

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau

Lleoliad:
Ystafell Bwyllgora 1 – y Senedd

Dyddiad:
Dydd Mawrth, 8 Hydref 2013

Amser:
09:00

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



I gael rhagor o wybodaeth, cysylltwch a:

Steve George
Clerc y Pwyllgor
029 2089 8421
deisebau@cymru.gov.uk

Kayleigh Driscoll
Dirprwy Clerc y Pwyllgor
029 2089 8421
deisebau@cymru.gov.uk

Agenda

- 1 Cyflwyniad, ymddiheuriadau a dirprwyon**
- 2 Deisebau newydd (9:00 – 9:20)**
 - 2.1 P-04-504 Diogelwch Cyffordd Pont Maerdy yr A483 (Tudalen 1)
 - 2.2 P-04-505 Uned Anhwylderau Bwyta yng Nghymru (Tudalen 2)
 - 2.3 P-04-506 Pasis bws am ddim / teithio rhatach i'r rhai sy'n hawlio budd-daliadau, i fyfyrwyr a phobl o dan 18 oed (Tudalen 3)
 - 2.4 P-04-507 Bil iawnderau yng Nghymru ar gyfer menywod a merched: ymlynu wrth y Confensiwn Rhyngwladol ar Ddiddymu Gwahaniaethu o bob math yn Erbyn Menywod (CEDAW) (Tudalennau 4 - 6)
 - 2.5 P-04-508 Rhaid adfer yr Olygfa o Landyfi (Tudalen 7)
 - 2.6 P-04-509 Achub Canolfan Tennis Genedlaethol Cymru (Tudalen 8)
- 3 Y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am ddeisebau blaenorol (9:20 – 10:00)**

Diwylliant a Chwaraeon

- 3.1 P-03-263 Rhestru Parc y Strade (Tudalennau 9 - 14)

Yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth

- 3.2 P-04-393 Grŵp Gweithredu Ffordd Osgoi Llanymynech a Phant (Tudalennau 15 - 16)
- 3.3 P-04-415 Cefnogaeth am Bennu Parthau Cadwraeth Morol Lefel Gwarchodaeth Uchel (Tudalennau 17 - 33)
- 3.4 P-04-459 Cysylltiad rheilffordd uniongyrchol o Faes Awyr Caerdydd i ganol Caerdydd a gorllewin Cymru (Tudalennau 34 - 36)
- 3.5 P-04-468 Pryderon am Ddiogelwch Ffordd A48 Cas-gwent (Tudalennau 37 - 44)
- 3.6 P-04-491 Banc Cenedlaethol ac arian cyflenwol i Gymru (Tudalennau 45 - 49)

Llywodraeth Leol a Busnes y Llywodraeth

- 3.7 P-04-402 Gweddiau Cyngor (Tudalennau 50 - 52)

Iechyd

- 3.8 P-04-413 Gwasanaethau Mamolaeth yng Nghwm Cynon (Tudalen 53)
- 3.9 P-04-450 Mae Angen Ysbyty Cwbl Weithredol ar y Barri a Bro Morgannwg (Tudalen 54)

Cyfoeth Naturiol a Bwyd

- 3.10 P-04-428: Ynni amgen ar gyfer goleuadau stryd (Tudalen 55)

Addysg

- 3.11 P-04-484 Lwfans Cynhaliaeth Addysg i bawb! (Tudalennau 56 - 57)
- 3.12 P-04-485 Camddefnyddio contractau dros dro yn y sector Addysg Bellach (Tudalennau 58 - 95)

Tai ac Adfywio

- 3.13 P-04-487 Cynllun benthyg blaendal Llywodraeth Cymru i'r rheini sy'n prynu tŷ am y tro cyntaf yng Nghymru (Tudalennau 96 - 101)
- 3.14 P-04-489 Deddf genedlaethol i Gymru ar dai fforddiadwy ac â blaenoriaeth (Tudalennau 102 - 109)

Sesiynau tystiolaeth

- 4 P-04-408 Gwasanaeth i Atal Anhwylder Bwyta ymysg Plant a Phobl Ifanc: Sesiwn Dystiolaeth gyda'r Deisebydd (10:00 -**

10.30) (Tudalennau 110 - 113)

Helen Missen, Deisebydd

Ruth Belk,

Susannah Humphrey, Cydgysylltydd Prosiect B-eat Cymru

5 P-04-408: Gwasanaeth i Atal Anhwylder Bwyta ymysg Plant a Phobl Ifanc: Sesiwn Dystiolaeth gyda'r Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (10:30 - 11:00)

Mark Drakeford AC, y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol

Jo Jordan, Cyfarwyddwr Partneriaethau a Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol

Dr Sarah Watkins, Pennaeth Iechyd Meddwl, Troseddwy'r a Grwpiau sy'n Agored i Niwed

Eitem 2.1

P-04-504 Diogelwch Cyffordd Pont Maerdy A483

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i wella diogelwch Cyffordd Pont Maerdy ar y A483, drwy ychwanegu llain ganol a thrwy osod goleuadau stryd.

Prif ddeisebydd: Cyngor Cymuned Llandrinio ac Arddlin

Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 8 Hydref 2013

Nifer y llofnodion : 740

P-04-505 Uned Anhwylderau Bwyta yng Nghymru

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i roi gwybod i Lywodraeth Cymru am yr angen brys i ddarparu uned anhwylderau bwyta arbenigol yng Nghymru.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:

Hoffem weld uned anhwylderau bwyta arbenigol yn cael ei hadeiladu yng Nghymru i leihau'r pwysau a'r anghyfleustra o orfod teithio mor bell o aelodau'r teulu a chyfeillion drwy orfod mynd i Loegr i gael triniaeth. Yn 2007, cydnabu'r Llywodraeth nad oedd triniaeth arbenigol ar gael yng Nghymru a bod angen i'r sefyllfa hon newid, ond bum mlynedd yn ddiweddarach rydym yn dal i aros am y newid hwnnw. Gwn o brofiad personol pa mor anodd yw bod mewn ysbyty mor bell o gartref, a chredaf y byddai cael uned anhwylderau bwyta yng Nghymru yn gwneud y broses o gael triniaeth ac o wella yn rhwyddach i ddiodefwr o Gymru.

Prif ddeisebydd: Keira Marlow

Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 8 Hydref 2013

Nifer y llofnodion : 526

Eitem 2.3

P-04-506 Pasis bws am ddim / teithio rhatach i'r rhai sy'n hawlio budd-daliadau, myfyrwyr a phobl o dan 18 oed

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rwy'n byw mewn ardal lle mae gan dirfeddianwyr cyfoethog a rhai sy'n berchen ar eu tai basys i deithio ar fysiau am ddim o ganlyniad i'w hoed, wrth i'r rhai sy'n hawlio budd-daliadau ychydig filltiroedd i ffwrdd orfod talu er mwyn cael eu budd-daliadau. Dyma esiampl arall o godi tâl ar y rhai sy'n dlawd ac sy'n agored i niwed am wasanaeth cyhoeddus sy'n hanfodol i'w bywydau bob dydd. Mae hynny'n annheg ac yn anghyfiawn. Er mwyn datrys y sefyllfa hon rwy'n cyflwyno deiseb i Gynulliad Cymru yn galw arni i sefydlu cynllun ar gyfer y rhai tlawd ac agored i niwed yn ein cymdeithas i gael gwasanaethau bws am ddim yng Nghymru a thocynnau trên rhatach. Gellir cyllido hyn yn rhwydd drwy drosglwyddo'r budd-daliadau sydd ar hyn o bryd yn cael eu gwastraffu ar aelodau cyfoethog cymdeithas i eraill.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:

Os bydd y cynllun hwn yn cael ei fabwysiadu bydd yn helpu **r tlawd** yng Nghymru i gael yr hawl dynol sylfaenol i deithio a defnyddio gwasanaethau lleol. Yn ychwanegol, bydd yn: gwella **r amgylchedd drwy leihau allyriadau** CO₂; annog defnydd o drafnidiaeth gyhoeddus a chynyddu **r nifer sy'n ei** defnyddio; gwella lles emosiynol; hybu cyfleoedd cyflogaeth i **r di-waith**; cynorthwyo pobl i gael mynediad at wasanaethau iechyd sylfaenol ac yn dangos yr angen am system drafnidiaeth integredig (wedi ei gwladoli unwaith eto).

Prif ddeisebydd: Mark Griffiths

Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 8 Hydref 2013

Nifer y llofnodion : 60

P-04-507 Mesur iawnderau yng Nghymru ar gyfer menywod a merched: ymlynu wrth y Confensiwn Rhyngwladol ar Ddiddymu Gwahaniaethu o bob math yn Erbyn Menywod (CEDAW)

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ymlynu wrth egwyddorion y Confensiwn rhyngwladol ar Ddiddymu Gwahaniaethu o bob math yn Erbyn Menywod (CEDAW). Byddai hyn yn galluogi Llywodraeth Cymru i ddangos ymrwymiad pendant i gydraddoldeb i fenywod yng Nghymru ac yn sicrhau bod blaenoriaethau amlwg wedi'u nodi ar gyfer cyflawni hyn.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:

Pam rydym am gyflwyno'r ddeiseb hon?

Mae'r confensiwn yn cynnwys 30 o erthyglau sy'n nodi hawliau menywod a merched. Mae'r erthyglau'n trafod pob mater sy'n effeithio ar gydraddoldeb i fenywod, fel stereoteipio, cyflogau cyfartal, trais yn erbyn menywod a menywod mewn bywyd cyhoeddus. Credwn, drwy ymlynu wrth egwyddorion y confensiwn, y caiff menywod yng Nghymru eu cynrychioli'n deg ar lefel ryngwladol a fydd yn ein galluogi ni, (WEN Wales), fel sefydliad ambarel, i helpu i lunio cymdeithas decach ar gyfer menywod drwy Gymru.

Y camau rydym am i Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru eu cymryd

Wrth ymlynu wrth egwyddorion y confensiwn, bydd Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru'n dangos ymrwymiad pendant i gydraddoldeb i fenywod yng Nghymru, i ffurfio'r sail ar gyfer penderfyniadau ar egwyddorion ac amcanion Llywodraeth Cymru a chyfrannu at gyfres o nodau craidd ar gyfer pob menyw ar draws Cymru.

Unrhyw gamau a gymerwyd gennym hyd yma (e.e. llythyrau a anfonwyd at Lywodraeth Cymru neu a gafwyd ganddynt)

Ar 21 Mehefin, bydd menywod ledled Cymru yn dod ynghyd i edrych ar y Confensiwn rhyngwladol ar Ddiddymu Gwahaniaethu o bob math yn Erbyn Menywod, ac i drafod y dulliau sydd ar gael i gynorthwyo menywod yng Nghymru i sicrhau bod cydraddoldeb rhwng y rhywiau, mewn cynhadledd a drefnwyd gan WEN Wales. Bydd nifer o weithredwyr amlwg o sefydliadau cydraddoldeb ar draws y DU yn annerch y gynhadledd a bydd cyfle i'r rhai sy'n bresennol i rannu eu safbwyntiau ynghylch beth y gellir ei wneud yng Nghymru i gefnogi menywod i fyw bywydau rhydd a chyfartal.

Mae aelodau'r bwrdd hefyd wedi cysylltu â Bethan Jenkins AC, a chyflwynwyd datganiad barn i'r Gweinidog. Rydym yn aros am fanylion ynghylch

cefnogaeth y Gweinidog i ymlynu wrth y Confensiwn rhyngwladol ar Ddiddymu Gwahaniaethu o bob math yn Erbyn Menywod.

Cefndir y ddeiseb yn llawn

Mae WEN Wales yn gymuned o sefydliadau ac unigolion sy'n gweithio i hyrwyddo hawliau menywod ym mhob agwedd ar fywyd Cymru. Rydym am greu cymdeithas decach y gall menywod fyw ynddi heb ragfarn rhyw a gwahaniaethu rhwng y rhywiau, a mwynhau cydraddoldeb ym mhob agwedd ar eu bywyd bob dydd. Rôl WEN Wales yw hwyluso dulliau cyfathrebu rhwng ein haelodau; eu helpu i gydlynu eu gwaith a gweithio mewn partneriaeth, a chynrychioli buddiannau menywod ar bob lefel o lywodraeth.

Ynglŷn â'r ymgyrch

Mae WEN Wales yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i gymeradwyo'r Confensiwn rhyngwladol ar Ddiddymu Gwahaniaethu o bob math yn erbyn Menywod.

Byddai hyn yn galluogi Llywodraeth Cymru i ddangos ymrwymiad pendant i gydraddoldeb i fenywod yng Nghymru ac yn sicrhau bod blaenoriaethau amlwg wedi'u nodi ar gyfer cyflawni hyn.

Beth yw'r Confensiwn?

Mae'r Confensiwn rhyngwladol ar Ddiddymu Gwahaniaethu o bob math yn Erbyn Menywod (CEDAW) yn ddogfen ryngwladol sy'n rhestru hawliau pob menyw a merch. Mae'n gytundeb pwysig am gydraddoldeb rhwng y rhywiau sy'n nodi bod yn rhaid rhoi terfyn ar wahaniaethu o bob math yn erbyn menywod /merched.

Mae'r confensiwn:

- Yn rhestru hawliau **pob** menyw a merch;
- Fe'i derbyniwyd gan y Cenhedloedd Unedig ym 1979;
- Mae wedi'i gymeradwyo gan 186 o wledydd ledled y byd;
- Yn galw am gymryd camau i sicrhau mynediad, cyfleoedd a chanlyniadau cyfartal;
- Yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol bod llywodraethau yn sicrhau nad oes dim yn atal menywod a merched rhag gwneud yn fawr o'u hawliau (gan gynnwys stereoteipiau);
- Mae'n cynnwys gwahaniaethu uniongyrchol ac anuniongyrchol;
- Yn mynnu bod y Llywodraeth yn newid cyfreithiau ac arferion;

Mae'r confensiwn yn cynnwys 30 o erthyglau sy'n nodi hawliau menywod a merched. Mae'r erthyglau'n trafod pob mater sy'n effeithio ar gydraddoldeb i fenywod, fel stereoteipio, cyflogau cyfartal, trais yn erbyn menywod a menywod mewn bywyd cyhoeddus.

Cynhadledd y Confensiwn rhyngwladol ar Ddiddymu Gwahaniaethu o bob math yn Erbyn Menywod

Ar 21 Mehefin, bydd menywod ledled Cymru yn dod ynghyd i edrych ar y Confensiwn rhyngwladol ar Ddiddymu Gwahaniaethu o bob math yn Erbyn Menywod, ac i drafod y dulliau sydd ar gael i gynorthwyo menywod yng Nghymru i sicrhau bod cydraddoldeb rhwng y rhywiau.

Bydd nifer o weithredwyr amlwg o sefydliadau cydraddoldeb ar draws y DU yn annerch y gynhadledd a bydd cyfle i'r rhai sy'n bresennol i rannu eu safbwyntiau ynghylch beth y gellir ei wneud yng Nghymru i gefnogi menywod i fyw bywydau rhydd a chyfartal.

Prif ddeisebydd: Rhwydwaith Cydraddoldeb Menywod Cymru

Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 8 Hydref 2013

Nifer y llofnodion : 152

Eitem 2.5

P-04-508 Rhaid adfer yr Olygfa o Landyfi

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Er ein bod yn croesawu'r cam i ledu ffordd yr A487 yng Nglandyfi yn gyffredinol, rydym yn hynod o bryderus ac yn tristáu'n ddirfawr bod y gwaith wedi golygu bod y wal ar ochr y môr i'r ffordd wedi'i chodi'n ddiangen, ac mae hyn bellach yn atal preswylwyr a defnyddwyr y ffordd rhag mwynhau'r golygfeydd godidog draw dros yr Afon Ddyfi, sydd wedi bod yn rhan o'r tirwedd lleol ers canrifoedd. Nid ydym yn teimlo bod creu man ffurfiol 'i weld yr olygfa' yn gwneud iawn am golli'r golygfeydd sydd wedi'u mwynhau'n ddyddiol cyn hyn gan ddefnyddwyr y ffordd bwysig hon, yn ymwelwyr a phobl leol. Felly, rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i roi gorchymyn i'r contractwyr ar unwaith i ostwng uchder y wal o faint digonol i adfer ein golygfa briodol o'r tirwedd hardd ac unigryw hwn.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:

Mae'r gwaith hir-ddisgwyledig i ledu'r A487 yng Nglandyfi bron wedi ei gwblhau erbyn hyn. Bydd yr holl ddefnyddwyr cyson y ffordd yn falch iawn o weld diwedd ar y tagfeydd ofnadwy a achoswyd gan y troeon cul ar y ffordd ger Cyffordd Glandyfi.

Ond sgîl-effaith hollol ddiangen y gwaith (yn ychwanegol at adeiladu'r waliau mwyaf yng Nghymru ers Edward I) ydy'r gwaith o adeiladu wal newydd rhwng y ffordd a'r Aber Dyfi. Mae'r wal newydd yn cuddio'r olygfa o'r ardal brydfarth hon yn gyfan gwbl o olwg y bobl sy'n gyrru heibio, golygfa sydd wedi cael ei fwynhau gan ddefnyddwyr y ffordd am ganrifoedd.

Bu'r hen wal ddim ond cwpl o droedfedd o uchder, ac yn caniatáu golygfeydd di-dor o'r golygfeydd gwych ar draws yr afon a banciau tywod i'r bryniau tu hwnt. Mae'r wal newydd, am resymau sydd yn amlwg i'r datblygwyr yn unig, bron yn chwe throedfedd o uchder mewn manau, ac y mae'n blocio'r olygfa yn gyfan gwbl. Mae rhai golygfeydd newydd wedi eu creu, ond nid yw hyn yn gwneud iawn am y golled.

Nid yw'n rhy hwyr i newid pethau: gall y wal gael ei gostwng i uchder rhesymol heb fawr o ymdrech neu gost, a gallwn unwaith eto fwynhau ein golygfeydd ar draws yr afon.

Prif ddeisebydd: Nigel Callaghan

Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 8 Hydref 2013

Nifer y llofnodion : 83

P-04-509 Achub Canolfan Tennis Genedlaethol Cymru

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Mae Virgin Active Caerdydd wedi cyhoeddi bod Canolfan Tennis Genedlaethol Cymru yn cau o 23 Awst 2013 ymlaen. Mae chwe chwrt dan do a saith cwrt clai, yn yr awyr agored, yn y ganolfan. Mae'r cyfleuster yn darparu'r unig gyrtiau cyhoeddus dan do yng Nghaerdydd. Caiff y cyrtiau eu defnyddio gan bobl o bob math, ac o bob oedran, ac mae defnyddwyr y ganolfan yn amrywio o 3 i 83 mlwydd oed. Defnyddir y ganolfan gan alluoedd o bob math hefyd, gan gynnwys defnyddwyr cadeiriau olwyn a rhai sydd ag anabledau dysgu, ac o ddechreuwyr i unigolion sy'n chwarae tenis ar lefel genedlaethol. Mae hon yn ganolfan ar gyfer hyrwyddo rhagoriaeth yn y gamp ac mae'n darparu hyfforddiant tenis i blant ac oedolion ifanc. Caiff twrnament tenis pwysig eu cynnal yn y lleoliad hwn. Mae cau'r cyfleuster hwn yn ergyd i denis yn y gymuned ac yn y wlad hon.

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i warchod y ganolfan ac i wneud popeth o fewn ei gallu i ddiogelu Canolfan Tennis Genedlaethol Cymru fel cyfleuster i chwarae tenis.

Prif ddeisebydd: Save The Welsh National Tennis Centre

Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 8 Hydref 2013

Nifer y llofnodion : 496

Eitem 3.1

P-03-263 Rhestru Parc y Strade

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog y Gweinidog dros Dreftadaeth i roi statws rhestredig i Barc y Strade, er mwyn diogelu treftadaeth y maes rygbi byd enwog a'r eicon diwylliannol hwn i bobl Cymru.

Cynigwyd gan: Mr V Jones

Y dyddiad yr ystyriodd y Pwyllgor y ddeiseb am y tro cyntaf: Tachwedd 2009

Nifer y llofnodion: 4,383

Deiseb i restru Parc y Strade

Cafodd y ddeiseb i restru Parc y Strade ei hysbrydoli gan alwadau "*i wneud rhywbeth*" i ddiogelu treftadaeth y lleoliad enwog hwn. Mae'n arwyddocaol bod y galwadau hyn wedi parhau wedi i'r Scarlets symud ar draws Llanelli i'w stadiwm newydd. Mae'n amlwg bod Parc y Strade yn fwy na dim ond stadiwm lle byddai pobl yn gwyllo rygbi - mae'n rhan o ddiwylliant lleol ac o dreftadaeth genedlaethol.

Gellir diffinio eicon diwylliannol fel unrhyw beth sy'n hawdd ei adnabod ac, yn gyffredinol, mae'n cynrychioli gwrthrych neu gysyniad sydd â chryn arwyddocâd diwylliannol i grŵp diwylliannol eang. Ymhen amser, gall fod â statws arbennig fel rhywbeth sy'n cynrychioli grŵp arbennig o bobl neu gyfnod arbennig mewn hanes.

Mae Parc y Strade yn symbol o gefnogaeth cymuned Gymreig i'w chlwb rygbi yn yr ugeinfed ganrif - y mae, heb amheuaeth, yn eicon diwylliannol.

Mae Parc y Strade yn adnabyddus drwy'r byd i gyd, nid yn unig oherwydd gorchestion y rhai a fu'n chwarae ar y cae enwog, ond hefyd oherwydd cefnogaeth angerddol y rhai a fyddai'n heidio i'r eisteddle a'r teras yn ystod y gemau, ac yn heidio ar y cae ei hun yn ystod hanner amser ac ar ôl y chwiban olaf.

Daeth y gefnogaeth honno'n enwog drwy'r byd fel cefnogaeth nodweddiadol Gymreig, a chryfhawyd y ddelwedd gan ganeuon yn dathlu buddugoliaethau enwog ym Mharc y Strade, fel cân "9-3" Max Boyce am fuddugoliaeth 1972 dros y Crysau Duon - y tro diwethaf i unrhyw dîm clwb eu trechu. Mae'r geiriau "All roads led to Stradey Park", "The day the pubs ran dry" ac "I was there" i gyd yn ein hatgoffa o'r diwrnod hwnnw ym Mharc y Strade pan gafodd y capten, Delme Thomas, ei gario oddi ar y cae gan ei gyd chwaraewyr, drwy ganol miloedd o gefnogwyr.

