

## Y Pwyllgor Deisebau

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Lleoliad:

**Ystafell Bwyllgora 1 – y Senedd**

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Dyddiad:

**Dydd Mawrth, 25 Tachwedd 2014**

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Amser:

**09.00**

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Cynulliad  
Cenedlaethol  
Cymru

National  
Assembly for  
Wales



I gael rhagor o wybodaeth, cysylltwch a:

**Steve George**

Clerc y Pwyllgor

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### Agenda

MeetingTitle

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- 1 **Cyflwyniad, ymddiheuriadau a dirprwyon** (Tudalennau 1 – 28)
- 2 **Trafod y sesiwn dystiolaeth ar 11 Tachwedd, 2014 – P – 04–597**  
**Diogelu dyfodol y Ddraig Ffynci , Cynulliad Plant a Phobl Ifanc**  
**Cymru** (Tudalennau 29 – 30)
- 3 **Deisebau newydd**
  - 3.1 P–04–602 Personoleiddio Beddau (Tudalennau 31 – 33)
  - 3.2 P–04–603 Helpu Babanod 22 Wythnos Oed i Oroesi. (Tudalennau 34 – 38)
  - 3.3 P–04–604 Diddymu Grwpiau Cyfeirio Cleifion â Diabetes a chanslo cyfarfodydd y Grŵp Cynllunio a Chyflawni Gwasanaethau Diabetig ym Mhowys. (Tudalennau 39 – 42)
  - 3.4 P–04–605 Achub Ffordd Goedwig Cwmcarn Rhag Cael ei Chau am Gyfnod Amhenodol neu'n Barhaol (Tudalennau 43 – 45)

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

### **Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth**

- 4.1** P-04-319 Deiseb ynghylch Traffig yn y Drenewydd (Tudalennau 46 – 47)
- 4.2** P-04-393 Grŵp Gweithredu Ffordd Osgoi Llanymynech a Phant (Tudalennau 48 – 50)
- 4.3** P-04-416 Gwasanaethau Rheilffyrdd Gogledd-Dde (Tudalennau 51 – 53)
- 4.4** P-04-468 Pryderon am Ddiogelwch Ffordd A48 Cas-gwent (Tudalennau 54 – 57)

### **Bydd y tair eitem a ganlyn yn cael eu trafod ar y cyd**

- 4.5** P-04-475 Yn eisiau – Bysiau i Feirionnydd (Tudalennau 58 – 59)
- 4.6** P-04-513 Achub gwasanaeth bws X94 Wrecsam/Abermo (Tudalen 60)
- 4.7** P-04-515 Darparu rhagor o arian ar gyfer Gwasanaethau Bysiau Cymru (Tudalennau 61 – 71)

### **Diwylliant a Chwaraeon**

- 4.8** P-04-562 Canolfan Etifeddiaeth Caernarfon (Tudalennau 72 – 76)
- 4.9** P-04-561 Hyrwyddo rygbi ar lawr gwlad yng Nghymru i annog pobl i gymryd rhan (Tudalennau 77 – 81)

### **Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus**

- 4.10** P-04-397 Cyflog Byw (Tudalennau 82 – 85)

### **Addysg**

- 4.11** P-04-485 Camddefnyddio contractau dros dro yn y sector Addysg Bellach (Tudalennau 86 – 87)
- 4.12** P-04-518 Ciniawau ysgol am ddim yn gyffredinol (Tudalennau 88 – 90)
- 4.13** P-04-593 Advise schools on visits to Noah's Ark Zoo Farm (Tudalennau 91 –

100)

### **Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi**

- 4.14** P-04-529 Ombwdsmon Asiantaethau Gosod Tai ar gyfer Cymru (Tudalennau 101 – 106)
- 4.15** P-04-573 Galwad ar Lywodraeth Cymru i Ymchwilio i'r System Lesddaliadau Preswyl yng Nghymru (Tudalennau 107 – 118)

### **Iechyd**

- 4.16** P-04-532 Gwella Gwasanaethau Niwrogyhyrol Arbenigol yng Nghymru (Tudalennau 119 – 123)
- 4.17** P-04-582 P-04-582 Newid Mawr ei Angen i'r Rheolau yn ein Hysgolion o ran Llau Pen a Nedd (Tudalennau 124 – 136)
- 4.18** P-04-601 Gwaharddiad Arfaethedig ar Ddefnyddio e-sigaréts Mewn Mannau Cyhoeddus (Tudalennau 137 – 139)

### **Cyfoeth Naturiol**

- 4.19** P-04-544 Gwahardd Saethu Gwyddau Talcen-wen yr Ynys Las (Tudalennau 140 – 141)

### **Cyllid a Busnes y Llywodraeth**

- 4.20** P-04-577 Adfer Cyllid i'r Prosiect Cyfleoedd Gwirioneddol (Tudalennau 142 – 147)

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon



## P-04-597 Diogelu dyfodol Draig Ffyni, Cynulliad Plant a Phobl Ifanc Cymru

### Manylion:

Rydym ni, sydd wedi arwyddo isod, yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ddiogelu dyfodol Draig Ffyni, Cynulliad Plant a Phobl Ifanc Cymru, drwy adfer y cyllid craidd. Rhaid i Gymru gael llwyfan cenedlaethol annibynnol ar gyfer plant a phobl ifanc, sy'n cael ei arwain gan ieuenctid a'i ariannu'n gyhoeddus, ac sydd wedi'i ethol yn ddemocrataidd ar lefel leol, er mwyn rhoi cyfle iddyn nhw leisio'u barn a'u safbwyntiau, a sicrhau bod Llywodraeth Cymru'n atebol. Rhaid bod gan y llwyfan cenedlaethol hwnnw'r grym i weithio gyda'r holl Aelodau etholedig i hyrwyddo materion plant a phobl ifanc, ac i adrodd yn uniongyrchol i Bwyllgor y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar Hawliau'r Plentyn, fel y llwyddodd Draig Ffyni i wneud yn 2008.

Mae'r Ddraig Ffyni yn parhau i gredu fel a ganlyn:

1. Y dylai pobl ifanc, a etholir yn ddemocrataidd yn lleol, gael llwyfan cenedlaethol i leisio eu safbwyntiau a'u barn;
2. Y dylid galw'r llwyfan hwnnw yn Gynulliad Ieuenctid Cymru;
3. Y dylai allu gweithio gyda phob Aelod Etholedig, gan gynnwys Aelodau'r Cynulliad ac Aelodau Seneddol er mwyn datblygu materion pobl ifanc;
4. Y dylid ei gefnogi fel y gall pobl ifanc Cymru adrodd yn uniongyrchol i Bwyllgor y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar Hawliau'r Plentyn.

Dyweddodd Pwyllgor y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar Hawliau'r Plentyn, wrth wneud sylw ar adroddiad diwethaf y DU, (sylw terfynol 33), y dylai fforymau cymorth llywodraethau ar gyfer cyfranogiad plant, fel Senedd Ieuenctid y Deyrnas

Unedig, y Ddraig Ffyni yng Nghymru a'r Senedd leuenctid yn yr Alban, gael eu gweithredu.

**Prif ddeisebydd** : Catherine Patricia Jones

**Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor**: 23 Medi 2014

**Nifer y llofnodion**: 1,212 a'r lein a 429 llofnod papur. Cyfanswm 1,641

## **P-04-602 Personoleiddio Beddau**

### **Manylion**

Rydym ni sydd wedi llofnodi isod yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i adolygu'r polisi canolog gyda'r bwriad o gyflwyno deddfwriaeth neu reoliadau newydd er mwyn cael cysondeb ar draws ardaloedd awdurdodau lleol Cymru ynghylch personoleiddio beddau, yn enwedig beddau plant a babanod.

