadau rheoleiddio. Nid wyf wedi darllen y Bil cyfan, ond nid wyf yn siŵr o hyd a oes gwendid o ran dyblygu yn eich Bil a fydd yn caniatáu i'r berchnogion safleoedd hynny sy'n dilyn arferion gwael osod y ddeddfwriaeth bresennol yn erbyn eich deddfwriaeth newydd. Roeddwn am wneud yn siŵr eich bod yn ymwybodol o hynny.

We also have to applaud the principal aim of what you are attempting to do. I am sure that this will not be the first time that you will be in the Chamber talking about caravans. I will note the number of times that you mention holiday caravans, compared with my sprinklers, and I will check at the end of it to see whether it has been a good process or not. I wish you well, but I just want you to be aware of that duplication.

Rhaid inni hefyd ganmol prif nod yr hyn yr ydych yn ceisio ei wneud. Ryw'n siŵr nad dyna'r tro cyntaf y byddwch yn siarad yn y Siambr am garafannau. Byddaf yn nodi sawl gwaith y byddwch yn crybwyl carafannau gwyliau o gymharu â'm systemau chwistrellu ac, ar y diwedd, byddaf yn edrych i weld a yw wedi bod yn broses dda ai peidio. Dymunaf yn dda ichi, ond rwyf am ichi fod yn ymwybodol o'r dyblygu hwnnw.

Darren Millar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank Ann Jones. We do share an interest in holiday caravan parks because of their prevalence in our constituencies. I know that Ann is acutely aware of the problem in the local industry in her own area. There is actually no duplication in terms of my Bill. What I have done is pick up and modernise the whole of the licensing process for holiday caravan parks, and use what works from previous legislation rather than simply put new legislation alongside the existing legislation—the 1960 Act. I want to reassure the Member that there will be no duplication, and that this is a completely new licensing regime for holiday caravan sites. I am very grateful for the support that she has extended in applauding my aims. I know what a tortuous process this legislation business now is, and I pay tribute to her for the hard work that she did on sprinklers.

15:48

Rhun ap Iorwerth [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Obviously, this is an area that is very important on Anglesey, too. I have received a fair amount of correspondence from constituents on this matter. I must say that I share your concern about residential misuse; and I should also say that the park owners on Anglesey who have come to see me also share your concern. The industry, certainly in my neck of the woods, shares the worry about the effect of residential misuse on local service and so on. However, I should point out that whereas there are dozens of parks on Anglesey, I think that only two are open all year round and therefore would be open to residential misuse.

I just want to ask a few questions that really show the dangers of this Bill, as it stands, to those holiday park owners who run parks that are only holiday parks. For example, the definition of a caravan can include touring caravans as well as static caravans. Obviously, the spontaneity involved with touring caravans means that perhaps this Bill should treat the different kinds of caravans differently. On holiday caravan agreements and the 28-day notice, I think that it places a real limit on the freedom of holiday park owners to grow their businesses and to seek those last-minute agreements and sales. That is another issue that has been brought to my attention.

Diolch i Ann Jones. Mae gan y ddau ohonom diddordeb mewn parciau carafannau gwyliau am eu bod mor gyffredin yn ein hetholaethau. Gwn fod Ann yn ymwybodol iawn o'r broblem yn y diwydiant lleol yn ei hardal ei hun. Nid oes unrhyw ddyblygu yn fy Mil mewn gwirionedd. Yr hyn yr wyf wedi'i wneud yw cydgasglu a moderneiddio'r broses drwyddedu gyfan ar gyfer parciau carafannau gwyliau a defnyddio'r hyn sy'n gweithio o ddeddfwriaeth flaenorol yn hytrach na gosod ddeddfwriaeth newydd ochr yn ochr â'r ddeddfwriaeth bresennol—Deddf 1960. Rwyf am roi sicrwydd i'r Aelod na fydd unrhyw ddyblygu, a bod hon yn gyfundrefn drwyddedu holol newydd ar gyfer meysydd carafannau gwyliau. Rwy'n ddiolchgar iawn am y gefnogaeth y mae wedi'i chynnig drwy ganmol fy nodau. Gwn bellach pa mor drofaus yw'r gwaith deddfu hyn, a thalaf deyrnged iddi am y gwaith caled a wnaeth ar systemau chwistrellu.

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Yn amlwg, mae hwn yn faes pwysig iawn yn Ynys Môn hefyd. Rwyf wedi cael cryn dipyn o ohebiaeth gan etholwyr ar y mater hwn. Rhaid imi ddweud fy mod yn rhannu eich pryder am gamddefnydd preswyl; a dylwn hefyd ddweud bod y perchnogion parciau yn Ynys Môn sydd wedi dod i'm gweld yn rhannu eich pryder hefyd. Mae'r diwydiant, yn fy ardal i yn sicr, yn rhannu'r pryder am effaith camddefnydd preswyl ar wasanaethau lleol ac yn y blaen. Fodd bynnag, dylwn nodi, er bod dwisinau o barciau ar Ynys Môn, mai dim ond dau ohonynt, rwy'n credu, sydd ar agror drwy gydol y flwyddyn ac a fyddai, felly, yn agored i gamddefnydd preswyl.

Rwyf am ofyn rhai cwestiynau sydd wir yn dangos peryglon y Bil hwn, fel y mae, i'r perchnogion parciau gwyliau hynny sy'n rhedeg parciau at ddibenion gwyliau yn unig. Er enghraifft, gall y diffiniad o garafán gynnwys carafannau teithiol yn ogystal â charafannau sefydlog. Yn amlwg, mae hyblygrwydd carafannau teithiol yn golygu effallai y dylai'r Bil hwn drin y mathau amrywiol o carafannau yn wahanol. O ran cytundebau carafannau gwyliau a'r rhybudd o 28 diwrnod, credaf eu bod yn cyfyngu'n wirioneddol ar ryddid perchnogion parciau gwyliau i dyfu eu busnesau a cheisio sicrhau'r cytundebau a'r gwerthiannau munud olaf hynny. Mae hwnnw'n fater arall a dynnwyd i'm sylw.

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In terms of the powers of entry that a local authority would require—perhaps just 24 hours—to gain entry to a park, many of my park owners, because they are closed for several months over the winter, are away from their parks and may not be able to fulfil the requirements of a local authority wanting to get in within 24 hours. Another concern is the residence test. What exactly do you mean by the failure to meet the residence test? Do you just mean the failure to produce documentation? I do not want park owners on Anglesey to fail to secure a deal to make a sale because they cannot produce the documentation today, so there could perhaps be a way of ensuring that documentation could be brought forward within a period of time. Those are some concerns that are very real. The park owners want to maximise the potential of their business. Spontaneity, weather and all these things affect the decisions that people make in deciding on investing in a holiday. We need to be very careful that we do not put barriers between park owners and potential business success, while recognising the residential misuse dangers.

O ran y pwerau mynediad y byddai eu hangen ar awdurdod lleol—efallai dim ond 24 awr—i gael mynediad i barc, mae llawer o'm perchnogion parciau i, am eu bod ar gau am sawl mis dros y gaeaf, i ffwrdd o'u parciau ac efallai na fyddant yn gallu bodloni gofynion awdurdod lleol sydd am fynd i mewn o fewn 24 awr. Pryder arall yw'r prawf preswylio. Beth yn union yr ydych yn ei olygu wrth fethu â bodloni'r prawf preswylio? A ydych yn golygu methiant i gyflwyno dogfennaeth? Nid wyf am i berchnogion parciau ar Ynys Môn fethu â sicrhau cytundeb gwerthu am na allant gyflwyno'r ddogfennaeth y diwrnod hwnnw, felly efallai bod modd sicrhau y gellid cyflwyno'r ddogfennaeth o fewn amser penodol. Dyma rai pryderon sy'n real iawn. Mae'r perchnogion parciau am gynyddu potensial eu busnes i'r eithaf. Mae hyblygrwydd, y tywydd a'r holl bethau hyn yn effeithio ar y penderfyniadau y mae pobl yn eu gwneud wrth ddewis buddsoddi mewn gwyliau. Mae angen inni fod yn ofalus iawn nad ydym yn gosod rhwystrau rhwng perchnogion parciau a photensial eu busnes i lwyddo, gan gydnabod y peryglon sy'n gysylltiedig â chamdefnydd preswyli.

15:50

Darren Millar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Member for Ynys Môn for raising those concerns on behalf of his constituents. As a frequent holidaymaker in a caravan on Anglesey in the past, I want to pay tribute to the industry on the island, which is indeed thriving. I think that it is a myth that is sometimes put around that this problem is confined to those holiday parks with 12-month licences. The reality is that many people purchase a holiday caravan, flog their main home elsewhere and, during the closed season on sites with licences of perhaps nine or 10 months, sometimes go overseas or rent a local property in order to comply with that closed-season period. So, that is happening. It is happening certainly in my constituency. I do not know the extent to which it is happening in the Member's own constituency. This is a problem that is not confined to those sites that have 12-month site licences.

The reason that this Bill will apply also to touring caravans is because touring caravans are very different to what they used to be many years ago. Many of them are as big as old static caravans. Of course, in order to avoid the potential for the problem to drift from the static caravan industry to the touring caravan industry, it is necessary to safeguard both sides of the caravan industry in order to capture that.

I want to reassure you on a very important point. The spontaneity that you describe in the industry is very important. I know that that happens. It has happened in my own life as well. I have suddenly decided to tow the caravan away for the weekend. This Bill will not require residency tests to be undertaken for anyone who is staying on a holiday caravan site for less than six weeks. It is only for those who envisage staying on a site for six weeks or longer.

The power of entry is an interesting issue. That power of entry already exists under the existing licensing regime, so there is absolutely no change to the existing powers of entry that are available under the 1960 Act.

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Diolch i'r Aelod dros Ynys Môn am godi'r pryderon hynny ar ran ei etholwyr. Fel un sydd wedi mynd ar wyliau carafán i Ynys Môn yn aml yn y gorffennol, hoffwn dalu teyrnedd i'r diwydiant ar yr ynys, sydd yn wir yn ffynnu. Credaf mai myth sy'n cael ei wyntyllu weithiau yw bod y broblem hon wedi'i chyfyngu i barciau gwyliau sydd â thrwyddedau 12 mis. Y realiti yw bod llawer o bobl yn prynu carafán gwyliau, yn gwerthu eu prif gartref mewn man arall ac, yn ystod y tymor caeedig ar safleoedd sydd â thrwyddedau o ryw naw neu 10 mis, byddant weithiau'n mynd dramor neu'n rhentu eiddo lleol er mwyn cydymffurfio â'r tymor caeedig hwnnw. Felly, mae'n digwydd. Mae'n sicr yn digwydd yn fy etholaeth i. Nid wyf yn gwybod i ba raddau y mae'n digwydd yn etholaeth yr Aelod ei hun. Nid yw'r broblem hon wedi'i chyfyngu i'r safleoedd hynny sydd â thrwyddedau 12 mis.

Y rheswm y bydd y Bil hwn hefyd yn berthnasol i garafannau teithiol yw oherwydd bod carafannau teithiol yn wahanol iawn i'r hyn yr oeddent flynyddoedd maith yn ôl. Mae llawer ohonynt mor fawr â hen garafannau sefydlog. Wrth gwrs, er mwyn osgoi'r posiblwydd y bydd y broblem yn symud o'r diwydiant carafannau sefydlog i'r diwydiant carafannau teithiol, rhaid diogelu dwy ochr y diwydiant carafannau er mwyn mynd i'r afael â hynny.

Rwyf am roi sicrwydd i chi ynglŷn â phwynt pwysig iawn. Mae'r hyblygrwydd a ddisgrifiwch yn y diwydiant yn bwysig iawn. Gwn fod hynny'n digwydd. Mae wedi digwydd yn fy mywyd fy hun hefyd. Rwyf wedi penderfynu ar y funud olaf i fynd i ffwrdd yn y garafán am y penwythnos. O dan y Bil hwn, ni fydd yn rhaid i unrhyw un sy'n aros ar safle carafannau gwyliau am lai na chwe wythnos sefyll prawf preswylio. Dim ond i'r rhai sy'n bwriadu aros ar safle am chwe wythnos neu fwy mae'n berthnasol.

Mae pŵer mynediad yn fater diddorol. Mae'r pŵer mynediad hwnnw'n bodoli eisoes o dan y gyfundrefn drwyddedu bresennol, felly nid oes unrhyw newid o gwbl i'r pwerau mynediad presennol sydd ar gael o dan Ddeddf 1960.

In terms of the residence test, it will be breached if the documentation is not provided. That is very simple. There will then need to be an enforcement notice of some sort issued by the local authority, and there will be time available for people to comply with the test. So, I do not think that it is too onerous. It is realistic and it is reasonable. It will safeguard the future of the industry rather than damage it.

15:53

Rebecca Evans [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Of course, mid and west Wales would be home to a good proportion of those 70,000 holiday caravan units that the Member has talked about. I was particularly interested in his comments that the use of holiday caravans as main homes presents a growing threat to the tourism industry. I would be grateful if he could expand on those concerns and describe in a bit more detail what the evidence says the impact of the current arrangements is on tourism.

With regard to the specifics of the Bill, sections 15 and 18 relate to flood-risk management, providing that the local authority can put conditions on a site licence for that purpose. I am keen to have a better understanding of what that might mean in practice and what kind of conditions we are talking about there. Section 48 relates to the change of occupier's circumstances and provides that if an owner forms the opinion that there has been a change in an occupier's circumstance, they must carry out the next residence test within six weeks of the date on which they formed that opinion. I am wondering how that can possibly be enforced in practice, given that documenting when somebody came to an opinion is quite hard to do—impossible, I would suggest. Is there a precedent for something else like this in law?

The Member referred to individuals who use their holiday caravan as their main home, but do so within the existing law—for example, by going away on holiday or sofa surfing for two months of the year. What impact will this Bill have on those individuals, and what is the extent of that problem, if it is a problem?

The Bill follows the lead set by the Caravans Act (Northern Ireland) 2011, so I was wondering what the Member has learned from the passage and implementation of that Act, particularly with regard to the number of appeals, the burden on site owners, unintended consequences such as homelessness, and a subsequent greater reliance on local authority housing services.

Finally, Schedule 1, section 7 exempts travelling showmen from the Bill. I am sure it is an oversight, but I was wondering whether the Member would consider exempting travelling show-women here, too.

O ran y prawf preswylio, caiff ei dorri os nad yw'r ddogfenneth yn cael ei darparu. Mae'n sympl iawn. Yna bydd angen i'r awdurdod lleol gyflwyno rhyw fath o hysbysiad gorfodi a bydd pobl yn cael amser i gydymffurfio â'r prawf. Felly, nid wyf yn credu bod hynny'n rhy feichus. Mae'n realistic ac yn rhesymol. Bydd yn diogelu dyfodol y diwydiant yn hytrach na'i niweidio.

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Wrth gwrs, byddai cyfran dda o'r 70,000 o unedau carafannau gwyliau hynny y mae'r Aelod wedi siarad amdanynt wedi'u lleoli yn y canolbarth a'r gorllewin. Roedd gennyf ddiddordeb arbennig yn ei sylwadau bod y defnydd o garafannau gwyliau fel prif gartrefi yn fygythiad cynyddol i'r diwydiant twristiaeth. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallai ymhelaethu ar y pryderon hynny a disgrifio'n fanylach yr hyn y mae'r dystiolaeth yn dweud yw effaith y trefniadau presennol ar dwristiaeth.

O ran manylion y Bil, mae adrannau 15 a 18 yn ymwneud â rheoli'r perygl o lifogydd, gan ddarparu y gall yr awdurdod lleol osod amodau ar drwydded safle at y diben hwnnw. Ryw'n awyddus i feithrin gwell dealltwriaeth o'r hyn y gallai hynny ei olygu'n ymarferol a pha fath o amodau yr ydym yn sôn amdanynt. Mae adran 48 yn ymwneud â newidiadau yn amgylchiadau'r meddiannydd ac yn darparu, os bydd perchenog yn llunio barn bod amgylchiadau meddiannydd wedi newid, bod yn rhaid iddo gynnal y prawf preswylio nesaf o fewn chwe wythnos i'r dyddiad y lluniodd y farn honno. Tybed sut y gellir gorfodi hynny'n ymarferol, o gofio bod cofnodi'r adeg pan luniodd rhywun farn yn eithaf anodd—os nad yn amhosibl, yn fy marn i. A oes cysnail i rywbeth arall fel hyn yn y gyfraith?

Cyfeiriodd yr Aelod at unigolion sy'n defnyddio eu carafannau gwyliau fel eu prif gartref, ond sy'n gwneud hynny'n unol â'r gyfraith bresennol—er enghraift, drwy fynd i ffwrdd ar wyliau neu syrffio soffas am ddeufis o'r flwyddyn. Pa effaith fydd y Bil hwn yn ei chael ar yr unigolion hynny, a beth yw maint y broblem honno, os yw'n broblem?

Mae'r Bil yn dilyn esiampl Deddf Carafannau (Gogledd Iwerddon) 2011, felly tybed beth mae'r Aelod wedi'i ddysgu o hynt a gweithrediad y Ddeddf honno, yn enwedig o ran nifer yr apeliadau, y baich ar berchnogion safleoedd, canlyniadau anfwriadol megis digartrefedd, a mwy o ddibyniaeth ddilynol ar wasanaethau tai awdurdodau lleol.

Yn olaf, mae Atodlen 1, adran 7 yn eithrio dynion sioe teithiol o'r Bil. Ryw'n siŵr mai amryfusedd ydyw, ond roeddwn yn meddwl tybed a fyddai'r Aelod yn ystyried eithrio menywod sioe teithiol hefyd.

Darren Millar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you very much indeed for those questions. The rationale behind the comments that I made about the potential for damage to the industry going forward is because some of the feedback that we received through the engagement and consultation process has made it quite clear that having individuals using a holiday caravan as their main home on a site is a deterrent to other people wanting to stay on that site for holiday purposes. The nature of the spend in an economy from a tourist, compared with someone who uses somewhere as their main home, is very different, and that has the potential to undermine the wider tourism economy in the future.

You made specific reference to flood-risk management. There is a new requirement on the face of the Bill to consult with the public authority that is going to be responsible for flood-risk management in the future. Of course, we have to accept that holiday caravan parks are often in coastal areas, or alongside beautiful rivers, and that means that many of them are at risk of flooding. The sorts of things that I envisage will arise from that are requirements under licence agreements for evacuation procedures to perhaps be in place, or for mitigation measures to be in place to prevent caravans from floating, crashing into each other and potentially causing damage to people's property, and, indeed, to people's lives. So, it is important that we have those things in the Bill, particularly given the flooding experiences that we have seen in Wales in recent years.

Just on the issue of the Caravans Act (Northern Ireland)—. Of course, there has been a caravan Act in Northern Ireland, and it is an interesting Act, but it is not quite the same as my Bill in terms of what it wanted to achieve. However, it did initiate this principle of the need for written agreements, with some implied terms, and that has been the big lesson from the Northern Ireland experience that I have introduced into my Bill. I believe that it is having a very positive impact on the ground in terms of preventing disputes between holiday caravan owners and site owners in Northern Ireland, helping to prevent homelessness there in the future.

Alun Ffred Jones [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Yn fyr iawn, hoffwn ddatgan cefnogaeth amodol i Fil Darren Millar. Mae'r potensial i bobl sy'n camddefnyddio meysydd carafannau i fyw yn dyddnt trwy'r flwyddyn yn cynyddu, nid yn unig oherwydd y pwysau ar wasanaethau lleol, ond y posiblirwydd, yn wyneb newid yn yr hinsawdd, y bydd rhai ohonynt yn cael eu gwneud yn ddigartref, ac felly yn dod ar ofyn cynghorau lleol. Y cwestiwn yr wyf eisiau ei ofyn i Darren Millar yw hyn: a yw'n cytuno bod y sefyllfa wedi ei chymhlethu yn ddiweddar gyda'r penderfyniad cwbl afresymegol gan yr Arolygaeth Gynllunio i ddileu'r amod a oedd yn cyfyngu ar dymhorau agor meysydd carafannau? Roedd awdurdod cynllunio'r gogledd yn sicr yn gytûn wrth wrthwynebu'r apêl hon, ond fe benderfynodd yr arolygaeth, yn enw Llywodraeth Cymru, i anwybyddu'r cynllunwyr a'r drefn a oedd wedi bod yn effeithiol, neu'n weddol effeithiol, i gyfyngu ar allu pobl i ddefnyddio carafannau fel eu cartref cyntaf neu fel eu prif gartref. Felly, a yw'n cytuno bod y penderfyniad hwnnw, mewn gwirionedd, wedi gwneud sefyllfa anodd yn waeth, ac felly bod angen rhyw fath o ddeddfwriaeth i fynd i'r afael â'r sefyllfa?

Diolch yn fawr iawn am y cwestiynau hynny. Y rhesymeg dros y sylwadau a wneuthum ynglŷn â'r potensial i niweidio'r diwydiant yn y dyfodol yw bod rhywfaint o'r adborth a gawsom drwy'r broses ymgysylltu ac ymgynghori wedi dangos yn gwbl glir bod unigolion sy'n defnyddio carafán gwyliau fel eu prif gartref ar safle yn perni'r rhwystr i bobl eraill sydd am aros ar y safle hwnnw ar eu gwyliau. Mae natur gwariant ymwelydd o fewn yr economi yn wahanol iawn i rywun sy'n defnyddio rhywle fel ei brif gartref a gall hynny danseilio'r economi dwristiaeth ehangach yn y dyfodol.

Cyfeiriasoch yn benodol at reoli'r perygl o lifogydd. Mae'r Bil yn cynnwys gofyniad newydd i ymgynghori â'r awdurdod cyhoeddus a fydd yn gyfrifol am reoli'r perygl o lifogydd yn y dyfodol. Wrth gwrs, rhaid inni dderbyn bod parciau carafannau gwyliau yn aml mewn ardaloedd arfordirol, neu ar lannau afonydd hardd, a bod hynny'n golygu bod llawer ohonynt yn wynebu perygl o lifogydd. Y mathau o bethau yr wyf yn rhagweld a fydd yn codi yn sgil hynny yw gofynion o dan gytundebau trwydded i roi gweithdrefnau gwacáu mewn argyfwng ar waith efallai, neu roi mesurau lliniaru ar waith i atal carafannau rhag arnofio, taro yn erbyn ei gilydd ac achosi difrod posibl i eiddo pobl, ac, yn wir, fywydau pobl. Felly, mae'n bwysig ein bod yn cynnwys y pethau hynny yn y Bil, yn enwedig o gofio'r llifogydd a welsom yng Nghymru dros y blynnyddoedd diwethaf.

O ran Deddf Carafannau (Gogledd Iwerddon)—. Wrth gwrs, cyflwynwyd Deddf carafannau yng Ngogledd Iwerddon, ac mae'n Ddeddf ddiddorol, ond nid yw'n union yr un fath â'm Bil i o ran yr hyn yr oedd am ei gyflawni. Fodd bynnag, cyflwynodd yr egwyddor o'r angen am gytundebau ysgrifenedig, gyda rhai telerau ymhlyg, a honno oedd y brif wers a ddysgwyd o brofiad Gogledd Iwerddon yr wyf wedi'i chynnwys yn fy Mil. Credaf ei bod yn cael effaith gadarnhaol iawn ar lawr gwlaid o ran atal anghyd fodau rhwng perchnogion carafannau gwyliau a perchnogion safleoedd yng Ngogledd Iwerddon, gan helpu i atal digartrefedd yno yn y dyfodol.

Briefly, I would like to declare conditional support for Darren Millar's Bill. The potential for people who misuse caravan sites to live on them all year is increasing, not only because of pressure on local services, but because of the possibility, in the face of climate change, that some of them will be made homeless, and therefore will be asking for help from local councils. The question that I want to ask Darren Millar is this: does he agree that the situation has been made more complicated recently following the completely illogical decision by the Planning Inspectorate to get rid of the condition that restricted the season for caravan sites to be open? The north Wales planning authority was certainly agreed in opposing that appeal, but the inspectorate, in the name of the Welsh Government, decided to ignore the planners and the system that had been in place, which had been effective, or quite effective, in restricting people's ability to use caravan sites as their main home. So, does he agree with me that that decision has actually made a difficult situation worse, and therefore that there is a need for some sort of legislation to deal with the situation?

15:59

Darren Millar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

You are quite right in that if a site currently has a 12-month licence, because of the existing licensing regime, it makes it more difficult to police against residential misuse of holiday caravans. Therefore, it is a matter of great regret that, in Gwynedd, and indeed in Conwy, some local authorities have granted licences, sometimes of their own volition, sometimes because of a decision that has been made further up the chain, as it were, forcing a local authority to allow for a 12-month licence on a site. However, if a new licensing regime is in place that enables local authorities to take action more readily and places duties upon them to inspect and enforce, I see no reason why 12-month licences on holiday caravan parks should be a problem in the future. I put on record my thanks to Gwynedd Council for its engagement in the process of the development of the Bill and for the support it has given to it to date.

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Rydych yn llygad eich lle yn yr ystyr os oes gan safle drwydded 12 mis ar hyn o bryd, oherwydd y gyfundrefn drwyddedu bresennol, mae'n fwy anodd plismona yn erbyn achosion o gamddefnyddio carafannau gwyliau at ddibenion preswyl. Felly, mae'n destun gofid mawr bod rhai awdurdodau lleol yng Ngwynedd, ac yn wir yng Nghonwy, wedi rhoi trwyddedau, weithiau o'u gwirfodd, weithiau oherwydd penderfyniad a wnaed ymhellach i fynyr' gadwyn, fel petai, a oedd yn gorfodi awdurdod lleol i ganiatâu trwydded 12 mis ar safle. Fodd bynnag, os bydd cyfundrefn drwyddedu newydd ar waith sy'n ei gwneud hi'n haws i awdurdodau lleol weithredu ac yn gosod dyletswyddau arnynt i archwilio a gorfodi, ni welaf unrhyw reswm pam y dylai trwyddedau 12 mis ar barciau carafannau gwyliau fod yn broblem yn y dyfodol. Hoffwn gofnodi fy niolch i Gyngor Gwynedd am gymryd rhan yn y broses o ddatblygu'r Bil ac am ei gefnogaeth hyd yma.

16:00

Sandy Mewies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I will be brief, because many of the concerns that have been raised by my constituents with me have been talked about by Rhun ap Iorwerth, Ann Jones, Rebecca Evans and others here today.

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Byddaf yn gryno, oherwydd mae llawer o'r pryderon a godwyd gan fy etholwyr wedi cael eu trafod gan Rhun ap Iorwerth, Ann Jones, Rebecca Evans ac eraill yma heddiw.

I, too, have holiday caravan sites, and very well run sites indeed they are, in my constituency. Owners have raised concerns with me, as have other people. Particularly, they are concerned that people who are already in ownership will be discouraged if onerous legislation comes in. They are people who have been there for perhaps 20 years or so. Also, it will discourage future ownership. Caravan tourism plays a big part in the economy in my constituency. People do not just go around visiting shops and so on; they buy cars. They have been coming for years, for 20 years or so in some cases. They are very concerned about that. They are concerned because they feel that legislation exists at present. I know that you are saying that this will be completely new, but you will have a long and hard battle to convince some people that this new legislation will be enforced better and will work better. My question to you is: how do you intend to do that? I hope that any further consultation you take in future will be very wide indeed and that you will listen to all the views that are coming forward.

Mae gennyf innau hefyd safleoedd carafannau gwyliau a gaiff eu rheoli'n dda yn fy etholaeth. Mae perchnogion wedi codi pryderon gyda mi, yn ogystal â phobl eraill. Yn arbennig, maent yn pryderu y bydd pobl sydd eisoes yn berchnogion yn digaloni os caiff deddfwriaeth feichus ei chyflwyno. Mae'r bobl hyn wedi bod yno ers 20 mlynedd neu fwy efallai. Hefyd, bydd yn annog pobl i beidio â bod yn berchnogion yn y dyfodol. Mae twristiaeth carafannau yn chwarae rhan fawr yn economi fy etholaeth. Nid yw pobl yn mynd o gwmpas ac yn mynd i siopau ac yn y blaen yn unig; maent yn prynu ceir. Maent wedi bod yn dod ers blynyddoedd, ers 20 mlynedd neu fwy mewn rhai achosion. Maent yn bryderus iawn am hynny. Maent yn pryderu am eu bod yn teimlo bod deddfwriaeth yn bodoli yn barod. Gwn eich bod yn dweud y bydd y ddeddfwriaeth hon yn gwbl newydd, ond bydd brwydr hir ac anodd o'ch blaen i argyhoeddi rhai pobl y bydd y ddeddfwriaeth newydd hon yn cael ei gorfodi'n well ac y bydd yn gweithio'n well. Fy nghwestiwn i chi yw: sut yr ydych yn bwriadu gwneud hynny? Gobeithio y bydd unrhyw waith ymgynghori pellach a wnewch yn y dyfodol yn eang iawn ac y byddwch yn gwrando ar yr holl safbwytiau a gyflwynir.

16:02

Darren Millar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank Sandy Mewies. I recognise the considerable constituency interest that she has in the holiday caravan industry. This is not onerous legislation. The good operators that Sandy Mewies has in her constituency are already preventing people from using holiday caravans as their main home and using the tools recommended to them by the industry bodies of which they are a member in order to discourage that. Quite simply, those tools are the tools that I have applied to this Bill, to ensure that the good practice that the good operators in her constituency are operating under is extended throughout all parts of the industry in Wales.

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Diolch i Sandy Mewies. Ryw'n cydnabod y diddordeb etholaethol sylweddol sydd ganddi yn y diwydiant carafannau gwyliau. Nid yw hon yn ddeddfwriaeth feichus. Mae'r gweithredwyr da sydd gan Sandy Mewies yn ei hetholaeth eisoes yn atal pobl rhag defnyddio carafannau gwyliau fel eu prif gartref ac yn defnyddio'r adnoddau a argymhellir iddynt gan y cyrff y maent yn aelodau ohonynt yn y diwydiant er mwyn atal hynny. Yn syml, yr adnoddau hynny yw'r adnoddau yr wyf wedi'u cymhwys o at y Bil hwn, er mwyn sicrhau bod yr arfer da a ddefnyddir gan y gweithredwyr da yn ei hetholaeth yn cael ei ymestyn i bob rhan o'r diwydiant yng Nghymru.

There is existing legislation, but it is not working. That is why I am bringing forward this legislation. As I mentioned before, local authorities have no duties under the current licensing Act to inspect, they have no duties to enforce, and they have no resources to enable them to do that work to enforce. There is a lack of consistency as a result. The financial penalties are too low to be an effective deterrent as well.

I do not believe that this will discourage future caravan ownership; I think that it will encourage it, actually, because it will make visiting Wales a more pleasant experience. The issue of residential misuse will be addressed once and for all if this Bill becomes an Act. The biggest damage that we would see to the industry would be to not deal with the residential misuse problem, as it will continue to grow in the industry and cause further problems and discourage people from visiting Wales.

I have been listening, that is why this Bill is very different to the draft Bill I published in December. That is why my ideas, as Ann Jones has already recognised, have changed considerably over the period in which the Bill has been brewing and developing. I want to respond to the Member by saying that I will continue to listen during the legislative process as we move through Stage 1. I would be more than happy to meet with any of her constituents who have concerns.

Mae deddfwriaeth yn bodoli'n barod, ond nid yw'n gweithio. Dyna pam yr wyf yn cyflwyno'r ddeddfwriaeth hon. Fel y soniai o'r blaen, nid oes gan awdurdodau lleol unrhyw ddyletswyddau o dan y Ddeddf drwyddedu bresennol i arolygu, nid oes ganddynt unrhyw ddyletswyddau gorfodi, ac nid oes ganddynt unrhyw adnoddau i'w galluogi i wneud y gwaith gorfodi hwnnw. Y canlyniad yw anghysondeb. Hefyd, mae'r cosbau ariannol yn rhy isel i fod yn rhwystyr effeithiol.

Ni chredaf y bydd hyn yn annog pobl i beidio â phrynu carafannau yn y dyfodol; a dweud y gwir, credaf y bydd yn eu hannog i wneud hynny oherwydd bydd yn gwneud ym weld â Chymru yn brofiad mwy dymunol. Caiff y broblem o gamddefnydd preswyl ei datrys unwaith ac am byth os caiff y Bil hwn ei ddeddfu. Yr hyn fyddai'n peri'r niwed mwyaf i'r diwydiant fyddai peidio â delio â'r broblem o gamddefnydd preswyl, gan y bydd yn parhau i dyfu yn y diwydiant ac achosi problemau pellach ac atal pobl rhag ym weld â Chymru.

Rwyf wedi bod yn gwrando, dyna pam y mae'r Bil hwn yn wahanol iawn i'r Bil drafft a gyhoeddais ym mis Rhagfyr. Dyna pam y mae fy syniadau, fel y mae Ann Jones eisoes wedi cydnabod, wedi newid yn sylweddol dros y cyfnod y mae'r Bil wedi bod yn datblygu. Hoffwn ymateb i'r Aelod drwy ddweud y byddaf yn parhau i wrando yn ystod y broses ddeddfwriaethol wrth inni symud drwy Gam 1. Byddwn yn fwy na pharod i gwrdd ag unrhyw rai o'i hetholwyr sydd â phryderon.

16:04

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

Thank you very much and we wish you well with the rest of the passage of your Bill.

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Diolch yn fawr iawn a dymunwn yn dda ichi yn ystod gweddill hynt y Bil.

Dadl y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig: Adolygu Modiwlaau Saesneg TGAU

Cynnig NDM5468 Paul Davies

Cefnogwyd gan Simon Thomas ac Aled Roberts.

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

1. Yn mynegi pryder y dyfarnwyd graddau annisgwyl o isel i rai myfyrwyr a safodd fodiwlaau Saesneg TGAU ym mis Ionawr 2014;
2. Yn croesawu adolygiad cyflym Llywodraeth Cymru o'r sefyllfa;
3. Yn nodi pwysigrwydd ystyried yr holl dystiolaeth sydd ar gael i'r adolygiad; a
4. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i rannu natur y broses adolygu a'r dystiolaeth a gafwyd fel rhan o'r adolygiad mewn modd agored a didwyll.

Welsh Conservatives Debate: Review of English GCSE Modules

Motion NDM5468 Paul Davies

Supported by Simon Thomas and Aled Roberts.

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Expresses concern that some students taking English GCSE modules in January 2014 were awarded unexpectedly low grades;
2. Welcomes the Welsh Government's rapid review into the situation;
3. Notes the importance of considering all the evidence which is available for the review; and
4. Calls on the Welsh Government to share the nature of the review process and the evidence received as part of the review in an open and frank manner.

I am pleased to move the motion for the Welsh Conservatives debate, tabled in the name of my colleague Paul Davies.

I would like to be sure that Members are fully of the understanding that this motion is supported by Simon Thomas and Plaid Cymru, and by Aled Roberts and the Liberal Democrats. If we could have done a joint motion we would have done, but there were tabling restrictions. Minister, we have kept our motion extremely focused on the concerns raised by students, teachers, parents, governors, unions, exam boards, opposition parties and, indeed, the Welsh Government in relation to the results awarded to some 23,000 youngsters who sat their unit 1 and 2 English language exams in January of this year.

There are four parts to this motion and I would like to deal with them in turn. First, we wish the National Assembly to express concern that some students taking English GCSE modules in January 2014 were awarded unexpectedly low grades.

Let me be very clear to the Minister and to all who listen: I am totally supportive of having robust examinations that enable students to receive an internationally recognised qualification. I have no problem with there being a step change in rigour. I know that this is an ambition of the Minister. It is an ambition of the Welsh Conservatives and it is an ambition of mine. If we had a large number of individuals with poorer than expected grades because they had not managed the more rigorous coursework, I would have been much less concerned about the January results. Even if we had small cohorts in some schools with recognised difficulties, I would have been less concerned. However, I am concerned because we appear to have a stampede of underperforming students, schools and test results. I just do not buy it. It flies in the face of the law of probability. It is probable that some students, even the brightest, will fluff their exams for any number of reasons. It is probable that some teachers will have misunderstood the drive behind the coursework or not be competent to deliver a more robust course without further support and training. However, it is not probable that so many students will fluff their exam, that so many teachers will be incapable of teaching English language to the changed coursework.

Mae'n dda gennyl gynnig y cynnig ar gyfer dadl y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig, a gyflwynwyd yn enw fy nghyd-Aelod Paul Davies.

Hoffwn sicrhau bod yr Aelodau yn llwyr ddeall bod y cynnig hwn yn cael ei gefnogi gan Simon Thomas a Plaid Cymru, a chan Aled Roberts a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol. Pe gallem fod wedi cynnig cynnig ar y cyd byddem wedi gwneud hynny, ond cafwyd cyfngiadau cyflwyno. Weinidog, yn ein cynnig rydym wedi canolbwytio'n fanwl iawn ar y pryderon a godwyd gan fyfyrwyr, athrawon, rhieni, llywodraethwyr, undebau, byrddau arholi, gwrthbleidiau ac, yn wir, Lywodraeth Cymru mewn perthynas â'r canlyniadau a ddyfarnwyd i tua 23,000 o bobl ifanc a safodd uned 1 a 2 o arholiadau iaith Saesneg ym mis Ionawr eleni.

Mae pedair rhan i'r cynnig hwn a hoffwn ymdrin â hwy yn eu tro. Yn gyntaf, rydym am i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol fynegi pryer i raddau annisgwyl o isel gael eu dyfarnu i rai myfyrwyr a safodd fodiwlau TGAU Saesneg ym mis Ionawr 2014.

Gadewch imi fod yn glir iawn i'r Gweinidog ac i bawb sy'n gwrando: rwy'n holol o blaid cael arholiadau cadarn sy'n galluogi myfyrwyr i gael cymhwyster a gydnabyddir yn rhyngwladol. Nid oes gennyl unrhyw broblem gyda newid sylweddol mewn trylwyredd. Gwn mai dyna uchelgais y Gweinidog. Mae'n uchelgais gan y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig ac mae'n uchelgais gennyl i. Pe bai nifer fawr o unigolion a oedd wedi cael graddau gwaeth na'r disgwyl am nad ydynt wedi ymdopi â'r gwaith cwers mwy trylwyr, byddwn wedi poenii llawer llai am y canlyniadau ym mis Ionawr. Hyd yn oed pe bai carfannau bach mewn rhai ysgolion ag anawsterau cydnabyddedig, byddwn wedi bod yn llai pryerus. Fodd bynnag, pryerer oherwydd yr ymddengys bod llu o fyfyrwyr, ysgolion a chanlyniadau profion wedi tangyflawni. Ni dderbyniaf hynny. Mae'n mynd yn groes i ddeddf tebygolrwydd. Mae'n debygol y bydd rhai myfyrwyr, hyd yn oed y rhai mwyaf disgrair, yn methu eu harholiadau am bob math o resymau. Mae'n debygol y bydd rhai athrawon wedi camddeall yr ymgais y tu ôl i'r gwaith cwers neu nad ydynt yn gymwys i gyflwyno cwers mwy cadarn heb gymorth a hyfforddiant pellach. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'n debygol y bydd cynifer o fyfyrwyr yn methu eu harholiad, y bydd cynifer o athrawon yn methu ag addysgu iaith Saesneg yn unol â'r gwaith cwers newydd.

Minister, I have always been prepared to cast a cynical eye over vested interests. I always expect people to try to explain away uncomfortable scenarios. The days of holding your hand up or taking it on the chin appear to be in short supply, but I have genuinely been staggered by the sheer wealth of disbelief, of concern, of anger, of shock and of disappointment that has greeted these results. Disbelief because students who did well in the mock exams failed so totally in the January sitting. There is disbelief that a new flagship exam has received such a catastrophic maiden run; disbelief that students who did well in other exams and who shine across the board suddenly crashed so spectacularly; disbelief that, once again, the Welsh education system is under the spotlight; disbelief that we are having some sort of nightmare re-run of the Leighton Andrews exam regrading situation.

Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd (David Melding) i'r Gadair am 16:07.

Angela Burns [Bywgraffiad Biography](#)

Headteachers and heads of English are telling me that these modular results have little or no correlation to pupil performance through teacher assessment, other GCSEs already achieved, baseline testing or key stages 2 and 3 results. As a headteacher from south west Wales said,

'Essentially they do not match the academic profiles of students who have sat the examinations.'

Back to the laws of probability, these anomalies cannot simply be discarded by poor examination technique or inadequate preparation by teachers, or attributed to a lack of maturity on the part of students.

Minister, there is also a great deal of concern that students who sat these exams in the expectation of using them as a foundation to build upon for an overall good mark are back at square one. There is concern that confidence has been dented and, in some cases, shattered, and concern that room for improvement has been removed. Let me quote from an e-mail I received from a north Wales headteacher. He says:

'I feel for the pupils who we entered the foundation phase for so that they could get a C grade. The plan would then have been to push them towards more difficult higher papers to try to get an A or B. This would have allowed them to move on to A-level English. This will not happen now, as they are desperate to get a C in order to stay on with us or go to college.'

Those students do not have room for manoeuvre. The threads of disbelief over the situation and concern over the disparity of results are woven across all of Wales. There are too many students who achieved well in other exams, and this plummet in their grades does not ring true.

Weinidog, rwyf bob amser wedi bod yn barod i fod yn sinigaid pan fo diddordebau personol dan sylw. Rwyf bob amser yn disgwyl i bobl geisio diystyr u sefyllfa oedd sy'n achosi anesmwythder. Ymddengys bod yr amser pan oedd rhywun yn syrthio ar ei fai neu'n derbyn beirniadaeth wedi hen fynd, ond fe'm syfrdanwyd yn llwyr gan yr holl anghrediniaeth, pryder, dicter, sioc a siom a achoswyd gan y canlyniadau hyn. Anghrediniaeth am fod myfyrwyr a wnaeth yn dda yn y ffug arholiadau wedi methu'n gyfan gwbl wrth sefyll yr arholiad ym mis Ionawr. Mae anghrediniaeth bod y tro cyntaf i arholiad pwysig newydd gael ei sefyll wedi bod mor drychnebus, anghrediniaeth bod myfyrwyr a wnaeth yn dda mewn arholiadau eraill ac sy'n disgleirio'n gyffredinol yn sydyn wedi methu mor wael; anghrediniaeth, unwaith eto, bod cyfundrefn addysg Cymru o dan y chwyddwydr; anghrediniaeth ein bod yn gweld unwaith eto sefyllfa hunlelus aillradio arholiadau Leighton Andrews.

The Deputy Presiding Officer (David Melding) took the Chair at 16:07.

Mae penaethiaid a phenaethiaid adrannau Saesneg yn dweud wrthy nad oes fawr ddim cydberthynas, os o gwbl, rhwng y canlyniadau modiwlaid hyn a pherfformiad disgyblion drwy asesiad athro, cymwysterau TGAU eraill a enillwyd eisoes, profi llinell sylfaen neu ganlyniadau cyfnodau allweddol 2 a 3. Fel y dywedodd pennaeth o'r de-orllewin,

Yn y bôn nid ydynt yn cyfateb i broffiliau academaidd myfyrwyr sydd wedi sefyll yr arholiadau.

Yn ôl i ddeddfau tebygolwydd, ni ellir cyfrif am yr anghysondebau hyn drwy dechneg arholiad wael na gwaith paratoi annigonol gan athrawon, na'u priodoli i ddiffyg aedd fedrwydd ar ran y myfyrwyr.

Weinidog, ceir hefyd grym bryder bod y myfyrwyr a safodd yr arholiadau hyn gan ddisgwyl eu defnyddio fel sylfaen i adeiladu arno ar gyfer marc da cyffredinol yn ôl i'r dechrau un. Ceir pryder bod disgyblion wedi colli rhywfaint o hyder ac, mewn rhai achosion, wedi colli pob hyder, a phryder bod lle i wella wedi cael ei ddileu. Gadewch imi ddyfynnu o e-bost a gefais gan bennaeth yn y gogledd. Mae'n dweud:

Teimlaf dros y disgyblion a gofrestrwyd ar gyfer y cyfnod sylfaen er mwyn iddynt gael gradd C. Y bwriad wedyn oedd eu cofrestru i sefyll papurau uwch mwy anodd er mwyn ceisio ennill gradd A neu B. Byddai hyn wedi eu galluogi i symud ymlaen i Safon Uwch Saesneg. Ni fydd hyn yn digwydd yn awr, gan eu bod yn daer i ennill gradd C er mwyn aros gyda ni yn yr ysgol neu fynd i'r coleg.

Nid oes unrhyw hyblygrwydd gan y myfyrwyr hynny. Mae'r anghrediniaeth ynglŷn â'r sefyllfa a'r pryder ynglŷn ag anghysondeb y canlyniadau i'w gweld drwy Gymru gyfan. Mae gormod o fyfyrwyr a gyflawnodd yn dda mewn arholiadau eraill, ac nid yw'r dirywiad sydyn hwn yn eu graddau yn taro deuddeg.

In their letter to you, one of the comments made by the 19 headteachers and the director of education in Rhondda Cynon Taf was that the English literature outcomes for the same cohort seem unchanged. If the results carry over into summer, then students will achieve dramatically different grades in both exams. Again, this will not be a reflection of their ability, but a reflection of an unfair, ill-conceived and seemingly arbitrary process.

There are also concerns expressed over how these individuals will be able to make up their grades in the subsequent summer English language exam. This is a concern that has been raised by parents and by the Association of School and College Leaders. Because of the new marking and weighting system, students would have to have astonishing results to achieve their predicted outcomes based on their first set of scores. The notion floated by WJEC that students and teachers could cram in these last few weeks is a non-starter. What about their other examinations? What effect will there be on those results?

A headteacher representing schools across two counties told me that the marking scheme does not provide them with a clear understanding of how to rectify the situation in the few months that remain to improve the performance of these young people and their contribution to national statistics on educational performance. Minister, in their view, there has been an ill-advised weighting structure to the marking schedule for these examinations, and this has not been shared with teaching staff. There has been no evidence of the principle of comparable outcomes being administered, which has compounded the issue.

That same headteacher, who represents a large group of headteachers, went on to say that,

'As schools, in the light of this fiasco, we need to decide not only which modules students need to re-sit, but such is our confidence we also have to reconsider what tier paper we are entering students to give them the greater chance of achieving a C grade.'

Such communications need to be with the examination board by the end of March, and a clear resolution before that time is essential. Minister, I know that you will agree that it is vital for our students to get at least a C grade in English. It is one of the markers used by colleges, employers and sixth forms. A lack of at least a C grade will adversely impact on those students' chances, going forward.

As another headteacher—this one from south-east Wales—has said, if WJEC or the Welsh Government try to make the case that, even if things have gone wrong this January, then the students will have another chance to put this right in June, then they fail to understand the real concern. We are worried that staff, and particularly students, have had their confidence shaken and, even if they all enter the exam in June, their confidence will have been damaged, they will be under increased pressure and stress, and this in itself could result in further underperformance.

Yn eu llythyr atoch, un o'r sylwadau a wnaed gan y 19 o benaethiaid a'r cyfarwyddwr addysg yn Rhondda Cynon Taf oedd bod canlyniadau llenyddiaeth Saesneg i'r garfan yn ymddangos yn ddigfnewid. Os bydd y canlyniadau yn digwydd eto yn yr haf, yna bydd myfyrwyr yn ennill graddau gwahanol iawn yn y ddau arholiad. Unwaith eto, ni fydd hyn yn adlewyrchiad o'u gallu, ond yn adlewyrchiad o broses annheg ac annoeth sy'n ymddangos yn fympwyol.

Mynegwyd pryderon hefyd ynghylch sut y gall yr unigolion hyn wella eu graddau yn yr arholiad Saesneg dilynol yn yr haf. Mae'n bryder sydd wedi cael ei godi gan rieni a chan y Gymdeithas Arweinwyr Ysgolion a Cholegau. Oherwydd y system marcio a phwysoli newydd byddai'n rhaid i fyfyrwyr gael canlyniadau rhyfeddol er mwyn ennill eu canlyniadau disgwyliedig yn seiliedig ar eu set gyntaf o sgoriau. Mae'r syniad a awgrymwyd gan CBAC y gallai myfyrwyr ac athrawon adolygu'n ddwys yn ystod yr ychydig wythnosau diwethaf yn ddi-werth. Beth am eu harholiadau eraill? Pa effaith fydd ar y canlyniadau hynny?

Dyweddodd pennaeth sy'n cynrychioli ysgolion ar draws dwy sir wrthyf nad yw'r cynllun marcio yn eu helpu i ddeall yn glir sut i unioni'r sefyllfa yn ystod y misoedd sydd ar ôl er mwyn gwella perfformiad y bobl ifanc a'u cyfraniad at ystadegau cenedlaethol ar berfformiad addysgol. Weinidog, yn eu barn hwy, bu i'r amserlen farcio'r arholiadau hyn strwythur pwysoli annoeth, ac nid yw hyn wedi cael ei rannu gyda staff addysgu. Ni chafwyd unrhyw dystiolaeth bod egwyddor canlyniadau cymaradwy wedi'i chymhwys, sydd wedi gwneud y broblem yn waeth.

Aeth yr un pennaeth, sy'n cynrychioli grŵp mawr o benaethiaid, ymlaen i ddweud,

Fel ysgolion, yng ngoleuni'r llanastr hwn, mae angen inni benderfynu nid yn unig pa fodwlau y mae angen i fyfyrwyr eu hailsefyll, ond oherwydd diffyg hyder ar ein rhan ni, rhaid inni hefyd ailystyried pa haen o bapur y byddwn yn cofrestru myfyrwyr ar ei chyfer er mwyn rhoi mwy o gyfle iddynt ennill gradd C.

Mae angen y fath gyfathrebu â'r bwrdd arholi erbyn diwedd mis Mawrth, ac mae ateb clir cyn yr amser hwnnw yn hanfodol. Weinidog, gwn y byddwch yn cytuno ei bod yn hanfodol i'n myfyrwyr ennill o leiaf gradd C mewn Saesneg. Mae'n un o'r marcwyr a ddefnyddir gan golegau, cyflogwyr a'r chweched dosbarth. Bydd diffyg o leiaf gradd C yn cael effaith andwyol ar gyfleoedd y myfyrwyr hynny yn y dyfodol.

Fel y dywedodd pennaeth arall—a hwnnw o'r de-ddwyrain —os bydd CBAC neu Lywodraeth Cymru yn ceisio dadlau, hyd yn oed os yw pethau wedi mynd o chwith ym mis Ionawr, yna y bydd y myfyrwyr yn cael cyfle arall i unioni hyn ym mis Mehefin, yna maent yn methu â deall y pryer gwirioneddol. Rydym yn poeni bod hyder staff, ac yn enwedig myfyrwyr, hyd yn oed os ydyst i gyd yn cofrestru ar gyfer yr arholiad ym mis Mehefin, wedi cael ergyd, y byddant o dan fwy o bwysau a straen, ac y gallai hyn ynddo'i hun arwain at dangyflawni pellach.

Minister, I would like to move to the second part of our motion, in which we welcome the Welsh Government's rapid review of the situation, which we do. However, I ask for your assurance that you will look at all of the evidence and that you will talk to and listen to stakeholders with an open mind.

Your response to the letter sent to you by the headteachers of RCT was, in my view, very dismissive and combative. You say in your response that the impact is not severe across all schools, but I cannot see how you can say that. My colleagues in the Welsh Conservatives and I have been in contact with a great many schools in our respective areas, and the message is almost universal. ASCL also has some 100 schools that have raised concerns. I know that some of the schools that have contacted me directly are not part of that 100. Given that there are only some 223 maintained secondary schools in Wales, I would say that this is not a small problem.

I have also spoken to the heads of some of the independent schools in Wales, and they, too, have expressed concerns. You went on to say in your response to the headteachers of Rhondda Cynon Taf that they should be helping us to get to the bottom of this or, perhaps, considering what they could have done better to raise the grades of their students. That is fighting talk, Minister, but you need to be absolutely sure of your ground here, because that one sentence condemns a significant majority of our schools, their headteachers and their heads of English. That one sentence seems to put the blame at their door. As the heads of RCT said, to hear senior WJEC staff say that pupils had not been prepared properly is insulting and inaccurate and smacks of passing the buck. They say that their staff did the very best they could. To hear the Minister for Education and Skills reflect that kind of comment is very worrying. Your teams are essentially reviewing themselves and, if we are to accept their findings, we need to have confidence that you entered into this with no preconceived notions.

That leads me neatly to the third element of our motion, which notes the importance of considering all of the evidence that is available for the review. Minister, I urge you to do just that. I know that this is a quick review, but it does not need to be a shallow review. Schools and students should be included in this review, as well as unions, WJEC and the Government.

I have read the skimpy WJEC press release today, containing its findings after its internal review, and I find some of the conclusions surprising—for example, only one examiner needs a review. That surely could not outweigh the outcome so much.

Weinidog, hoffwn symud ail ran ein cynnig, lle rydym yn croesawu adolygiad cyflym Llywodraeth Cymru o'r sefyllfa, yr ydym yn ei wneud. Fodd bynnag, gofynnaf am eich sicrwydd y byddwch yn edrych ar yr holl dystiolaeth ac y byddwch yn siarad â rhanddeiliaid ac yn gwrando arnynt gyda meddwl agored.

Roedd eich ymateb i'r llythyr a anfonwyd atoch gan benaethiaid Rhondda Cynon Taf, yn fy marn i, yn ddiystyriol ac ymosodol iawn. Rydych yn dweud yn eich ymateb nad yw'r effaith yn ddifrifol ym mhob ysgol, ond ni allaf weld sut y gallwch ddweud hynny. Mae fy nghyd-Aelodau yn y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig a minnau wedi bod mewn cysylltiad â nifer fawr o ysgolion yn ein hardaloedd ein hunain, ac mae'r neges bron yr un fath ymhob man. Mae tua 100 o ysgolion sydd wedi codi pryderon gyda'r Gymdeithas Arweinwyr Ysgolion a Cholegau. Gwn fod rhai o'r ysgolion sydd wedi cysylltu â mi yn uniongyrchol yn rhan o'r 100. O ystyried mai dim ond tua 223 o ysgolion uwchradd a gynhelir sydd yng Nghymru, byddwn yn dweud nad problem fach yw hon.