Pan sonnir am Barc y Strade, y darlun a ddaw i'r meddwl yw gweithwyr yn gorffen eu sifft yn y gweithfeydd tunplat, y dociau neu'r pyllau glo cyn chwarae gêm o flaen miloedd o'u cydweithwyr o Tinopolis. Gosodwyd y sosbenni enwog ar byst y Strade i gyfeirio'n uniongyrchol at y prif gynnyrch a allforiwyd o Lanelli - tunplat - ac yn enwedig y gwaith "stampio" lai na milltir o Barc y Strade lle byddai sosbenni'n cael eu cynhyrchu a'u hallforio i bob cwr o'r byd.

Roedd Parc y Strade yn cael ei ystyried bob amser fel cae 'mwyaf Cymreig' Cymru, gyda'r sgorfwrdd Cymraeg a'r caneuon Cymraeg y byddai'r dorf yn eu canu. Daeth 'Sosban Fach' yn adnabyddus drwy'r byd i gyd wedi i'r cefnogwyr ei mabwysiadu a'i chanu oherwydd y 'sosbenni' ar y pyst. Cynhaliwyd cymanfa ganu cyn y gêm yn erbyn y Crysau Duon ym 1972.

Fel cae rygbi a oedd yn galon i'r gymuned, cynhaliwyd nifer o ddigwyddiadau ar wahân i rygbi ym Mharc y Strade, gan gynnwys nifer o chwaraeon eraill, a byddai noson Guto Ffowc a thân gwyllt yn cael ei chynnal yno bob blwyddyn.

Ar 15 Tachwedd 2007, cynhaliwyd angladd Ray Gravell ar gael Parc y Strade. Roedd hwn yn ddigwyddiad unigryw yn hanes Cymru ac fe'i disgrifiwyd yn y wasg fel 'angladd gwladol Cymreig'. Daeth 6000 o bobl i'r stadiwm i alaru, gan gynnwys pobl flaenllaw o'r byd gwleidyddol, y byd diwylliannol a'r byd chwaraeon yng Nghymru ac roedd miloedd eto'n llenwi'r strydoedd y tu allan. Cafodd lluniau o'r arch ar y cae, a Cheidwad y Cledd wrth ei hochr, ynghyd â'r holl bobl a fu'n talu teyrnged iddo, eu darlledu'n fyw ar S4C.

Heb amheuaeth, mae arwyddocâd hanesyddol a diwylliannol pwysig i Barc y Strade o safbwynt Cymru. Gwelwyd sawl brwydr ar y cae, ac roedd yn symbol penodol o angerdd y Cymry dros rygbi yn yr ugeinfed ganrif. Llwyddwyd i gasglu dros 3500 o lofnodion ac mae'r ffaith bod hon yn ddeiseb sy'n ymwneud â threftadaeth yn hytrach na rygbi yn ychwanegu at arwyddocâd hynny. Casglwyd y ddeiseb ar gownteri siopau drwy sir Gaerfyrddin a, heb fawr ddim cyhoeddusrwydd, cafwyd cefnogaeth gref gan fod pobl yn credu y dylid achub cae Parc y Strade i nodi'i leoliad a'i dreftadaeth.

Er mai teitl y ddeiseb yw 'Rhestru Parc y Strade', a byddai llawer yn hoffi gweld y stadiwm gyfan yn cael ei hachub, derbynir yn gyffredinol y byddai rhestru Parc y Strade yn golygu rhestru'r cae a'i gadw fel man agored fel rhan o unrhyw ddatblygiad. Mae'r cae hwn, lle gwelwyd sawl brwydr yn yr oes fodern, mor unigryw oherwydd y cyfan sydd wedi digwydd arno; buddugoliaethau'r tîm rygbi wrth gwrs ac 'angladd gwladol' bythgofiadwy Ray Gravell, ond hefyd yr atgofion am yr holl gefnogwyr a fyddai'n heidio ar y cae yn ystod hanner amser ac ar ôl y chwiban olaf i chwarae yn yr union fan lle'r oedd eu harwyr newydd fod yn sefyll.

I restru cae chwarae, mae'n debyg y bydd angen creu categori rhestru newydd neu newid un o'r categorïau presennol. Wrth i bwysigrwydd y diwydiant ymwelwyr gynyddu o hyd yng Nghymru, mae angen diogelu

lleoliadau sy'n bwysig i dreftadaeth fodern Cymru, fel Parc y Strade, felly mae angen i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol roi cyfarwyddyd i Cadw i greu neu i newid categori rhestru ar gyfer meysydd chwarae.

Cyn gynted ag y caiff safle fel Parc y Strade ei golli fel rhan o gynllun datblygu, mae'n mynd yn gwbl ddiwerth. Hwyrach y bydd ambell ymwelydd yn cael ei ddenu i ddarllen panel gwybodaeth neu blac glas ger y safle, ond go brin y byddai hynny o unrhyw fudd i'r economi leol. Mae angen gwarchod lleoedd fel Parc y Strade i ganiatáu iddynt gael eu marchnata fel safleoedd treftadaeth Cymru fodern ar gyfer yr unfed ganrif ar hugain. Mae ymwelwyr am fedru troedio'r cae, nid dim ond darllen amdano.

Yn ogystal â'r 3500+ o lofnodion, mae grŵp Facebook, sydd â dros 520 o aelodau, nifer o gyrff lleol, gan gynnwys Cyngor Tref Llanelli a Chyngor Gwledig Llanelli, yn cefnogi amcanion y ddeiseb, sef gwarchod cae Parc y Strade. Nid oes gan yr un o'r gyrff hyn, fodd bynnag, y pŵer i wneud hynny.

Cafwyd cefnogaeth ryngwladol i'r ddeiseb, yn ogystal â chefnogaeth o rannau eraill o Gymru a'r DU, gan ddangos yn glir fod pwysigrwydd cenedlaethol ynghlwm wrth Parc y Strade. Yn lleol, mae'r ddeiseb hefyd wedi cael cefnogaeth cyn fawrion timau Llanelli, Cymru a'r Llewod fel Delme Thomas a Phil Bennett.

Mae gwefan yn cefnogi'r ddeiseb i'w gweld os ewch i www.stradeparkpetition.co.uk. Mae rhagor o wybodaeth ar gael hefyd, o hanes Ystâd Stradey yn rhoi darn o dir o fewn ei waliau terfyn i greu'r cae ym 1879 hyd at gau'r stadiwm ym mis Hydref 2008.

John Griffiths AC /AM
Y Gweinidog Diwylliant a Chwaraeon
Minister for Culture and Sport



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-03-263
Ein cyf/Our ref JG/00979/13

William Powell AM
AM for Mid & West Wales
Chair Petitions Committee

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

1 August 2013

Dear William

Thank you for your letter of 26 June about the lead petitioner, Mr Vaughan Jones', request for Cadw to spot-register the pitch at Stradey Park. My officials in Cadw also received the request direct from Mr Jones and have replied explaining that too many key features have been lost for the pitch to be registered.

To be included on the *Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest*, any sporting or recreational venue will usually need to retain all or most of its component parts in situ. My officials therefore considered the request to register the pitch in its context as one component of a wider sporting complex, which included the stadium, ancillary buildings, structures and land. Cadw recognises the cultural significance of the game of Rugby to the Welsh nation and the notable historical associations attached to Stradey Park. However, it is considered that notwithstanding the retention of the pitch, the complex as a whole has lost too many of its key features (for example the stadium, the posts, scoreboard, stands etc) to be included on the Register.

I understand that this decision will be disappointing for the petitioner but Cadw will continue to take forward guidance relating to the protection of sporting heritage as part of the package of measures being developed in connection with the Heritage Bill.

John Griffiths AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Diwylliant a Chwaraeon
Minister for Culture and Sport

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

Tudalen 12

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Correspondence: John.Griffiths@wales.gsi.gov.uk
Printed on 100% recycled paper

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
27th September 2013

Dear Ms Giddins,

RE: P-03-263 List Stradey Park

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Correspondence received from the Minister for Culture and Sport regarding Cadw's refusal to include the pitch at Stradey Park on the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens.

Naturally, the decision is disappointing for both me and the 5500 people who signed the petition and possibly indicates why Cadw is considered by many to be out of touch with the people for whom it is supposedly protecting heritage.

Cadw's reasoning for refusal - "the complex as a whole has lost too many of its key features (for example the stadium, the posts, scoreboard, stands etc) to be included on the Register" – makes it impossible for any such place that does not include listed buildings to achieve inclusion on the Register if they are part of a development site.

As identified in the Cadw consultation document published earlier this year, many buildings with sporting use are protected due to listing, but it is the architectural merits of the building that have enabled its protection not the sporting heritage itself. In a discussion with Cadw in 2005 regarding the pitch, it was clear that having it included on the Register would prove impossible due to the existing criteria and their strict interpretation. However, within the consultation document by the Head of Regeneration and Conservation she states "... as the scope of the Register includes '... designed grounds... and places of recreation', **sporting venues would be eligible for consideration in their own right.**" [my emphasis]. These comments indicating a change of interpretation of the current criteria resulted in the recent official request to consider the Stradey Park pitch for inclusion on the Register. It was, therefore, very surprising and disappointing that Cadw appeared to ignore their research over the last two years and use the same reasons for not including on the Register as they suggested in 2005.

In the case of Stradey Park, the new owners want to build as many homes as possible. The Stradey Park stadium had no structures worthy of listing so the developer was able to demolish them. Once the structures were demolished the pitch which was the subject of the petition was no longer valid to be included on the Register.

This is not what the public, who Cadw is supposedly protecting heritage for, wanted. Nobody claimed that the stands or posts were worthy of listing. We wanted recognition of the "battlefield" of Stradey Park where, like other pitches, famous victories had taken place, but also a place unique in world rugby where the public were able to join the teams on the pitch at half-time and full-time, where the funeral service for Ray Gravell was held not to mention many other services where ashes were scattered. All we were asking for was that Cadw recognised the importance of

the pitch to Welsh life and history over the last century and subsequently the pitch would be retained within the 23 acre housing development.

We could, of course, have hoped for Carmarthenshire County Council to insist on the retention of the pitch, but they had waived the requirement for any affordable housing within the 450 home application and reduced the open space requirement from the recommended 2.6 hectares for a site of this size to only 0.9 hectares on the sloping banks of an opened up stream underneath electricity pylons. Instead they required a £5.6million Section 106 payment all of which was given to the Scarlets (in advance from the Council Reserves) to fund their new stadium. All this on a site which is 63% C2 flood plain. Only in Wales?

As well as the petition and the planning process I also directly approached the developer to try and get it to retain the pitch. I believe that retention of the pitch as a village green would enhance the development but they refused. They also refused to retain the aerial footprint of the pitch within the development. Perhaps this is something Cadw could and should discuss with the developer as it is a small nod to the past in such a massive development.

I strongly feel that Cadw has let down Welsh heritage over Stradey Park. Based on previous correspondence considered by the Petitions Committee, Cadw apparently recognised the historical importance of Stradey Park, but did nothing to help its protection. It appears to have hidden behind the lack of physical structures rather than consider the historical merit of the sporting heritage of the location. If it felt (despite recent comments) that it could not include Stradey Park on the Register due to the outdated criteria but recognised its historical importance, why didn't it make a public statement encouraging retention and put the County Council and developer on the spot? Cadw appears to be a slow moving under staffed organisation which needs more resources and to be allowed to use its teeth. If the future prosperity of Wales is to be partially built on heritage tourism, Cadw must be allowed to exercise strength.

I would be grateful if the Petitions Committee could establish why Cadw's decision considered the lack of built structures remaining at Stradey Park and appeared to ignore the findings of the consultation document it published earlier this year where it suggested sporting venues could already be considered in their own right. Is the Committee in a position to request that Cadw speaks to the developer to achieve some recognition for the pitch? The "9-3 Square" proposed by the Former Players Association is a concrete structure amongst more concrete listing the names of past players, and is not even remotely close to what this 5500 signature petition was trying to achieve.

I would also be grateful for an update on Local Listing as this is an area of the planning process that many people in Llanelli interested in heritage would like to see implemented and adhered to.

Yours sincerely,

Vaughan Jones

Tudalen 14

Eitem 3.2

P-04-393 Grwp Gweithredu Ffordd Osgoi Llanymynech a Phant

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i adfer y cynlluniau ar gyfer ffordd osgoi heibio i bentrefi Pant a Llanymynech, sydd ar y ffin rhwng Cymru a Lloegr. Bydd 15,000 o geir a lorïau yn gyrru trwy'r ddau bentref bob dydd, a bydd y nifer hwn yn siŵr o gynyddu unwaith y rhoddir caniatâd i'r ffermydd gwynt. Rydym yn galw ar y llywodraeth yn awr i fwrw ymlaen â'i chynlluniau, neu i ddechrau cynnal trafodaethau am y ffordd osgoi o leiaf, a chynnal dadl lawn yn ei chylch, gan wrando ar lais ein cymuned ynghylch ein hanghenion a sut y mae'r ffordd hon yn effeithio arnom ni ac ar ein bywydau. O wneud hyn, gobeithio y bydd y llywodraeth yn Lloegr yn cymryd sylw o'r drafodaeth ac yn bwrw ymlaen â chynlluniau ar eu hochr hwy i'r ffin. Ein dymuniad yw y bydd dadl lawn ac agored yn cael ei chynnal ar yr angen am ffordd osgoi i bentrefi Pant a Llanymynech, a fydd wedyn yn arwain at adeiladu'r ffordd osgoi pan fydd arian ar gael.

Rydym wedi cael llond bol ar y sŵn, y llygredd, a'r ffaith na allwn gerdded gyda'n plant i'r ysgol, cerdded i'r siopau, na mynd a'n cŵn am dro ar hyd y ffordd. Ni fydd gwelliannau fel lledu'r ffordd yn gweithio yma. Cynlluniwyd y ffordd i ddechrau fel ffordd un lôn ar gyfer ceffylau a cherti. Mae llawer o'r tai ar y ddwy ochr yn agos iawn at y ffordd, ac mae nifer o lonydd yn ymuno â'r A483, sydd hefyd yn gwneud y ffordd yn anaddas i'w gwella. Teimlwn mai adeiladu ffordd osgoi yw'r unig ateb, a throi'r ffordd o Lynclys (sy'n hynod o beryglus) o gylch pentrefi Pant a Llanymynech a'i chysylltu â'r ffordd osgoi newydd ger Llandysilio. Hon yw'r brif gefnffordd rhwng Manceinion ac Abertawe, ac nid yw'n addas i'w diben. Mae llawer o Aelodau Seneddol ac Aelodau'r Cynulliad o blaid ein hymgyrch ac rydym yn benderfynol o gyflawni ein hamcan, a gweld dadl lawn yn cael ei chynnal ar y mater hwn yn y Cynulliad.

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb gan: Duncan Borthwick

Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 29 Mai 2012

Nifer y llofnodion: 84

Edwina Hart MBE CStJ AC / AM
Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth
Minister for Economy, Science and Transport



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-393
Ein cyf/Our ref EH/02342/13
William Powell AM

Kayleigh.driscoll@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

02 August 2013

Dear William,

Thank you for your letter of 23 July seeking further information regarding improvement options for the A483 through the village of Llanymynech.

My officials are still investigating potential options. This is proving challenging given the carriageway through the village is already wide, the 30mph speed limit is appropriate for the character of the road and congestion develops on the narrower sections of A483 to the north within England.

I will write to you again once this work has reached a conclusion in the Autumn.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Edwina Hart'.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Correspondence.edwina.Hart@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

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Eitem 3.3

P-04-415 : Cefnogaeth am bennu Parthau Cadwraeth Morol Lefel Gwarchodaeth Uchel

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Rydym yn cefnogi polisi Llywodraeth Cymru i bennu Parthau Cadwraeth Morol lefel gwarchodaeth uchel ac yn annog y Llywodraeth i lynnu at y polisi hwnnw. Nodwn y beichiau sydd ar ein moroedd, methiant Cymru i gyrraedd ei thargedau bioamrywiaeth ar gyfer 2010 a'r dystiolaeth wyddonol gadarn sy'n profi'r angen am fesurau cadwraeth morol llawer gwell. Rydym yn cydnabod y dystiolaeth fyd-eang gryf sy'n dangos y buddion o gael ardaloedd gwarchodaeth morol lefel uchel ac yn rhagweld y bydd Cymru yn gweld cymariaethau tebyg ar ôl pennu Parthau Cadwraeth Morol lefel gwarchodaeth uchel. Yn benodol, gofynnwn i Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru gefnogi'r alwad i ailddynodi Gwarchodfa Natur Forol Skomer, sef unig warchodfa natur forol Cymru, sydd heb lawer o warchodaeth ar hyn o bryd, yn ardal â lefel gwarchodadeth uchel pan ddaw'n Barth Cadwraeth Morol pan ddaw darpariaethau Parthau Cadwraeth Morol Deddf y Môr a Mynediad i'r Arfordir i rym yng Nghymru.

Does yr un man yn nyfroedd Cymru sydd wedi'i ddiogelu'n llawn rhag effeithiau uniongyrchol y fod ddynol. Mae angen Parthau Cadwraeth Morol lefel gwarchodaeth uchel arnom i: ddarparu rhywle i fywyd gwylt morol fodoli a ffynnu heb i ni ymyrryd arnynt - rydyn ni'n gwneud hyn ar y tir, felly ni ddylid cael safonau is ar gyfer y môr; galluogi ecosystemau i ailsefydlu ar ôl effeithiau uniongyrchol y fod ddynol a gwella eu hydwythedd; diogelu'r ecosystem forol er mwyn yr holl nwyddau a gwasanaethau mae'n eu darparu i ni ac na allwn oroesi hebddynt; ein helpu i ddeall effeithiau pwysau'r fod ddynol ar amgylchedd y môr a dod i ddeall sut beth yw ecosystem forol sydd heb ei heffeithio arni gennym ni. Pwrpas Parthau Cadwraeth Morol lefel gwarchodaeth uchel yw diogelu a gwella'r ecosystemau sydd o fewn iddynt, nid diogelu poblogaethau pysgod a physgod cregyn yn unig.

Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 2 Hydref 2012

Prif ddeisebydd: Blaise Bullimore

Nifer y llofnodion: 298



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

TITLE **Marine Conservation Zones and Marine Protected Areas in Wales**

DATE **18 July 2013**

BY **Alun Davies AM, Minister for Natural Resources and Food**

This statement is to update Members on progress with the Welsh Government's commitment to ensure that Wales fulfils its contribution to an ecologically coherent network of well-managed Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).

Members will be aware that I have restated my determination to ensure that we put in place a range of policy interventions to ensure that the Welsh seas and the diversity of life they support are healthy and robust to support the demands we put upon them now and in the future. Many people in Wales rely upon and use our seas to support their livelihoods and recreational activities. We want this to continue and develop as part of our blue growth agenda.

Last year we consulted on options for highly protected Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs). This generated a substantial response that expressed divergent and strongly held views. A task and finish team, supported by a Stakeholder Focus Group, was established to consider and advise how we should take forward MCZs in Wales. I have met with both of these groups to thank them for their positive and constructive contribution throughout the process.

I will be taking forward the recommendations of the task and finish team and to avoid any continuing uncertainty over the options presented in the 2012 consultation, I am also withdrawing all the proposed sites. As a next step, I want to understand more about the wide range of marine habitats and species that are already protected by a series of 125 MPAs that cover 36% of Welsh seas. Over the last 12 months we have developed a better understanding of what constitutes a coherent network. We are

now in a stronger position to assess our current contribution to the network's ecological coherence. I have, therefore, commissioned an assessment of our current MPAs to identify if there are any gaps and what the options might be to fill those gaps. If any measures are required, I believe they should be simple, proportionate and fit for purpose.

I will be in a position to reach a view on whether further action is needed early next year, after considering the outcome of our MPA assessment and the response to the Historic Rights consultation – that I have also announced today.

Whilst the assessment of MPAs will take a detailed look at our existing contribution, I am already aware of some elements that may need strengthening. We will consult later this year on extensions to three of our Special Protection Areas for breeding sea birds.

Whilst our existing sites are required to achieve their conservation objectives, these sites also need to be well-managed. My officials will continue to work with Natural Resources Wales to review the management of our sites and, where necessary, identify improvements. Any proposed changes to the management regime will be outlined in the Marine and Fisheries Action Plan that I will announce in November.

Notes

1. A summary of responses to the MCZ consultation – *Potential Site Options for Welsh Waters* - is available on the Welsh Government website:
<http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/environmentandcountryside/mczpotentialsites/?status=closed&lang=en>;
2. The Report of the Task and Finish Team on MCZs in Wales is available on the Welsh Government website:
<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/consmanagement/marinefisheries/conservation/protected/conservationzones/nextsteps/?lang=en>;

P-04-415 Support for Designation of Highly Protected Marine Conservation Zones – Correspondence from the petitioner to the Clerking team, 23.09.13

Dear Sian,

Thank you for your e-mail, and the previous one advising that any further comments needed to be submitted by 15 September. Unfortunately time got away from me and I missed that deadline. Nevertheless, I would be grateful if you could forward to the members of the Petitions Committee the attached two articles I was invited to contribute to *Natur Cymru*. They speak for themselves and, I trust, capture my views on the Ministerial statement on MCZs.

Best wishes,

Blaise Bullimore



Gloom or hope? – an update

Blaise Bullimore updates his assessment of the prospects for marine nature conservation which appeared in Natur Cymru 47 (Summer 2013).

The scores are in and it's marine conservation nul points. It is back to the drawing board for possible new Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs), and the dashing of any hope that Skomer Marine Nature Reserve (MNR) might become an MCZ with even slightly improved protection in the foreseeable future.

Alun Davies, Minister for Natural Resources and Food, made his expected statement on MCZs and Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in Wales on 18 July. Welsh Government (WG) aspirations for the marine environment's future were made clear: ensuring Welsh seas and their

biodiversity are healthy and robust enough "to support the demands we put upon them now and in the future", since many people in Wales rely upon and use them "to support their livelihoods and recreational activities". This utilitarian vision becomes even clearer with reference to developing WG's "blue growth agenda". Nothing about biodiversity or wildlife conservation for either their inherent importance or even for the ecosystem support functions that marine biodiversity underpins. It's crystal clear: the economy first, marine environmental conservation a poor second.

The Minister told us we need to

understand more about the wide range of marine habitats and species that are already protected. Yet the MCZ consultation document listed over 140 relevant survey and monitoring reports. We can always do with knowing more, though we'll never know everything our opponents demand.

We're also told that (another) assessment of Wales's current MPAs will be commissioned to identify any gaps and the options to fill those gaps. Is it too much to hope that by "gaps" he means both deficiencies in the protection of biodiversity in existing MPAs and some omissions from the network of sites? But gap filling, we are told, will need to be "proportionate". Could this possibly be code to indicate that long-term conservation measures, of benefit to all of society, mustn't get in the way

Blaise Bullimore



Out of sight, out of mind: few people get to experience marine wildlife in its natural habitat, or to witness its destruction.