**Prif ddeisebydd:** Elizabeth Haynes & Catherine Board

**Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:**

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 120 llofnod a'r lein a1,486 llofnod papur

Leighton Andrews AC / AM  
Y Gweinidog Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus  
Minister for Public Services



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref LA -/05123/14

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

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

Tachwedd 2014

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 15 Hydref ynghylch deiseb sydd wedi dod i law eich Pwyllgor gan Elizabeth Haynes a Catherine Board. Mae'r ddeiseb hon yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i ddiwygio deddfwriaeth i sicrhau bod dull mwy cyson yn cael ei fabwysiadu ym mynwentydd Awdurdodau Lleol mewn perthynas â gwneud beddau yn fwy personol, yn arbennig beddau babanod a phlant ifanc.

Rwy'n cefnogi'r cais hwn mewn egwyddor, ond nid yw'n glir o'r ohebiaeth a ddaeth i law beth yn union y mae'r deisebwyr yn gofyn amdano. Felly, er bod gennyf rywfaint o bwerau i reoleiddio mynwentydd Awdurdodau Lleol, nid yw'n hollol glir a yw hyn yn dod o fewn y pwerau hynny.

Rwyf felly wedi gofyn i fy swyddogion edrych ar y mater hwn ymhellach, a byddaf wedyn yn ystyried a oes achos dros newid.

**Leighton Andrews AC / AM**  
Y Gweinidog Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus  
Minister for Public Services

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**P-04-602 Personalisation of Graves – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 17.11.14**

SENT ON BEHALF OF TORFAEN GRAVES ACTION GROUP

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your email & the attached letter from the Minister. For clarity, we have listed below background information and have been more specific, as requested.

For background, this issue came forward after Torfaen Council decided to enforce a policy that had been in existence for many years that had not been enforced previously. Grave personalisation had been allowed and some parents were given verbal agreements to site items. In May 2014 this changed. Based on verbal conversations with a very small number of grave visitors (no formal complaints received), the Officer decided to enforce the policy by posting notices on graveyard entrances, giving a short period of time for family to remove items. Many people are angry at this decision and believe that the Council have been heartless because many of these graves have been personalised without interference for over 22 yrs. Can you imagine how hurt so many people were? Torfaen Council then attended graves, stripped graves and sent items straight to landfill, in doing so, breaching their own 28 day storage policy. These issues are being addressed separately with TCBC and the Ombudsman, but we thought it would give some background to the reason for the petition.

We have discovered that councils in Wales have their own individual policies and levels of intervention and enforcement. So what is acceptable in 1 graveyard could be breaching rules just a couple of miles down the road.

This isn't fair and equitable and should be regularised throughout Wales.

So for clarity, the aim of the petition is :-

1. A "Cemetery Policy" be written and adopted by WG for all of Wales and that each Council in Wales adhere to the WG policy, to remove the inconsistencies and unfairness in the current multiple policies.
2. That Welsh Government are mindful of the delicate nature of personalisation of Graves, particularly Baby Graves.
3. To make the new policy up to date and current (solar lights, etc were not available when many of these council policies were written).

## Eitem 3.2

### **P-04-603 Helpu Babanod 22 Wythnos Oed i Oroesi.**

#### **Manylion**

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i:

- newid y canllawiau fel bod babanod sy'n cael eu geni ar ôl 22 wythnos ac sy'n dangos arwyddion o fywyd yn cael y gofal meddygol priodol; ac
- wrth newid y canllawiau hynny yn sicrhau y bydd Pediatregydd yn pwyso a chadw golwg ar bob baban sy'n cael ei eni ar ôl 22 wythnos sy'n dangos arwyddion o fywyd yn union wedi'r enedigaeth er mwyn i glinigwyr wneud penderfyniadau ar sail gwybodaeth ynghylch cyfle'r baban i oroesi

**Prif ddeisebydd:** Emma Jones

**Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:**

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 2,543 llofnod a'r lein 216 llofnod papur. Cyfanswm: 2,579

Mark Drakeford AC / AM  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: MD/05424/14

William Powell AC  
Aelod Cynulliad Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru  
Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau

[Petitions@Wales.gov.uk](mailto:Petitions@Wales.gov.uk)

31 Hydref 2014

*Annwyl William*

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 15 Hydref yn fy hysbysu am ddeiseb Emma Jones mewn perthynas â gofal babanod sy'n cael eu geni ar ôl cyfnod beichiogrwydd o 22 wythnos.

Fel y gwyddoch mae'n siŵr, mae gofal babanod cynnar iawn yn fater heriol iawn sy'n cael ei adolygu'n rheolaidd wrth i feddygaeth symud ymlaen.

Mae byrddau iechyd yn dilyn cyfarwyddyd gan Coleg Brenhinol Pediatreg a Chymdeithas Meddygaeth Amenedigol Prydain. Er bod angen rhoi gofal unigol i'r fam a'i babi bob amser, mae'r cyfarwyddyd presennol yn awgrymu y byddai er budd gorau'r babi, ac yn arfer safonol, i beidio â dadebru. Os yw'r rhieni'n dymuno hynny, dylai fod cyfle iddynt drafod canlyniadau gydag ail uwch-aelod o'r tîm amenedigol.

*In gywir,  
Mark*

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

**P-04-603 Helping Babies Born Under 22 Weeks to Survive – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 18.11.14**

Hello,

I sent you an email which is my response. I would like its seen as important and taken into the committee meeting. I also write a response to the health ministers letter which is underlined. Please take this as important also as i need resuscitation to be clearly understood, as the health minister havent looked into my petition properly as he has an opinion on something im not even asking for it the petition.

Thanks Emma jones

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Emma Jones's statement for her petition being considered on Tuesday 25th November.

I will start by noting all the evidence and proof i have gained since starting my petition.

- babies born early should be given a chance to live, i am fighting for change so that babies born with any signs of life are given appropriate care and medical assistance if needed. I am not asking for resuscitation to be carried out, i am asking for assistance to a breathing living baby.
- Resuscitation is not what i am asking, a baby born with signs of life are alive not dead meaning resuscitation is not needing to be carried out.
- A baby is entitled to rights, there right to live. Any baby born and breathing must have help, not be left to die because he/she has been born early.
- There is enough medical help and treatment available to babies born so premature, every baby has the right to be given the chance.
- I know babies been premature can die, but i also know babies can survive. I have proof and success stories from parents who have been able to take their baby home after being born so early.
- It is LAW that each human has rights, when born and living in this world that individual has rights. A baby should never be left to die down to a guideline.
- Babies born before 24 weeks have been seen to do very well in the last 5 years, research and numbers have shown babies can survive and life normal lives when born so early.



- Some babies before 23 weeks have survived with no disabilities at all, other have survived but with minor/ severe difficulties. Unless the baby is given the chance no one will know that babies fate.

### Personal experience

After suffering the loss of my first child at 22 weeks gestation, i learnt to cope and deal with my loss. My first son was still born and passed away during labour. Not once and would i ever had asked for resuscitation after my son had died. He was at rest and i would never had know what harm it would have done bringing him back. But, back in December 2012 i gave birth to my second son at the heath hospital wales. Not only was my son born breathing and alive, no one helped! he was said to be incompatible with life. As he was born just before 23 weeks. My son was alive and no assistance was offered even after begging and hoping for help. He was left to die because he was early, he live for 93 minutes with no help, breathed all on his own.

- Can anyone say if my son was helped he would not have survived for sure?  
NO
- Can any medical professional tell me that my sons death was uncontrollable?  
NO
- Could my son have lived? YES
- Will we ever know if he would be here today? NO

Many babies have died down to these guidelines being 24 weeks, at 22 weeks gestation a baby can near enough weigh the same or even more than a baby at 24 weeks. At 22 weeks a baby is strong enough to breath on its own for an amount of time, at 22 weeks babies have survived when been given the chance to live.

I am in contact with many parents who elsewhere have been lucky. There babies were chosen to be given the chance, their babies were lucky to have the medical staff that couldn't turn away this helpless little baby.

Lately, a number of stories have been coming out to the public on premature babies. Many families who have suffered a loss down to the guidelines have been speaking out, stories on a baby being helped before 23 weeks has been printed and shared. The numbers of babies surviving at such a low age have been rising and Wales are behind in the success of this.

Because they are not given the chance, i have documents and stories all available to share with you.