Rwyf hefyd wedi siarad â phenaethiaid rhai o'r ysgolion annibynnol yng Nghymru, ac maent hwythau hefyd wedi mynegi pryderon. Aethoch ymlaen i ddweud yn eich ymateb i benaethiaid Rhondda Cynon Taf y dylent fod yn ein helpu i fynd at wraidd y mater neu, efallai, yn ystyried yr hyn y gallent fod wedi ei wneud yn well i godi graddau eu myfyrwyr. Rydych yn gofyn amdani, Weinidog, ond mae angen ichi fod yn holol siŵr o'ch ffeithiau yn hyn o beth, oherwydd mae un frawddeg yn difri'o'r mwyafrif helaeth o'n ysgolion, eu penaethiaid a phenaethiaid eu hadnannau Saesneg. Mae'r un frawddeg honno fel petai'n rhoi'r bai arnynt hwy. Fel y dywedodd penaethiaid Rhondda Cynon Taf, mae clywed uwch staff CBAC yn dweud nad yw disgylion wedi cael eu paratoi'n briodol yn sarhaus ac yn anghywir ac yn awgrymu eu bod yn ceisio pwyntio'r bys at eraill. Maent yn dweud i'w staff wneud eu gorau glas. Mae'n peri pryer mawr clywed y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau yn adleisio'r math hwnnw o sylw. Mae eich timau yn adolygu eu hunain yn y bôn ac, er mwyn inni dderbyn eu canfyddiadau, mae angen inni fod yn hyderus ichi ddechrau ystyried y materion hyn heb unrhyw ragdybiaethau.

Mae hynny'n fy arwain yn dwt at drydedd elfen ein cynnig, sy'n nodi pwysigrwydd ystyried yr holl dystiolaeth sydd ar gael i'r adolygiad. Weinidog, rwy'n eich annog i wneud hynny. Gwn mai adolygiad cyflym yw hwn, ond nid oes angen iddo fod yn un arwynebol. Dylai ysgolion a myfyrwyr gael eu cynnwys yn yr adolygiad hwn, yn ogystal â'r undebau, CBAC a'r Llywodraeth.

Rwyf wedi darllen datganiad cwta CBAC i'r wasg heddiw, sy'n cynnwys ei ganfyddiadau ar ôl ei adolygiad mewnol, ac mae rhai o'r casgliadau yn peri syndod imi—er enghraifft, dim ond un arholwr sydd angen ei adolygu. Does bosib na allai hynny fod wedi gwrbhwys o'r canlyniad cymaint.

So, Minister, will you ask WJEC how many students out of the 23,000 who sat the paper were affected by that one examiner? Given that the examination specification was changed in October 2012 with immediate effect after the course had already begun in September 2012, will you ask WJEC what impact it believes that might have had on the results? Will you look at whether there has been an adequate lead-in time for the new specification? In the past, pilot schools have been involved in developing new papers, yet we have had a major examination change without that review process. Minister, will you look at what continuing professional development was in place, how the new criteria were communicated, how many schools attended training, how many raised concerns over the ability to teach a new examination with such little time to prepare and how it was introduced to schools? Will you also look at what role was played by regional consortia and education services? Would you look at what predictive modelling WJEC would have done? I assume that it would have forecasted how the exams would fit with current teaching, other exams and the comparability factor of previous exams.

The final part of our motion is to call on the Welsh Government to share the nature of the review process and the evidence received as part of the review in an open and frank manner. I cannot emphasise enough how important it is that we restore faith. I have had it made very clear to me that there is a significant feeling of insecurity within the profession in the strategic leadership of education epitomised by this particular crisis. Minister, this crisis comes at a time when there is a significant change scheduled for GCSE programmes of study that are starting in 2015 and examinable for 2017. We all appreciate that we need a quick and effective resolution to current concerns. There is also a dire need to honestly evaluate the culpability of all partners in education regarding decisions being made concerning assessment and attainment. I will finish with a quotation from a headteacher who is very well regarded in the profession. He says:

'We all need to be far better prepared to meet the needs of our young learners and offer them an irrefutable academic base on which to build their futures.'

Felly, Weinidog, a wnewch chi ofyn i CBAC faint o fyfyrwyr o blith y 23,000 a safodd y papur yr oedd yr arholwr unigol hwnnw wedi effeithio arnynt? O ystyried i fanyleb yr arholiad gael ei newid ym mis Hydref 2012 yn weithredol ar unwaith ar ôl i'r cwrs ddechrau ym mis Medi 2012, a wnewch chi ofyn i CBAC pa effaith y cred y gallai fod wedi ei chael ar y canlyniadau? A wnewch chi ystyried a fu cyfnod paratoi digonol ar gyfer y fanyleb newydd? Yn y gorffennol, mae ysgolion peilot wedi bod yn rhan o'r broses o ddatblygu papurau newydd, ond rydym wedi gweld newid mawr mewn arholiad heb y broses adolygu. Weinidog, a wnewch chi ystyried pa ddatblygiad profesynol parhaus oedd ar waith, sut y cafodd y mein prawf newydd eu cyfleo, faint o ysgolion a gafodd hyfforddiant, sawl un a gododd bryderon ynghylch y gallu addysgu arholiad newydd ar ôl cael cyn lleied o amser i baratoi a sut y cafodd ei gyflwyno i ysgolion? A wnewch chi hefyd ystyried pa'r ôl a chwaraewyd gan gonsortia rhanbarthol a gwasanaethau addysg? A fydd yn edrych ar y modelu rhagfynegol y byddai CBAC wedi ei wneud? Rwy'n cymryd yn ganiataol y byddai wedi rhagweld sut y byddai'r arholiadau wedi cyd-fynd ag addysgu presennol, arholiadau eraill a ffactor cymharedd ag arholiadau blaenorol.

Mae rhan olaf ein cynnig yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i rannu natur y broses adolygu a'r dystiolaeth a gafwyd fel rhan o'r adolygiad mewn modd agored a didwyll. Ni allaf bwysleisio digon pa mor bwysig ydyw ein bod yn adfer ffydd. Fe'i gwnaed yn glir iawn imi fod cryn ansicrwydd ymhliith y proffesiwn ynglŷn ag arweinyddiaeth strategol addysg fel y'i dangosir gan yr argyfwng penodol hwn. Weinidog, daw'r argyfwng hwn ar adeg pan fo newid sylweddol yn yr arfaeth ar gyfer rhagleni astudio TGAU sy'n dechrau yn 2015 lle caiff yr arholiadau cyntaf eu sefyll yn 2017. Rydym i gyd yn sylweddoli bod angen ateb cyflym ac effeithiol i bryderon a geir ar hyn o bryd. Mae hefyd angen dybryd i bwysio a mesur mewn ffordd onest gyfrifoldeb yr holl bartneriaid mewn addysg am benderfyniadau sy'n cael eu gwneud ynghylch asesu a chyrhaeddiad. Hoffwn orffen gyda dyfyniad gan bennaeth sy'n uchel iawn ei barch yn y proffesiwn. Dywed:

Mae angen i bob un ohonom fod wedi ein paratoi'n llawer gwell i ddiwallu anghenion ein dysgwyr ifanc a chynnig sylfaen academaidd anwadadwy iddynt yn sail i adeiladu eu dyfodol arni.

Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography

When the news broke on Thursday 6 March that there might be issues with the January English language GCSEs, I immediately e-mailed all five secondary schools in my Rhondda constituency to get their feedback. Their answers were informative. One school disappointed at the results had, nevertheless, done better than last year. Another said that most pupils had cashed grades in the previous year, that this year's results were for weaker students not expected to get the top marks, and that the results were lower than expected. Another told me that it was very disappointed with the results, giving an example of a pupil who had an A in the first paper and an E in the second. Another school said that pupils on the C/D border had been particularly affected, and this school raised detailed questions. The structure of the paper was different, including two-part questions without any advance warning of this and the wording of the questions was, in its words, 'unnecessarily waffly'. It pointed out that marks in unit 2 on the comparison of two tests were particularly low nationally. The final school told me that 42 of its 51 expected C-grade students got lower grades than expected in unit 1 and 20 got lower grades than expected in unit 2. These are headteachers I know personally who are feeding back honestly and with feeling. They raise real issues. The Welsh Government is getting first-hand experience from schools and I am glad that the Minister has said that he will do that.

However, is this 2012 all over again? No, it is not. Then, the principal issue was that the outcomes imposed by adopting the key stage 2 predictor model based on results in England had not produced year-on-year consistent comparable outcomes in Wales, resulting in unfairness to our students. This time, we are not dealing with an overall GCSE outcome, but outcomes in a limited number of units. The current issue makes me glad that we decided, when I was Minister, that we would be keeping unitised qualifications in Wales, rather than moving to a linear structure, as in England, based on end of course exams. Students have the opportunity to re-sit. Keeping unitised qualifications also means that, if problems occur, they can be spotted early on and addressed.

One proposal that I think the Minister could look at, which I adopted for the 2013 cohort in respect of English language, is to issue only the raw marks in January to schools, not the overall grades. This would mean that actual grades would be calculated after the June units had been undertaken, ensuring that those taking units in January and those in June are treated consistently and fairly.

I am glad that no-one has suggested that we should not have more rigorous standards of spelling, punctuation, accuracy and grammar. After all, employers and FE colleges were continually telling the Welsh Government when I was Minister that the literacy standards of new employees or college recruits were not as high as they should be.

Pan dorrodd y newyddion ddydd iau 6 Mawrth y gallai fod problemau gyda TGAU Saesneg ym mis Ionawr, anfonais e-bost yn syth at bob un o'r pum ysgol uwchradd yn fy etholaeth yn y Rhondda er mwyn cael eu hadborth. Roedd eu hatebion yn llawn gwybodaeth. Roedd un ysgol a oedd yn siomedig gyda'r canlyniadau, er hynny, wedi gwneud yn well na'r llynedd. Dywedwyd un arall fod y rhan fwyaf o ddisgyblion wedi cyfnewid graddau yn y flwyddyn flaenorol, bod y canlyniadau eleni i ffyrwyr gwannach na ddisgwylir iddynt ennill y marcäu uchaf, a bod y canlyniadau yn is na'r disgwyl. Dywedodd un arall wrthyf fod y canlyniadau yn siomedig iawn, gan roi enghraift o ddisgybl a gafodd A yn y papur cyntaf ac E yn yr ail. Dywedodd ysgol arall yr effeithiwyd ar ddisgyblion ar y ffin C/D yn arbennig, a chododd yr ysgol hon gwestiynau manwl. Roedd strwythur y papur yn wahanol, gan gynnwys cwestiynau dwyran heb unrhyw rybudd ymlaen llaw o hyn ac roedd geiriad y cwestiynau, yng ngeiriau'r ysgol, yn hirwyntog yn ddiangen. Nododd fod marcäu yn uned 2 ar gymharu dau brawf yn arbennig o isel yn genedlaethol. Dywedodd yr ysgol olaf wrthyf fod 42 o'i 51 o ffyrwyr yr oedd disgwyl iddynt ennill gradd C wedi cael graddau is na'r disgwyl yn uned 1 a bod 20 wedi ennill graddau is na'r disgwyl yn uned 2. Mae'r rhain yn benaethiaid yr wyf yn eu hadnabod yn bersonol sy'n rhoi adborth yn onest ac yn deimladwy. Maent yn codi problemau go iawn. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cael profiad uniongyrchol gan ysgolion, ac rwy'n falch bod y Gweinidog wedi dweud y bydd yn gwneud hynny.

Fodd bynnag, ai 2012 sy'n digwydd eto? Nage. Bryd hynny, y brif broblem oedd nad oedd y deilliannau a osodir drwy fabwysiadu model rhagfynegi cyfnod allweddol 2 yn seiliedig ar ganlyniadau yn Lloegr wedi arwain at ddeilliannau cymaradwy cyson o un flwyddyn i'r llall yng Nghymru, gan arwain at annhegwyd i'n ffyrwyr. Y tro hwn, nid ydym yn ymdrin â chanlyniad TGAU cyffredinol, ond canlyniadau mewn nifer cyfyngedig o unedau. Mae'r broblem gyfredol yn gwneud imi deimlo'n falch inni benderfynu, pan oeddwn yn Weinidog, y byddem yn cadw cymwysterau unedol yng Nghymru, yn hytrach na symud i strwythur llinol, fel sy'n digwydd yn Lloegr, yn seiliedig ar arholiadau diwedd cwrs. Mae myffyrwyr yn cael y cyfle i ailsefyll. Mae cadw cymwysterau unedol hefyd yn golygu, os oes problemau'n codi, bod modd sylwi arnynt yn gynnar a mynd i'r afael â hwy.

Un cynnig y gallai'r Gweinidog ei ystyried, yn fy marn i, a fabwysiadwyd gennyp ar gyfer carfan 2013 mewn perthynas ag iaith Saesneg, yw ond rhoi'r marcäu crai ym mis Ionawr i ysgolion, nid y graddau cyffredinol. Byddai hyn yn golygu y byddai graddau gwirioneddol yn cael eu cyfrifo ar ôl i unedau mis Mehefin gael eu sefyll, gan sicrhau bod y rhai sy'n sefyll unedau ym mis Ionawr a'r rhai ym mis Mehefin yn cael eu trin yn gyson ac yn deg.

Rwy'n falch nad oes neb wedi awgrymu na ddylem beidio â gosod safonau mwy trylwyr o ran sillafu, atalnodi, cywirdeb a gramadeg. Wedi'r cyfan, roedd cyflogwyr a cholegau AB yn dweud wrth Llywodraeth Cymru drwy'r amser pan oeddwn yn Weinidog nad yw safonau llythrennedd gweithwyr newydd neu recriwtiaid coleg cystal ag y dylent fod.

I know that some are saying that this issue demonstrates that we should have an independent examinations regulator. Of course, that is already happening; I announced it in December 2012. However, an independent examinations regulator did not resolve the problems in England in 2012, so there is no guarantee that an independent exam regulator, on its own, would resolve issues in Wales in 2014.

The Conservative spokesperson raised good questions about WJEC. I think that what this issue really raises is the role of WJEC. Given the issues that it must have detected, why did WJEC not engage in early discussions with its regulator, the Welsh Government, when it realised that there was a problem? Is it true that it was only after WJEC had issued the grades to schools that the Welsh Government was made aware that there was a problem? I think that the truth is that WJEC has struggled to adapt to the tougher regulatory environment that Ofqual imposed in England after the December 2011 exam seminar debacle, in which WJEC featured rather ingloriously, and to the tougher regulatory environment that I imposed in Wales. Too often, its responses to regulators have been terse, petulant or missing the point. That is why Qualifications Wales is being built on the Scottish Qualifications Authority model, independent of Government but responsible for regulation and awarding. I am afraid that this latest episode means that the writing is on the wall for WJEC.

Gwn fod rhai yn dweud bod y mater hwn yn dangos y dylem gael rheoleiddiwr arholiadau annibynnol. Wrth gwrs, mae hynny eisoes yn digwydd; cyhoeddais hynny ym mis Rhagfyr 2012. Fodd bynnag, ni wnaeth rheoleiddiwr arholiadau annibynnol ddatrys y problemau yn Lloegr yn 2012, felly nid oes unrhyw sicrwydd y byddai rheoleiddiwr arholiadau annibynnol, ynddo'i hun, yn datrys problemau yng Nghymru yn 2014.

Cododd llefarydd y Ceidwadwyr gwestiynau da ynglŷn â CBAC. Credaf mai'r hyn y mae'r mater hwn yn ei godi mewn gwirionedd yw'r rôl CBAC. O ystyried y problemau y mae'n rhaid ei fod wedi sylwi arnynt, pam na wnaeth CBAC gael trafodaethau cynnar a'i reoleiddiwr, Llywodraeth Cymru, pan sylweddolodd fod problem wedi codi? A yw'n wir mai dim ond ar ôl i CBAC gyhoeddi'r graddau i ysgolion y cafodd Llywodraeth Cymru wybod bod problem? Credaf mai'r gwir yw bod CBAC wedi ei chael yn anodd ymaddasu i'r amgylchedd rheoleiddio llymach a osodwyd gan Ofqual yn Lloegr ar ôl traed moch y seminarau arholiad ym mis Rhagfyr y 2011, lle y cafodd CBAC sylw anffafriol, ac i'r amgylchedd rheoleiddio llymach a osodwyd gennyl i yng Nghymru. Yn rhy aml, mae ei ymatebion i'r rheoleiddwyr wedi bod yn swta, yn bigog neu maent wedi colli'r pwynt. Dyna pam mae Cymwysterau Cymru yn cael ei adeiladu ar fodel Awdurdod Cymwysterau'r Alban, sy'n annibynnol ar y Llywodraeth, ond sy'n gyfrifol am reoleiddio a dyfarnu. Ofnaf fod yr helynt diweddaraf yn golygu bod yr ysgrifen ar y wal i CBAC.

16:21

Nick Ramsay [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Angela Burns, in opening, has already set out the concerns that we on this side of the Chamber have about the unexpectedly low grades that some people have received in English GCSE modules sat this January. These results really matter and can mean the difference between success and failure, and may affect pupils' future work prospects.

I share Angela Burns's concerns that no-one is taking responsibility for this issue. There is a blame culture that almost seems to be not dismissed but encouraged by the Minister for education, letting parents believe that teachers are solely to blame for their children's grades.

The Huw Evans review into qualifications was broadly accepted by the Welsh Government 14 months ago. That review recommended the retention of GCSEs as the main level of general qualifications. It encouraged the introduction of two new mathematics exams and also encouraged the Government to retain A-levels. Another aspect of the Evans review was to create a single body responsible for the regulation and quality assurance of all non-degree level qualifications. As we have said, the Welsh Conservatives favour a regulator wholly independent of Government.

We need to ensure that, at the end of this process, qualifications are not in any way devalued. During the transition period, pupils must be confident that those still studying under the existing system do not feel that they are working under a flawed system, which may not carry the respect of employers or universities. We have to make sure that the Welsh education system does not lose sight of the current crop of students.

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Mae Angela Burns, wrth agor, eisoes wedi nodi'r pryderon sydd gennym ni ar yr ochr hon i'r Siambwr ynglŷn â'r graddau annisgwyl o isel a gafodd rhai pobl mewn modiwlau Saesneg TGAU a safwyd ym mis Ionawr. Mae'r canlyniadau hyn yn wirioneddol bwysig a gallant olygu'r gwahaniaeth rhwng llwyddiant a methiant, a gallant effeithio ar ragolygon gwaith disgylion yn y dyfodol.

Rhannaf bryderon Angela Burns nad oes neb yn cymryd cyfrifoldeb am y mater hwn. Mae diwylliant o fwrw bai yr ymddengys bron ei fod yn cael ei annog gan y Gweinidog addysg yn hytrach na'i gondemnio, gan adael i rieni gredu mai'r athrawon yn unig sydd ar fai am raddau eu plant.

Cafodd adolygiad Huw Evans o gymwysterau ei dderbyn yn gyffredinol gan Lywodraeth Cymru 14 mis yn ôl. Argymhellodd yr adolygiad hwnnw y dylid cadw TGAU fel y prif lefel o gymwysterau cyffredinol. Anogodd gyflwyno dau arholiad mathemateg newydd a hefyd anogodd y Llywodraeth i gadw Safon Uwch. Agwedd arall ar adolygiad Evans oedd y dylid creu un corff sy'n gyfrifol am reoleiddio a sicrhau ansawdd pob cymhwyster ar wahân o dan lefel gradd. Fel y dywedwyd gennym, mae'r Ceidwadwyr Cymreig yn ffafrio rheoleiddiwr sy'n gwbl annibynnol ar y Llywodraeth.

Mae angen inni sicrhau, ar ddiwedd y broses hon, nad yw gymwysterau yn cael eu dibrisio mewn unrhyw ffordd. Yn ystod y cyfnod pontio, rhaid i ddisgyblion fod yn hyderus nad yw'r rhai sy'n dal i astudio o dan y system bresennol yn teimlo eu bod yn gweithio o dan system ddifygiol, na fydd yn ennyn parch cyflogwyr na phrifysgolion. Rhaid inni sicrhau nad yw cyfundrefn addysg Cymru yn colli golwg ar y garfan bresennol o fyfyrwyr.

If we are going to follow a different path to the path followed in England on GCSEs, which is perfectly plausible, we need to ensure that Welsh qualifications are globally recognised. So, I and my party seek reassurance from the Minister that this will be guaranteed and that these qualifications will be fully promoted.

We are all aware that a social media campaign and roadshow have been promoting these new qualifications. I would be interested to know what measures are in place to assess the success of this campaign.

The Minister has announced that four new GCSEs in English language, Welsh first language, numeracy and maths techniques will be introduced. However, as I understand, the Minister has not ruled out that some other GCSEs might be revised for first teaching from September 2015. I would be interested to know where we currently stand on this, so that adequate preparations can be put in place.

From my time on the Enterprise and Business Committee, I, along with other members, recognised the full value of vocational qualifications. I understand that the maximum value of a vocational qualification can be worth two GCSEs in Wales, compared with one GCSE in England. It has to be the case that employers fully understand this change, and that the value of vocational qualifications may change depending on where they were gained. The current lack of clarity also applies to how the Welsh baccalaureate will work post-16. On this, it is vital that employers and the higher education sector fully understand what the specifically Welsh qualifications mean, so as not to put applicants at a disadvantage.

As Angela Burns said at the start of this debate, improvements in outcomes must be seen. Too often we talk about outcomes, but I do not think that there is a full appreciation of what outcomes actually mean—and, indeed, the difference between outcomes and outputs.

There is some good news here. I am pleased that the figures for those not in education, employment or training have fallen, in the younger age group at least and that we are no longer seen as a hotspot within the UK for this. However, we must remember that the figures for the 18-24 age group—a problem for so long in Wales—still remain stubbornly high. We need to ensure that the changes in policy and examinations actually provide the skills needed for pupils to best fit the needs of the modern labour market—not the labour market of yesteryear, not even the labour market of today, but the labour market of tomorrow.

Os ydym am ddilyn llwybr gwahanol i'r llwybr a ddilynir yn Lloegr o ran TGAU, sy'n berffaith gredadwy, mae angen inni sicrhau bod cymwysterau Cymru yn cael eu cydnabod yn fyd-eang. Felly, mae fy mhlaid a minnau'n ceisio sicrwydd gan y Gweinidog y bydd hyn yn cael ei warantu ac y bydd y cymwysterau hyn yn cael eu hyrwyddo yn llawn.

Rydym i gyd yn ymwybodol bod ymgyrch yn y cyfryngau cymdeithasol a sioe deithiol wedi bod yn hyrwyddo'r cymwysterau newydd hyn. Hoffwn wybod pa fesurau sydd ar waith i asesu llwyddiant yr ymgyrch hon.

Mae'r Gweinidog wedi cyhoeddi y bydd pedwar TGAU newydd mewn iaith Saesneg, Cymraeg iaith gyntaf, rhifedd a thechnegau mathemateg yn cael eu cyflwyno. Fodd bynnag, yn ôl a ddeallaf, nid yw'r Gweinidog wedi gwrrthod y posibilrwydd y gallai rhai pynciau TGAU eraill gael eu diwygio i'w haddysgu gyntaf o fis Medi 2015. Hoffwn wybod lle rydym arni o ran hyn, fel y gellir gwneud paratoadau digonol.

O'm hamser yn aelod o'r Pwyllgor Menter a Busnes roeddwn yn cydnabod, ynghyd ag aelodau eraill, wrth llawn cymwysterau galwedigaethol. Caf ar ddeall effalai y bydd gwerth mwyaf posibl cymhwyster galwedigaethol yn cyfateb i ddwy TGAU yng Nghymru, o'i gymharu ag un TGAU yn Lloegr. Rhaid sicrhau bod cyflogwyr yn deall y newid hwn, a'r ffaith y gall gwerth cymwysterau galwedigaethol newid yn dibynnu ar ble y cawsant eu hennill. Mae'r diffyg eglurder presennol hefyd yn berthnasol i'r ffordd y bydd bagloriaeth Cymru yn gweithio ôl-16. O ran hyn, mae'n hanfodol bod cyflogwyr a'r sector addysg uwch yn deall yn llawn yr hyn y mae cymwysterau penodol Cymru yn ei olygu, er mwyn sicrhau na roddir ymgeiswyr o dan anfantais.

Fel y dywedodd Angela Burns ar ddechrau'r ddadl hon, rhaid wrth welliannau mewn deilliannau. Yn rhy aml, byddwn yn sôn am ddeilliannau, ond ni chredaf fod dealltwriaeth lawn o'r hyn y mae deilliannau yn ei olygu—ac, yn wir—y gwahaniaeth rhwng deilliannau canlyniadau ac allbynnau.

Mae ychydig o newyddion da. Rwy'n falch bod y ffigurau ar gyfer y rhai nad ydynt mewn addysg, cyflogaeth na hyfforddiant wedi gostwng, yn y grŵp oedran iau o leiaf ac nad ydym bellach yn cael ein gweld fel un o'r ardaloedd gwaethaf yn y DU ar gyfer hyn. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni gofio bod y ffigurau ar gyfer y grŵp oedran 18-24—problem ers cyhyd yng Nghymru—yn dal i fod yn ystyfnig o uchel. Mae angen inni sicrhau bod y newidiadau mewn polisi ac arholiadau yn darparu'r sgiliau sydd eu hangen ar ddisgyblion mewn gwirionedd er mwyn iddynt ddiwallu anghenion y farchnad lafur fodern—nid marchnad lafur y gorffennol, na hyd yn oed y farchnad lafur heddiw, ond marchnad lafur y dyfodol.

The Minister made a statement recently announcing the Donaldson review into assessment and the curriculum. This is yet another review—one more review after five separate reviews and reports focusing on different aspects of the curriculum. Five separate reviews. We are all in danger in this place of drowning in continual review. I hope that the Minister has not been taking lessons from other colleagues in Government who have announced a series of reviews to delay the implementation of actual policies—reviews of reviews. I would be interested in learning when the Donaldson review will be published and what time frame is in place for the implementation of the recommendations that it makes. That is, a proper time frame, not the artificial time frames that this Government so often likes talking about.

16:27

Simon Thomas [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

As Angela Burns said in opening this debate, the opposition parties have come together not for policy purposes, but for scrutiny purposes. I think that that is completely appropriate. Of course, this exam that we are examining today, the way that it has been marked and the way that it has impacted on some of our students is a direct result of what happened in 2012, because this is the first of five new exams that are supposed to be pioneered in Wales by WJEC to take into account the lessons of that experience. I think that the former Minister for education made a very good point regarding unitisation as opposed to linear examinations. It shows the value of retaining that aspect, to help all our students achieve their very best. However, there is a situation that has arisen over the marking of some of these units, as we have heard. There are five main questions that I would like to pose: have standards changed? What is the scale of the problem? Did the Welsh Government know? What did the Welsh Government do? What can we do now?

First is standards. We have heard a little bit about standards. The First Minister said last week, in response to the leader of the opposition, that he stands for higher standards. However, if you examine the wording of the statement by the Minister for education on this very matter, you will see that he has said that the Welsh Government has not committed to a recalibration of standards in GCSE English language. So, I am still uncertain as to whether these exams were marked to higher standards. We do not have a clear answer on that.

Secondly, we have heard about the scale of the problem. There is no doubt that this is a more widespread problem than some, certainly in Government, have allowed for. Around 40% of the centres had problems where the results were over half a grade out from what was expected. Of course, teachers can get it wrong, but the thing was that this was unusual. That is why the fuss arose. To have that disjoint shows that something went wrong between the exam board, WJEC, the teachers, the professional development and the training for those teachers. The people who are blameless in all this, of course, are the pupils, who simply did what they were taught and tried their best.

Gwnaeth y Gweinidog ddatganiad yn ddiweddar yn cyhoeddi adolygiad Donaldson o asesu a'r cwricwlwm. Mae hwn yn adolygiad arall eto—un adolygiad arall ar ôl pum adolygiad ac adroddiad gwahanol ar wahanol agweddau ar y cwricwlwm. Pum adolygiad gwahanol. Rydym i gyd yn y lle hwn mewn perygl o foddi mewn adolygiadau parhaus. Gobeithio nad yw'r Gweinidog wedi bod yn dysgu gwersi gan gyd-Weinidogion eraill yn y Llywodraeth sydd wedi cyhoeddi cyfres o adolygiadau i ohirio gweithredu polisiau gwriioneddol—adolygiadau o adolygiadau. Hoffwn wybod pryd y bydd adolygiad Donaldson yn cael ei gyhoeddi a pha amserlen sydd ar waith ar gyfer gweithredu'r argymhellion a wna. Hynny yw, amserlen go iawn, nid yr amserlen artifisial y mae'r Llywodraeth hon yn hoffi sôn amdani mor aml.

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Fel y dywedodd Angela Burns wrth agor y ddadl, mae'r gwrthbleidiau wedi dod ynghyd nid at ddibenion polisi, ond at ddibenion craffu. Credaf fod hynny'n gwbl briodol. Wrth gwrs, mae'r arholiad hwn yr ydym yn edrych arno heddiw, y ffordd y cafodd ei farcio a'r ffordd y mae wedi effeithio ar rai o'n myfyrrwr yn ganlyniad uniongyrchol o'r hyn a ddigwyddodd yn 2012, oherwydd dyma'r cyntaf o bum arholiad newydd y mae CBAC i fod i'w harloesi yng Nghymru gan ystyried yr hyn a ddysgwyd o'r profiad hwnnw. Credaf i'r cyn-Weinidog addysg wneud pwyt da iawn o ran unedau yn hytrach nag arholiadau llinol. Dengys werth cadw'r agwedd honno, er mwyn helpu ein holl fyfyrwyr i gyflawni orau y gallant. Fodd bynnag, mae sefyllfa wedi codi ynglŷn â marcio rhai o'r unedau hyn, fel y clywsom. Mae pum prif gwestiwn yr hoffwn eu gofyn: a yw safonau wedi newid? Beth yw maint y broblem? A wyddai Llywodraeth Cymru? Beth a wnaeth Llywodraeth Cymru? Beth y gallwn ei wneud yn awr?

Yn gyntaf mae safonau. Clywsom ychydig am safonau. Dywedodd y Prif Weinidog yr wythnos diwethaf, mewn ymateb i arweinydd yr wrthblaid, ei fod o blaid safonau uwch. Fodd bynnag, os edrychwch ar eiriad y datganiad gan y Gweinidog addysg am yr union fater hwn, fe welwch iddo ddweud nad yw Llywodraeth Cymru wedi ymrwymo i ailraddnodi safonau mewn TGAU iaith Saesneg. Felly, rwy'n ansicr o hyd yngylch a yw'r arholiadau hyn yn cael eu marcio i safonau uwch. Nid oes genynnym ateb clir o ran hynny.

Yn ail, rydym wedi clywed sôn am faint y broblem. Nid oes unrhyw amheuaeth nad yw hon yn broblem fwy cyffredin nag y mae rhai, yn sicr yn y Llywodraeth, wedi ei gyfaddef. Cafodd tua 40% o'r canolfannau problemau lle roedd y canlyniadau dros hanner gradd yn wahanol i'r hyn a ddisgwylid. Wrth gwrs, gall athrawon gael pethau'n anghywir, ond y peth oedd bod hyn yn anarferol. Dyna pam y cododd y cynnwrf. Mae diffyg cysylltiad o'r fath yn dangos bod rhywbeth wedi mynd o'i le rhwng y bwrdd arholi, CBAC, yr athrawon, y datblygiad proffesiynol a'r hyfforddiant i'r athrawon hynny. Y bobl sy'n ddi-fai yn hyn oll, wrth gwrs, yw'r disgylion, a wnaeth yr hyn y cawsant eu dysgu i'w wneud a gwneud eu gorau.

The previous Minister referred to the Rhondda situation. That was crystallised in the letter—he gave a very fair summary of that situation—to the current Minister for education. However, it had an overall assessment of a drop of around 25% in the number of students gaining a grade C or better. That is considerable. That is not just standards; there is something else going on here. The letter also posed a question to the Minister for education—we have not heard a reply yet—about who decided to dispense with norm-referencing as part of the examination process.

This has been added to since then by a letter from the headteachers of Gwynedd schools, who have come together. Eleven of the 14 secondary schools in Gwynedd put in candidates for the units in January. Again, they saw a decline from 50% achieving grades A* to C in their previous experience of paper 1 to a 27% result this time round. Again, it was unexpected. What is interesting is that Gwynedd schools said that they felt that the papers were fair and what they expected but that the marking was unfair. Now, that is something that the WJEC website itself seems to bear out because it says that the proportion for unit 1 at the foundation tier gaining grade C has fallen from 23% to 5%. Again, that is more than you would expect simply by tightening up a little bit around grammar or language.

Today, the WJEC report, an adequate report as far as I can see because I cannot really make head or tail of what is issued in the press release without details, said that it had found one examiner to be inconsistent. Even so, the papers that are going to be re-marked are counted at 318, which is less than 1% of the total. I do not think that that accounts for what we have experienced in different parts of Wales so far. Did the Welsh Government know? Well, there was the letter to Mr Chris Tweedale from the headteacher of Ferndale Community School, to which he replied that he would monitor the situation to ensure that no students were disadvantaged by the change. Well, some students have been disadvantaged; there is no doubt about that.

What did they do? Well, that is a very fair question. Did WJEC alert the Welsh Government as the regulator to this situation? Was the Welsh Government present in the critical final boundary-setting meetings that dictated these grades? I hope that the Minister will be able to say a little more on that today. What do we do now? Well some pupils' papers will be being re-marked. That is good for them. However, as I said earlier, the pupils are blameless in this. We want to see the full facts emerge. Before we make final decisions, we need to see what the Welsh Government's review brings forward. On the basis of those full facts, we must ensure that this year's pupils are no worse off than pupils in previous years or compared to what we want to see going forward. We do not want to see one year's cohort penalised for the sake of higher standards for the future.

Cyfeiriodd y Gweinidog blaenorol at y sefyllfa yng nghwm Rhondda. Cafodd hynny ei grisialu yn y llythyr—rhoddodd grynodeb teg iawn o'r sefyllfa honno—at y Gweinidog addysg presennol. Fodd bynnag, cafodd asesiad cyffredinol o ostyngiad o tua 25% yn nifer y myfyrwyr a fydd yn ennill gradd C neu'n well. Mae hynny'n sylwedol. Nid dim ond mater o safonau yw hynny; mae rhywbeth arall yn digwydd. Gofynnodd y llythyr hefyd gwestiwn i'r Gweinidog addysg—nid ydym wedi clywed ateb eto—ynghylch pwy benderfynodd hepgor ymarfer cyfeirio at lefel arferol fel rhan o'r broses arholi.

Ers hynny ychwanegwyd ato gan lythyr oddi wrth benaethiaid ysgolion Gwynedd, sydd wedi dod at ei gilydd. Gwaith 14 o ysgolion uwchradd yng Ngwynedd gofrestru ymgeiswyr ar gyfer yr unedau ym mis Ionawr. Unwaith eto, gwelwyd gostyngiad o 50% yn y nifer a enillodd raddau A* i C o gymharu â'u profiad blaenorol o bapur 1 i ganlyniad o 27% y tro hwn. Unwaith eto, roedd hynny'n annisgwyl. Yr hyn sy'n ddiidorol yw i ysgolion Gwynedd ddweud eu bod yn teimlo bod y papurau yn deg ac yn unol â'r hyn yr oeddent yn ei ddisgwyl ond bod y marcio yn anhieg. Nawr, mae hynny'n rhywbeth y mae gwefan CBAC ei hun yn ei gadarnhau yn ôl pob golwg gan ei bod yn dweud bod y gyfran ar gyfer uned 1 ar haen sylfaenol a enillodd radd C wedi gostwng o 23% i 5%. Unwaith eto, mae hynny'n fwy nag y byddech yn ei ddisgwyl o fod ychydig yn llymach o ran gramadeg neu iaith.

Heddiw, dywedodd adroddiad CBAC, adroddiad digonol hyd y gwelaf, gan na allaf wneud pen na chynffon o'r hyn a gyhoeddwyd yn y datganiad i'r wasg heb fanylion, ei fod wedi darganfod bod un arholwr wedi bod yn anghyson. Serch hynny, 318 o bapurau fydd yn cael eu haifarcio, sy'n llai nag 1% o'r cyfanswm. Ni chredaf fod hynny'n cyfrif am yr hyn a welsom mewn gwahanol rannau o Gymru hyd yn hyn. A yw Llywodraeth Cymru yn gwybod? Wel, cafwyd llythyr at Mr Chris Tweedale oddi wrth bennaeth Ysgol Gymunedol Glynredwynnog, a'i ateb oedd y byddai'n monitro'r sefyllfa er mwyn sicrhau nad oes myfyrwyr o dan anfantais oherwydd y newid. Wel, mae rhai myfyrwyr wedi cael eu rhoi o dan anfantais; nid oes amheuaeth am hynny.

Beth a wnaethant? Wel, mae hynny'n gwestiwn teg iawn. A wnaeth CBAC roi gwybod i Lywodraeth Cymru fel y rheoleiddiwr am y sefyllfa hon? A fu Llywodraeth Cymru yn bresennol yn y cyfarfodydd i osod ffiniau terfynol holbwysig a bennodd y graddau hyn? Gobeithio y bydd y Gweinidog yn gallu dweud ychydig mwy am hynny heddiw. Beth a wnaeon yn awr? Wel, mae papurau rhai disgylion yn cael eu haifarcio. Mae hynny'n beth da iddynt hwy. Fodd bynnag, fel y dywedais yn gynharach, mae'r disgylion yn ddi-fai yn hyn. Rydym am weld y ffeithiau llawn yn dod i'r amlwg. Cyn inni wneud penderfyniadau terfynol, mae angen inni weld yr hyn y bydd adolygiad Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei ddatgelu. Ar sail y ffeithiau llawn hynny, rhaid inni sicrhau na fydd disgylion eleni o dan anfantais o'u cymharu â disgylion mewn blynnyddoedd blaenorol nac o'u cymharu â'r hyn yr ydym am ei weld yn y dyfodol. Nid ydym am weld carfan un flwyddyn yn cael eu cosbi er mwyn cael safonau uwch ar gyfer y dyfodol.

16:32

Andrew R.T. Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am grateful to be able to participate in this debate today, led by the Welsh Conservatives but supported by the two other opposition parties. Before I go into my main contribution, I think, if I may say so, that it is unfortunate that the Government has not made an oral statement to allow questioning in the Chamber. Listening to all the contributions so far, some very pertinent questions have been put to the Minister in a very reasoned way, I would suggest. There is a trend here with the Government. We saw it with rail electrification yesterday, that there was no oral statement, and now the same is happening with this issue. In two weeks, we have had two very big issues come up and Ministers have not come to this Chamber to take questions from Members from across Wales. It is unfortunate that the opposition parties have to do this and, in this case, it is our time that we are having to use. However, we will not shirk our responsibility in using that time to get the answers to some of the big issues that people are facing in their everyday lives.

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Rwy'n ddiochgar am gael cymryd rhan yn y ddadl hon heddiw, a arweinir gan y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig, ond a gefnogir gan y ddwy wrthblaid arall. Cyn imi ddechrau fy mhrif gyfraniad, credaf, os caf ddweud, ei bod yn anffodus nad yw'r Llywodraeth wedi gwneud datganiad llafar er mwyn caniatáu i Aelodau ofyn cwestiynau yn y Siambr. O wrando ar yr holl gyfraniadau hyd yn hyn, gofynnwyd rhai cwestiynau perthnasol iawn i'r Gweinidog mewn ffodd resymegol iawn, ddywedwn i. Mae tuedd yn hyn o beth o ran y Llywodraeth. Gwelsom hynny yn achos trydaneiddio'r rheilffyrdd ddoe, nad oedd unrhyw ddatganiad llafar, ac yn awr mae'r un peth yn digwydd gyda'r mater hwn. O fewn pythefnos, mae dau fater pwysig iawn wedi codi ac nid yw Gweinidogion wedi dod i'r Siambr hon i ateb cwestiynau gan Aelodau o bob cwr o Gymru. Mae'n anffodus bod yn rhaid i'r gwrthbleidiau wneud hyn ac, yn yr achos hwn, ein hamser ni y mae'n rhaid inni ei ddefnyddio. Fodd bynnag, ni fyddwn yn esgeuluso ein cyfrifoldeb wrth ddefnyddio'r amser i gael yr atebion i rai o'r problemau mawr y mae pobl yn eu hwynebu yn eu bywydau bob dydd.

I suppose that I should declare an interest as I have a son who sat this very exam and did not perform to his predicted grades. The school he was in also had a very rude shock, shall we say, with all the candidates it entered. The teacher involved had to go home because she was so distressed by the situation she found herself in. I believe that it is the students and the teachers who are going to be the main losers in all of this because, in the summer term, many, if not all, of those students will be sitting a whole series of exams, and this is hardly confidence-building, to say the least, leading up to those very important life-changing exams, which will set the course for their future education and employment opportunities.

Mae'n debyg y dylwn ddatgan buddiant gan fod gennych fab a safodd yr arholiad hwn ac na chafodd y graddau a ragwelwyd iddo. Cafodd yr ysgol y mae'n ei mynychu gryn ysgytwad hefyd, os caf ddweud, o ran yr holl ymgeiswyr a gofrestwyd. Bu'n rhaid i'r athrawes dan sylw fynd adref am ei bod yn goficio cymaint am y sefyllfa y cafodd ei hun ynnddi. Credaf mai'r myfyrwyr a'r athrawon fydd y rhai a fydd ar eu colled yn bennaf yn hyn o beth, oherwydd, yn ystod tymor yr haf, bydd llawer, os nad pob un, o'r myfyrwyr hynny yn sefyll cyfres gyfan o arholiadau, a go brin fod hyn yn magu hyder, a dweud y lleiaf, yn y cyfnod cyn yr arholiadau pwysig iawn hynny sy'n newid bywydau, ac a fydd yn pennu cyfeiriad eu cyfleoedd addysg a chyflogaeth yn y dyfodol.

I think that there are lessons to be learned from the previous GCSE debacle, which happened under the previous Minister for education back in 2012, and that is clearly highlighted in the letters from the headteachers in Rhondda Cynon Taf—

Credaf fod gwersi i'w dysgu o'r llanast blaenorol ynglŷn â TGau, a ddigwyddodd o dan y Gweinidog addysg blaenorol yn ôl yn 2012, ac mae hynny wedi cael ei amlygu yn glir yn y llythyrau gan y penaethiaid yn Rhondda Cynon Taf—

16:34

Leighton Andrews [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Will you give way?

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16:34

Andrew R.T. Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I would gladly let the Member speak.

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16:34

Leighton Andrews [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Do you therefore now regret not supporting my re-grading decision in 2012?

A wnewch chi ildio?

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16:34

Andrew R.T. Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I think that what all the headteachers who signed the letter to the Minister—

Byddwn yn falch o roi cyfle i'r Aelod siarad.

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16:34

Leighton Andrews [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Could you answer the question?

Credaf mai'r hyn y mae pob un o'r penaethiaid a lofnododd y llythyr at y Gweinidog—

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A allech ateb y cwestiwn?

[Continues.] —of education deeply regret is the way that you changed the parameters through your tenure. The coursework was being changed when the academic year had already started in 2012. As they say quite clearly in their letter, the change in itself was a reaction to the ongoing political agenda. It is because of the previous Minister's ongoing political agenda that students and teachers have suffered in this module. That is quite clear. The former Minister can sit there shaking his head, but, unfortunately, it is largely down to a lot of his actions that this debacle has happened.

I have a great deal of sympathy for the current Minister—he is probably not thanking me for having sympathy for him—for having to pick up the pieces from the previous Minister. However, I say to this current Minister that the way that he responded to the letter that came out of the Rhondda Cynon Taf headteachers association is deeply unfortunate, and, in particular, some of the language that he used was deeply unfortunate. To say that this was scaremongering by a professional body of headteachers is deeply unhelpful to the situation, and a more thoughtful reaction could actually have achieved so much more, especially when we are looking to those very professionals to work with Government and with students and teachers to try to solve some of these problems.

I also think that in the letter that was put forward by the headteachers in Rhondda Cynon Taf, when they were given assurances from Mr Tweedale, he said, 'We will monitor the situation to ensure that no students are disadvantaged by this change'. As Angela Burns touched on in her opening remarks and as the Plaid Cymru education spokesperson said in his remarks, what monitoring was actually going on by the Welsh Government when we find ourselves in the current situation? Clearly, from what most people are experiencing, very little monitoring was being undertaken by the Welsh Government and that is why we find ourselves in this situation at the moment.

I do hope that the Minister will use this debate to outline positive action that the Government, along with the examination board, will undertake to reinstall confidence and a commitment to these exams, especially with the all-important summer exams approaching. There is no-one on this side of the house, or anyone around this Chamber, who does not want to see rigour and a gold standard in the examination system that we have here in Wales.

However, I have to say that, because of the actions of the previous Minister for education and his politicisation of the process, that is why the students and teachers of Wales have been let down and that is why we are in the situation that we find ourselves in. He may well laugh, but when you go home to a son who is in tears, because of his actions, that really is unforgiveable.

[Parhau.]—addysg yn gresynu ato yw'r ffordd ichi newid y paramedrau drwy gydol eich cyfnod yn Weinidog. Cafodd y gwaith cwrs ei newid er bod y flwyddyn academaidd eisoes wedi dechrau yn 2012. Fel y maent yn ei nodi'n eithaf clir yn eu llythyr, bu'r newid ynddo'i hun yn ymateb i'r agenda wleidyddol barhaus. Agenda wleidyddol barhaus y Gweinidog blaenorol a barodd i fyfyrwyr ac athrawon ddioddef yn y modiwl hwn. Mae hynny'n eithaf clir. Gall y cyn-Weinidog eistedd yno ac ysgwyd ei ben, ond, yn anffodus, ei weithredoedd yntau i raddau helaeth sydd wedi achosi'r llanast hwn.

Mae gennyl gryn dipyn o gydymdeimlad â'r Gweinidog presennol—y tebyg yw na fydd yn diolch imi am gydymdeimlo ag ef—am ei fod wedi gorfol ysgwyddo'r cyfrifoldeb oddi wrth y Gweinidog blaenorol. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn ddweud wrth y Gweinidog presennol fod y ffordd yr ymatebodd i'r llythyr gan gymdeithas penaethiaid Rhondda Cynon Taf yn anffodus iawn, ac, yn arbennig, fod rhywfaint o'r iaith a ddefnyddiodd yn anffodus iawn. Roedd dweud bod corff proffesiynol o beraethiaid yn codi bwganod yn hynod ddi-fudd o ran y sefyllfa, a gallai ymateb mwy meddylgar fod wedi cyflawni cymaint mwy mewn gwirionedd, yn enwedig pan ddisgwylawn i'r union weithwyr proffesiynol hynny weithio gyda'r Llywodraeth a chyda myfyrwyr ac athrawon i geisio datrys rhai o'r problemau hyn.

Credaf hefyd yn y llythyr a gyflwynwyd gan y penaethiaid yn Rhondda Cynon Taf, pan gawsant sicrwydd gan Mr Tweedale, iddo ddweud, 'Byddwn yn monitro'r sefyllfa er mwyn sicrhau na fydd unrhyw fyfyrwyr o dan anfantais oherwydd y newid hwn'. Fel y crybwylodd Angela Burns yn ei sylwadau agoriadol ac fel y dywedodd llefarydd addysg Plaid Cymru yn ei sylwadau yntau, pa waith monitro oedd yn cael ei wneud gan Lywodraeth Cymru mewn gwirionedd pan gawn ein hunain yn y sefyllfa bresennol? Mae'n amlwg, o'r hyn y mae'r rhan fwyaf o bobl yn ei brofi, mai ychydig iawn o waith monitro a oedd yn cael ei wneud gan Lywodraeth Cymru a dyna pam rydym yn cael ein hunain yn y sefyllfa hon ar hyn o bryd.

Gobeithio'n wir y bydd y Gweinidog yn defnyddio'r ddadl hon i amlinellu'r camau cadarnhaol y bydd y Llywodraeth, ynghyd â'r bwrdd arholi, yn eu cymryd i ailennyn hyder ac ymrwymiad i'r arholiadau hyn, yn enwedig wrth i arholiadau hollbwysig yr haf agosáu. Nid oes neb ar yr ochr hon i'r Siambra, na neb yn y Siambra hon, nad yw am weld trylwyredd a safon aur yn y system arholi sydd gennym yma yng Nghymru.

Fodd bynnag, rhaid imi ddweud, oherwydd y camau a gymerwyd gan y Gweinidog addysg blaenorol a'r ffordd iddo wleidyddoli'r broses, mai dyna pam y gwnaed tro sâl â myfyrwyr ac athrawon Cymru a dyna pam rydym yn y sefyllfa yr ydym ynddi ar hyn o bryd. Caiff chwerthin, ond pan fyddwch yn mynd adref i fab sydd yn ei ddagrai, oherwydd ei weithredoedd, mae hynny'n wir yn anfaddeuol.

It is important that, in supporting this debate this afternoon, we actually try to ensure that we find a way out of this situation. The people who are really suffering as a result of whatever has happened are actually the 23,000 or so who sat their units in January and who face a great degree of uncertainty pending the GCSE papers that they will complete in June.

It is only fair to say that the vast majority of us in this Chamber supported the move towards a more rigorous examination system in Wales. We supported the qualifications review. As part of that review, recommendation 18 moved towards a different English-language GCSE qualification. I think that what we are all struggling to come to terms with is the reason why a large number of our students have been disappointed by the results from these two units in January.

It is clear that only some 16.4% of centres had experienced a drop of one grade or more in the anticipated results. However, it is clear from discussions that I had last Friday in a number of schools in Wrexham and Clwyd South that the figures are actually quite surprising in their scale. There was one school, for example, that was expecting 78% of its students to achieve grades A* to C, and it ended up with 27%. In another school, 54% of students were expected to achieve that, and it ended up with 12%. What is worrying parents, children and teachers is what exactly has happened, because WJEC's statement this morning would suggest that there is no real difficulty as far as its marking is concerned. It has acknowledged, as Simon Thomas said, that there might be an issue with one particular examiner, but that will only allow 318 papers to be re-graded. That is less than 1% of the total.

Therefore, we have a failing here of some kind or another and it is important that we establish the reason for that failing, because we have to ensure that these pupils do not lose out in their June examinations. More importantly, we have to retain confidence in these new made-in-Wales qualifications that we will be introducing over the next 12 months or so. Therefore, what I want to see is not an exercise in apportioning blame, but an explanation as to what exactly has gone on. Did we create a situation, following the review, where the examination was introduced more rapidly than it should have been? Was there a failing in understanding between the Welsh Government as regulator and WJEC about the consequences of the changes in the system? Was the practice of WJEC in its specimen workshops and specimen papers adversely affected by some of the pressure from Ofqual and the changes in the review as far as those particular circumstances were concerned?

I would disagree with Andrew R.T. Davies. I think that the expectation as far as the Government is concerned is that it should come back to us, either with an oral statement or a debate, once the consequences and the findings of its review are established. I think that if there are criticisms regarding the regulatory function, the Government needs to consider whether or not there should be some degree of independence as far as that function is concerned. However, we need to ensure that we restore confidence.

Wrth gefnogi'r ddadl hon y prynhawn yma, mae'n bwysig ein bod yn ceisio sicrhau mewn gwirionedd ein bod yn dod o hyd i ateb i'r sefyllfa hon. Y bobl sydd wr yn dioddef o ganlyniad i beth bynnag sydd wedi digwydd yw'r 23,000 neu fwy a safodd eu hunedau ym mis Ionawr ac sy'n wynebu cryn ansicrywydd hyd nes eu bod yn sefyll gweddill y papurau TGAU ym mis Mehefin.

Teg dweud bod y mwyafrif llethol ohonom yn y Siambra hon wedi cefnogi'r newid tuag at system arholi fwy trylwyr yng Nghymru. Cefnogwyd yr adolygiad o gymwysterau gennym. Fel rhan o'r adolygiad hwnnw, symudodd argymhelliaid 18 tuag at gymhwyster TGAU iaith Saesneg gwahanol. Credaf mai'r hyn yr ydym i gyd yn ceisio dygymod ag ef yw'r rheswm pam mae nifer fawr o'n myfyrwyr wedi cael eu siomi gan y canlyniadau o'r ddwy uned hyn ym mis Ionawr.

Mae'n amlwg mai dim ond tua 16.4% o'r canolfannau a welodd ostyngiad o un radd neu fwy yn y canlyniadau a ragwelwyd. Fodd bynnag, mae'n amlwg o'r trafodaethau a gefais ddydd Gwener diwethaf mewn nifer o ysgolion yn Wrecsam a De Clwyd fod y ffigurau yn eithaf syfranol o ran eu maint mewn gwirionedd. Roedd un ysgol, er enghraifft, yn disgwl i 78% o'i myfyrwyr ennill graddau A* i C, a 27% a gyflawnodd hynny. Mewn ysgol arall, roedd disgwl i 54% o fyfyrwyr ennill y graddau hynny, a 12% a gyflawnodd hynny. Yr hyn sy'n peri pryder i rieni, plant ac athrawon yw beth yn union sydd wedi digwydd, oherwydd mae datganiad CBAC y bore yma yn awgrymu nad oes unrhyw broblem mewn gwirionedd o ran ei farcio. Mae wedi cydnabod, fel y dywedodd Simon Thomas, y gallai fod problem gydag un arholwr penodol, ond dim ond 318 o bapurau a fydd yn cael eu hailraddio o ganlyniad i hynny. Mae hynny'n llai nag 1% o'r cyfanswm.