To the Editor:

I was interested to read the article "Marine Conservation in Wales" in your magazine no 47. It seems to me there is a lack of interest in this subject because of lack of information. There are frequent references to damage being caused to marine areas but almost no pictures showing mature areas, before and after scallop dredging, with follow-up pictures showing how long it takes for recovery. People, myself included, are left to imagine the havoc caused. What happens under the sea is hidden from the large majority of people and the conservation issues seem not to be illustrated. I feel that all the effects of damaging agents need to be visually publicised to show what is happening and to stimulate interest.

*Yours faithfully
John Ferguson*

of the short-term economic interests of a few? The statement also refers to 125 current MPAs covering 36% of Welsh seas. I mentioned previously how the simple quotation of the percentage of sea that is "protected" is deceptive, but alluding to this apparently large number of MPAs is far more disingenuous.

Most of these "MPAs" are intertidal Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), many primarily designated for wildlife features such as birds, and salt marshes, or

designated sites that are nested one within another. Carmarthen Bay & Estuaries European Marine Site (EMS), for example, includes two Special Protection Areas, a Ramsar site and 17 SSSI within its footprint - so that takes care of 21 of those 125. Each of the five large Welsh EMS includes a similar number of SPAs and SSSIs. If Wales really had 125 discrete, well-managed MPAs we'd be exceptionally well provided for: we don't. In reality we have a handful of MPAs and most are far from well enough managed or effective - as the Countryside Council for Wales's 2012 reports on MPA management to WG made abundantly clear.

The report from the MCZ Task and Finish Group accompanied the Minister's statement. This report faithfully mentioned the divergence of consultee views, but it neglected to include the analysis of MCZ consultation responses that had been in a draft provided to the Stakeholder Group, or to note that 81% of responses supported MCZ designation. Instead it laboured minority beliefs that MCZs would negatively impact on Wales's maritime economy. Bearing in mind this Group included just two conservation representatives but three WG officers (two fisheries) amongst its seven members, its recommendations to dismiss the proposed sites and to repeat much previously completed work are less than surprising. Yet both the statement and the report had conspicuous omissions.

Skomer MNR was not mentioned in the statement, but the pronouncement that all proposed MCZs were being withdrawn

prompted BBC Wales news to report under the headline *New marine zone plans scrapped by minister* that "Skomer was one of the proposed zones but the minister will now look at the 125 existing marine areas." Cue confusion for the public and a splendid potential excuse for anyone intent on mischief-making.

The merger of Welsh Government's marine and fisheries functions, in a new Marine & Fisheries Division within the WG Agriculture and Food portfolio, is another indication of political priorities. Eight of the ten short-term priority tasks for the new division's initial six months are fisheries actions. Alun Davies describes the sea as a "living resource" with "significant sustainable economic potential", albeit "needing careful management"; and the only sector he identifies for helping WG deliver a "healthy and productive" marine environment is the fishing industry. And observe that although the now compulsory word "sustainable" is used, it is associated with the economy and not the environment.

Nevertheless, Alun Davies reassures us that he is "aware of some elements that may need strengthening" and promises to "outline" any necessary changes in a Marine and Fisheries Action Plan scheduled for November. I assume and hope he is speaking about environmental protection and wildlife conservation so I guess we mustn't give up hope yet. But I'm still not holding my breath watch this space.

Blaise Bullimore is a European Marine Site Officer, consultant and Skomer MNR Honorary Warden.



Marine nature conservation in Wales:

gloom or hope?

The struggle to win the attention of the public and the will of politicians to the cause of the conservation of nature at sea has not been easy.

BLAISE BULLIMORE
describes the slow progress that has been made, the part that Skomer Marine Nature Reserve has played, and the uncertain prospects for effective marine conservation management.

I first got involved with marine nature conservation in my twenties. I've just turned sixty. Over three decades have flown by and Wales still doesn't have a single square metre of seabed completely protected from damaging and exploitative activities. That's right – not one fully protected marine wildlife area in Welsh waters, although the seas around NW Europe have long been amongst the most pressured and overexploited on the planet. Marine wildlife's low profile has doubtless hindered its protection, but the cause has been insufficient political will to take the action needed.

It takes effort to see most marine wildlife first hand. From the 1950s onwards, scuba diving brought the shallowest 40 metres into view, and this played a major part in the origins of British marine nature conservation. Marine biologists and recreational divers came to understand and appreciate the wealth of marine life and its vulnerability.

In 1965, diving members of the newly established Underwater Association

for Scientific Research wrote to the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), the parent body of the Nature Conservancy (predecessor of the current nature conservation agencies) recommending that some subtidal areas be set aside for protection. Skomer was one of three locations specifically suggested.

The roots of marine nature conservation in Wales can be traced to the Field Studies Council's (FSC) Pembrokeshire Dale Fort Field Centre (DFFC) in the late 1960s, and it too was triggered by scuba diving. Increasing numbers of professional marine scientists visiting DFFC, with its developing focus on subtidal biology, coincided with the rapid development of recreational diving.

Collection of shellfish and curios by divers landing at nearby Martin's Haven had become conspicuous and a point of conflict with local fishermen. This combination fostered a growing awareness that effective environmental stewardship might be as necessary in the sea as on land.

Dr Robin Crump joined DFFC for a year in 1969 and promptly set about organising underwater ecology courses for divers. These were welcomed, and attended by senior officers of the British Sub-aqua Club and Welsh Association of Sub-aqua Clubs (WASAC). Through these courses DFFC staff developed a broad picture of the area's subtidal ecology around the Dale and Marloes peninsulas. In 1971 the FSC's annual report recorded that under Robin's successor, Peter Hunnam, every course was booked to capacity.

The Centre's staff began a dialogue with the Nature Conservancy and Skomer Island's managers, the West Wales Naturalists Trust, to consider how an 'underwater nature reserve' might be established. The following year NERC invited DFFC to submit data to support the case for such reserves.

Skomer Island had become a National Nature Reserve for its nesting sea birds in 1959. Despite the sea's importance as the food source for the island's nesting birds, the marine environment had little respect: one early island warden recorded how empty food tins were thrown into the sea to dispose of them!

Following pressure from concerned organisations and individuals and parliamentary questions, NERC convened a working party on marine wildlife conservation. Its 1973 report concluded that there was insufficient ecological knowledge or evidence of risk to justify designation of marine reserves. It also forecast difficulties securing engagement by fisheries managers. Although there was a shortage of information at that time, these impediments – now excuses – are still alive and well.

A scientific seminar on marine conservation was convened at North Wales' Menai Bridge marine laboratory. Agreements were made to start tackling the problems and the Skomer/Martin's Haven area was one of the few locations discussed as a potential marine protected area (MPA).

In Pembrokeshire, Peter Hunnam and colleagues surveyed underwater habitats from Gateholm, around Skomer, to east of Martin's Haven, confirming the presence of a wide diversity of habitats and species.

Skomer becomes a voluntary marine reserve

By 1974 a steering committee was established to develop a voluntary marine reserve. On declaration of the Skomer Marine Reserve (SMR) in 1976, it evolved into the ambitiously named Management Committee, with Robin Crump as Scientific Secretary and WASAC providing the chairman.

The steering committee had initially struggled to engage the South Wales Sea Fisheries Committee



Broad or pink sea fans (*Eunicella verrucosa*) are one of the few marine invertebrates specifically identified for protection in the Wildlife and Countryside Act, but colonies are disappearing in the Skomer MNR.



Sea slug *Okenia elegans*

conservation benefits are still accumulating.

Despite a management plan, an inclusive

(SWSFC - the local fisheries management body) until the intervention of Pembrokeshire-based SWSFC member Paul Raggett. The Committee gave an assurance that there was no intention at that time to try and curtail the then current 'traditional' pot-fishing effort as there was no evidence of harm - not that anyone had looked for any evidence of effects! Although these important caveats were recorded, they have been overlooked by the fishing industry ever since.

However, scallop-dredging impacts were a worry. Divers were able to see the damage which dragging over a ton of toothed scallop dredges caused to the seabed and its wildlife, and it became a potent focus for conservation campaigns, but the SWSFC wanted strong evidence that dredging caused damage in the proposed Marine Nature Reserve (MNR). In 1985, with SWSFC support and cooperation from a local fisherman, an experimental investigation of dredging's impacts was undertaken. The SWSFC accepted the resulting evidence and introduced a byelaw prohibiting dredging, beam trawling and collecting scallops by any method before the statutory MNR was legally designated. The consequential

Management Committee and the distribution of an SMR leaflet, the voluntary reserve's success was expected to be limited as there was neither staff nor resources for management. Consequently the SMR Committee welcomed the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) provisions for statutory MNRs and the inclusion of Skomer in the Nature Conservancy Council's (NCC) list of the first seven proposed MNRs.

Establishment of a statutory Marine Nature Reserve

A consultation on a proposed statutory MNR around Skomer and the Marloes Peninsula began in 1987 with the NCC making great efforts to liaise with consultees and Skomer Marine Reserve users. The proposal was judged an improvement on the voluntary SMR because it would legally re-enforce the existing code of conduct and bring resources to manage the MNR. Except for scallop fishing, it avoided tackling the difficult issue of fisheries management – commercial or recreational – because of the Government policy requirement for total consensus before it would designate an MNR. This policy, as much as the weak legislative provisions, eventually killed the MNR process.



Lomanotus genei

Two thirds of the British sea-slug list has been recorded in the Skomer MNR including species new to Britain and to science.



Limacia clavigera.

The consultation negotiations ran for four years. Compromises were made, including dropping some proposed byelaws, and the Skomer MNR was designated in July 1990, just months prior to the NCC being dissolved and the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) established.

Over two decades later, the on-water public engagement and deterrence patrolling, coupled with onshore outreach and education, have secured the support of most users. Biological monitoring, including valuable volunteer 'citizen science' projects, has recorded real conservation gains, such as the dramatic recovery of the scallop population, the most diverse animal communities in Wales in formerly dredged areas, and an increase in the size of the Reserve's sea-grass bed. These successes were dependent on the expertise and dedicated effort of the MNR's staff, CCW's continued resourcing and staffing of the Reserve, the SWSFC's scallop fishing byelaw and the support of the MNR Advisory Committee which evolved from the former Management Committee.

Not surprisingly, problems remain. Over time it became clear that 'low-impact' shellfish potting was not quite so benign as had been popularly assumed. On Advisory Committee recommendation, a proposal for a 'no take zone' was developed in 2003. The proposal took two years of careful negotiations and would have enabled the fishermen then using

the MNR to phase out their effort over ten years, and angling to continue in the most popular area: it was rejected by the SWSFC. Shellfish potting effort then almost doubled in the following three years.

After Skomer, only one further MNR was designated and the MNR provisions became increasingly criticised by the conservation community, academics and environmental lawyers as too weak and ineffective. Unfortunately, in the haste to advocate for stronger marine nature conservation legislation, the achievements of Skomer MNR and the lessons it provided were frequently overlooked.

The Menai Strait was one of the other original sites on NCC's MNR shortlist. Although considerable effort went into seeking support for its designation there were many objections, some to MNRs in principle, and the proposal was quietly forgotten when European Marine Special Areas of Conservation came over the horizon.

European Marine Sites

When the UK regulations implementing the 1992 European Community Habitats and Species Directive and its pan-Europe system of protected sites – the *Natura 2000* series – appeared, they contained special provisions for marine *Natura 2000* sites, grandly titled European Marine Sites (EMS). With brand-new EMS centre stage, MNRs faded from the

collective memory and any aspirations to designate more evaporated.

However, there were ominous similarities between the regulations and the discredited MNR sections of the 1981 WCA. Also, rather than identifying any one organisation as having responsibility for managing EMS, the regulations gave a duty to all relevant public bodies to “*exercise their functions so as to secure ... compliance with the requirements of the Habitats Directive*” and enabled them to collaborate to develop a management scheme – if they felt like it. Whilst a collaborative, consensus approach



Scallop (*Pecten maximus*) population density in suitable habitat has increased by over 25 fold since dredging was banned in the MNR.



Scallop size range

appears attractive, EMS management schemes have gone on to demonstrate the difficulty of obtaining the necessary consensus and commitment to management action.

Most marine habitats listed for protection in the Directive are large physiographic features, so it appeared to make sense to select few large sites: just five wholly Welsh EMS and two cross-border estuary EMS cover over 70% of the coastline and 36% of territorial sea area (see back cover). The other UK countries selected many, mostly fairly small, sites.

It looks like a lot of protection, and it might be if designation equalled protection; unfortunately it doesn't. The relevant authorities for all except one EMS formed collaborative groups, which developed management schemes for each site. These consensus schemes took a long time to produce and the need to keep every authority engaged resulted in failures to agree on some issues and the omission of some necessary actions. Despite the schemes resulting in good liaison and outreach work it is difficult to identify changes to management resulting in conservation benefit. Known threats remain ineffectively managed; for example, illegal scallop

dredging continues and little effort goes into enforcing regulations.

Widespread discontent about the failures of the MNR process, and of EMS management, fuelled conservation NGO lobbying of government to introduce stronger marine nature conservation legislation throughout the late 1990s

and 2000s, which finally reached the statute book in 2009.

Marine Conservation Zones

The 2009 Marine and Coastal Access Act repealed MNR legislation and introduced provisions for Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs): the MNR is dead, long live the MCZ! But the MCZ management model is almost identical to that for EMS, despite its apparent lack of effectiveness. Simply giving public authorities a duty to do their jobs in a way that they think will support, or at least not hinder, achieving conservation objectives is just not good enough.

Also, as the primary purposes of Welsh Government's (WG) Fisheries Unit are to support and develop the industry, there is an inherent conflict of interest between fisheries exploitation and conservation goals.

In 2009 WG consulted on 'Protecting Welsh Seas', a draft strategy for Welsh MPAs and their contribution to an ecologically coherent UK network. Having taken advice from CCW, WG stated its intention to use the new powers to create highly protected MCZs (HPMCZs), within which no extraction, deposition or damaging activities would be permitted.

However, by the time a prolonged, complicated and secretive site selection process was completed, WG's rationale for its HPMCZ approach had either been forgotten by the public or had never come to many people's notice at the time. The consultation was so mishandled that it was a master-class in how not to carry one out! The consultation document was inaccessible, ambiguous and misleading. It unnecessarily alarmed many people and seemingly alienated everyone, including those naturally sympathetic to marine conservation. Failures to plan engagement with any interests other than fisheries, or to proactively engage with local communities adjacent to proposed sites, were serious errors of judgement. Legitimate confusion was worsened by misinformation that was repeated by economic self-interests and ideologically opposed protestors, but which went uncorrected by WG, who demonstrated a clear pro-fisheries bias.

Although considerable information had been collected in the 40 years since NERC's 1973 report, the evidence used to make the case for HPMCZs was criticised as insufficient. The contribution of dozens

of selfless, conscientious, volunteer Seasearch survey divers was vilified and discounted by objectors. It doesn't matter how much ecological information is collected, it never seems to be sufficient, nor good enough. Yet, the same standards of evidence are not demanded from challengers to MPAs, whose assertions of potential economic losses are accepted without question.

Wales Environment Link mounted vibrant advocacy campaigns for MCZ provisions in the 2009 Act and, later, their application, but in the face of the vitriolic objections to Wales' initial HPMCZ proposals its NGO members – with the notable exception of the Marine Conservation Society – suddenly back-pedalled. Promotion of comprehensive proactive protection was diluted to supporting reactive 'risk-based' management and 'sustainable' harvesting in MCZs. It's sad to see such double standards applied to the sea: would a suggestion to 'sustainably' crop the puffin and shearwater populations on Skomer – using indiscriminate traps that damage habitats and crush sensitive vegetation – not be greeted with horror by these same NGOs?



Spiny starfish, sponges, swimming crab and soft corals.



Grazing Common or Edible sea urchins (*Echinus esculentus*). Depletion of their predators by fishing can result in population increases which may over-graze habitats

An 'alternative' to HPMCZs published by the fishing industry was widely, though naively, greeted with open arms. Its core recommendation was to adopt almost the exact approach that EMS management has followed for over a decade, but with a twist – 'co-management' by the fishing industry. Whilst fishermen should indeed be involved in marine management, their industry's track record of self-control and compliance with regulation leaves so much to be desired that it does not inspire confidence in co-management.

After a silent period following the consultation, a Task and Finish Group was appointed by the environment minister to "reflect on" the almost 7000 responses to the consultation and, advised by a Stakeholder Focus Group, to "fully explore all the information received, to inform how we move ahead with MCZs". Though outputs from these Groups were not shared widely, what trickled out revealed that, rather than an overwhelming opposition to the initial proposals, 81% of consultation responses supported HPMCZs. Yet, because many of these had been stimulated by environmental NGO campaigns, they seemed to have been considered less valid than objections. Recommendations went to the minister at the end of April. Time will tell what they are and what the minister decides to do, but it's looking like Skomer

MNR will be renamed an MCZ and everything else will be scrapped and we'll start again.

A National Assembly for Wales' Environment and Sustainability Committee marine policy inquiry reported in January this year that, four years after the 2009 Act, WG had not delivered on the responsibilities it had been given and that the marine environment in Wales had not been given sufficient priority.

Marine conservation in Wales is struggling. The success and value of the single MNR has been underappreciated almost since the day it was designated, and EMS implementation has been, at best, disappointing. At present the MCZ process seems to have set progress back, not moved it forward. Where will marine conservation in Wales be in five years' time? Comprehensive and effective EMS management and several fully protected and well resourced and managed MCZs, starting with Skomer, would be marvellous, but given the history of false optimism I trust you will forgive me for not planning to hold my breath.

Blaise Bullimore was the Skomer MNR's first manager and is now a European Marine Site Officer, consultant and Skomer MNR Honorary Warden and scientific dive team volunteer.

Acknowledgements

The author extends his grateful thanks to Robin Crump, Stephen Evans, Keith Hiscock, Peter Hunnam, Lucy Kay, Steve Morrell and the Skomer MNR team for their memories, help and records of early marine conservation efforts in Wales.

Gwarchod natur y môr yng Nghymru: gobaith ynteu anobaith?

Nid yw'r frwydr i ennyn sylw'r cyhoedd ac ewyllys da gwleidyddion tuag at warchod natur y môr wedi bod yn hawdd. Mae BLAISE BULLIMORE yn disgrifio'r cynnydd araf sydd wedi'i wneud, y rhan y mae Gwarchodfa Natur Forol Sgomer wedi'i chwarae, a'r dyfodol ansicr sy'n wynebu rheoli cadwraeth y môr.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

William Powell, AM
Chair, Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay CF99 1NA

By e-mail via Petitions Committee secretariat

30 September 2013

Dear Mr Powell,

Petition P-04-415 Marine Conservation Zones

Thank you for agreeing to reconsider my petition at your next meeting following the very late arrival prior to your last meeting on 24 September - for which I apologise - of copies of my two recent articles in *Natur Cymru*.

Whilst I am well aware of the Ministers announcement on MCZs and the withdrawal of the list of proposed highly protected MCZs, the issue has not gone away. His announcement included:

- a statement that he wants to understand more about the wide range of marine habitats and species that are already “protected”;
- a commitment to an assessment of current MPAs to identify if there are any gaps;
- a statement that he is aware of elements that may need strengthening;
- and recognition that existing sites need to be well-managed to achieve their conservation objectives.

To avoid unnecessary repetition, I refer you to reiterate the points I made in my letters to you and members of your Committee in my letters of 19 October 2012 and 29 January 2013. The points made therein describing the need for hpMCZs, criticising the process undertaken to date and providing some pre-emptive answers to the bullets above still stand.

Nevertheless I again stress that much of the argument presented in opposition to the MCZ proposals is based on false premises. What is perhaps worse, is that the Ministerial Task and Finish Group appeared not to take into account a great deal of the considerable volume information and evidence that already exists about our marine environment and the benefits of highly protected MPAs. In addition to leading to poorly informed recommendations this has apparently misled the Minister into understanding that far less is known about these issues than actually is.

Of course there will never be enough evidence to satisfy objectors or those who demand absolute proof before taking action. And, unless the capacity to document and understand the pressures and threats to designated features outpaces society's capacity for their exploitation, which is improbable, it will be always necessary for managers to make decisions on the best knowledge available despite its limitations and for users to accept that precautionary management may be necessary in circumstances where risk is probable albeit not demonstrated.

Addressing the second of the bullet points above, I ask you to note that this work has been done already by the Countryside Council for Wales and reported to Welsh Government. Commissioning yet another review smacks of simply kicking the issue into the long grass to avoid making what is expected to be a decision that is unpopular with one sectoral interest or another

If the Minister is indeed aware that measures need strengthening and really would welcome more evidence of payback from good management, he needs to bite the bullet and actually designate an hpMCZ adequately resourced to document the changes that occur with protection. The Skomer MNR is the only viable candidate since it comes with over two decades of monitoring and surveillance already in the bag.

I have commented previously on the naïve unquestioning welcome accorded to the Welsh Fishermens' Association report *Striking the Balance*. I will not rehearse all my criticisms of that document again now, but do reiterate that the positive proposals it makes are not new. An ecosystem approach, adaptive management and collaborative engagement with stakeholders have been fundamental to the approach adopted for well over a decade in the management of Wales' European Marine Sites – albeit with very limited success (Hatton Ellis et al 2012).

Ecosystem approach and adaptive management are both are commendable goals and appear conceptually straightforward, but bring their own problems (e.g. UNEP 2011). Not only are the concepts not commonly understood, risking being misused, there seems limited agreement on how to implement them and they require a great deal of knowledge (e.g. Allen & Stankey, 2009; Arkema *et al.* 2006; Leslie & McLeod 2007; Tallis *et al.* 2010).

Ecosystem-based management requires precise knowledge and understanding of the spatial and temporal distribution of all the species, habitats and human interventions in the area of interest and how they all interact; such precision is rarely achievable. Likewise, it is easy to throw the phrase adaptive management into the mix because it sounds good and makes perfect sense, but it is very hard to achieve in the real world and without possibly prohibitive financial resources.

Ecosystem-based management must also take account of 'shifting baselines' - the tendency to continually consider increasingly degraded ecosystems long impacted by human activity as normal thereby gradually lowering expectations of what constitutes a healthy ecosystem (Dayton *et al.* 1998). Limited knowledge and understanding of historical ecosystem condition and human effects upon the ecosystem naturally makes it difficult to identify appropriate ecosystem objectives.