Documentaries have also been aired on premature babies, such as "miracle babies" a program behind small babies and how they get on. The number of babies in this series alone has struck the news and social media. In this one series alone 5 babies in total have survived and gone home to family. This is one of the best examples i can give you. This is proof smaller babies are surviving.

I am fighting for guidelines to change from 24 weeks gestation to 22 weeks gestation. I am fighting to change this knowing babies can survive at this age, but must be given the chance.

#### In response to the Health minister's letter

I am not sure you have looked into my petition properly, as stated on it title i am asking for help and assistance to be given to a baby born at or after 22 weeks if born with any signs of life. If a baby is born breathing it should not be left to die, as you stated resuscitation should not be carried out in the best interests of the baby. I fully agree with you that a baby who is dead should not be resuscitated. What i am asking is nothing to do with resuscitation and its guideline. I am asking for a living human being to have appropriate care and as much fight as possible to be kept alive.

This is as clear as i can be.

Please consider what i am asking in respect of parents and the babies being born into this world before their time.

We can be saving so many more, babies are dying for no reason.

Please look at what the people want, the parents and families who have to deal with losses that would have been prevented.

Thank you

Emma I jones

### **P-04-604 Diddymu Grwpiau Cyfeirio Cleifion â Diabetes a chanslo cyfarfodydd y Grŵp Cynllunio a Chyflawni Gwasanaethau Diabetig ym Mhowys.**

#### **Manylion**

Yr ydym ni sydd wedi llofnodi isod yn galw ar y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol i'w gwneud yn ofynnol i Fwrdd Iechyd Lleol Powys ailsefydlu ar unwaith Grwpiau Cyfeirio Cleifion â Diabetes, a'r Grŵp Cynllunio a Chyflawni Gwasanaethau Diabetig.

Mae diddymu Grwpiau Cyfeirio Cleifion â Diabetes ym mis Ebrill 2011 a chanslo cyfarfodydd y Grŵp Cynllunio a Chyflawni Gwasanaethau Diabetig statudol ym mis Mehefin 2013 yn amddifadu cleifion rhag cyfrannu, fel y diffinnir yn y 'Fframwaith Gwasanaeth Cenedlaethol ar gyfer Diabetes yng Nghymru' a'r 'Canllawiau ar Gynnwys Defnyddwyr a Gofalwyr sy'n defnyddio Gwasanaethau Oedolion y GIG '. Mae diddymu'r Grŵp Cynllunio a Chyflawni Gwasanaethau Diabetig yn uniongyrchol groes i'r cyfarwyddiadau a nodir mewn gohebiaeth gan y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol i Gadeirydd pob Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol ac oddi wrth Brif Weithredwr GIG Cymru at Brif Weithredwyr y Byrddau Iechyd Lleol ym mis Mehefin 2010. Mae'r ohebiaeth yn datgan: –

....."Each DPDG should take responsibility for leading, managing and reporting to the LHB Board and to the Chief Executive of NHS on progress with the delivery of the NSF." .....and....."The DPDG will need to ensure effective engagement with service users and is an integral part of the LHB structures underpinning the implementation of the CCM (Chronic Conditions Management) policy agenda." (Mae cynrychiolwyr cleifion ar bob un o'r Grwpiau Cynllunio a Chyflawni Gwasanaethau Diabetig.)

## Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol

Ym mis Mehefin 2013 lluniodd Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol y Cynulliad adroddiad ar ganlyniad yr 'Ymchwiliad i weithredu'r Fframwaith Gwasanaeth Cenedlaethol yng Nghymru a'i gyfeiriad yn y dyfodol'. Daethant i'r casgliad canlynol yn Argymhelliad 5: –

"Rydym yn argymhell y dylai'r cynllun cyflawni ar gyfer diabetes newydd sicrhau bod perthynas Grwpiau Cynllunio a Chyflenwi ar gyfer Diabetes Lleol â byrddau iechyd yn cael ei ffurfioli. Dylai Byrddau Iechyd ddangos sut y maent yn ystyried argymhellion y Grwpiau ac yn ymgysylltu'n llawn â'u gwaith. Dylid rhoi trefniadau ar waith i fabwysiadu dull cenedlaethol ar gyfer y Grwpiau, i gynnwys cylch gorchwyl cenedlaethol ar gyfer sut y maent yn gweithredu a gofyniad iddynt gyfarfod â'i gilydd i rannu arferion gorau."

Ym mis Hydref 2013 lansiwyd 'Law yn Llaw at Iechyd – Cynllun Cyflawni ar gyfer Diabetes' gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Ym Mhennod 10: "CYNLLUNIAU LLEOL – GWEITHREDU'n LLEOL" nodir fel a ganlyn: –

...."Mae angen i Fyrddau Iechyd Lleol sicrhau eu bod yn cydymffurfio'n llawn â'r Fframwaith Gwasanaeth Cenedlaethol ar gyfer Diabetes a'r Cynllun Cyflawni hwn ar gyfer Diabetes. Bydd Byrddau Iechyd Lleol yn cynorthwyo eu Grwpiau Cynllunio a Chyflawni ar gyfer Diabetes i adolygu, diweddarau a chyhoeddi cynlluniau cyflawni lleol manwl ar gyfer diabetes. Bydd y Byrddau Iechyd Lleol yn cynorthwyo ac yn galluogi'r Grwpiau Cynllunio a Chyflawni ar gyfer Diabetes i weithredu'r cynllun cyflawni ar gyfer diabetes, adrodd ynghylch cynnydd, cyhoeddi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf bob chwe mis ar eu gwefannau a chyfrannu at yr adroddiad blynyddol i Gymru gyfan a gyhoeddir gan Lywodraeth Cymru."

Yn syml, nid oes bellach fodd i gleifion diabetes ym Mhowys gyfrannu na chael gwybodaeth sylfaenol am gynllunio neu ddarparu gwasanaethau. Rydym wedi'n difreinio ac wedi'n hamddifadu o nod datganedig Llywodraeth Cymru: –

. "I sicrhau bod pobl sy'n defnyddio gwasanaethau'r GIG ... yn cymryd rhan wirioneddol ac adeiladol ym mhob agwedd ar y gwasanaeth."

**Prif ddeisebydd:** Robert V Wright

**Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:**

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 40 llofnod a'r lein

Mark Drakeford AC / AM  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: MD/05423/14

William Powell AM  
Assembly Member for Mid & West Wales  
Chair Petitions Committee  
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8 November 2014

Dear William,

Thank you for your letter of 15 October on behalf of the Petitions Committee regarding Mr Wright's petition about re-establishing the Diabetes Planning and Delivery Group and the Diabetes Patient Reference Groups in the Powys Teaching Health Board area.

I recognise the importance of patient engagement to the success of our Diabetes Delivery Plan and I had written to Mel Evans, then chair of the health board, previously regarding this matter.

The health board have now met with Mr Wright and Russell George AM to discuss re-establishing these groups and I am pleased to inform you that the Diabetes Planning and Delivery Group will be meeting on 11 December and will be discussing patient engagement.

Best wishes,

Mark.

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

### **P-04-605 Achub Ffordd Goedwig Cwmcarn Rhag Cael ei Chau am Gyfnod Amhenodol neu'n Barhaol**

#### **Manylion**

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i wyrddroi penderfyniad Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru i gau Ffordd Goedwig Cwmcarn am gyfnod amhenodol o 2 Tachwedd 2014 ymlaen

#### **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol**

Mae Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru wedi datgan y bydd Ffordd Goedwig Cwmcarn ar gau am gyfnod amhenodol ym mis Tachwedd a bod hyn yn angenrheidiol oherwydd haint y llarwydd Siapaneaidd yn y goedwig. Nid wyf wedi fy argyhoeddi, oherwydd bod anghysondebau yn null Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru. Mae digon o ffyrdd cynhaeaf y gellir eu defnyddio i hwyluso'r gwaith o gael gwared ar y coed. Gellir symud y pethau sydd angen eu symud ar y ffordd yn ystod y cyfnod pan mae'r ffordd ar gau yn flynyddol yn ystod y gaeaf; fodd bynnag, mae Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru yn dweud na fydd y gwaith o symud y coed yn cael ei gwblhau tan 2018 ac, ar ôl hyn, mae'n bosibl na fydd y ffordd yn ailagor oherwydd materion cyllido. Dim ond ychydig iawn o amhariad i'w cyfleusterau y mae parciau coedwig eraill yn ei wynebu o ganlyniad i symud coed. Mae canolbwyntio ar ddefnyddwyr y ffordd yn annheg ac yn ddianghenraid pan fydd defnyddwyr eraill dim ond yn wynebu amhariad dros dro. Dylem achub y ffordd ar gyfer ei defnyddwyr, y mae llawer ohonynt yn hŷn, yn anabl ac yn dod o'n cymunedau lleiafrifoedd ethnig a mewnfudwyr. Mae hyn yn amddifadu'r bobl hynny sydd fwyaf difreintiedig o'u prif gyfleuster ar gyfer iechyd a lles.