Felly, cawn fethiant yma o ryw fath neu'i gilydd ac mae'n bwysig ein bod yn cadarnhau beth yw'r rheswm dros y methiant hwnnw, oherwydd rhaid inni sicrhau nad yw'r disgryblion hyn o dan anfantaïs yn eu harholiadau ym mis Mehefin. Yn bwysicach na hynny, rhaid inni gadw hyder yn y cymwysterau newydd hyn a luniwyd yng Nghymru y byddwn yn eu cyflwyno yn ystod y 12 mis nesaf. Felly, yr hyn yr wyf am ei weld yw eglurhad ynghylch beth yn union sydd wedi digwydd yn hytrach nag ymgais i roi'r bai ar rywun. A grëwyd sefyllfa gennym, yn dilyn yr adolygiad, lle y cafodd yr arholiad ei gyflwyno yn gynt nag y dylid bod wedi digwydd? A fu diffyg dealltwriaeth rhwng Llywodraeth Cymru fel rheoleiddiwr a CBAC o ran goblygiadau'r newidiadau yn y system? A gafodd pwysau gan Ofqual a'r newidiadau yn yr adolygiad o ran yr amgylchiadau penodol hynny effaith niweidiol ar arfer CBAC yn ei weithdai engrheifftiol a'i bapurau engrheifftiol?

Anghytunaf ag Andrew R.T. Davies. Credaf mai'r disgwyliad o ran y Llywodraeth yw y dylai ddod yn ôl atom, naill ai gyda datganiad llafar neu ddadl, unwaith y bydd canlyniadau a chanfyddiadau ei hadolygiad yn hysbys. Credaf, os oes beirniadaeth ynglŷn â'r swyddogaeth reoleiddio, fod angen i'r Llywodraeth ystyried a ddylid cael rhywfaint o annibyniaeth o ran y swyddogaeth honno. Fodd bynnag, mae angen inni sicrhau ein bod yn ailennyn hyder.

We also need to understand what steps the Government and WJEC expect to take with regard to these 23,000 youngsters. There was obviously an expectation, as far as Chris Tweedale's letter was concerned, that people would not be adversely affected. There are now people who have been adversely affected by these units. We are still bound by the comparable outcomes principle as far as WJEC is concerned, but I think that there is a danger there as well, because if the two remaining units in June are leniently marked in order to restore overall grades, the veracity of the Welsh qualification in the English language could be undermined and that cannot happen.

Therefore, we need to act and we need to act quickly. Workshops have been arranged by WJEC in south Wales, starting on 23 March. In north Wales, they will not occur until April and the intervention of Easter will mean that schools will have only two or three weeks in order to react.

16:42

Paul Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am pleased to take part in this debate this afternoon and put on record my concerns surrounding the recent WJEC GCSE English language results. Like many Members across the Chamber, I have also received local representations regarding this issue. As the leader of the opposition said, the Minister for education accused some of scaremongering last week, but I have to tell the Minister that one teacher, in an e-mail to me, referred to 6 March as the most disappointing and upsetting day of his teaching career.

Needless to say, there were countless students who were devastated by the poor results that they received, often two or three grades below expectation, and this was not only in Pembrokeshire but across all of Wales. Many of these students are angry, confused and, quite simply, unable to understand how they can have got so little from so much hard work. The general percentage of students who received results far below what was expected in Pembrokeshire is around 25% to 30%. Even though WJEC has now decided to re-mark some of the English exams, this fiasco has meant that many children and, indeed, the teachers who are educating them have lost faith in the examination system.

Currently, there are many schools across Wales facing a number of challenges—one being the extremely low literacy levels of pupils entering secondary school. Indeed, one only has to look at the recent Estyn annual report for 2012-13 to see evidence that the state of affairs in secondary schools is less than satisfactory. According to that report, the proportion of secondary schools branded as 'unsatisfactory' increased from 14% to 23%, and two thirds of secondary schools and half of primary schools are in need of follow-up inspections. This is simply unacceptable. As Members are already aware, there are also the latest PISA results, which make grim reading. The results of the most recent test showed that Wales was once again ranked at the bottom in relation to other UK nations. While I accept that the Minister for education has said that, from the academic year 2015-16, his education reforms will bear fruit, that does nothing to help those students reaching the end of their statutory schooling in the meantime.

Mae angen hefyd inni ddeall pa gamau y mae'r Llywodraeth a CBAC yn disgwyli eu cymryd o ran y 23,000 o bobl ifanc dan sylw. Mae'n amlwg, o ran llythyr Chris Tweedale, fod disgwyliad na fyddai effaith andwyol ar bobl. Erbyn hyn mae'r unedau hyn wedi effeitho'n andwyol ar bobl. Rydym yn dal yn rhwym wrth egwyddor canlyniadau cymaradwy o ran CBAC, ond credaf fod perygl hefyd, oherwydd os bydd y ddwy uned sy'n weddill ym mis Mehefin yn cael eu marcio'n hael er mwyn adfer graddau yn gyffredinol, gallai uniondeb cymhwyster Cymru yn yr iaith Saesneg gael ei danselio ac ni all hynny ddigwydd.

Felly, mae angen inni weithredu ac mae angen inni weithredu'n gyflym. Mae gweithdai wedi cael eu trefnu gan CBAC yn y de, gan ddechrau ar 23 Mawrth. Yn y gogledd, ni fyddant yn digwydd tan fis Ebrill ac mae toriad y Pasg yn golygu mai dim ond dwy neu dair wythnos a gaiff yr ysgolion i ymateb.

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Rwy'n falch o gymryd rhan yn y ddadl y prynhawn yma a nodi'n gyhoeddus fy mhrwyderon ynglŷn â chanlyniadau TGAU iaith Saesneg CBAC yn ddiweddar. Fel llawer o Aelodau yn y Siambwr, rwyf innau hefyd wedi cael sylwadau lleol ynghyrch y mater hwn. Fel y dywedodd arweinydd yr wrthblaid, cyhuddodd y Gweinidog addysg rai o godi bwganod yr wythnos diwethaf, ond rhaid imi ddweud wrth y Gweinidog bod un athro, mewn e-bost ataf, wedi cyfeirio at 6 Mawrth fel y diwrnod mwyaf siomedig a gofidus yn ei yrfa fel athro.

Afraid dweud, cafodd myfyrwyr di-ri eu siomi'n fawr gan y canlyniadau gwael a gawsant, yn aml ddwy neu dair gradd yn is na'r disgwyli, ac nid dim ond yn Sir Benfro y digwyddodd hyn ond ledled Cymru. Mae llawer o'r myfyrwyr hyn yn flin, maent wedi drysu ac, yn symlog iawn, maent yn methu â deall sut y gallant fod wedi cael cyn lleied o gymaint o waith caled. Mae canran gyffredinol y myfyrwyr a gafodd ganlyniadau llawer is na'r disgwyli yn Sir Benfro tua 25% i 30%. Er bod CBAC bellach wedi penderfynu ail-farcio rhai o'r arholiadau Saesneg, mae'r helynt hwn wedi golygu bod llawer o blant ac, yn wir, yr athrawon sy'n eu haddysgu wedi colli ffydd yn y system arholi.

Ar hyn o bryd, mae llawer o ysgolion ledled Cymru yn wynebu nifer o heriau—un yw lefelau llythrennedd isel iawn disgylion sy'n dechrau yn yr ysgol uwchradd. Yn wir, y cyfan y mae angen ei wneud yw edrych ar adroddiad blynnyddol diweddar Estyn ar gyfer 2012-13 i weld tystiolaeth bod y sefyllfa mewn ysgolion uwchradd yn llai na boddhaol. Yn ôl yr adroddiad hwnnw, cynyddodd cyfran yr ysgolion uwchradd a ddosbarthwyd yn 'anfoddhaol' o 14% i 23%, ac mae angen arolygiadau dilynol mewn dwy ran o dair o'r ysgolion uwchradd a hanner yr ysgolion cynradd. Mae hyn yn gwbl annerbyniol. Fel y gŵyr yr Aelodau eisoes, ceir y canlyniadau PISA diweddaraf, sydd hefyd yn gwneud i rywun ddigalon. Mae canlyniadau'r prawf mwyaf diweddar yn dangos bod Cymru unwaith eto ar y gwaelod o'i chymharu â gwledydd eraill y DU. Er fy mod yn derbyn bod y Gweinidog addysg wedi dweud, y bydd ei ddiwygiadau addysg yn dwyn ffrwyth o'r flwyddyn academaidd 2015-16, nid yw hynny'n gwneud dim i helpu'r myfyrwyr hynny sy'n cyrraedd diwedd eu haddysg statudol yn y cyfamser.

Despite teachers' hard work, dedication and commitment, not enough pupils leave at the end of secondary school with creditable results. In the academic year 2013-14, more strategies than ever have been put in place to support pupils and engage with those who have lacked motivation or confidence in their own ability. So, the recent events surrounding the WJEC GCSE English language exams are upsetting for students and teachers too.

I am given to understand, from the representations that I have received, that schools were informed only in October or November about changes to specifications to the English language GCSE. If this was indeed the case, this meant that over half a term of work was wasted familiarising students with the old specifications. I am also given to understand that the new specification has been seen as rushed and poorly developed. In particular, the unit 3 reading exemplars were considered vague, and some advice and guidance were seen as contradictory. Teachers have also told me that the assessed exemplars were poorly copied and scanned in, and not of sufficient quality to use in the classroom. When teachers raised their concerns with WJEC, they felt that the board was slow to respond and was evasive.

I therefore do not accept Minister's view that some headteachers' concerns have just been reckless scaremongering. I believe that it is quite clear that the roll-out of the first Wales-only GCSE examinations has been less than satisfactory, given the assurances that students were given 16 months ago by the Government that they would not be disadvantaged.

I appreciate that WJEC has now carried out an internal review into marking, that re-marking of some papers will now take place, and that schools could still challenge individual results using the traditional appeal route. However, in my view, the Minister must use this opportunity this afternoon to provide cast-iron guarantees that the students who sat those exams will now receive a fair grade. Teachers whom I have spoken to would like to see a specific marking review of all GCSE English exams and they would also like to see a review of the grade boundaries taking place as well. It is crucial, therefore, that the Minister and the Welsh Government start taking on board the views of these teachers. I will be interested to hear the Minister's response to these representations, particularly in the light of today's announcement by WJEC. I believe that the Minister must also look at this issue in the context of the general picture of our education system in Wales.

In closing, therefore, I hope that the Minister will now support all schools and education centres to help the education sector to understand why exam results have been so much lower than anticipated, and to ensure that all students receive the grades that they are entitled to.

Er gwaethaf gwaith caled, ymroddiad ac ymrwymiad athrawon, nid oes digon o ddisgyblion yn gadael ar ddiwedd yr ysgol uwchradd gyda chanlyniadau cymeradwy. Yn y flwyddyn academaidd 2013-14, mae mwy o strategaethau nag erioed wedi cael eu rhoi ar waith i gynorthwyo disgyblion ac ennyn diddordeb y rhai sydd wedi bod yn brin o gymhelliant neu hyder yn eu gallu eu hunain. Felly, mae'r amgylchiadau diweddar sy'n ymwneud ag arholiadau TGAU iaith Saesneg CBAC yn peri gofid i fyfyrwyr ac athrawon hefyd.

Caf ar ddeall, o'r sylwadau a gefais, mai dim ond ym mis Hydref neu fis Tachwedd y cafodd ysgolion wybod am newidiadau i fanylebau TGAU iaith Saesneg. Os yw hyn yn wir, golygai fod dros hanter tymor o waith wedi cael ei wastraffu yn dysgu'r hen fanylebau i fyfyrwyr. Caf ar ddeall yr ystyriwyd bod y fanyleb newydd wedi'i pharatoi'n frysiog ac wedi'i datblygu'n wael. Yn benodol, ystyrir bod engrheifftiau darllen uned 3 yn annelwig, a bod rhyw faint o gyngor ac arweiniad yn gwrth-ddweud ei gilydd. Mae athrawon hefyd wedi dweud wrthyf fod yr engrheifftiau a aseswyd wedi cael eu copio a'u sganio'n wael, ac nad oeddent o safon ddigon da i'w defnyddio yn yr ystafell ddosbarth. Pan gododd athrawon eu pryderon gyda CBAC, teimlent fod ymateb y bwrdd yn araf ac yn ochelgar.

Felly, nid wyf yn derbyn barn Gweinidog mai codi bwganod oedd y pryderon a fynegwyd gan rai penaethiaid. Credaf ei bod yn gwbl amlwg bod y broses o gyflwyno'r arholiadau TGAU cyntaf i Gymru yn unig wedi bod yn llai na boddhaol, o ystyried y sicrwydd a roddwyd i fyfyrwyr 16 mis yn ôl gan y Llywodraeth na fyddent yn cael eu rhoi o dan anfantais.

Sylweddolaf fod CBAC wedi cynnal adolygiad mewnol o'r marcio bellach, y bydd rhai papurau bellach yn cael eu hailfarcio, ac y gallai ysgolion ddal i herio canlyniadau unigol drwy ddefnyddio'r llwybr apêl traddodiadol. Fodd bynnag, yn fy marn i, rhaid i'r Gweinidog achub ar y cyfle hwn y prynhawn yma i roi gwarantau cadarn y bydd y myfyrwyr a safodd yr arholiadau hynny yn cael gradd deg bellach. Mae athrawon yr wyf wedi siarad â hwy am weld adolygiad marcio penodol o'r holl arholiadau TGAU iaith Saesneg a hoffent hefyd weld adolygiad o ffiniau graddau hefyd. Felly, mae'n hanfodol bod y Gweinidog a Llywodraeth Cymru yn dechrau gwrandio ar farn yr athrawon hyn. Hoffwn glywed ymateb y Gweinidog i'r sylwadau hyn, yn enwedig yng ngoleuni'r cyhoeddriad heddiw gan CBAC. Credaf fod yn rhaid i'r Gweinidog hefyd edrych ar y mater hwn yng nghyd-destun y darlun cyffredinol o'n cyfundrefn addysg yng Nghymru.

Wrth gloi, felly, gobeithio y bydd y Gweinidog bellach yn cefnogi pob ysgol a chanolfan addysg er mwyn helpu'r sector addysg i ddeall pam y bu canlyniadau arholiadau lawer yn is na'r disgwyl, a sicrhau bod pob myfyriwr yn cael y graddau y mae ganddynt hawl i'w cael.

Keith Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Rwyf eisiau dweud cwpl o bethau, achos yr hyn sydd yn bwysig, rwy'n credu, mewn dadl fel hyn yw bod y ffeithiau'n gywir. Roedd Nick Ramsay yn gofyn yn gynharach am gyrsiau galwedigaethol, ac yn dweud eu bod yn werth dwywaith TGAU yng Nghymru. Maent, achos maent yn hirach. Felly, mae hynny'n wir ac mae pawb yn derbyn hynny. Mae Paul newydd sôn am adroddiad Estyn.

Roeddwn yn gofyn i'r prif arolygydd Estyn y bore yma, 'A ydy'r ffaith yn eich adroddiad chi bod asesu'n ein hysgolion ni yn wael? Mewn hanner o'n hysgolion mae athrawon yn cael problem asesu.' Y trydydd peth roeddwn eisiau ei ddweud, er mwyn cael y ffeithiau'n gywir, yw effalai oedd Andrew R.T. Davies a'i fab yn sefyll arholiad eleni, ond roedd fy mab i yn sefyll arholiad iaith Saesneg yn 2012, ac roedd y sefyllfa yn 2012 yn hollol ar wahan i'r sefyllfa yn awr. Felly, ni ddylem gymysgu'r ddau. Yr hyn sydd yn bwysig, fel y dywedodd Aled Roberts yn gynharach, yw: beth sydd wedi digwydd? A oedd y papurau'n anoddach nag y maent wedi bod? Wedyn, a ydym wedi gweld y papurau? A allem eu hateb ein hunain?

I want to say a few things, because what is important, I think, in a debate such as this is that the facts are correct. Nick Ramsay asked earlier about vocational courses, saying that they are worth twice as much as a GCSE in Wales. They are, because they are longer courses. That is true and everyone accepts that. Paul has just mentioned the Estyn report. I was asking the Estyn chief inspector this morning, 'Is the fact in your report that assessment in our schools is poor? In half of our schools, teachers have problems with assessments.' The third thing that I wanted to say, just to make sure that the facts are correct, is that perhaps Andrew R.T. Davies and his son were sitting an exam this year, but my son took the English language exam in 2012, and the situation in 2012 was entirely separate from the current situation. Therefore, we should not confuse the two. The important question, as Aled Roberts said earlier, is: what has actually happened? Were the papers more difficult than they have been in the past? Also, have we seen those papers? Could we answer them ourselves?

Andrew R.T. Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am grateful to the Member for taking an intervention. I know of his experience in the field of education. Would you recommend bringing out coursework and changing a course after the course had already started, and then not giving teachers the chance to go to workshops so that they could bring themselves up to speed with the new coursework that needed to be taught? Would you recommend that?

Rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r Aelod am dderbyn ymyriad. Gwn am ei brofiad ym maes addysg. A fyddch yn argymhell cyflwyno gwaith cwrs newydd a newid cwrs ar ôl i'r cwrs ddechrau, ac yna peidio â rhoi'r cyfle i athrawon fynd i weithdai er mwyn iddynt ymgynfarwyddo'n ddi-oed â'r cwrs newydd yr oedd angen ei addysgu? A fyddch chi'n argymhell hynny?

Keith Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Ffaith arall y dylwn i fod wedi sôn amdano hefyd yw bod Paul Davies wedi dweud yn gynharach nad oedd yr ysgolion yn gwybod tan fis Hydref, ond, os yw fy ffeithiau i'n gywir, Hydref 2012 yr ydym yn sôn amdano, nid Hydref 2013. Felly, i'r plant yr ydym yn sôn amdanyst yn awr, rydym yn gwybod bod yr athrawon wedi gweld hyn ers blwyddyn a hanner.

Another fact that I should have mentioned is that Paul Davies said earlier that the schools did not know until October, but, if my facts are correct, it was October 2012 that we are talking about, not October 2013. So, for the cohort that we are talking about now, we know that the teachers were aware of this for 18 months.

Wedi dweud hynny, yr hyn yr oeddwn yn ei ofyn oedd: beth sydd wedi digwydd? A oedd y papurau'n anoddach? Mae'n bwysig sylweddoli mai paneli o athrawon pwnc a oedd yn adolygu'r broses o lunio maes llafur y dyfodol, a monitro effeithiolrwydd meisydd llafur y gorffennol. Hoffwn ddweud hefyd, ar un adeg, roedd mwy o blant yn Lloegr na phlant yng Nghymru yn dilyn cwrs TGAU iaith Saesneg y cyd-bwyllgor yng Nghymru, oherwydd yr oedd mor boblogaidd. Felly, beth sydd wedi digwydd? Mae pawb yn siarad iaith, ac felly, i raddau, mae pawb yn arbenigwr iaith. Fodd bynnag, mae sawl elfen yn perthyn i iaith. Rydym yn dibynnu ar y bobl broffesiynol sy'n arbenigwyr yn eu maes i ddod â'r elfennau at ei gilydd er mwyn pwysio a mesur pob elfen o'r darlun mawr cynhwysfawr. Wrth wrando ar atronwyr ar y stryd, effalai y byddech yn meddwl mai sillafu a 'punctuation' yw'r unig bethau sy'n cyfrif. Ar y llaw arall, byddai rhai yn dadlau bod pethau wedi mynd yn rhy bell i'r cyfeiriad arall yn y 1960au a'r 1970au, gan greu, mewn ambell ysgol, awyrgylch lle'r oedd cyfathrebu'n hollbwysig a chywirdeb iaith yn werth dim.

Having said that, my question was: what has happened? Were the papers more difficult? It is important to understand that it is panels of subject teachers that reviewed the process of drawing up the curriculum for the future, and monitored the efficiency of curricula of the past. I would also like to say, at one point, there were more children in England than children in Wales following a WJEC English language GCSE, because it was that popular. So, what has happened? Everyone speaks a language, therefore, to an extent, everyone is a language expert. However, there are a number of elements related to language. We are dependent upon the professionals who are specialists in their area to bring the elements together in order to evaluate every element of the big, comprehensive picture. In listening to street-corner philosophers, you might think that spelling and punctuation are all that counts. On the other hand, some would argue that things went too far in the other direction in the 1960s and 1970s, creating, in some schools, an environment in which communication was everything and correctness in language counted for nothing.

Mae'r arholiad newydd yr ydym yn ei drafod wedi newid hyn. Swyddogaeth yr arbenigwyr yw gwerthuso'r elfennau fusel un. Mae cyfathrebu'n hollbwysig ac yn cynnwys yr holl elfennau eraill. Mae cywirdeb cyfathrebu'n un elfen, ond, yn ogystal, mae'r gallu i ddewis yr iaith addas ar gyfer cynulleidfa neu sefyllfa yn nodwedd o allu arbennig wrth drin iaith. Yn naturiol, mae sillafu a gwylod lle a phryd i ddefnyddio atalnod llawn neu goma yn bwysig, ac mae'r modiwl o dan sylw yn adnabod hyn hefyd, gan sylweddoli ei fod yn bell o fod yn hollbwysig. Fodd bynnag, bûm yn siarad â phennaeth adran yn y fan hon brynhawn ddoe, a gofynnais am yr arholiad hwn. Dywedodd hi ei fod wedi newid a'u bod yn edrych yn fwy ar rai pethau, yn naturiol, fel defnyddio atalnod llawn, ac nad oeddent wedi gwneud hynny o'r blaen. Yn y pen draw, dylai gwerth rhywbeth gael ei bwys o'i fesur yn ofalus ac yn bwyllog. Nid mater o emosiwn yw hwn; gwaith y pen ac nid y galon ydyw. Gwaith arbenigwyr ac nid amaturiaid ydyw. Rwyf yn falch o weld bod CBAC, ar ôl adolygiad, wedi ailfarcio rhai o bapurau'r ymgeiswyr.

Yr ail bwynt yr wylf am ei godi yw fy mod yn pryderu bod nifer sylweddol o ddisgyblion blwyddyn 10 wedi sefyll y modiwl newydd hwn ar ôl un tymor o wersi yn unig. Rwyf yn gofyn y cwestiwn: a yw hyn yn ddigonol? Yn olaf, rwyf yn falch o weld bod y Gweinidog yn ymchwilio i'r sefyllfa hon, ac rwy'n edrych ymlaen at weld ei adroddiad, oherwydd yr hyn yr wylf am ei wybod yw: beth sydd wedi digwydd? Pam oedd y papur hwn yn cael ei weld yn fwy anodd na phapurau'r gorffennol?

The new examination that we are discussing has changed this. The function of the experts is to evaluate every element. Communication is crucially important and includes all other elements. The accuracy of communication is one element, but, in addition, the ability to select the appropriate timbre for an audience or situation is a feature of significant language ability. Naturally, spelling and knowing where and when to use a full stop or comma is important, and the module in question recognises this, while acknowledging that it is far from being all that is important. However, I spoke with a head of department here yesterday afternoon, and I asked her about the exam. She said that it has changed and that they are looking more at some things, such as punctuation, when that was not done in the past. Ultimately, the value of something should be evaluated carefully and calmly. It is not a matter of emotion; this is an issue for the head and not the heart. This is an issue for specialists and not amateurs. I am pleased to see that WJEC, having reviewed this matter, has re-marked some of the papers.

The second point I want to raise is that I am concerned that a significant number of year 10 students took this new module after one term of lessons only. I ask the question of whether this is adequate. Finally, I am pleased to see that the Minister is inquiring into this situation, and I look forward to his report, because what I want to know is: what has happened? Why was this paper seen as being more difficult than past papers?

16:52

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I call the Minister for Education and Skills, Huw Lewis.

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16:52

Huw Lewis [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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

Thank you, Deputy Presiding Officer. As I made clear in my written statement on 7 March, when concerns were raised about the English language unit outcomes for January 2014, I took swift action in ordering a rapid fact-finding exercise to get to the root of the issues that had emerged. It was designed to identify the factors that had caused the variance that we see in these unit results and to identify and rapidly put in place appropriate actions to support learners between now and the summer. Members welcomed that exercise when I answered an urgent question on these issues on 11 March. I cannot stress enough that we cannot, and must not, jump to conclusions prior to the fruition of that work. I am afraid that there has been far too much of that, within this Chamber and outside, and it does nothing but serve the learner ill.

Diolch ichi, Ddirprwy Lywydd. Fel y'i gwnaed yn glir yn fy natganiad ysgrifenedig ar 7 Mawrth, pan godwyd pryderon ynghylch canlyniadau'r unedau iaith Saesneg ar gyfer mis Ionawr 2014, cymerais gamau ar fyrder i drefnu i ymarfer canfod ffeithiau cyflym gael ei gynnwl er mwyn mynd at wraidd y materion a oedd wedi dod i'r amlwg. Yr amcan oedd nodi'r ffactorau a oedd wedi achosi'r amrywiant a welwn yng nghanlyniadau'r unedau hyn a nodi a chymryd camau gweithredu priodol yn ddi-oed er mwyn cefnogi dysgwyr rhwng nawr a'r haf. Croesawodd yr Aelodau yr ymarfer hwnnw pan atebais gwestiwn brys ar y materion hyn ar 11 Mawrth. Ni allaf bwysleisio digon na allwn, ac na ddylem, achub y blaen ar y gwaith hwnnw cyn iddo ddod i ben. Bu llawer gormod o hynny, mae arnaf ofn, yn y Siambra hon a thu hwnt, ac mae ond yn gwneud tro sâl â dysgwyr.

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We must ensure that the decisions and the actions that we take are based on sound evidence and are in the interests of the learners of Wales. Members will be aware that WJEC released a statement this morning on the findings of its own internal review of marking. It makes clear that the marking scheme has been applied consistently in all but one of the cases reviewed. In that one case, there are indications that the examiner's marking was slightly inconsistent. Although there are no sizeable disparities identified, WJEC is undertaking a full re-mark of this particular examiner's work. The centres whose candidates' work was marked by this examiner have already been informed. I should make it clear, however, that in layman's terms this means—some Members have mentioned this and it bears reiteration, especially given the media's interpretation of what WJEC has said today—that WJEC has identified potential marking issues in 318 papers. That is less than 1% of the more than 35,000 papers that have been marked. I should also say at this point—

Rhaid inni sicrhau bod y penderfyniadau a wnaeon a'r camau a gymerwn yn seiliedig ar dystiolaeth gadarn ac er budd dysgwyr Cymru. Bydd yr Aelodau'n ymwybodol bod CBAC wedi cyhoeddi datganiad y bore yma am ganfyddiadau ei adolygiad mewnol ei hun o'r marcio. Mae'n ei gwneud yn glir bod y cynllun marcio wedi cael ei gymhwys o'n gyson ym mhob un ond un o'r achosion a adolygyd. Yn yr achos hwnnw, mae arwyddion bod marcio'r arholwr ychydig yn anghyson. Er na nodwyd unrhyw wahaniaethau sylweddol, mae CBAC yn cynnal ymarfer aifarcio llawn o waith yr arholwr penodol hwn. Mae'r canolfannau y cafodd gwaith eu hymgeiswyr ei farcio gan yr arholwr hwn eisoes wedi cael eu hysbysu. Dylwn ei gwneud yn glir, fod bynnag, yn nhermau lleygwr—mae rhai Aelodau wedi crybwyllyn ac mae'n werth ei nodi eto, yn enwedig o ystyried y ffordd y mae'r cyfryngau wedi dehongli'r hyn a ddywedodd CBAC heddiw—bod CBAC wedi nodi bod problemau posibl o ran y marcio mewn 318 o bapurau. Mae hynny'n llai nag 1% o'r 35,000 o bapurau a mwya sydd wedi'u marcio. Dylwn hefyd ddweud ar yr adeg hon—

16:55 **Simon Thomas** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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Will you give way?

A wnewch chi ildio?

16:55 **Huw Lewis** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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Quickly, yes.

Gwnaf, yn gyflym.

16:55 **Simon Thomas** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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I am grateful. The Minister mentioned the media view of this, and he will know already that this is being run in the London media as, once again, Welsh exams being re-marked. That is an issue for us. Can he confirm when he intends to bring forward his investigation so that we can have a proper analysis of the whole picture?

Rwy'n ddiolchgar. Soniodd y Gweinidog am farn y cyfryngau ar hyn, a bydd yn gwybod yn barod fod cyfryngau Llundain eisoes yn sôn am hyn fel arholiadau yng Nghymru, unwaith eto, yn cael eu hailfarcio. Mae hynny'n broblem inni. A all gadarnhau pryd y mae'n bwriadu cyflwyno ei ymchwiliad fel y gallwn gael dadansoddiad priodol o'r darlun cyfan?

16:55 **Huw Lewis** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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You mean when WJEC does?

Rydych yn golygu pan fydd CBAC yn ei wneud?

16:55 **Simon Thomas** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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No, your view.

Nac ydw, eich barn chi.

16:55 **Huw Lewis** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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Well, I am coming to that. I think it is unfortunate that the media is unable to distinguish between an issue concerning a single examiner and an entire re-mark, which is the impression it is giving to the public and to the learners and concerned parents out there, which is very unfair. While the evidence that has been submitted by WJEC has import, it represents only a part of the picture that we actually need to build. The revelation by WJEC today does not take us to the heart of the matter, not at all—nowhere near it, in fact. There are other issues that we need to look at, from the grade boundaries that WJEC set for these exams, to the support materials and the general support made available to support learners, to satisfy ourselves that the process of awarding worked as it should have done.

Wel, rwyf ar fin sôn am hynny. Credaf ei bod yn anffodus na all y cyfryngau wahaniaethu rhwng problem sy'n ymweud ag arholwr unigol ac ymarfer i aifarcio'r cyfan, sef yr argraff y maent yn ei rhoi i'r cyhoedd ac i'r dysgwyr a'r rhieni pryderus, sy'n annheg iawn. Er bod y dystiolaeth a gyflwynwyd gan CBAC o bwys, dim ond rhan o'r darlun y mae angen inni ei lunio ydyw mewn gwirionedd. Nid yw'r hyn a ddatgelwyd gan CBAC heddiw yn mynd â ni at wraidd y mater, ddim o gwbl—ddim yn agos ato, mewn gwirionedd. Cyfyd materion eraill y mae angen inni eu hystyried, o ffiniau'r graddau a bennwyd gan CBAC ar gyfer yr arholiadau hyn, i'r deunyddiau cymorth a'r cymorth cyffredinol sydd ar gael i gefnogi dysgwyr, er mwyn bodloni ein hunain i'r broses ddyfarnu weithio fel y dylai fod wedi gweithio.

Clearly, as regulator, I have a duty to conduct our own investigation to satisfy myself on these wider issues and to consider a way forward. I am doing that as part of the rapid fact-finding exercise that I mentioned. That exercise is taking evidence from schools affected by the results, and from WJEC. Through this evidence, we will establish the facts, and working with WJEC and regional consortia, we will put in place additional support so that the learners can be supported as the summer approaches. We need to be clear: the results that were announced on 6 March were unit results. They were not GCSE results in the round.

Yn amlwg, fel rheoleiddiwr, mae dyletswydd arnaf i gynnal ein hymchwilad ein hunain i fodloni fy hun yngly'n âr materion ehangach hyn ac ystyried y ffordd ymlaen. Ryw'n gwneud hynny fel rhan o'r ymarfer canfod ffeithiau cyflym a grybwylais. Mae'r ymarfer hwnnw yn cymryd tystiolaeth gan ysgolion yr effeithiwyd arnynt gan y canlyniadau, a chan CBAC. Drwy'r dystiolaeth hon, byddwn yn cadarnhau'r ffeithiau, a gweithio gyda CBAC a'r consortia rhanbarthol, byddwn yn rhoi cymorth ychwanegol ar waith fel y gall y dysgwyr gael eu cefnogi wrth i'r haf agosâu. Mae angen inni fod yn glir: canlyniadau unedau oedd y canlyniadau a gyhoeddwyd ar 6 Mawrth. Nid canlyniadau TGAU terfynol oeddent.

16:57 **Christine Chapman** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Will the Minister give way?

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A wnaiff y Gweinidog ildio?

16:57 **Huw Lewis** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Yes.

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Gwnaf.

16:57 **Christine Chapman** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am grateful. Minister, you referred to working through the education consortia, and obviously we welcome the fact that this review is taking place. However, do you think, bearing in mind the sensitivity of the issue, that the individual schools affected should be contacted by your officials rather than just through the education consortia? Obviously, there is still an awful lot of concern as they wait for the reviews to come back.

Ryw'n ddiolchgar. Weinidog, cyfeiriasoch at weithio drwy'r consortia addysg, ac yn amlwg croesawn y ffaith bod yr adolygiad hwn yn cael ei gynnal. Fodd bynnag, a gredwch, gan gadw mewn cof sensitfrwydd y mater, mai'ch swyddogion chi a ddylai gysylltu â'r ysgolion unigol yr effeithiwyd arnynt yn hytrach na thrwy'r consortia addysg? Yn amlwg, mae llawer iawn o bryder o hyd wrth iddynt aros am ganlyniadau'r adolygiadau.

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16:57 **Huw Lewis** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Of course they would be. This is not just a question—. Of course, the schools are instrumental in working alongside us in making sure that we get things right here. We will see the final outcomes for the full GCSE in English language, as I say, not in March, but in August, when any re-entries for these units, and the outcomes from the controlled assessments that have been mentioned, will be taken into account.

Wrth gwrs y byddai pryer. Nid mater o—. Wrth gwrs, mae'r ysgolion yn allweddol o ran gweithio ochr yn ochr â ni i sicrhau ein bod yn cael pethau'n iawn yma. Byddwn yn gweld canlyniadau terfynol y TGAU lawn mewn iaith Saesneg, fel y dywedais, ym mis Awst yn hytrach nag ym mis Mawrth, pan fydd unrhyw ailgofrestru ar gyfer yr unedau hyn, a deilliannau'r asesiadau o dan reolaeth a grybwylwyd, yn cael eu hystyried.

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As I have previously stated, the Welsh Government has an expectation of comparable outcomes between years in GCSEs, and that is well established. This is particularly important when new specifications are assessed for the first time, as you would expect, and as is the case with the GCSE English language this year. My officials will be discussing arrangements for the summer's full qualifications awards with WJEC, of course. We are clear that we expect qualifications outcomes for our large-entry subjects to be stable from one year to the next, unless there are compelling reasons why that should not be the case. Put simply, a 'compelling reason' would be evidence that the cohort this year itself is either weaker or stronger than the 2013 cohort. At this stage, we have no reason to think that that is the case.

Fel y dywedais o'r blaen, mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn disgwyli canlyniadau cymaradwy rhwng blynnyddoedd mewn arholiadau TGAU, ac mae hynny'n hysbys iawn. Mae hyn yn arbennig o bwysig pan gaiff manylebau newydd eu hasesu am y tro cyntaf, fel y byddech yn ei ddisgwyl, ac fel yn achos TGAU iaith Saesneg eleni. Bydd fy swyddogion yn trafod trefniadau ar gyfer dyfarnu cymwysterau llawn yr haf gyda CBAC, wrth reswm. Rydym yn glir ein meddyliau ein bod yn disgwyli i ganlyniadau cymwysterau ar gyfer y pynciau lle y cofrestrir niferoedd mawr fod yn sefydlog o un flwyddyn i'r llall, oni bai bod rhesymau cymhellol pam na ddylai hynny fod yn wir. Yn syml, byddai 'rheswm cymhellol' yn cynnwys tystiolaeth bod y garfan eleni naill ai'n wannach neu'n gryfach na charfan 2013. Ar hyn o bryd, nid oes gennym unrhyw reswm dros feddwl bod hynny'n wir.

Despite some of the comments from Members this afternoon, the motion that is before us today is, I believe, sensible, and sets a reasonable tone. I recognise and understand the concern that Members from all parties feel about these unit results. Nevertheless, for the sake of the learner, we need to remain calm and ensure that we move forward on the back of hard evidence and hard data. That way, we can concentrate on the real purpose at the heart of the matter, and that is to do the right thing by the learner. I am pleased that the motion expresses concern in what I think are appropriate terms. It also seeks assurances that we will be open about the fact-finding exercise. I noted in my reply to Aled Roberts's comments back on 11 March that there will be transparency throughout this process. It does not benefit anyone to obfuscate or attempt to conceal what is at the heart of the matter. So, I support that point in the motion, too. I will make sure that this happens. That will include any issues regarding the monitoring of the work of WJEC, to answer the point that some Members have raised here this afternoon.

I recognise that many learners, parents and teachers are disappointed by the results reported back on 6 March. It is clear that there have been problems in a number of centres—in some centres; in a minority of centres. That much we all know. That is why I ordered the rapid, fact-finding exercise. I can inform Members today that that will report back on Monday, 31 March. I have spoken to the Minister for government business and propose to bring forward an oral statement on Tuesday, 1 April, the following day, to respond to Members' questions about the report.

I realise that time is of the essence, but I will not rush into decisions and actions that are not substantiated. I will not trade in anecdote, rumour or hyperbole, as some opposition Members seem happy to do. Unfortunately, some outside observers seem happy to do so, too. That risks causing more problems for the learner. My focus will remain upon that learner and absolutely nothing else. I repeat: no learner in Wales will be disadvantaged through no fault of their own. I will ensure that. I will also not retreat one inch from the agenda around standards and rigour. I will ensure that every successful GCSE English candidate has a certificate of unarguable worth and a qualification that is universally recognised as tough to gain but very much worth having.

Er gwaethaf rhai o'r sylwadau gan Aelodau y prynhawn yma, mae'r cynnig sydd ger ein bron heddiw yn synhwyrol, ac yn gosod naws resymol, yn fy marn i. Rwy'n cydnabod ac yn deall y pryder a deimla Aelodau o bob plaid am ganlyniadau'r unedau hyn. Serch hynny, er mwyn y dysgwyr, mae angen inni beidio â chynhyrfa a sicrhau ein bod yn symud ymlaen ar sail tystiolaeth gadarn a data pendant. Drwy hynny, gallwn ganolbwytio ar y gwir ddiben sydd wrth wraidd y mater, sef gwneud y peth iawn ar ran y dysgwyr. Rwy'n falch bod y cynnig yn mynegi pryder mewn termau sy'n briodol yn fy marn i. Mae hefyd yn ceisio sicrwydd y byddwn yn agored ynghyllch yr ymarfer canfod ffeithiau. Nodais yn fy ateb i sylwadau Aled Roberts yn ôl ar 11 Mawrth y bydd tryloywder drwy gydol y broses hon. Nid yw'n fuddiol i neb gymylu na cheisio cuddio'r hyn sydd wrth wraidd y mater. Felly, cefnogaf y pwnt hwnnw yn y cynnig, hefyd. Byddaf yn sicrhau bod hyn yn digwydd. Bydd hynny'n cynnwys unrhyw faterion ynghyllch monitro gwaith o CBAC, i ateb y pwnt a godwyd gan rai Aelodau yma y prynhawn yma.

Rwy'n cydnabod bod llawer o ddysgwyr, rhieni ac athrawon wedi cael eu siomi gan y canlyniadau a gyhoeddwyd ar 6 Mawrth. Mae'n amlwg bod problemau wedi bod mewn nifer o ganolfannau—mewn rhai canolfannau; mewn lleiafrif o ganolfannau. Gŵyr pawb gymaint â hynny. Dyna pam fy mod wedi trefnu i ymarfer canfod ffeithiau cyflym gael ei gynnal. Gallaf hysbysu'r Aelodau heddiw y bydd yn adrodd yn ôl ddydd Llun 31 Mawrth. Rwyf wedi siarad â Gweinidog busnes y llywodraeth a bwriadaf gyflwyno datganiad llafar ddydd Mawrth, 1 Ebrill, y diwrnod canlynol, er mwyn ymateb i gwestiynau'r Aelodau am yr adroddiad.

Sylweddolaf fod angen gweithredu ar fyrdar, ond ni fyddaf yn rhuthro i wneud penderfyniadau na chymryd camau nad oes iddynt sylwedd. Ni fyddaf yn lledu hanesion na sion na defnyddio gormodiaith, fel y mae rhai o Aelodau'r gwrthbleidiau yn barod i'w wneud yn ôl pob golwg. Yn anffodus, ymddengys bod rhai sylwebwyr allanol yn barod i wneud hynny, hefyd. Mae perygl y bydd hynny'n achosi mwy o broblemau i ddysgwyr. Byddaf yn parhau i ganolbwytio ar y dysgwyr hynny a dim byd arall. Dywedaf urwaith eto: ni fydd yr un dysgwr yng Nghymru o dan anfantais heb fod unrhyw fai arno. Byddaf yn sicrhau hynny. Ni fyddaf yn cilio dim oddi ar yr agenda o ran safonau a thrylwyrredd. Byddaf yn sicrhau bod pob ymgeisydd llwyddiannus mewn TGAU iaith Saesneg yn cael dystysgrif o werth diamheul a chymhwyster a gydnabyddir yn gyffredinol fel un sy'n anodd ei ennill ond yn werth ei gael yn sicr.

17:02

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I call on Angela Burns to reply to the debate.

Galwaf ar Angela Burns i ymateb i'r ddadl.

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Angela Burns [Bywgraffiad Biography](#)

Minister, I was pleased to hear what you had to say, particularly in the last minute and a half, when you laid out very carefully your stall. I welcome that. The reason why we brought this debate today, and why I am glad that you think that it is a fair and measured debate, is because of some the rhetoric that has been going around, even from your department, officials and press team, which has jumped to conclusions and implied actions on behalf of schools. For example, your response to the RCT letter, where you say that perhaps it should be considering what it could have done better to raise the grades of its students, implies that it has failed.

You are right that the WJEC review does not take us to the heart of the matter, which is why it is so essential that your review must do so. We are looking for a comprehensive review from you, Minister, which will stand to robust scrutiny from all of us. I want to pick up on a couple of points quickly. We do not want to have a fudging, as Aled said, by being over generous in the summer, but, as Simon Thomas said, we absolutely must not penalise this current cohort. We must get this right because, from Estyn to PISA, it is clear that we have ground to make up.

It is about how we can put the current situation right. We need you also in your review to look at what we have learnt and how this will impact, particularly on the new modules proposed for other examinations that are due to be implemented in 2015 and examined in 2017. We must make sure that those have a soft landing, that we get that rigour that we want, but that we do not have this disappointment in our young people, or confusion by the schools. There must be adequate training, CPD, knowledge and expectation of what the marking will do and how it will be measured.

There was one exam mark, shown on the WJEC website, that could have had 10 points as a maximum, but most pupils in Wales got 2.5 points for that. That has to say something about that question and how it was interpreted, marked or something else. We want you to look at all of that.

You are absolutely right, we need to keep calm, but we cannot just keep calm and carry on. We must keep calm but make the robust changes that we need to ensure that those pupils have the right chances in the summer and that they are not put under pressure when trying to sit these exams while doing all of their other exams at the same time.

Weinidog, roeddwn yn falch o glywed yr hyn a oedd gennych i'w ddweud, yn enwedig yn y funud a hanner olaf, pan nodwyd eich safbwyt yn ofalus iawn. Croesawaf hynny. Y rheswm pam y cyflwynwyd y ddadl hon gennym heddiw, a pham rwy'n falch eich bod yn credu ei bod yn ddadl deg a phwyllog, yw oherwydd ychydig o'r rhethreg a gafwyd, hyd yn oed gan eich adran, eich swyddogion a thim y wasg, sydd wedi achub y blaen ac wedi awgrymu bod ysgolion wedi gweithredu mewn ffordd arbennig. Er enghraift, mae eich ymateb i'r llythyr gan benaethiaid yn Rhondda Cynon Taf, lle rydych yn dweud efallai y dylent ystyried yr hyn y gellid bod wedi ei wneud yn well er mwyn gwella graddau eu myfyrwyr, yn awgrymu eu bod wedi methu.

Rydych yn llygad ei lle i nodi nad yw adolygiad CBAC yn mynd â ni at wraidd y mater, a dyna pam mae mor hanfodol bod yn rhaid i'ch adolygiad wneud hynny. Rydym yn chwilio am adolygiad cynhwysfawr gennych, Weinidog, a fydd yn gwrthsefyll proses graffu gadarn gan bob un ohonom. Hoffwn ymdrin ag un neu ddau o bwyntiau yn gyflym. Nid ydym am weld cyfaddawdu, fel y dywedodd Aled, drwy fod yn hael yn yr haf, ond, fel y dywedodd Simon Thomas, yn sicr, rhaid inni beidio â chosbi'r garfan bresennol hon. Rhaid inni gael hyn yn iawn oherwydd, o Estyn i PISA, mae'n amlwg bod gennym le i wella.

Mae'n ymwneud â sut y gallwn unioni'r sefyllfa bresennol. Mae angen ichi hefyd yn eich adolygiad edrych ar yr hyn yr ydym wedi'i ddysgu a pha effaith a gaiff, yn enwedig ar y modiwlau newydd arfaethedig ar gyfer arholiadau eraill a fydd yn cael eu rhoi ar waith yn 2015 i'w harholi yn 2017. Rhaid inni sicrhau bod y rheini yn cael eu trin yn ofalus, ein bod yn sicrhau'r trylwyrdd yr ydym am ei gael, ond na welwn y siom hwn ymhliith ein pobl ifanc, na'r dryswch ymhliith yr ysgolion. Rhaid bod hyfforddiant digonol, DPP, gwybodaeth a disgwyliadau o'r hyn y mae'r marcio yn ei wneud a sut y caiff ei fesur.

Roedd un marc arholiad, a ddangoswyd ar wefan CBAC, a allai fod wedi ennill 10 pwynt fel uchafswm, ond 2.5 pwynt a gafodd y rhan fwyaf o ddisgyblion yng Nghymru. Rhaid bod hynny'n dweud rhywbeth am y cwestiwn hwnnw a sut y cafodd ei ddehongli, ei farcio neu rywbeth arall. Rydym am ichi edrych ar yr holl bethau hynny.

Rydych yn llygad eich lle, mae angen inni beidio â chynhyrfu, ond ni allwn beidio â chynhyrfu ac esgus bod popeth yn iawn. Rhaid inni beidio â chynhyrfu ond rhaid inni wneud y newidiadau cadarn sydd eu hangen er mwyn sicrhau bod y disgyblion hynny'n cael y cyfleoedd iawn yn yr haf ac nad ydynt yn cael eu rhoi o dan bwysau wrth geisio sefyll yr arholiadau hyn tra'n gwneud eu holl arholiadau eraill ar yr un pryd.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad Biography](#)

The proposal is to agree the motion. Does any Member object? There are no objections. The motion is therefore agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Derbyniwyd y cynnig yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.

Motion agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Dadl y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig: Yr Economi

Detholwyd y gwelliant canlynol: gwelliant 1 yn enw Lesley Griffiths, a gwelliannau 2, 3, 4 a 5 yn enw Elin Jones, a gwelliant 6 yn enw Aled Roberts. Os derbynir gwelliant 1, bydd gwelliant 2 yn cael ei ddad-ddethol.

Cynnig NDM5469 Paul Davies

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

1. Yn cydnabod y gwelliant diweddar yn economi'r DU yn sgil camau gweithredu Llywodraeth y DU.
2. Yn cydnabod mai 0.7% oedd twf cyffredinol cynnrych mewnwladol crynswth y DU ym mhedwerydd chwarter 2013.
3. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i gydwethio â Lywodraeth y DU i sicrhau twf economaidd hirdymor.

17:05

William Graham [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I move the motion.

There is no doubt that our economy has been beset by many fundamental problems—the biggest budget deficit in post-war history. Indeed, Britain had suffered a deep recession and had to contend with the biggest budget deficit in the developed world—the debt of £157 billion—the biggest budget deficit it had ever experienced since the Second World War. The build-up of private debt, accompanied by a global banking crash in 2008 and an erosion of our competitiveness in an era when global competition and the global race for economic future has rapidly accelerated.

This deficit did not suddenly appear purely as a result of the global financial crisis. It was driven by persistent, reckless and completely unaffordable Labour Government spending and borrowing over many years.

By 2008, the UK already had a structural deficit of more than 7%—the biggest of any G8 country. We have seen the broken model of growth, propelling our economy to an increasingly unsustainable position. We will not be able to build a sustainable recovery with long-term growth unless we fix this fundamental problem of excessive Government borrowing and spending that undermines our whole economy. A Conservative-led UK Government policy utilises certain aspects of economic control to cut our deficit by a third. There are now 1.6 million more private sector jobs and 400,000 more businesses.

Britain's economy will be growing faster than any of the other G8 countries by the middle of this year. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development has predicted an annual growth rate of 3.3% in both the first and second quarters of 2014.

Welsh Conservatives Debate: The Economy

The following amendment has been selected: amendment 1 in the name of Lesley Griffiths, amendments 2, 3, 4 and 5 in the name of Elin Jones, and amendment 6 in the name of Aled Roberts. If amendment 1 is agreed, amendment 2 will be de-selected.

Motion NDM5469 Paul Davies

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Recognises the recent upturn in the UK economy as a result of UK Government actions.
2. Acknowledges that the overall UK GDP growth was 0.7 per cent in Q4 2013.
3. Calls on the Welsh Government to work collaboratively with the UK Government to ensure long-term economic growth.

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Cynigiaf y cynnig.

Nid oes unrhyw amheuaeth nad yw ein heconomi wedi wynebu llawer o broblemau—y diffyg cylidebol mwyaf ers yr Ail Ryfel Byd. Yn wir, cafodd Prydain ddirwasgiad dwfn a bu'n rhaid i'r wlad ymgodymu â'r diffyg cylidebol mwyaf yn y byd datblygedig—dyled o £157 biliwn—y diffyg cylidebol mwyaf y mae wedi ei weld ers yr Ail Ryfel Byd. Cyfnod lle mae dyled breifat wedi cronni, ynghyd â'r argyfwng bancio byd-eang yn 2008 a dirywiad yn ein cystadleurwydd mewn cyfnod pan fo cystadleuaeth fyd-eang a'r ras fyd-eang ar gyfer dyfodol economaidd wedi prysur gyflymu.

Nid ymddangosodd y diffyg hwn yn sydyn o ganlyniad i'r argyfwng ariannol byd-eang yn unig. Cafodd ei sbarduno gan wariant a benthyca parhaus, di-hid a chwbl anfforddiadwy Llywodraeth Lafur dros nifer o flynyddoedd.

Erbyn 2008, roedd gan y DU ddiffyg strwythurol o fwy na 7%—y mwyaf ymhliith gwledydd y G8. Rydym wedi gweld y model methiannus o dwf, gan wthio ein heconomi i sefyllfa fwyfwy anghynaliadwy. Ni fyddwn yn gallu creu adferiad cynaliadwy gyda thwf hirdymor oni bai ein bod yn unioni problem sylfaenol benthyca a gwariant gormodol gan y Llywodraeth sy'n tanseilio ein heconomi gyfan. Mae polisi gan Lywodraeth y DU a arweinir gan y Ceidwadwyr yn defnyddio rhai agweddau ar reolaeth economaidd i leihau ein diffyg o draean. Mae 1.6 miliwn yn fwy o swyddi yn y sector preifat a 400,000 yn fwy o fusnesau erbyn hyn.

Bydd economi Prydain yn tyfu'n gyflymach nag unrhyw un o wledydd eraill y G8 erbyn canol eleni. Mae'r Sefydliad ar gyfer Cydweithrediaid a Datblygiad Economaidd wedi rhagweld cyfradd twf flynyddol o 3.3% yn ystod chwarter cyntaf ac ail chwarter 2014.

In addition, there had been a fundamental erosion of our competitiveness. David Cameron put this simply:

'Britain is in a global race. There's a fierce battle for our economic future with great shifts in wealth taking place from West to East. And yet while this race was speeding up, under the last government we fatally undermined our competitiveness with layers of red tape and bureaucracy: £77 million of red tape with over 36,000 new regulations, more than 12 for every working day of that last decade. Our corporate tax regime went from being the 11th most competitive in the world to the 23rd most competitive. And the UK fell out of the top ten places for the ease of starting a business, meaning it took twice as long to start a new business here in the UK as it did in America, almost twice as long as in France and the same length of time as it does in Mongolia. Innovation was stifled and the ability of British business to compete internationally was seriously damaged.'

In June of last year the First Minister stated this:

'we have made it clear in Wales that, as a Welsh Government, we do not agree with the programme of austerity that is being propagated by the Tories and Liberal Democrats in London. We do not see that the evidence is there to show that what they are doing is working.'

Frankly, I cannot agree with this. There are further comments that the First Minister made. For example, he mentioned the 'economic folly of the UK Government'—that is not exactly shown by the facts today. He said this:

'Our manifesto was designed to deal with circumstances of slow economic growth, particularly given the economic policy of the UK Government.'

He talks about failure; we all see what happens when his party runs things in London. Thank goodness that they do not. Economic prospects are much greater now than they have been for many years.

This competitiveness problem in our country goes very deep. The welfare system has failed to incentivise people to work. Our schools have in the past badly let down too many of our children, who only get one chance at education. Last week we saw in the Assembly how Labour Ministers meddling in the examination system has damaged confidence in the rigour of Welsh qualifications and undoubtedly knocked the morale of teachers and students, who have important exams looming this summer.

The United Kingdom Government has got behind British business, helping to win contracts in tough overseas markets by breaking down barriers to trade, including with today's new export action plan for the retail sector, which will assist up to 1,000 companies and over 600 SMEs to deliver £0.5 billion of new business for Britain over the next two years.

Yn ogystal, bu dirywiad sylfaenol yn ein cystadleurwydd. Mynegodd David Cameron hyn yn syml:

Mae Prydain mewn ras fydd-eang. Ceir brwydr ffyrnig dros ein dyfodol economaidd gyda llawer o gyfoeth yn symud o'r Gorllewin i'r Dwyrain. Ac eto tra bod y ras hon yn cyflymu, o dan y llywodraeth ddiwethaf, tanseiliwyd ein cystadleurwydd yn angheul drwy haenau o fiwrocratiaeth: biwrocratiaeth a oedd yn costio £77 miliwn gyda thros 36,000 o reoliadau newydd, mwy na 12 am bob diwrnod gwaith o'r degawd diwethaf hwennw. Aeth ein cyfundrefn treth gorfforaethol o fod yn safle 11 o ran y rhai mwyaf cystadleuol yn y byd i safle 23. A cholloedd y DU ei lle ymhllith y deg gorau o ran rhwyddineb dechrau busnes, a olygai ei bod yn cymryd ddwywaith yn hwy i ddechrau busnes newydd yma yn y DU nag yn America, bron ddwywaith yn hwy nag yn Ffrainc a'r un amser ag a gymer ym Mongolia. Cafodd arloesi ei lethu a chafodd gallu busnesau Prydain i gystadlu'n rhyngwladol ei niweidio'n sylweddol.