Wales still needs better protection for its marine environment and highly protected MCZs still need to be one of the key tools. Not to improve marine protection measures is an unacceptable option risking further and increased damage to our marine environment. Furthermore, designating hpMCZs would send a very positive message to business and the public: Wales cares about its marine environment and is determined to look after and improve it for its intergenerational importance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Blaise Bullimore". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'B'.

Blaise Bullimore

Once again, I request that my address and other contact details are redacted before this letter is placed on the WG website. Thank you.

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P-04-459 Cysylltiad rheilffordd uniongyrchol o Faes Awyr Caerdydd i ganol Caerdydd a gorllewin Cymru

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ddatblygu cysylltiad rheilffordd uniongyrchol o Faes Awyr Caerdydd i ganol Caerdydd a gorllewin Cymru.

Mae angen mawr am linell reilffordd gyflym uniongyrchol o Faes Awyr Caerdydd i orsaf drenau Caerdydd Canolog (ac i orllewin Cymru) fel bod y gwasanaethau a'r ddarpariaeth briodol ar gael yn ein Maes Awyr Cenedlaethol ar gyfer ymwelwyr cenedlaethol a rhyngwladol. Mae gorsaf reilffordd yn y Rhws eisoes, sy'n llai na milltir o'r maes awyr. Mae'n gyfle na ddylid ei golli i estyn y llinell i Faes Awyr Rhyngwladol Caerdydd fel y gall teithwyr o bob rhan o'r byd neidio yn syth ar ôl glanio ar drên sy'n mynd â nhw i brifddinas Cymru a thu hwnt i hynny.

Prif ddeisebydd: Cymru Sofren

Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 19 Mawrth 2013

Nifer y llofnodion: 39

Edwina Hart MBE CStJ AC / AM
Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth
Minister for Economy, Science and Transport



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-459
Ein cyf/Our ref EH/02267/13

William Powell AC

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

29 Gorffennaf 2013

Annwyl William,

Yn dilyn ein gohebiaeth ym mis Ebrill, diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 10 Gorffennaf ar ran y Pwyllgor Deisebau am y ddeiseb yn galw am gysylltiad rheilffordd uniongyrchol i Faes Awyr Caerdydd.

Cytunaf ei bod hi'n bwysig i wella mynediad i Faes Awyr Caerdydd. Fel y gwyddoch, mae'r Prif weinidog wedi cyhoeddi ein cynllun i gyflwyno gwasanaeth bws sydyn ac aml o ganol Gaerdydd i'r Maes Awyr ym mis Awst.

Yn dilyn fy adolygiad o'r adroddiad a gyflwynwyd gan Grŵp Tasglu Trafnidiaeth Integredig De-ddwyrain Cymru, 'rydwyf yn ystyried amryw o opsiynnau ar gyfer gwella'r mynediad i'r Maes Awyr yn y dyfodol, gan gynnwys gwelliannau i'r rheilffordd. Mi gewch ddiweddariad gennyf ar yr amser priodol.

**P-04-459 Cysylltiad rheilffordd uniongyrchol o Faes Awyr
Caerdydd i ganol Caerdydd a gorllewin Cymru - Gohebiaeth
gan y deisebwr at y tîm clericio, 30.09.13**

Hoffwn ail ategu be awgrymais o'r blaen ynglŷn a'r ddeiseb yma - dim byd newydd i'w ategu heblaw fod synnwyr cyffredin yn dangos ei fod yn gwneud synnwyr i osod gorsaf rheilffordd reit o flaen/oddi mewn awyrendy Caerdydd er mwyn ei wneud yn faes awyr rhyngwladol go iawn, yn arbennig gan gysidro fod y lein bresennol yn pasio llai na milltir i ffwrdd.

Eitem 3.5

P-04-468 Pryderon am Ddiogelwch Ffordd A48 Cas-gwent

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ostwng y terfyn cyflymder ar Bont yr A48 yng Nghas-gwent o 50mya i 30mya.

Prif ddeisebydd: Cyngor Tref Cas-gwent

Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 19 Mawrth 2013

Nifer y llofnodion : Casglodd deiseb gysylltiedig 1,000 o lofnodion

Edwina Hart MBE CStJ AC / AM
Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth
Minister for Economy, Science and Transport



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-468
Ein cyf/Our ref EH/00648/13

William Powell AM
Chair of the Petitions
Committee

naomi.stocks@wales.gov.uk

02 August 2013

Dear William,

I wrote to you on 16 April 2013 regarding the outcome of the Speed Limit Review for the A48 Chepstow Bridge. In my letter I said I would provide an update in July, when the review was complete.

The speed limit review has now been undertaken and considered pedestrian usage, accidents and any change in residential development. It has recommended the current speed limit on the bridge is retained, which Gwent Police support. My officials will now consider the recommendation in detail.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Edwina Hart'.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Correspondence.edwina.Hart@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

Printed on 100% recycled paper

P-04-468 Speed Reduction on the A48 in Chepstow – Correspondence from the petitioner to the clerking team, 28.09.13

Dear Sian,

Chepstow A48 Bridge – Petition for extending the 30mph limit to the far side of the A48 Bridge to protect pedestrians especially school children on a main route to school

Thank you for your email of 23 September 2013 giving us the opportunity to respond by midday 30 September 2013 to the response received by the Chair of the Petitions Committee from the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport dated 2 August 2013 regarding the speed limit on the A48 bridge crossing the River Wye at Chepstow.

The second paragraph of the Minister's response says that *'The speed limit review has now been undertaken and considered pedestrian usage, accidents and any change in residential development'* and it has been recommended that the limit is retained.

The circumstances of this bridge and the speed limit is a special case and would **not be measured appropriately by the statistics used by the department**. Pedestrian usage statistics, accidents and housing developments seem to be the criteria and method best used for open stretches of trunk roads rather than busy bridges in urban areas.

The A48 Bridge across the River Wye at Chepstow is a special case. It is a trunk road with a narrow pavement immediately adjacent to the carriageway with no intervening grass verge or railings or protective measures. It is in **an urban setting** immediately adjacent to a 30mph zone so there is no issue of needing to justify the slowing down of traffic. North east bound traffic leaving Chepstow across the bridge is travelling away from traffic lights and from a 30 mph zone. It is then is 'invited' to accelerate to 50mph on the bridge when **most drivers would not expect there to be an increase in the speed limit at that point**. There is a perfectly sensible place for an increase to 50mph at the far side of the bridge. The distance is only **335 metres (less than a quarter of a mile)** but it is a very significant quarter of a mile because **every day many school children walk across this bridge** to school.

There is **no pavement on the other side of the road** and so there are movements of pedestrians in both directions, trying to pass each other and groups of school children on this narrow pavement with traffic moving past at 50 mph.

Children going to school cannot see the vehicles coming up behind them but heavy lorries and buses with large wing mirrors are travelling at 50mph **within a few centimetres of children carrying** shoulder bags which could be caught by such vehicles with horrendous consequences.

This is not a normal road situation where 'housing development' statistics or 'total pedestrian flows over the course of a day' or 'road accidents per year' is going to indicate the need for 30 mph. This is a situation where common sense is a better measure.

A walk over the bridge at school arrival and departure times will show a very different picture than that of standard department statistics. We have attached some **photographs** of what it is like on the bridge at those very dangerous times.

We can see can no disadvantages for the Welsh Government or the Welsh economy to the granting of this simple request for extending Chepstow's 30mph zone by 335 metres further down the same road and so we are surprised that the Transport Minister cannot find a way of helping us. We can see **lots of dangers** and problems arising from not extending the 30mph limit to the far side of the bridge and so we would welcome a fresh look at the situation from the Welsh Government.

We are surprised that the department is not more helpful on this issue as it is very much an issue of **safe routes for communities** and safe routes to school which is a Government priority. This bridge is clearly part of the urban area of Chepstow and the speed limit should be 30 mph as it is in the rest of urban Chepstow.

On Thursday 27 September 2013 a man telephoned Chepstow Town Council to report that he had been in a vehicle behind a lorry which had narrowly missed a whole group of school children on the bridge that day and that he was so worried about the safety standards on the bridge he had decided to report it. This man knew nothing about the petition, and he has consented to his contact details being supplied should that be necessary.

Finally, we are also surprised that the Minister or her department has not been more responsive when the **source** of the request and petition is considered. This petition has come **from young people themselves**. Surely if we are to encourage the next generation to participate in public affairs and in Government (which is a priority of the National Assembly and the Welsh Government) we should be as responsive as we can when they do petition.

Of course not all petition requests from young people can be granted but this one does seem to be a **very reasonable case and with no financial implications** and would make an enormous difference to **public safety**. We hope that the Petitions Committee will give the petition a more positive hearing.

We would be grateful if you could put these views to the Petitions Committee.

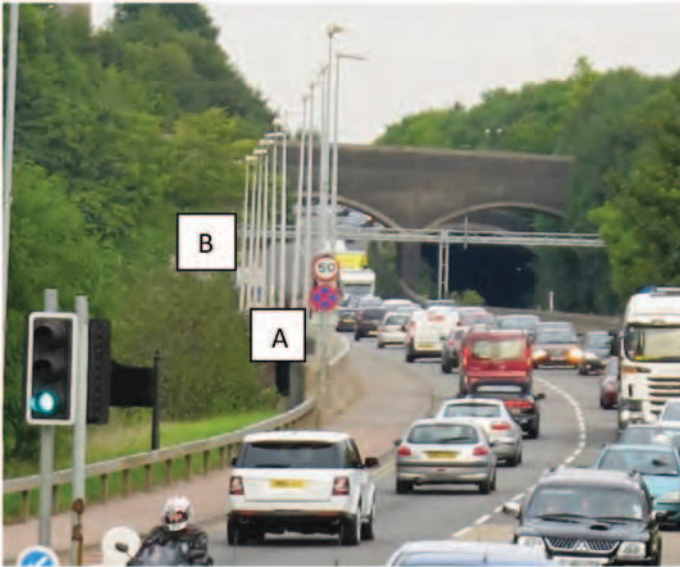
Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Sandra Bushell

Town Clerk, Chepstow Town Council

A48 at Chepstow – Request for speed limit on bridge to be 30 mph in place of 50 mph 1



The request is to move the 50mph sign in centre of this photo (Point A) to the bridge in the photo (Point B).



Railings would be help also, but 30 mph is essential.





A48 at Chepstow – Request for speed limit on bridge to be 30 mph in place of 50 mph 2





Chepstow A48 Bridge over River Wye – request for the Chepstow 30mph limit to be extended to cover the bridge.

Eitem 3.6

P-04-491 Banc Cenedlaethol ac arian cyflenwol i Gymru

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i helpu i sefydlu Banc Cenedlaethol Cymru a fyddai'n ceisio gweithredu yn ôl cod ymddygiad bancio newydd, modern, cyfrifol, cynaliadwy a thryloyw yng Nghymru. Rydym hefyd yn galw am sefydlu arian cyflenwol ar gyfer Cymru gan y banc: sy'n debyg i arian cyflenwol C3 yn Wrwgwái, a'r WIR yn Swisdir, a'i roi i fusnesau bach a chanolig, pobl hunan-gyflogedig, diwydiant, ffermwyr a masnachwyr sydd â diddordeb.

Rydym yn credu, yn arbennig yn wyneb y camreoli economaidd byd-eang a welwyd dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf, bod angen i Lywodraeth Cymru ddangos atebolrwydd ac arweinyddiaeth economaidd drwy annog a hyrwyddo arian sy'n rhydd o ddyled i'r cyhoedd, gyda'r wlad yn creu arian, a thrwy hyrwyddo arloesedd ariannol a bancio cynaliadwy, fel yr hyrwyddwyd gan sefydliadau fel Positive Money. Rydym o'r farn y byddai Banc Cymru yn cynnig cyfle perffaith i Gymru ddangos arloesedd ac arweinyddiaeth economaidd o'r fath yn y byd.

Gallai Pwyllgor Ariannol annibynnol a thryloyw yng Nghymru, a fyddai'n cynnwys cymysgedd o arbenigwyr nad oes ganddynt gysylltiad â gwleidyddiaeth, a phanel o arsylwyr, weithredu fel corff cynghori rhwng y banc a llywodraeth Cymru ynghylch pob mater perthnasol

Prif ddeisebydd: Cymru Sofren

Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 18 Mehefin 2013

Nifer y llofnodion : 43

Edwina Hart MBE CStJ AC / AM
Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth
Minister for Economy, Science and Transport



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref: P-04-470
Ein cyf/Our ref: EH/01982/13

William Powell AM
Chair
Petitions Committee
Naomi.stocks@wales.gov.uk

17 July 2013

Dear William

I am writing in response to your letter of 26 June following the submission of a petition to the Petitions Committee, about a National Bank of Wales and complementary Welsh currency, by Sovereign Wales.

The establishment of a Bank of Wales has been raised with me on a number of occasions over the past year or so, particularly against the backdrop of falling confidence in the traditional bank lending sector.

As the supporting information to your letter states, I have sought specialist, independent advice on issues of access to finance, including on alternative sources of finance and structures for financial institutions. Professor Dylan Jones-Evans of the University of Wales is conducting a review of the availability of private sector finance for Welsh SMEs.

Stage one of his review, which looked specifically at the role of high street banks in this, has recently been completed and the Professor has now begun stage two of his review, which is looking at alternative sources of financing, including new banking structures. The Professor has formally called for evidence from interested parties via our website at:
<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/businessandconomy/policy/financereview/?lang=en>

I have also commissioned Professor Colyn Gardner to provide me with advice on community financing and I will be considering his report in due course.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be 'C. Gardner', written in black ink.

Jane Hutt AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Cyllid
Minister for Finance



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-491
Ein cyf/Our ref JH/00287/13

William Powell AC
AC y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin
Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau
Tŷ Hywel
Bae Caerdydd
Caerdydd
CF99 1NA

9 Awst 2013

Annwyl *William*,

Ar hyn o bryd, nid oes gan Lywodraeth Cymru gynlluniau i sefydlu Banc Cenedlaethol i Gymru, nac i gyflwyno arian ar wahân i Gymru.

Sefydlodd Llywodraeth Cymru Gyllid Cymru yn 2001 er mwyn darparu credyd er budd yr economi yng Nghymru. Ar hyn o bryd, mae Cyllid Cymru yn gyfrifol am gronfeydd gwerth bron £400 miliwn, sy'n ffynhonnell gyllid hanfodol i fentrau bach a chanolig Cymru.

Rwyf hefyd yn sylwi bod y deisebydd yn ymwybodol o'r adolygiad o'r Cyllid sydd ar gael i Fusnesau yng Nghymru a gynhelir gan yr Athro Dylan Jones-Evans. Byddwn yn annog y deisebydd i ddarparu adborth i'r adolygiad hwn. Gellir gwneud hyn drwy'r ddolen ganlynol:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/businessandconomy/policy/financereview/?skip=1&lang=cy>

Yn gywir,

Jane Hutt AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Cyllid
Minister for Finance

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Correspondence: Jane.Hutt@wales.gsi.gov.uk
Printed on 100% recycled paper

P-04-491 A national bank of wales and complementary Welsh currency - Correspondence from the petitioner to the clerking team, 30.09.13

Britain is facing a spiralling and unpayable debt of £1.4 trillion by 2015, basically meaning that Britain is bankrupt. Unless fixed or the debt in some way cancelled, or Wales quickly puts in place the real economic levers it should have and distances itself from the flawed UK economic system, a financial collapse will be inevitable. Private savings will likely be taken by the state to pay off private lenders as happened in Cyprus and Greece. There will be no food in the shops and ugly messy anarchy could prevail. Unless Wales demands a national currency and a Welsh pound pegged at parity to Sterling, the other immediate solution is for a Welsh public bank running under the current UK and Central Bank of England's fractional reserve system.

A public bank of Wales could responsibly harness the power of money creation through the issuing of credit to small to medium sized businesses, industry and Welsh infrastructure including renewable energy projects. If the Welsh Government needed to borrow it could borrow from its own bank at minimal interest and bank profits would be ploughed back in to Wales and for the good of the country as a whole. This power of levying interest is currently mostly in the hands of private corporations based outside of Wales who have no interest in the economic stability and future well being of Wales. This is an unsustainable extractive system which threatens the future of all Welsh citizens.

A public bank could leverage its deposit base at a ratio of 10:1 providing a substantial source of liquidity to the Welsh economy. Essentially this is a multiplier which, for example, would mean that a deposit base of £1 billion in a Welsh public bank could be leveraged to create £10 billion. Considering that Finance Wales only loaned out £19.35 million in the financial year 2012-2013 it should be obvious that a public bank of Wales could make a real and considerable difference to creating a more prosperous Wales. This can be done under the present devolution settlement without much extra facilitating and would benefit Wales greatly and in a sustainable way. The Welsh Government therefore have no reason not to be jumping at the chance to establish such a bank that would benefit us all.

P-04-402 Gweddïau Cyngor

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym ni, sydd wedi llofnodi isod, yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i ddiwygio Deddf Llywodraeth Leol 1972 er mwyn rhoi cyfle i bob awdurdod lleol yng Nghymru benderfynu a yw am gynnal gweddïau cyngor yn ystod pob cyfarfod cyngor a'i gofnodi ar yr agenda busnes swyddogol.

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb gan: Rev Alan Hewitt

Ystyriwyd y ddeiseb am y tro cyntaf: 2 Gorffennaf 2012

Nifer y llofnodion: 155



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

**WRITTEN STATEMENT
BY
THE WELSH GOVERNMENT**

TITLE	Holding Religious Ceremonies as part of the Official Proceedings of Local Authorities in Wales
DATE	6 August 2013
BY	Lesley Griffiths AM, Minister for Local Government and Government Business

The freedom to hold religious beliefs and to exercise those views through holding religious ceremonies is enshrined in human rights legislation. Here in Wales, there has been a long standing and established tradition of both religious observance and tolerance. We have a proud history as a country where people of many cultures and religions have lived side by side for generations, enriching the life of the whole nation. The Welsh Government continues to be committed to promoting good relations and an understanding among all faith communities in Wales, including people of no faith.

The general power of competence does not apply to Councils in Wales. There has been a perception this has, in some way, disadvantaged Councils in Wales, in their ability to hold prayers as part of their official business. It has been seen, by some, as a matter which needs rectifying through legislation. The Welsh Government considers this to be misleading and does not intend to bring forward legislation on this point. If there are restrictions to how Councils may approach this matter, they arise from the general legal requirements as to equality and non-discrimination, not from any apparent limit on the Councils' statutory powers.

In the view of the Welsh Government, it is a matter for a Local Authority to consider on competent legal advice, whether the circumstances in its individual case make it appropriate to hold prayers as part of a formal meeting. Generally speaking, there is nothing to prevent like-minded Councillors from saying prayers – or sharing a moment of quiet reflection – immediately before moving on to official business, rather than as a formal part of business or in a way as to affect the formal business.

The Welsh Government is not able to give advice to cover the very specific individual circumstances in which these issues will arise for consideration. Most Councils in Wales have already made practical and workable arrangements and we are confident

that giving appropriate consideration to the rights of their Members and constituents, all may now do so.

This statement is being issued during recess in order to keep Members informed. Should Members wish me to make a further statement or to answer questions on this when the Assembly returns, I would be happy to do so.

Eitem 3.8

P-04-413 : Gwasanaethau Mamolaeth yng Nghwm Cynon

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Rydym ni sydd wedi llofnodi isod yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i adfer gwasanaethau mamolaeth yng Nghwm Cynon, drwy gwblhau canolfan eni Tair Afon, fel y'i cynlluniwyd yn wreiddiol yn Ysbyty Cwm Cynon.

Gwybodaeth ategol:

Cafodd Ysbyty Cwm Cynon ei gynllunio gyda lle i ganolfan eni dan arweiniad bydwragedd. Er bod y lle ar gael yn yr ysbyty a bod llawer o'r gwaith wedi'i gwblhau, gwnaed y penderfyniad i beidio â chael y ganolfan eni. O ganlyniad i hyn, rhaid i fenywod Cwm Cynon deithio i Ysbyty'r Tywysog Siarl ym Merthyr Tudful neu ddewis geni eu plant gartref. Mae tynnu'r gwasanaethau hyn oddi ar bobl Cwm Cynon yn annerbyniol.

Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 2 Hydref 2012

Nifer y llofnodion: 406

P-04-450 : Mae Angen Ysbyty Cwbl Weithredol ar y Barri a Bro Morgannwg

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau bod gan Ysbyty'r Barri uned mân anafiadau cwbl weithredol, sy'n agored i gleifion am 8 awr y dydd, 5 diwrnod yr wythnos.

Gwybodaeth ategol: Rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i roi'r gorau i sefyll yn ei hunfan ond i ymyrryd yn y modd y mae Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Caerdydd a'r Fro yn cynnal Ysbyty'r Barri. Mae'r ymddiriedolaeth wedi camarwain pobl y Barri a'r Fro ers digon o amser, gan ddefnyddio esgusodion fel salwch staff a phwysau gwaith. Mae ar bobl y Barri a'r Fro angen Uned Mân Anafiadau cwbl weithredol.

Mae hyn yn annerbyniol ar gyfer ysbyty sydd â dalgylch o faint y Barri a Bro Morgannwg. Y rhesymeg a ddefnyddir am y problemau hyn yw bod 'Uned Mân Anafiadau Ysbyty'r Barri yn wasanaeth hynod o brysur sydd o dan bwysau gwaith sylweddol ar hyn o bryd oherwydd salwch staff ac absenoldeb mamolaeth. O ganlyniad i hyn, ac am resymau diogelwch, bydd yr Uned yn cael ei chynnal ar sail llai o oriau am gyfnod amhenodol. Bydd yr uned yn agor am 8.30am, a bydd yn cau i gleifion newydd am 2pm. Golyga hyn y byddwn, ar ôl 2pm, yn trin y cleifion hynny sydd eisoes yn aros yn unig.' (dyfyniad o'r wefan swyddogol)

Prif ddeisebydd: Jeffrey Heathfield

Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 29 Ionawr 2013

Nifer y llofnodion: 50

Eitem 3.10

P-04-428 : Ynni amgen ar gyfer goleuadau stryd

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i newid ffynhonnell ynni goleuadau stryd ar gefnffyrdd yng Nghymru ac i roi cyfarwyddyd i awdurdodau lleol yn gofyn bod goleuadau stryd lleol yn cael eu newid fel eu bod yn defnyddio ynni amgen.