**Prif ddeisebydd:** Robert Jeffrey Southall

**Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:**

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 2,392 llofnod a'r lein a 602 llofnod papur

Carl Sargeant AC / AM  
Y Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol  
Minister for Natural Resources



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref  
Ein cyf/Our ref CS/05273/14

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

44 November 2014

Dear Bill

Thank you for your letter of 15<sup>th</sup> October with regard to the petition against the decision by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) to close Cwmcarn Drive.

I am of the view that the closure of Cwmcarn Drive is an unfortunate but necessary step as part of the nationwide strategy to reduce the risk of the further spread of *Phytophthora ramorum* (Larch disease). Cwmcarn forest is predominantly larch (50%) with a concentration of 74% along the Drive itself. This is a much higher proportion of Larch than in other woodland areas in Wales.

Health and safety concerns, difficult terrain and the use of specialised heavy machinery were some of the key factors behind the decision by NRW to close the route. The removal of around 50,000 tonnes of larch from the area using the Drive (which is not a public highway but rather a forest road covered in a thin layer of tarmac) will have a significant impact on its condition.

I am informed that it will take approximately £2.5 million to re-instate the route. NRW officers are of the view that this would be the most expensive and least creative option for re-opening the route. They, in partnership with local residents, Welsh Government and Caerphilly County Council will be working to find a better, more appropriate alternative. I understand that Mr Southall has been invited to participate in this process.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

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

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)  
Tudalen y pecyn 44



Welsh Government officials have made it clear to NRW that least restrictive access to this site should be a priority once the felling operation has been completed.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'C' followed by a vertical line.

**Carl Sargeant AC / AM**  
Y Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol  
Minister for Natural Resources

# Eitem 4.1

## **P-04-319 Deiseb ynghylch Traffig yn y Drenewydd**

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i:

1. Osod cylchfan ger y gyffordd â heol Ceri ac, os bydd llif y traffig yn gwella, osod cylchfan barhaol yno.
2. Cyhoeddi dyddiad cychwyn cynnar i adeiladu ffordd osgoi i'r Drenewydd ac i'r gwaith hwnnw fynd ar drywydd carlam hyd nes ei gwblhau.

**Cyflwynwyd gan:** Paul Pavia

**Ystyriwyd gan y Pwyllgor am y tro cyntaf:** Mis Mehefin 2011

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 10 (casglwyd tua 5,000 o lofnodion ar ddeiseb gysylltiedig).

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-04-319  
Ein cyf/Our ref EH/05530/14

William Powell AC  
Cadeirydd, Pwyllgor Deisebau

[Petition@cymru.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Petition@cymru.gsi.gov.uk)

28 Hydref 2014

Annwyl William,

Diolch ichi am eich llythyr y gwnaethoch ei anfon atom ym mis Hydref ar ran y Pwyllgor Deisebau, ynghylch deiseb traffig y Drenewydd.

Mae trafodaethau ynghylch y tir sydd ei angen i gwblhau'r cynllun wedi bod yn faith iawn. Wedi dweud hynny, mae cytundeb mewn egwyddor wedi cael ei wneud ar y ffordd ymlaen.

Fe gysylltaf â chi eto pan fydd gennyf ragor o wybodaeth i'w rannu â chi.

## Eitem 4.2

### 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/00016/14

William Powell AM  
Chair  
Petitions Committee

committeebusiness@wales.gsi.gov.uk

October 2014

Dear William

Further to my letter of 7 January regarding proposals for a Pant to Llanymynech bypass, I am writing to provide you with an update.

The traffic figures do not show any significant increase in traffic or congestion for the past couple of years.

However, following last week's budget announcement I intend to write to the Secretary of State for Transport to raise the issue of the bypass with him.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Edwina Hart', written in a cursive style.

## **P-04-416: Gwasanaethau Rheilffordd Gogledd-De**

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i weithio gyda Trenau Arriva i gynyddu nifer y gwasanaethau rheilffordd cyflym uniongyrchol rhwng Caergybi a Chaerdydd.

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

**Prif ddeisebydd:** Neil Taylor

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 19

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-04-416  
Ein cyf/Our ref EH/05708/14

William Powell AC  
Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebiadau

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

10 Tachwedd 2014

Annwyl William,

Diolch am eich llythyr ynghylch deiseb y Gwasanaethau Trên Gogledd-De a dderbyniwyd gennyf ar 29 Hydref.

Mae fy swyddogion yn parhau i weithio gyda'r Adran Drafnidiaeth, Network Rail a Merseytravel ar ail-sefydlu Halton Curve ac mae disgwyl i gynigion manwl fod ar gael ddechrau'r flwyddyn nesaf. Os y byddant yn cytuno ar y manylion, mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi nodi y bydd y cynllun yn cael ei gyflawni yn ystod 2016/17 ac y bydd yn weithredol erbyn Rhagfyr 2017.

O dan y trefniant presennol, yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Drafnidiaeth yw'r awdurdod cyfrifol dros Fasnachfaint Rheilffyrdd Cymru a'r Gororau. Mae'r trafdaethau rhwng Llywodraeth Cymru a'r Adran Drafnidiaeth i edrych ar y posibilrwydd o drosglwyddo cyfrifoldebau y masnachfaint yn parhau. Ar wahân i'n swyddogaeth o ddyfarnu'r masnachfaint nesaf, rydym am sicrhau ei fod yn arwain at wasanaethau gwell a gwerth am arian. O ran lefelau gwasanaethu, o dan yr amserlen ar gyfer caffael y masnachfaint, bydd yr Adran Drafnidiaeth yn penderfynu ar y rhain rhwng Hydref 2015 a Gwanwyn 2017. Wedi hynny, bydd y broses gaffael yn dechrau. Y disgwyl yw y caiff y masnachfaint ei dyfarnu y Gwanwyn canlynol fel bod modd dechrau'r fasnachfaint newydd ym mis Hydref 2018.



Mae'r Gwasanaeth Premier Gogledd-De i gael ei adnewyddu ym mis Mai 2015. Rwy'n ystyried opsiynau ar hyn o bryd ynghylch y gwasanaeth Express Gogledd-De a byddaf yn gwneud cyhoeddiad maes o law.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. Jones', written in a cursive style.

## Eitem 4.4

### **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



Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-468  
Ein cyf/Our ref EH/05710/14

William Powell AC

[petition@wales.gov.uk](mailto:petition@wales.gov.uk)

Tachwedd 2014

Annwyl William,

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 29 Hydref ynghylch P-04-468, Pryderon Diogelwch ar y Ffyrdd ar yr A48 Cas-gwent.

Mae'r astudiaeth ddichonoldeb wedi'i hadolygu a bydd cynllun manwl o'r rheiliau diogelwch i gerddwyr ar y llwybr troed ar draws pont Gwy yn digwydd yn ystod y flwyddyn ariannol hon. Bydd y rheiliau yn cael eu hadeiladu yn ystod 2015/16.

Mae fy swyddogion ar hyn o bryd yn edrych ar y terfynau cyflymder ar bob cefnffordd yng Nghymru, a bydd sylwadau eich deisebwyr yn cael eu hystyried fel rhan o'r gwaith parhaus hwn. Fe fyddaf yn sicrhau bod rhagor o wybodaeth ar gael cyn gynted ag y byddaf wedi ystyried canfyddiadau yr adolygiad hwn.