Ym mis Mehefin y llynedd, dywedodd y Prif Weinidog:

rydym wedi ei gwneud yn glir yng Nghymru, fel Llywodraeth Cymru, nad ydym yn cytuno â'r rhaglen o gyni a ledaenir gan y Toriaid a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn Llundain. Ni welwn fod y dystiolaeth ar gael i ddangos bod yr hyn y maent yn ei wneud yn llwyddo.

A dweud y gwir, ni allaf gytuno â hyn. Ceir sylwadau pellach gan y Prif Weinidog. Er enghraift, soniodd am 'ffolineb economaidd Llywodraeth y DU'—go brin ei fod yn cael amlygu gan y ffeithiau heddiw. Dywedodd hyn:

Nod ein maniffesto oedd ymdrin ag amgylchiadau twf economaidd araf, yn enwedig o ystyried polisi economaidd Llywodraeth y DU.

Mae'n sôn am fethiant; rydym i gyd yn gweld beth sy'n digwydd pan fydd ei blaid yn rhedeg pethau yn Llundain. Diolch byth nad ydynt yn gwneud hynn. Mae'r rhagolygon economaidd yn llawer gwell erbyn hyn nag y maent wedi bod ers blynnyddoedd lawer.

Mae'r broblem hon o ran cystadleurwydd yn ein gwlad yn un ddfn iawn. Mae'r system les wedi methu â chymhell pobl i weithio. Mae ein hysgolion yn y gorffennol wedi gwneud tro gwael â gormod o'n plant, sydd ond yn cael un cyfle i gael addysg. Yr wythnos diwethaf gwelsom yn y Cynulliad sut y mae Gweinidogion Llafur yn ymyrryd yn y system arholi wedi tanseilio hyder yn nhrylwyrdd cymwysterau Cymru ac yn sicr wedi rhoi ergyd i forâl athrawon a myfyrwyr, sy'n wynebu arholiadau pwysig yn ystod yr haf.

Mae Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig wedi cefnogi busnesau Prydain, gan helpu i ennill contractau mewn marchnadoedd anodd dramor drwy chwalu rhwystrau i fasnach, gan gynnwys y cynllun gweithredu allforio newydd heddiw i'r sector manwerthu, a fydd yn cynorthwyo hyd at 1,000 o gwmniau a thros 600 o fusnesau bach a chanolig i gyflwyno £0.5 biliwn o fusnesau newydd i Brydain dros y ddwy flynedd nesaf.

A leading business group has said that the strength of the recovery will see Britain's economy surpass its pre-crisis peak earlier than expected. The British Chambers of Commerce upgraded growth forecasts for the next two years. This will mean that Britain's economy will now exceed its pre-recession peak in the second quarter of 2014—three months earlier than had previously been predicted.

We should note that these are not just statistics. These increases in British exports mean British businesses getting new orders and that means jobs right here in Wales. The number of people on out-of-work benefits has fallen and there have been 1 million extra private sector jobs over the last two-and-a-half years. There are also more people in work than ever before in our economic history.

We want to achieve good public services, but we will not be able to afford them if our economy is weak and we are spending half of the budget on debt interest; we will not be able to look after old people with dignity in their old age if we are still squandering billions of pounds on welfare for people who could work but do not. Many families in Wales will be struggling with bills at the end of this month, parents are worried about what the future holds for their children and whole towns are wondering what will happen with regard to their economic future. Fortunately, there is now real momentum in the United Kingdom's economic recovery after GDP increased in the fourth quarter. This shows that Britain's hard work is paying off and that the country is well on the way to increased prosperity. To quote Bill Clinton, as the tide rises, so the boats float.

Mae grŵp busnes blaenllaw wedi dweud y bydd cryfder yr adferiad yn gweld economi Prydain yn rhagori ar ei hanterth cyn yr argyfwng yn gynt na'r disgwyl. Cafodd rhagolygon twf ar gyfer y ddwy flynedd nesaf eu huwchraddio gan Siambrau Masnach Prydain. Bydd hyn yn golygu y bydd economi Prydain bellach yn rhagori ar ei hanterth cyn y dirwasgiad yn ystod ail chwarter 2014—dri mis yn gynharach nag a ragwelwyd yn flaenorol.

Dylem nodi nad ystadegau yn unig yw'r rhain. Mae'r cynnydd hwn yn allforion Prydain yn golygu bod busnesau Prydain yn cael archebion newydd a bod hynny'n golygu swyddi yma yng Nghymru. Mae nifer y bobl sy'n cael budd-daliadau diweithdra wedi lleihau a chrëwyd miliwn o swyddi ychwanegol yn y sector preifat dros y ddwy flynedd a hanner diwethaf. Hefyd, ceir mwys o bobl mewn gwaith nag erioed o'r blaen yn ein hanes economaidd.

Rydym yn awyddus i sicrhau gwasanaethau cyhoeddus da, ond ni allwn eu fforddio os yw ein heconomi yn wan a'n bod yn gwario hanner y gyllideb ar log dyledion; ni fyddwn yn gallu gofalu am hen bobl gydag urddas yn eu henaint os ydym yn dal i wastraffu biliynau o bunnoedd ar les i bobl a allai weithio ond nad ydynt yn gweithio. Bydd llawer o deuluoedd yng Nghymru yn cael trafferth i dalu biliau ar ddiwedd y mis hwn, mae rhieni yn poeni am yr hyn a wyneba eu plant yn y dyfodol ac mae trefi cyfain yn meddwl tybed beth fydd yn digwydd o ran eu dyfodol economaidd. Yn ffodus, mae momentwm gwirioneddol yn adferiad economaidd y Deyrnas Unedig erbyn hyn ar ôl i CMC gynyddu yn y pedwerydd chwarter. Dengys hyn fod gwaith caled Prydain yn talu ar ei ganfed, a bod y wlad wedi mynd grynn dipyn o'r ffordd tuag at fwy o ffyniant. Os caf ddfyndu Bill Clinton, wrth i'r llanw godi, felly mae'r cychod yn codi.

17:10

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Rwyf wedi dethol y chwe gwelliant i'r cynnig. Os derbynir gwelliant 1, bydd gwelliant 2 yn cael ei ddad-ddethol. Galwaf ar Weinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth i gynnig gwelliant 1.

I have selected the six amendments to the motion. If amendment 1 is agreed, amendment 2 will be de-selected. I call on the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport to move amendment 1.

Gwelliant 1—Lesley Griffiths

Amendment 1—Lesley Griffiths

Dileu pwynt 1.

Delete point 1.

17:11

Edwina Hart [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth / The Minister for Economy, Science and Transport

I move amendment 1.

Cynigiaf welliant 1.

Gwelliant 2—Elin Jones

Amendment 2—Elin Jones

Ym mhwynt 1, dileu popeth ar ôl 'cydnabod' a rhoi yn ei le 'yr amodau economaidd sy'n gwella'.

In point 1, delete all after 'Recognises' and replace with 'improving economic conditions'.

Gwelliant 3—Elin Jones

Amendment 3—Elin Jones

Dileu pwynt 2 a rhoi yn ei le:

Delete point 2 and replace with:

Yn gresynu bod y data CMC diweddaraf yn dangos dirywiad yn CMC Cymru o'i gymharu â'r cyfartaledd yn yr UE.

Gwelliant 4—Elin Jones

Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

Yn galw ymhellach ar Lywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau bod dangosyddion economaidd allweddol, fel ystadegau CMC a GYC, yn cael eu cyhoeddi'n rheolaidd er mwyn cyfrannu at bolisiâu yn y dyfodol.

Gwelliant 5—Elin Jones

Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

Yn penderfynu bod angen cymryd camau ar frys i wella ffyniant economaidd Cymru, yn cynnwys mabwysiadu strategaeth wedi'i seilio ar sgiliau ac sy'n cael ei harwain gan allforio.

Regrets that latest GDP data show a decline in Wales's GDP compared to the EU average.

Amendment 4—Elin Jones

Add as new point at end of motion:

Further calls on the Welsh Government to ensure the regular publication of key economic indicators such as GDP and GVA statistics in order to inform future policies.

Amendment 5—Elin Jones

Add as new point at end of motion:

Resolves that urgent steps are needed to improve Wales's economic fortunes including the adoption of an export-led, skills-based strategy.

17:11

Rhun ap Iorwerth [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Cynigiaf welliannau 2, 3, 4 a 5.

Diolch am y cyfle i siarad yn y ddadl hon ac i gynnig y gwelliannau yn enw Elin Jones. Oes, mae cornel wedi cael ei thro i ac mae amodau economaidd yn well rŵan, fel y mae gwelliant 2 yn ei gydnabod, ond mae'n rhaid gofyn faint o hynny y mae pobl yng Nghymru yn ei deimlo. Mae'r ffigurau diweithdra diweddaraf ar gyfer Cymru yn sicr i'w croesawu, ond, wrth gwrs, dim ond rhan o'r stori ydy hynny, a chyfeiriaf at hynny yn nes ymlaen.

Mae gwelliant 3 yn rhoi sylw yn ôl ar Gymru. Efallai fod Llundain yn dechrau teimlo 'boom' eto, ond nid yw edrych ar wydr hanner llawn o ran twf o 0.7% yn GDP Prydain yn chwarter olaf y llynedd yn cuddio'r her sy'n ein hwynebu ni yma. Unwaith eto, twf anghyfartal sydd gennym ac, os edrychwn ar y ffigurau GDP diweddaraf yng Nghymru a'u cymharu gyda'r cyfartaledd Ewropeidd, gwelwn fod Cymru wedi llithro.

Mae'n fater o gryn bryder nad yw'r ffigurau sydd gennym ar gyfer Cymru yn benodol yn rhoi darlun llawn a chyfoes inni o'n sefyllfa economaidd. Dyna pam rydym wedi cyflwyno gwelliant 4, sy'n ail-ddatgan ein galwad ni am gyhoeddi dangosyddion economaidd allweddol, fel ystadegau GDP, GVA ac ati, a'u bod yn cael eu cyhoeddi yn rheolaidd. Mae'n rhaid inni gael pob arf posibl yn ein meddiant wrth inni lunio polisi economaidd ar gyfer y dyfodol. Mae gwelliant 5 yn rhoi awgrym inni o'r hyn y byddai llywodraeth Plaid Cymru yn dymuno ei wneud o ran polisi.

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I move amendments 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this debate and to move the amendments in the name of Elin Jones. Yes, we have turned a corner and economic conditions are better now, as amendment 2 recognises, but we must ask how much of that is being felt by the people of Wales. The most recent unemployment figures for Wales are certainly to be welcomed, but, of course, they tell only part of the story, and I will refer to that later.

Amendment 3 places the focus back on Wales. Perhaps London is starting to experience a boom once again, but looking at the glass half-full of 0.7% growth in the UK's GDP in the last quarter of last year does not hide the challenge that faces us here. Again, we have unequal growth and, if we look at the most recent GDP figures for Wales and compare them with the European average, we see that Wales has fallen further behind.

It is a matter of some concern that the figures that we have specifically for Wales do not give a comprehensive and up-to-date picture of our economic position. That is why we have tabled amendment 4, which restates our demand for key economic indicators to be published, such as GDP and GVA statistics and so on, and for them to be published regularly. We must have every possible tool in our possession as we formulate economic policy for the future. Amendment 5 gives a suggestion as to what a Plaid Cymru government would seek to do in terms of that policy.

The Welsh economy has the potential to flourish, but we in Plaid Cymru know that urgent action and fresh, innovative thinking is needed from Government to realise that potential. Plaid Cymru welcomes the fact that the economy, when taking the UK as one economy, is growing, but as Members of the National Assembly for Wales, it is largely irrelevant for us to talk about a single UK economy.

Mae gan economi Cymru y potensial i ffynnu, ond gwyddom ni ym Mhlaid Cymru fod angen gweithredu ar fyrdar a bod angen snydau newydd, arloesol gan y Llywodraeth i wireddu'r potensial hwnnw. Mae Plaid Cymru yn croesawu'r rffaith bod yr economi, o ystyried y DU yn un economi, yn tyfu, ond fel Aelodau o Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, mae'n amherthnasol i raddau helaeth inni sôn am un economi i'r DU.

17:13 **Antoinette Sandbach** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Are you accepting, then, that the One Wales Government failed to deliver the economic growth that Wales needed?

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A ydych yn derbyn, felly, i Lywodraeth Cymru'n Un fethu â sicrhau'r twf economaidd sydd ei angen ar Gymru?

17:13 **Rhun ap Iorwerth** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I believe that what we are doing today, is it not, is addressing what you claim to be the success of the UK Government and its policies in driving change? I am not seeing that change, and its effects here in Wales. In fact, if we look at the latest data, we see that Wales's GDP is in decline.

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Yn fy marn i, onid yr hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud heddiw yw trafod llwyddiant honedig Llywodraeth y DU a'i pholisiau i ysgogi newid? Nid wyf yn gweld y newid hwnnw, na'i effeithiau yma yng Nghymru. Yn wir, os edrychwn ar y data diweddaraf, gwelwn fod CMC Cymru yn dirywio.

Data published this month show that the GDP per capita in Wales has fallen to 74% of the EU average. Now, with a motion congratulating the UK Government on its work in stimulating economic growth, we cannot say that a 0.7% figure of growth in the UK's GDP reflects economic growth in Wales when the latest data for Wales show our GDP in decline. Again, I make the point that we need the right tools and up-to-date figures on GDP and GVA in Wales in order to plan for the future. We cannot base our economic planning on figures that are three years out of date.

Dengys data a gyhoeddwyd y mis hwn fod CMC y pen yng Nghymru wedi gostwng i 74% o gyfartaledd yr UE. Yn awr, gyda chynnig yn llonygfarch Llywodraeth y DU ar ei gwaith i ysgogi twf economaidd, ni allwn ddweud bod ffigur o 0.7% o dwf yn CMC y DU yn adlewyrchu twf economaidd yng Nghymru pan fydd y data diweddaraf ar Gymru yn dangos bod ein CMC yn dirywio. Unwaith eto, gwnaf y pwyt bod angen yr adnoddau cywir a'r ffigurau diweddaraf ar CMC a GYC yng Nghymru er mwyn cynllunio ar gyfer y dyfodol. Ni allwn seilio ein gwaith cynllunio economaidd ar ffigurau sydd dair blynedd ar ei hôl hi.

I will turn to unemployment. Welsh unemployment has dropped significantly over the past year. It has finally returned now to the UK average—or below the UK average, actually—which we, of course, welcome, after a significant period above it. However, if you dig a little deeper, some problems come to light. While unemployment may have dropped, the number of people working part-time has increased by 11,000 since Labour formed the current Welsh Government. Over the same period, the number of temporary workers has increased by 4,000, and long-term youth unemployment has more than quadrupled. Plaid Cymru has long been arguing that the challenge facing Wales is a challenge to create not just employment, but the right kind of employment. Welsh jobs need to be high-value jobs—jobs that add value to our economy.

Trof at ddiweithdra. Mae diweithdra yng Nghymru wedi gostwng yn sylweddol dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf. Mae wedi dychwelyd o'r diwedd at gyfartaledd y DU erbyn hyn —neu'n is na chyfartaledd y DU, a dweud y gwir— rhywbeth a grosawn, wrth gwrs, ar ôl cyfnod sylweddol o fod yn uwch na'r cyfartaledd. Fodd bynnag, os ydych yn cloddio ychydig yn ddyfnach, daw rhai problemau i'r golwg. Er bod diweithdra wedi gostwng o bosibl, mae nifer y bobl sy'n gweithio rhan amser wedi cynyddu 11,000 ers i Lafur ffurio Llywodraeth bresennol Cymru. Dros yr un cyfnod, mae nifer y gweithwyr dros dro wedi cynyddu 4,000, ac mae diweithdra ymhliith pobl ifanc yn yr hirdymor wedi cynyddu fwy na phedair gwaith. Mae Plaid Cymru wedi bod yn dadlau ers amser mai'r her sy'n wynebu Cymru yw her, nid yn unig o greu cyflogaeth, ond y math cywir o gyflogaeth. Mae angen i swyddi Cymru fod yn swyddi gwerth uchel—swyddi sy'n ychwanegu gwerth i'n heonomi.

17:15 **Andrew R.T. Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am grateful to the Member for taking an intervention. Is it Plaid Cymru's long-term or medium-term ambition to take the Welsh economy out of the UK economy and secure independence for the Welsh economy?

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Rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r Aelod am dderbyn ymyriad. Ai uchelgais hirdymor Plaid Cymru ynteu ei huchelgais yn y tymor canolig yw gwahanu economi Cymru oddi wrth economi'r DU a sicrhau annibyniaeth i economi Cymru?

Rhun ap Iorwerth [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am not sure how, in any constitutional pattern in the future, you could disengage the Welsh economy from the UK economy. However, I will go on. We need our businesses to add value through exports, which is why we unveiled our overseas trade initiative. We want business itself to lead business growth in Wales. That is why we want a new business-led agency to influence how economic development funding, such as structural funds, is allocated. These kinds of ideas are good for business, but, more importantly, they are good then for Welsh families and Welsh communities who do not feel the recovery that the Conservatives are trumpeting this afternoon. They certainly do not feel it. We want to drive up Welsh wages.

Nid wyf yn siŵr sut y gallech wahanu economi Cymru oddi wrth economi'r DU mewn unrhyw batrwm cyfansoddiadol yn y dyfodol. Fodd bynnag, af ymlaen. Mae angen i'n busnesau ychwanegu gwerth drwy allforion, a dyna pam y cyhoeddwyd ein menter masnach dramor gennym. Rydym am i fyd busnes ei hun arwain twf busnes yng Nghymru. Dyna pam rydym am weld asiantaeth newydd a arweinir gan fusnesau i ddyylanwadu ar y ffordd y mae cyllid datblygu economaidd, megis croneydd strwythurol, yn cael ei ddyrrannu. Mae syniadau o'r fath yn fuddiol i fusnesau, ond, yn bwysicach na hynny, maent yn fuddiol i deuluoedd yng Nghymru a chymunedau yng Nghymru nad ydynt yn profi'r adferiad y mae'r Ceidwadwyr yn brolio yn ei gylch y prynhawn yma. Yn sicr, nid ydynt yn teimlo hynny. Rydym yn awyddus i godi cyflogau yng Nghymru.

I will just finish. Those in positions of power at both Welsh Government level and UK Government level can either be content with the kind of lopsided growth that we have been seeing or they can ask themselves what kind of economic growth we want to see in Wales. Do we want to continue Wales's dependence on the kind of economic growth that we have seen very recently led by the south-east of England or do we want to back our own economic growth here in Wales?

Gorffennaf yn awr. Gall y rhai mewn safleoedd o bŵer ar lefel Llywodraeth Cymru a lefel Llywodraeth y DU naill ai fod yn fodlon ar y math o dwf anghytbwys yr ydym wedi bod yn ei weld, neu gallant ofyn iddynt hwy eu hunain pa fath o dwf economaidd yr ydym am ei weld yng Nghymru. A ydym am barhau â dibyniaeth Cymru ar y math o dwf economaidd yr ydym wedi ei weld yn ddiweddar iawn a arweinir gan dde-ddwyrain Lloegr, neu a ydym am gefnogi ein twf economaidd ein hunain yma yng Nghymru?

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Galwaf ar Eluned Parrott i gynnig gwelliant 6 a gyflwynwyd yn enw Aled Roberts.

Gwelliant 6—Aled Roberts

Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

Yn nodi'r effaith gadarnhaol y bydd creu mwy na miliwn o brentisiaethau yn Lloegr ers 2010 wedi'i chael ar economi'r DU ac yn gresynu at y ffaith bod nifer y bobl ar brentisiaethau yng Nghymru wedi gostwng dros 26% rhwng 2006 a 2012.

I call on Eluned Parrott to move amendment 6, tabled in the name of Aled Roberts.

Amendment 6—Aled Roberts

Add as new point at end of motion:

Notes the positive impact that the creation of more than a million apprenticeships in England since 2010 will have had on UK economy and regrets that in Wales the number of people on apprenticeships placements fell by more than 26% between 2006 and 2012.

Eluned Parrott [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I move amendment 6 tabled in the name of Aled Roberts.

Diolch, Ddirprwy Lywydd.

Cynigiaf welliant 6 a gyflwynwyd yn enw Aled Roberts.

Thank you, Deputy Presiding Officer.

I would like to thank the Welsh Conservatives for bringing this debate on UK budget day, of course, because I think it is only right and proper that we recognise the huge progress that has been made in turning the UK economy around from the parlous state it was left in by the previous Labour Government under Gordon Brown. I am proud of the role that my Liberal Democrat colleagues in Westminster have played in making this happen, helping to create more than a million new jobs and 1.6 million new apprenticeships, which has helped see Britain achieve record levels of employment and, of course, record levels of employment in Wales and unemployment that is lower than the UK average.

Hoffwn diolch i'r Ceidwadwyr Cymreig am gyflwyno'r ddadl hon ar ddiwrnod cyllideb y DU, wrth gwrs, am ei bod yn holol briodol, yn ein barn ni, ein bod yn cydnabod y cynnydd enfawr a wnaed i drawsnewid economi'r DU o'r cyflwr enbyd y'i gadawyd ynddi gan y Llywodraeth Lafur flaenorol o dan Gordon Brown. Rwy'n falch o'r rhan y mae fy nghyd-Aelodau yn y Democraidiad Rhyddfrydol yn San Steffan wedi ei chwarae i sicrhau bod hyn yn digwydd, gan helpu i greu mwy na miliwn o swyddi newydd a 1.6 miliwn o brentisiaethau newydd, sydd wedi helpu Prydain i gael y lefel uchaf erioed o gyflogaeth ac, wrth gwrs, y lefel uchaf erioed o gyflogaeth yng Nghymru a diweithdra sy'n is na chyfartaledd y DU.

I was interested to hear the Member for Ynys Môn outline his unified vision for independence for Wales economically, which is an interesting counterpoint to the independence debate in Scotland at present. However, he is absolutely right that our focus, as Members of this place, should be on how the people of Wales are going to feel the benefits of any economic growth in the UK as a whole. That is why we have worked so hard as a party to ensure that even during some of the most difficult economic circumstances in nearly a century more than a million ordinary working people in Wales have seen their tax bills fall by £700. Thanks specifically to the Lib Dems in Government, the tax allowance will be raised yet again in April next year and, in total, will have lifted more than 150,000 of the lowest paid workers right here in Wales out of the tax system altogether. Helping those ordinary working people in this way by putting £800 a year back in their pockets has a knock-on benefit to local economies all over Wales.

However, let us think bigger about what the budget is going to offer us as well. As well as that, the help announced today for energy-intensive industries will directly protect jobs here in Wales.

Bu'n ddiddorol clywed yr Aelod dros Ynys Môn yn amlinellu ei weledigaeth unedig ar gyfer annibyniaeth i Gymru yn economaidd, sy'n wrthbwyt diddorol i'r ddadl ar annibyniaeth yn yr Alban ar hyn o bryd. Fodd bynnag, mae'n llygad ei le yn yr ystyr y dylem ni, fel Aelodau o'r lle hwn, ganolbwytio ar y ffordd y bydd pobl Cymru yn cael manteision unrhyw dwf economaidd yn y DU yn ei chyfanrwydd. Dyna pam rydym wedi gweithio mor galed fel plaid i sicrhau, hyd yn oed yn ystod rhai o'r amgylchiadau economaidd mwyaf anodd ers bron canrif, bod dros filiwn o bobl gyffredin, weithgar yng Nghymru wedi gweld eu biliau treth yn gostwng £700. Diolch yn benodol i'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn y Llywodraeth, caiff y lwfans treth ei godi unaith eto ym mis Ebrill y flwyddyn nesaf ac, fel cyfanswm, byddwn wedi sicrhau nad yw dros 150,000 o'r gweithwyr sy'n ennill y cyflogau isaf yma yng Nghymru yn talu unrhyw dreth incwm o gwbl. Mae helpu'r bobl gyffredin hynny sydd mewn gwaith yn y ffordd hon drwy roi £800 y flwyddyn yn ôl yn eu pocedi yn cael budd canlyniadol i economiau lleol ledled Cymru.

Fodd bynnag, gadewch inni feddwl mwy am yr hyn y bydd y gyllideb yn ei gynnig inni hefyd. Yn ogystal â hynny, bydd y cymorth a gyhoeddwyd heddiw ar gyfer y diwydiannau ynni-ddwys yn diogelu swyddi'n uniongyrchol yma yng Nghymru.

17:18 **David Rees** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Will you take an intervention?

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A wnewch chi dderbyn ymyriad?

17:18 **Eluned Parrott** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Yes, of course.

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Gwnaf, wrth gwrs.

17:18 **David Rees** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for taking the intervention. Are you therefore disappointed like me, who has Tata Steel in his constituency, that it is going to take two years before this is implemented—two years of hard graft against competition in Europe, where energy bills are half those of Tata?

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Diolch ichi am dderbyn yr ymyriad. Felly, a ydych yn siomedig fel minnau, sydd â Tata Steel yn fy etholaeth, y bydd yn cymryd dwy flynedd cyn i hyn gael ei weithredu—dwy flynedd o waith caled yn erbyn cystadleuaeth yn Ewrop, lle mae biliau ynni yn hanner biliau Tata?

17:19 **Eluned Parrott** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

On the contrary, I am proud that this has been introduced at all, in direct contrast to the kind of policies that were pursued by the last Labour Government, which were damaging to these kinds of industries. This will directly protect jobs in companies like Tata Steel in your own constituency and, of course, like Celsa Steel (UK) Ltd in my region too. I am very proud that this is going to be introduced and will benefit Welsh workers directly, as will the extension of capital allowances in enterprise zones for a further three years, and as could, potentially, the expansion of the regional air connectivity fund to include start-up flights as well. Those kinds of things will have a direct impact on the Welsh economy as well as the UK economy. The UK economy is growing again and growing at the fastest rate of any developed nation in the world. We should be glad about that, but we should be looking for ways in which Wales can benefit.

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I'r gwrthwyneb, rwy'n falch bod hyn wedi cael ei gyflwyno o gwbl, mewn gwrthgyferbyniad llwyr â'r math o bolisiau a ddilnwyd gan y Llywodraeth Lafur ddiwethaf, a oedd yn niweidiol i'r mathau hyn o ddiwydiannau. Bydd hyn yn diogelu swyddi yn uniongyrchol mewn cwmniau fel Tata Steel yn eich etholaeth eich hun ac, wrth gwrs, fel Celsa Steel (UK) Ltd yn fy rhanbarth innau hefyd. Rwy'n falch iawn y bydd hyn yn cael ei gyflwyno a bydd o fudd i weithwyr Cymru yn uniongyrchol, fel y bydd estyn lwfansau cyfalaif mewn ardaloedd menter am dair blynedd arall, ac fel y gallai, o bosibl, ehangu'r gronfa cysylltedd awyr rhanbarthol er mwyn cynnwys teithiau hedfan newydd fod o fudd hefyd. Bydd pethau o'r fath yn cael effaith uniongyrchol ar economi Cymru yn ogystal ag economi'r DU. Mae economi'r DU yn tyfu eto ac yn tyfu'n gynt nag unrhyw wlad ddatblygedig yn y byd. Dylem fod yn falch o hynny, ond dylem fod yn edrych am ffyrdd y gall Cymru elwa.

So, my amendment today concerns apprenticeships, which I see as vital to building the economy of the future for Wales. Between 2006 and 2012, the number of young people on apprenticeships in Wales fell by 26%. While I welcome the progress that has been made more recently, there are still issues that we need to tackle. For example, only 6% of people on the Young Recruits programme are in skilled trades such as engineering. I find this disappointing and it is something that we need to discuss. I also continue to be concerned about the under-representation of women in the skilled trades, an issue that was raised with me just this morning by the director of British Telecom in Wales. If we want to see our economy fly, we cannot write off half of the workforce from the most growth-potential areas of our economy.

Progress on aspects such as the online matching services for apprenticeships for young people in Wales is very welcome, but it stops short of the full Universities and Colleges Admissions Service-style application system and clearing house system that I have called for, and which the UK Government has announced. I would urge the Welsh Government to continue to look at this and at ways in which we can improve that process, because going that step further would help to create parity of esteem by establishing parity of approach between vocational and academic progression routes, which has had cross-party support in this Chamber previously.

Unsurprisingly, I will not be supporting amendments 1 and 2. Labour Members are very happy to blame the UK Government when times are tough, and I am rather disappointed that they cannot be magnanimous enough to give credit where credit is due.

Felly, mae fy ngwelliant heddiw yn ymwneud â phrentisiaethau, sy'n hanfodol i adeiladu economi'r dyfodol i Gymru, yn fy marn i. Rhwng 2006 a 2012, gwelwyd gostyngiad o 26% yn nifer y bobl ifanc ar brentisiaethau yng Nghymru. Er fy mod yn croesawu'r cynnydd sydd wedi cael ei wneud yn fwy diweddar, mae materion o hyd y mae angen inni fynd i'r afael â hwy. Er enghraifft, dim ond 6% o bobl ar y rhaglen Recriwtiaid Ifanc sydd mewn crefftaw medrus fel peirianneg. Mae hyn yn siomedig ac mae'n rhywbeth y mae angen inni ei drafod. Rwy'n parhau i bryderu hefyd am dangynrychiolaeth o fenywod yn y crefftaw medrus, mater a godwyd gyda mi y bore yma gan gyfarwyddwr British Telecom yng Nghymru. Os ydym am weld ein heconomi'n ffynnu, ni allwn ddiystyr hanner y gweithlu yn y rhannau o'n heconomi sydd â'r potensial mwyaf i dyfu.

Mae'r cynnydd o ran agweddau megis y gwasanaethau paru ar-lein ar gyfer prentisiaethau i bobl ifanc yng Nghymru i'w groesawu, ond nid yw cystal eto â system ymgeisio ar ffurf Gwasanaeth Derbyn Prifysgolion a Cholegau a system glirio yr wyf wedi galw amdanyst, ac mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi eu cyhoeddi. Hoffwn annog Llywodraeth Cymru i barhau i edrych ar hyn ac ar ffyrdd y gallwn wella'r broses honno, oherwydd byddai mynd gam ymhellach yn helpu i greu cydraddoldeb parch drwy sefydlu cydraddoldeb dulliau gweithu rhwng llwybrau dilyniant galwedigaethol ac academaidd, sydd wedi cael cefnogaeth drawsbleidiol yn y Siambra hon o'r blaen.

Nid yw'n syndod na fyddaf yn cefnogi gwelliannau 1 na 2. Mae Aelodau Llafur yn barod iawn i feio Llywodraeth y DU pan fydd pethau'n anodd, ac rwyf braidd yn siomedig na allant fod yn ddigon mawr frydig i roi clod lle mae'n ddyledus.

17:21

Kenneth Skates [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Will you take an intervention?

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A wnewch chi dderbyn ymyriad?

17:21

Eluned Parrott [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

No, I am afraid I do not have time. I recall, a year or so ago, Labour Members standing up in this Chamber making grave predictions about a triple-dip recession; there was not even a double-dip recession. You were quick enough to point the finger of blame. If the imaginary triple-dip recession, which never happened according to the Office for National Statistics, was the responsibility of the UK Government, the upturn that we are seeing now, which exceeds that of other EU countries and is therefore not an accident of the global economic conditions, is also the responsibility of the UK Government.

Na wnaf, nid oes gennyf amser, mae arnaf ofn. Cofiaf, flwyddyn neu ddwy yn ôl, i Aelodau Llafur seyll ar eu traed yn y Siambra hon a darogan yn ddwys y byddai dirwasgiad triphlyg; ni chafwyd hyd yn oed ddirwasgiad deublyg. Roeddech yn ddigon parod i bwyntio bys. Os mai Llywodraeth y DU oedd yn gyfrifol am y dirwasgiad triphlyg dychmygol, nad yw erioed wedi digwydd yn ôl y Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol, Llywodraeth y DU sydd hefyd yn gyfrifol am y cynnydd yr ydym yn ei weld yn awr, sy'n fwy na chynnydd gwledydd eraill yr UE ac nad yw felly'n gyd-ddigwyddiad amodau economaidd byd-eang.

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17:22

Mark Isherwood [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Having inherited the biggest budget deficit in the developed world and Labour's great recession, this UK Government faced hard choices, which, if not tackled, would have had lenders closing the door to the UK and therefore to Wales. Despite this, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development figures show that the UK has had the fifth smallest austerity programme among the top 20 developed nations, whereas countries that followed a path of borrow, bust and bail-out suffered higher cuts and a greater squeeze on living standards.

Ar ôl etifeddu'r diffyg cyllidebol mwyaf yn y byd datblygedig a dirwasgiad mawr y Blaid Lafur, wynebai Llywodraeth y DU ddewisiodau anodd, a fyddai wedi gweld benthycwyr yn cau'r drws i'r DU ac felly i Gymru, pe na bai wedi mynd i'r afael â hwy. Er gwaethaf hyn, dengys figurau'r Sefydliad ar gyfer Cydweithrediad a Datblygiad Economaidd fod y DU wedi gweithredu'r bumod raglen gyni leiaf llym ymhlieth yr 20 gwlaid ddatblygedig fwyaf, tra bod gwledydd a fu'n dilyn llwybr benthyca, chwali ac achub wedi dioddef toriadau uwch a mwy o wasgu ar safonau byw.

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The UK Government has defied the heckling and stuck firmly to its long-term economic plan. In consequence, the International Monetary Fund has confirmed that Britain is the fastest growing major European economy. The British Chambers of Commerce has said that the UK economy will surpass its pre-recession peak in the second quarter of 2014, and the OECD has said that Britain's economy will be growing faster than any other G7 country by mid 2014.

Only yesterday, the manufacturing industry body, the EEF, reported manufacturing confidence, strong exports and recruitment and investment intentions at the highest level ever recorded by its survey. As its chief economist said, this is the most positive set of indicators that we have seen for some time, demonstrating that we have not just turned the corner but that we are actively heading down the right road.

However, the Labour Welsh Government is responsible for economic development in Wales, and official figures published in December reveal that Wales remains the poorest part of the UK. Wales is still producing the lowest value of goods and services per head among the 12 UK nations and regions at just 72.3% of the UK average. West Wales and the Valleys, including four north Wales counties, remains one of only three regions in the UK that still qualify for full EU convergence assistance. Wales has been bottom of the 12 UK nations and regions since 1998, remaining bottom under Labour-led Welsh Governments since devolution despite receiving billions in European funding that was supposed to close the gap and drive prosperity.

Official gross domestic product figures published this month show that Wales's GDP had fallen again to 74% of the EU average, an 11% drop since 2000. In Flintshire and Wrexham, it had fallen to 85% of the EU average, down 18% since 2000, and in west Wales and the Valleys it had fallen to just 64% of the EU average.

However, because these figures are published two years behind, this Labour Government argues that they are out-of-date. However, it has used the same argument every year as the fall against the EU average has continued, with the figures published year after year.

This Labour Government boasts of a 191% increase in inward investment, but fails to say that this increase was from a base of just 23 projects—the lowest among the four UK nations—or that this involved just five new companies coming to Wales with Welsh Government involvement. In reality, Wales's share of UK inward investment has fallen from 15% in the 1980s and 1990s to just 4% now, from top to bottom destination among the 11 nations and regions of mainland Britain.

Mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi gwrrthsefyll y cecru ac wedi cadw'n ddisyflyd at ei chynllun economaidd yn yr hirdymor. O ganlyniad, mae'r Gronfa Ariannol Ryngwladol wedi cadarnhau mai Prydain yw'r economi fawr Ewropeaidd sy'n tyfu gyflymaf. Mae Siambrau Masnach Prydain wedi dweud y bydd economi'r DU yn rhagori ar ei hanterth cyn y dirwasgiad yn ystod ail chwarter 2014, ac mae'r Sefydliad ar gyfer Cydwethrediad a Datblygiad Economaidd wedi dweud y bydd economi Prydain yn tyfu'n gyflymach nag unrhyw wlad arall ymhlith y G7 erbyn canol 2014.

Dim ond ddoe, cyhoeddodd corff y diwydiant gweithgynhyrchu, yr EEF, fod hyder mewn gweithgynhyrchu, allforion cadarn a bwriadau reciwtio a buddsoddi ar y lefel uchaf a gofnodwyd erioed gan ei arolwg. Fel y dywedodd ei brif economegydd, dyma'r set fwyaf cadarnhaol o ddangosyddion yr ydym wedi ei gweld ers peth amser, gan ddangos nad dim ond troi'r gornel yr ydym wedi'i wneud ond ein bod yn sicr yn mynd i'r cyfeiriad cywir.

Fodd bynnag, Llywodraeth Lafur Cymru sy'n gyfrifol am ddatblygu economaidd yng Nghymru, ac mae'r ffigurau swyddogol a gyhoeddwyd ym mis Rhagfyr yn dangos mai Cymru yw'r rhan dlotaf o'r Deyrnas Unedig o hyd. Mae Cymru yn dal i gynhyrchu'r gwerth isaf y pen o ran nwyddau a gwasanaethau ymhlith 12 gwlaid a rhanbarth y DU sef dim ond 72.3% o gyfartaledd y DU. Mae Gorllewin Cymru a'r Cymoedd, gan gynnwys pedair sir yn y gogledd, yn dal i fod yn un o ddim ond tri rhanbarth yn y DU sy'n gymwys o hyd i gael cymorth cydgyfeirio llawn yr UE. Mae Cymru wedi bod ar waelod 12 gwlaid a rhanbarth y DU ers 1998, gan barhau i fod ar y gwaelod o dan Lywodraethau o dan arweiniad Llafur Cymru ers datganoli er gwaethaf cael biliynau o gyllid Ewropeaidd a roddwyd er mwyn cau'r bwlch a hybu ffyniant.

Dengys ffigurau cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth swyddogol a gyhoeddwyd y mis hwn fod CMC Cymru wedi gostwng eto i 74% o gyfartaledd yr UE, sef gostyngiad o 11% ers 2000. Yn Sir y Fflint a Wrecsam, mae wedi gostwng i 85% o gyfartaledd yr UE, gostyngiad o 18% ers 2000, ac yng ngorllewin Cymru a'r Cymoedd roedd wedi gostwng i ddim ond 64% o gyfartaledd yr UE.

Fodd bynnag, oherwydd bod y ffigurau hyn yn cael eu cyhoeddi ddywy flynedd yn ddiweddarach, mae'r Llywodraeth Lafur hon yn dadlau nad ydynt yn gyfredol. Fodd bynnag, mae wedi defnyddio'r un ddadl bob blwyddyn wrth i'r gostyngiad yn erbyn cyfartaledd yr UE barhau, gyda'r ffigurau a gyhoeddwyd flwyddyn ar ôl blwyddyn.

Mae'r Llywodraeth Lafur hon yn ymffrostio am gynnnydd o 191% mewn mewnfuddsoddi, ond yn methu â dweud bod y cynnydd hwn wedi'i wneud o sylfaen o 23 o brosiectau yn unig—sef yr isaf ymhlith pedair gwlad y DU—na bod hyn yn ymweud â phum cwmni newydd yn unig sy'n dod i Gymru yn sgil ymweud Llywodraeth Cymru. Y gwir yw bod cyfran Cymru o fewnfuddsoddi yn y DU wedi gostwng o 15% yn y 1980au a'r 1990au i 4% yn unig erbyn hyn, o'r brig i'r gwaelod ymhlith y 11 o wledydd a rhanbarthau ar dir mawr Prydain.

Although the number of working-age people not in work in Wales has fallen, this has only occurred since the last UK general election, when figures peaked at 627,000. The figures in Wales are still higher than in England, Scotland and the UK.

This Labour Government boasts of an 11% rise in exports, but fails to say that this follows a big fall in 2012 and only puts Wales back on a par with England against the 2011 figures.

Apprenticeship participation in Wales decreased 2.4% between 2007 and 2013, while increasing over 107% in England. This Labour Government conveniently uses youth unemployment figures from the regional 'Labour Market Statistics' release—

Er bod nifer y bobl o oedran gweithio nad ydynt mewn gwaith yng Nghymru wedi lleihau, dim ond ers etholiad cyffredinol diwethaf y DU mae hyn wedi digwydd, pan gyrraeddodd y ffigurau eu lefel uchaf o 627,000. Mae'r ffigurau yng Nghymru yn dal yn uwch nag yn Lloegr, yr Alban a'r DU.

Mae'r Llywodraeth Lafur hon yn ymffrostio am gynnydd o 11% mewn allforion, ond yn methu â dweud bod hyn yn dilyn gostyngiad mawr yn 2012 a dim ond yn rhoi Cymru ar yr un lefel â Lloegr unwaith eto yn erbyn ffigurau 2011.

Gwelwyd gostyngiad o 2.4% yn nifer y prentisiaethau yng Nghymru rhwng 2007 a 2013, er i niferoedd gynyddu dros 107% yn Lloegr. Mae'r Llywodraeth Lafur hon yn ei gweld yn gyfleus i ddefnyddio ffigurau diweithdra ymhliith pobl ifanc o ddatganiad rhanbarthol 'Ystadegau'r Farchnad Lafur'—

17:26 **Kenneth Skates** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

On the issue of apprenticeships, surely you must acknowledge that the chairman of the Sutton Trust said that it was a cruel deception to state that there has been an increase in apprenticeships in England during the period you quote, when actually it has fallen by 4% for those aged under 19.

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O ran prentisiaethau, onid oes rhaid ichi gydnabod bod cadeirydd Ymddiriedolaeth Sutton wedi dweud ei fod yn dwyll creulon i ddatgan bod cynnydd wedi bod mewn prentisiaethau yn Lloegr yn ystod y cyfnod yr ydych yn cyfeirio ato, pryd y gostyngodd 4% mewn gwirionedd i'r rhai o dan 19 oed.

17:26 **Mark Isherwood** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I said 'apprenticeships'. I did not say 'all apprenticeships'. That includes adult apprenticeships, yes.

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Dywedais 'prentisiaethau'. Ni ddywedais 'pob prentisiaeth'. Mae hynny'n cynnwys prentisiaethau i oedolion.

17:26 **Antoinette Sandbach** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I think that most of the people taking up apprenticeships have actually been over 25. That is where there has been the most enormous growth. So, by quoting statistics for under-19s, it is slightly misleading.

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Credaf fod y rhan fwyaf o'r bobl a gafodd brentisiaethau wed bod dros 25 oed mewn gwirionedd. Dyna lle bu'r twf mwyaf. Felly, drwy ddyfynnu ystadegau ar gyfer pobl o dan 19 oed, mae ychydig yn gamarweiniol.

17:27 **Mark Isherwood** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Yes, thank you very much.

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Ydy, diolch yn fawr iawn.

Coming to youth unemployment, the Labour Government conveniently uses youth unemployment figures from the regional 'Labour Market Statistics' release, despite that release stating that the figures should be used with caution and are designated as experimental statistics. Despite that, the Deputy Minister, who has just spoken, has used these figures in the local press. In fact, the main International Labour Organization measure shows that youth unemployment in Wales stands at 22.5%—the highest of the UK nations. As a potential inward investor told me, he would not countenance proceeding with the Welsh Government based on the experience to date.

O ran diweithdra ymhliith pobl ifanc, mae Llywodraeth Lafur yn ei gweld yn gyfleus i ddefnyddio ffigurau diweithdra ymhliith pobl ifanc o ddatganiad rhanbarthol 'Ystadegau'r Farchnad Lafur', er i'r datganiad nodi y dylai'r ffigurau gael eu defnyddio gyda gofal a'u bod wedi eu dynodi'n ystadegau arbrofol. Er gwaethaf hynny, mae'r Dirprwy Weinidog, sydd newydd siarad, wedi defnyddio'r ffigurau hyn yn y wasg leol. Yn wir, dengys prif fesur y Sefydliad Llafur Rhngwladol fod diweithdra o 22.5% ymhliith pobl ifanc yng Nghymru—yr uchaf ymhliith gwledydd y DU. Fel y dywedodd darpar fewnfuddsoddwr wrthyf, na fyddai'n ystyried mynd rhagddo gyda Llywodraeth Cymru yn seiliedig ar y profiad hyd yma.

17:27 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Conclude, please.

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Gorffennwch, os gwelwch yn dda.

17:27	Mark Isherwood Bywgraffiad Biography	This lost nearly 140 north Wales jobs and the relationship with a Fortune 500 company. As Construction4Growth Wales states—	Drwy hyn collwyd bron 140 o swyddi yn y gogledd a'r berthynas ag un o gwmniau Fortune 500. Fel y noda Construction4Growth Cymru—	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
17:27	Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography	Order. I did tell you conclude with that sentence. Thank you.	Trefn. Dywedais wrthych am ddirwyn i ben drwy'r frawddeg honno. Diolch.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
17:27	Mark Isherwood Bywgraffiad Biography	I did not hear you.	Ni'ch clywais.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
17:27	Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography	Okay. I call on Mick Antoniw.	O'r gorau. Galwaf ar Mick Antoniw.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
17:27	Mick Antoniw Bywgraffiad Biography	I welcome the opportunity to participate in this debate on the economy and I welcome any improvements in the economy that the Tory motion seeks to promote. However, I do this with a large degree of caution. What does improvement in the economy mean, what is the economy and where do ordinary Welsh families feature in this debate? To start with, we have to begin with a Tory Government and the Lib Dems taking power in 2010 from Labour with an economy that, after an international financial crisis, had a strategy for investment, growth and creating jobs, and where growth had returned to the economy. The coalition Government then dismantled that strategy of investment and growth with the most savage cuts to public spending, investment in schools and capital investment in infrastructure that sent the economy into recession for two years.	Croesawaf y cyfle i gymryd rhan yn y ddadl hon ar yr economi a chroesawaf unrhyw welliannau yn yr economi y mae cynnig y Torïaid yn ceisio eu hyrwyddo. Fodd bynnag, gwnaf hyn gyda chryn bwyl. Beth mae gwariant yn yr economi yn ei olygu, beth yw'r economi a ble mae teuluoedd cyffredin Cymru yn ymddangos yn y ddadl hon? Rhaid inni ddechrau gyda Llywodraeth y Torïaid a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn dod i rym yn 2010 yn lle Llafur lle roedd economi, ar ôl argyfwng ariannol rhwngwladol, a oedd â strategaeth ar gyfer buddsoddi, twf a chreu swyddi, a lle roedd twf unwaith eto yn yr economi. Yna, chwalodd y Llywodraeth glymplaid y strategaeth honno o fuddsoddi a thwf drwy'r toriadau llymaf i wariant cyhoeddus, buddsoddi mewn ysgolion a buddsoddi cyfalaf mewn seilwaith a barodd ddirwasgiad yn yr economi am ddwy flynedd.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
17:28	Eluned Parrott Bywgraffiad Biography	Will you take an intervention on that?	A wnewch chi dderbyn ymyriad ar hynny?	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
17:28	Mick Antoniw Bywgraffiad Biography	No, I do not have time, and this is a pejorative contribution, anyway.	Na wnaf, nid oes gennyd amser, ac mae hwn yn gyfraniad difriol, sut bynnag.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
		The coalition began to change course and, with improvements in the international economies, particularly the USA, some growth has returned. There are, therefore, two key issues: how sustainable is the current economic strategy and whose benefit is it for? The underlying theme of the coalition is that we are all in it together. Quite clearly, that is not the case. We have a UK Government of the rich, for the rich. Coalition austerity is about the poorest in our society paying for the mistakes of the bankers. There has been little impact, of all the cuts—	Dechreuodd y glymplaid newid cwrs a, chyda gweliannau yn yr economiâu rhwngwladol, yn enwedig yr Unol Daleithiau, gwellir rhyw faint o dwf unwaith eto. Felly, cyfyd dau fater allweddol: pa mor gynaliadwy yw'r strategaeth economaidd bresennol a phwy sy'n elwa? Thema sylfaenol y glymplaid yw bod pawb yn yr un cwch gyda'n gilydd. Yn amlwg, nid yw hynny'n wir. Mae gennym Lywodraeth y DU llawn pobl gyfoethog, dros bobl gyfoethog. Mae llymder y glymplaid yn golygu bod y bobl dlotaf yn ein cymdeithas yn talu am gamgymeriadau'r bancwyr. Ni fu fawr ddim effaith, o'r holl doriadau—	
17:29	Nick Ramsay Bywgraffiad Biography	Will you take an intervention?	A wnewch chi dderbyn ymyriad?	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
17:29	Mick Antoniw Bywgraffiad Biography	No. I said no.	Na wnaf. Dywedais na.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video

There has been little impact on the wealthiest in our society, whereby the top 10% own 40% of the wealth. Coalition cuts and income tax will disproportionately benefit the wealthiest. It is all very well increasing the lower rate of tax for all—[Interruption.]

Ni fu fawr ddim effaith ar y cyfoethocaf yn ein cymdeithas, lle mae 10% o'r haen uchaf yn berchen ar 40% o'r cyfoeth. Bydd toriadau a threth incwm y glympaid yn fuddiol yn anghymesur i'r cyfoethocaf. Mae'n iawn cynyddu'r gyfradd is o dreth i bawb—[Torri ar draws.]

17:29

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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Order. Mick, please stop for a moment. I cannot hear the speaker. [Interruption.] Order. I am also getting Members popping up all the time to make interventions when the Member has made it clear that he is not taking an intervention. In fairness to him, he is not mentioning Members by name either. You must listen to what he has to say. The Conservatives introduced the interpretation of where the economy was in 2010. Now, this is the other version and you need to listen to it.

Trefn. Mick, a wnewch chi dewi am eiliad. Ni allaf glywed y siaradwr. [Torri ar draws.] Trefn. Mae Aelodau yn neidio i fyny drwy'r amser er mwyn gwneud ymyriadau er bod yr Aelod wedi ei gwneud yn glir nad yw'n derbyn ymyriad. Er tegwch iddo, nid yw'n cyfeirio at Aelodau yn ôl eu henw ychwaith. Rhaid ichi wrando ar yr hyn sydd ganddo i'w ddweud. Cyflwynodd y Ceidwadwyr y dehongliad o sefyllfa'r economi yn 2010. Yn awr, dyma'r fersiwn arall ac mae angen ichi wrando arno.

17:30

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

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Thank you, Deputy Presiding Officer. It is all very well increasing the lower rate of tax for all, but, at the same time, to reduce tax for the wealthiest few at the top is to shift the burden of austerity onto the poorest. We all know in our constituencies the impact of welfare cuts on the poor, the disabled and women. Having made real progress on poverty, as is acknowledged in the Tory-commissioned report by Alan Milburn, we are now seeing the return of real poverty and the food bank economy while, in the City of London and at Chequers, the champagne flows. In today's budget, imposing a welfare benefit cap, as is suggested, is imposing an artificial cap on need—a fixed budget for the poor and disabled but no cap on top-rate earnings and no cap on excessive profits and bankers' bonuses.

Diolch ichi, Ddirprwy Lywydd. Mae'n iawn cynyddu'r gyfradd is o dreth i bawb, ond, ar yr un pryd, mae lleihau treth i'r ychydig rai cyfoethog ar yr haen uchaf yn symud baich cyni ar y tloaf. Gwyddom oll yn ein hetholaethau beth yw effaith y toriadau lles ar y tlawd, pobl anabl a menywod. Ar ôl gwneud cynydd gwirioneddol o ran tlodi, fel y cydnabyddir yn yr adroddiad gan Alan Milburn a gomisiynwyd gan y Toriaid, rydym bellach yn gweld tlodi go iawn unwaith eto ac economi'r banciau bwyd tra bo'r siampêr yn llifo yn Ninas Llundain ac yn Chequers. Yng nghyllideb heddiw, mae gosod cap ar fudd-daliadau lles, fel y'i hawgrymir, yn gosod cap artiffisial ar angen—cylideb benodedig ar gyfer pobl dlawd a phobl anabl ond dim cap ar enillion cyfradd uchaf a dim cap ar elw gormodol a bonybau bancwyr.

As for the economy itself, we have a corporate tax free-for-all, with little or no tax being paid by major UK companies and some of the wealthiest individuals. Tax avoidance is rising year on year; it is currently at around £35 billion per annum—up £3 billion from last year. This should come as no surprise, because 14 of the top 20 Tory donors are heavily dependent on tax havens to avoid paying tax. [Interruption.] Under this Tory/Lib Dem Government, we have a trade deficit for 2013 of £43.5 billion and increasing. We have an economy fuelled by debt and consumer purchasing, boosted by the Help to Buy housing scheme that is creating an economic growth bubble that is predominantly in the south-east and which is unsustainable. It is a bubble shored up by the Help to Buy scheme that allows people to secure up to £600,000 of Government money to purchase second homes and to fuel a buy-to-rent frenzy. The point is that economic growth so far is predominantly dependent on a short-lived housing boom.

Gan droi at yr economi ei hun, cawn ryddid i bawb o ran treth gorfforaeth, heb fawr ddim treth, os o gwbl, yn cael ei thalu gan gwmniâu mawr yn y DU a rhai o'r unigolion cyfoethocaf. Mae graddfa osgoi treth yn cynyddu o flwyddyn i flwyddyn; ar hyn o bryd ceir tua £35 biliwn y flwyddyn—cynydd o £3 biliwn ers y llynedd. Ni ddylai hyn fod yn syndod i neb, gan fod 14 o 20 rhoddwr mwyaf y Toriaid yn ddibynnol iawn ar hafanau treth er mwyn osgoi talu treth. [Torri ar draws.] O dan Lywodraeth y Toriaid/Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, ceir diffyg masnach o £43.5 biliwn yn 2013 ac mae'n cynyddu. Ceir economi sydd wedi'i hysgogi gan ddyled a phryniannau defnyddwyr, a gafodd hwb drwy gynllun tai Cymorth i Brynu sy'n creu swigen twf economaidd yn bennaf yn ne-ddwyrain Lloegr ac sy'n anghynaliadwy. Mae'n swigen sy'n cael ei chynnal gan y cynllun Cymorth i Brynu sy'n caniatâu i bobl sicrhau hyd at £600,000 o arian y Llywodraeth i brynu ail gartrefi a chreu gwyltineb prynu i rentu. Y pwyt yw bod twf economaidd hyd yn hyn yn dibynnu'n bennaf ar ffyniant byrhaedlog yn y farchnad dai.