Gwybodaeth Ategol : Mae Llywodraeth Cymru'n honni ei bod yn gweithio yn ôl Agenda 21, sef lleihau llygredd drwy leihau'r ynni yr ydym yn ei ddefnyddio. Yn ystod y nos, mae goleuadau stryd yn golygu bod yr ynni yr ydym yn ei ddefnyddio yn cyrraedd uchafswm. Felly, credaf y dylai'r Llywodraeth newid ffynhonnell ynni goleuadau stryd yn y wlad. Er enghraifft, mae ynni solar ac ynni gwynt yn cael eu defnyddio yn barod ar gyfer rhai arwyddion stryd, a byddai newid yr holl oleuadau stryd yn cynnig cyfleoedd gwaith eang a chynaliadwy i filoedd. Byddai'r darparwyr trydan wedyn yn gallu gostwng eu prisiau i'r defnyddwyr a'r awdurdodau lleol..

Prif ddeisebydd: Ethan Gwyn

Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 16 Hydref 2012

Nifer y llofnodion: 22

P-04-484 Lwfans Cynhaliaeth Addysg i bawb!

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ganiatáu pob plentyn 16-19 oed mewn addysg llawn amser i gael y £30 llawn o'r Lwfans Cynhaliaeth Addysg yr wythnos, beth bynnag yw incwm eu rhieni.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol: Dylai pob plentyn 16-19 oed gael y £30 llawn o'r Lwfans Cynhaliaeth Addysg yr wythnos, beth bynnag yw incwm eu rhieni. Nid yw pob rhiant sy'n ennill cyflog digonol yn helpu eu plant yn ariannol i fynd i'r coleg, ac mae'n anodd dod o hyd i waith oherwydd bod y rhan fwyaf o weithleoedd yn gofyn am brofiad yn eu meysydd. Dylai pob plentyn gael y lwfans wythnosol, ar yr amod eu bod yn mynd i'r ysgol neu'r coleg.

Prif ddeisebydd: Jack Gillum

Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 4 Mehefin 2013

Nifer y llofnodion : 10

Leighton Andrews AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau
Minister for Education and Skills



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-484
Ein cyf/Our ref LA/01667/13

William Powell AM

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

21 June 2013

Dear William

Thank you for your letter of 12 June, following a submission by Jack Gillum to the Petitions Committee, to allow all children aged 16-19 in full-time education to receive an Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) regardless of their parents' income.

The means-tested EMA Wales Scheme was introduced to address the link between low income and low participation by providing a weekly financial incentive (of £30 per week) to encourage young people (aged 16-19) from low-income households to remain in full-time education beyond the compulsory school age.

The use of means-testing against annual household income is used widely across government when determining support for families or individuals, and is not unique to the EMA Wales Scheme. It is considered to be a fair measure of the resources each household has to meet its needs and is a transparent and practical way of determining entitlement.

I recognise that some young people and families will be disappointed as they fall outside the scope of EMA support, but there has to be a specific cut-off point as support from the public purse cannot be open ended.

It is important that we continue to encourage vulnerable young people to remain in education to reach their full potential during difficult economic times. I have commissioned an independent evaluation of EMA Wales to be undertaken during academic year 2013/14, to ensure that resources continue to remain targeted where they have most impact.

Yours Sincerely

Leighton Andrews AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau
Minister for Education and Skills

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)
Tudalen 57

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Correspondence: Leighton.Andrews@wales.gsi.gov.uk
Printed on 100% recycled paper

P-04-485 Camddefnyddio contractau dros dro yn y sector Addysg Bellach bach

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Galwn ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ddefnyddio i dylanwad i sicrhau nad yw'r sector Addysg Bellach yn camddefnyddio contractau i dalu staff fesul awr (contractau dim oriau) a chontractau cyfnod penodol ac mai dim ond pan fydd cyfiawnhad gwrthrychol gwirioneddol dros ddefnyddio contract tymor byr hyblyg y gwneir hynny.

Prif ddeisebydd: Briony Knibbs

Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 4 Mehefin 2013

Nifer y llofnodion : 674

Huw Lewis AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau
Minister for Education and Skills



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-485
Ein cyf/Our ref HL/00690/13

William Powell AM
Chair Petitions Committee

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

17 July 2013

Dear William,

Thank you for your letter of 12 June on behalf of the Petitions Committee.

The Welsh Minsters have no specific statutory powers on the use of hourly based and fixed term contracts. I do note however that the UK government has launched an “informal” review of the use of zero hours contracts, which will be published in the autumn.

In terms of the FE sector in Wales I would hope that a national contract would start to improve on the current conditions which exist for part time hourly paid contract holders. I would therefore urge the trades unions and ColegauCymru to continue with their negotiations.

After three years of hard negotiating, I hope the result is a Common Contract, agreed by all parties, that is of benefit to the FE sector as a whole, and ultimately, of benefit to our learners in Wales.

Best Regards
Huw

Huw Lewis AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau
Minister for Education and Skills

William Powell
Chair
Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

5 July 2013

Dear Mr Powell

Petitions Committee: hourly paid and fixed term contracts

I am writing on behalf of colleges in Wales in response to your letter of 12 June 2013 seeking the views of ColegauCymru on the use of hourly paid and fixed term contracts in the further education (FE) sector. I understand that, as chair of the Petitions Committee, you have also written to individual colleges.

ColegauCymru is the national organisation representing the 17 FE colleges and two FE institutions in Wales. ColegauCymru is currently negotiating a national contract for staff employed in FE colleges with a large number of trade unions, collectively known as the 'joint trade unions' (JTUs).

The latest figures published by the Welsh Government on staff contracts show that in 2008/09, there were 16,810 individual staff contracts. 57% of staff employed by FE institutions were permanent, 21% fixed term and 22% hourly paid/casual staff.¹

Between 1998/99 to 2009/10, the number of staff increased by 9%, with full-time staff increasing by 6% and that of part-time decreasing by 2%. Figures are not available for fixed term contracts. The trend in some colleges has been towards fewer hourly paid part-time staff as colleges have converted hourly paid part-time contracts into fractional contracts.

Colleges employ part-time hourly paid staff, particularly lecturers, in order to be in a position to respond flexibly to external demand. Studying beyond the age of post-16 is not compulsory. Individuals aged 16+ and adults have a choice whether or not to seek a place at college and a further choice between full-time and a range of part-time provision.

¹ *Staff at Further Education Institutions in Wales, 2008/09 SDR 130/2010*, 26 August 2010. Welsh Government. Please note that the latest statistics bulletin on staff was published on 26 June 2013 (SDR 105/2013) showing there were 8,775 full time equivalent staff in colleges. This latter data is collected from the Finance Record and does not give the breakdown of numbers that was previously collected through the Staff Individualised Record.

Colleges are not able to predict accurately the number of students that enrol or the mode of attendance. The number of students, particularly part-time students, fluctuates from year to year. Many make enquiries, attend interview and even accept a college place, but then their circumstances change or they change their minds and they do not in the end enrol at the beginning of term. This figure may comprise up to one-third of potential enrolments. Planning staff deployment with such unpredictable enrolment patterns is a challenge. It would not make financial sense to employ part-time lecturers with fixed weekly hours before students have formally enrolled.

In 2011/12, 191,185 learners attended colleges. Of these, around 76% of learners attended part-time²; around three-quarters were adults aged over 19. Predicting part-time numbers is particularly difficult.

Colleges also need to respond to requests from local businesses for courses or consultancy, often at short notice. There are, in addition, Welsh Government initiatives such as ReACT in which a person recently unemployed can seek training, often at a few days' notice.

In order to be responsive in the delivery of education and training and in order to manage this uncertainty, colleges employ flexible, part-time staff.

Colleges are often not in a position to confirm an individual lecturer's teaching load until the start of term, once the enrolment cycle has been completed and students have taken up their places. However, once a lecturer's teaching load is confirmed, the number of hours usually remains constant throughout the year - unless a class becomes unviable. The teaching load of an individual lecturer may be increased during the year where an opportunity arises and where the lecturer agrees. Many staff in further education prefer to work in a flexible way.

There has been recent press coverage of catering and cleaning companies that employ people on zero hour contracts where employees do not know from one week to the next how many hours – if any – they will work. This does not apply to further education.

The common contract negotiations between ColegauCymru and the JTUs have considered zero hours. The current draft - Version 26 - of the common contract includes these words:

² *Further Education, work-based learning and community learning in Wales 2011/12 SDR 48/2013*. 26 March 2013. Welsh Government.

D. "LECTURER PART-TIME HOURLY PAID

In view of the nature of your employment your hours may vary according to the academic requirements of the College. However the College will provide you with a minimum of [hours] of teaching per [week, term, and year]. This minimum will be reviewed on an annual basis and may be subject to change depending on the requirements of the college."

This clause would have the effect of ensuring that a lecturer is employed on a minimum hours rather than a zero hours contract. However, colleges must retain the flexibility referred to in previous paragraphs and which is appreciated by many staff.

In respect to fixed term contracts, colleges often receive Welsh Government or European funding for the delivery of short term projects. Staff on these projects are employed on fixed term contracts for the duration of these externally funded projects. No guarantees can be given on employment once external funding has ceased.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information.

Your sincerely

Dr John Graystone
Chief Executive



Gower College Swansea
Coleg Gŵyr Abertawe

5th July 2013

William Powell AM
Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

Dear Mr Powell

Petitions Committee: hourly paid and fixed term contracts

I am writing in response to your letter to Mark Jones, Principal, of 18 June stating that the Petitions Committee is seeking information on the use of hourly paid and fixed term contracts in the further education (FE) sector.

ColegauCymru is the national organisation representing the 17 FE colleges and two FE institutions in Wales. ColegauCymru is currently negotiating a national contract for staff employed in FE colleges.

The latest figures published by the Welsh Government on staff contracts show that in 2008/09, there were 16,810 individual staff contracts. 57% of staff employed by FE institutions were permanent, 21% fixed term and 22% hourly paid/casual staff.¹

Between 1998/99 to 2009/10, the numbers of staff increased by 9% with full-time staff increasing by 26% and that of part-time decreasing by 2%. Figures are not available for fixed term contracts. The trend in some colleges has been to have fewer hourly paid part-time staff as colleges have converted hourly paid part-time contracts into fractional contracts.

In order to be flexible and responsive to external demand, colleges have to employ part-time hourly paid staff, particularly lecturers. Post-16 education is not compulsory. Colleges are not able to predict accurately the number of students they will enrol or the mode of attendance. Numbers of students, particularly part-time students, fluctuate from year to year. Students who have decided to join the college change their minds and do not enrol at the beginning of term. In some cases this figure can be one-third of potential enrolments. It would not make financial sense to employ part-time lecturers with fixed weekly hours before students have formally enrolled.

¹ Staff at Further Education Institutions in Wales., 2008/09 SDR 130/2010, 26 August 2010 Welsh Government

In 2011/12, 191,185 learners attended colleges. Of these, around 76% of learners attended part-time² and around three-quarters were adults aged over 19. Predicting part-time numbers is particularly difficult.

Colleges have to respond to requests from local businesses for courses or consultancy, often at short notice. There are also Welsh Government initiatives such as ReACT in which a person recently unemployed can seek training, often at a few days' notice.

All this means that colleges have to employ flexible part-time staff in order to respond to external demand and cope with uncertainty. Colleges will often not be able to inform lecturers of their teaching load until the start of term, once the enrolment cycle has been completed and students have turned up. Once the lecturer is informed of his/her teaching load, the number of hours will usually stay constant throughout the year unless the class becomes unviable. The lecturer may be invited to add to their teaching during the year but this will be with the agreement of the lecturer. Many staff in Further Education prefer to work in a flexible way.

There has been recent publicity about catering and cleaning companies employing people on zero hour contracts in which the individual does not know from one week to the other what if any hours they will be doing. This does not apply to further education.

The common contract negotiations have considered zero hours and Version 26 of the common contract includes these words:

D. "LECTURER PART-TIME HOURLY PAID

In view of the nature of your employment your hours may vary according to the academic requirements of the College. However the College will provide you with a minimum of [hours] of teaching per [week, term, and year]. This minimum will be reviewed on an annual basis and may be subject to change depending on the requirements of the college."

This clause would have the effect of ensuring that a lecturer is employed on a minimum hours contract.

In respect to fixed term contracts, colleges are often in receipt of funding for short term projects. These may be funded, for example, by the Welsh Government or the European Community. Staff on these projects will be employed on fixed term contracts for the duration of these externally funded projects. No guarantees can be given on employment once external funding has ceased.

² Further Education, work-based learning and community learning in Wales 2011/12 SDR 48/2013 26 March 2013, Welsh Government

The following are the specific answers to the questions in your letter.

1. Gower College Swansea does use Zero hours contracts and fixed term contracts.
2. a) 69 hourly paid part-time lecturers delivering less than 3 hours per week are employed on zero hours contracts. 68 support staff are employed as casual workers.

b) We have total of 225 staff (101 lecturers and 124 Support Staff) currently employed on Fixed Term contracts.
3. a) 6% of our teaching staff are employed on contract where their teaching hours will range from 0-3 hours per week; 6% of our support staff are regarded as "casual" workers, in both cases there is no "mutuality of obligation" i.e. there is no obligation for the College to offer work or for the individual to undertake work.

b) 19.75% of our total workforce are employed on fixed term contracts, this is split as follows: 8.8% of our teaching staff are employed on fixed term contracts; 10.8% of our support staff are employed on fixed term contracts
4. The number of zero hours contracts has neither increased or decreased over the last 2 years.
5. The use of fixed term contracts has increased over the past two years due to uncertain growth prospects and uncertainty over Welsh Government funding within FE, and changing Post 19 skills agenda.
6. This will depend on whether the National Contract is agreed and implemented.
7. This will depend on decisions made by the Welsh Government on FE funding, currently we anticipate needing to be able to keep flexibility within our workforce due to policy changes within the WG.
8. At Gower College Swansea, Zero hours contracts are only in use where lecturers are only engaged to teach *up to 3 hours per week*. Usually these staff have other full-time employment and often they contribute to our Part-time adult evening provision. Such provision varies from one academic year to the next, according to public demand. We therefore cannot guarantee a minimum number of teaching hours. If staff however are likely to teach more

than 3 hours per week, they are contracted on a specified contract which provides flexibility to teach between 4 and 12 hours per week.

9. It is essential to keep flexible contracts of employment in operation within the FE sector in order to remain responsive to changes in student demand, and changes in policy and funding. We endeavour however to use both Zero hours and Fixed Term contracts both responsibly and proportionately with the challenges we face as an Institution. On an annual basis, through our business planning cycle we review the terms and conditions on which staff are contracted, and over the past two years we have offered substantive, salaried teaching contracts to more than 37 lecturers and we have also secured a significant number of staff on permanent contracts.

I trust that this provides you with sufficient information to enable the Petitions Committee to fully consider this issue.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nicola Perkins', with a horizontal line underneath.

Nicola Perkins
Head of HR

cc: Mark Jones

Mr W Powell AC/AM
Petitions Committee Chair
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Our ref/*Ein Cyf*: DO/BDT

Date/*Dyddiad*: 5th July 2013

Ask For *Gofynnwch am*: Bev Thomas

Extension/*Estyniad*: 01492 546666
ext 288

Dear Mr Powell

Petitions Committee: hourly paid and fixed term contracts

I am writing in response to your letter of 18 June stating that the Petitions Committee is seeking information on the use of hourly paid and fixed term contracts in the further education (FE) sector.

ColegauCymru is the national organisation representing the 17 FE colleges and two FE institutions in Wales. ColegauCymru is currently negotiating a national contract for staff employed in FE colleges.

The latest figures published by the Welsh Government on staff contracts show that in 2008/09, there were 16,810 individual staff contracts. 57% of staff employed by FE institutions were permanent, 21% fixed term and 22% hourly paid/casual staff.¹

Between 1998/99 to 2009/10, the numbers of staff increased by 9% with full-time staff increasing by 26% and that of part-time decreasing by 2%. Figures are not available for fixed term contracts. The trend in some colleges has been to have fewer hourly paid part-time staff as colleges have converted hourly paid part-time contracts into fractional contracts.

In order to be flexible and responsive to external demand, colleges have to employ part-time hourly paid staff, particularly lecturers. Post-16 education is not compulsory. Colleges are not able to predict accurately the number of students they will enrol or the mode of attendance. Numbers of students, particularly part-time students, fluctuate from year to year. Students who have decided to join the college change their minds and do not enrol at the beginning of term. In some cases this figure can be one-third of potential enrolments. It would not make financial sense to

¹ Staff at Further Education Institutions in Wales., 2008/09 SDR 130/2010, 26 August 2010 Welsh Government

employ part-time lecturers with fixed weekly hours before students have formally enrolled.

In 2011/12, 191,185 learners attended colleges. Of these, around 76% of learners attended part-time² and around three-quarters were adults aged over 19. Predicting part-time numbers is particularly difficult.

Colleges have to respond to requests from local businesses for courses or consultancy, often at short notice. There are also Welsh Government initiatives such as ReACT in which a person recently unemployed can seek training, often at a few days' notice.

All this means that colleges have to employ flexible part-time staff in order to respond to external demand and cope with uncertainty. Colleges will often not be able to inform lecturers of their teaching load until the start of term, once the enrolment cycle has been completed and students have turned up. Once the lecturer is informed of his/her teaching load, the number of hours will usually stay constant throughout the year unless the class becomes unviable. The lecturer may be invited to add to their teaching during the year but this will be with the agreement of the lecturer. Many staff in Further Education prefer to work in a flexible way.

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The common contract negotiations have considered zero hours and Version 26 of the common contract includes these words:

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This clause would have the effect of ensuring that a lecturer is employed on a minimum hours contract.

² Further Education, work-based learning and community learning in Wales 2011/12 SDR 48/2013 26 March 2013, Welsh Government

In respect to fixed term contracts, colleges are often in receipt of funding for short term projects. These may be funded, for example, by the Welsh Government or the European Community. Staff on these projects will be employed on fixed term contracts for the duration of these externally funded projects. No guarantees can be given on employment once external funding has ceased.

The following are the specific answers to the questions in your letter.

Question 1 – Grwp Llandrillo Menai does employ staff on fixed term contracts but not zero hours contracts

Question 2/3 – 651 staff are employed this year on fixed term contracts – this being 31% of the total workforce

Question 4 – Zero hours contracts not used

Question 5 – The use of fixed term contracts have decreased as staff who have 4 years' continuous service are offered permanent contracts. This exercise is undertaken on an annual basis.

Question 6 – No

Question 7 – Not at present but the financial settlements going forward may have a bearing on this.

Question 8 – No such documents are available at the present time.

I hope that this information will be of assistance

Yours sincerely



Dafydd Owen
HR Director

P-04-485 Abuse of casual contracts in Further Education Dear Ms Stocks – Correspondence from Coleg Ceredigion to the Clerking team, 08.07.13

Dear Naomi,

Thank you for your letter regarding zero hour contracts. Colegau Cymru is responding collectively to your correspondence via the Chief Executive, John Graystone. In the interim, just to confirm, Coleg Ceredigion has no staff on zero hour contracts.

Best wishes,
Carys Griffiths
Corporate Services Administrator
(on behalf of Jacqui Weatherburn, College Principal)



Mr William Powell AM
Chair, Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Date 8 July 2013
Our Ref JAR/ak/1307-007
Your Ref P-04-485
Email jim.bennett@coleggwent.ac.uk
Telephone 01495 33 35601

Dear Mr Powell

**Petition from Briony Knibbs
Zero hour and fixed term contracts in the FE sector**

I am writing in response to your letter of 18 June 2013 requesting information from Coleg Gwent on zero hours and fixed term contracts in Further Education colleges. I am also aware of the letter sent to you by ColegauCymru on the same subject and would wish to add to this from the perspective of Coleg Gwent.

The flexibility required of Further Education colleges to meet the demands of our learners from all ages, backgrounds and needs is ever increasing, together with a need to do so in a cost effective and efficient way. In order to do this, we must make every effort to attract good staff, treat them favourably but also meet this demand in ever straightened circumstances. We, therefore, employ salaried, part-time, fixed term and hourly paid staff in the college. Coleg Gwent has "zero hours" contracts but I want to make it clear that these are used in the majority of cases to provide on an annual basis regular timetabled hours, not open ended, no commitment contracts as used in some industries. We consider the learner needs, quality and team management when we determine the mix of our contracted staff. We aim to have a proportionate mix, when financial considerations allow.

You asked for information on the following questions:

- 1 We use zero hour, as described above and fixed term contracts.
- 2a We have 374 hourly paid (zero hour contract) Lecturers and 229 Business Support staff employed on an hourly paid basis.
- 2b We have 48 staff employed on fixed term contracts.

Os gwelwch yn dda ymateb i / Please respond to:

Pencaidlys Y Rhadyr Brynbuga NP15 1XJ Ffôn 01495 333333	Campys Dinas Casnewydd Ffordd Nash Casnewydd NP19 4TIS Ffôn 01633 466000	Campys Crosskeys Ffordd Rhisga Crosskeys NP11 7ZA Ffôn 01495 333456	Campys Glynrhwy Ffordd Y Coileg Glynrhwy NP23 6GT Ffôn 01495 333000	Campys Pont-y-pŵl Ffordd Blaendare Pont-y-pŵl NP4 5YE Ffôn 01495 333100	Campys Brynbuga Y Rhadyr Brynbuga NP15 1XJ Ffôn 01495 333639	Cymbran Learnr-II Centre 19 Y Rhodfa Cymbran NP44 1RQ Ffôn 01495 333306	Monmouth Learnr-II Centre 15 Stryd yr Eglwys Trefynwy NP25 3BX Ffôn 01600 775564
Headquarters The Rhadyr USK NP15 1XJ Tel 01495 333333	City of Newport Campus Nash Road Newport NP19 4TIS Tel 01633 466000	Crosskeys Campus Risca Road Crosskeys NP11 7ZA Tel 01495 333456	Ebbw Vale Campus College Road Ebbw Vale NP23 6GT Tel 01495 333000	Pontypool Campus Blaendare Road Pontypool NP4 5YE Tel 01495 333100	USK Campus The Rhadyr USK NP15 1XJ Tel 01495 333639	Cymbran Learnr-II Centre 19 The Parade Cymbran NP44 1RQ Tel 01495 333306	Monmouth Learnr-II Centre 15 Church Street Monmouth NP25 3BX Tel 01600 775564



Geoleban Beazon
Enillydd 2009/2010
Beazon Awards
Mawrth 2009/2010

"mae ein dysgwyr yn ganiolog i bopeth a wnawn"

"our learners are at the heart of everything we do"

Tudalen 71



BEAZON AWARDS
WINNER IN FEOTE

- 3a 24% of our staff are hourly paid Lecturers on "zero hours" contracts. Hourly paid Business Support staff are employed on a variety of arrangements dependent on need.
- 3b 3% of staff are on fixed term contracts.
- 4 The use of zero hours contracts has increased if measured by the number of staff but reduced if measured by activity.
- 5 The use of fixed term contracts has increased due to success in getting external funding, need for short-term cover and short-term needs.
- 6 We aim to achieve the right balance between full-time, part-time and hourly paid and this is constantly evolving. We would aim to reduce the overall number.
- 7 With less economic certainty, the use of fixed term contracts may increase.
- 8 We take into account the immediate need, quality considerations, balance of staffing, efficiency and cost effectiveness.
- 9 Not in addition to those exposed in the letter from Dr J Graystone and in this letter.