# CHEPSTOW

## Town Council

Historic Chepstow: *The Way to Wales and the Wye Valley*  
See The Chepstow Web Site at [www.chepstow.co.uk](http://www.chepstow.co.uk)  
e-mail [clerk1@chepstow.co.uk](mailto:clerk1@chepstow.co.uk)



My Ref: SB/19112014 TRS1  
Your Ref:

19<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Mr W Powell  
Chairman of Petitions Committee  
Welsh Government  
Cardiff Bay, Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

Petitions Committee

**Chepstow A48 Bridge - Petition from school pupils and Town Council for 30mph speed limit.**

**Petitions Committee Tuesday 25 November 2014**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Minister's letter of 10 November 2014.

We are very pleased that some action is now being taken on erecting guard railing across Chepstow's A48 bridge over the River Wye to protect schoolchildren and pedestrians and we look forward to the completion of the railings.

It will still be necessary to bring in the 30mph speed limit as requested by the Petition as well as the railings - both are essential.

We are concerned that the issue of the extension of the Chepstow Urban Speed Limit of 30mph by just 350 yards to cross the Wye Bridge is taking so long and will become part of a wider review for the whole of Wales.

We are not asking for a new speed limit zone but a small extension of an existing 30mph zone. It should take less than 3 months to implement an Order for 30mph on the bridge (as demonstrated by the Government when the 50mph limit was introduced) but it is now 16 months since the pupils raised the petition and we are worried that becoming part of a wider review could delay this even more.

We are grateful for the progress made so far with design work on railings but we would like the 30mph limit brought in during the next 3 months. There could be delays on railings work so the 30mph limit which is needed anyway is urgently needed now.

Yours sincerely

Sandra Bushell  
Town Clerk

The Gatehouse, High Street, Chepstow NP16 5LH  
Tel 01291 626370 Fax 01291 628102  
Town Clerk Sandra Bushell





Tudalen y pecyn 57

# Eitem 4.5

## **P-04-475 Yn eisiau – Bysiau i Feirionnydd**

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i:

- Adolygu'r arian a ddarperir ar gyfer gwasanaethau bysiau gwledig i sicrhau bod gwasanaethau digonol ar gael ar gyfer Gwynedd yn ei chyfanrwydd, ond yn benodol ar gyfer de Meirionnydd.
- Ystyried rhoi sicrwydd bod arian ar gael i ddarparu ar gyfer gwasanaethau ychwanegol, er mwyn ei gwneud yn haws i gyrraedd gwasanaethau iechyd, addysg a chyflogaeth, ac i gefnogi economi a thwristiaeth yn yr ardal.

**Prif ddeisebydd:** Barbara Snowball

**Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:** 30 Ebrill 2013

**Nifer y llofnodion :** 174

**P-04-475 Wanted – Buses for Meirionnydd – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 12.11.14**

Dear Kayleigh,

Thank you for your continuing to consider the Petition for buses in Meirionnydd. I have one new item to add (3) below.

- 1) Thank you for the 20% increase in buses on the T3 Barmouth to Wrexham and an increased service on the T2 to Bangor.
- 2) We are still in a difficult situation here on the Dolgellau to Tywyn route. The buses do not connect properly and there is a real need for a later bus when people have to travel home from Wrexham or Bangor. They simply cannot get home.
- 3) The Lloyds buses (No. 28) on the Dolgellau to Tywyn route are "user unfriendly". People with disabilities, wheelchairs, pushchairs, shopping trolleys, find it difficult/impossible to board these buses. They are not low floor buses but they usually have 3 steps up, which are steep. They are old buses. If someone in a wheelchair needed to go to Wrexham or Bangor hospital, they could not get there.

I, therefore, implore the Petition Committee that this matter is brought up with Lloyds Coaches, for the provision of low floor buses.

Thank you.

Barbara Snowball

12/11/2014

## Eitem 4.6

### **P-04-513 Save the Wrexham/Barmouth X94 bus service**

#### **Petition wording:**

Arriva Buses has announced that they will cut the X94 service which links the towns of Barmouth, Dolgellau, Bala, Corwen, Llangollen and Wrexham and 5 other bus services on December 21st this year. All of these bus services connect communities across Wales from north to south and east to west. We call on the Welsh Government to investigate how cutting these bus services might be avoided and what is the best way of securing and promoting national bus services that link the regions of Wales, especially where there is no equivalent railway service.

**Petition raised by:** Karen Dunford

**Date petition first considered by Committee:** 11 November 2013

**Number of signatures:** 494



### **P-04-515 Darparu rhagor o arian ar gyfer Gwasanaethau Bysiau Cymru**

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

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ddarparu rhagor o arian ar gyfer gwasanaethau bysiau, er mwyn iddi ymlynu wrth amcanion ei pholisi ei hun o leihau tlodi ac allgáu, a sicrhau nad yw pobl ar draws Cymru o dan unrhyw anfantais cymdeithasol nac economaidd oherwydd eu lleoliad.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol: Nod y ddeiseb hon yw cynyddu'r arian a gaiff ei roi i ardaloedd anghysbell, a than anfantais yng Nghymru. Mae nifer o ardaloedd awdurdodau lleol wedi gorfod lleihau amllder y bysiau a'r dewis o lwybrau bysiau sydd ar gael ers i'r Grant Gwasanaethau Trafnidiaeth Rhanbarthol gael ei gyflwyno. Mae nifer o breswylwyr yn teimlo'n ynysig oherwydd hwn, yn arbennig ar benwythnosau ac ar ddyddiau gŵyl banc.

**Prif ddeisebydd:** Daniel Thomas

**Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:** 11 Tachwedd 2013

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 246

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-04-475/513/515  
Ein cyf/Our ref EH/03468/14

William Powell AC  
Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

|| Tachwedd 2014

Annwyl William,

Diolch ichi am eich llythyr ynghylch Ymchwiliad y Pwyllgor Deisebau i Wasanaethau Bysiau a Thrafnidiaeth Gymunedol.

Amlinellir amrywiaeth eang o faterion manwl yn eich llythyr. Yn y lle cyntaf, efallai y byddai'n ddefnyddiol imi roi detholiad perthnasol o'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf a ddarparwyd gennym ar gyfer y Pwyllgor Menter a Busnes. Mae'n ymwneud â gwasanaethau bysiau a thrafnidiaeth gymunedol.

Unwaith y bydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau wedi cael cyfle i adolygu'r wybodaeth honno, byddaf yn ddigon parod i ystyried unrhyw geisiadau am wybodaeth mwy penodol neu fwy manwl y byddwch yn eu gwneud er mwyn cynorthwyo gyda'ch ymchwiliad.

Enterprise and Business Committee – 16 October 2014

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## TRANSPORT

Transport has a critical role to play in improving Wales' economic competitiveness and providing enhanced access to jobs and services. The current transport investment programme ensures that it is focused on improving Wales' economic competitiveness. It is without question that an affordable, effective and efficient transport system is important in tackling poverty and is integral to delivering interventions and policies for growth and jobs.

Therefore we continue to provide substantial investment in major transport infrastructure improvements, such as road improvements on the M4 Corridor around Newport, A465 Brynmawr to Tredegar A487 Caernarfon – Bontnewydd and Cardiff Eastern Bay Link. In recognising the role that rail plays in promoting economic growth and enabling greater access to jobs and services, we have chosen to invest to bring forward improvements in network capacity and the accessibility and quality of stations.

We also continue to invest very substantial resources in transport services including the rail franchise, the concessionary fares scheme and grants to support bus service provision.

A key focus of the work of the Department is the development of a new National Transport Plan, which will be published for consultation before the end of the 2014.

It will provide the context and evidence to inform decisions on all transport investment and will present information such as the level of accessibility different communities have to employment sites and key public services. Using that information, it will identify the type of interventions needed to improve accessibility.

It will also set out our priorities for future investment by others. For example, the priority locations for new railway stations which would need to draw down UK Government funding to progress.