The impact of cuts in Westminster to the Welsh budget has resulted in cuts of £17 million to the people of Rhondda Cynon Taf, and Welsh Government statistics show welfare cuts of another £81 million. What I would say is that there has been growth and I think that the Tories deserve to be given credit for it. I will acknowledge it now. You should be given credit for the growth of food banks, the growth of poverty, the growth of inequality, the growth in bankers' bonuses, the growth in social division between north and south and east and west, the growth in tax avoidance, the growth in wealth for the top 2%, the growth in the bank balances of the Tory donors, the growth in the number of old Etonians in the Cabinet, the growth in the level of corporate tax avoidance, the growth in zero-hours contracts, the growth in the number of donations by the rich to the Tory party and, ultimately—an important area of growth—the growth in anger: the anger of the people of a country with an unrepresentative Government that lied to them when it said that we were all in it together when, in reality, they were only doing what Tories always do, which is looking after the interests of the landowners and the wealthy at the expense of working people.

Mae effaith y toriadau yn San Steffan i gyllideb Cymru wedi arwain at doriadau o £17 miliwn i bobl Rhondda Cynon Taf, a dengys ystadegau Llywodraeth Cymru fod toriadau lles gwerth £81 miliwn arall. Yr hyn y byddwn yn ei ddweud yw bod twf wedi bod a chredaf fod y Torïaid yn haeddu cael eu canmol am hynny. Cydnabyddaf hynny yn awr. Dylech gael eich canmol am dwf banciau bwyd, twf tlodi, twf anghydraddoldeb, twf taliadau bonws i fancwyr, twf rhaniadau cymdeithasol rhwng y gogledd a'r de a'r dwyrain a'r gorllewin, y twf mewn osgoi treth, y twf mewn cyfoeth i'r 2% uchaf, twf ym mhalansau banc rhoddwyr y Torïaid, y twf yn nifer yr hen Etoniaid yn y Cabinet, y twf yn lefel osgoi talu treth gorfforaeth, y twf mewn contractau dim oriau, y twf yn nifer y rhoddion gan gyfoethogion i'r blaidd Doriïaid ac, yn y pen draw—maes pwysig o dwf—y twf mewn dicter: dicter pobl gwlad sydd â Llywodraeth anghynrychioliadol a ddywedodd gelwydd wrthnt pan ddywedodd fod pawb yn yr un cwch gyda'n gilydd a hwythau mewn gwirionedd ond yn gwneud yr hyn y mae Torïaid bob amser yn ei wneud, sef gofalu am fuddiannau'r tirfiddianwyr a'r cyfoethog ar draul pobl sy'n gweithio.

17:33

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I will—[Interruption.] Order. I have not called anyone yet. I do hope that we will calm down a little. I think that, on all sides, the passions have got slightly out of control. We are debating the economy, so I think that some cold analysis may be appropriate. I call Mohammad Asghar.

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17:33

Mohammad Asghar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Today was budget day, and most of the information that my colleagues and others are referring to is already in the public domain. However, Labour, on that side of the Chamber, must know that, only four years ago, this country was in a hell of a mess. Today, we could be like Greece or Portugal or other countries that are looking at a hell of a lot of economic disaster in every walk of life. Actually, today is a time for the big-hearted Minister to tell this Government in London that it has achieved against what she said only last June and last September. Her words were that we might be going into a triple recession. Minister, it is about time that you admit that you were wrong and accept that London was right and that it is going to turn this huge economic supertanker back in the right direction.

Heddiw oedd diwrnod y gyllideb, ac mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r wybodaeth y mae fy nghyd-Aelodau ac eraill yn cyfeirio ati eisoes yn gyhoeddus. Fodd bynnag, rhaid bod Llafur, ar yr ochr honno i'r Siambr, yn gwybod mai dim ond pedair blynedd yn ôl yr oedd y wlad hon mewn trafferthion uffernol. Heddiw, gallem fod fel Gwlad Groeg neu Bortiwgal neu wledydd eraill sy'n edrych ar drychneb economaidd uffernol ym mhob agwedd ar fywyd. A dweud y gwir, heddiw yw'r amser i'r Gweinidog haelfrydig ddweud wrth y Llywodraeth hon yn Llundain ei bod wedi cyflawni yn erbyn yr hyn a ddywedodd dim ond fis Mehefin a mis Medi diwethaf. Ei geiriau oedd y gallem fod yn wynebu dirwasgiad triphlyg. Weinidog, mae'n hen bryd ich gyfaddef nad oedd hynny'n iawn ac mai Llundain oedd yn iawn ac y bydd yn llywio'r llong economaidd enfawr i'r cyfeiriad cywir unwaith eto.

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Difficult decisions have been made to deal with the mess we inherited and to control the spending. When Conservatives took power with the Liberal Democrats, for every £4 we were spending, £1 was borrowed. What a shame. As a result of the Government's long-term economic plan, our economy is growing faster than any other European economy. [Interruption.] That does not come from me; that is from the OECD—[Interruption.]

Mae penderfyniadau anodd wedi cael eu gwneud er mwyn ymdrin â'r llanast a etifeddyd gennym ac i reoli gwariant. Pan ddaeth y Ceidwadwyr i rym ar y cyd â'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, am bob £4 yr oeddem yn ei wario, roedd £1 yn cael ei benthyca. Am warth. O ganlyniad i gynllun economaidd hirdymor y Llywodraeth, mae ein heconomi yn tyfu'n gynt nag unrhyw economi Ewropeaidd eraill. [Torri ar draws.] Nid fi sy'n dweud hynny; y Sefydliad ar gyfer Cydweithrediad a Datblygiad Economaidd sy'n dweud hynny—[Torri ar draws.]

17:35

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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Order, order. Please stop. I have Members now shouting at each other across the Chamber, all from a sedentary position. There is one debate going on and there is one speaker at the moment. Some experienced Members are misbehaving and that does not help the Chair.

Trefn, trefn. Tawelwch os gwelwch yn dda. Mae aelodau bellach yn gweiddi ar ei gilydd ar draws y Siambwr, a phob un ar ei eistedd. Un ddadl sy'n mynd rhagddi ac un siaradwr sy'n siarad ar hyn o bryd. Mae rhai Aelodau profiadol yn camymddwyn ac nid yw hynny'n helpu'r Gadair.

17:35

Mohammad Asghar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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The OECD has predicted an annual growth rate of 3.3% in both the first and second quarters of this year—great; well done to the Government in London. Unemployment is down and 63,000 people in the last quarter got jobs, and this is a record level for people getting jobs in this country. That is as a direct influence of the central Government's actions. Sadly, our Government here has not learned the lesson yet.

Mae'r Sefydliad ar gyfer Cydweithrediad a Datblygiad Economaidd wedi rhagweld cyfradd twf flynyddol o 3.3% yn ystod chwarter cyntaf ac ail chwarter eleni—gwych; da iawn i'r Llywodraeth yn Llundain. Mae diweithdra wedi gostwng a llwyddodd 63,000 o bobl i gael swyddi yn ystod y chwarter olaf, sef y lefel uchaf erioed o bobl yn cael swyddi yn y wlad hon. Mae hynny'n deillio'n uniongyrchol o gamau gweithredu'r Llywodraeth ganolog. Yn anffodus, nid yw ein Llywodraeth yma wedi dysgu'r wers eto.

None of this could have been achieved without the sacrifice of the great British public. I take my hat off to everyone, whether they are poor, rich or non-rich—actually, everybody shared it. This decision had to be taken to float our economy in the world. As the economy continues to recover, we need to recognise and lighten the burden of hardworking individuals and families. Last year, over 1 million workers in Wales received a tax cut, while 57,000 low earners were taken out of tax altogether due to the changes in personal allowances. Today, actually, the allowances have gone up to £10,500, thanks to the Chancellor.

Ni ellid bod wedi cyflawni dim heb aberth pobl Prydain. Ryw'n rhoi clod i bawb, boed hwy'n dlaid, yn gyfoethog neu heb fod yn gyfoethog—a dweud y gwir, bu pawb yn rhan ohoni. Bu'n rhaid i'r penderfyniad hwn gael ei wneud er mwyn lansio ein heconomi yn y byd. Wrth i'r economi barhau i wella, mae angen inni gydnabod y baich ar unigolion a theuluedd gweithgar a'i ysgafnhau. Y llynedd, cafodd dros filiwn o weithwyr yng Nghymru doriad treth, a pheidiodd 57,000 o enillwyr isel dalu treth yn gyfan gwbl oherwydd y newidiadau yn y lwfansau personol. Heddiw, mewn gwirionedd, mae'r lwfansau wedi cynyddu hyd at £10,500, diolch i'r Canghellor.

What a contrast with the last Labour Government, which hit the low-paid by abolishing the 10p income tax band. What a shame. People can spend money better than the Government, so I welcome more money being left in the pockets of Welsh taxpayers. The low-paid will also benefit from the rise in the national minimum wage announced recently—the above-inflation rise to £6.50 an hour will benefit 73,000 workers in Wales. Only yesterday—

Mor wahanol i'r Llywodraeth Lafur ddiwethaf, a roddodd ergyd i bobl ar incwm isel drwy ddileu'r band treth incwm o 10c. Am drueni. Gall pobl wario arian yn well na'r Llywodraeth, felly croesawaf y ffaith bod mwy o arian yn cael ei adael ym mhocedi trethdalwyr Cymru. Bydd y rhai ar incwm isel hefyd yn elwa o'r cynnydd yn yr isafswm cyflog cenedlaethol a gyhoeddwyd yn ddiweddar—bydd y cynnydd sy'n uwch na chwyddiant i £6.50 yr awr o fudd i 73,000 o weithwyr yng Nghymru. Dim ond ddoe—

17:37

Joyce Watson [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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Thank you for taking an intervention. Is it the case that you now agree that the policy on the minimum wage was a really good policy that we brought in—one that you all argued would bankrupt the country?

Diolch ichi am dderbyn ymyriad. A yw'n wir eich bod bellach yn cytuno bod polisi'r isafswm cyflog yn bolisi da iawn a gyflwynwyd gennym—un y buoch i gyd yn dadlau y byddai'n gyrru'r wlad i'r wal?

17:37

Mohammad Asghar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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Who is implementing it? Only yesterday, I asked the First Minister to welcome this increase, but even he fell speechless here in this Chamber yesterday.

Pwy sy'n ei weithredu? Dim ond ddoe, gofynnais i'r Prif Weinidog groesawu'r cynnydd hwn, ond cafodd hyd y oed yntau ei daro'n fud yma yn y Siambwr hon ddoe.

Affordable childcare is vital to achieve this. For this long, it has been difficult for many families to find good, affordable childcare. The new tax-free childcare scheme will provide support of up to £2,000 per year for each child in this country, in addition to helping more families move off benefits and into employment. Your party wants to keep people doing nothing and we want people to have jobs and pay tax and run the country properly.

Mae gofal plant ffoddiadwy yn hanfodol i gyflawni hyn. Ers cyhyd, bu'n anodd i lawer o deuluedd ddod o hyd i ofal plant ffoddiadwy, da. Bydd y cynllun gofal plant di-dreth newydd yn rhoi cymorth o hyd at £2,000 y flwyddyn ar gyfer pob plentyn yn y wlad hon, yn ogystal â helpu mwy o deuluedd i symud oddi ar fudd-daliadau ac i mewn i waith. Mae eich plaid chi am gadw pobl yn gwneud dim byd ac rydym ninnau am i bobl gael swyddi a thalu treth a rhedeg y wlad yn gywir.

17:39

In certain areas that I represent, Deputy Presiding Officer, sadly, three generations of some families have not worked. What a shame. I want to tell this Minister to look into the economy in these areas. Look in the local high street shops and freeze or remove the rates. Also, look at the M4. You have powers to borrow the money to get this M4 done. Also, start thinking about the Welsh banking system; you do not have one in Wales. You have to take delegates abroad to improve your economy with overseas investment in the United Kingdom and Wales. You have definitely failed.

Mewn rhai ardaloedd a gynrychiolir gennyf, Ddirprwy Lywydd, yn anffodus, mae tair cenhedlaeth o rai teuluoedd nad ydynt wedi gweithio. Am warth o beth. Rwyf am ddweud wrth y Gweinidog hwn am ystyried yr economi yn yr ardaloedd hyn. Edrychwrch yn siopau'r stryd fawr leol a rhewi neu ddiileu'r arderthi. Hefyd, edrychwrch ar yr M4. Mae gennych bwerau i fenthyg arian i gyflawni'r M4 hon. Hefyd, dechreuwch feddwl am system fancio Cymru; nid oes gennych un yng Nghymru. Rhaid ichi fynd â chynrychiolwyr dramor i wella'ch economi gyda buddsoddiad tramor yn y Deyrnas Unedig a Chymru. Rydych wedi methu'n sicr.

Ann Jones [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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I am not going to start shouting, because I am fed up of people shouting. I think that when we start to discuss the economy, we want to take a hard look at the people we represent and look at what the economy means for them. I have said many times in this Chamber that the Tories—[Interruption.] Well, that is my pet name for you, so if you want to think that I love you because I call you 'Tories' then think that. The Tories' first act when they got into power was to cut the future jobs fund and to cut the very legs of those people who were being offered a lifeline to put themselves back onto a firm footing, which would have allowed them to contribute to the economy in the way that they wanted by getting a job and getting some form of assistance to allow them and their families to take an active part in the economy.

Ni fwriadaf ddechrau gweiddi, gan fy mod wedi cael llond bol o bobl yn gweiddi. Credaf, pan fyddwn yn dechrau trafod yr economi, fod angen inni edrych yn fanwl ar y bobl yr ydym yn eu cynrychioli ac edrych ar yr hyn y mae'r economi yn ei olygu iddynt hwy. Rwyf wedi dweud sawl gwaith yn y Siambra bod y Toriaid—[Torri ar draws.] Wel, dyna fy enw anwes ichi, felly os ydych am gredu fy mod yn eich caru am fy mod yn eich galw'n 'Doriaid' yna croeso i chi gredu hynny. Gweithred gyntaf y Toriaid pan ddaethant i rym oedd torri cronfa swyddi'r dyfodol a llorwr bobl hynny a oedd yn cael cynnig cyfle i ymsefydlu unwaith eto, a fyddai wedi eu galluogi i gyfrannu at yr economi yn y ffordd yr oeddent am ei wneud drwy gael swydd a chael rhyw fath o gymorth i'w galluogi hwy a'u teuluoedd i gymryd rhan weithredol yn yr economi.

That is what the economy is about. It is not about whether we have 0.8% growth or 0.7% growth, or expected to have that. It is about the actions of Governments. The actions of the Welsh Labour Government here, against the backdrop of the horrible cuts from the Conservatives in the UK, aided and abetted by their little helpers, the Lib Dems, were to introduce—[Interruption.]

Dyna'r hyn a wnelo'r economi ag ef. Nid oes a wnelo â thwf o 0.8% na thwf 0.7%, neu pa un a oes disgwyl inni gyflawni hynny. Mae a wnelo â gweithredoedd y Llywodraeth. Yr hyn a wnaeth Llywodraeth Lafur Cymru yma, yn erbyn cefndir y toriadau erchyll gan y Ceidwadwyr yn y DU, gyda chymorth eu cynorthwywyr bach, y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, oedd cyflwyno—[Torri ar draws.]

Well, perhaps you should learn some lessons—[Interruption.] I am just going to tell you. Welsh Labour introduced Jobs Growth Wales. That jobs growth programme has seen us, perhaps not at as fast a rate as we have done, manage to keep youth unemployment—although it is going up, it is not going up in the record numbers that we are seeing it going up across the border. In David Cameron's own constituency—[Interruption.]

Wel, efallai y dylech ddysgu rhai gwrsi—[Torri ar draws.] Rwyf ar fin dweud wrthych. Cyflwynodd Lafur Cymru Twf Swyddi Cymru. Drwy'r rhaglen twf swyddi honno rydym wedi llwyddo i reoli diweithdra ymhliith pobl ifanc, efallai nad mor gyflym ag yr ydym wedi'i wneud—er ei bod yn cynyddu, nid yw'n cynyddu ar y lefel a geir ar draws y ffin na welwyd ei thebyg o'r blaen. Yn etholaeth David Cameron ei hun—[Torri ar draws.]

You always want to bless everybody, so I am not listening to you, Janet.

Rydych chi bob amser yn awyddus i fendithio pawb, felly nid wyf yn gwrandu arnoch chi, Janet.

In David Cameron's constituency, the increase in long-term youth unemployment was 300%. The total increase across Wales was only 72%. You can argue all that you want, but I maintain that for those young people in my constituency who were so cruelly denied the opportunity of the future jobs fund, Jobs Growth Wales has delivered. I have examples of youngsters who tell me that it has delivered, which is in complete contrast to the UK Government's programme for youth unemployment.

Yn etholaeth David Cameron, gwelwyd cynnydd o 300% mewn diweithdra hirdymor ymhliith pobl ifanc. Dim ond 72% oedd cyfanswm y cynnydd ledled Cymru. Gallwrch ddadlau cymaint ag y dymunwch, ond rwy'n dal i haeru bod Twf Swyddi Cymru wedi cyflawni dros y bobl ifanc hynny yn fy etholaeth a gafodd eu hamddifadu mor greulon o gyfleoedd cronfa swyddi'r dyfodol. Mae gennyl engrairefftiau o bobl ifanc sy'n dweud wrthyf ei fod wedi cyflawni, sydd mewn gwrrthgyferbyniad llwyr â rhaglen Llywodraeth y DU ar gyfer diweithdra ymhliith pobl ifanc.

We talk about the export market. I do believe that this Welsh Government is doing the right things with the export market, because—[Interruption.]

Soniwn am y farchnad allforio. Credaf fod Llywodraeth Cymru yn gwneud y pethau iawn gyda'r farchnad allforio, oherwydd—[Torri ar draws.]

Well, I am not alone in that, Janet. What I say to that is: you have not been here long enough to understand that I have always been a critical friend of the Government's. I have been critical, and Members who have been here a long time will know that, if there is something that I think that the Labour Government is not doing correctly, I, for one, am not frightened to stand up and say so. So, I am taking no lessons or quick jibes from people saying that I am on my own. I think that people within other parties ought to stop and think about where they are going.

There was a lot more that I wanted to say, but I think that Rhun ap Iorwerth touched on all the GDP figures and the way in which we should not look at those. However, for me—in finishing, Deputy Presiding Officer—families across Wales, in my constituency and in my hometown, are now some £1,600 worse off than they were when the Conservatives came to power in the UK in 2010. It is because they are worse off by that amount that they are unable to spend in the businesses on our high streets. Therefore, the tirade that we have just heard from over there about the high streets in our communities was completely and utterly not true. It is a fact that you have reduced their ability to spend locally. As a consequence, I do not think that today's budget—

Wel, nid wyf ar fy mhen fy hun yn hynny o beth, Janet. Yr hyn yr wyf yn ei ddweud mewn ymateb i hynny yw: nid ydych wedi bod yma'n ddigon hir i ddeall fy mod bob amser wedi bod yn gyfaill beirniadol i'r Llywodraeth. Rwyf wedi bod yn feirniadol, a bydd Aelodau sydd wedi bod yma ers amser yn gwybod hynny, os oes rhywbeth nad yw Llywodraeth Lafur yn ei wneud yn iawn yn fy marn i, nid oes ofn arnaf sefyll i fyny a dweud hynny. Felly, ni dderbyniaf unrhyw wersi na gwatwar gan bobl sy'n dweud fy mod ar fy mhen fy hun. Credaf y dylai pobl mewn pleidiau eraill oedi ychydig a meddwl i ble maent yn mynd.

Roedd llawer mwy yr oeddwn am ei grybwyl, ond credaf i Rhun ap Iorwerth sôn am yr holl ffigurau CMC a'r ffordd na ddylem edrych ar y rheini. Fodd bynnag, i mi—wrth gloi, Ddirprwy Lywydd—mae teuluoedd ledled Cymru, yn fy etholaeth ac yn fy nhref enedigol, bellach tua £1,600 yn waeth eu byd nag yr oeddent pan ddaeth y Ceidwadwyr i rym yn y DU yn 2010. Am eu bod wedi colli'r swm hwnnw ni allant ei wario yn y busnesau ar y stryd fawr. Felly, roedd yr ymosodiad yr ydym newydd ei glywed o fan acw ynglŷn â'r stryd fawr yn ein cymunedau yn hollos anghywir. Mae'n ffaith eich bod wedi lleihau eu gallu i wario'n lleol. O ganlyniad, ni chredaf fod y gyllideb heddiw—

- 17:44 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
Conclude, please.

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- 17:44 **Ann Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I will. I do not think that today's budget will offer much hope to those people who were already struggling before you came into power.

Gwnaf. Ni chredaf y bydd y gyllideb heddiw yn cynnig llawer o obaith i'r bobl hynny a oedd eisoes mewn trafferthion cyn ichi ddod i rym.

- 17:44 **Antoinette Sandbach** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
As usual, the response from Labour Assembly Members is less based on fact, and more on dreaming. The reality about Jobs Growth Wales is that it has had over 31,400 applicants, and it has only been able to offer a placement to just under 8,700 of them, Ann; so, what do you expect the other 22,000 people who needed that help to do? Those are the figures.

Fel arfer, mae'r ymateb gan Aelodau Cynulliad Llafur yn seiliedig ar freuddwydion gwrach yn hytrach na ffeithiau. Y gwir am Twf Swyddi Cymru yw ei bod wedi cael dros 31,400 o ymgaiswyr, ac mai dim ond i ychydig o dan 8,700 ohonynt y mae wedi llwyddo i gynnig lleoliad, Ann; felly, beth yr ydych yn disgwyl i'r 22,000 o bobl eraill yr oedd angen y cymorth hwnnw arnynt ei wneud? Dyna'r ffigurau.

- 17:45 **Kenneth Skates** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
Will you give way?

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- 17:45 **Antoinette Sandbach** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
No, I will not, I am afraid.

A wnewch chi ildio?

Na wnaf, mae arnaf ofn.

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It is not a guarantee scheme and it is not providing that support across Wales. The figures speak for themselves. Mick Antoniw might want to remind himself that inequality grew year on year under the Labour Government. Since the coalition Government has come into power, the inequality between the richest and the poorest has actually been falling. [Assembly Members: 'Oh.'] It has. The reality is that the rise in the level at which people have to pay income tax means that, by the bracket going up to £10,500, as it will do—and that is being delivered by the coalition Government—far fewer people—154,000 people in Wales—will not pay tax. That money goes back into their pockets and it goes back into their communities.

Nid yw'n gynllun gwarant ac nid yw'n rhoi'r cymorth hwnnw ledled Cymru. Mae'r ffigura'u'n siarad drostynt eu hunain. Efallai y bydd Mick Antoniw am atgoffa ei hun i anghydraddoldeb dyfu flwyddyn ar ôl blwyddyn o dan y Llywodraeth Lafur. Ers i'r Llywodraeth glymbiaid ddod i rym, mae'r anghydraddoldeb rhwng y cyfoethocaf a'r tlofat wedi bod yn gostwng mewn gwirionedd. [Aelodau'r Cynulliad: 'O.] Yd y gwir yw bod y cynnydd yn y lefel lle mae'n rhaid i bobl dalu treth incwm yn golygu, wrth i hynny godi i £10,500, fel y bydd yn ei wneud—ac mae hynny'n cael ei ddarparu gan y Llywodraeth glymbiaid—bydd llawer llai o bobl—154, 000 o bobl yn Nghymru—yn peidio â thalu treth mwyach. Mae'r arian hwnnw yn mynd yn ôl yn eu pocedi ac mae'n mynd yn ôl i'w cymunedau.

17:46

Rhun ap Iorwerth [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Do you think that hard-working families in Wales on low wages will have been choking today listening to the Chancellor claiming credit for putting up, slightly, airport duty for private jets?

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A gredwch y bydd teuluoedd gweithgar yng Nghymru ar gyflogau isel wedi bod yn tagu heddiw yn gwrando ar y Canghellor yn hawlio'r clod am gynyddu, o ryw fymryn, ardoll y maes awyr i awyrennau preifat?

17:46

Antoinette Sandbach [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

What I do think that hard-working families will be looking at in Wales is the millions of pounds in European rounds of funding that have been wasted.

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Yr hyn yr wyf yn credu y bydd teuluoedd gweithgar yn edrych arno yng Nghymru yw'r miliynau o bunnoedd mewn cylchoedd ariannu Ewropeaidd sydd wedi cael eu gwastraffu.

So, let us go to those GVA figures because the Government does not want us to look at them. It is just like PISA. When you have an international comparison, it does not want those to be used. I will just remind you of the GDP figures. The Labour Government in 2001 said,

Felly, gadewch inni droi at y ffigurau GYC hynny am nad yw'r Llywodraeth am inni edrych arnynt. Mae'n union fel PISA. Pan fydd cymhariaeth ryngwladol, nid yw am i'r rheini gael eu defnyddio. Hoffwn eich atgoffa o'r ffigurau CMC. Dywedodd y Llywodraeth Lafur yn 2001,

'Success would mean Welsh GDP per person rising from 80 per cent to 90 per cent of the UK average'.

Byddai llwyddiant yn golygu bod CMC y pen yng Nghymru yn cynyddu o 80 y cant i 90 y cant o gyfartaledd y DU.

The One Wales Government between 2007 and 2011 managed, across North Wales, which is my region, to deliver drops every year. Gwynedd's GDP dropped from 83% to 72%; Anglesey's GDP dropped from 58% to 57%; and Flintshire's GDP dropped from 93% to 85%. Bearing in mind the micro-economic levers that are in the hands of this Welsh Government, that is a clear sign of failure. Those drops were across nearly every North Wales area. I agree with you, Rhun ap Iorwerth, that it is important that we get the statistics and the information more quickly. I agree that the delays in that information coming out do affect our ability to tailor economic policies. I think that we should get that quickly, but I do not think that the Welsh Government or, in fact, its backbenchers, should dismiss an international measure of success. It is like the PISA results; it provides an incredibly important benchmark about where Wales is. Speaking of PISA results, if we do want to attract those high-skilled jobs into Wales, we need to have a skilled and educated workforce that can deliver and has the skills base to take up those high-skilled jobs. When you have a manufacturer in my region, like Airbus, saying that it was not able to fill its apprenticeship quota with people qualified in Wales because there were not enough people taking the science subjects for the organisation to fill its apprenticeship places—and that is what it said to me—there is a clear link between economic failure and educational attainment. It is a link that is expressed time and time again.

Llwyddodd Llywodraeth Cymru'n Un rhwng 2007 a 2011, yn y gogledd, sef fy rhanbarth i, i gael gostyngiadau bob blwyddyn. Gostyngodd CMC Gwynedd o 83% i 72%; gostyngodd CMC Ynys Môn o 58% i 57%; a gostyngodd CMC Sir y Fflint o 93% i 85%. Gan gadw mewn cof y ffactorau micro-economaidd sydd yn nwylo Llywodraeth Cymru, mae hynny'n arwydd clir o fethiant. Cafwyd y gostyngiadau hynny ym mhob rhan o'r gogledd bron. Cytunaf â chi, Rhun ap Iorwerth, ei bod yn bwysig ein bod yn cael yr ystadegau a'r wybodaeth yn gyflymach. Cytunaf fod yr oedi cyn cael y wybodaeth honno yn amharu ar ein gallu i deilwra polisiau economaidd. Credaf y dylem ei chael yn gyflym, ond ni chredaf y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru nac, yn wir, aelodau ei meinciau cefn, ddiystyr mesur ryngwladol o lwyddiant. Mae'n debyg i ganlyniadau PISA; mae'n feincnod hynod bwysig o sefyllfa Cymru. Wrth sôn am ganlyniadau PISA, os ydym am ddenu'r swyddi hyfedor hynny i Gymru, mae angen inni gael gweithlu medrus ac addysgedig sy'n gallu cyflawni ac sy'n meddu ar y sylfaen sgiliau i ymgymryd â'r swyddi hyfedor hynny. Pan fydd gwneuthurwr yn fy rhanbarth i, fel Airbus, yn ddweud na allai lenwi ei gwota o brentisiaethau gyda phobl sydd wedi cymhwys o yng Nghymru am nad oedd digon o bobl yn astudio'r pynciau gwyddonol er mwyn i'r sefydliad lenwi ei leoedd prentisiaethau—a dyna'r hyn a ddywedodd wrthyf —mae cysylltiad clir rhwng methiant economaidd a chyrraedd addysgol. Mae'n gyswilt sy'n cael ei fynegi dro ar ôl tro.

Therefore, if there is an inequality in the growth, as you seem to suggest, we need to look at the causes of it. One of the main problems, as the Minister will know because I have raised it with her, that I have concerns about is that there is jobs flight out of Wales just over the border. That is why it is so important for us to deliver and to use those tools being given by the UK Government, particularly in the enterprise zones, to attract the investment into Wales of good jobs. We need to see far greater progress on those enterprise zones, and to take advantage of the investment allowance—

Felly, os oes anghydraddoldeb o ran twf, fel yr ymddengys eich bod yn ei awgrymu, mae angen inni edrych ar yr hyn sy'n achosi. Un o'r prif broblemau, fel y gŵyr y Gweinidog am fy mod wedi codi hyn gyda hi, y mae gennylf bryderon yn ei gylch yw bod swyddi yn cael eu symud o Gymru i ychydig dros y ffin. Dyna pam mae mor bwysig inni gyflwyno a defnyddio'r adnoddau hynny a roddwyd gan Lywodraeth y DU, yn enwedig yn yr ardaloedd menter, er mwyn denu buddsoddiad swyddi da i Gymru. Mae angen inni weld llawer mwy o gynydd o ran yr ardaloedd menter hynny, ac i fanteisio ar y lwfans buddsoddi—

- 17:50 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
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- 17:50 **Antoinette Sandbach** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
[Continues.]—that has just been increased to £500,000 per year for companies like Ifor Williams in my constituency—

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- 17:50 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
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- 17:50 **Antoinette Sandbach** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
[Continues.]—so that they can use that allowance and grow jobs here.

[Parhau.]—fel y gallant ddefnyddio'r lwfans hwnnw a thyfu swyddi yma.

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- 17:50 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
Galwaf ar Weinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth, Edwina Hart.

I call the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport, Edwina Hart.

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- 17:50 **Edwina Hart** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth / The Minister for Economy, Science and Transport

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Thank you very much indeed, Deputy Presiding Officer. It is indeed appropriate today that we are discussing the UK economy, on a day that 'Labour Market Statistics' show that unemployment in Wales is lower than in England, Scotland and Northern Ireland, having fallen to 6.7%, compared to the UK average of 7.2%. With employment rates in Wales increasing by three times the UK average, today's figures also show that youth unemployment is falling faster in Wales than in the UK, economic inactivity is now close to a record low, and Wales has seen the biggest increase in private sector employment in the past 12 months. I know that all of us across the Chamber will welcome these statistics.

Diolch yn fawr iawn yn wir, Ddirprwy Lywydd. Mae'n wir yn briodol heddiw ein bod yn trafod economi'r DU, ar ddiwrnod y mae 'Ystadegau'r Farchnad Lafur' yn dangos bod diweithdra yng Nghymru yn is nag yn Lloegr, yr Alban a Gogledd Iwerddon, ar ôl disgyn i 6.7%, o'i gymharu â chyfartaedd y DU, sef 7.2%. Gyda chyfraddau cyflogaeth yng Nghymru yn cynyddu dair gwaith yn fwy na'r cyfartaedd yn y DU, mae ffigurau heddiw hefyd yn dangos bod diweithdra ymhliith pobl ifanc yn gostwng yn gyflymach yng Nghymru nag yn y DU, bod anweithgarwch economaidd yn agos i'w lefel isaf erioed erbyn hyn, a bod Cymru wedi gweld y cynnydd mwyaf mewn cyflogaeth yn y sector preifat yn ystod y 12 mis diwethaf. Gwn y bydd pob un ohonom yn y Siambr yn croesawu'r ystadegau hyn.

I take some of the points that were raised by Rhun ap Iorwerth about self-employment and part-time workers. These are issues that we will have to look at in terms of the development of the economy. However, as a Government, we are committed to ensuring long-term economic growth in Wales, because growth and sustainable jobs are at the heart of the programme for government. We have made it clear that our absolute focus remains on supporting and boosting our economy, and identifying every opportunity to help businesses in Wales.

Derbyniad rai o'r pwyntiau a godwyd gan Rhun ap Iorwerth ynglŷn â hunangflogaeth a gweithwyr rhan-amser. Mae'r rhain yn faterion y bydd yn rhaid inni edrych arnynt yn nhermau datblygu'r economi. Fodd bynnag, fel Llywodraeth, rydym wedi ymrwymo i sicrhau twf economaidd hirdymor yng Nghymru, am fod twf a swyddi cynaliadwy wrth wraidd y rhaglen lywodraethu. Rydym wedi ei gwneud yn glir bod ein ffocws llwyr yn parhau i fod ar gefnogi a hybu ein heconomi, a nodi pob cyfre i helpu busnesau yng Nghymru.

However, we are not able to support the motion in its entirety. We propose deleting the first point, which calls on the Assembly to recognise that the recent upturn in the UK economy is a result of UK Government actions. While the recent upturn in the economy is to be welcomed, it can be argued that it has occurred despite, not because of, UK Government action. It is the view of many independent experts that the UK's recovery, such as it is, remains very poorly balanced, with exports performing poorly, despite some recent improvements, and business investment too weak.

We support amendments 2, 3 and 4 in the name of Elin Jones. In relation to amendment 3, although the latest GDP data show a decline in Wales's GDP compared to the EU average, the decline is driven by the fact that the whole of the UK declined relative to the EU. Since 1999, GVA in Wales has improved relative to the UK, and other measures that are more timely, such as employment, show Wales to be outperforming the UK. In relation to amendment 4, we already regularly publish key economic indicators, including GDP and GVA. However, I agree in principle that there is room for improvement and that regular publication of wider indicators is important. I have previously committed to consider this issue, and a proposal will shortly be submitted to Ministers by Jane Hutt and me, outlining the need for a basket of indicators to monitor economic performance at a Wales level.

We oppose amendment 5 in the name of Elin Jones, because we have already taken significant steps to improve the position of businesses in Wales and the environment in which they operate. The latest figures for employment, production and construction output showed that the economy in Wales is recovering relatively well, with overall employment at a record high. I fully recognise the importance of exports to economic growth, and this is a key priority for the Welsh Government. Supporting companies to trade internationally is a theme that is embedded across our strategies for entrepreneurship, start-ups, microbusinesses and key sectors.

We already have a programme of support that identifies and helps to build companies' capacity to export, including raising awareness of the benefits of exporting and considering new markets, helping to identify and contact potential overseas customers, and providing help to visit overseas markets through various trade missions and expeditions. I meant 'exhibitions', not 'expeditions'. [Laughter.] This support is delivered through a variety of services, including international trade opportunities and overseas development visit support. We also help companies to develop the knowledge and skills that they need to start to grow their exports through the international trade development service. This service addresses both awareness raising and knowledge development through workshops, events and tailored one-to-one support.

Fodd bynnag, ni allwn gefnogi'r cynnig yn ei gyfanwydd. Rydym yn cynnig dileu'r pwynt cyntaf, sy'n galw ar y Cynulliad i gydnabod bod y gwelliant diweddar yn economi'r DU o ganlyniad i gamau gweithredu Llywodraeth y DU. Er bod y gwelliant diweddar yn yr economi i'w groesawu, gellir dadlau iddo digwydd er gwaethaf camau gweithredu Llywodraeth y DU nid o'r herwydd. Mae llawer o arbenigwyr annibynnol o'r farn bod adferiad y DU, fel ag y mae, yn parhau i fod yn anghybtbwys iawn, gydag allforion yn perfformio'n wael, er gwaethaf rhai gwelliannau diweddar, a buddsoddi mewn busnesau yn rhywan.

Rydym yn cefnogi gwelliannau 2, 3 a 4 yn enw Elin Jones. O ran gwelliant 3, er bod y data diweddaraf ar CMC yn dangos gostyngiad yn CMC Cymru o'i gymharu â chyfartaledd yr UE, mae'r dirywad yn cael ei ysgogi gan y ffaith bod y DU gyfan wedi gostwng o'i chymharu â'r UE. Ers 1999, mae GYC yng Nghymru wedi gwella o'i gymharu â'r DU, a dengys mesurau eraill sy'n fwya amserol, megis cyflogaeth, fod Cymru yn perfformio'n well na'r DU. O ran gwelliant 4, rydym eisoes yn cyhoeddi dangosyddion economaidd allweddol, gan gynnwys CMC a GYC yn rheolaidd. Fodd bynnag, cytunaf mewn egwyddor fod lle i wella a'i bod yn bwysig bod dangosyddion ehangach yn cael eu cyhoeddi'n rheolaidd. Rwyf wedi ymrwymo eisoes i ystyried y mater hwn, a bydd cynnig yn cael ei gyflwyno cyn bo hir i Weinidogion gan Jane Hutt a minnau, yn amlinellu'r angen am fased o ddangosyddion i fonitro perfformiad economaidd ar lefel Cymru.

Rydym yn gwrthwnebu gwelliant 5 yn enw Elin Jones, oherwydd rydym eisoes wedi cymryd camau mawr i wella sefyllfa busnesau yng Nghymru a'r amgylchedd y maent yn gweithredu ynddo. Dangosodd y ffigurau diweddaraf ar gyfer allbwn cyflogaeth, cynhyrchu ac adeiladu fod yr economi yng Nghymru yn gwella'n gymharol dda, gyda chyflogaeth gyffredinol ar ei lefel uchaf erioed. Rwy'n llwyr gydnabod pwysigrwydd allforion i dwf economaidd, ac mae hyn yn flaenoriaeth allweddol i Llywodraeth Cymru. Mae helpu cwmniau i fasnachu'n rhyngladol yn thema sy'n cael ei hymgorffori ym mhob un o'n strategaethau ar gyfer entrepeneuriath, busnesau newydd, microfusnesau a sectorau allweddol.

Mae gennym eisoes raglen o gymorth sy'n nodi ac yn helpu i feithrin gallu cwmniau i allforio, gan gynnwys codi ymwybyddiaeth o fanteision allforio ac ystyried marchnadoledd newydd, gan helpu i nodi a chysylltu â darpar gwsmeriaid dramor, a rhoi cymorth i ymweld â marchnadoledd tramor drwy wahanol deithiau masnach ac ymgyrchoedd. 'Arddangosfeydd' yr oeddwn yn ei feddwl, nid 'ymgyrchoedd'. [Chwerthin.] Mae'r cymorth hwn yn cael ei ddarparu drwy amrywiath o wasanaethau, gan gynnwys cyfleoedd masnach ryngladol a chymorth i ymweliadau datblygu dramor. Rydym hefyd yn helpu cwmniau i ddatblygu'r wybodaeth a'r sgiliau sydd eu hangen arnynt i ddechrau tyfu eu halforion drwy'r gwasanaeth datblygu masnach ryngladol. Mae'r gwasanaeth hwn yn mynd i'r afael â chodi ymwybyddiaeth yn ogystal â datblygu gwybodaeth drwy weithdai, digwyddiadau a chymorth un i un wedi'i deilwra.

In relation to amendment 6 in the name of Aled Roberts, we reject the comparison that he makes between Wales and England. I accept some of the points that were made by Eluned Parrott about equality, and there are gender issues within this. I know that these are issues that the Deputy Minister wishes to address because they are very important.

However, in terms of apprenticeships, we have a great story to tell in Wales. We are listening to employers and are offering bespoke solutions, such as shared schemes and extra support for SMEs. We have made significant improvements to the quality of our programmes, with 85% successfully completing their qualification framework in the contract year ending July 2012. Eighty-five per cent is a remarkably high figure, 11 percentage points above England. We are doing well in many of the areas contained in the budget agreement, including higher apprenticeships, support for microbusinesses, and our extremely successful young recruits programme. There has been a substantial increase in those starting an apprenticeship, and provisional data for the contract year ending July 2013 shows 27,900 learning programme starts compared to 17,910 in the previous year. There have been some questions raised over the quality of apprenticeships in England. Here in Wales we have maintained a focus on quality, and we are not diluting the brand at all. At the same time we are making inroads into traditionally challenging areas such as equality, as I have indicated. Most importantly, we recognise the distinctive needs of young people, and the opportunities apprenticeships provide to reduce youth unemployment.

We should all do more to celebrate the success of the Welsh programme and remember that much has been delivered in 2013, partly thanks to the additional budget. Our challenge now is to encourage young people, and the essential route out of poverty for them is of course employment.

The UK Government holds the macro and fiscal levers in relation to the economy, and we still believe that the UK Government is not going far enough in its actions to stimulate growth. In these conditions, it is important that, as a Government, we ensure that a wide range of advice and initiatives are available to businesses, and that we use all the tools available to support growth and sustainable jobs.

There have been a number of contributions in this debate, Deputy Presiding Officer, and some of them not worth commenting about, in my opinion. Some of us went into politics to actually represent the poor and the dispossessed. Our duty, much as Ann Jones said, is not the statistics, but the individuals, and that is what we should be concerned about in any debate on the economy. I can trade statistics all day, and I can trade political insults all day, but it is not my intention to do so, because as Minister I wish, and I know that the Government wishes, to do our best to improve things for ordinary people on the streets. That, for me, is very important, because we want to have a society that has proper social cohesion, economic prosperity, and allows people to attain their goals.

O ran gwelliant 6 yn enw Aled Roberts, rydym yn gwrrthod y gymhariaeth a wna rhwng Cymru a Lloegr. Derbyniaf rai o'r pwyntiau a wnaed gan Eluned Parrott am gydraddoldeb, ac mae materion yn codi o ran rhywedd yn hyn o beth. Gwn fod y rhain yn faterion y mae'r Dirprwy Weinidog yn dymuno mynd i'r afael â hwy am eu bod yn bwysig iawn.

Fodd bynnag, o ran prentisiaethau, mae gennym stori wych i'w hadrodd yng Nghymru. Rydym yn gwrando ar gyflogwyr ac yn cynnig atebion pwrsol, megis cynlluniau rhannu a chefnogaeth ychwanegol i fusnesau bach a chanolig. Rydym wedi gwneud gwelliannau sylwedol i ansawdd ein rhaglenni, gyda 85% yn llwyddo i gwblhau eu fframwaith cymhwyster yn y flwyddyn gcontract a ddaeth i ben ym mis Gorffennaf 2012. Mae 85 y cant yn ffigur hynod uchel, 11 pwynt canrannol yn uwch na Lloegr. Rydym yn gwneud yn dda mewn llawer o'r meysydd a gynhwysir yn y cytundeb cyllidebol, gan gynnwys prentisiaethau uwch, cymorth i ficrofusnesau, a'n rhaglen reciriwtiaid ifanc hynod lwyddiannus. Bu cynydd sylwedol yn y niferoedd sy'n dechrau prentisiaeth, a dengys data dros dro ar gyfer y flwyddyn gcontract a ddaeth i ben ym mis Gorffennaf 2013 fod 27,900 o bobl wedi dechrau rhaglen ddysgu o gymharu â 17,910 yn y flwyddyn flaenorol. Codwyd rhai cwestiynau ynglŷn ag ansawdd y prentisiaethau yn Lloegr. Yma yng Nghymru, rydym wedi cadw ein ffocws ar ansawdd, ac nid ydym yn glastwreiddio'r brand o gwbl. Ar yr un pryd, rydym yn gwneud cynydd o ran meysydd traddodiadol heriol megis cydraddoldeb, fel y dywedais. Yn bwysicaf oll, rydym yn cydnabod anghenion penodol pobl ifanc, a'r cyfleoedd y mae prentisiaethau yn eu cynnig i leihau diweithdra ymhliad pobl ifanc.

Dylai pob un ohonom wneud mwy i ddathlu llwyddiant rhaglen Cymru a chofio bod llawer wedi cael ei gyflawni yn 2013, diolch yn rhannol i'r gyllideb ychwanegol. Yr her a wynebwn yn awr yw annog pobl ifanc, a'r llwybr hollbwysig iddynt osgoi tlodi yw cyflogaeth wrth gwrs.

Llywodraeth y DU sy'n gyfrifol am y ffactorau macro a chyflidol o ran yr economi, ac rydym yn dal i gredu nad yw Llywodraeth y DU yn mynd yn ddigon pell o ran ei gweithredoedd i ysgogi twf. O dan yr amgylchiadau hyn, mae'n bwysig ein bod ni, fel Llywodraeth, yn sicrhau bod ystod eang o gyngor a mentrau ar gael i fusnesau, a'n bod yn defnyddio'r holl adnoddau sydd ar gael i gefnogi twf a swyddi cynaliadwy.

Cafwyd nifer o gyfraniadau yn y ddadl hon, Ddirprwy Lywydd, ac nid oes gwerth gwneud sylwadau ar rai ohonynt, yn fy marn i. Daeth rhai ohonom yn wleidyddion er mwyn cynrychioli'r tlawd a'r rhai a ddifeddiannwyd yn wirioneddol. Nid ystadegau yw ein dyletswydd, fel y dywedodd Ann Jones, ond yr unigolion, a dyna'r hyn y dylem fod yn ei drafod mewn unrhyw ddadl ar yr economi. Gallaf gyfnewid ystadegau o fore gwyn tan nos, a gallaf gyfnewid sylwadau gwleidyddol sarhaus o fore gwyn tan nos, ond nid yw'n fwriad gennyw fneud hynny, oherwydd fel Gweinidog dymunaf, a gwn fod y Llywodraeth yn dymuno, gwneud ein gorau i wella pethau i bobl gyffredin y wlad. Mae hynny, i mi, yn bwysig iawn, gan ein bod yn awyddus i gael cymdeithas sydd â chydlyniad cymdeithasol priodol, ffyniant economaidd, ac sy'n galluogi pobl i gyrraedd eu nodau.

It was mentioned earlier that sometimes we are churlish about the UK Government. I welcome the announcement today about the enterprise zones and the extension of allowances. That is a very welcome addition in terms of my portfolio, and what I would be able to undertake in that regard. It is important for us to recognise that we have responsibilities here that we have to get on with in terms of what is devolved to us. I believe in what we are doing, particularly Jobs Growth Wales, and we are doing a first-class job in the support that we are giving to business.

Some interesting comments have been made about inward investors, by Mark Isherwood and others. I speak to inward investors regularly and one of the comments that they make to me is, 'You've got a good workforce in Wales. You've got a workforce that we want to invest in'. I was at a launch on Monday or Tuesday with jobs coming into Newport, and one of the reasons—and they said it publicly on the tv when they came—was because of the skills of the workforce. If we talk Wales down, Wales will go down. The point is that some parties in this Chamber want to do that. I have no time for that agenda and as part of the Government I am proud to stand up for Wales.

Soniwyd yn gynharach ein bod weithiau yn surbwch ynghylch Llywodraeth y DU. Croesawaf y cyhoedd i heddiw ynglyn â'r ardaloedd menter ac estyn lwfansau. Mae hynny'n ychwanegiad i'w groesawu'n fawr o ran fy mhorthffolio, a'r hyn y byddwn yn gallu ei wneud yn hynny o beth. Mae'n bwysig inni gydnabod bod cyfrifoldebau arnom yma bod yn rhaid inni fwrw ymlaen â hwy o ran yr hyn sydd wedi'i ddatganoli inni. Credaf yn yr hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud, yn enwedig Twf Swyddi Cymru, ac rydym yn gwneud gwaith o'r radd flaenaf o ran y cymorth yr ydym yn ei roi i fusnesau.

Gwnaed rhai sylwadau diddorol am fewnffuddsoddwyr gan Mark Isherwood ac eraill. Rwy'n siarad â mewnfuddsoddwyr yn rheolaidd ac un o'r pethau y maent yn ei ddweud wrthyf i yw, 'Mae gennych weithlu da yng Nghymru. Mae gennych weithlu yr ydym am fuddsoddi ynddo'. Bûm mewn lansiad ddydd Llun neu ddydd Mawrth gyda swyddi yn dod i Gasnewydd, ac un o'r rhesymau—a dywedwyd hynny'n gyhoeddus ar y teledu pan ddaethant—oedd sgiliau'r gweithlu. Os ydym yn ddilornus am Gymru, bydd Cymru yn methu. Y pwnt yw bod rhai pleidiau yn y Siambra hon yn dymuno gwneud hynny. Rwy'n wfftio'r agenda honno ac fel rhan o'r Llywodraeth rwy'n falch o amddiffyn Cymru.

17:58

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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Galwaf ar Nick Ramsay i ymateb i'r ddadl.

I call on Nick Ramsay to respond to the debate.

17:58

Nick Ramsay [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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Like the Minister, the Welsh Conservatives are proud to stand up for Wales, as is the UK coalition Government. Thank goodness that we had the UK Conservative-Liberal Democrat coalition Government, which, when it came in, had to sort out the sheer shambles—that was the phrase used today—of the economy that was left to it. That was not due to the Labour Party here; it was your Labour cousins in Westminster. Perhaps it is a shame that they had not listened a little more to you over the years that Gordon Brown was in power. Maybe if they had, they would have realised the sort of hardship that UK Labour policies were wreaking upon Wales, and we would not be in such a situation now.

Fel y Gweinidog, mae'r Ceidwadwyr Cymreig yn falch o amddiffyn Cymru, fel y mae Llywodraeth glymbiaid y DU. Diolch byth inni gael Llywodraeth glymbiaid y Ceidwadwyr a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol i'r DU, yr oedd yn rhaid iddi, pan ddaeth i rym, ddatrys llanast llwy—dyna'r ymadrodd a ddefnyddiwyd heddiw—yr economi a adawyd iddi. Nid y Blaid Lafur yma oedd ar fai am hynny; eich cefndryd Llafur yn San Steffan oedd ar fai. Efallai ei bod yn drueni nad oedden wedi gwrando ychydig yn fwy arnoch dros y blynnyddoedd yr oedd Gordon Brown mewn grym. Pe baent wedi gwneud hynny, byddent wedi sylweddoli faint o galedi yr oedd polisiau Llafur y DU yn ei achosi i Gymru, ac ni fyddem mewn sefyllfa o'r fath yn awr.

I agree with you, Minister, that we have responsibilities to get things right and support the economy, and not to talk Wales down. I think that you are a little bit unfair when you say that some speeches in here today were not worth listening to. I thought that parts of Mick Antoniw's speech were certainly worth listening to, and parts of the speeches of other Labour backbenchers as well. I cannot believe that you were quite so unfair to them.

Cytunaf â chi, Weinidog, fod cyfrifoldebau arnom i gael pethau'n iawn a chefnogi'r economi, a phedio â bod yn ddilornus am Gymru. Credaf eich bod ychydig yn annheg wrth ddweud nad oedd yn werth gwrando ar rai areithiau yma heddiw. Roeddwn i'n meddwl ei bod yn werth gwrando ar rannau o araih Mick Antoniw yn sicr, a rhannau o areithiau aelodau eraill meinciau cefn Llafur hefyd. Ni allaf gredu eich bod mor annheg iddynt.

I will go through some of the contributions. Rhun ap Iorwerth called for more economic tools in the toolbox; that is actually a phrase that you have nicked off the First Minister. He often uses that phrase and, in my experience, it is usually a phrase that is used when you are not using the tools that you have got adequately enough. It is all well and good to call for more tools in the toolbox, but why do we not set about actually using some of those tools that we have a little bit better?

Ymdriniaf â rhai o'r cyfraniadau. Galwodd Rhun ap Iorwerth am fwy o offer economaidd yn y blwch offer; mae hwnnw'n ymadrodd yr ydych wedi ei ddwyn oddi wrth y Prif Weinidog, a dweud y gwrir. Mae'n aml yn defnyddio'r ymadrodd hwnnw, ac, yn fy mhrofiad i, mae fel arfer yn ymadrodd sy'n cael ei ddefnyddio pan nad ydych yn defnyddio'r offer sydd gennych yn ddigon da. Mae'n iawn galw am fwy o offer yn y blwch offer, ond beth am fynd ati i ddefnyddio rhai o'r offer hynny sydd gennym ychydig yn well?

I do, however, agree with you, Rhun—you made a very valid point—that we need to keep up-to-date statistics, particularly on GDP and GVA in Wales. I think anyone sensible would agree with that. We do know, of course, that the Welsh Government does not particularly like GVA, and that is because the measures of it are usually so bad in Wales. I heard what the Minister said, that there has been some improvement in that, but it is from a low base and we are still lagging way behind the rest of the UK.

Going back to you, Rhun ap Iorwerth, you kind of contradicted yourself. On the one hand, you said that you do not see the Welsh economy as being detached from the UK economy—a very refreshing point of view from a nationalist party, and quite different from the point of view peddled by the SNP up in Scotland, although that point of view does not seem to be going down so well, so I do not blame you at all for back-peddling on that one—but you then went on to say that the Welsh economy should not be dependent on the UK economy. Well, of course it will be dependent on the UK economy. The Labour Party knows that, the Welsh Conservatives know that—

Fodd bynnag, cytunaf â chi, Rhun—gwnaethoch bwynt diliys iawn—fod angen inni gael ystadegau cyfredol, yn enwedig ar CMC a GYC yng Nghymru. Credaf y byddai unrhyw un call yn cytuno â hynny. Gwyddom, wrth gwrs, nad yw Llywodraeth Cymru yn arbennig o hoff o GYC, a hynny am fod y mesurau mor wael yng Nghymru fel arfer. Clywais yr hyn a ddywedodd y Gweinidog, inni weld rhywfaint o welliant yn hynny o beth, ond mae hynny o sylfaen isel, ac rydym yn dal i fod ar ei hôl hi o gymharu â gweddill y DU.