Yours sincerely



Jim Bennett
Principal/Chief Executive
Pennaeth/Prif Weithredwr

P-04-485 Abuse of casual contracts in Further Education Dear Ms Stocks – Correspondence from Coleg Powys to the Clerking team, 08.07.13

Re: Zero Hours and Fixed Term Contracts

John Graystone Chief Executive of Colegau Cymru has copied me into the response that he has submitted to yourselves, on behalf of all colleges in Wales. I confirm that Coleg Powys agrees with his comments.

Please find below individual responses for Coleg Powys in relation to the questions that you posed in your letter to Steve Doodson date 18th June 2013:

1. Coleg Powys does not use Zero hours contracts but we do engage staff on a hourly paid Fixed Term Contracts
2. Number of zero hour contract = 0
Number of staff on hourly paid fixed term contracts = 251
3. 55% of staff are engaged on hourly paid fixed term contracts
4. The use of Zero contracts over the past two years has remained the same
5. The use of Fixed Term contracts over the past two years has decreased slightly
6. We are not able to confirm the position in respect of the next two years as this may be affected by the proposed merge of Coleg Powys and Neath Port Talbot College on 01.08.13 as well as the outcome of the common contract negotiations
7. We are not able to confirm the position in respect of the next two years as this may be affected by the proposed merge of Coleg Powys and Neath Port Talbot College on 01.08.13 as well as the outcome of the common contract negotiations
8. There are no internal policies in place however the factors taken into account are those reflected in John Graystones response to Mr Powell
9. No other comments

Please do not hesitate to contact me on 0845 4086 251 if I can be of further assistance

Regards
Andrea

Andrea White
Swyddog Personél/Personnel Officer
Coleg Powys Ffordd Llanidloes, Y Drenewydd SY16 4HU
Llanidloes Road, Newtown, Powys SY16 4HU



Mr W Powell
Chair
Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA
London
NW1 7LH

Date/Dyddiad
Our Ref/Ein Cyf
Direct Dial/Rhif Uniongyrchol
E-mail/E-bost

8 July 2013
HM / WP / NAW
01244 834507
hr@deeside.ac.uk

Dear Mr Powell

I write in response to your letter of 12 June 2013 to David Jones, Principal of Deeside College seeking information regarding the use of zero hour and fixed term contracts in FE colleges in Wales.

Please find below the college's response to the questions raised:

- Q1. Does your college use either zero hour or fixed term contracts?**
Deeside College does not use zero hour contracts but does employ staff on a fixed term basis.
- Q2. If so, how many staff are employed on a) zero hour contracts; b) fixed term contracts?**
No staff are employed on a zero hour basis.
For the current academic year, 225 staff are employed on a fixed term contract. This includes both academic "part-time hourly paid" and non-academic staff.
- Q3. What proportion of your staff are employed on a) zero hours contracts; b) fixed term contracts?**
For the current academic year, 26% of the workforce are employed on fixed term contracts.
- Q4. Has the use of zero hour contracts increased/decreased/remained the same over the past two years?**
Not applicable.
- Q5. Has the use of fixed term contracts increased/decreased/remained the same over the past two years?**
The use of fixed term contracts has increased over the last two years.

Principal / Chief Executive Pennaeth / Prif Weithredwr David B Jones MBA BSc DL

Deeside College | Coleg Glannau Dyfrdwy
Connah's Quay | Cei Connah
Flintshire | Sir y Fflint
CH5 4BR
Tel | Ffôn: 01244 831531
Fax | Ffacs: 01244 814305

Coleg Llysfasi
Ruthin | Rhuthun
Denbighshire | Sir Ddinbych
LL15 2LB
Tel | Ffôn: 01978 790263
Fax | Ffacs: 01978 790468

Northop College | Coleg Llaneurgain
Northop | Llaneurgain
Flintshire | Sir y Fflint
CH7 6AA
Tel | Ffôn: 01352 841000
Fax | Ffacs: 01352 841031

Wrexham Training | Hyfforddiant Wrecsam
Ruabon Road | Ffordd Rhiwabon
Wrexham | Wrecsam
LL13 7RF
Tel | Ffôn: 01978 363033
Fax | Ffacs: 01978 362959

enquiries@deeside.ac.uk
ymholiadau@deeside.ac.uk
Minicom 01244 834529



www.deeside.ac.uk



Q6. Do you envisage the use of zero hour contracts increasing/decreasing/remaining the same over the next two years?

The college has no intention to introduce zero hour contracts over the next two years.

Q7. Do you envisage the use of fixed term contracts increasing/decreasing/remaining the same over the next two years?

The college envisages that the use of fixed term contracts will decrease following the merger with Yale College on 1 August 2013 to become Coleg Cambria.

Q8. Do you have any internal policies or guidelines on whether zero hour or fixed term contracts should be used? What factors are taken into account when deciding upon appointing to such contracts?

Deeside College does not have specific policies or guidelines in respect of the use of such contracts. Account is given however to the nature and sustainability of the post such as whether it is:

- A one-off project.
- An externally funded post for a defined duration.
- A requirement to cover for long-term absence/maternity/adoption leave.

Q9. Do you have any other comments on the use of zero hour/fixed term contracts which the Committee may find useful?

The College employs staff on a fixed term basis in order to be in a position to respond flexibly to external demand which it is not able to accurately predict given the non-compulsory nature of the FE provision. Contracts are therefore offered on a termly basis in order to meet the demand as effectively as possible.

As you are aware, FE Colleges in Wales are currently in negotiation with the Joint Trade Unions on a national common contract. The current draft of the contract includes a clause which would ensure that a Lecturer is employed on a minimum hours rather than a zero hour contract.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Mullock
Human Resources Manager

Copy: D. Jones, Principal

www.deeside.ac.uk

JO/TW

8 July 2013

William Powell
Chair
Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

Dear Mr Powell

Petitions Committee: hourly paid and fixed term contracts

The College Merthyr Tydfil is in agreement with the enclosed letter from ColegauCymru regarding the hourly paid/fixed term/zero hours contracts.

Yours sincerely



John O'Shea
Principal

Enc

Principal and Chief Executive Pennaeth a Phrif Weithredwr **John O'Shea**

Ynysfach, Merthyr Tydfil Merthyr Tudful, CF48 1AR, UK DU
Tel Ffôn +44 (0)1685 726 000 • Fax Ffacs +44 (0)1685 726 100 • www.merthyr.ac.uk

Charity Registration Number 1140289. Rhif Cofrestru'r Elusen 1140289.
Company Number 667121. Rhif Cwmni 667121.

William Powell
Chair
Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

5 July 2013

Dear Mr Powell

Petitions Committee: hourly paid and fixed term contracts

I am writing on behalf of colleges in Wales in response to your letter of 12 June 2013 seeking the views of ColegauCymru on the use of hourly paid and fixed term contracts in the further education (FE) sector. I understand that, as chair of the Petitions Committee, you have also written to individual colleges.

ColegauCymru is the national organisation representing the 17 FE colleges and two FE institutions in Wales. ColegauCymru is currently negotiating a national contract for staff employed in FE colleges with a large number of trade unions, collectively known as the 'joint trade unions' (JTUs).

The latest figures published by the Welsh Government on staff contracts show that in 2008/09, there were 16,810 individual staff contracts. 57% of staff employed by FE institutions were permanent, 21% fixed term and 22% hourly paid/casual staff.¹

Between 1998/99 to 2009/10, the number of staff increased by 9%, with full-time staff increasing by 26% and that of part-time decreasing by 2%. Figures are not available for fixed term contracts. The trend in some colleges has been towards fewer hourly paid part-time staff as colleges have converted hourly paid part-time contracts into fractional contracts.

Colleges employ part-time hourly paid staff, particularly lecturers, in order to be in a position to respond flexibly to external demand. Studying beyond the age of post-16 is not compulsory. Individuals aged 16+ and adults have a choice whether or not to seek a place at college and a further choice between full-time and a range of part-time provision.

¹ *Staff at Further Education Institutions in Wales, 2008/09 SDR 130/2010*, 26 August 2010. Welsh Government. Please note that the latest statistics bulletin on staff was published on 26 June 2013 (SDR 105/2013) showing there were 8,775 full time equivalent staff in colleges. This latter data is collected from the Finance Record and does not give the breakdown of numbers that was previously collected through the Staff Individualised Record.

Colleges are not able to predict accurately the number of students that enrol or the mode of attendance. The number of students, particularly part-time students, fluctuates from year to year. Many make enquiries, attend interview and even accept a college place, but then their circumstances change or they change their minds and they do not in the end enrol at the beginning of term. This figure may comprise up to one-third of potential enrolments. Planning staff deployment with such unpredictable enrolment patterns is a challenge. It would not make financial sense to employ part-time lecturers with fixed weekly hours before students have formally enrolled.

In 2011/12, 191,185 learners attended colleges. Of these, around 76% of learners attended part-time²; around three-quarters were adults aged over 19. Predicting part-time numbers is particularly difficult.

Colleges also need to respond to requests from local businesses for courses or consultancy, often at short notice. There are, in addition, Welsh Government initiatives such as ReACT in which a person recently unemployed can seek training, often at a few days' notice.

In order to be responsive in the delivery of education and training and in order to manage this uncertainty, colleges employ flexible, part-time staff.

Colleges are often not in a position to confirm an individual lecturer's teaching load until the start of term, once the enrolment cycle has been completed and students have taken up their places. However, once a lecturer's teaching load is confirmed, the number of hours usually remains constant throughout the year - unless a class becomes unviable. The teaching load of an individual lecturer may be increased during the year where an opportunity arises and where the lecturer agrees. Many staff in further education prefer to work in a flexible way.

There has been recent press coverage of catering and cleaning companies that employ people on zero hour contracts where employees do not know from one week to the next how many hours – if any – they will work. This does not apply to further education.

The common contract negotiations between ColegauCymru and the JTUs have considered zero hours. The current draft - Version 26 - of the common contract includes these words:

² *Further Education, work-based learning and community learning in Wales 2011/12 SDR 48/2013*. 26 March 2013. Welsh Government.

D. "LECTURER PART-TIME HOURLY PAID

In view of the nature of your employment your hours may vary according to the academic requirements of the College. However the College will provide you with a minimum of [hours] of teaching per [week, term, and year]. This minimum will be reviewed on an annual basis and may be subject to change depending on the requirements of the college."

This clause would have the effect of ensuring that a lecturer is employed on a minimum hours rather than a zero hours contract. However, colleges must retain the flexibility referred to in previous paragraphs and which is appreciated by many staff.

In respect to fixed term contracts, colleges often receive Welsh Government or European funding for the delivery of short term projects. Staff on these projects are employed on fixed term contracts for the duration of these externally funded projects. No guarantees can be given on employment once external funding has ceased.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information.

Your sincerely

Dr John Graystone
Chief Executive

**P-04-485 Abuse of casual contracts in Further Education –
Correspondence from The College Ystrad Mynach to the
Clerking team, 08.07.2013**

8th July 2013

William Powell AM
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff CF99 1NA

Dear Mr Powell

Petitions Committee: Zero Hour Contracts

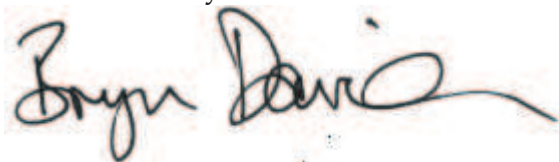
Thank you for your letter of 18th June 2013 concerning the above.

1. This College does use fixed term contracts.
2. a) This College has no staff on zero hour contracts.

b) This College has 133 staff employed in fixed term contracts.
3. The proportion of the College workforce employed on fixed term contracts is 24.4%
4. The use of zero hour contracts has remained at nil as we do not use this form of contract.
5. The use of fixed-term contracts by the College has remained the same over the past two years.
6. I envisage the use of zero hour contracts remaining the same for the next two years.
7. I envisage the use of fixed term contracts remaining the same for the next two years.
8. There is no official College policy nor guidance concerning the use of zero hour/fixed term contracts. The main factor that is taken into account when appointing to this type of contract is the number of student enrolments.
9. No further comments to add.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Bryn Davies
PRINCIPAL



Please ask for: Sue Johnson
Human Resources

Tel. No: (01656) 302586

15th July 2013

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

Mr W Powell AC/AM
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Dear Mr Powell

Re: Zero hours/Fixed term contracts

I write in response to your letter dated 18th June 2013 to confirm that Bridgend College agrees with the attached letter sent by ColegauCymru on 8th July 2013.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me on the above number.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sue Johnson'.

Sue Johnson
HR MANAGER

ko.

William Powell
Chair
Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

5 July 2013

Dear Mr Powell

Petitions Committee: hourly paid and fixed term contracts

I am writing on behalf of colleges in Wales in response to your letter of 12 June 2013 seeking the views of ColegauCymru on the use of hourly paid and fixed term contracts in the further education (FE) sector. I understand that, as chair of the Petitions Committee, you have also written to individual colleges.

ColegauCymru is the national organisation representing the 17 FE colleges and two FE institutions in Wales. ColegauCymru is currently negotiating a national contract for staff employed in FE colleges with a large number of trade unions, collectively known as the 'joint trade unions' (JTUs).

The latest figures published by the Welsh Government on staff contracts show that in 2008/09, there were 16,810 individual staff contracts. 57% of staff employed by FE institutions were permanent, 21% fixed term and 22% hourly paid/casual staff.¹

Between 1998/99 to 2009/10, the number of staff increased by 9%, with full-time staff increasing by 26% and that of part-time decreasing by 2%. Figures are not available for fixed term contracts. The trend in some colleges has been towards fewer hourly paid part-time staff as colleges have converted hourly paid part-time contracts into fractional contracts.

Colleges employ part-time hourly paid staff, particularly lecturers, in order to be in a position to respond flexibly to external demand. Studying beyond the age of post-16 is not compulsory. Individuals aged 16+ and adults have a choice whether or not to seek a place at college and a further choice between full-time and a range of part-time provision.

¹ *Staff at Further Education Institutions in Wales, 2008/09 SDR 130/2010*, 26 August 2010. Welsh Government. Please note that the latest statistics bulletin on staff was published on 26 June 2013 (SDR 105/2013) showing there were 8,775 full time equivalent staff in colleges. This latter data is collected from the Finance Record and does not give the breakdown of numbers that was previously collected through the Staff Individualised Record.

Colleges are not able to predict accurately the number of students that enrol or the mode of attendance. The number of students, particularly part-time students, fluctuates from year to year. Many make enquiries, attend interview and even accept a college place, but then their circumstances change or they change their minds and they do not in the end enrol at the beginning of term. This figure may comprise up to one-third of potential enrolments. Planning staff deployment with such unpredictable enrolment patterns is a challenge. It would not make financial sense to employ part-time lecturers with fixed weekly hours before students have formally enrolled.

In 2011/12, 191,185 learners attended colleges. Of these, around 76% of learners attended part-time²; around three-quarters were adults aged over 19. Predicting part-time numbers is particularly difficult.

Colleges also need to respond to requests from local businesses for courses or consultancy, often at short notice. There are, in addition, Welsh Government initiatives such as ReACT in which a person recently unemployed can seek training, often at a few days' notice.

In order to be responsive in the delivery of education and training and in order to manage this uncertainty, colleges employ flexible, part-time staff.

Colleges are often not in a position to confirm an individual lecturer's teaching load until the start of term, once the enrolment cycle has been completed and students have taken up their places. However, once a lecturer's teaching load is confirmed, the number of hours usually remains constant throughout the year - unless a class becomes unviable. The teaching load of an individual lecturer may be increased during the year where an opportunity arises and where the lecturer agrees. Many staff in further education prefer to work in a flexible way.

There has been recent press coverage of catering and cleaning companies that employ people on zero hour contracts where employees do not know from one week to the next how many hours – if any – they will work. This does not apply to further education.

The common contract negotiations between ColegauCymru and the JTUs have considered zero hours. The current draft - Version 26 - of the common contract includes these words:

² *Further Education, work-based learning and community learning in Wales 2011/12 SDR 48/2013*. 26 March 2013. Welsh Government.

D. "LECTURER PART-TIME HOURLY PAID

In view of the nature of your employment your hours may vary according to the academic requirements of the College. However the College will provide you with a minimum of [hours] of teaching per [week, term, and year]. This minimum will be reviewed on an annual basis and may be subject to change depending on the requirements of the college."

This clause would have the effect of ensuring that a lecturer is employed on a minimum hours rather than a zero hours contract. However, colleges must retain the flexibility referred to in previous paragraphs and which is appreciated by many staff.

In respect to fixed term contracts, colleges often receive Welsh Government or European funding for the delivery of short term projects. Staff on these projects are employed on fixed term contracts for the duration of these externally funded projects. No guarantees can be given on employment once external funding has ceased.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information.

Your sincerely

Dr John Graystone
Chief Executive

P-04-485 Abuse of casual contracts in Further Education – Correspondence from Coleg Morgannwg to the Clerking team, 15.07.2013

Dear Clerk,

Further to your recent request regarding information related to contracts, Coleg Morgannwg's response is as follows:

Q1 Does the College use either zero hour or fixed term contracts?

College response = No zero hour contracts, we do employ some staff on fixed contracts

Q2 If so, how many staff are employed on:

A - Zero hour contracts = College response = 0 B - Fixed term contracts = College response = 62 of which 19 are covering short term sickness absences

Q3 What proportion of your workforce are employed on:

A Zero hour contracts = College response = 0% B Fixed term contracts = College response = 12.53% or 8.56%

Q4 Has the use of zero hour contracts increased / decreased / remained the same over the past two years?

College response = not applicable

Q5 Has the use of fixed term contracts increased / decreased / remained the same over the past two years?

College response = remained the same

Q6 Do you envisage the use of zero hour contracts increasing / decreasing / remaining the same over the next two years?

College response = not applicable

Q7 Do you envisage the use of fixed term contracts increasing / decreasing / remaining the same over the next two years?

College response = It is difficult to predict although as we are entering into merger fixed term contracts might rise slightly

Q8 Do you have any internal policies or guidelines on when wither zero hour or fixed term contracts should be used? If so, can you share this with the Committee? If not, what factors are taken into account when deciding to appoint on such contracts?

College response = No policy although we do have a Recruitment and Selection policy which has been attached for your perusal.

Do you have any other comments on the use of zero hours / fixed term contracts which the Committee may find useful?

College response = No

Yours faithfully

Clair Mapp
Executive Secretary
01443 663152
c.mapp@morgannwg.ac.uk

RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION PROCEDURE

Prepared by: **Head of Human Resources**

Policy Approved by: **Strategic Management Team** **29/09/09** **Minute 1729**

Employment Policy Committee **02/11/09** **Minute 404**

AOS Aim 6

Review Date: **November 2012**

Preamble to the Policy

Equal Opportunities

The College shall comply with all statutory duties in respect of equal opportunities in the areas of sex, race, age, disability, sexual orientation, transgender, religion, belief, pregnancy, maternity and paternity, marriage and civil partnership and the rehabilitation of offenders. The college shall also comply with the Human Rights Act 1998 and any subsequent enactments or modifications.

Recruitment and Selection Procedure

1. Terms of Reference for Appointments

Under the Articles of Government of the Corporation: -

- 1.1 A selection panel consisting of at least 3 members of the Corporation shall be responsible for the appointment of the Principal and Deputy Principal
- 1.2 The Principal shall be responsible for the appointment, assignment, grading, appraisal, suspension, dismissal and determination, within the framework set by the Corporation, of the pay and conditions of service, of all other staff.
- 1.3 This College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

2. Staffing Levels

- 2.1 The staffing levels (establishment) of the College are those determined by the Principal. These levels may increase or decrease following the annual planning exercise or any other circumstance that may arise.

3. Vacancy Procedure

- 3.1 A vacancy occurs in a number of ways:-
 - 3.1.1 The retirement, resignation, dismissal or death of an existing member of staff.
 - 3.1.2 A significant increase in the volume of existing work,
 - 3.1.3 The introduction of new areas of work for which there is no existing expertise.
 - 3.1.4 New business introduced into the College on a cost recovery basis, e.g. Industrial Training, European Projects and commercial activities.
 - 3.1.5 In the instances of items 3.1.2, 3.1.3 and 3.1.4 discussions with the SMT must take place as staffing levels will be affected.
- 3.2 In the instance of a vacancy arising under 3.1.1 the following will be considered:-

- 3.2.1 The justification to proceed with a permanent replacement based on current and future demands in the programme/subject area or functional unit.
- 3.2.2 A possible change of emphasis of the post.
- 3.2.3 Possible redeployment of existing staff from within the College.
- 3.2.4 Use of a temporary appointment to cover the additional work.
- 3.3 When these considerations have been finalised and agreed upon, the vacancy will be advertised. It is normal College Policy that all vacancies are advertised (internally or externally).
- 3.4 The policy on the interviewing of internal and external candidates is contained in Appendix 1.

4. Appointment of all Staff

The general principles that apply are:-

- 4.1 To provide equitable and fair treatment, especially bearing in mind Equal Opportunity and Equal Pay legislation.
- 4.2 To provide effective control and management of the process.
- 4.3 To ensure cost-effective recruitment.
- 4.4 To ensure that the College recruits and retains suitably qualified and experienced staff to ensure the smooth functioning of the College.

5. Procedures

- 5.1 The Principal must approve any requests to fill a vacancy under 3 above.
- 5.2 SMT must approve the grade of the post. The grade should be established by objective analysis to ensure equal pay for work of equal value.
- 5.3 A job description and person specification should be reviewed and revised by the Manager, as appropriate. HR must be consulted during this process.
 - 5.3.1 The job description is a vital step in making recruitment fairer and more effective. Clear and precise job descriptions make it much easier to work out what skills, experience and knowledge are needed to do a job. Before any post is filled, an up to date job description must exist. It must describe fully, and in plain language, the tasks and responsibilities of the job
 - 5.3.2 A copy of the job description will be sent to all applicants applying for the vacancy
 - 5.3.3 The person specification will identify the type of candidate being sought as far as qualifications, experience, skills and abilities are concerned in respect of all vacancies.