### **Investment in rail, bus and community transport**

On rail, our programme of investment continues across Wales. In 2014-15 we are delivering the following:

- National Station Improvement Programme schemes at Aberystwyth, Rhyl, Pontypridd and Ystrad Mynach.
- National Station Improvement Programme Plus scheme access humps at numerous stations across Wales.
- Access for All improvement projects at Chirk and Ystrad Mynach.
- Cardiff Area Signal Renewal scheme projects at Pontypridd, Barry and Tir Phil.
- Completion of the North-south journey times/capacity improvement project.
- The completion of a new station at Pye Corner on the Ebbw Vale Line.

In 2015-16 we will deliver the following:

- Mid Tier Access improvement programme schemes at Radyr, Llandaf, Chirk, Machynlleth and Ystrad Mynach.
- National Station Improvement Programme scheme at Port Talbot.
- Work will also commence on further access upgrades for Barry, Cathays, Flint, Llanelli, Taffs Well, Treforest, and Treherbert.

An update on the South Wales Metro was published in August 2014 and can be found on the Welsh Government's website:

<http://wales.gov.uk/docs/det/report/140826-cardiff-metro-update-report-august-2014-en.pdf>

In 2014-15 under the Metro Phase 1 package of schemes we will deliver the following:

- Completion of Newport Bus Station.
- Extension of the Ebbw Vale Line and construction of a new station at Ebbw Vale Town.
- Completion of a package of several active travel routes.

In 2015-16 we will deliver the following:

- Improvements to the Ebbw Vale Line to enable frequency enhancements.
- A package of bus priority schemes across South East Wales.
- Station improvements at a number of stations between Cardiff and Merthyr Tydfil.

The introduction of improved TrawsCymru longer distance bus services in north Wales on the T3 Barmouth to Wrexham and the T2 Bangor to Aberystwyth routes commence in November. These improvements will include:-

- More frequent services throughout the day (the frequency of the T3 is to be increased by 20%).
- The introduction of cycle carriage facilities on the T3 service are enabling people to access popular sections of the Sustrans National Cycle Network in north Wales at Dolgellau - Mawddach Trail and the Llangollen Canal.
- More affordable tickets will be introduced on both routes aimed at encouraging young people to use the services such as the Bwmerrang Ticket which will offer discounted weekend travel.

Work is underway to better coordinate bus and rail services in the Conwy Valley through the introduction of joint ticketing, improved bus services for rural communities allowing them to more easily access rail stations and key centres in the Valley. This will be complemented by the provision of improved information for passengers.

With regard to the North Wales Coastal Quality Bus Partnership Scheme, we are working with local authorities and bus operators to introduce a package of improved bus services linking key centres along the north Wales coast stretching from Holywell to Llandudno. The objectives of the Scheme are to improve the frequency and hours of operation of services, provide better links to key health care facilities and provide better integration with the rail network.

Community Transport Improvements in Meirionnydd includes funding provided for Gwynedd Council to improve the availability of accessible community transport services in the Dolgellau area.

## TRANSPORT FUNDING OF SPENDING PROGRAMME AREAS

Compared to 2014/15, there is a £35.271m increase in the total Transport budget for 2015/16, comprising a revenue decrease of £6.529m and a capital increase of £41.8m.

|              | 2014/15<br>Supplementary<br>Budget<br>£'000 | 2015/16<br>Change<br>£'000 | 2015/16<br>Proposed<br>Budget<br>£'000 |
|--------------|---|----------------------------|--|
| Revenue      | 306,970                                     | (6,529)                    | 300,441                                |
| Non Cash     | 108,691                                     | -                          | 108,691                                |
| Capital      | 296,349                                     | 41,800                     | 338,149                                |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>712,010</b>                              | <b>35,271</b>              | <b>747,281</b>                         |

### Sustainable Travel

| Action                | Expenditure<br>Category | 2014/15<br>Supplementary<br>Budget<br>£'000 | Change<br>£'000 | 2015/16<br>Proposed<br>Budget<br>£'000 |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|---|-----------------|--|
| Sustainable<br>Travel | Revenue                 | 77,304                                      | (25,095)        | 52,209                                 |
|                       | Capital                 | 52,566                                      | 19,881          | 72,447                                 |
|                       | <b>TOTAL</b>            | <b>129,870</b>                              | <b>(5,214)</b>  | <b>124,656</b>                         |

This budget supports investment in integrated transport, active travel, concessionary fares, smartcards and bus, rail and local roads.

**Concessionary Fares:** Following a detailed negotiation, a new three-year concessionary fares agreement was reached with the bus industry. The budget shows funding for the concessionary fares scheme of £60.5m in 2015/16. This amount is supplemented by the local authorities and an administration fee.

A new Bus Services Support Grant (BSSG) (replaced Regional Transport Services Grant (RTSG)) was introduced 1 April 2014. The BSSG maintained our previous level of funding granted under RTSG of £25m and the commitment for a minimum set percentage to be allocated to community transport. This grant is provided to local authorities to help them subsidise socially-necessary bus and community transport services. Each authority determines which services to support, based on its assessment of local circumstances and priorities using this grant and their own resources.

Overall there is a revenue budget reduction of £25.095m. The funding requirements of the bus operators in delivering the concessionary fares scheme in 2015/16 requires a reclassification of a proportion of revenue to capital to reflect the associated capital expenditure they incur, for example the acquisition of additional vehicles. Consequently there is a reduction in revenue of £29m. This is offset by a net reallocation of funds of £4m for the BSSG to support other bus services.

The increase in the capital budget of £19.881m is due to the increased capital requirements for concessionary fares of £29m offset by a net reduction of £10m between financial years for additional capital allocations from central reserves and for re-prioritisation of capital schemes in line with delivery.

## PROGRAMME FOR GOVERNMENT SIX MONTHLY UPDATE AS AT SEPTEMBER 2014

|                            | <b>Commitment</b>  | <b>September Update</b>   |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| 1/023                      | Prioritise the objectives of the National Transport Plan to ensure that the existing transport funding is used effectively, the level of resources enhanced and that future investment decisions are made against these overarching strategic priorities.            | No update to published version  |
| 1/024                      | Consider using the provisions of the Transport Wales Act 2006 to establish one or more Joint Transport Authorities.  | Professor Kevin Morgan's report was published on the Welsh Government website<br><a href="http://wales.gov.uk/docs/det/publications/140522-governing-metro.pdf">http://wales.gov.uk/docs/det/publications/140522-governing-metro.pdf</a>  |
| 1/030                      | Work with partners to enhance the quality, reliability and safety of local bus service provision.  | No update to published version  |
| 1/031                      | Continue to improve services such as the Trawscambria network and the popular on-demand Bwcabus scheme.  | A new TrawsCymru T1 service, funded by WG, was introduced linking Aberystwyth – Lampeter – Carmarthen in August 2014 designed to connect with Bwcabus at key hubs and through fares are offered. Preparations are being made to introduce further TrawsCymru services later in 2014/15 on key routes linking Aberystwyth to Bangor, Wrexham to Barmouth and Aberystwyth – Cardigan – Haverfordwest. |
| 1/032                      | Retain free bus travel for pensioners and disabled people and their carers.  | A new three year reimbursement arrangements has been announced, following negotiations with the bus industry, covering 2014-17 for a reimbursement total of £189m.<br>The funding available to local authorities to enable them to reimburse bus operators in 2014-15 will be £67.75m.  |
| <b>EST Contributes to:</b> |  |   |
| 5/040                      | Extended eligibility for the concessionary travel scheme to seriously injured war veterans & armed forces personnel living in Wales.   | No further update to published version  |
| 9/026                      | Prioritise the National Transport Plan by improving access in deprived communities and retain free bus travel for pensioners, disabled people and their carers, and extend eligibility to seriously injured war veterans and armed forces personnel living in Wales. | No further update to published version  |
| 9/027                      | Prioritisation of the National Transport Plan to improve access to key sites and settlements, particularly in rural areas, with an emphasis on improving the quality and provision of healthy and more sustainable travel choices .                                  | Analysing accessibility to key services and employment sites is a key focus of the evidence based being developed for the new National Transport Plan. The results will be published as part of the consultation on the new draft Plan.   |
| 10/005                     | Continue to encourage and support the development of community transport schemes that meet the needs of those living in rural areas.   | No update to published version  |
| 10/006                     | Examine the best options for providing local bus services to ensure that rural communities have services which are reliable and which  | Analysing accessibility to key services and employment sites is a key focus of the evidence based being developed for the new National Transport  |

|  | <b>Commitment</b>   | <b>September Update</b>  |
|--|---|--|
|  | provide access to local services and a means to travel to work. | Plan. The results will be published as part of the consultation on the new draft Plan. |