Gan droi yn ôl atoch chi, Rhun ap Iorwerth, gwnaethoch wrthdweud eich hun i ryw raddau. Ar y naill law, dywedasoch nad ydych yn ystyried bod economi Cymru wedi'i datgysylltu oddi wrth economi'r DU—safbwyt braf iawn i'w glywed gan blaidd genedlaetholgar, ac yn eithaf gwahanol i'r safbwyt a goleddir gan yr SNP yn yr Alban, er nad yw'r safbwyt hwnnw yn cael derbyniad crystal yn ôl pob golwg, felly nid wyf yn eich beio o gwbl am gilio oddi ar hynny—ond yna aethoch ymlaen i ddweud na ddylai economi Cymru fod yn ddibynnol ar economi'r DU. Wel, wrth gwrs, bydd yn dibynnu ar economi'r DU. Mae'r Blaid Lafur yn gwybod bod y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig yn gwybod—

18:01 **Rhun ap Iorwerth** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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Will you take an intervention?

A wnewch chi dderbyn ymyriad?

18:01 **Nick Ramsay** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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In one moment. The Liberal Democrats know that. Yes, we need to grow our economy, but we also need to recognise those very strong links that make the UK economy work. I will give way.

Mewn eiliad. Mae'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn gwybod hynny. Oes, mae angen inni dyfu ein heonomi, ond mae angen inni hefyd gydnabod y cysylltiadau cryf iawn hynny sy'n gwneud i economi'r DU weithio. Ildiaf.

18:01 **Rhun ap Iorwerth** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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Will the Member admit that we are all interdependent in these islands, as we are interdependent within the European Union, and it is your party that will be putting forward a referendum on withdrawal from the European market?

A wnaiff yr Aelod gyfaddef bod pawb yn gyd-ddibynnol yn yr ynysoedd hyn, gan ein bod yn gyd-ddibynnol o fewn yr Undeb Ewropeaidd, ac mai'ch plaid chi fydd yn cyflwyno refferendwm ar dynnu'n ôl o'r farchnad Ewropeaidd?

18:01 **Nick Ramsay** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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I quite agree that we are all interdependent—

Cytunaf fod pawb yn gyd-ddibynnol—

18:01 **Janet Finch-Saunders** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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

Yes. Better together.

Ydy. Yn well gyda'n gilydd.

18:01 **Nick Ramsay** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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

We are indeed better together, as Janet Finch-Saunders has said. Why on earth do your colleagues, Rhun, not listen a little bit more to your sense, rather than peddling the usual sort of nonsense that would break this country up—[Interruption.] These islands up.

Rydym yn wir yn well gyda'n gilydd, fel y dywedodd Janet Finch-Saunders. Pam ar y ddaear nad yw eich cyd-Aelodau yn gwrando ychydig yn fwy ar eich synnwyr cyffredin chi, Rhun, yn hytrach na siarad y nonsens arferol a fyddai'n chwalu'r wlad hon—[Torri ar draws.] Chwalu'r ynysoedd hyn.

Eluned Parrott, with her usual breezy and optimistic panache, pointed out a far better picture than some other Members have pointed out. You are a realist, Eluned, I know that. You realise that lifting the Welsh economy out of the doldrums is linked to lifting the UK out of debt and cutting Labour's deficit, lifting hard-working families out of poverty by, as you said, raising the personal tax allowance to £10,500—a solid Conservative-Lib Dem commitment at the formation of the coalition Government—and making a real difference to people's lives across Wales. You also mentioned the importance of apprenticeships. We certainly need to support those. I know that the Minister recognises that as well, and all parties agree with that.

Mark Isherwood: the fact man. Your speech was full of facts, as usual. You put them forward eloquently enough; I do not need to repeat them. You quoted the IMF, which has said that the UK economy will be the fastest growing economy in Europe and that business confidence is high and growing, and you mentioned the OECD figures, but you also tempered that by pointing out that Wales remains the poorest part of the United Kingdom, despite previous assurances from Labour-led Welsh Governments, and GDP per capita in Wales is now down to 74% of the EU average.

Inward investment has increased and we welcome that increase, but we have to recognise that it is from a very low base. In fact, that is the case with many of the improvements. Where improvements are to be seen, they are from a low base. So, let us not be complacent about that.

Mick Antoniw—well. You were so—. Your contribution does not reflect your general sense in these matters, Mick. You welcomed the spirit that this debate was held in, welcoming the recent improvements in the UK economy—you were generous there. You resolutely, and probably sensibly, refused to take interventions while you bulldozed through a range of fantasies and strange statistics. How on earth you can think that raising the personal allowance to £10,500 disproportionately favours the rich, I do not understand, unless you have some strange concept of the rich as people on less than £10,500, which maybe in your world they would be.

Yn unol â'i steil fywiog a chadarnhaol arferol, creodd Eluned Parrott, ddarlun llawer gwell na rhai Aelodau eraill. Rydych yn realistig, Eluned, fe wn. Rydych yn sylweddoli bod adfer economi Cymru yn gysylltiedig â lleihau dyled y DU a thorri diffyg Llafur, codi teuluoedd gweithgar allan o dldodi, fel y dywedasoch, drwy godi'r lwfans treth personol i £10,500—ymlwymiad cadarn gan y Ceidwadwyr a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol wrth ffurfio Llywodraeth glynblaid—a gwneud gwahaniaeth gwirioneddol i fywydau pobl ledled Cymru. Soniasoch hefyd am bwysigrwydd prentisiaethau. Yn sicr, mae angen inni gefnogi'r rheini. Gwn fod y Gweinidog yn cydnabod hynny hefyd, ac mae pob plaid yn cytuno â hynny.

Mark Isherwood: dyn y ffeithiau. Roedd eich arraith yn llawn ffeithiau, fel arfer. Fe'u cyflwynwyd yn ddigon huawdl; nid oes angen imi eu hailadrodd. Dyfynnwyd y Gronfa Ariannol Ryngwladol, sydd wedi dweud mai economi'r DU fydd yr economi sy'n tyfu gyflymaf yn Ewrop a bod hyder busnes yn uchel ac yn cynyddu, a soniwyd am ffigurau'r Sefydliad ar gyfer Cydweithrediaid a Datblygiad Economaidd, ond cymedrolwyd y sylwadau hefyd drwy nodi mai Cymru yw'r rhan dlotaf o'r Deyrnas Unedig, er gwaethaf sicrwydd blaenorol gan Lywodraethau o dan arweiniad Llafur Cymru, ac mae CMC y pen yng Nghymru bellach wedi gostwng i 74% o gyfartaledd yr UE.

Mae mewnfuddsoddiad wedi cynyddu ac rydym yn croesawu'r cynydd hwnnw, ond rhaid inni gydnabod ei fod wedi digwydd o sylfaen isel iawn. Yn wir, mae hynny'n wir am lawer o'r gwelliannau. Lle gwelir gwelliannau, maent yn dod o sylfaen isel. Felly, gadewch inni beidio â bod yn hunanfodlon am hynny.

Mick Antoniw—wel. Roeddech mor—. Nid yw eich cyfraniad yn adlewyrchu eich synnwr fel arfer yn y materion hyn, Mick. Bu ichi groesawu ysbryd y ddadl hon, croesawu'r gwelliannau diweddar yn economi'r DU—buoch yn hael yn hynny o beth. Gwnaethoch wrthod yn lân, ac yn synhwyrol yn ôl pob tebyg, â derbyn ymyriadau wrth ichi refru a rhoi drwy bob math o ffantasiau ac ystadegau rhyfedd. Sut ar y ddaear y gallwch gredus bod codi'r lwfans personol i £10,500 yn ffafrio'r cyoethog yn anghymesur, ni ddeallaf, oni bai fod gennych ryw syniad rhyfedd o'r cyoethog fel pobl sy'n ennill llai na £10,500, y maent yn ei wneud o bosibl, yn eich byd.

18:04

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

Will the Member give way?

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A wnaiff yr Aelod ildio?

18:04

Nick Ramsay [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I will in a moment.

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Gwnaf mewn munud.

I can only assume that you have been reading Julie James's copy of 'Why Not Trust the Tories?', which she mentioned yesterday and which is peddled by the UK Labour Party. I give way.

Ni allaf ond tybio eich bod wedi bod yn darllen copi Julie James o 'Pam na ddylid ymddiried yn y Torïaid?', a grybwylwyd ganddi ddoe ac sy'n cael ei goleddu gan Blaid Lafur y DU. Ildiaf.

18:04

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

Thank you for taking the intervention, which is undoubtedly because you are not making a pejorative speech. Do you not agree with me that the biggest fantasy of all was when the Tories and the coalition said, 'We are all in this together'?

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18:04

Nick Ramsay [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

No, the biggest fantasy of all was when you built up a £60 billion deficit in the UK, which was then doubled by the banking crisis. You then tried to pretend that the problems were all caused by the banks and the current UK Government. You did not fix the roof when the sun was shining. That was the problem, Mick. If you had, we would not be in the mess that we are now. I might well write my own book, 'Never trust a story peddled by Mick Antoniw'. I will not be quite so unfair, though, because, actually, Mick, I do like quite a lot of the things that you say when you are being sensible, and not in here.

Diolch i chi am dderbyn yr ymyriad, a hynny'n ddi-os am nad ydych yn gwneud arraith ddifriol. Oni chytunwch â mi mai'r ffantasi mwyaf oll a gafwyd oedd pan ddywedodd y Torïaid a'r glymplaid, 'Rydym i gyd yn yr un cwch?

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Mohammad Asghar gave an absolute barnstormer of a speech. It was well worth the round of applause that you got, Mohammad. The Conservative-Lib Dem Coalition has done its best to turn around, and I quote, 'the debt oil tanker'—what a fantastic metaphor. Julie James intervened on you and mentioned the deficit being bigger than ever. That is the complete opposite of the truth, of course; the deficit is down by a third, not as much as we would want it to be, but there we are, another strange development from the Labour benches this afternoon.

Na, y ffantasi mwyaf oll a gafwyd oedd pan gronnwyd diffyg o £60 biliwn gennych yn y DU, a gafodd ei ddyblu wedyn oherwydd yr argywng bancio. Yna gwnaethoch geisio esgus bod y problemau wedi cael eu hachosi'n gyfan gwbl gan y banciau a Llywodraeth bresennol y DU. Methwyd â thrwsio'r to pan oedd yr haul yn disgleirio. Dyna oedd y broblem, Mick. Pe baech wedi gwneud hynny, ni fyddem yn wynebu'r llanast presennol. Efallai y dylwn ysgrifennu fy llyfr fy hun, 'Peidiwch byth â chredu stori gan Mick Antoniw'. Ni fyddaf mor annheg â hynny, fodd bynnag, oherwydd, mewn gwirionedd, Mick, rwy'n eithaf hoffi llawer o'r pethau yr ydych yn eu dweud pan fyddwch yn gall, ac nid o ran hyn.

Rhoddodd Mohammad Asghar arraith hynod frigowthlyd. Roedd yn llawn haeddu'r gymeradwyaeth a gawsoch, Mohammad. Mae clymbail y Ceidwadwyr a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol wedi gwneud ei gorau i droi, os caf ddyfynnu, 'Ilong olew y ddyled'—am drosiad gwych. Gwnaeth Julie James ymyrryd a sôn bod y diffyg yn fwy nag erioed. Mae hynny'n gwbl anghywir, wrth gwrs, mae'r diffyg wedi gostwng o draean, nid cymaint ag y byddem yn dymuno, ond dyna ni, datblygiad rhyfedd arall o'r meinciau Llafur y prynhawn yma.

18:06

Joyce Watson [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Will you take an intervention?

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18:06

Nick Ramsay [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

[Continues.]—in another act of gross hypocrisy. The Labour Party is also keen to mention the minimum wage, which—

Bydd y rhan fwyaf o bobl, gadewch inni wynebu'r gwir, yn peidio â thalu treth yn gyfan gwbl, diolch i gyllideb y DU a welsom heddiw. Peidied neb ag anghofio mai'r Blaid Lafur a diddymodd y dreth band o 10c—

18:06

Joyce Watson [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Will you take an intervention?

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18:06

Nick Ramsay [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

[Continues.]—the Welsh Conservatives and the Conservative Party do now support. It seems that we support it more than the Labour Party does—another strange turnaround in the economics of Labour politics. I will give way to Joyce Watson.

[Parhau.]—Mewn gweithred arall gwbl ragrithiol. Mae'r Blaid Lafur hefyd yn awyddus i sôn am yr isafswm cyflog, y mae'r—

18:06

A wnewch chi dderbyn ymyriad?

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18:06

A wnewch chi dderbyn ymyriad?

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18:06

[Parhau.]—Ceidwadwyr Cymreig a'r Blaid Geidwadol yn ei gefnogi bellach. Ymddengys ein bod yn fwy cefnogol iddo na'r Blaid Lafur—tro pedol rhyfedd arall yn economeg gwleidyddiaeth Lafur. Ildiaf i Joyce Watson.

18:06

Joyce Watson [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you. I just want to mention three things: the granny tax, the bedroom tax and VAT. These are all things that people have suffered, and that is why they do not actually feel better off. People are now £1,600 worse off than previously. I would also like you, if you would, to say why the Office for Budget Responsibility has said that people will be worse off in 2015 than they were in 2010.

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Diolch. Hoffwn sôn am dri pheth: treth nain, y dreth ystafell wely a TAW. Mae'r rhain i gyd yn bethau y mae pobl wedi eu dioddef, a dyna pam nad ydynt yn teimlo'n well eu byd mewn gwirionedd. Mae pobl bellach £1,600 yn waeth eu byd nag o'r blaen. Carwn hefyd pe baech yn Byddwn hefyd yn pe bdweud, os gwnewch chi, pam mae'r Swyddfa Cyfrifoldeb Cyllidebol wedi dweud y bydd pobl yn waeth eu byd yn 2015 nag yr oeddent yn 2010.

18:06

Russell George [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Will you take an intervention?

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A wnewch chi dderbyn ymyriad?

18:06

Nick Ramsay [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I do not think that I can take two at once. [Laughter.] I will give way in a moment.

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Ni chredaf y gallaf dderbyn dau ar y tro. [Chwerthin.] Ildiaf mewn munud.

I will say three things to you, Joyce Watson: debt, debt and debt. That is what has caused the cuts and the savings that have had to be made. Where would we be now if it were not for the replacement of the Labour Government with the UK Lib Dem-Conservative Coalition? [Interruption.]

Dywedaf dri pheth wrthych, Joyce Watson: dyled, dyled a dyled. Dyna'r hyn sydd wedi achosi'r toriadau a'r arbedion y bu'n rhaid eu gwneud. Beth fyddai'r sefyllfa yn awr pe na bai'r Llywodraeth Lafur wedi cael ei disodli gan Glymblaid Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol a Cheidwadwyr y DU? [Torri ar draws.]

18:07

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

There is no time.

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Nid oes amser.

Nick Ramsay [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

We have taken more interventions from you than you did us, so I think that is fair. Where would we be now? I will take a very brief intervention from Russell George.

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Rydym wedi derbyn mwy o ymyriadau gennych nag y gwnaethoch chi pan oeddem am eu gwneud, felly credaf ei bod yn deg. Beth fyddai'r sefyllfa yn awr? Derbyniaf ymyriad byr iawn gan Russell George.

18:07

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

No, you do not have time. If you sit down, I will call time. You have 30 seconds if you remain on your feet. If you sit down, it is over.

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Na, nid oes amser gennych. Os eisteddwch i lawr, byddaf yn datgan bod y ddadl ar ben. Bydd gennych 30 eiliad os arhoswch ar eich traed. Os eisteddwch i lawr, mae'r ddadl ar ben.

Nick Ramsay [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Okay. I will stay standing then. Minister, we welcome your commitment to better support business. I completely disagree with your saying that the economic improvement in Wales has happened in spite of the UK Coalition Government. I believe that it has happened in spite of Gordon Brown's best efforts to derail the UK economy over 10 years by driving up borrowing. Welsh Conservatives will support any effort to increase inward investment, hence our inward investment policy—our vision for that. We support efforts to reform Finance Wales, hence our 'Invest Wales' policy. In short, we support efforts to lower taxes in Wales, deal with the deficit, and get Wales moving. That is what the UK Government budget will help you to do, if you listen to it.

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O'r gorau. Arhosaf ar fy nhraed felly. Weinidog, rydym yn croesawu'r ymrwymiad i gynorthwyo busnes yn well. Anghytunaf yn llwyr â'ch honiad bod y gwelliant economaidd yng Nghymru wedi digwydd er gwaethaf Llywodraeth Glymblaid y DU. Credaf iddo ddigwydd er gwaethaf ymdrechion gorau Gordon Brown i ddinistrio economi'r DU dros 10 mlynedd drwy fenthyca fwyfwy. Bydd y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig yn cefnogi unrhyw ymdrech i sicrhau mwy o fewnfuddsoddi, a dyna pam ein bod wedi llunio polisi ar fewnfuddsoddi—ein gweledigaeth ar gyfer hynny. Rydym yn cefnogi ymdrechion i ddiwygio Cyllid Cymru, a dyna pam ein bod wedi llunio'r polisi 'Buddsoddi Cymru'. Yn gryno, rydym yn cefnogi ymdrechion i ostwng trethi yng Nghymru, ymdrin â'r diffyg, a chael Cymru yn symud. Dyna'r hyn y bydd cyllideb Llywodraeth y DU yn helpu ichi ei wneud, os byddwch yn gwrando arni.

18:08

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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I can honestly say that this debate has had all the subtlety and decorum of a brass band at a funeral. [Laughter.] I do hope that behaviour will improve in the next debate.

Gallaf ddweud yn holol onest bod y ddadl hon wedi bod mor gynll i a gweddus â band pres mewn angladd. [Chwerthin.] Gobeithio y bydd yr ymddygiad yn gwella yn y ddadl nesaf.

The proposal is to agree the motion without amendment. Does any Member object? There is objection. I defer voting until voting time.

Y cynnig yw y dylid derbyn y cynnig heb ei ddiwygio. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Oes. Gohiriaf y bleidlais tan yr amser pleidleisio.

Gohiriwyd y pleidleisio tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

Voting deferred until voting time.

Dadl Plaid Cymru: Rhwystrau i Gyflogaeth

Detholwyd y gwelliannau canlynol: gwelliannau 1 a 2 yn enw Aled Roberts, a gwelliannau 3 a 4 yn enw Paul Davies. Os derbynnir gwelliant 2, bydd gwelliant 3 yn cael ei ddad-ddethol.

Plaid Cymru Debate: Barriers to Employment

The following amendments have been selected: amendments 1 and 2 in the name of Aled Roberts, and amendments 3 and 4 in the name of Paul Davies. If amendment 2 is agreed, amendment 3 will be deselected.

18:08

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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I call on Jocelyn Davies to move the motion.

Galwaf ar Jocelyn Davies i gynnig y cynnig.

Cynnig NDM5467 Elin Jones

Motion NDM5467 Elin Jones

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i fynd i'r afael â rhwystrau i gyflogaeth a dilyniant gyrra drwy:

Calls on the Welsh Government to tackle barriers to employment and career progression by:

- a) Ymestyn gofal plant fforddiadwy ledled Cymru;
- b) Sicrhau bod cyrff y sector cyhoeddus yn cymryd camau gweithredu cadarnhaol i gynyddu amrywiaeth;
- c) Gweithio gyda chyflwynwyr mawr i gynyddu cyfleoedd i bobl anabl;
- d) Cefnogi'r cyflog byw a dileu arferion cyflogaeth gwael fel contractau dim oriau.

- a) Extending affordable childcare across Wales;
- b) Ensuring public sector bodies take positive action to increase diversity;
- c) Working with large employers to increase opportunities for disabled people;
- d) Supporting the living wage and eliminating poor employment practices such as zero-hours contracts.

18:08

Jocelyn Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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I move the motion.

Cynigiaf y cynnig.

Thank you, Deputy Presiding Officer, and I sincerely hope that the next hour will not be as embarrassing as witnessing the last hour in this Chamber was.

Diolch, Ddirprwy Lywydd, ac rwy'n mawr obeithio na fydd yr awr nesaf mor gywilyddus i'w gwyllo â'r awr ddiwethaf yn y Siambwr hon.

There is no one easy solution that will overcome the barriers to employment that people in Wales face. Those barriers can be both external and internal, personal and structural. Each barrier rarely exists in isolation, but rather they intersect and reinforce each other, making tackling any problem even more of a challenge.

Nid oes un ateb hawdd a fydd yn goresgyn y rhwystrau i gyflogaeth y mae pobl yng Nghymru yn eu hwynebu. Gall y rhwystrau hynny fod yn allanol ac yn fewnol, yn bersonol ac yn strwythurol. Anaml y mae pob rhwystr yn bodoli ar wahân, ond yn hytrach maent yn croestorri ac yn atgyfnerthu ei gilydd, gan olygu bod mynd i'r afael ag unrhyw broblem yn fwy oher byth.

However, it is a challenge that it is vital that we rise to. There is little doubt that a society with high unemployment rates is unhealthy and unhappy. A widely cited study from the 1990s claims that long-term unemployment is the health equivalent of smoking 10 packs of cigarettes a day. I have no idea whether that is true, but it is often cited and I have cited it again today. Anyway, there is no doubt that it is incredibly unhealthy for you. The Princes Trust recently found that those young people who are long-term unemployed are more than twice as likely as their peers to believe that they have nothing to live for. That is a particularly sobering figure, given the number of long-term unemployed young people in Wales. As was mentioned in the previous debate, that has gone up by over 400% since 2011. So, is it any surprise that there is increasing talk of young people today being a lost generation?

We must do what we can to help those who are out of work to overcome the barriers they face. In Government, there are some things that we cannot do, but that does not mean that we should give up when it comes to things that we can change. We cannot easily change the minds of unethical employers who discriminate against women with young children when they are hiring, but we can ensure that affordable and accessible childcare is available to help families, and particularly mothers, to balance work with home life. Currently, families here face childcare costs that are among the highest in the world. Even part-time childcare in the UK costs more than the average mortgage. Last year, families saw a greater increase in childcare costs in Wales than anywhere else in the UK. Plaid Cymru is concerned that families here are being left behind.

Cost is not the only issue facing families trying to find childcare. There is a serious lack of availability in some parts of the country, particularly with families who have extra requirements. The Government's Flying Start programme provides 15 hours of free childcare for disadvantaged children, but is available only in designated areas and children outside those areas obviously miss out. None of our councils reports having enough childcare in rural areas. Only 6% reported having adequate provision for disabled children, and for children of parents with atypical work patterns, such as shift-workers, it is even worse. Access to basic provision is seriously lagging behind other areas of the UK: just 17% of local authorities in Wales reported having sufficient childcare for three and four-year-olds, compared with a UK average of 63%. These gaps in provision mean that our children are missing out, because research shows that good-quality early years education can improve children's life chances. In the long term, they are more likely to gain and retain jobs.

Sadly, the gender pay gap is alive and well. Office for National Statistics figures show that the gap in median hourly earnings between all male and all female workers in Wales is 16.5%, with men earning £11.70 an hour, and women £9.77. So, better access to childcare could enable more women to work and to work in the higher paid, more skilled jobs that they currently find themselves excluded from.

Fodd bynnag, mae'n her y mae'n rhaid inni ymateb iddi. Nid oes fawr amheuaeth bod cymdeithas â chyfraddau diweithdra uchel yn afiach ac yn anhapus. Honna astudiaeth o'r 1990au y dyfynnwyd yn helaeth ohoni bod diweithdra hirdymor, yn nhermau iechyd, yn cyfateb i ysmgu 10 pecyn o sigaréts y dydd. Nid oes unrhyw syniad gennyl a yw hynny'n wir, ond fe'i dyfynnir yn aml ac rwyf wedi'i dyfynnu eto heddiw. Beth bynnag, nid oes unrhyw amheuaeth nad yw'n iachus mewn unrhyw ffordd. Canfu Ymddiriedolaeth y Tywysog yn ddiweddar fod y bobl ifanc hynny sydd wedi bod yn ddi-waith ers cyfnod hir fwy na dwywaith mor debygol â'u cyfoedion o gredu nad yw eu bywyd yn werth ei fyw. Mae hynny'n ffigur arbennig o lwm, o ystyried nifer y bobl ifanc a fu'n ddi-waith ers cyfnod hir yng Nghymru. Fel y soniwyd yn y ddadl flaenorol, mae'r ffigur hwnnw wedi cynyddu dros 400% ers 2011. Felly, a yw'n unrhyw syndod ein bod yn cyfeirio'n gynyddol at bobl ifanc heddiw fel cenhedlaeth goll?

Rhaid inni wneud yr hyn a allwn i helpu'r rheini sy'n ddi-waith i oresgyn y rhwystrau a wynebir ganddynt. Fel Llywodraeth, mae rhai pethau na allwn eu gwneud, ond nid yw hynny'n golygu y dylem roi'r ffidil yn y to o ran y pethau y gallwn eu newid. Nid yw'n hawdd newid meddwl cyflogwyr anfoesegol sy'n gwahaniaethu yn erbyn menywod â phlant ifanc pan fyddant yn reciwtio, ond gallwn sicrhau bod gofal plant fforddiadwy a hygrych ar gael i helpu teuluoedd, ac yn enwedig mamau, i gydbwyso gwaith a bywyd cartref. Ar hyn o bryd, mae teuluoedd yma yn wynebu costau gofal plant sydd ymhlieth yr uchaf yn y byd. Mae hyd yn oed gofal plant rhan-amser yn y DU yn costio mwy na'r morgais cyfartalog. Y llynedd, cynyddodd costau gofal plant teuluoedd fwy yng Nghymru nag yn unrhyw le arall yn y DU. Mae Plaid Cymru yn pryderu bod teuluoedd yma yn cael eu hesgeulus.

Nid cost yw'r unig broblem sy'n wynebu teuluoedd sy'n ceisio dod o hyd i ofal plant. Mae diffyg argaeledd difrifol mewn rhai rhannau o'r wlad, yn enwedig gyda theuluoedd â gofynion ychwanegol. Mae rhaglen Dechrau'n Deg y Llywodraeth yn darparu 15 awr o ofal plant am ddim i blant dan anfantais, ond dim ond mewn ardaloedd dynodedig y mae'r rhaglen ar gael ac mae plant y tu allan i'r ardaloedd hynny yn amlwg yn colli allan. Nid oes unrhyw un o'n cynghorau yn nodi bod gando ddigonol o ofal plant mewn ardaloedd gwledig. Dim ond 6% sy'n nodi bod ganddynt ddarpariaeth ddigonol ar gyfer plant anabl, ac i blant rhieni â phatrymau gwaith annodwediadol, megis gweithwyr sifft, mae'n waeth byth. Mae mynediad i ddarpariaeth sylfaenol yn sylweddol waeth nag ardaloedd eraill o'r DU: dim ond 17% o awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru a nododd fod ganddynt ofal plant digonol ar gyfer plant tair a phedair oed, o gymharu â chyfartaedd y DU o 63%. Mae'r bylchau hyn o ran darpariaeth yn golygu bod ein plant yn colli allan, gan fod ymchwil yn dangos y gall addysg blynnyddoedd cynnar o ansawdd da wella cyfleoedd bywyd plant. Yn yr hirdymor, maent yn fwy tebygol o gael swyddi a'u cadw.

Yn anffodus, mae'r bwlcwch cyflog rhwng y rhywiau yn fyw ac yn iach. Dengys ffigurau'r Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol fod bwlcwch o 16.5% o ran enillion canolrifol fesul awr yr holl ddynion a'r holl fenywod sy'n gweithio yng Nghymru, gyda dynion yn ennill £11.70 yr awr, a menywod £9.77. Felly, gallai gwell mynediad i ofal plant alluogi mwy o fenywod i weithio ac i weithio yn y swyddi mwy medrus â chyflogau uwch y caint eu heithrio rhagddynt ar hyn o bryd.

Exploitative working conditions are also on the rise, and I am sure that you are all aware how passionately I feel about the inappropriate use of zero-hours contracts. I could not help but mention that again today. While they offer necessary flexibility in some contexts, when they are poorly used, they promote job insecurity and low pay and they enable employers to avoid giving their workers the rights that they are entitled to, and we heard yesterday from Kirsty Williams about how this actually prevents people from taking work.

Let us not just look at the figures, but at what we can do to overcome the barriers to meaningful work. I know that childcare is not a magic fix; there are underlying systemic issues that act as barriers to employment, and we need to tackle workplace segregation, whereby 91% of skilled jobs are held by men and even self-employed women earn significantly less than self-employed men because of outdated and limited ideas about men's work and women's work. So, we need to work on raising confidence and improving skills, and we need to raise the aspirations of people right across the country. However, affordable and accessible childcare is a good place to start. It will not only empower women to take their proper place in the workplace, but improve the life chances of a future generation.

Mae amodau gwaith ecsbloetiol hefyd ar gynnydd, ac rwy'n siŵr eich bod oll yn ymwybodol fod gennyf deimladau cryf iawn am y defnydd amhriodol o gontactau dim oriau. Ni allwn ond sôn am hynny eto heddiw. Er eu bod yn cynnig hyblygrwydd angenrheidiol mewn rhai cyd-destunau, pan gânt eu defnyddio'n amhriodol, maent yn hybu ansicrwydd mewn swyddi a chyflogau isel ac yn galluogi cyflogwyr i osgoi rhoi'r hawliau i'w gweithwyr y mae ganddynt yr hawl iddynt, a chlywsom ddoe gan Kirsty Williams sut y mae hyn mewn gwirionedd yn atal pobl rhag derbyn gwaith.

Gadewch inni beidio â dim ond edrych ar y ffigurau, ond ar yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud i oresgyn y rhwystrau i waith ystyrlon. Gwn nad yw gofal plant yn ateb hudol; mae materion systemig sylfaenol sy'n gweithredu fel rhwystrau i gyflogaeth, ac mae angen inni fynd i'r afael ag achosion o raniadau yn y gweithle, lle y caiff 91% o swyddi medrus eu dal gan ddynion ac mae hyd yn oed menywod hunangyflogedig yn ennill swm sylweddol is na dynion hunangyflogedig oherwydd syniadau hen ffasiwn a chyfngedig am waith dynion a gwaith merched. Felly, mae angen inni weithio i godi hyder a gwella sgiliau, ac mae angen inni godi dyheadau pobl ledled y wlad. Fodd bynnag, mae gofal plant fforddiadwy a hygrych yn fan cychwyn da. Yn ogystal â grymuso menywod i ymgymryd â'u lle priodol yn y gweithle, bydd hefyd yn gwella cyfleoedd bywyd cenedlaethau'r dyfodol.

18:14

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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I have selected the four amendments to the motion. If amendment 2 is agreed, then amendment 3 will be deselected. I call on Eluned Parrott to move amendments 1 and 2, tabled in the name of Aled Roberts.

Rwyf wedi dethol pedwar gwelliant i'r cynnig. Os derbynir gwelliant 2, yna caiff gwelliant 3 ei ddad-ddethol. Galwaf ar Eluned Parrott i gynnig gwelliannau 1 a 2, a gyflwynwyd yn enw Aled Roberts.

Gwelliant 1—Aled Roberts

Amendment 1—Aled Roberts

Cynnwys is-bwynt b) newydd ac ailrifo yn unol â hynny:

Insert as new sub-point b) and renumber accordingly:

Adolygu beth sy'n achosi'r cynnydd mewn llwythi gwaith ac absenoldeb salwch oherwydd straen ymysg gweithwyr yn y sector cyhoeddus, yn benodol nyrsys ac athrawon.

Reviewing the causes of increasing workloads and stress-related sick leave for public sector workers, in particular nurses and teachers.

Gwelliant 2—Aled Roberts

Amendment 2—Aled Roberts

Dileu is-bwynt d) a rhoi yn ei le:

Delete sub-point d) and replace with:

Croesawu'r cynnydd yn y lwfans personol i £10,000 yn ogystal ag ymgynghoriad Adran Busnes, Arloesedd a Sgiliau y DU ar gontactau dim oriau.

Welcoming the raise in the personal allowance to £10,000 and the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills' consultation into zero-hours contracts.

18:14

Eluned Parrott [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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

I move amendments 1 and 2 tabled in the name of Aled Roberts.

Cynigiaf welliannau 1 a 2 a gyflwynwyd yn enw Aled Roberts.

I thank Plaid Cymru for bringing forward this debate today, although I think that it is unfortunate that, on a subject on which there is so much apparent agreement across the Chamber, namely a desire to tackle discrimination and inequality. However, there is still a need for the Chamber to be pressing for action.

Diolch i Plaid Cymru am gyflwyno'r ddadl hon heddiw, er ei bod yn anffodus, o ystyried bod cytundeb cyffredinol ar y pwnc, yn ôl pob tebyg, ar draws y Siambwr, sef awydd i fynd i'r afael â gwahaniaethu ac anghydraddoldeb. Fodd bynnag, mae angen o hyd i'r Siambwr bwysio am gamau gweithredu.

As one of this Assembly's working parents, I recognise many of the issues that you have raised in introducing this debate today, and we have to recognise that working fathers as well as working mothers are affected by the issues in terms of equality, such as accessibility of affordable childcare, which is a key issue.

When we talk about barriers to career progression, we need to look at the whole picture and that includes how settled people are in their workplace, their enthusiasm and their ambition. They are key factors in not only how they move their own careers forward, but also in how they drive forward the success of the organisations that they work for. In public sector professions, such as teaching and nursing, that has an impact on their ability to deliver the services that we expect from them.

Earlier this month, a National Union of Teachers report highlighted the disproportionate amount of time lost through sickness in the teaching profession in Wales, much of which is through the effects of work-related stress. Twelve Welsh councils, including Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan in my region, saw an increase in the number of teachers taking sick leave as a result of stress over the period between 1 January and 31 December 2013, in comparison with the same period the previous year. Figures obtained by NUT Cymru show that while overall stress-induced leave is down slightly, it still remains stubbornly high, with over 50,000 teaching days a year lost. This has an adverse effect on the quality of teaching and learning in schools, as well as financial consequences for the schools. Heavy workloads, changes in the curriculum and increasing criticism of professionalism were named among the reasons behind some of these factors, and we have to take that on board.

In our hospitals, too, we are seeing nurses struggling with the increased demands of the health service and being in a state of flux. In Wales, our nurses are under tremendous pressure, especially with the uncertainty around hospital reorganisations and the personal anxiety that that creates. In addition to that, there are more patients per nurse to care for than any other part of the UK. Is it any wonder that we are seeing the strain starting to show on those human beings as individuals? That is why it is vital that we lead the way in Wales, and why I was so pleased to support Kirsty Williams's Bill to enshrine minimum nurse staffing levels in law in Wales.

That is also why we are calling for a review of increasing workloads and stress-related sick leave for public sector workers, in particular nurses and teachers, but others too, so that we can understand the reasons behind it and start to tackle the root causes that are causing so much trouble. We need to make real progress here, or, as we look to the future, we are going to struggle to encourage young people to take up these vocations and build the highly-skilled and highly-motivated teaching and nursing professions that we hope to maintain for the future.

Fel un o'r rhieni sy'n gweithio yn y Cynulliad hwn, rwy'n cydnabod llawer o'r materion a godwyd gennych wrth gyflwyno'r ddadl hon heddiw, a rhaid inni gydnabod bod y materion o ran cydraddoldeb, megis hygyrchedd gofal plant fforddiadwy, sy'n fater allweddol, yn effeithio ar dadau sy'n gweithio yn ogystal â mamau sy'n gweithio.

Pan fyddwn yn sôn am ffactorau sy'n atal dilyniant gyrrfa, mae angen inni edrych ar y darlun cyfan ac mae hynny'n cynnwys sut mae pobl wedi ymgartrefu yn eu gweithle, eu brwdrydedd a'u huchelgais. Maent yn ffactorau allweddol, nid yn unig o ran sut y maent yn datblygu eu gyrfaoedd eu hunain, ond hefyd o ran sut y maent yn llywio llwyddiant y sefydliadau y maent yn gweithio iddynt. Mewn proffesiynau o fewn y sector cyhoeddus, megis addysgu a nyrso, caiff hynny effaith ar eu gallu i ddarparu'r gwasanaethau rydym yn disgwl eu cael ganddynt.

Yn gynharach y mis hwn, tynnodd adroddiad gan Undeb Cenedlaethol yr Athrawon sylw at yr amser anghymesur a gollwyd oherwydd salwch yn y proffesiwn addysgu yng Nghymru, y mae llawer ohono'n gysylltiedig ag effeithiau straen sy'n gysylltiedig â gwaith. Mewn 12 o gyngorau yng Nghymru, gan gynnwys Caerdydd a Bro Morgannwg yn fy rhanbarth i, bu cynydd yn nifer yr athrawon ar gyfnodau o absenoldeb salwch o ganlyniad i straen yn ystod y cyfnod rhwng 1 Ionawr a 31 Rhagfyr 2013, o gymharu â'r un cyfnod yn ystod y flwyddyn flaenorol. Dengys ffigurau a gafwyd gan NUT Cymru, er bod lefelau absenoldeb cyffredinol a achosir gan straen wedi lleihau ychydig, eu bod yn parhau'n ystyfnig o uchel, a bod dros 50,000 o ddiwrnodau addysgu yn cael eu colli. Caiff hyn effaith andwyol ar ansawdd yr addysgu a'r dysgu mewn ysgolion, yn ogystal â chanlyniadau ariannol i'r ysgolion. Roedd llwythi gwaith trwm, newidiadau yn y cwricwlwm a beirniadaeth gynyddol o broffesiynoldeb ymhliith y rhesymau a oedd yn sail i'r ffactorau hyn, a rhaid inni ystyried hynny.

Yn ein hysbytai, hefyd, mae nyrssys yn ei chael hi'n anodd ymdopi â gofynion cynyddol y gwasanaeth iechyd a chyfnod o newid. Yng Nghymru, mae ein nyrssys dan bwysau aruthrol, yn enwedig o ystyried yr ansicrwydd ynghylch ad-drefnu ysbytai a'r pryder personol y mae hynny'n ei greu. Yn ogystal â hynny, mae mwy o gleifion fesul nyrs i ofalu amdanynt nag yn unrhyw ran arall o'r DU. A yw'n unrhyw syndod ein bod yn gweld y straen yn dechrau dangos ar y bodau dynol hynny fel unigolion? Dyna pam ei bod yn hanfodol inni arwain y ffordd yng Nghymru, a pham yr oeddwn mor falch o gefnogi Bil Kirsty Williams i gynnwys lefelau staffio gofynnol ar gyfer nyrssys yng Nghymru.

Dyna pam hefyd ein bod yn galw am adolygiad o lwythi gwaith a lefelau absenoldeb salwch sy'n gysylltiedig â straen cynyddol ymhliith gweithwyr y sector cyhoeddus, yn arbennig nyrssys ac athrawon, ond eraill hefyd, er mwyn inni allu deall y rhesymau y tu ôl i'r cynydd hwnnw a dechrau mynd i'r afael â'r ffactorau sylfaenol sy'n achosi cymaint o drafferth. Mae angen inni wneud cynydd gwirioneddol yn hyn o beth, neu, wrth inni edrych i'r dyfodol, byddwn yn ei chael hi'n anodd annog pobl ifanc i ymgymryd â'r galwedigaethau hyn a chreu'r proffesiynau addysgu a nyrso medrus iawn, llawn cymhelliant rydym yn gobeithio eu cynnal ar gyfer y dyfodol.

When it comes to household incomes, one element is the level of pay that you receive, but just as important, I would argue, is the proportion of it that you get to keep. I welcome the introduction of the living wage where it is affordable, and I also recognise that many of the arguments used against the living wage were previously used against the minimum wage, which was introduced without the catastrophic impact that some had anticipated. However, we also have to recognise that, in Wales, small businesses in particular are struggling, and we must tread carefully with the introduction of these kinds of things. That is why I would prefer, on balance, to see the burden of increasing net incomes for households for the lowest paid in our society fall on the tax system, if that is at all possible. We have seen the budget announcement today that sees this policy being extended yet again, and over 1.1 million workers in Wales have seen the benefits of this income tax cut already. More than 150,000 of Wales's lowest income workers have now been taken out of the tax system altogether. I would like to see that threshold continue to rise to the point where no-one on the minimum wage pays any income tax at all; that would be my personal ambition, because we need to protect households' net incomes as a whole.

We also welcome the consultation on zero-hours contracts that is being undertaken by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills at the moment, which I think is a balanced approach. We have heard a lot of heat but we have not seen a lot of light on the subject of zero-hours contracts. We need to get under the skin of them to understand whether there are any benefits to the workers who take them up. Some people may take them up out of choice, but where they are mandatory they are clearly an imposition. We need to understand the impact that that has on the individuals who use them. For instance, in Rhondda Cynon Taf recently there was an instance where the unions were arguing in favour of zero-hours contracts on behalf of a small group of social care workers, despite opposing them in general.

Gwelliant 3—Paul Davies

Dileu popeth yn is-bwynt d) a rhoi yn ei le:

Cefnogi arferion rheoli da sy'n sicrhau cysylltiadau da yn y gweithle a chyflogaeth gynaliadwy.

Gwelliant 4—Paul Davies

Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau bod sgiliau gweithio wrth galon ei Hadolygiad Cwricwlwm ac Asesu newydd er mwyn lleihau'r rhwystrau y mae pobl ifanc yn eu hwynebu o ran cyflogaeth.

O ran incwm cartrefi, un elfen yw lefel y cyflog rydych yn ei gael, ond byddwn yn dadlau bod y gyfran y cewch ei chadw yr un mor bwysig. Croesawaf y ffaith bod cyflog byw wedi'i gyflwyno lle bo'n fforddiadwy, ac rwy'n cydnabod hefyd fod llawer o'r dadleuon a ddefnyddiwyd yn erbyn yr cyflog byw wedi'u defnyddio'n flaenorol yn erbyn yr isafswm cyflog, a gyflwynwyd heb yr effaith gastaadrofig a ragwelwyd gan rai. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni gydnabod hefyd, yng Nghymru, fod busnesau bach yn arbennig yn ei chael hi'n anodd, a rhaid inni droedio'n ofalus wrth gyflwyno'r mathau hyn o bethau. Dyna pam, ar ôl meddwl, y byddai'n well gennyf weld baich incwm net cynyddol i gartrefi ar gyfer y bobl sy'n ennill leiaf yn ein cymdeithas yn dod i ran y system dreth, os yw hynny'n bosibl mewn unrhyw ffordd. Gwelsom gyhoeddiad y gyllideb heddiw y caiff y polisi hwn ei ehangu unwaith eto, a bu'r gostyngiad hwn mewni treth incwm o fudd i dros 1.1 miliwn o weithwyr yng Nghymru eisoes. Mae dros 150,000 o weithwyr incwm isaf Cymru bellach wedi'u heithrio o'r system dreth yn llwyr. Hoffwn weld y trothwy hwnnw yn parhau i gynyddu hyd nes na fydd unrhyw un sy'n ennill yr isafswm cyflog yn talu unrhyw dreth incwm o gwbl; dyna fyddai fy uchelgais bersonol, oherwydd mae angen inni amddiffyn incwm net cartrefi yn gyffredinol.

Croesawn hefyd yr ymgynghoriad ar gontactau dim oriau sy'n mynd rhagddo gan yr Adran Busnes, Arloesedd a Sgiliau ar hyn o bryd, gan ddilyn dull gweithredu cytbwys, credaf. Rydym wedi clywed llawer o ddadlau ond nid ydym wedi gweld llawer o oleuni o ran contractau dim oriau. Mae angen inni dreiddio i fanylion y contractau hynny er mwyn deall pa un a oes unrhyw fudd i'r gweithwyr sy'n ymrwymo iddynt. Efallai y bydd rhai pobl yn ymrwymo iddynt o'u gwirfodd, ond lle y byddant yn orfodol, maent yn amlwg yn cael eu gorfodi arnynt. Mae angen inni ddeall yr effaith a gaiff hynny ar yr unigolion sy'n eu defnyddio. Er enghraifft, yn Rhondda Cynon Taf yn ddiweddar, roedd enghraifft lle roedd yr undebau yn dadlau o blaid contractau dim oriau ar ran grŵp bach o weithwyr gofal cymdeithasol, er gwaethaf y ffaith eu bod eu gwrthwynebu yn gyffredinol.

Amendment 3—Paul Davies

Delete all in sub-point d) and replace with:

Supporting good management practices that secure good workplace relationships and sustainable employment.

Amendment 4—Paul Davies

Add as new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Government to ensure that workplace skills are at the heart of their new Assessment and Curriculum Review, in order to reduce the barriers to employment faced by young people.

18:20

William Graham [Bywgraffiad Biography](#)

I move amendments 3 and 4.

Cynigiaf welliannau 3 a 4.

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It is clearly a priority for all parties to stimulate economic growth to protect and promote employment opportunities. The creation of thriving, sustainable businesses and services is a key element in tackling the barriers to employment and career progression. We must acknowledge the United Kingdom Government's focus on creating. It has cut up to £2,000 from national insurance contributions for businesses from April of this year and it is scrapping national insurance contributions for those under 21 years. It has cut income tax for 25 million taxpayers, lifting 2.4 million of our lowest earners out of paying income tax, thus giving an average family £590 per year extra money, each week, each month, to provide for their families. These are all factors that apply to Wales. I am sure that we would welcome this week's announcement on childcare—£2 million families will receive up to £2,000 per child each year towards the cost of care. That has been extended from children of five years up to children of 12, a real contribution towards tackling the barriers to employment and assisting career progression. Welsh Conservatives acknowledge that small businesses are the lifeblood of our economy. Karren Brady has recently been engaged as small business ambassador, assisting these businesses to increase diversity in their product and service provision and in the workforce that they engage.

Disabilities are complex, often specific to an individual person, and their needs can be wide-ranging. The experience of growing up with a significant impairment is different from acquiring one in working or older life, and most disabled people become disabled as adults. A stable impairment is different from one that fluctuates or one that is degenerative. These differences pose different challenges to barriers and potential solutions to both individuals and employers. We must support all innovations and measures to ensure that potential solutions become an everyday reality in allowing disabled people equal access to employment opportunities.

With regard to amendment 1, I believe that there will be cross-party support to address stress-related illness in public sector workers. All business and service providers aim to grow their market share or deliver good and improving services. Good management practice is a significant factor in achieving these aims. I acknowledge that this is key to amendment 3, for which I ask for your support.

Mae ysgogi twf economaidd er mwyn diogelu a hyrwyddo cyfleoedd cyflogaeth yn amlwg yn flaenoriaeth i bob plaid. Mae creu busnesau a gwasanaethau cynaliadwy, ffyniannus yn elfen allweddol o'r ymdrechion i fynd i'r afael â'r rhwystrau i gyflogaeth a dilyniant gyrfra. Rhaid inni gydnabod ffocws Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig ar greu. Mae wedi lleihau cyfraniadau yswiriant gwladol busnesau o hyd at £2,000 o fis Ebrill eleni ac mae'n cael gwared ar gyfraniadau yswiriant gwladol i'r rheini o dan 21 oed. Mae wedi lleihau treth incwm i 25 miliwn o drethdalwyr, gan olygu nad yw 2.4 miliwn o'n henillwyr isaf yn talu treth incwm, gan roi £590 y flwyddyn o arian ychwanegol i'r teulu cyffredin, bob wythnos, bob mis, i ddarparu ar gyfer eu teuluoedd. Mae'r rhain oll yn ffactorau sy'n berthnasol i Gymru. Ryw'n siŵr y byddem yn croesawu'r cyhoeddad yr wythnos hon ar ofal plant—bydd dwy filiwn o deuluoedd yn cael hyd at £2,000 fesul plentyn bob blwyddyn tuag at gost gofal. Ehangwyd hynny o blant pump oed i blant 12 oed, gan wneud cyfraniad gwirioneddol at fynd i'r afael â'r rhwystrau i gyflogaeth a hwyluso dilyniant gyrfra. Mae'r Ceidwadwyr Cymreig yn cydnabod mai busnesau bach yw anadl einioes ein heonomi. Yn ddiweddar, penodwyd Karren Brady fel llysgennad busnesau bach, gan helpu'r busnesau hyn i gynyddu amrywiaeth o ran eu cynhyrchion a'r gwasanaethau a ddarperir ganddynt ac o ran y gweithlu a gyflogir ganddynt.

Mae anableddau yn gymhleth, yn aml yn benodol i berson unigol, a gall eu hanghenion fod yn eang eu cwmblas. Mae'r profiad o dyfu i fyny gyda nam sylweddol yn wahanol i gaffael nam yn ystod bywyd gwaith neu fel person hŷn, a daw'r rhan fwyaf o bobl anabl yn anabl fel oedolion. Mae nam sefydlog yn wahanol i nam sy'n amrywio neu sy'n ddirywio. Mae'r gwahaniaethau hyn yn peri heriau gwahanol o ran rhwystrau ac atebion posibl i unigolion a chyflwyno. Rhaid inni gefnogi pob cynnig i arloesi a phob mesur er mwyn sicrhau y daw atebion posibl yn realiti beunyddiol wrth sicrhau cyfle cyfartal i bobl anabl fanteisio ar gyfleoedd cyflogaeth.

O ran gwelliant 1, credaf y bydd cefnogaeth drawsbleidiol i ymddyri â salwch sy'n gysylltiedig â straen ymhlið gweithwyr y sector cyhoeddus. Mae pob busnes a darparwr gwasanaeth yn anelu at gynyddu ei gyfran o'r farchnad neu ddarparu gwasanaethau da sy'n gwella. Mae arfer rheoli da yn ffactor sylweddol wrth gyflawni'r nodau hyn. Ryw'n cydnabod bod hyn yn allweddol i welliant 3, y gofynnaf i chi ei gefnogi.

With regard to zero-hours contracts, good management practice is clearly vital. We must appreciate that for every horror story concerning zero-hours contracts, a company is providing wage-earning and employment opportunities that may not exist if zero-hours contracts were not in place. We must ensure that companies are not put off tendering for one-off contracts that give them access to wider markets to raise the profile of their company, attracting further work and securing employment for their workers. Companies seek to grow to attract investment for their company and into their communities and they are reliant upon a skilled workforce that is able to contribute to supporting the company to increase productivity or extend service provisions and securing further employment. This is how companies develop their client base and promote themselves on local and global markets. Zero-hours contracts provide flexible employment on the same basic terms as most workers and the national minimum wage. It gives employment, experience and skills and provides entitlement to annual leave and holiday pay.

Tackling the barriers to employment opportunities and career progression requires us to address the issue of ensuring that school leavers are equipped for working life. Too often, we have heard employers raise concerns about the level of numeracy and literacy of school leavers. As one Welsh employer graphically described this problem:

'If you are going to fill jobs you need to have that pool of school leavers that are coming through that are educated to that sort of standard. It does make it a little bit harder if you don't have that background level of skills.'

Workplace skills need to be at the heart of the curriculum. I ask for your support for amendment 4.

18:23

Leanne Wood [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Mae Plaid Cymru yn falch iawn o arwain y drafodaeth bwysig yma heddiw.

We are all aware of the challenging conditions that the Welsh economy finds itself in. Plaid Cymru has consistently argued that we must push for a balanced recovery. It must be geographically balanced between the nations and regions of Britain. There must be balance too between the genders—the removal of what we call the glass ceiling for women—balance so that people with disabilities are empowered to fulfil their ambitions, balance so that people with children are not stifled in terms of leading successful working lives, and balance so that opportunities to get the skills that are needed for high-paid jobs are spread throughout our communities.

O ran contractau dim oriau, mae arfer rheoli da yn amlwg yn hanfodol. Rhaid inni sylweddoli ar gyfer pob storï arswyd am gcontractau dim oriau, bod cwmni yn darparu cyfleoedd i ennill cyflog a swyddi na fyddent o bosibl yn bodoli pe na fyddai contractau dim oriau ar waith. Rhaid inni sicrhau na chaiff cwmnïau eu hatal rhag tendro am gcontractau untrio sy'n rhoi mynediad iddynt i farchnadoedd ehangach er mwyn codi proffil eu cwmni, gan ddenu rhagor o waith a sicrhau swyddi i'w gweithwyr. Mae cwmnïau yn ceisio tyfu er mwyn denu buddsoddiad ar gyfer eu cwmni ac i'w cymunedau ac maent yn dibynnu ar weithlu medrus a all gyfrannu at helpu'r cwmni i gynyddu cynhyrchant neu ymestyn y darpariaethau gwasanaeth a sicrhau cyflogaeth bellach. Dyma sut y mae cwmnïau yn datblygu eu sail cleientiaid ac yn hyrwyddo eu hunain ar farchnadoedd lleol a byd-eang. Mae contractau dim oriau yn darparu cyflogaeth hyblyg ar yr un telerau sylfaenol a'r rhan fwyaf o weithwyr a'r isafswm cyflog cenedlaethol. Maent yn rhoi cyflogaeth, profiad a sgiliau ac yn darparu hawl i wyliau blynnyddol a thâl gwyliau.

Er mwyn mynd i'r afael â'r rhwystrau i gyfleoedd cyflogaeth a dilyniant gyrrfa mae angen inni sicrhau bod pobl ifanc sy'n gadael yr ysgol wedi'u paratoi ar gyfer bywyd gwaith. Yn rhy aml, rydym wedi clywed cyflogwyr yn codi pryderon ynghylch lefel rhifedd a llythrennedd pobl ifanc sy'n gadael yr ysgol. Fel y disgrifiodd un cyflogwr yng Nghymru'r broblem hon yn glir:

Er mwyn llenwi swyddi, mae angen cronfa o bobl ifanc sy'n gadael yr ysgol sydd wedi'u haddysgu i'r math hwnnw o safon. Mae'n ei gwneud hi ychydig yn anos os nad ydych yn meddu ar y lefel sgiliau cefndirol honno.

Mae angen sicrhau bod sgiliau'r gweithle wrth wraidd y cwricwlwm. Gofynnaf ichi gefnogi gwelliant 4.

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Plaid Cymru is very proud to lead this important debate here this afternoon.