- 5.4 HR shall establish an appointment file that will include copy of the advertisement, the job description and person specification.
- 5.5 As a guideline the closing date for applications should not normally be less than two weeks from the publication date and interviews should normally be held within four weeks of the closing date.
- 5.6 For external advertisements the standard College application form will be used. This form will be reviewed as necessary to conform to changes in legislation. C.V. will not be accepted and will be returned to the candidates.
- 5.7 The immediate Line Manager or Curriculum Director should carry out short-listing. HR can be called upon to assist. Evidence of short-listing must be retained on the appointment file for later audit.
- 5.8 Interviews will normally be a one-stage process, involving a panel interview. However a two stage process, commencing with an informal discussion followed by a panel interview may be used for senior posts. The extent of an informal process will vary with the nature of the vacancy.
- 5.9 Interview panels will include the immediate Line Manager, Curriculum Area / Functional Manager. HR will also be present. A note of the interview will be kept in the appointment file as well as details of questions asked, together with all related paperwork and notes from the interview panel members.
- 5.10 All internal candidates who meet the essential criteria will be offered an interview. All internal candidates will receive feedback from HR.
- 5.11 HR will establish the commencing salary of the successful applicant when a job offer is made. The commencing salary will be calculated in accordance with the College policy.
- 5.12 HR will confirm job offers in writing and will draft statements of particulars etc. and carry out any associated clerical procedures. All appointments will be conditional on medical screening, satisfactory references and a Criminal Records Bureau Check.
- 5.13 Applicants will be asked to complete Equal Opportunities monitoring forms.

6. Fixed Term/Temporary Contracts

- 6.1 In considering the staffing levels of the College, it could well be that to engage a new member of staff in a permanent capacity is inadvisable. Such examples are listed in 3.1.4 above where continuity of work and employment is not guaranteed.
- 6.2 In such cases, the most suitable option may be to make use of fixed term contracts for periods of one term, two terms, or a full academic year. Fixed term appointments must go through the same appointment procedure as specified above. A fixed term or temporary contract should not extend more than one academic year as the future of the post should be resolved within the planning process. However for staff who have been appointed to the college for the reasons identified by 3.1.4, the college will

make the post permanent or attempt to find them suitable alternative employment. If the College is unable to find them alternative employment the member of staff will be eligible to redundancy as per the appropriate policies.

- 6.3 College staff with permanent contracts will not be transferred to fixed term contracts.

7. Promotion Procedure

- 7.1 College policy for promotion is clear and applies to all categories of staff.
- 7.2 Where a permanent vacancy exists for a post graded above the basic grade the following procedure will apply:-
- 7.2.1 Where the vacancy arises under paragraph 3.1.1 the post may be advertised internally amongst existing members of staff eligible to apply under the terms of the advertisement in accordance with the principles and policies established in the Appendix 1 Interviewing Policy: Internal and External Candidates.
- 7.2.2 Where a restructure or reorganisation occurs and a vacancy arises the vacancy will be ring fenced to the potential redundant staff. Following this the post will be advertised internally and then if no appointment has been made the post will be advertised externally.

8. Part-time Staff

The College may, at any time, employ staff in a part-time capacity, both teaching and non-teaching. Such staff shall be appointed in the same manner as full time staff (application forms, interview etc)

8.1 Part time lecturers

- 8.1.1 Part time lecturers may be employed by two methods: as an hourly rate employee or as a salaried employee on a proportion of a full contract. The aggregate of whatever method is used will be converted to a full time equivalent to agree with the staffing level (establishment) of the College.
- 8.1.2 Part time lecturers employed under the hourly rate method should not be employed for more than 10 hours per week. Should it be necessary to employ a part time lecturer for more than this amount a salaried proportional contract should be considered and application made according to the procedure for staffing requests?
- 8.1.3 Advertisements may be placed in the press for part time lecturers. HR will keep a file of prospective part time lecturers.

Interviewing Policy: Internal and External Candidates

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The aim of all recruitment procedures, including interviewing, is to get the best person for the job.
- 1.2 The recruitment process, including the episode of interviewing, must be fully in keeping with the principles of equality of opportunity.
- 1.3 The recruitment process, for reasons of equality of opportunity, should neither discriminate in favour of, nor against, internal candidates.

2 Key Policy Statements

- 2.1 In general, it is the policy of the College that all posts should be advertised externally. Internal advertisement, that is, should be the exception rather than the rule.
- 2.2 In particular episodes of strategic change such as a restructuring, the vacancy will go to internal advertisement in the first instance.



15 July 2013

Pembrokeshire College
Haverfordwest
Pembrokeshire SA61 1SZ

Mr William Powell
Chair
Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

Coleg Sir Benfro
Hwlfordd
Sir Benfro SA61 1SZ

☎ 01437 75 3000

☎ 01437 75 3001

✉ info@pembs.ac.uk

🌐 www.pembs.ac.uk

Dear Mr Powell

Petitions Committee: hourly paid and fixed term contracts

Thank you for your letter dated 18 June 2013 addressed to our College Principal, Sharron Lusher. I have been asked to provide a response on behalf of the College. Please accept my apologies for the delay in replying.

You will have received a letter from Dr John Graystone, on behalf of colleges in Wales and I attach herewith a copy of this letter dated 5 July 2013.

Please be advised that we agree with the content of Dr Graystone's letter and would like to offer this as our response.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Kathryn Robson
Director of Human Resources and Learner Services

Enc



P-04-485 Abuse of Casual Contracts in Further Education – Correspondence from the petitioner to the Clerking team, 26.09.2013

My response to Colegau Cymru's Letter to the Chair of the Petitions Committee

- The new national contract will stop the use of 'zero hours' contracts but it will not stop the abuse of part time hourly paid contracts
- My fear is that the culture will become 1-108 contracts instead of 0-108 contracts (annual hours) and 1 guaranteed annual hour is hardly an improvement
- I understand the need for flexibility and am not asking for hourly paid contracts to be eradicated, only for them to be used responsibly and not successively for those with more than two years service and with sustainable hours
- In my personal experience, colleges are using these contracts to save money at the detriment to lecturers' financial security and general wellbeing
- Lecturers even with a minimum of 109 annual hours feel insecure knowing that at any point in the year their hours could be reduced with little notice to the equivalent of a 0.2 fractional contract. Even if this happens only on rare occasions, knowing that it *could* is unsettling.
- Some of my colleagues work a full timetable (25 weekly hours), yet are employed on a 109-420 annual hourly contract. They are working 840 annual hours which shows these contracts are not being used for their intended purpose i.e. for those who do between 4 and 12 hours a week.

My response to the letters from individual Colleges

- Although colleges such as Gower do review contracts annually, this is done on an ad hoc basis. I would like to see a procedure in place where staff who are reviewed but their contracts are not increased are provided with written justification of the reason for this so that they understand why perhaps one of their colleagues was chosen and they weren't. This gives

lecturers a road map so they can see where their careers are heading. The other issue is that sometimes fractions are given out that are below the number of hours that a lecturer has been teaching so even those who have been reviewed and increased still feel hard done by. This makes part time staff feel devalued compared to full time staff.

- It's pleasing to know that Llandrillo Menai transfer lecturers on fixed term contracts to permanent contracts after 4 years and it would be encouraging if all Colleges could do this.
- I find it very worrying that Coleg Powys employ such a high proportion of staff in a fixed term hourly paid capacity (55%). This makes me feel that as a sector the contribution staff in the FE sector make to young people's futures isn't recognised at all. As a sector, I can see young lecturers shying away from it which I find very sad. I would really like Welsh Government to consider how they can turn this situation around and put pressure on Colleges to use casual contracts responsibly and for their intended purposes.

P-04-487 Cynllun benthg blaendal Llywodraeth Cymru i'r rheini sy'n prynu tŷ am y tro cyntaf yng Nghymru

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i gynnig cynllun benthg blaendal blynyddol i'r rheini sy'n prynu tŷ am y tro cyntaf / sy'n rhentu tai yng Nghymru.

Y bwriad yw y byddai angen i gwmnïau morgais Cymru gymryd rhan yn y cynllun hwn hefyd, a chytuno i ofyn am ddim mwy na 5% o flaendal ar unrhyw eiddo addas (yn ogystal â chynnig morgeisi llog isel 'berchen ar yr hyn rydych yn talu amdano). Byddai hyn, er enghraifft, yn golygu y gellid helpu hyd at 15,000 o bobl yng Nghymru sy'n prynu tŷ am y tro cyntaf (prynwyr tro cyntaf y mae eu henillion yn is na throthwy penodol ac sydd wedi byw neu weithio yng Nghymru yn barhaus am o leiaf 10 mlynedd, neu sydd â chysylltiadau busnes llawn-amser â Chymru) gyda benthgiad blaendal o tua £7,500 yr un ar gyfer tŷ pris cyfartalog, gyda'r broses o dalu'r benthgiad yn ôl yn cael ei gohirio am o leiaf blwyddyn. Unwaith y bydd gwerthwyr a phrynwyr yn cytuno ar y cynllun, byddai'r eiddo dan sylw yn cadw ei gymal meddiannaeth cymwys, fel sy'n digwydd yn achos cynlluniau tebyg ym mharciau cenedlaethol y Peak District a North York Moors.

Gwybodaeth Ategol:

Er na all Llywodraeth Cymru ymyrryd ag eiddo preifat, mae'n bosibl y gellid annog perchnogion, gan gynnwys perchnogion ail gartrefi, i ystyried gwerthu drwy'r cynllun os byddant yn penderfynu gwerthu eu heiddo. Dylai'r rheini sy'n adnewyddu eiddo adfeiliedig / ffermdai am y tro cyntaf hefyd fod yn gymwys ar gyfer y cynllun. Y bwriad yw y byddai asiantau tai Cymru a'r gwerthwyr tai yn cael ffi misol (a delir gan y llog ar y benthgiadau blaendal) i gymryd rhan yn y cynllun gwirfoddol, drwy gytuno i hysbysebu, gwerthu neu rentu yng Nghymru, ac i ddinasyddion cymwys yng Nghymru yn unig ar gyfer y 6 mis cyntaf ar ôl i eiddo gael ei roi ar y farchnad. Ar ôl chwe mis, byddai'n agored i unrhyw un.

Byddai'r cynllun hwn yn helpu i roi cyfle i deuluoedd ac unigolion i fyw a gweithio yn eu hardaloedd au hunain a byddai'n golygu na fyddant yn cael eu prasio allan o'r farchnad gan gymarebau afresymol o ran cyfartaledd cyflog a phrisiau eiddo. Byddai hefyd yn sicrhau bod mwy o arian yn aros o fewn economïau lleol, gan roi hwb i economi Cymru yn gyffredinol a'i wneud yn fwy cynaliadwy a chynhyrchiol.

Prif ddeisebydd: Cymru Sofren

Ysytyriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 18 Mehefin 2013

Nifer y llofnodion : 17

Carl Sargeant AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio
Minister for Housing and Regeneration



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-487
Ein cyf/Our ref CS/01192/13

William Powell AC
Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau
Tŷ Hywel
Bae Caerdydd
Caerdydd
CF99 1NA
committeebusiness@wales.gsi.gov.uk

2 Gorffennaf 2013

Annwyl William

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 26 Mehefin ynglŷn â deiseb Cymru Sofren ynghylch cynllun benthyciadau ar gyfer blaendal. Hoffwn ddiolch i chi hefyd am gynnig opsiwn arall i Lywodraeth Cymru er mwyn cynorthwyo prynwyr tro cyntaf yng Nghymru.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ymwybodol o'r anawsterau y mae pobl yn eu hwynebu heddiw o safbwynt prynu eu cartref cyntaf a dringo'r ysgol. Rydym wrthi'n ystyried gwahanol ffyrdd o gynnig cymorth i bawb, yn ychwanegol at ein cynlluniau presennol sef Cymorth Prynu a Rhent yn Gyntaf.

Mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi cyhoeddi dau gynllun newydd yn ddiweddar a fydd yn cynorthwyo pobl i brynu cartref o'r enw 'Help to Buy'.

Cynllun gwarantu morgais fydd y cynllun cyntaf a fydd yn galluogi pobl i gael morgaisi benthyciad uchel. Deallwn y bydd y cynllun hwn ar waith ar draws y DU o fis Ionawr 2014.

Cynllun ar gyfer Lloegr yn unig yw'r ail sy'n gynllun ecwiti a rennir. Darperir benthyciad o hyd at 20% i'r prynwr yn ddi-log am bum mlynedd. Rwyf wedi cymeradwyo cynigion cychwynnol ar gyfer cynllun ecwiti a rennir yng Nghymru. Mae fy swyddogion wrthi'n cynllunio'r cynllun newydd hwn.

Rwy'n gobeithio y bydd yr wybodaeth yma yn cynnig peth sicrwydd i'ch etholwyr fod Llywodraeth Cymru yn ceisio mynd i'r afael â'r materion y maent wedi tynnu sylw atynt.

Carl Sargeant AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio
Minister for Housing and Regeneration

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff

Tudalen 98

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Correspondence: Carl.Sargeant@wales.gsi.gov.uk
Printed on 100% recycled paper

P-04-487 A Welsh Government deposit loan scheme for first time Welsh home buyers – Correspondence from the petitioner to the clerking team, 30.09.13

I read Carl Sargeants response letter of 2nd July to this petition and his initial proposals for a Shared equity scheme in Wales, with interest. Anything that is aimed at helping first time buyers is of course a welcomed development. However, except for the general idea of a (deposit) loan scheme that would be interest free for five years, the suggested 20% Welsh government Shared equity guarantee scheme can't be a sensible, sustainable or financially prudent way forward for the Welsh Government. The potential dangers of the Help to buy and the Shared equity scheme on an UK wide scale have been voiced over and over in the British press as demonstrated in selected examples below:

*Officials at The Institute of Directors said:

“the world must have gone mad for us to now be discussing endless taxpayer guarantees for mortgages”

*Robert Carroll of The Scottish MOV8 Real Estate firm of solicitors and estate agents, said:

“Anything that is aimed at helping First Time Buyers is of course a welcome development. First Time Buyers are the life blood of the property market and without people being able to get onto the property market the market is not as healthy as it could be. First time buyers have been struggling to gather a deposit in recent times because the deposits required by lenders have been higher than they were at the peak of the market in 2007 so, on the face of it, it's good for buyers with smaller deposits that the government is going to underwrite the banks who lend to such buyers, though since the scheme is not just aimed at First Time Buyers it is debatable about whether the scheme just allows lenders to offer even safer loans to people who already have enough money put aside and are moving up the property ladder or buying a second property. However, buyers' inability to purchase a property or get a mortgage is not just about deposit levels. The lenders' criteria about whom they will lend to have also tightened, making it more difficult to get a mortgage even if you do have the required deposit. It is of course helpful if the government will underwrite the mortgage, but it doesn't address the issue of the tighter criteria for whom the lenders are prepared to lend to.

The shared equity scheme for new build properties, with a 20% interest-free loan being provided by the government, will of course help people to get onto the property ladder. A significant chunk of money (about £266 million) has been earmarked for Scotland but it's up to the Scottish Government to decide that it actually wants to implement a scheme north of the Border. However, my concern is that new-build properties tend to drop in value as soon as you turn the key in the front door. So unless property prices rise in the interim period, anyone looking to move-up the property ladder will have to make a loss to do so and that will discourage people from actually moving.

By encouraging buyers to buy new build properties which carry with them a developer's premium whereby the value of the property is likely to be lower than the purchase price as soon as the buyer turns their keys in the front door, this is likely in my opinion to ensure that, although buyers are getting onto the property ladder, they are less likely to be able to move up it. In addition, by supporting only the new build and not second hand sector of the market, I am concerned that builders will be less likely to be prepared to be competitive with the pricing of their new build units because they have been given an artificial leg-up compared with the second-hand properties on the market that would normally provide stiff competition to them. All of this makes it unlikely as far as I am concerned that the buyer is going to get a good deal and that once they are on the housing ladder they will then be able to move up it, the one thing that will actually have the desired effect of stimulating the housing market.

My concern is that the initiatives perhaps don't address the root causes of lower activity levels within the housing market in recent years and that, although they may help buyers onto the housing ladder, they might not help them to move up it in years to come.

Another root cause of the slow-down in the housing market has been a general lack of confidence in the market and this has been the result of general economic doom and gloom, people losing their jobs and the realisation that property prices most certainly can go down as well as up. Simply providing funding for buyers doesn't address the lack of confidence that buyers will have in wondering whether the asset they have just bought will go down in value in the next few years.

As far as I am concerned, the big winners here are the builders and the lenders. The builders have less incentive to be competitive with their pricing and are given an artificial advantage versus the second-hand property market. The lenders have less risk because the mortgage is backed by a government guarantee. The big question is whether all of these ideas and the amount of public funds being poured into them will actually will help the right people, will help those people for years to come and will actually stimulate movement in the property market. The alternative is that they will simply fill the coffers of house builders, will be used by UK lenders as a way of de-risking their current lending positions and will put people in a position, under the next UK government, where they are unable to move home at all because they are, in real terms, in negative equity in their new build homes.

I have to say that I am less than convinced of the effectiveness of any of these initiatives!"- http://www.mov8realestate.com/index.php?option=com_k2&view=item&id=145#sthash.RbdOjIjl.dpuf

*The Guardian newspaper and many other news media also reported that this scheme in general would be economic madness:

“Offering taxpayer subsidies for high loan-to-value mortgages worth up to £600,000, just as the incorrigibly boom-bust British housing market is moving from stop-to-go mode, is at best risky, at worst, downright reckless”
<http://www.theguardian.com/business/economics-blog/2013/sep/27/help-to-buy-george-osborne-concession>

*Money week stated:

"In case you missed it, George Osborne plans to offer loans on new builds of up to 20%. And more daringly, he plans to offer guarantees on mortgages. The idea is just like that of a doting parent, who offers to put up their own assets should things go wrong with the bank's loan. Long gone are the days when the banks would extend 95% loans (or higher!) alongside fantastic teaser deals with low rates. So when the government effectively says, "we'll put up the other 20%" and brings back the classic 95% mortgage, that obviously has its attractions for many. The chancellor is counting on his policy to bring serious sub-prime lending to the UK and to kick-start the economy... This policy scam needs one thing in order to work: interest rates have to stay pinned to the floor." <http://www.moneyweek.com/news-and-charts/economics/uk/budget-2013-now-osborne-is-all-in-63222>

In view of all this I would therefore urge that Carl Sargeant re look at the initial Sovereign Wales petition for a Welsh Government annual capped deposit fund for the first time house buyers of Wales rather than a bureaucratic and meddling Help to buy or Shared equity Scheme . The Sovereign Wales deposit plan proposes that Welsh mortgage companies would also need to take part in this scheme and agree to ask for no more than 5% of a deposit on any suitable property. The lenders' criteria about whom they will lend to should also be simplified and made easier for the people wishing to apply for the deposit scheme to get a mortgage. This I believe would be a far more practical, more helpful and un-meddling policy for Wales to take.

This for example would also mean that up to 15,000 Welsh first time house buyers (first time buyers whose earnings are below a certain threshold and have lived or worked in Wales continuously for at least 10 years, or have full time business links to Wales) could be helped annually with a deposit loan of around £7,500 each for an averaged priced house of a house valued at up to £300,000 or so, with the interest payments deferred for 5 years as Mr Sargeant suggests (It's proposed that the loan itself as could possibly be part deferred as well for some of this period) Once lenders and buyers agree to the scheme, and up to a capped amount, the properties in question could also keep their eligible occupancy clause, as happens with similar schemes in the Peak District and North York Moors National parks - hopefully catering for the next generation of new house buyers.

As previously stated, this scheme would help to get families and individuals on the property ladder and give them a chance to live and work within their own areas and not be priced out of the market by unreasonable average wage to property price ratios whilst also ensuring more money stays within local economies, boosting a more sustainable and productive Welsh economy in general.

Incidentally, as mentioned in another Sovereign Wales petition, the possibilities for a Welsh public bank to play a part in these annual capped deposit loans should also be considered.

P-04-489 Deddf genedlaethol i Gymru ar dai fforddiadwy ac â blaenoriaeth

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i lunio Deddf genedlaethol i Gymru ar dai er mwyn rheoli'r broses o godi tai newydd yn unol ag anghenion lleol a chenedlaethol o ran gallu cynaliadwyedd a fforddiadwyedd: i'w reoli gan arolygiaeth annibynnol unigryw i Gymru a phanel amcanestyniadau tai Cymru. Dylai tua 80% o'r holl dai newydd a godir yng Nghymru, p'un ai i'w rhentu neu'u gwerthu, fod yn dai fforddiadwy i ddiwallu anghenion lleol (wedi'u prasio yn gymesur â chyflogau cyfartalog awdurdod lleol) gyda blaenoriaeth i breswylwyr yr awdurdod lleol (pobl sydd wedi byw neu weithio'n ddi-dor yn yr ardal am 10 mlynedd neu fwy, neu sydd â chysylltiadau gwaith, busnes neu bartner/teulu agos arall yn yr ardal). Bydd hyn yn sicrhau bod y rhan fwyaf o lif yr arian lleol yn cylchredeg o fewn economïau lleol, gan eu cadw'n iach i ddatblygu o fewn eu modd. Mae hwn yn bolisi tebyg i'r rhai a weithredir mewn parciau cenedlaethol yn Lloegr fel y Peak District a Rhosydd Gogledd Swydd Efrog.

Gwybodaeth ategol:

Byddai deddf o'r fath yn gwarantu bod yr holl dai newydd a godir yn cael eu hadeiladu yn llwyr gymesur â'r cydbwysedd trefol / gwledig presennol a bod hyn yn cael ei wneud o fewn gallu'r economi a thrwy ystyried cydlyniant cymdeithasol a gallu seilwaith yr awdurdodau lleol a Chymru gyfan. Gellid codi nifer lleiaf sylfaenol o dai / fflatiau newydd yn ôl disgrisiwn awdurdodau lleol o dan ganllawiau a gytunwyd arnynt, gydag unrhyw dai / fflatiau newydd eraill a godir yn gorfod mynd drwy broses graffu gan Lywodraeth Cymru ac arolygiaeth tai annibynnol a gaiff ei sefydlu i Gymru. Gall prisiau tai uchel anghymesur mewn sawl ardal yng Nghymru olygu yn aml bod teuluoedd lleol yn cael eu gorfodi i adael yr ardaloedd lle y'u magwyd. Mae angen i'r ffocws, felly, fod ar angen lleol real gan gynnwys tai fforddiadwy ac adfer adeiladau sy'n bodoli yn barod, yn hytrach nag ar amcanestyniadau tai anghynnaladwy a luniwyd gan weision sifil o bell.

Prif ddeisebydd: Cymru Sofren

Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 18 Mehefin 2013

Nifer y llofnodion : 28

Carl Sargeant AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio
Minister for Housing and Regeneration



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-489
Ein cyf/Our ref CS/01193/13

William Powell AM
Chair Petitions Committee
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

10 July 2013

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

Dear William

Thank you for your letter dated 26 June 2013 following the petition you received regarding a new national affordable and priority Housing Act for Wales.