Y Pwyllgor Deisebau  
Petitions Committee

Mrs Edwina Hart MBE CStJ AM  
Minister For Economy, Science and  
Transport  
Welsh Government  
Tŷ Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd / Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

Our ref: P-04-475/513/515

September 2014

Dear *Edwina*

### **Petitions on Funding for Bus and Community Transport Services**

As you will be aware, the Petitions Committee has received a number of petitions about Bus Services in different parts of Wales. The Committee, therefore, agreed to carry out a focused inquiry looking at funding for bus and community transport services. The Committee has received evidence from a number of petitioners and stakeholders and would now be grateful for your input as the responsible Minister.

I understand that you have indicated that you are not available to give oral evidence to the Committee so I would be grateful if you could provide a written response to the following questions, which are based on the terms of reference for our inquiry. These are:

- Whether current levels of public financial support for bus and community transport services are sufficient to secure an effective network.
- The effect of recent changes, and proposed future changes, in public funding levels and mechanisms on bus and community transport services.
- The social and economic impact of recent and proposed future changes in public funding levels and mechanisms for the bus and community transport sectors.
- The steps the Welsh Government should take to support bus and community transport services, given the overall reductions in Welsh Government budget since 2009-10.

Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd / Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

Ffôn / Tel: 029 2089 8242  
E-bost / Email: [Stephen.George@wales.gov.uk](mailto:Stephen.George@wales.gov.uk)

## Recent trends in bus and community transport in Wales

In relation to recent trends in bus and community transport in Wales we would be grateful if you could provide:

- Your assessment of the reasons why there has been a decline in bus passenger journeys in Wales since 2011-12, as indicated by both the relevant Programme for Government indicator and Department for Transport quarterly bus statistics;
- Your assessment of wider trends in the bus and community transport sectors, including any changes in the number and quality of services, fare levels and passenger satisfaction levels;
- Details of any work undertaken or planned by the Welsh Government to understand these trends in the bus and community transport sector.

## Potential impact of changes in levels of funding available

In relation to the potential impact of changes in levels of funding available from **both** Welsh Government **and** Local Authorities own budget allocations we would be grateful if you could provide:

- Your response to the suggestion from Bus Users Cymru that as a result of changes in concessionary fares funding “across Wales it is estimated that 10% of all buses on the road could be taken out of service and many rural lifelines could be lost altogether”;
- Details of any work being undertaken by the Welsh Government to assess the impact of changes in public funding levels since 2010-11 from **both** Welsh Government bus funding streams **and** Local Authority Revenue Support Grant on service levels, fares and quality;
- Your response to the suggestion that the bus industry is the “Cinderella of public transport” given evidence we have received suggesting that while Wales and Borders Rail Franchise subsidy equates to £9 per passenger journey, total public funding for the bus industry equates to “rather less than one pound per journey”;
- Your assessment of how changes in Welsh Government funding levels have impacted on the achievement on **each** of the Welsh Government Programme for Government objectives which relate to bus and community transport policy.

## Development of Welsh Government bus and community transport policy

In relation to the development of Welsh Government bus and community transport policy we would be grateful if you could provide:

- Details of the Welsh Government’s strategy for the bus and community transport sectors including:
  - The steps being taken to support and develop the bus sector including an update on the work of the Bus Advisory Group, particularly the

approach being taken by the group, its terms of reference, likely outputs, the timeframe for delivery of recommendations and how delivery will be monitored **and** evaluated;

- Details of how the Welsh Government engages with the Community Transport sector, its vision for the future development of this sector and the steps being taken to implement this;
- The steps the Welsh Government is taking to enhance public transport integration, including the bus and community transport sectors.

I would be grateful for an early response to allow the Committee to move forward with its work in this area.

Yours sincerely



**William Powell AC / AM**  
Cadeirydd / Chair

*(Please respond to the Committee Clerk at: [Stephen.George@wales.gov.uk](mailto:Stephen.George@wales.gov.uk))*

# Eitem 4.8

## P-04-562 Canolfan Etifeddiaeth Caernarfon

### Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym ni sydd wedi arwyddo isod yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i ariannu Canolfan Etifeddiaeth yng Nghaernarfon. Mae'r dref hon yn haeddu canolfan i ddangos ein hanes, hanes y bobol, y diwydiant, yr iaith a'r celfyddydau mewn adeilad pwrpasol a deniadol o fewn tref Caernarfon a bod yn gartref i'r trysorau sydd wedi eu cymryd o'n Tre.

Mae bron i fil o bobol Caernarfon, yr ardal ac ymwelwyr yn galw am adnodd o'r fath yn un o'r trefi mwy hynafol a phwysig yng Nghymru. Mae ymwelwyr sydd yn dod ar fy nheithiau o amgylch tref Caernarfon [www.drodre.co.uk](http://www.drodre.co.uk) yn gofyn, "Where is the Town Museum?" ac mae'n rhaid ateb nad oes dim yn y dref bellach! Ac maent i gyd yn gweld hyn yn anhygoel gan fod hanes o'u cwmpas ym mhob man.

**Prif ddeisebydd:** Caernarfon Civic Society

**Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:** 17 Mehefin 2014

**P-04-562 Caernarfon Heritage Centre – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 19.11.14**

**Canolfan Etifeddiaeth Caernarfon**

Annwyl Bwyllgor

Hoffwn gynnig ychydig eiriau i'w ychwanegu at y cais am Ganolfan Etifeddiaeth i dref Caernarfon.

Mae'r dref hon yn haeddu canolfan i ddangos ein hanes, hanes y bobol, y diwydiant, yr iaith a'r celfyddydau mewn adeilad pwrpasol a deniadol o fewn tref Caernarfon a bod yn gartref i'r trysorau sydd wedi eu cymryd o'n Tref.

Gallai Ganolfan o'r fath fod yn gartref i geuriau o Gaer Rufeinig Segontium sydd yng Nghaerdydd.

Hefyd yn gartref i geuriau a gynigwyd i'r dref gan Arglwydd Newborough ac sydd bellach yn Amgueddfa'r Môr, Lerpwl.

Creiriau o Amgueddfa Mor Caernarfon sydd bellach wedi cau a'i droi yn doiledau!

**Oriel** luniau gan arlwynwyr, ffotograffwyr ac artistiaid eraill o'r dref. Yn Adeilad yr Institiwt (cartref Cyngor Tref Caernarfon) mae sawl canfas a ddylai cael ei dangos i'r byd e.e.

Mae'r llun *Deffroad Cymru* gan Christopher Williams yn cael ei gydnabod fel yr un mwyaf eiconig yng Nghymru ac mae'n portreadu Gwenllïan, ferch Owain Glyndŵr, yn codi i ryddid o afael draig goch ffyrnig. Ganwyd Christopher Williams ym Maesteg. Roedd ei dad, Evan Williams, yn benderfynol mai meddyg fyddai Christopher ond wrth ymweld ag Oriel Walker yn Lerpwl treuliodd rai oriau yn syllu ar lun "Perseus a Andromeda" gan Fredrick Leighton.

Ar ôl gadael yr Oriel gwyddai'r mab mai artist oedd am fod. Roedd *Ddeffroad Cymru* yn alegori cenedlaethol ac o werth personol i'r artist.

Ar gais Alun Ffred Jones (Arfon): 'Faint o bobol ymwelodd â Chastell Caernarfon yn y blynyddoedd 2010-11, 2011-12 a beth yw ffigyrau eleni (WAQ65542)

John Griffiths: O ddechrau mis Ebrill 2010 i ddiwedd mis Awst 2013, daeth 679,889 o ymwelwyr i Gastell Caernarfon.