Mae pob un ohonom yn ymwybodol o'r amodau heriol y mae economi Cymru yn eu hwynebu. Mae Plaid Cymru wedi dadlau'n gyson bod yn rhaid inni wthio am adferiad cytbwys. Rhaid iddo fod yn gytbwys yn ddaearyddol rhwng gwledydd a rhanbarthau Prydain. Rhaid sicrhau cydbwysedd hefyd rhwng y rhywiau—diddymu'r hyn a elvir yn nenfwd gwydr i fenywod—cydbwysedd er mwyn sicrhau y caiff pobl ag anableddau eu grymuso i gyflawni eu dyheadau, cydbwysedd er mwyn sicrhau na chaiff pobl â phlant eu hatal rhag cyflawni bywyd gwaith llwyddiannus, a chydbwysedd er mwyn sicrhau y caiff cyfleoedd i feithrin y sgiliau sydd eu hangen er mwyn cyflawni swyddi cyflog uchel eu lledaenu ledled ein cymunedau.

In this debate, Plaid Cymru is not simply identifying the barriers that people face, which prevent such balance. We are also proposing practical steps to overcome those barriers. We are consulting as to how we can offer all three to four-year-olds more foundation phase education. The costs of childcare are rising fast, pricing many people out of work. Additional foundation phase hours would go a long way to addressing the barriers to employment for parents. Childcare and quality education involve costs, so these proposals will require significant investment. However, if we are serious about this and if we are prepared to make that decision to eliminate the barriers like this, then this should become a priority and we should be prepared to consider such proposals very carefully.

I do not intend to take up much more time, Deputy Presiding Officer. It has been a long day. However, in the limited time that I have left, I just want to take the opportunity to address the question of mental illness in relation to employment opportunities. Between 80% and 90% of people with a serious mental health condition are unemployed. Also, only four out of 10 employers would consider employing someone with a mental health problem. What we can see from those statistics is that stigma still dominates, that it still needs calling out and that it still needs tackling. No-one, but no-one should be allowed to be written off unnecessarily by these barriers to employment.

18:26

Jenny Rathbone [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I strongly endorse the remarks made by Leanne about the stigma of mental health problems and it being a barrier to employment. However, I want to focus my remarks on what I regard as the biggest barrier to employment, which is the lack of affordable childcare. It is also the biggest barrier to Wales's lower-than-average GVA rising because, if you cannot find the childcare, you are clearly not going to be able to do the working hours you would like to. The early years and childcare plan launched by the Government last year recognises the importance of pre-school education to beat the disadvantages that babies are born with. Good-quality childcare produces the biggest return on investment in human capital. There are many studies to confirm this, and the early years plan acknowledges that high-quality early education in a childcare setting has a key influence on child development, especially for a child from a disadvantaged background.

At the moment, the two hours a day for three and four-year-olds and the two and a half hours a day for two-year-olds in Flying Start areas is absolutely fantastic for the children—that is exactly what they need—but it really is not addressing the barriers to people going into work. It is good for enabling people to do training, which reduces the barriers to getting a job, but it really is not a help in obtaining and holding down a job. So, I want to see nurseries and schools with spare capacity offering wraparound care for those children so that their parents could work—

Yn y ddadl hon, nid dim ond nodi'r rhwystrau y mae pobl yn eu hwynebu, sy'n atal cydbwysedd o'r fath, a wna Plaid Cymru. Rydym hefyd yn cynnig camau ymarferol i oresgyn y rhwystrau hynny. Rydym yn ymgynghori yngylch sut y gallwn gynnig mwy o addysg cyfnod sylfaen i bob plentyn tair i bedair oed. Mae costau gofal plant yn cynyddu'n gyflym, gan olygu na all llawer o bobl fforddio gweithio. Byddai oriau cyfnod sylfaen ychwanegol yn helpu i ymdrin â'r rhwystrau i gyflogaeth a wynebir gan rieni. Mae costau ynghlwm wrth ofal plant ac addysg o ansawdd, felly bydd angen buddsoddiad sylweddol er mwyn rhoi'r cynigion hyn ar waith. Fodd bynnag, os ydym o ddifrif yn hyn o beth ac os ydym yn barod i wneud y penderfyniad hwnnw i ddiddymu'r rhwystrau yn y fath fodd, yna dylai hyn ddod yn flaenorïaeth a dylem fod yn barod i ystyried cynigion o'r fath yn ofalus iawn.

Nid wyf yn bwriadu cymryd llawer mwy o amser, Ddirprwy Lywydd. Mae wedi bod yn ddiwrnod hir. Fodd bynnag, yn yr amser prin sy'n weddill, hoffwn achub ar y cyfre i gyfeirio at salwch meddwl mewn perthynas â chyfleoedd cyflogaeth. Mae rhwng 80% a 90% o bobl â chyflwr iechyd meddwl difrifol yn ddi-waith. Hefyd, dim ond pedwar allan o bob 10 o gyflogwyr a fyddai'n ystyried cyflogi rhywun â phroblem iechyd meddwl. Yr hyn a welwn o'r ystadegau hynny yw bod stigma cryf yn bodoli o hyd, bod angen ei draffod o hyd a bod angen mynd i'r afael ag ef o hyd. Ni ddylai unrhyw un gael ei ddiystyr u oherwydd y rhwystrau hyn i gyflogaeth.

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Rwy'n gadarn o blaid y sylwadau a wnaed gan Leanne am y stigma sy'n gysylltiedig â phroblemau iechyd meddwl a'r ffaith ei fod yn rhwystr i gyflogaeth. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn ganolbwytio fy sylwadau ar y rhwystr mwyaf i gyflogaeth, yn fy marn i, sef diffyg gofal plant ffoddiadwy. Dyma hefyd yw'r ffactor mwyaf sy'n atal GYC Cymru, sy'n is na'r cyfartaledd, rhag cynyddu oherwydd os na allwch ddod o hyd i'r gofal plant, yn amlwg ni allwch gyflawni'r oriau gwaith yr hoffech eu cyflawni. Mae'r cynllun blynnyddoedd cynnar a gofal plant a lansiwyd gan y Llywodraeth y llynedd yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd addysg cyn-ysgol o ran trechu'r anfanteision y mae babanod yn eu hwynebu adeg eu geni. Gofal plant o ansawdd da sy'n darparu'r elw mwyaf ar fuddsoddiad mewn cyfalaif dynol. Mae llawer o astudiaethau i gadarnhau hyn, ac mae'r cynllun blynnyddoedd cynnar yn cydnabod bod addysg gynnar o ansawdd uchel mewn lleoliad gofal plant yn cael dylanwad allweddol ar ddatblygiad plant, yn enwedig yn achos plentyn o gefndir difreintiedig.

Ar hyn o bryd, mae'r ddwy awr y dydd i blant tair a phedair oed a'r ddwy awr a hanner y dydd i blant dwy oed yn ardaloedd Dechrau'n Deg yn holol wych i'r plant—dyna'n union sydd ei angen arnynt—ond nid yw mewn gwirionedd yn ymdrin â'r rhwystrau sy'n atal pobl rhag gweithio. Mae'n fuddiol o ran galluogi pobl i wneud hyfforddiant, sy'n lleihau'r rhwystrau i gael swydd, ond nid yw mewn gwirionedd yn helpu i gael swydd a'i chadw. Felly, hoffwn weld meithrinfeydd ac ysgolion a lleoedd gwag yn cynnig gofal cofleidiol i'r plant hynny fel y gallai eu rhieni weithio—

18:28	Leanne Wood Bywgraffiad Biography	Will you take an intervention?	A dderbyniwch ymyriad?	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
18:28	Jenny Rathbone Bywgraffiad Biography	Yes.	Gwnaf.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
18:28	Leanne Wood Bywgraffiad Biography	I agree with what you say about the value of education for three and four-year-olds. Do you therefore regret the decision taken by the Labour-controlled Rhondda Cynon Taf council to cut full-time childcare for three and four-year-olds?	Cytunaf â'r hyn a ddywedwch am werth addysg i blant tair a phedair oed. A ydych, felly, yn gresynu at benderfyniad cyngor Rhondda Cynon Taf o dan reolaeth Lafur i gwtogi gofal plant llawn amser i blant tair a phedair oed?	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
18:28	Jenny Rathbone Bywgraffiad Biography	I would regret that, but I am not familiar with the details of what is going on in Rhondda Cynon Taf. However, in Cardiff and other parts of Wales, expanding wraparound care in the nursery or primary school setting is not an option because the schools are absolutely bursting at the seams. That is certainly the case in Cardiff. So, there is virtually no capacity to offer that sort of wraparound care within the school nursery setting. That is partly because they are offering morning and afternoon places to different sets of children. Local authorities, and indeed the Welsh Government, have had to make big cuts in capital funding, so they are going to be challenged to provide the new nursery provision that is going to be required, never mind the wraparound care. So, my argument is that we must turn to the private and voluntary sectors to expand quality early years education now.	Byddwn yn gresynu at hynny, ond nid wyf yn gyfarwydd â manylion yr hyn sy'n digwydd yn Rhondda Cynon Taf. Fodd bynnag, yng Nghaerdydd a rhannau eraill o Gymru, nid yw ehangu gofal cofleidiol mewn meithrinfeidd neu ysgolion cynradd yn opsiwn gan fod yr ysgolion yn orlawn. Mae hynny'n sicr yn wir yng Nghaerdydd. Felly, nid oes unrhyw gapasiti, neu'n agos at ddim capasiti, i gynnig y math hwnnw o ofal cofleidiol o fewn uned feithrin yr ysgol. Mae hynny'n rhannol am eu bod yn cynnig lleoedd bore a phrynhawn i wahanol setiau o blant. Mae awdurdodau lleol, ac yn wir Llywodraeth Cymru, wedi gorfol gwneud toriadau mawr mewn cyllid cyfalaif, felly bydd darparu'r ddarpariaeth feithrin newydd a fydd yn ofynnol yn her sylweddol iddynt, heb sôn am y gofal cofleidiol. Felly, fy nadl i yw bod yn rhaid inni yn awr droi at y sector preifat a'r sector gwirfoddol er mwyn ehangu addysg blynnyddoedd cynnar o ansawdd.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
		It was very interesting to listen to Suzy Davies's question to the First Minister yesterday about Swansea confining its nursery entitlement to what is on offer in its own schools and nurseries, which seems to be a step backwards. The First Minister's response was very clear: local authorities need to meet their statutory duties, but how they seek to achieve that is their business. So, there is no barrier to what I am suggesting from the Welsh Government. How much is each nursery pupil worth? StatsWales's data for this year shows that there is a variation per nursery pupil from £4,900 in Grangetown to £5,800 in an integrated children's centre. About £5,000 is a ticket on the child's head in that early years education. That is a very important contribution to developing the small businesses that could be created and led by an early years teacher in terms of the nursery entitlement element of it, but with childcare as an add-on. It means that the amount that parents have to pay is the amount for the staff that provide the wraparound care. That is much easier for parents to meet.	Roedd yn ddiddorol iawn gwrando ar gwestiwn Suzy Davies i'r Prif Weinidog ddoe am y ffaith bod Abertawe yn cyfngu ei hawl feithrin i'r hyn a gynigir yn ei ysgolion a'i feithrinfeidd ei hun, sy'n ymddangos fel cam yn ôl. Roedd ymateb y Prif Weinidog yn glir iawn: mae angen i awdurdodau lleol gyflawni eu dyletswyddau statudol, ond eu dewis hwy yw sut y byddant yn gwneud hynny. Felly, nid oes unrhyw rwystr i'r hyn a awgrymaf gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Beth yw gwerth pob disgybl meithrin? Dengys data StatsCymru am y flwyddyn hon fod amrywiad fusol disgybl meithrin o £4,900 yn Grangetown i £5,800 mewn canolfan blant integredig. Mae plant sy'n rhan o'r addysg blynnyddoedd cynnar honno yn werth tua £5,000 yr un. Mae hynny'n gyfraniad pwysig iawn at ddatblygu'r busnesau bach y gallai athro blynnyddoedd cynnar eu creu a'u harwain o ran yr elfen hawl feithrin, ond gyda gofal plant fel ychwanegiad. Mae'n golygu mai'r swm sy'n gysylltiedig â'r staff sy'n darparu'r gofal cofleidiol y bydd yn rhaid i rieni ei dalu. Mae hynny'n llawer haws i rieni ymdopi ag ef.	
		We may then be able to add the 20% tax relief up to £2,000 offered by the Tories today, but, of course, that money is really only 20% of the amount that it will cost. I note the comments from the Citizens Advice, which says that this will not really help lower income families and, rather than giving help to higher earners, they would be better off giving 95% of childcare costs to people on low wages. I would not disagree with that at all.	Wedyn, efallai y gallwn ychwanegu'r rhyddhad treth o 20% hyd at £2,000 a gynigiwyd gan y Torïaid heddiw, ond, wrth gwrs, dim ond 20% o'r swm y bydd yn ei gestio yw'r arian hwnnw. Nodaf y sylwadau gan Cyngor ar Bopeth, sy'n datgan na fydd hyn mewn gwirionedd yn helpu teuluoedd incwm is ac, yn hytrach na rhoi cymorth i enillwyr uwch, y byddai'n well iddynt roi 95% o gostau gofal plant i bobl ar gyflogau isel. Ni fyddwn yn anghytuno â hynny o gwbl.	

18:32

However, we need to have integrated early years education that will cover all families from all parts of the community, and they could be charged on a sliding scale. The plan talks about using European social fund money to train up the childcare workforce to quality standards. That would be a very wise investment in both the workforce of the future—the children—as well as bridging the gender gap that keeps women earning 80% of what men earn, despite the equal pay Act. So, I welcome some clarification on what the Government will do on that.

Fodd bynnag, mae angen inni sicrhau addysg blynnyddoedd cynnar integredig a fydd ar gael i bob teulu o bob rhan o'r gymuned, a gellid codi tâl arnynt ar raddfa symudol. Mae'r cynllun yn cyfeirio at ddefnyddio arian cronfa gymdeithasol Ewrop i hyfforddi'r gweithlu gofal plant i safonau ansawdd. Byddai hynny'n fuddsoddiad doeth iawn yng ngweithlu'r dyfodol—y plant—ac yn pontio'r bwlc rhwng y rhywiau sy'n golygu bod menywod yn ennill 80% o'r hyn y mae dynion yn ei ennill, er gwaethaf y Ddeddf cyflog cyfartal. Felly, croesawaf rywfaint o eglurhad o ran yr hyn y bydd y Llywodraeth yn ei wneud yn hynny o beth.

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

I recall, in the 1980s, I was unemployed for seven months and I had the indignity of signing on—going to the dole queue every Wednesday and cashing my giro at the post office every Friday. Interviews then, as well as today, were tough. Jobs were very few and far between. I was an archaeological excavator in Brecon; I stood for seven hours a day, five days a week making crash helmets in a factory—I could bore you to death on that—and I was a white van driver. However, I had it easy and I am glad that I am the age that I am, actually, because when I went for an interview then, I was a relatively fit young man. I had no barriers.

However, what do employers see and want? I have a strong suspicion that, if you have any disability, employers are prejudiced against you. I think that some of them switch off. We have a saying in Wales, 'chwarae teg', meaning fair play. Well, I believe that that should mean fair play for people with any disability, not just physical, of course. We must not exclude mental disability—as the two previous speakers have mentioned—through mental health problems, or mild learning disabilities, such as Down's syndrome. I think that this Senedd should send a clear message to employers in the public sector that they should be actively encouraging people with a disability to apply for jobs as part of its equal opportunity duties.

We should also be working with Disability Wales, which is an excellent organisation in Caerphilly, to promote the cause of disabled people. Perhaps we should sponsor an annual event to celebrate the role that disabled people are playing in key areas of employment.

I know that, two years ago, as a result of a key seminar organised by the Bevan Foundation on disability unemployment, recommendations were made that Welsh Government could do more to encourage and support employment creation. The Welsh Government needs to improve the availability of affordable childcare, which has been mentioned, and improve public transport, of course. They are two barriers that prevent disabled people from accessing employment. The Welsh Government should also encourage flexible employment for disabled people, and these actions are absolutely essential.

Cofiaf, yn yr 1980au, roeddwn yn ddi-waith am saith mis a chefais y sarhad o gofrestru—gan ymuno â chiw'r dôl bob dydd Mercher a chynewid fy giro yn swyddfa'r post bob dydd Gwener. Roedd cyfweliadau bryd hynny, fel y maent heddiw, yn anodd. Roedd swyddi yn eithriadol o brin. Bûm yn gloddiwr archeolegol yn Aberhonddu; sefais am saith awr y dydd, bum diwrnod yr wythnos yn gwneud helmedau damwain mewn ffatri—galwn eich diflasu'n llwyr yn sôn am hynny—a bûm yn gyrru fan wen. Fodd bynnag, roedd yn hawdd arnaf ac rwy'n falch fy mod o'r oedran hwn, mewn gwirionedd, oherwydd pan euthum am gyfweliad bryd hynny, roeddwn yn ddyn ifanc cymharol heini. Nid oedd gennyl unrhyw rwystrau.

Fodd bynnag, beth mae cyflogwyr yn ei weld ac yn ei ddymuno? Rwy'n amau'n gryf, os oes gennych unrhyw anabledd, fod cyflogwyr yn rhagfarnllyd yn eich erbyn. Credaf fod rhai ohonynt yn ymrthod yn llwyr. Mae gennym ddywediad yng Nghymru, 'chwarae teg'. Wel, credaf y dylai hynny olygu chwarae teg i bobl ag unrhyw anabledd, nid dim ond anableddau corfforol, wrth gwrs. Rhaid inni gynnwys anableddau meddwl—fel y soniodd y ddau siaradwr blaenorol—drwy broblemau iechyd meddwl, neu anableddau dysgu cymedrol, fel syndrom Down. Credaf y dylai'r Senedd hon anfon neges glir i gyflogwyr yn y sector cyhoeddus y dylent fod yn mynd ati i annog pobl ag anabledd i wneud cais am swyddi fel rhan o'u dyletswyddau cyfle cyfartal.

Dylem hefyd fod yn gweithio gydag Anabledd Cymru, sy'n sefydliad ardderchog yng Nghaerffili, i hyrwyddo achos pobl anabl. Efallai y dylem noddi digwyddiad blynnyddol i ddathlu'r rôl y mae pobl anabl yn ei chwarae mewn meysydd cyflogaeth allweddol.

Ddwyr flynedd yn ôl, o ganlyniad i seminar allweddol a drefnwyd gan Sefydliad Bevan ar ddiweithdra ymhliith pobl anabl, gwn fod argymhellion wedi'u gwneud y gallai Llywodraeth Cymru wneud mwya i annog a chefnogi ymdrechion i greu swyddi. Mae angen i Lywodraeth Cymru wella argaeledd gofal plant fforddiadwy, a grybwylwyd, a gwella trafnidiaeth gyhoeddus, wrth gwrs. Maent yn ddau rwystr sy'n atal pobl anabl rhag ymgymryd â swyddi. Dylai Llywodraeth Cymru hefyd annog cyflogaeth hyblyg ar gyfer pobl anabl, ac mae'r camau gweithredu hyn yn gwbl hanfodol.

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

We have already heard that, in Wales, the level of disability is one fifth of the working-age population and employment rates for disabled people are 30% lower than for non-disabled people. Buildings should be accessible; job applications and adverts should not deter people; broadband should be more readily available all over Wales, so that people can work from home as well; and older people must be considered. I believe that we should monitor all public sector employers and any organisation that is in receipt of public money, specifically monitoring their commitment as to how many disabled people they are actually employing. If they do not reach our aspirations, then, as far as I am concerned, sanctions should apply. The message should be loud and clear from here: everyone in Wales should have the opportunity to earn a decent living wage, regardless of their ability or disability. After all, it is only fair play—chwarae teg.

18:35

Rhodri Glyn Thomas [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Rwy'n mawr obeithio y bydd cefnogaeth drawsbleidiol i'r cynnig sydd wedi ei gyflwyno gan Blaid Cymru. Rwy'n credu bod cefnogaeth cyffredinol—nid wyf yn siŵr iawn am y blaid Gedwadol, ond cawn weld am hynny.

Rwyf am gydio, yn gyflym iawn, wrth bwynt a godwyd gan Jocelyn Davies, Leanne Wood a Jenny Rathbone.
Dyweddodd Jocelyn, wrth gyflwyno'r cynnig, nad oes ateb syml i'r problem hon, ond mae un peth y gallwn ni ei wneud, sef sicrhau bod gofal plant ar gael yn gyffredinol i bawb sydd ei angen er mwyn ymuno â'r gweithlu. Roedd William Graham yn sôn am y cymorth sy'n mynd i gael ei gynnig i rieni ynglŷn â gofal plant, ond mae hynny'n ddibynol ar y ffaith eu bod nhw'n gallu canfod gofal plant. Y gwir amdani ydy, yng Nghymru, mae'n brin, nid yw ar gael ym mhob man ac mae'r oriau yn gyfyngedig iawn. Roeddwn i'n siarad gyda chyd-aelod o Bwylgor y Rhanbarthau yn Ewrop sydd yn dod o Sweden, ac yn Sweden mae gofal plant ar gael o 6 a.m. tan 6 p.m. Mae ar gael am lai na thraean o gost gofal plant yng Nghymru. Petai gennym system felly, sydd ddim yn rhagdybio bod pawb yn gweithio o 9 a.m. tan 5.30 p.m. ac yn dilyn oriau confensiynol, byddai'n gam mawr tuag at sicrhau bod pobl yn gallu ymuno â'r gweithlu. Byddai'n cryfhau ein heconomi ac yn cryfhau gwead ein cymdeithas ni yn fawr iawn.

Rwy'n mawr obeithio y bydd pawb yn cefnogi'r cynnig hwn ac, yn fwy na hynny, y gwelwn ni gamau ymarferol yn deillio ohono sy'n mynd i'n galluogi ni i gael gweithlu gydag amrywiaeth ynddo yng Nghymru, a gweithlu a fydd yn hybu'r economi a'n harwain o'r dirwasgiad yr ydym yn ei ddioldef ar hyn o bryd.

18:37

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I call the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty, Jeff Cuthbert.

Rydym eisoes wedi clywed, yng Nghymru, bod un rhan o bump o'r boblogaeth o oedran gweithio yn anabl a bod cyfraddau cyflogaeth ar gyfer pobl anabl 30% yn is nag ar gyfer pobl nad ydynt yn anabl. Dylai adeiladau fod yn hygrych; ni ddylai ceisiadau swydd na hysbysebion am swyddi atal pobl; dylai band eang fod ar gael yn haws ledled Cymru, er mwyn i bobl allu gweithio gartref hefyd; a rhaid ystyried pobl hŷn. Credaf y dylem fonitro holl gyflogwyr y sector cyhoeddus ac unrhyw sefydliad sy'n cael arian cyhoeddus, gan fonitro yn benodol eu hymrwymiad o ran faint o bobl anabl y maent yn eu cyflogi mewn gwirionedd. Os na fyddant yn bodloni ein dyheadau, yna, o'm rhan i, dylid eu cosbi. Dylem gyfleo neges gwbl glir: dylai pawb yng Nghymru gael y cyfle i ennill cyflog byw boddhaol, ni waeth beth fo'u gallu na'u hanabedd. Wedi'r cyfan, dyna ystyr chwarae teg.

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I very much hope that there will be cross-party support for the motion that has been tabled by Plaid Cymru. I think that there is general support—I am not quite sure about the Conservative party, but we shall wait and see.

I want to deal, very quickly, with a point raised by Jocelyn Davies, Leanne Wood and Jenny Rathbone. Jocelyn said, in introducing the motion, that there is no simple solution to this problem, but that there is one thing that we can do, which is to ensure that childcare is generally available to all who need it in order to enter the workforce. William Graham spoke about the support that will be offered to parents in terms of childcare, but that is dependent on the fact that they are able to find childcare. The fact of the matter is that, in Wales, it is scarce, it is not available in all areas and the hours are very limited. I was talking to a Swedish fellow member of the Committee of the Regions in Europe, who told me that, in Sweden, childcare is available from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., and for less than a third of the cost of childcare in Wales. If we had such a system, which did not assume that everyone works from 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. and follows conventional hours, it would be a major step towards ensuring that people can join the workforce. It would strengthen our economy and strengthen the fabric of our community.

I very much hope that everyone will support this motion and, more than that, that we see practical steps emanating from it that will enable us to have a diverse workforce in Wales and one that will boost the economy and lead us out of the recession that we are currently suffering.

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Galwaf ar y Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi, Jeff Cuthbert.

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Y Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi / The Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty

Thank you very much, Deputy Presiding Officer. I welcome this debate on tackling the barriers to employment and career progression, and I support the motion. We know that employment provides the most sustainable route out of poverty. Reducing the number of people who are workless is at the heart of our tackling poverty action plan. However, the Welsh Government does not have control over the key levers that determine how and where jobs are created. Key policy areas such as economic development and benefits are controlled by Westminster. However, there are things that we can and are doing that can make a difference. These include helping people into work, support for childcare, encouraging diversity in the workplace and promoting good working conditions and employment practices. It is important to recognise that we are making progress. As has been mentioned in an earlier debate, today's 'Labour Market Statistics' shows that Wales continues to outperform the UK across a number of areas. The unemployment rate in Wales is below the UK average, youth unemployment is falling faster and employment is increasing more rapidly.

The points made by Jenny Rathbone about the importance of childcare provision were quite correct. Improving access to affordable, high-quality childcare is a key priority for the Welsh Government, and plays a fundamental role in helping families access employment and training opportunities. We recently announced the £2.3 million—

Diolch yn fawr iawn, Ddirprwy Lywydd. Croesawaf y ddadl hon ar fynd i'r afael â'r rhwystrau i gyflogaeth a dilyniant gyrrfa, a chefnogaf y cynnig. Gwyddom mai cyflogaeth yw'r llwybr mwyaf cynaliadwy allan o dlod. Mae lleihau nifer y bobl sydd heb waith wrth wraidd ein cynllun gweithredu ar gyfer trechu tlodi. Fodd bynnag, nid oes gan Lywodraeth Cymru reolaeth dros y ffactorau allweddol sy'n pennu sut a ble y caiff swyddi eu creu. Caiff meysydd polisi allweddol megis datblygu economaidd a budd-daliadau eu rheoli gan San Steffan. Fodd bynnag, mae yna bethau y gallwn eu gwneud ac yr ydym yn eu gwneud a all wneud gwahaniaeth. Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys helpu pobl i ddod o hyd i waith, cymorth ar gyfer gofal plant, annog amrywiaeth yn y gweithle a hyrwyddo amodau gwaith ac arferion cyflogaeth da. Mae'n bwysig cydnabod ein bod yn gwneud cynydd. Fel y soniyd mewn dadl gynharach, dengys 'Ystadegau'r Farchnad Lafur' heddiw fod Cymru yn parhau i berfformio'n well na'r DU mewn sawl maes. Mae'r gyfradd ddiweithdra yng Nghymru yn is na chyfartaledd y DU, mae lefelau diweithdra ymhlih pobl ifanc yn gostwng yn gyflymach ac mae lefelau cyflogaeth yn cynyddu'n gyflymach.

Roedd y pwyniantiau a wnaed gan Jenny Rathbone am bwysigrwydd darpariaeth gofal plant yn gwbl gywir. Mae gwella mynediad i ofal plant fforddiadwy o ansawdd uchel yn flaenoriaeth allweddol i Lywodraeth Cymru, ac yn chwarae rhan sylfaenol wrth helpu teuluoedd i fanteisio ar gylleoedd cyflogaeth a hyfforddiant. Yn ddiweddar, gwnaethom gyhoeddi'r grant gofal plant y tu allan i oriau ysgol gwerth £2.3 miliwn—

Rhodri Glyn Thomas [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

You mentioned childcare. Will you accept that the availability of childcare at the moment is not flexible enough to meet the needs of those parents who do not work the conventional hours of 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. and that you need something like the Swedish model, which allows people to take jobs where the hours do not conform to the norm?

Gwnaethoch sôn am ofal plant. A dderbyniwch nad yw'r gofal plant sydd ar gael ar hyn o bryd yn ddigon hyblyg i ddiwallu anghenion y rhieni hynny nad ydynt yn gweithio oriau confensiynol 9 a.m. tan 5.30 p.m. a bod angen rhywbeth fel model Sweden arnoch, sy'n galluogi pobl i dderbyn swyddi lle nad yw'r oriau yn cydymffurfio â'r norm?

Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I do not dispute that there is more to be done on childcare provision, not for one second, but we have to work within the resources that we actually have, and those public resources are under enormous pressure. Nevertheless, we recently announced the £2.3 million out-of-school childcare grant to local authorities, which has been there since 2012 and has been renewed, and will be reviewed later this year. That grant funds quality, affordable childcare to help families who wish to access childcare before and after the school day. We also provide free part-time childcare for two to three-year-olds, as has been mentioned, living in some of our most disadvantaged communities through our Flying Start programme. As we expand the programme, we will reach 36,000 children by 2016.

Nid wyf yn anghytuno bod rhagor i'w wneud o ran darpariaeth gofal plant, nid am eiliad, ond rhaid inni weithio o fewn yr adnoddau sydd gennym mewn gwirionedd, ac mae'r adnoddau cyhoeddus hynny o dan bwysau aruthrol. Serch hynny, yn ddiweddar, gwnaethom gyhoeddi'r grant gofal plant y tu allan i oriau ysgol gwerth £2.3 miliwn i awdurdodau lleol, a fu'n weithredol ers 2012 ac a adnewyddwyd, ac a gaiff ei adolygu'n ddiweddarach eleni. Mae'r grant hwnnw yn ariannu gofal plant fforddiadwy o ansawdd i helpu teuluoedd sy'n awyddus i gael gofal plant cyn dechrau'r diwrnod ysgol ac ar ôl y diwrnod ysgol. Rydym hefyd yn darparu gofal plant rhan amser am ddim i blant dwy i dair oed, fel y crybwylwyd, sy'n byw yn rhai o'n cymunedau mwyaf difreintiedig drwy ein rhaglen Dechrau'n Deg. Wrth inni ehangu'r rhaglen, byddwn yn cyrraedd 36,000 o blant erbyn 2016.

I note the announcements first made yesterday by the UK Government for its post-election plans for tackling the high cost of childcare. However, these proposals do nothing to change the current position for Welsh families. As equalities Minister, I have taken a proactive approach to increasing the number of women and other under-represented groups in public appointments. I was pleased to attend the launch of the report of the expert group on diversity in local government on 5 March. There was a full debate on this matter in this Assembly yesterday, and it is clear that there is a plan of action being mapped out to address this issue.

Welsh Ministers have also written to all chairs of public sector bodies challenging them to take action to increase the number of women and other under-represented groups on public boards. We will receive an update on their progress by the end of June this year.

Our strategic equality plan contains the actions that we are taking to help women and girls to access, to achieve, and to aspire within education, training and employment. It also sets out what we are doing to tackle gender stereotyping and enable women to access the careers of their choice.

It is essential that we continue to work with a range of different partners to increase opportunities for disabled people. This includes opportunities around accessing training, increasing skills, and supporting disabled people into work. As part of our engagement with large companies, and while providing training grants, opportunities for employing disabled people are discussed. Where necessary, training grants can be utilised to support the employment of disabled people. Our community benefits policy ensures that targeted recruitment and training for those furthest from the labour market, such as disabled people, are added into public sector contracts. I endorse the earlier words of Leanne Wood that we must not forget the extra issues created by mental health problems and improving attitudes towards it, and, as Lindsay Whittle mentioned, the importance of working with organisations like Disability Wales—an organisation that I know very well, in Caerphilly. Lindsay Whittle also mentioned the importance of broadband. I think that I should emphasise the point that Superfast Cymru, of course, which will cover 96% of Wales, is well ahead of the rest of the UK in terms of that programme.

Jobs Growth Wales opportunities are available for job-ready young people, including disabled young people. As part of the programme, the Welsh Government is working with all types of employers, from microbusinesses to large anchor and regionally important companies across Wales in creating job opportunities in every sector. Careers Wales's employer engagement advisers are in daily contact with employers of all sizes. They provide information about the different services and funding initiatives available. This would include information on the Access to Work Government scheme, which is able to help employers with any extra costs incurred when employing a person with a disability.

Nodaf y cyhoeddiadau a wnaed gyntaf ddoe gan Llywodraeth y DU o ran ei chynlluniau ôl-etholiad ar gyfer mynd i'r afael â chost uchel gofal plant. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'r cynigion hyn yn newid y sefyllfa bresennol i deuluoedd yng Nghymru mewn unrhyw ffordd. Fel y Gweinidog cydraddoldeb, rwyf wedi cymryd camau rhagweithiol i gynyddu nifer y menywod a'r grwpiau eraill heb gynychiolaeth ddigonol mewn penodiadau cyhoeddus. Roedd yn bleser gennyl fynychu achlysur lansio adroddiad y grŵp arbenigol ar amrywiaeth mewn llywodraeth leol ar 5 Mawrth. Cafwyd dadl lawn ar y mater hwn yn y Cynulliad hwn ddoe, ac mae'n amlwg bod cynllun gweithredu yn cael ei lunio i ymdrin â'r mater hwn.

Mae Gweinidogion Cymru hefyd wedi ysgrifennu at holl gadeiryddion cyrff yn y sector cyhoeddus yn eu herio i gymryd camau i gynyddu nifer y menywod a'r grwpiau eraill heb gynychiolaeth ddigonol ar fyrrdau cyhoeddus. Byddwn yn derbyn y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am eu cynnydd erbyn diwedd mis Mehefin eleni.

Mae ein cynllun cydraddoldeb strategol yn cynnwys y camau sydd ar waith gennym i helpu menywod a merched i fanteisio ar gyfleoedd addysg, hyfforddiant a chyflogaeth, i gyflawni ac i anelu'n uchel. Noda hefyd yr hyn rydym yn ei wneud i fynd i'r afael ag achosion o stereoteipio ar sail rhyw ac i alluogi menywod i ddilyn eu dewis yrfaedd.

Mae'n hanfodol ein bod yn parhau i weithio gydag amrywiaeth o wahanol bartneriaid er mwyn cynyddu'r cyfleoedd i bobl anabl. Mae hyn yn cynnwys cyfleoedd sy'n ymwnneud â mynediad i hyfforddiant, gwella sgiliau a helpu pobl anabl i ddod o hyd i waith. Fel rhan o'n gwaith ymgysylltu â chwmniau mawr, ac wrth ddarparu grantiau hyfforddi, trafodir cyfleoedd i gyflogi pobl anabl. Lle y bo angen, gellir defnyddio grantiau hyfforddi i helpu i gyflogi pobl anabl. Mae ein polisi buddiannau cymunedol yn sicrhau y caiff trefniadau recriwtio a hyfforddi wedi'u targedu ar gyfer y rheini sydd bellaf o'r farchnad lafur, fel pobl anabl, eu hychwanegu i gontactau sector cyhoeddus. Ategf eiriau cynharach Leanne Wood na ddylid anghofio'r problemau ychwanegol a gaiff eu creu gan broblemau iechyd meddwl a gwella agweddau tuag ato, ac, fel y soniodd Lindsay Whittle, bwysigrwydd gweithio gyda sefydliadau fel Anabledd Cymru—sefydliad rwy'n gyfarwydd iawn ag ef, yng Nghaerffili. Soniodd Lindsay Whittle hefyd am bwysigrwydd band eang. Credaf y dylwn bwysleisio'r pwyt bod Superfast Cymru, wrth gwrs, a fydd yn cwmpasu 96% o Gymru, ymhell ar ei blaen hi o gymharu â gweddill y DU o ran y rhaglen honno.

Mae cyfleoedd Twf Swyddi Cymru ar gael i bobl ifanc sy'n barod am swydd, gan gynnwys pobl ifanc anabl. Fel rhan o'r rhaglen, mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn gweithio gyda phob math o gyflogwyr, o ficrofusnesau i gwmniau angori mawr a chwmniau o bwysigrwydd rhanbarthol ledled Cymru i greu cyfleoedd swyddi ymhob sector. Mae cynghorwyr ymgysylltu â chyflogwyr Gyrfa Cymru mewn cysylltiad dyddiol â chyflogwyr o bob maint. Maent yn rhoi gwybodaeth am y gwasanaethau a'r mentrau ariannu gwahanol sydd ar gael. Byddai hyn yn cynnwys gwybodaeth am gynllun Mynediad i Waith y Llywodraeth, a all helpu cyflogwyr ag unrhyw gostau ychwanegol yr eir iddynt wrth gyflogi person ag anabledd.

The Welsh Government's employer support grant has set an example to encourage employers to offer opportunities to disabled people. Several organisations in Wales have recruited disabled former Remploy staff who lost their jobs in the UK Government-driven closures of the majority of Remploy factories.

The Welsh Government continues to support the concept of a living wage as a route to addressing some of the issues associated with low pay and income poverty. The Minister for local government has referred the living wage in the public sector to the workforce partnership council with a view to embedding it as one of the positive measures that employers can provide to support the public sector workforce. This reflects the Welsh Government's commitment to encourage employers in the public, third and private sectors to consider becoming living-wage employers.

Although the issue of zero-hours contracts is not within the devolved competence of the Welsh Government, clearly they pose risks to many employees in Wales. We await the outcome of the UK consultation into zero-hours contracts being taken forward by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills. We will give full consideration to its findings.

Let me turn to the amendments. We oppose amendment 1 in relation to reviewing the causes of stress-related sickness absences in NHS Wales and schools. This is because reducing sickness absence within NHS Wales and schools is already a key priority. All NHS organisations recently reviewed their absence data to identify trends and hotspots and—

Mae grant cymorth i gyflogwyr Llywodraeth Cymru wedi gosod esiampl er mwyn annog cyflogwyr i gynnig cyfleoedd i bobl anabl. Mae sawl sefydliad yng Nghymru wedi creiriau staff anabl Remploy gynt a gollodd eu swyddi fel rhan o benderfyniad Llywodraeth y DU i gau'r rhan fwyaf o ffatrioedd Remploy.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn parhau i gefnogi'r cysyniad o gyflog byw fel ffordd o ymddyri â rhai o'r materion sy'n gysylltiedig â chyflog isel a thlodi incwm. Mae'r Gweinidog Llywodraeth leol wedi cyfeirio'r cyflog byw yn y sector cyhoeddus i gyngor partneriaeth y gweithlu gyda'r nod o'i ymsefydlu fel un o'r mesurau cadarnhaol y gall cyflogwyr eu darparu i gefnogi gweithlu'r sector cyhoeddus. Mae hyn yn adlewyrchu ymrwymiad Llywodraeth Cymru i annog cyflogwyr yn y sector cyhoeddus, y trydydd sector a'r sector preifat i ystyried dod yn gyflogwyr cyflog byw.

Er nad yw contractau dim oriau o fewn cymhwysedd datganoledig Llywodraeth Cymru, maent yn amlwg yn perisg i lawer o weithwyr yng Nghymru. Rydym yn aros am ganlyniad ymgynghoriad y DU i gontractau dim oriau a gaiff ei gynnal gan yr Adran Busnes, Arloesedd a Sgilau. Byddwn yn rhoi ystyriaeth lawn i'w ganfyddiadau.

Gadewch imi droi at y gwelliannau. Rydym yn gwrthwynebu gwelliant 1 mewn perthynas ag adolygu'r ffactorau sy'n achosi absenoldeb oherwydd salwch sy'n gysylltiedig â straen o fewn GIG Cymru ac ysgolion. Mae hyn oherwydd bod lleihau absenoldeb oherwydd salwch o fewn GIG Cymru ac ysgolion eisoes yn flaenoraieth allweddol. Yn ddiweddar, adolygodd holl sefydliadau'r GIG eu data absenoldeb er mwyn nodi tueddiadau a mannau problemus ac—

- 18:46 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
Conclude now, Minister.

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- 18:46 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
[Continues.]—and to inform action plans aimed at reducing sickness absence. In terms of amendments 2 and 3, amendment 3 speaks volumes about the Welsh Conservatives. They could have called for support for good management in a separate clause, and we would have all voted for it. However, they chose instead to use it as a cover for opposing the living wage. As for amendment 2, we are used to the Lib Dems following their Tory leaders, but on this occasion, in their enthusiasm to oppose fair pay—

[Parhau.]—ac i lywio cynlluniau gweithredu wedi'u hanelu at leihau absenoldeb oherwydd salwch. O ran gwelliannau 2 a 3, mae gwelliant 3 yn siarad cyfrolau am y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig. Gallent fod wedi galw am i bobl gefnogi rheoli da mewn cymal ar wahân, a byddai pob un ohonom wedi pleidleisio o'i blaids. Fodd bynnag, gwnaethant ddewis yn lle hyunny ei ddefnyddio fel ffordd gudd o wrthwynebu'r cyflog byw. O ran gwelliant 2, rydym wedi arfer â'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn dilyn eu harweinwyr Torïaid, ond y tro hwn, yn eu brwdffrydedd i wrthwynebu cyflog teg—

- 18:46 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
Conclude with this now.

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- 18:46 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
[Continues.]—they got in first. I oppose both amendments and I urge support.

[Parhau.]—hwy oedd gyntaf. Gwrthwynebaf y ddau welliant ac erfyniaf am gefnogaeth.

- 18:46 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
I call on Jocelyn Davies to reply to the debate.

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Galwaf ar Jocelyn Davies i ymateb i'r ddadl.

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Jocelyn Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

This afternoon, we have talked about the barriers to employment that we must work to overcome. However, finding employment is not the cure-all that it is sometimes presented as. Unemployment figures were reported before, and it is important that we scrutinise the quality of the jobs that people are finding themselves in. Following the recession, there has been an increase in so-called under-employment, where workers are not working as much as they would like, struggling to make ends meet and not using their qualifications. The Local Government Association recently argued that the true scale of youth unemployment is hidden, because Government headline figures only look at the unemployed, and do not measure those who are only working part-time or who are overqualified for their current job. Of course, we know that the number of graduates in non-graduate jobs is increasing. We are then wasting the training and talent of our workforce. We know that low-wage working families are having to use food banks.

We need to find ways of using the talents of our people and not wasting their talents. I thank all of you who contributed to the debate. Look, I am not going to insult you by just repeating what you all said and giving you marks out of 10. However, I will thank you all. You behaved beautifully during this debate and you should all be congratulated. [Laughter.]

What we heard was that, even though we all agree that there is not enough action yet—and many in this Chamber understand only too well the invaluable help that affordable childcare represents—we also heard of the need to make progress to tackle stress and exhaustion among public sector workers, which burn people out and will also give public sector jobs a poor image. It is also clear that we need to encourage our businesses to think about the barriers that they may be presenting, so that they can draw from a larger, more talented pool of potential employees. An in-depth study—giving us heat as well as light—into zero-hours contracts is timely, I think, and I look forward to the UK Government's review concluding.

The Welsh economy needs the public and private sectors working to the same aim. All of those who want to work should have opportunities to do so. One of the sadnesses of this afternoon was the bit of a squabble that went on earlier about who should get the credit for good news and who should get the blame for bad news. The truth is that the Welsh Government needs to work with the UK Government if we are to break down barriers soon and help people to take their rightful place in the workforce. I am sure that we all look forward to that day coming when people in Wales expect to work without barriers and earn the decent wage that Lindsay Whittle mentioned. Do you know what? I do not care who gets the credit, as long as those barriers are finally gone.

Y prynhawn yma, rydym wedi sôn am y rhwystrau i gyflogaeth y mae'n rhaid inni weithio i'w goresgyn. Fodd bynnag, nid dod o hyd i swydd yw'r ateb i bopeth fel y'i cyflwynir weithiau. Cofnodwyd ffigurau diweithdra yn flaenorol, ac mae'n bwysig ein bod yn craffu ar ansawdd y swyddi y mae pobl yn dod o hyd iddynt. Yn dilyn y dirwasgiad, bu cynnydd yn nifer yr achosion o dangyflogaeth, fel y'i gelwir, lle nad yw gweithwyr yn gweithio cymaint ag yr hoffent, lle maent yn ei chael hi'n anodd cael deuen lllyn ynghyd a lle nad ydynt yn defnyddio eu cymwysterau. Yn ddiweddar, dadleuodd y Gymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol fod gwir raddau diweithdra ymhlið yr ifanc wedi'i chuddio, gan mai dim ond pobl ddiwaith a ystyri gan brif ffigurau'r Llywodraeth, ac nad ydynt yn mesur y rheini sydd ond yn gweithio'n rhan amser neu y mae ganddynt gymwysterau uwch na'r rheini sy'n ofynnol ar gyfer eu swydd bresennol, Wrth gwrs, gwyddom fod nifer y graddedigion mewn swyddi nad ydynt ar gyfer graddedigion yn cynyddu. Rydym wedi gwastraffu hyfforddiant a thalent ein gweithlu. Gwyddom fod teuluoedd sy'n gweithio ac yn ennill cyflogau isel yn gorfod defnyddio banciau bwyd.

Mae angen inni ddod o hyd i ffyrdd o ddefnyddio talent ein pobl a pheidio â gwastraffu eu talent. Diolch i bawb a gyfrannodd at y ddadl. Edrychwch, nid yw'n fwriad gennych eich sarhau drwy ddim ond ailadrodd yr hyn a ddywedwyd gennych a rhoi marcian allan o 10 ichi. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn ddiolch i bob un ohonoch. Gwnaethoch ymddwyn yn dda iawn yn ystod y ddadl hon a dylid eich llonyfarch bob un. [Chwerthin.]

Yr hyn a glywsom oedd, er bod pob un ohonom yn cytuno nad oes digon o weithredu eto—a bod llawer yn y Siambra hon yn deall yn iawn yr help amhrisiadwy y gall gofal plant fforddiadwy ei gynnig—clywsom hefyd am yr angen i wneud cynnydd wrth fynd i'r afael â straen a blinder ymhlið gweithwyr yn y sector cyhoeddus, sy'n gwthio pobl i'r eithaf ac a fydd yn rhoi delwedd wael i swyddi yn y sector cyhoeddus. Mae hefyd yn glir bod angen inni annog ein busnesau i feddwl am y rhwystrau y maent o bosibl yn eu cyflwyno, fel y gallant fanteisio ar gronfa fwy o faint a mwy talentog o ddarpar weithwyr. Mae'n bryd cynnal astudiaeth fanwl—gan roi manylder yn ogystal â gwybodaeth inni—i gcontractau dim oriau, credaf, ac edrychaf ymlaen at gasgliad adolygiad Llywodraeth y DU.

Mae angen i'r sector cyhoeddus a'r sector preifat anelu at yr un nod er budd economi Cymru. Dylai pawb sydd am weithio gael cyfre i wneud hynny. Un o'r pethau trist a ddigwyddodd y prynhawn yma oedd y ffrwgwd yn gynharach yngylch pwy ddylai gael y clod am newyddion da a phwy ddylai gael y bai am newyddion drwg. Y gwir yw bod angen i Lywodraeth Cymru gydweithio â Llywodraeth y DU er mwyn chwalu'r rhwystrau yn fuan a helpu pobl i chwarae eu rhan haeddiannol yn y gweithlu. Rwy'n siŵr bod pob un ohonom yn edrych ymlaen at y diwrnod hwnnw pan fydd pobl yng Nghymru yn disgwyl gweithio heb rwystrau ac ennill y cyflog boddhaol y soniodd Lindsay Whittle amdano. A wyddoch chi beth? Nid oes ots gennych pwy gaiff y clod, ar yr amod y caiff y rhwystrau hynny eu chwalu.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The proposal is to agree the motion without amendment. Does any Member object? There is objection, therefore I will defer voting until voting time.

Y cynnig yw cytuno ar y cynnig heb ei ddiwygio. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Ceir gwrthwynebiad, felly gohiriaf y pleidleisio tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

Gohiriwyd y pleidleisio tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

Voting deferred until voting time.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Voting time now follows. Before I conduct the first vote, are there three Members who wish the bell to be rung? There are not.

Ceir y cyfnod pleidleisio yn awr. Cyn imi gynnal y bleidlais gyntaf, a oes tri Aelod sy'n awyddus i'r gloch gael ei chanu? Nac oes.

Cyfnod Pleidleisio

[Canlyniad y bleidlais ar gynnig NDM5469.](#)

Gwrthodwyd y cynnig: O blaid 12, Yn erbyn 40, Ymatal 0.

Voting Time

[Result of the vote on motion NDM5469.](#)

Motion not agreed: For 12, Against 40, Abstain 0.

[Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 1 i gynnig NDM5469.](#)

[Result of the vote on amendment 1 to motion NDM5469.](#)

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 35, Yn erbyn 17, Ymatal 0.

Amendment agreed: For 35, Against 17, Abstain 0.

Cafodd gwelliant 2 ei ddad-ddethol.

Amendment 2 deselected.

[Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 3 i gynnig NDM5469.](#)

[Result of the vote on amendment 3 to motion NDM5469.](#)

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 35, Yn erbyn 17, Ymatal 0.

Amendment agreed: For 35, Against 17, Abstain 0.

[Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 4 i gynnig NDM5469.](#)

[Result of the vote on amendment 4 to motion NDM5469.](#)

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 49, Yn erbyn 3, Ymatal 0.

Amendment agreed: For 49, Against 3, Abstain 0.

[Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 5 i gynnig NDM5469.](#)

[Result of the vote on amendment 5 to motion NDM5469.](#)

Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 26, Yn erbyn 26, Ymatal 0.

Amendment not agreed: For 26, Against 26, Abstain 0.

Fel sy'n ofynnol o dan Reol Sefydlog 6.20, defnyddiodd y Diprwy Lywydd ei bleidlais fwrw drwy bleidleisio yn erbyn y gwelliant.

As required by Standing Order 6.20, the Deputy Presiding Officer exercised his casting vote by voting against the amendment.

[Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 6 i gynnig NDM5469.](#)

[Result of the vote on amendment 6 to motion NDM5469.](#)

Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 17, Yn erbyn 35, Ymatal 0.

Amendment not agreed: For 17, Against 35, Abstain 0.

Cynnig NDM5469 fel y'i diwygiwyd:

Motion NDM5469 as amended:

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Yn gresynu bod y data CMC diweddaraf yn dangos dirywiad yn CMC Cymru o'i gymharu â'r cyfartaledd yn yr UE.

1. Regrets that latest GDP data show a decline in Wales's GDP compared to the EU average.

2. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i gydweithio â Llywodraeth y DU i sicrhau twf economaidd hirdymor.

3. Yn galw ymhellach ar Lywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau bod dangosyddion economaidd allweddol, fel ystadegau CMC a GYC, yn cael eu cyhoeddi'n rheolaidd er mwyn cyfrannu at bolisiâu yn y dyfodol.

[Canlyniad y bleidlais ar gynnig NDM5469 fel y'i diwygiwyd.](#)

Derbyniwyd y cynnig: O blaid 52, Yn erbyn 0, Ymatal 0.

[Canlyniad y bleidlais ar gynnig NDM5467.](#)

Derbyniwyd y cynnig: O blaid 35, Yn erbyn 17, Ymatal 0.

2. Calls on the Welsh Government to work collaboratively with the UK Government to ensure long-term economic growth.

3. Further calls on the Welsh Government to ensure the regular publication of key economic indicators such as GDP and GVA statistics in order to inform future policies.

[Result of the vote on motion NDM5469 as amended.](#)

Motion agreed: For 52, Against 0, Abstain 0.

[Result of the vote on motion NDM5467.](#)

Motion agreed: For 35, Against 17, Abstain 0.

18:53

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Will those Members who are leaving the Chamber please do so quickly and quietly?

Daeth Sandy Mewies i'r Gadair am 18:54

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

Sandy Mewies took the Chair at 18:54

18:54

Dadl Fer: Achub ein Gwasanaethau —Ymgyrch Pobl Sir Benfro i Gadw Gwasanaethau yn Ysbyty Llwynhelyg

Paul Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am pleased to raise the issue of services at Withybush General Hospital in the Chamber. I make no apology doing so again, given the importance of these services to my constituents. I have agreed to give Simon Thomas, Rebecca Evans, William Powell and Joyce Watson a minute each of my time, if there is enough time at the end of my contribution.

This is an issue that I have chosen to highlight once again following repeated calls from me and others for a statement from the Welsh Government, which, I have to say, has clearly fallen on deaf ears. Tabling a short debate or an opposition debate on future services at Withybush hospital seems the only way that we can force the Welsh Government and the Minister to respond to the decisions now being made at the hospital.

In response to our last debate on this issue, the Minister made it absolutely clear that change is coming to Withybush, and, oh boy, he was not wrong. It is quite clear that there is now a drive to centralise services away from Pembrokeshire, given that the special care baby unit will close, paediatric services will be downgraded and, only last week, it was reported that cardiac services should be moved to Carmarthen as well.

Short Debate: Save Our Services—The People of Pembrokeshire's Campaign to Retain Services at Withybush Hospital

Senedd.tv
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Rwy'n falch o godi mater gwasanaethau yn Ysbyty Cyffredinol Llwynhelyg yn y Siambr. Nid wyf yn ymddiheuro am wneud hynny eto, o ystyried pwysigrwydd y gwasanaethau hyn i'm hetholwyr. Rwyf wedi cytuno i roi munud yr un o'm hamser i Simon Thomas, Rebecca Evans, William Powell a Joyce Watson, os oes digon o amser ar ddiwedd fy nghyfraniad.

Mae hwn yn fater yr wyf wedi dewis tynnu sylw ato unwaith eto yn dilyn galwadau mynchy gennfy i ac eraill am ddatganiad gan Lywodraeth Cymru, sydd, y mae'n rhaid imi ddweud, wedi cael ei anwybyddu yn amlwg. Ymddengys mai cyflwyno dadl fer neu ddadl yr wrthblaid ar wasanaethau yn y dyfodol yn ysbyty Llwynhelyg yw'r unig ffordd y gallwn orfodi Llywodraeth Cymru a'r Gweinidog i ymateb i'r penderfyniadau a wneir bellach yn yr ysbyty.

Mewn ymateb i'n dadl ddiwethaf ar y mater hwn, nododd y Gweinidog yn gwbl glir fod newid ar droed i Ysbyty Llwynhelyg, ac, yn wir, roedd yn llygad ei le. Mae'n eithaf amlwg bod ymgyrch bellach ar waith i ganoli gwasanaethau i ffwrdd oddi wrth Sir Benfro, o gofio y bydd yr uned gofal arbennig i fabanod yn cau, y bydd gwasanaethau pediatrig yn cael eu hisraddio a, dim ond yr wythnos diwethaf, nodwyd y dylai gwasanaethau cardiaidd gael eu symud i Gaerfyrddin hefyd.