Having read the letter I can confirm that there are no plans to include provisions on the regulation of new house building in the forthcoming Housing Bill. The contents of the Bill will be based upon the proposals set out in the Welsh Government's White Paper, entitled "Homes for Wales", published for wide-ranging consultation last year. The Bill is expected to include provisions on a range of matters including; tackling homelessness, empty homes and enabling more use of Community Land Trusts and Co-operative Housing

Whilst the Bill has no provisions to regulate new housing building in the context described by the petitioner, the Welsh Government has taken action to develop affordable housing across Wales where it is needed.

The Welsh Government's planning policy, set out in *Planning Policy Wales*, requires local authorities to optimise the delivery of housing to meet the requirements of all sectors of society in their area. *Planning Policy Wales* states that local planning authorities should promote sustainable residential environments and make appropriate provision for affordable housing. In planning the provision of new housing local authorities should make an assessment of the housing requirements of their area, covering the need for all types of housing, both market and affordable. The Welsh Government's household projections form the starting point for this assessment; however local planning authorities should consider the appropriateness of the projections for their area, based on all sources of local evidence, including the need for affordable housing. This assessment (termed a Local Housing Market Assessment) forms a key part of the evidence base for local planning authorities'

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Tudalen 103

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Correspondence: Carl.Sargeant@wales.gsi.gov.uk
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development plans. In particular, Local Development Plans (LDPs) must include a target for affordable housing, which should be based on the identified need and also take account of economic viability, and set out how this target is to be delivered.

The issues of 'affordability' and 'local need' are for local authorities to define and set out in their development plans. Affordability should be calculated for each of the housing markets that may be operating in an authority's area (and those of neighbouring authorities, if appropriate) and guidance on how to this is provided in the Welsh Government's *Local Housing Market Assessment Guide*.

Regarding the household projections for local authorities in Wales, these are prepared by Welsh Government statisticians independently of Ministers and policy officials and are designated as National Statistics by the UK Statistics Authority. This means that these statistics meet identified user needs; are well explained and readily accessible; are produced according to sound methods; and are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

I hope the above sets out the clear emphasis that we have in Wales for planning for affordable housing which is very much based on local planning to meet local housing needs.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Carl Sargeant'.

Carl Sargeant AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio
Minister for Housing and Regeneration

Carl Sargeant AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio
Minister for Housing and Regeneration



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-489
Ein cyf/Our ref CS/01193/13

William Powell AC
Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau
Tŷ Hywel
Bae Caerdydd
Caerdydd
CF99 1NA

10 Gorffennaf 2013

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

Dear William

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 26 Mehefin yn dilyn y ddeiseb a ddaeth i law ynghylch Deddf Tai fforddiadwy ac â blaenoriaeth newydd i Gymru.

Wedi darllen y llythyr, gallaf gadarnhau nad oes unrhyw gynlluniau i gynnwys darpariaethau ar gyfer rheoleiddio'r broses o adeiladu tai newydd yn y Bil Tai sydd ar y ffordd. Bydd cynnwys y Bil yn seiliedig ar gynigion a osodwyd ym Mhapur Gwyn Llywodraeth Cymru, "Cartrefi i Gymru" a gyhoeddwyd ar gyfer ymgynghoriad eang llynedd. Mae disgwyl i'r Bil gynnwys darpariaethau ar amrywiol faterion gan gynnwys; mynd i'r afael â digartrefedd, tai gwag a galluogi mwy o ddefnydd o Ymddiriedolaethau Tir Cymunedol a Thai Cydweithredol.

Er nad oes darpariaethau yn y Bil ar gyfer rheoleiddio'r broses o adeiladu tai newydd yn y cyd-destun sy'n cael ei ddisgrifio gan y deisebwr, mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cymryd camau i ddatblygu tai fforddiadwy ar draws Cymru lle bo angen.

Mae polisi cynllunio Llywodraeth Cymru, sydd wedi'i osod yn *Polisi Cynllunio Cymru*, yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i awdurdodau lleol gyflenwi tai yn y ffordd orau bosib i ateb gofynion pob sector cymdeithas yn eu hardal. Mae *Polisi Cynllunio Cymru* yn nodi y dylai awdurdodau cynllunio lleol hyrwyddo amgylchedd preswyl cynaliadwy a gwneud darpariaeth briodol ar gyfer tai fforddiadwy. Wrth gynllunio darpariaeth tai newydd, dylai awdurdodau lleol asesu faint o angen sydd am dai yn eu hardaloedd, gan ystyried y galw am bob math o dai, boed y rheini yn dai ar y farchnad agored neu'n dai fforddiadwy. Amcanestyniadau aelwydydd Llywodraeth Cymru yw'r pwynt cychwynnol ar gyfer yr asesiad hwn; fodd bynnag dylai

awdurdodau cynllunio lleol ystyried priodoldeb yr amcanestyniadau ar gyfer eu hardaloedd ar sail pob ffynhonnell tystiolaeth leol, gan gynnwys yr angen am dai fforddiadwy. Mae'r asesiad hwn (a elwir yn Asesiad o'r Farchnad Dai Leol) yn ffurfio rhan allweddol o'r dystiolaeth ar gyfer cynlluniau datblygu awdurdodau cynllunio lleol. Yn benodol, rhaid i Gynlluniau Datblygu lleol gynnwys targed ar gyfer tai fforddiadwy, a ddylai fod ar sail yr angen a ddynodwyd ac a ddylai hefyd ystyried hyfywedd economaidd, a dangos sut bydd y targed hwn yn cael ei gyflawni.

Awdurdodau lleol ddylai ddiffinio 'fforddiadwyedd' ac 'angen lleol' a'u gosod yn eu cynlluniau datblygu. Dylid cyfrifo fforddiadwyedd ar gyfer pob un o'r marchnadoedd tai sy'n gweithredu o fewn ardal yr awdurdod (ac awdurdodau cyfagos, os yn briodol). Ceir arweiniad ynghylch hyn yng nghanllaw Llywodraeth Cymru, *Local Housing Market Assessment Guide*

O ran amcanestyniadau aelwydydd ar gyfer awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru, mae rhain yn cael eu paratoi gan ystadegwyr Llywodraeth Cymru yn annibynnol oddi wrth y Gweinidogion a swyddogion polisi, ac yn cael eu dynodi fel Ystadegau Gwladol gan Awdurdod Ystadegau'r Deyrnas Unedig. Mae hyn yn golygu bod yr ystadegau yn ateb anghenion y defnyddiwr; wedi'u hegluro'n dda ac yn hygyrch; wedi'u cynhyrchu yn unol â dulliau cadarn; ac wedi'u rheoli'n ddiuedd ac yn wrthrychol, er lles y cyhoedd.

Gobeithio bod yr uchod yn dangos y pwyslais clir yr ydym yn ei roi yng Nghymru ar gynllunio ar gyfer tai fforddiadwy, sydd wedi'i seilio ar gynllunio lleol i ateb gofynion tai lleol.



Carl Sargeant AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio
Minister for Housing and Regeneration

P-04-489 National affordable and priority housing Act of Wales – Correspondence from the petitioner to the clerking team, 30.09.13

It's taken Wales around 2000 years to have the 1.3 million houses it currently has. The Welsh Government proposes that their projections of 320,000 new houses for Wales, with no thought given to existing local priority or average wage to house price ratio, is taken up by all local authorities in the next 20 years, meaning a 25% increase in the house stock of Wales in 20 years. No mention is given to what jobs there will be for the up to 1 million new dwellers that will fill these houses or how the already struggling Welsh public service infrastructure and economy is supposed to accommodate a 33% increase in the population of Wales in such a short time. The Welsh public get no say and most of our representatives in the Senedd seemingly see this as completely normal.

It is strongly proposed that the National Assembly for Wales puts an end to this flawed process of LDP 'population projections' that are in reality no more than an estimate of how many people might be persuaded to move to an area from 'England and Wales'. It can't be right that housing associations are also locked into this flawed 'England and Wales' projections model. The Welsh Government and our democratic representatives are elected to serve the needs and interests of Welsh citizens first and foremost, as is their remit under Welsh devolution and housing within that settlement.

There are many areas of the country in which local authority citizens are clearly disadvantaged. This is why, in order to remedy this problem, the Welsh Government should introduce fair, proportionate priority legislation for Welsh citizens when it comes to the majority of new house builds. It is therefore proposed that a Housing Act of Wales is necessary in order to regulate the building of new houses in Wales in accordance with sustainable, realistic projections of population growth and future demand from within the existing population of Wales, whilst also taking in Wales' needs and capabilities to absorb populations from outside our borders that is within our economic and social services means. This should be regulated by an exclusive independent Welsh Inspectorate and Welsh housing projections panel and not an England and Wales panel designated as National Statistics by the UK Statistics Authority as the Minister for Housing and Regeneration Carl Sargeant refers to in his reply on the 10th of July 2013.

Your attention should also be drawn to the fact that the 2003-based national and sub-national household projections for Wales were bizarrely compiled by Anglia Ruskin University on behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government. This work was being carried out as part of the wider project of compiling sub-national household projections for England, on behalf of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM). This is a ridiculous situation and goes against the whole purpose of the devolution settlement. It also reiterates the obvious need for the establishment of an exclusive independent Welsh Inspectorate and Welsh housing projections panel to determine new Welsh housing stock based on existing Welsh need and not England and Wales needs as has been the case so far.

This lapse may have been understandable in the constitutional arrangement that existed before devolution, but now that we have a Welsh Government, and with that Government having devolved powers, and more importantly, responsibilities over housing, it is no longer

acceptable. The Welsh Government has been democratically elected to serve the needs and interests of Welsh citizens. If it does not, then for what purpose does it exist? And when – as in housing there are clearly many areas of the country in which Welsh citizens are being disadvantaged and Welsh communities damaged, then it becomes the duty of that Welsh Government and to introduce legislation to remedy these problems.

A proposed 5 - 10 year priority rule should not be as draconian as might be feared and would not include persons crossing the border to take up employment opportunities in Wales, key workers, students, business creators, companies, the self employed, vulnerable people or asylum seekers, as already catered for under UK law.

As a related Welsh housing/accommodation matter, in the 2009 report entitled *'The effects of recent migration on local authorities: allocation of housing and actions under homelessness legislation - a study in six local authorities - Executive summary'* commissioned by the Welsh Government, all stakeholders interviewed across the relevant six Welsh counties agreed that six months was too short a time to determine a local connection for homeless housing. Because of the relatively large private rented sector and holiday lets it was suggested that it was easy for someone to move in to the area and when the accommodation was no longer available, to claim themselves homeless and claim a local connection. In this case it was felt that a minimum residence of 12 months should be the bare minimum local connection before claiming homelessness. Personally I believe this should also be raised to at least 5 years as long as the relevant elements of the above mentioned exceptions are catered for.

This report also states that many elected members questioned felt that housing associations gave priority to assisting inward migration by accommodating greater numbers of people from outside the area rather than concentrating on local citizens as should be their remit. The impact of recent migrants for social housing was also claimed to prevent local people from accessing social housing and also had an averse impact on Welsh language and culture, and had brought a disproportionate impact and change to rural communities. The Welsh Government has a duty to rectify this.

While the plans themselves were drawn up by the relevant local authorities, these bodies insist they were left no alternative because bureaucratic UK wide projections diktats ordered them to provide for new homes in numbers greatly exceeding any predicted local demand. LDP's are based on flawed 'population projections' that are in reality no more than an estimate of how many people might be persuaded to move to an area and are based on England and Wales projections rather than existing Welsh based projections. There is a growing belief that, in many parts of Wales, all forms of housing provision are unrelated to the needs of existing Welsh citizens : even dismissive of, or openly hostile towards, those needs.

It also needs to be re instated that Wales is one of the small nations of the world and deserves to be protected economically as well as socially in terms of its distinct identity and culture. An influx of the size proposed by the LDP's would have disproportionate effects on such a small country in both these areas. Since the people of Wales have not been permitted a debate on this issue at Senedd level and our AM's currently do not seem that bothered, the people of

Wales will have no choice but to consider legal and international human rights action unless the Welsh Government starts doing what it was elected to do.

It is also worth reminding the Welsh Government, Assembly members as well as local authorities, that under the Local Government Act 2000, councils have been charged with “promoting the social, economic and environmental well being of their area and producing community strategies which contribute to the achievement of sustainable development in the UK”. This should include impacts beyond the local area as well as making sure local people and communities are engaged in the process of decision making through participative systems of governance. As the Welsh government has apparently adopted sustainable development as its central organising principle it is oxymoronic that their housing projections seem to be the most unsustainable plans possible for the future of Wales and seem to run against the fundamental points outlined in the local government act concerning sustainable development. It should be very much hoped that this is currently an unfortunate oversight on behalf of the Welsh Government and that it can be quickly and sensibly rectified.

Below are the disproportionate housing projections commissioned and published by the Welsh Government for all the local authorities of Wales and which are bizarrely based on England and Wales projections. These unsustainable projections should be discontinued in favour of a sustainable Welsh based projections system as outlined in Welsh devolution responsibilities.

Projected housing increase Wales: 2008 - 2033
Welsh Government figures

Local Authority area	Households 2008	Projected household increase 2033
Anglesey	30,621	5,206
Gwynedd	51,865	8,397
Conway	50,651	9,233
Denbighshire	43,137	12,162
Flintshire	64,108	10,513
Wrexham	57,157	15,536
Powys	59,019	15,572
Ceredigion	32,808	6,670
Pembrokeshire	52,091	12,319
Carmarthenshire	80,280	26,547
Swansea	100,545	29,380
Neath Port Talbot	60,077	15,837
Bridgend	58,183	16,541
The Vale of Glamorgan	52,818	14,861
Cardiff	136,741	70,743
Rhondda Cynon Taf	99,109	16,272
Merthyr Tydfil	23,932	3,589
Caerphilly	73,998	14,563
Blaenau Gwent	30,679	5,522
Torfaen	38,838	2,812
Monmouthshire	38,090	7,782
Newport	59,960	11,111

Total housing increase for Wales between 2008 – 2033 – **331,168**

Projected population increase in Wales between 2008 – 2033, **794,803**

P-04-408 : Gwasanaeth i Atal Anhwylder Bwyta ymysg Plant a Phobl Ifanc

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ariannu'r Gwasanaeth i Atal Anhwylder Bwyta ymysg Plant a Phobl Ifanc yng Nghymru i'r un graddau â'r Gwasanaeth i Atal Anhwylder Bwyta ymysg Oedolion yng Nghymru.

Daeth i'm sylw bod symiau gwahanol o arian yn cael eu rhoi i Wasanaethau i Oedolion a Gwasanaethau i Blant a Phobl Ifanc ar gyfer ymdrin ag anhwylder bwyta. Ar hyn o bryd, mae'r Gwasanaeth i Atal Anhwylder Bwyta ymysg Oedolion yn cael £1 filiwn y flwyddyn gan Gynulliad Cymru, yn ogystal â phedwar grŵp darparu a hyfforddwyd gan arbenigwyr. Yn anffodus, mae gwaith ymchwil yn nodi'r ffaith bod pobl yn fwyaf tebygol o gael eu profiad cyntaf o anhwylder bwyta, yn enwedig Anorecsia Nerfosa, yn ystod eu glaslencyndod. Yn hanesyddol, roedd pobl yn cyrraedd glaslencyndod pan oeddent rhwng 12 a 15 oed. Fodd bynnag, bellach, mae hyn yn digwydd pan fydd pobl yn llawer iau ac felly mae'r ystadegau'n dechrau dangos bod mwy o blant iau yn dioddef o Anorecsia Nerfosa. Bydd pobl fel arfer yn dechrau dioddef o Fwlimia Nerfosa pan fyddant rhwng 18 a 25 oed. Fodd bynnag, fel gydag Anorecsia, gall hyn amrywio o berson i berson. Mae'r ffaith mai cymryd camau buan yw'r allwedd i sicrhau gwellhad cyflym mewn perthynas â'r ddau anhwylder, ac, yn ddiaw, pob anhwylder bwyta y gellir ei ddiagnosio, sy'n atal goblygiadau ariannol hirdymor i'r Llywodraeth, yn gwneud y cais hwn yn fwy perthnasol. Felly, rwy'n ymbil ar y Cynulliad i ystyried hyn yn flaenoriaeth ar gyfer dadl i gael gwared ar y gwahaniaeth hwn drwy roi'r un swm o arian i'r Gwasanaeth i Atal Anhwylder Bwyta ymysg Plant a Phobl Ifanc Nghymru ag a roddir i'r Gwasanaeth i oedolion.

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb gan: Helen Missen

Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 17 Gorffennaf 2012

Nifer y llofnodion: . 246

P-04-408 Child and Adolescent Eating Disorder Service – Supporting information from the Petitioner to the Committee, 23.09.2013

Dear Committee Members,

Thank you once again for taking this petition seriously.

1. This is, I understand, my last opportunity for input prior to the meeting on 8 October, which I shall be attending. It has been a bit of a learning curve to understand the procedures involved in dealing with a petition, and I hope that any amateur impressions in that respect will be forgiven.
To recap, I decided to initiate this petition a year ago in consequence of the experiences of my family and myself, and of the similar experiences of many families with whom I have been in touch. I did not consider it appropriate to give details of those families without their consent, but suggest that if any further research is needed before granting the petition then they should be approached in a proper manner.
2. Although I am not myself a professional (beyond being a qualified nurse employed in BCUHB) I feel I am no longer an amateur in relation to the whole field of eating disorders (ED).

Since my daughter developed an ED some 4 years ago, I have familiarized myself with a vast quantity of information and with a large number of relevant people, not only in Wales but in UK and internationally. Some of these have been leading specialists in treatment of EDs, some non-specialist professionals in the mental health services, some support groups such as BEAT. I do now feel that I probably have more knowledge in the field of EDs, particularly in relation to treatment and prognosis for minors, than many of those professionals who deal with first referrals.

3. A year ago I embarked on the petition process, having seen and experienced the disparity of funding for Specialist EDs in the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) in comparison to Adult ED services (AEDS) here in Wales. I stand by my original call for equal, if not more funding for specialist eating disorder services in Wales within CAMHS.
4. In the past four years I have been encouraged by the stance of the Welsh government in the addressing of ED services. Wales is well equipped with documents, groups of working parties and well meaning professionals. The Welsh Framework for EDs (2009) and the 1000 lives initiative launched on the 1st March 2012 are steadfast in their approach to 'improving care'; but it is a matter of grave concern that it seems to take so long for progress to be made. It appears that the "intelligent targets" have not been implemented uniformly across

Wales, and that they do not go far enough in providing specialist help at stages prior to Tier 3. Such help needs to be cross-disciplinary, including specialist dieticians as well as ED specialists.

5. The petition calls for funding, stemming from the need for early intervention in the treatment of EDs. This is backed up by both the Welsh Framework for EDs and the 1000 lives. Both stipulate it is fundamental to good, evidence based treatment. It remains the simple fact: the majority of EDs begin in childhood and early adolescence, a fact that cannot be changed, a fact that all professionals in this field agree with, a fact that I have quoted, as have the above mentioned gold standard documents that underpin the Welsh stance on EDs.
6. At present, the Welsh CAMHS system is full of gaping holes in the treatment of eating disorders. There is both disparity and discrepancy of care across Wales, evidence of which the Cross Party Group and Beat, alongside Dr Robin Glaze, Dr Menna Jones and others have reported.
7. I understand the need for an evidence based approach in all areas within the NHS and I do believe that the evidence should be gathered from all sources, including actual service users. I believe that families of patients with EDs should be approached, preferably by an independent body.. Their stories should be heard. At present, I have families approaching me, at their wits end. In this day and age, families are already under enormous stress, strain and financial pressure. Adding the complications and difficulties of an ED to a family unit increases stress to unbearable levels, especially when the treatment provided is inadequate, unhelpful and not evidence based or concurrent with latest protocols. I do believe that one of the next steps forward should be to include the service users, the clients, the 'carers and sufferers' as they are labelled.
8. Junior Marsipan is a wonderful document and to be applauded. However, with earlier intervention, appropriate training for CAMHS teams in the latest treatment protocols, and arming families with the right tools to treat this disorder at home, with the back-up of the Tier 1 & 2 clinical teams including cross-disciplinary specialists as above, many more children will be 'saved' long before both Junior Marsipan and in patient treatment is needed.

I am fully committed to Wales becoming a leader in the UK as far as the treatment of EDs go and I am thrilled that the AEDS tier 3 service has been created. It is invaluable.

9. However, I return to early intervention. CAMHS, if provided with specialist expertise at tier 2 level would be better equipped and the overall service would be more effective. The need for crisis admissions to Inpatient Units and the cost to the NHS of emergency admissions would be reduced, probably greatly, if early intervention, training of CAMHS teams, better support for parents at home and

training and help for parents were an integral part of Tier 1 & 2 care for families of patients with an ED.

10. At present, CAMHS “leads” with simply a special interest, who through no fault of their own, may lack knowledge and experience and expertise of these highly complex illnesses, may and do make mistakes and mis-judgements, which often result in emergency admissions to both hospitals and inpatient facilities. Needless to say, this results in even more stress and sometimes in devastation for the sufferers and their families.

It is also very important that non-specialist staff in CAMHS are better trained and educated in dealing with the urgencies involved in earlier stages of EDs, and in understanding the multi-disciplinary needs and the comorbidity issues, such as low mood, family problems and educational disruption. Virtual training and conferencing could perhaps play a valuable part.

11. 1000 lives calls for training of tier 1 and 2 by tier 3 specialists. I would suggest that the specialists should be in tier 2 thus bringing earlier appropriate intervention into the equation.

A specialist for EDs within every Local Health Board is one of the recommendations made by the Framework for Eating Disorders. That is still too far removed from the patient, but even that is not in place throughout Wales. 2009 is now 4 years ago!

12. I agree some children and adolescents presenting at Tiers 1 and 2 may not in any event progress to a chronic ED, but this is a rarity, rather than the norm. The point is that many who do progress to a chronic disorder (with consequent very expensive long-term funding implications) might at much lesser cost have been spared a lifetime of entrenchment in their illness, if they had only had early intervention by specialists with expertise and experience. Anorexia Nervosa still has the highest mortality rate of any mental illness.

Leaving aside the emotional and human cost (though of course it is a perfectly valid if not overwhelming factor), I remain convinced that the risk of putting extra funding into early intervention is one worth taking in funding terms, in view of the likely savings on long term treatment, even though it may not be possible to forecast this result precisely. Please do not use pure figures as an excuse for inaction.

Helen Missen