The decision taken by the Minister to approve plans for a level 2 neonatal unit to be established at Glangwili General Hospital paves the way for the closure of the special care baby unit at Withybush hospital. Clearly, the current special care baby unit at Withybush hospital provides lifesaving services, so it is appalling that this unit has now been earmarked for closure. I believe that this decision will certainly put lives at risk. This debate has, therefore, been tabled to discuss these developments and to fully consider the views of the people of Pembrokeshire and their campaign to retain their local services.

We have heard from clinicians and staff that closing the special care baby unit will have a detrimental effect on families of unborn babies across Pembrokeshire. A paediatric consultant at Withybush, Gustav vas Falco, has said that he has grave reservations about moving the special care baby unit from Haverfordwest. It is not just clinicians that are upset and angry at this decision; the people of Pembrokeshire are, naturally, appalled by this plan. Protests have taken place locally and petitions have been circulated. Indeed, only two weeks ago, we were joined by protestors on the Senedd steps, campaigning for the Minister to repeal that very decision. Approximately 25,000 signatures have so far been received via petitions calling on the Welsh Government to reconsider this decision. There are almost 8,000 members of a Facebook group dedicated to saving essential services at Withybush hospital. That page has been flooded with local people telling their stories of how the special care baby unit has supported them. The Minister must recognise that the people's campaign will not subside. They will continue to protest, raise awareness and do everything in their power to urge the Minister to reconsider his position on this issue. As local Assembly Members, we will do everything we can to support their campaign.

As far as I am aware, no evidence has been presented to suggest that the current neonatal services are not safe or sustainable. The all-Wales perinatal survey 2012, of which Members will be aware, shows Withybush, Bronglais and Glangwili hospitals in its table on perinatal mortality by intended hospital of birth as being first, third and fourth best in Wales respectively. The current figures are clear: all three hospitals are significantly better than the Welsh average of 6.5 per 1,000 total births. Therefore, these services are already safe and sustainable. Quite simply, I fail to see how a new service model would provide an improved service for mothers and babies in the Hywel Dda Local Health Board area when the perinatal mortality figures are already among the best in Wales.

Mae penderfyniad y Gweinidog i gymeradwyo cynlluniau ar gyfer sefydlu uned newydd-anedig lefel 2 yn Ysbyty Cyffredinol Glangwili yn paratoi'r ffordd i gau'r uned gofal arbennig i fabanod yn Ysbyty Llwynhelyg. Yn amlwg, mae'r uned gofal arbennig i fabanod bresennol yn ysbyty Llwynhelyg yn darparu gwasanaethau achub bywyd, felly mae'n warthus bod yr uned hon wedi cael ei chlustnodi i'w chau. Credaf y bydd y penderfyniad hwn yn sicr yn rhoi bywydau mewn perygl. Mae'r ddadl hon, felly, yn cael ei chyflwyno i drafod y datblygiadau hyn ac ystyried yn llawn farn pobl Sir Benfro a'u hymgyrch i gadw eu gwasanaethau lleol.

Rydym wedi clywed gan glinigwyr a staff y bydd cau'r uned gofal arbennig i fabanod yn cael effaith niweidiol ar deuluoedd babanod heb eu geni ar draws Sir Benfro. Mae meddyg ymgynghorol pediatrig yn Llwynhelyg, sef Gustav vas Falco, wedi dweud bod ganddo amheuon dirrifol ynglyn â symud yr uned gofal arbennig i fabanod o Hwlfordd. Nid dim ond clinigwyr sy'n cynhyrfa ac yn ddig iawn am y penderfyniad hwn; mae pobl Sir Benfro, yn naturiol, yn gresynu wrth y cynllun hwn. Cynhalwyd protestiadau yn lleol a dosbarthwyd deisebau. Yn wir, dim ond bythefnos yn ôl, cawsom brotestwyr ar risiau'r Senedd, yn galw ar i'r Gweinidog ddiddymu'r union benderfyniad hwnnw. Cafwyd tua 25,000 o lofnodion hyd yn hyn drwy ddeisebau yn galw ar i Lywodraeth Cymru ailystyried y penderfyniad hwn. Mae bron 8,000 o aelodau o grŵp Facebook sydd wedi ymroi i achub gwasanaethau hanfodol yn ysbyty Llwynhelyg. Mae'r dudalen honno yn llawn straeon gan bobl leol yn sôn am sut mae'r uned gofal arbennig i fabanod wedi eu cefnogi. Rhaid i'r Gweinidog gydnabod na fydd ymgyrch y bobl yn tawelu. Byddant yn parhau i brotestio, codi ymwybyddiaeth a gwneud popeth o fewn eu gallu i annog y Gweinidog i ailystyried ei safbwyt ar y mater hwn. Fel Aelodau Cynulliad lleol, byddwn yn gwneud popeth o fewn ein gallu i gefnogi eu hymgyrch.

Hyd y gwn i, nid oes unrhyw dystiolaeth wedi cael ei chyflwyno i awgrymu nad yw'r gwasanaethau newydd-anedig presennol yn ddiogel nac yn gynaliadwy. Mae arolwg amenedigol Cymru gyfan 2012, y bydd yr Aelodau'n ymwybodol ohono, yn dangos ysbytai Llwynhelyg, Bronglais a Glangwili yn ei dabl ar farwolaethau amenedigol yn ôl yr ysbyty geni a fwriadwyd fel y gorau, y trydydd gorau a'r pedwerydd gorau yng Nghymru yn y drefn honno. Mae'r ffigurau cyfredol yn glir: mae'r tri ysbyty yn sylweddol well na chyfarfaledd Cymru, sef 6.5 fesul 1,000 o enedigaethau. Felly, mae'r gwasanaethau hyn eisoes yn ddiogel ac yn gynaliadwy. Yn syml iawn, ni allaf weld sut y byddai model gwasanaeth newydd yn darparu gwasanaeth gwell ar gyfer mamau a babanod yn ardal Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda pan fo'r ffigurau marwolaethau amenedigol eisoes ymhliith y gorau yng Nghymru.

The Minister, not so long ago, was quite keen to use the Powys model as an argument for changing current services in Pembrokeshire. It is quite clear that the Minister is intent on imposing the Powys model for maternity care on the people of Pembrokeshire, which is, of course, an isolated midwife-led unit with no consultant obstetric help in the county. If the Minister is keen to use this model as an exemplar, then we should look at the figures. It is worth noting that Powys, overall, regardless of where the birth took place, has a persistently higher stillbirth rate than the Welsh average in records dating back as far as 2003. In fact, during the period 2008-12, the perinatal mortality rate, which combines both stillbirths and deaths within seven days, for Powys overall was 7.4 per 1,000 births, compared with only 4.1 between 2009 and 2012 for Pembrokeshire. I am sure that all Members would agree that that is a statistically significant difference.

Therefore, while services at Withybush are safe and sustainable now, should the Minister choose to continue with this direction of travel, then on those figures and that model, services would become more unsafe in the future. The Minister made it clear in his statement in January that a level of consultant obstetric support would remain at Withybush for at least a year while the unit is being set up at Glanwili hospital. The Minister must now come clean and tell us exactly what level of support will be available for the next year. What exactly are we, as local politicians, expected to say to expectant mothers? Will there be reduced cover? Will 24-hour consultant availability continue on site? The Minister must now spell out exactly how consultant obstetric support will operate over the coming months. Also, since the Minister's statement, the local health board has announced a downgrading of paediatric services at Withybush hospital from a full-time model to a 12-hour model with—that is right; you guessed it—a 24-hour service available at Glanwili hospital. Members will be aware that a paediatric service is an essential part of any district general hospital, and the move to a part-time service is simply unacceptable, and will ultimately put lives at risk. Retired paediatrician Dr Arabinda Palit has said that:

'It's really on a precipice of disaster; once it goes, it won't come back.'

He also went on to say:

'Of course money is involved, they are just hiding behind the dogma that centralising is best, and it is best, but it's out of context here, here it's not best.'

The view that Hywel Dda health board's decisions are of a purely financial nature is something that is supported by the Children's Commissioner for Wales. In a letter to me, he said that he was unable to get involved in this process because the decisions were primarily ones of a financial nature. However, he did express his concerns over the impact of funding decisions on children and young people in Pembrokeshire.

Yn gymharol ddiweddar, roedd y Gweinidog yn eithaf awyddus i ddefnyddio model Powys fel dadl dros newid gwasanaethau presennol yn Sir Benfro. Mae'n eithaf clir bod y Gweinidog yn benderfynol o gyflwyno model Powys ar gyfer gofal mamolaeth i bobl Sir Benfro, sydd, wrth gwrs, yn uned anghysbell dan arweiniad bydwragedd heb unrhyw help obstetrig ymgynghorol yn y sir. Os yw'r Gweinidog yn awyddus i ddefnyddio'r model hwn fel esiampl, yna dylem edrych ar y ffigurau. Mae'n werth nodi bod gan Bowys, yn gyffredinol, waeth ble digwydodd yr enedigaeth, gyfradd marw-enedigaethau gyson uwch na chyfartaledd Cymru mewn cofnodion sy'n dyddio'n ôl mor bell â 2003. Yn wir, rhwng 2008 a 2012, roedd y gyfradd marwolaethau amenedigol, sy'n cyfuno marw-enedigaethau a marwolaethau o fewn saith diwrnod, ar gyfer Powys yn gyffredinol yn 7.4 fesul 1,000 o enedigaethau, o gymharu â dim ond 4.1 rhwng 2009 a 2012 ar gyfer Sir Benfro. Rwy'n siŵr y byddai pob Aelod yn cytuno bod hynny'n wahaniaeth ystadegol arwyddocaol.

Felly, er bod gwasanaethau yn Llwynhelyg yn ddiogel ac yn gynaliadwy yn awr, petai'r Gweinidog yn dewis parhau mynd i'r cyfeiriad hwn, yna ar sail y ffigurau hynny a'r model hwnnw, byddai gwasanaethau'n dod yn fwy annioleg yn y dyfodol. Nododd y Gweinidog yn glir yn ei ddatganiad ym mis Ionawr y byddai rhywfaint o gymorth obstetrig ymgynghorol yn parhau i fod ar gael yn Llwynhelyg am o leiaf flywyddyn tra bod yr uned yn cael ei sefydlu yn ysbty Glanwili. Rhaid i'r Gweinidog yn awr fod yn gwbl onest a dweud wrthym yn union faint o gymorth a fydd ar gael ar gyfer y flywyddyn nesaf. Beth yn union y mae disgwyl i ni, fel gwleidyddion lleol, ei ddweud wrth famau beicio? A fydd llai o wasanaeth ar gael? A fydd meddygon ymgynghorol yn parhau i fod ar gael ar y safle bob awr o'r dydd a'r nos? Rhaid i'r Gweinidog yn awr egluro'n union sut y bydd cymorth obstetrig ymgynghorol yn gweithredu dros y misoedd nesaf. Hefyd, ers datganiad y Gweinidog, mae'r bwrdd iechyd lleol wedi cyhoeddi y caiff gwasanaethau pediatrig yn ysbty Llwynhelyg eu hisraddio o fodel llawnamser i fodel 12 awr gyda—ie, dyna chi—wasanaeth 24 awr ar gael yn ysbty Glanwili. Bydd yr Aelodau'n ymwybodol bod gwasanaeth pediatrig yn rhan hanfodol o unrhyw ysbty cyffredinol dosbarth, ac mae'r penderfyniad i gyflwyno gwasanaeth rhan-amser yn gwbl annerbyniol, ac, yn y pen draw, bydd yn rhoi bywydau mewn perygl. Mae Dr Arabinda Palit, pediatregydd sydd wedi ymddeol, wedi dweud hynny:

Mae trychineb ar fin digwydd; unwaith yr aiff, ni ddaw yn ôl.

Aeth ymlaen i ddweud hefyd:

Wrth gwrs mae'n fater o arian, ond maent yn cuddio y tu ôl i'r dogma mai canoli sydd orau, a dyna sydd orau, ond mae allan o'i gyd-destun yma, nid y gorau ydyw.

Mae'r farn bod penderfyniadau bwrdd iechyd Hywel Dda yn seiliedig ar faterion ariannol yn unig yn rhywbeth sy'n cael ei gefnogi gan Gomisiynydd Plant Cymru. Mewn llythyr ataf, dywedodd nad oedd yn gallu cymryd rhan yn y broses hon am fod y penderfyniadau yn rhai ariannol yn bennaf. Fodd bynnag, mynegodd ei bryderon am effaith penderfyniadau cyllido ar blant a phobl ifanc yn Sir Benfro.

Over the years, politicians like me have been accused of scaremongering because I have been highlighting the dangers of centralising and downgrading services. However, it is now clear that the concerns and worries that I have been expressing on behalf of the communities that I represent are now becoming a reality. I am afraid to say that we are already seeing the effects of the slippery slope theory in action. I am given to understand that the clinical lead in neonatology resigned from his post, and the programme group in paediatrics, over two months ago, citing a wish not to take responsibility for the effects of changes he regards as unsafe, and which have been forced upon him against his will. That is a senior medical professional warning the health board about the dangers of going ahead with their controversial plans, and yet those calls are falling on deaf ears.

This is clearly the first step down a slippery slope for health services in Pembrokeshire. Members will be fully aware that 25% of admissions to an accident and emergency department are children, and therefore if paediatric services are downgraded, there are serious concerns that the accident and emergency department at Withybush hospital will become unsustainable in the future. It has been made absolutely clear to me by clinicians that if paediatric services are downgraded, then running a full-time A&E service is impossible. In the Minister's response to my questions in January on this issue, he admitted that he didn't know what to say in relation to the slippery slope theory, but that the hospital would have a secure and significant place in the health services that are provided in Pembrokeshire. Minister, that is simply not good enough. There have to be cast-iron guarantees that the slippery slope theory will not be seen at Withybush hospital, but frankly that looks impossible given the knock-on effect that taking one service away will have on another service.

The Welsh Government must come clean and provide a clear and frank direction of travel for Withybush hospital. The health board's actions and the Minister's decision do nothing to help attract doctors and medical staff to the area, either. It will be even more difficult to recruit doctors if there is no stability over which services are staying and which are potentially being removed. The Minister must accept that the continued removal of services from Withybush hospital in recent years, now teamed with the relocation of the special care baby unit, the downgrading of paediatrics, and the possible centralisation of cardiac services, is not portraying a positive image to doctors and clinicians. Doctors and other professionals might see these decisions as a signal to downgrade other services, and therefore clinicians might feel disinclined to join a hospital that they believe does not have a future.

Dros y blynnyddoedd, mae gwleidyddion fel fi wedi cael ein cyhuddo o godi bwganod gan fy mod wedi bod yn tynnw sylw at beryglon canoli ac israddio gwasanaethau. Fodd bynnag, mae'n amlwg bellach fod y pryderon a'r ofnau yr wyf wedi bod yn eu mynegi ar ran y cymunedau a gynrychiolaf yn awr yn dod yn realiti. Afraid dweud ein bod eisoes yn gweld effeithiau y ddamcaniaeth llethr llithrig ar waith. Rywf ar ddeall bod yr arweinydd clinigol mewn neonatoleg wedi ymddiswyddo, ac wedi gadael y grŵp rhaglen mewn pediatreg, dros ddeufis yn ôl, gan ddatgan dymuniad i beidio â chymryd cyfrifoldeb am effeithiau newidiadau sy'n annogel yn ei farn ef, ac sydd wedi cael eu gorfodi arno yn erbyn ei ewyllys. Dyna uwch swyddog meddygol proffesiynol yn rhybuddio'r bwrdd iechyd am beryglon bwrw ymlaen â'i gynlluniau dadleuol, ac eto mae'r galwadau hynny yn cael eu hanwybyddu.

Dyma'n amlwg yw'r cam cyntaf i lawr llethr llithrig ar gyfer gwasanaethau iechyd yn Sir Benfro. Bydd Aelodau yn gwbl ymwybodol bod 25% o dderbyniadau i adran damweiniau ac achosion brys yn blant, ac felly os caiff gwasanaethau pediatrig eu hisraddio, mae pryderon difrifol y bydd yr adran damweiniau ac achosion brys yn Ysbyty Llwynhelyg yn anghynaliadwy yn y dyfodol. Mae clinigwyr wedi ei gwneud yn gwbl glir imi, os caiff gwasanaethau pediatrig eu hisraddio, yna bydd y gwaith o redeg gwasanaeth damweiniau ac achosion brys llawn-amser yn amhosibl. Yn ymateb y Gweinidog i'm cwestiynau ym mis Ionawr ar y mater hwn, cyfaddefodd nad oedd yn gwybod beth i'w ddweud mewn perthynas â'r ddamcaniaeth llethr llithrig, ond y byddai'r ysbyty yn chwarae rhan sicr a sylweddol yn y gwasanaethau iechyd a ddarperir yn Sir Benfro. Weinidog, nid yw hynny'n ddigon da. Rhaid cael sicrwydd llwyr na fydd y ddamcaniaeth llethr llithrig yn cael ei gweld yn Ysbyty Llwynhelyg, ond a dweud y gwir mae hynny'n edrych yn amhosibl o ystyried sgil-effaith dileu un gwasanaeth ar wasanaeth arall.

Rhaid i Lywodraeth Cymru fod yn onest a phennu cyfeiriad clir ac agored ar gyfer ysbyty Llwynhelyg. Nid yw camau gweithredu'r bwrdd iechyd na phenderfyniad y Gweinidog yn gwneud dim i helpu i ddenu meddygon a staff meddygol i'r ardal, ychwaith. Bydd hyd yn oed yn fwy anodd i reciwtio meddygon os nad oes unrhyw sefydlogrwydd yngylch pa wasanaethau sy'n aros a pharai a allai ddfiannu o bosibl. Rhaid i'r Gweinidog dderbyn nad yw cael gwared ar wasanaethau yn barhaus o ysbyty Llwynhelyg yn ystod y blynnyddoedd diwethaf, ac adleoli bellach yr uned gofal arbennig i fabanod, israddio pediatreg, a chanoli gwasanaethau cardiaidd o bosibl, yn cyflwyno delwedd gadarnhaol i feddygon a chlinigwyr. Gallai meddygon a gweithwyr proffesiynol eraill weld y penderfyniadau hyn fel arwydd i israddio gwasanaethau eraill, ac felly gallai clinigwyr fod yn amharod i ymuno â ysbyty nad oes ganddo ddyfodol yn eu barn hwy.

It is quite evident throughout the whole of this process that the geography of Pembrokeshire has not been taken into account. Travelling from St David's to Carmarthen in an emergency situation, as a constituent once told me, would be similar to people in Cardiff being forced to travel to Nevill Hall Hospital in Abergavenny for emergency care. That would not be right for the people of Cardiff, and therefore it is not right for the people that I represent. Pembrokeshire faces challenging transport links, and therefore travelling any distance to obtain emergency treatment will certain lessen survival chances, and that is if there are no road closures on the way to Glangwili. The A40 into Pembrokeshire has already been closed on several occasions only this year.

The Welsh Institute for Health and Social Care has made it absolutely clear that outcomes improve significantly if people receive the right care and treatment within the first golden hour of falling ill or being injured. It is highly unlikely that my constituents will receive the right care and treatment within the first golden hour of falling ill or being injured if those services are not based in Pembrokeshire. In Pembrokeshire, we accept that we already have to travel further afield for specialist treatment, but forcing us to travel further afield for life-saving treatment and emergency services is totally unacceptable.

Figures up to the end of last month show that, in the last 18 months, ambulance response time targets have only been met once, despite the fact that Wales has lower targets than England, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The Minister talks about accelerating the introduction of a new around-the-clock emergency retrieval service for Wales, but what does that mean? There is very little detail about how this service will look. How will the service cope at peak tourist times and when there are road closures? Therefore, today, I urge the Minister to seriously reconsider his decision to close the special care baby unit and to downgrade paediatric services, and to provide cast-iron guarantees that services at Withybush hospital will not be downgraded.

The people's campaign to retain services is not going to go away. As local Members, it is our duty to represent their views in this Chamber. Today's debate has been tabled to reflect on the Minister's statement in January and to once again put it to the Minister that his decision is a catastrophic blow for the people of Pembrokeshire. I therefore say to the Minister, once again, that the downgrading of services at Withybush hospital will put people's lives at risk in my constituency. These plans to downgrade services are not wanted by clinicians and are passionately opposed by the public.

The people of Pembrokeshire already feel like their views are being ignored. However, we will not give up without a fight and I urge the Minister, once again, to reconsider his decision and to listen to the people of Pembrokeshire before it is too late.

Mae'n eithaf amlwg drwy gydol y broses hon nad yw daearyddiaeth Sir Benfro wedi cael ei hystyried. Byddai teithio o Dyddewi i Gaerfyrddin mewn argyfwng, fel y dywedodd etholwr wrthyf unwaith, yn debyg i bobl o Gaerdydd yn gorfod teithio i Ysbyty Nevill Hall yn y Fenni am ofal brys. Ni fyddai hynny'n iawn i bobl Caerdydd, ac felly nid yw'n iawn i'r bobl yr wyf innau'n eu cynrychioli. Mae Sir Benfro yn wynebu cysylltiadau trafnidiaeth heriol, ac felly bydd teithio unrhyw bellter i gael triniaeth frws yn lleihau'r siawns o fyw, hynny yw os nad oes unrhyw ffyrdd ar gau ar y ffordd i Langwili. Mae'r A40 i mewn i Sir Benfro eisoes wedi cael ei chau sawl gwaith eleni'n unig.

Mae Sefydliad Cymru dros lechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol wedi ei gwneud yn gwbl glir bod canlyniadau yn gwella'n sylweddol os caiff pobl y gofal a'r driniaeth gywir o fewn yr awr euraidd gyntaf honno i deimlo'n sâl neu gael eu hanafu. Mae'n annhebygol iawn y bydd fy etholwyr yn derbyn y gofal a'r driniaeth gywir o fewn yr awr euraidd gyntaf i deimlo'n sâl neu gael eu hanafu os nad yw'r gwasanaethau hynny'n cael eu lleoli yn Sir Benfro. Yn Sir Benfro, rydym yn derbyn bod angen inni eisoes deithio ymhellach i gael triniaeth arbenigol, ond mae ein gorfodi i deithio ymhellach i gael triniaeth achub bywyd a gwasanaethau brys yn gwbl annerbyniol.

Dengys ffigurau hyd at ddiwedd fis diwethaf, yn y 18 mis diwethaf, i dargedau amseroedd ymateb ambiwlansys ond cael eu cyflawni unwaith, er gwaethaf y ffaith bod gan Gymru dargedau is na Lloegr, yr Alban a Gogledd Iwerddon. Mae'r Gweinidog yn sôn am gyflymu'r broses o gyflwyno gwasanaeth adfer mewn argyfwng 24 awr newydd i Gymru, ond beth mae hynny'n ei olygu? Ychydig iawn o fanylion sydd ar gael am y math o wasanaeth fydd hwn. Sut y bydd y gwasanaeth yn ymdopi ar yr adegau prysuraf o ran twristiaeth a phan fo ffyrdd ar gau? Felly, heddiw, anogaf y Gweinidog i ailystyried o ddifrif ei benderfyniad i gau'r uned gofal arbennig i fabanod ac israddio gwasanaethau pediatrig, a darparu sicrwydd cadarn na fydd gwasanaethau yn Ysbyty Llwynhelyg yn cael eu hisraddio.

Nid yw ymgyrch y bobl i gadw gwasanaethau yn mynd i ddiflannu. Fel Aelodau lleol, mae dyletswydd arnom i gynrychioli eu barn yn y Siambra hon. Mae'r ddadl hon heddiw wedi cael ei chyflwyno er mwyn myfyrio ar ddatganiad y Gweinidog ym mis Ionawr ac, unwaith eto, ddweud wrth y Gweinidog fod ei benderfyniad yn ergyd drychnebus i bobl Sir Benfro. Felly, dywedaf wrth y Gweinidog, unwaith eto, y bydd israddio gwasanaethau yn Ysbyty Llwynhelyg yn rhoi bywydau pobl mewn perygl yn fy etholaeth. Nid yw'r cynlluniau hyn i israddio gwasanaethau yn cael eu croesawu gan glinigwyr ac fe'u gwrthwynebir yn chwyrn gan y cyhoedd.

Mae pobl Sir Benfro eisoes yn teimlo bod eu barn yn cael ei hanwybyddu. Fodd bynnag, ni wnaeon roi'r gorau iddi heb frwydr ac anogaf y Gweinidog, unwaith eto, i ailystyried ei benderfyniad a gwrando ar bobl Sir Benfro cyn iddi fynd yn rhy hwyr.

19:07

Sandy Mewies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

There are four people to get in in two minutes, so may I suggest that you cut your speeches very short? I call Simon Thomas.

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Mae pedwar o bobl i'w cynnwys mewn dau funud, felly a gaf i awgrymu eich bod yn cadw eich areithiau'n fyr iawn? Galwaf ar Simon Thomas.

19:07

Simon Thomas [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Diolch, Paul, am y cyfle i gyfrannu. Ni wnaf ailadrodd yr hyn a ddywedodd Paul. Dyna'r neges rwyf i'n ei chael gan etholwyr hefyd, ac mae wedi siarad dros ei etholwyr heddiw.

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Thank you, Paul, for the opportunity to contribute. I will not rehearse the comments made by Paul. That is the message that I am receiving from constituents also, and he has spoken for his constituents today.

Y cwbl rwyf eisiau ei ddweud wrth y Gweinidog heddiw, yn glou, yw bod tri pheth sy'n fy mhoeni ynglŷn â'r holl ddatblygiad hwn. O ran y gweithlu i ddechrau, nid yw Hywel Dda yn gwneud digon, yn fy marn i, i gynllunio'r gweithlu a reciriwto a sicrhau cysondeb y gwasanaethau. Yr ail beth yw'r ffordd mae Hywel Dda yn ymdrin â'r cyhoedd; nid wyf yn meddwl ei fod yn ddigon agored na'n ddigon onest, ac nid yw'n helpu pobl fel fi a fydd, effallai, eisiau llefaru ychydig dros newid a all ddigwydd yn yr ardal oedd hynny. Y trydydd pwynt yw bod gwir angen, erbyn hyn, am gysyniad o ofal gwledig arnom. Mae'r gwaith yn cael ei wneud gan Marcus Longley yn awr yn sgîl y cyfarfod a gawsoch chi ac Elin Jones. Mae gwir angen i ddatblygiadau megis y rhai yn Llwynhelyg a'r gorllewin cael eu gwneud yng nghyd-destun gofal gwirioneddol sy'n ymateb i anghenion gwledig.

All I want to tell the Minister today, swiftly, is that there are three things that concern me about this whole development. On the workforce first of all, Hywel Dda is not doing enough, in my opinion, to plan the workforce and to recruit and to ensure consistency of service. The second thing is the way that Hywel Dda deals with the public; I do not think that it is sufficiently open or honest enough, and it does not help people like me who may want to speak in favour of some change that can happen in some of those areas. The third point is that there is a real need, now, for the concept of rural care. The work is being done by Marcus Longley now in light of the meeting that you and Elin Jones had. We truly need developments such as those at Withybush and in west Wales to be undertaken in the context of real care that responds to the needs of people in rural communities.

19:08

Rebecca Evans [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

When we met with the Minister ahead of the rally at the Senedd, I think that it is fair to say that everyone at that meeting was of one mind that if there were to be a change to neonatal care—and some people did not accept that there was need for change—the expert panel's safety-net requirement should be fully in place before any change took place.

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Pan wnaethom gyfarfod â'r Gweinidog cyn y rali yn y Senedd, credaf ei bod yn deg dweud bod pawb yn y cyfarfod hwnnw o'r un farn, sef pe bai newid i ofal newydd-anedig—ac nid oedd rhai pobl yn derbyn bod angen newid —dylai gofynion rhwyd ddiogelwch y panel arbenigol fod ar waith yn llawn cyn i unrhyw newid ddigwydd.

One of those safety-net requirements relates to the midwifery-led unit. I want to reflect briefly on the visit that I made to the Brecon birth unit, which was invaluable in providing me with the opportunity to calmly and forensically talk through with midwives and new mothers some of the issues that Paul Davies has mentioned in his speech. I would urge other Members to take that opportunity, because I found it extremely useful.

Mae a wnelo un o'r gofynion rhwyd ddiogelwch hynny â'r uned dan arweiniad bydwragedd. Hoffwn fyfyrion fras ar fy ymweliad â'r uned geni yn Aberhonddu, a oedd yn amhrisiadwy o ran rho'r cyfle imi drafod rhai o'r materion y mae Paul Davies wedi'u crybwyll yn ei arraith gyda bydwragedd a mamau newydd mewn modd pwyllog a thrylwyr. Byddwn yn annog Aelodau eraill i achub ar y cyfle hwnnw, oherwydd roedd yn hynod ddefnyddiol imi.

I want to ask the Minister to say something today about progress towards those safety-net requirements, including how we can make sure that facilities are in place at the Glangwili end, before any change takes place, because I also think that that is essential. I just regret that I do not have more time to speak.

Hoffwn ofyn i'r Gweinidog ddweud rhywbeth heddiw am y cynnydd a wneir tuag at y gofynion rhwyd ddiogelwch hynny, gan gynnwys sut y gallwn wneud yn siŵr bod y cyfleusterau ar gael yn Ysbyty Glangwili, cyn i unrhyw newid ddigwydd, gan fy mod hefyd yn meddwl bod hynny'n hanfodol. Mae'n drueni nad oes gennych fwy o amser i siarad.

19:09

Sandy Mewies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

And, you do not. I call William Powell; we have a very short amount of time left.

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Ac, nid oes gennych hynny. Galwaf ar William Powell; rydym yn brin iawn o amser.

19:09

William Powell [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I would like to thank Paul Davies very much for bringing forward this important debate. In my role as Chair of the Assembly's Petitions Committee, together with my colleagues—several of whom are in the Chamber today—I have received the petitions that you have referred to. This matter is of the utmost seriousness. I had the privilege to meet and to address the most recent rally, at the invitation of Chris Overton, to whom I also pay tribute for the leadership that he has afforded to this campaign. I urge the Minister to listen in this matter.

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Hoffwn ddiolch yn fawr iawn i Paul Davies am gyflwyno'r ddadl bwysig hon. Yn fy rôle fel Cadeirydd Pwyllgor Deisebau'r Cynulliad, ynghyd â'm cyd-Aelodau—y mae sawl un ohonynt yn y Siambwr heddiw—yr wyl wedi derbyn y deisebau yr ydych wedi cyfeirio atynt. Mae'r mater hwn yn un difrifol dros ben. Cefais y faint o gwrdd â'r rali fwyafr diweddar a'i hannerch, yn dilyn gwahoddiaid gan Chris Overton, yr hoffwn dalu teyrnged iddo hefyd am ei arweinyddiaeth yn ystod yr ymgrych hon. Anogaf y Gweinidog i wrando yn yr achos hwn.

19:10

Joyce Watson [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I will be very brief. I wish that I had more time to speak, but I thank Paul Davies for giving me the minute that I have. I want to ask the Minister a series of questions. Can you confirm that the safety net will be in place during the transition phase of the SCBU move from Withybush to Glangwili? Will you also confirm that stabilisation for mother and baby will remain in place? Will you confirm that the reason behind the reorganisation of services is to maintain safe and reliable services—both now and in the future—at Withybush hospital?

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Byddaf yn fyr iawn. Mae'n drueni nad oes gennyl fwy o amser i siarad, ond hoffwn ddiolch i Paul Davies am roi'r munud sydd gennyl. Hoffwn ofyn cyfres o gwestiynau i'r Gweinidog. A allwch gadarnhau y bydd y rhwyd d diogelwch ar waith yn ystod y cyfnod pontio wrth symud yr uned gofal arbennig i fabanod o Lwynhelyg i Langwili? A wnewch hefyd gadarnhau y bydd sefydlogi ar gyfer mamau a babanod yn parhau i fod ar gael? A wnewch gadarnhau mai'r rheswm dros ad-drefnu gwasanaethau yw er mwyn cynnal gwasanaethau diogel a dibynadwy— yn awr ac yn y dyfodol—yn ysbyty Llynwlynhelyg?

19:10

Sandy Mewies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I call on the Minister for Health and Social Services to reply to the debate.

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Galwaf ar y Gweinidog lechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol i ymateb i'r ddadl.

19:10

Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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

I would like to thank Paul Davies for the opportunity to put on record a set of important facts—facts about service, facts about process—which explain the position at Withybush hospital.

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Hoffwn ddiolch i Paul Davies am y cyfre i roi ar gofnod set o ffeithiau pwysig—ffeithiau am wasanaethau, ffeithiau am brosesau—sy'n egluro'r sefyllfa yn Ysbyty Llynwlynhelyg.

Health services across the United Kingdom and beyond face a set of common challenges, which any responsible government has to address, however intractable they may appear. That is why my predecessor, Lesley Griffiths, at the start of this Assembly term required all local health boards to set out their plans for creating safe and sustainable services for the communities that they serve—not simply today, but into the future. In developing its own plan, 'Your Health, Your Future', Hywel Dda health board undertook an extensive listening and engagement exercise between December 2011 and April 2012. I have heard what Simon Thomas has said here this afternoon, and in the past, that there are things that Hywel Dda could have done better and needs to do better today. We are trying to give it assistance to help it in doing that important job of engaging with its local population.

Mae gwasanaethau iechyd ledled y Deyrnas Unedig a thu hwnt yn wynebu cyfres o heriau cyffredin, y mae'n rhaid i unrhyw lywodraeth gyfrifol fynd i'r afael â hwy, waeth pa mor anhydrin y gallant fod. Dyna pam y gwnaeth fy rhagflaenydd, Lesley Griffiths, ar ddechrau tymor y Cynulliad hwn, ei gwneud yn ofynnol i bob bwrdd iechyd lleol gyflwyno ei gynlluniau ar gyfer creu gwasanaethau diogel a chynaliadwy ar gyfer y cymunedau y maent yn eu gwasanaethu—nid dim ond heddiw, ond yn y dyfodol. Wrth ddatblygu ei gynllun ei hun, 'Eich lechyd, Eich Dyfodol', cynhaliodd bwrdd iechyd Hywel Dda ymarfer gwrando ac ymgysylltu eang rhwng mis Rhagfyr 2011 a mis Ebrill 2012. Rwyf wedi clywed yr hyn a ddywedodd Simon Thomas y prynhawn yma, ac yn y gorffennol, mae yna bethau y gallai Hywel Dda fod wedi'u gwneud yn well ac y mae angen iddo eu gwneud yn well heddiw. Rydym yn ceisio rhoi cymorth iddo fel y gall wneud y gwaith pwysig hwnnw o ymgysylltu â'i boblogaeth leol.

Its engagement exercise back in 2011-12 was designed to address some of the particular challenges that that health board faces—an ageing population with increasing demands for care, difficulties in recruiting and retaining sufficient well-qualified staff for some services, and the need to sustain excellent and safe medical care across a large rural area with dispersed communities. The aim of the exercise was to inform the board better by providing opportunities for staff, stakeholders and the public to express their ideas about a wide range of health issues in both primary and secondary care.

Following this phase, the health board published its proposals for services in mid and west Wales. There was a formal 12-week public consultation and it closed at the end of October 2012. Following an analysis of the consultation exercise, the health board published its final proposals on 15 January last year. In accordance with the established procedures, the proposals were subject to a six-week period of consideration by the local community health council, which is able—as you know—to refer any proposals to Welsh Ministers if it believes that they would not be in the best interests of the health service in that area.

A significant number of the proposals and changes set out by the health board were accepted and the process of implementation has followed. Hywel Dda Community Health Council however referred two specific issues to Welsh Ministers in April 2013. Those concerned emergency services at Prince Philip Hospital in Llanelli and neonatal services at Glangwili and Withybush hospitals.

Again, there is an established process that we have to follow. When that happens, the procedure requires that I convene an expert scrutiny panel to provide me with the advice and the recommendations on which to base my determination. I make no apology for putting on record again the nature of the panel that was brought together. It comprised Professor Neena Modi, professor of neonatal medicine at Imperial College London and honorary consultant at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, and a world-leading figure in this field; alongside her was Mr Jim Wardrobe, a consultant in accident and emergency medicine at the Northern General Hospital in Sheffield, and a former president of the National College of Emergency Medicine; and to help them, the third member, Dr David Salter, is formerly the Deputy Chief Medical Officer for Wales and with a vast knowledge and experience of NHS Wales. In August 2013, the panel met with the local health board, met with the community health council and met with local clinicians with an interest in the matter under consideration, looked at all the documents available to it, and reported to me in September. I was able to endorse its advice in relation to emergency care at Prince Philip Hospital, and formally determined that matter on 24 September.

Cafodd ei ymarfer ymgysylltu yn ôl yn 2011-12 ei gynllunio i fynd i'r afael â rhai o'r heriau penodol y mae'r bwrdd iechyd yn eu hwynebu—poblogaeth sy'n heneiddio ac sydd ag anghenion gofal cynyddol, anawsterau o ran reciriwto a chadw digon o staff cymwys ar gyfer rhai gwasanaethau, a'r angen i gynnal gofal meddygol ardderchog a diogel ar draws ardal wledig fawr sy'n cynnwys cymunedau gwasgaredig. Nod yr ymarfer oedd hysbysu'r bwrdd yn well drwy roi cyfleoedd i staff, rhanddeiliaid a'r cyhoedd fynegi eu barn am ystod eang o faterion iechyd mewn gofal sylfaenol ac eilaidd.

Yn dilyn y cyfnod hwn, cyhoeddodd y bwrdd iechyd ei gynigion ar gyfer gwasanaethau yn y canolbarth a'r gorllewin. Cafwyd ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus ffurfiol 12 wythnos a ddaeth i ben ar ddiwedd mis Hydref 2012. Yn dilyn dadansoddiad o'r ymgynghoriad, cyhoeddodd y bwrdd iechyd ei gynigion terfynol ar 15 Ionawr y llynedd. Yn unol â'r gweithdrefnau sefydledig, cafodd y cynigion eu hystyried gan y cyngor iechyd cymuned lleol am gyfnod o chwe wythnos, sy'n gallu—fel y gwyddoch—gyfeirio unrhyw gynigion i Weinidogion Cymru os yw'n credu na fyddent er budd gorau'r gwasanaeth iechyd yn yr ardal honno.

Cafodd nifer sylweddol o'r cynigion a'r newidiadau a nodwyd gan y bwrdd iechyd eu derbyn ac mae'r broses weithredu wedi dilyn hynny. Fodd bynnag, cyfeiriodd Cyngor Iechyd Cymuned Hywel Dda ddau fater penodol i Weinidogion Cymru ym mis Ebrill 2013. Roeddent yn ymwneud â gwasanaethau brys yn Ysbyty'r Tywysog Philip yn Llanelli a gwasanaethau newydd-anedig yn ysbytai Glangwili a Llwynhelyg.

Unwaith eto, ceir proses sefydledig y mae'n rhaid inni ei dilyn. Pan fydd hynny'n digwydd, mae'r weithdrefn yn mynnu fy mod yn dwyn ynghyd banel craffu arbenigol i roi cyngor ac argymhellion imi allu seilio fy mhenderfyniad arnynt. Nid wyf yn ymddiheuro am roi ar gofnod unwaith eto natur y panel a ddygydd at ei gilydd. Roedd yn cynnwys yr Athro Neena Modi, athro meddygaeth newydd-anedig yng Ngholeg Imperial Llundain a meddyg ymgynghorol er anrhyydedd yn Ymddiriedolaeth Sefydledig GIG Ysbyty Chelsea a Westminster, a ffigwr blaenllaw yn y maes hwn; ochr yn ochr â hi roedd Mr Jim Wardrobe, meddyg ymgynghorol mewn meddygaeth damweiniau ac achosion brys yn Ysbyty Cyffredinol Gogledd Lloegr yn Sheffield, a chyn-lywydd Coleg Cenedlaethol Meddygaeth Frys; ac i'w helpu, y trydydd aelod, Dr David Salter, cyn-Ddirprwy Brif Swyddog Meddygol Cymru sydd â gwybodaeth a phrofiad helaeth o GIG Cymru. Ym mis Awst 2013, cyfarfu'r panel â'r bwrdd iechyd lleol, y cyngor iechyd cymuned a chlinigwyr lleol â diddordeb yn y mater dan sylw, edrychwyd ar yr holl ddogfennau a oedd ar gael iddo, a chyflwynodd adroddiad imi ym mis Medi. Bu modd imi gymeradwyo ei gyngor mewn perthynas â gofal brys yn Ysbyty'r Tywysog Philip, a chafwyd penderfyniad ffurfiol ar y mater ar 24 Medi.

In relation to neonatal services in mid and west Wales, I reported to this Assembly that, while the panel had set out a clear direction of travel, it required further work by the LHB in relation to obstetric and midwifery services before the pattern of neonatal services for the Hywel Dda area could be fully determined. The panel required extra work to be done by the local health board, and I instructed the health board to undertake that work. That was received in December, when the scrutiny panel was further strengthened by the inclusion of Mr Simon Emery, a consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist and chair of the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges in Wales.

These are senior people in the field. That panel provided me with a subsidiary report containing its final advice in January and I announced my final determination on neonatal services to the National Assembly on 21 January. That confirmed the health board's proposals to develop a level 2 neonatal unit at Glangwili hospital and to introduce a networked maternity service with both obstetric and midwifery-led units.

During its deliberations, the scrutiny panel considered all of the available evidence. Once again, it did not simply rely on documentation provided by the LHB and others, extensive as that documentation was. It visited west Wales again, it spoke face to face with the CHC, with local clinicians and others. It was clear, in its advice to me, that the needs of pregnant women and their babies could be safely accommodated without a neonatal unit presence, provided that this was accompanied by emergency cover, staff trained in newborn resuscitation and stabilisation, and clearly defined pathways for in-utero and postnatal transfers being in place.

The advice was unambiguous and unanimous, and the advice was that this new service model would lead to better quality care and improved patient outcomes for mothers and babies in the Hywel Dda area. As Minister, it is my responsibility to make decisions on the basis of the best professional advice available. I ask the Member for Preseli Pembrokeshire to reflect on that point. Could any responsible Minister simply tear up the most authoritative clinical advice that could be secured and embark on a course of action that that such advice directly and unequivocally describes as unsafe for mothers and babies?

In making my determination, I made it clear that the proposals will need to be accompanied by a robust safety-net set of arrangements, and I endorsed all the safety-net requirements that the scrutiny panel set out in its report. They include, as Joyce Watson asked, that midwives will have the skilled assistance they need in the event of an unexpected emergency, as well as the additional training that they will require, and effective emergency transfer arrangements.

Mewn perthynas â gwasanaethau newydd-anedig yn y canolbarth a'r gorllewin, soniai wrth y Cynulliad hwn, er bod y panel wedi pennu cyfeiriad clir, roedd angen i'r BILI wneud gwaith pellach mewn perthynas â gwasanaethau obstetreg a bydwreigiaeth cyn y gallai patrwm gwasanaethau newydd-anedig ardal Hywel Dda gael ei bennu'n llawn. Gofynnodd y panel am waith ychwanegol gan y bwrdd iechyd lleol, a dywedais wrtho wneud y gwaith hwnnw. Fe'i cafwyd ym mis Rhagfyr, pan gafodd y panel craffu ei atgyfnerthu ymhellach drwy gynnwys Mr Simon Emery, obstetrydd ymgynghorol a gynaecolegydd a chadeirydd Academi Colegau Meddygol Brenhinol Cymru.

Mae'r rhain yn bobl lefel uwch yn y maes. Rhoddodd y panel hwnnw adroddiad atodol imi a oedd yn cynnwys ei gyngor terfynol ym mis Ionawr a chyhoeddais fy mhenderfyniad terfynol ar wasanaethau newydd-anedig i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ar 21 Ionawr. Cadarnhaodd gynigion y bwrdd iechyd i ddatblygu uned newydd-anedig lefel 2 yn ysbty Glangwili a chyflwyno gwasanaeth mamolaeth rhwydwaith gydag unedau obstetrig ac unedau dan arweiniad bydwragedd.

Yn ystod ei drafodaethau, ystyriodd y panel craffu'r holl dystiolaeth oedd ar gael. Unwaith eto, ni wnaeth ddibynnu'n unig ar ddogfennau a ddarparwyd gan y BILI ac eraill, er ei bod yn helaeth. Ymwelodd a'r gorllewin eto, siaradodd wyneb yn wyneb a'r CIC, clinigwyr lleol ac eraill. Roedd yn glir, yn ei gyngor imi, y gallai anghenion merched beicio a'u babanod gael eu diwallu'n ddiogel heb fod uned newydd-anedig ar gael, ar yr amod bod gwasanaeth brys, staff wedi'u hyfforddi mewn dadebru babanod newydd-anedig a sefydlogi, a llwybrau wedi'u diffinio'n glir ar gyfer trosglwyddiadau yn-utero ac ôl-enedigol ar waith hefyd.

Roedd y cyngor yn ddiamwys ac yn unfrydol, a'r cyngor oedd y byddai'r model gwasanaeth newydd hwn yn arwain at ofal o ansawdd gwell a gwell canlyniadau i gleifion ar gyfer mamau a babanod yn ardal Hywel Dda. Fel Gweinidog, rwy'n gyfrifol am wneud penderfyniadau ar sail y cyngor proffesiynol gorau sydd ar gael. Gofynnaf i'r Aelod dros Breseli Sir Benfro fyfyrion ar y pwyt hwnnw. A allai unrhyw Weinidog cyfrifol rwygo i fyny'r cyngor clinigol mwyaf awdurdodol y gellid ei sicrhau ac yna mynd ati i weithredu mewn ffordd y mae cyngor o'r fath yn nodi'n uniongyrchol ac yn ddiamwys ei fod yn anniogel i famau a babanod?

Wrth wneud fy mhenderfyniad, nodais yn glir y byddai angen i'r cynigion hefyd gynnwys cyfres gadarn o drefniadau rhwyd ddiogelwch, a chymeradwyais yr holl ofynion rhwyd ddiogelwch a nodwyd gan y panel craffu yn ei adroddiad. Maent yn cynnwys, fel y gofynnodd Joyce Watson, y sicrwydd y bydd gan fydwragedd y cymorth medrus sydd ei angen arnynt mewn argyfwng annisgwyl, yn ogystal â'r hyfforddiant ychwanegol y bydd ei angen, a threfniadau trosglwyddo brys effeithiol.

I have to expect the local health board to work closely with the Welsh ambulance service, the air ambulance service and the Cymru Inter Hospital Acute Neonatal Transfer Service, to ensure that robust retrieval and transfer systems are in place. This will ensure that very sick babies can travel safely to the level 2 neonatal unit at Glangwili hospital. We will put in place as well, thanks to the cooperation of my colleague, Edwina Hart, who has provided substantial extra assistance in this area, new work to make sure that the interests of people who have to travel further to receive treatment or to visit family and friends are properly protected as well.

I understand that these are very important, and in many ways difficult, changes for the people directly affected. That is why I will require the health board to commission an independent evaluation of the impact of the revised neonatal services on newborn outcomes and patient experiences 12 months after the service comes into fruition.

Let me turn briefly to the recent report from the Royal College of Physicians on cardiology services in Hywel Dda. The report identifies a number of challenges that the health board has faced in delivering cardiac services to relatively low population numbers across large geographical areas. It too highlights patient safety issues and makes a series of recommendations to provide more effective ways of working and a better standard of care. The health board will now discuss that report with its local clinical communities and others with an interest in those changes.

We cannot go on, every time we get authoritative and independent advice that tells us important things about how services are to be delivered in a safe and sustainable way, thinking that we can simply brush that information to one side because it does not fit in with the way we wish the world could be. We have no choice but to deal with the world as it actually is. It really does not, I believe, in the end, lead to the sort of services that we would all like to see in these areas if we persist in portraying every step on the path to change as somehow a deterioration in the service that people provide. The aim is exactly the opposite. The aim is to design a future for services for the people of Pembrokeshire that gives Withybush that safe and secure and sustainable future. Describing change in the terms that we have heard in the Chamber this afternoon, where everything is a catastrophic blow, where everything is a downgrade, and where everything is portrayed in deeply emotive terms, is the way in which we stop people who would be willing to come and work in our services from coming to work here. That is where we turn the opportunity we have from being an opportunity into a threat to services.

Rhaid imi ddisgwyl i'r bwrdd iechyd lleol gydweithio'n agos â gwasanaeth ambiwlans Cymru, y gwasanaeth ambiwlans awyr a Gwasanaeth Aciwt Trosglwyddo Babanod Newydd-anedig rhwng Ysbytai yng Nghymru, er mwyn sicrhau bod systemau adfer a throsglwyddo cadarn ar waith. Bydd hyn yn sicrhau y gall babanod sâl iawn deithio'n ddiogel i'r uned newydd-anedig lefel 2 yn ysbyty Glangwili. Byddwn hefyd yn rhoi ar waith, diolch i gydweithrediad fy nghyd-Aelod, Edwina Hart, sydd wedi darparu cymorth ychwanegol sylwedol yn y maes hwn, brosesau newydd er mwyn sicrhau bod buddiannau pobl sy'n gorfol teithio ymhellach i gael triniaeth neu i ymweld â theulu a ffrindiau yn cael eu diogel'un briodol hefyd.

Deallaf fod y rhain yn bwysig iawn, ac mewn sawl ffordd maent yn newidiadau anodd i'r bobl yr effeithir arnynt yn uniongyrchol. Dyna pam y byddaf yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i'r bwrdd iechyd gomisiynu gwerthusiad annibynnol o effaith y gwasanaethau newydd-anedig diwygiedig ar ganlyniadau babanod newydd-anedig a phrofiadau cleifion 12 mis ar ôl i'r gwasanaeth ddod i fodolaeth.

Gadewch imi droi'n fyr at yr adroddiad diweddar gan Goleg Brenhinol y Ffisigwyr ar wasanaethau cardioleg yn Hywel Dda. Mae'r adroddiad yn nodi nifer o heriau y mae'r bwrdd iechyd wedi'u hwynebu wrth ddarparu gwasanaethau cardioidd i niferoedd cymharol isel o'r boblogaeth ar draws ardaloedd daearyddol mawr. Mae hefyd yn tynnu sylw a faterion o ran diogelwch cleifion ac yn gwneud cyfres o argymhellion i ddarparu ffyrdd mwy effeithiol o weithio a gwell safon o ofal. Bydd y bwrdd iechyd bellach yn trafod yr adroddiad hwnnw gyda'i gymunedau clinigol lleol ac eraill sydd â diddordeb yn y newidiadau hynny.

Ni allwn, bob tro y cawn gyngor awdurdodol ac annibynnol sy'n dweud pethau pwysig wrthym am y ffordd y dylai gwasanaethau gael eu darparu mewn ffordd ddiogel a chynaliadwy, barhau i gredu y gallwn roi'r wybodaeth honno o'r neilltu am nad yw'n cyd-fynd â'r ffordd yr hoffem i'r byd fod. Rhaid inni ddelio â'r byd fel y mae mewn gwirionedd. Yn fy marn i, nid yw, yn y pen draw, yn arwain at y math o wasanaethau y byddem i gyd yn hoffi eu gweld yn yr ardaloedd hyn os ydym yn dal i gyfleo pob cam ar y llwybr i newid fel rhyw fath o ddirywiad yn y gwasanaeth y mae pobl yn ei ddarparu. Y gwrthwyneb yw'r nod, sef creu dyfodol ar gyfer gwasanaethau i bobl Sir Benfro sy'n rhoi dyfodol diogel a sicr a chynaliadwy i Lwynhelyg. Disgrifio'r newid o ran yr hyn rydym wedi'i glywed yn y Siambra y prynhawn yma, lle mae popeth yn ergyd drychnebus, lle mae popeth yn engraffit o israddio, a lle mae popeth yn cael ei gyfleo mewn termau emosiynol iawn, yw'r ffordd yr ydym yn atal pobl a fyddai'n fodlon dod i weithio yn ein gwasanaethau rhag dod i weithio yma. Dyna lle rydym yn tro'i'r cyfle sydd gennym o fod yn gyfleo i fygythiad i wasanaethau.

What I believe I have done, in following the best possible advice, even in these very difficult circumstances, is to put services at Withybush hospital on a path where they will continue into the long term to provide for the needs of the patient population of that area, and to do that on a basis that we can sustain for that future and to do that on a basis that allows us to go on providing other services at that hospital to make sure that it does have the successful future that we want it to have. We need, as much as possible, and as we quite often do manage to do on the floor of this Assembly, to join together to try to make the most we possibly can of those opportunities, because, if we cast them aside, they really may not come our way again.

Yr hyn yr wyf yn credu imi ei wneud, wrth ddilyn y cyngor gorau posibl, hyd yn oed yn yr amgylchiadau anodd iawn hyn, yw rhoi gwasanaethau yn ysbyty Llwynhelyg ar lwybr lle byddant yn parhau, yn yr hirdymor, i ddiwallu anghenion cleifion yr ardal, ac i wneud hynny ar sail y gallwn ei chynnal ar gyfer y dyfodol hwnnw ac i wneud hynny ar sail sy'n ein galluogi i barhau i ddarparu gwasanaethau eraill yn yr ysbyty hwnnw er mwyn sicrhau ei fod yn cael y dyfodol llwyddiannus yr ydym am iddo ei gael. Mae angen, cymaint ag y bo modd, ac fel rydym yn llwyddo i'w wneud yn aml ar lawr y Cynulliad hwn, ddod at ein gilydd i achub ar y cyfleoedd hynny cymaint â phosibl, oherwydd, os rhawn hwy o'r neilltu, efallai na welwn hwy eto.

19:23

Sandy Mewies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you, Minister. That brings today's proceedings to a close.

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Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 19:23.

Diolch ichi, Weinidog. Dyna ddiwedd ein trafodion heddiw.
The meeting ended at 19:23