Mae'r cyfanswm fel a ganlyn:

|                                 |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 01 Ebrill 2010 i 31 Mawrth 2011 | 192,543 ymweliad |
| 01 Ebrill 2011 i 31 Mawrth 2012 | 195,543 ymweliad |
| 01 Ebrill 2012 i 31 Mawrth 2013 | 177,275 ymweliad |
| 01 Ebrill 2013 i 31 Mawrth 2013 | 114,528 ymweliad |

Nid wyf wedi cael ffigyrau 01 Ebrill 2014 i 31 Mawrth 2014 hyd yn hyn ond wrth siarad gydag aelodau o staff y Castell mae'n amlwg fod nifer mwy na'r ffigyrau uchod wedi ymweld â Chastell Caernarfon (byddaf yn ceisio cael ffigyrau eleni yn y dyddiau nesaf)

Mae cyfartaledd uchel o'r ymwelwyr yn aros yn y dref ac yn wastad yn gofyn 'Lle mae'r Amgueddfa?' Beth anodd iawn ac eithaf cywilyddus yw gorfod dweud nad oes Amgueddfa yn y dref ei hun.

Fel Tywysydd Teithiau o amgylch yr hen Dref rwy'n ymwybodol iawn o hanes ac etifeddiaeth Caernarfon ac mae'n loes i mi nad wyf yn gallu cyfeirio'r ymwelwyr yma i adeilad pwrpasol sy'n dangos a disgrifio'r Dref lawn h.y.

**Caer Rufeinig Segontium** – milltir o ganol y Dref

**Y Dref Ganoloesol** unigryw gyda llawer o drysorau y byddaf yn eu dangos ar fy nheithiau. Muriau'r Dref a'r angen i agor mwy o'r muriau i'r cyhoedd.

**Capeli ac Eglwysi**

Gallai crefydd fod yn elfen o'r Ganolfan e.e.

Tyfiant Methodistiaeth, mae sawl capel a fu'n arloesol yn nhyfiant Methodistiaeth a thystiolaeth bod John Wesley wedi aros yn y dref.

Capel Engedi a'i gysylltiad â'r Gymru a aeth i Batagonia.

Santes Fair – 14eg ganrif

Llanbeblig – 12fed ganrif

Llanfaglan – safle o'r 6ed ganrif – 2 filltir o ganol y Dref

### **Hanes:**

Y Diwydiant Llechi, Doc Victoria, Hanes Ellen Edwards – Brodor o Fôn a merch Captain William Francis o Amlwch. Athro mathemateg a navigation yn Amlwch. Dilyn ei thad fel athro morwrol am 60 mlynedd tan ei marwolaeth yn 80 oed ym mis Tachwedd 1889. Roedd yn rhaid i'w disgyblion ieuainc deithio i Lerpwl neu Ddulyn i sefyll eu harholiadau ac roedd Ellen Edwards yn gweld hyn yn annheg iawn. Gan hynny mynnodd bod hawl gan y dynion i gael sefyll yr arholiadau yn lleol. Mae'n bur debyg iddi hyfforddi dros 1,000 o forwyr ifanc dros y blynyddoedd.

**Argraffu** (Caernarfon oedd Prifddinas yr Inc Cymraeg yn yr 19eg ganrif),

**Yr iaith Gymraeg** Mae dros 80% o drigolion Caernarfon yn siarad yr iaith Gymraeg a'r iaith yn fyw ym mhob rhan o fywyd diwylliannol, masnachol a chymdeithasol o'r dref. Mae'r Cofis yn enwog am ei ffraethineb a byddai cornel i son am yr eirfa unigryw yn werth ei gael.

**Llety Arall** mae bwriad i agor **Llety Arall** (wedi ei enwi ar ôl Gŵyl Arall) Gŵyl ddiwydiannol sy'n cael ei gynnal yng Nghaernarfon pob mis Gorffennaf ers rhai blynyddoedd bellach. Yn Stryd y Plas gobeithir lleoli Llety Arall a bydd yn ffordd o ddangos ein tref unigryw a fydd yn codi ein hyder a'n balchder ni ac ymwelwyr yn yr iaith Gymraeg

Fel Ysgrifennydd Cymdeithas Ddinesig Caernarfon rwyf wedi cael mynediad i seleri o amgylch yr hen Dref ac yma mae trysorau a all fod yn rhan o ymweliad a Chanolfan Etifeddiaeth. E.e.

Yn seleri Neuadd y Farchnad *Stryd Twll yn y Wal* a *Stryd y Plas* mae olion 'Bonded Warehouse' gydag ystafelloedd i gadw'r ddiod cyn ei symud fel arfer drwy dwneli o dan y dref. Ac yn Castle House Stryd Fawr a Stryd y Castell mae seleri a all ddyddio i'r 16eg ganrif gan ei gwneud yn Ganoloesol. Mae ffynnon a dan lawr swyddfa wag yn *Stryd Twll yn y Wal*.

Wrth sylweddoli bod Arddangosfa Etifeddiaeth fach yn Oriel Pendeitsh lle lleoli'r Ganolfan Dwristiaeth mae Canolfan llawer mwy ac eang yn ofynnol i dref Caernarfon.

Byrdwn hyn oll yw ceisio dangos cymaint sydd yw dangos i'r cyhoedd bod hwy yn lleol, yn ysgolion neu ymwelwyr bydd cael Canolfan Etifeddiaeth yng nghanol tref Caernarfon o werth i'r gymuned wrth ddenu gwirfoddolwyr i fod yno fel swyddogion, a rhoi hyder a pharch i'r hen dref anhygoel yma.

Yr eiddoch yn gywir

Emrys Llewelyn

Tywysydd Tref

07813142751

[emrys@caernarfonwalks.com](mailto:emrys@caernarfonwalks.com)

[www.drodre.co](http://www.drodre.co)



### **P-04-561 Hyrwyddo rygbi ar lawr gwlad yng Nghymru i annog pobl i gymryd rhan**

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

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i gydweithio ag Undeb Rygbi Cymru i annog mwy o bobl, o bob oedran a rhyw, i gymryd rhan yn y gêm yng Nghymru; i annog partneriaethau â sefydliadau perthnasol eraill i sicrhau bod cymaint o bobl â phosibl yn cael cyfle i gymryd rhan ar lawr gwlad ac i ddangos nad yw'r gêm yn un elitaidd ond yn un sy'n agored i bawb.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol: Nid yw gemau rygbi islaw'r lefel ranbarthol yng Nghymru yn cael fawr ddim sylw yn y cyfryngau. Gwyddom fod clybiau'n ei chael yn anodd sicrhau chwaraewyr ac arian. Bydd rhoi rhagor o sylw i'r gêm ym mhob ardal yn annog mwy o bobl o bob oedran a rhyw i gymryd rhan, boed yn ddarpar chwaraewyr neu'n gefnogwyr. Bydd hefyd yn rhoi mwy o gyfleoedd hysbysebu i noddwyr ac felly'n ei gwneud yn haws i glybiau ddenu'r math hwn o arian.

**Prif ddeisebydd:** Inside Welsh Rugby TV

**Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:** 17 Mehefin 2014

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 334

Ken Skates AC / AM  
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Diwylliant, Chwaraeon a Thwristiaeth  
Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref KS/05252/14

William Powell AM  
Chair – Petitions committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Ty Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

11 November 2014

Dear William,

In July this year you wrote to my predecessor, the former Minister for Natural Resources, Culture and Sport, John Griffiths AM, about the Petition (P-04-561) from Inside Welsh Rugby TV regarding grassroots rugby in Wales.

The Welsh Rugby Union (WRU) receives funding via the Welsh Government's delivery agent for sport in Wales, Sport Wales. Sport Wales has agreed with the WRU investment of £979,167 for 2014-15 (for a ten month period). This investment is based on individual sport specific targets and agreed outcomes which the WRU will be expected to deliver/meet as a condition of the investment. These outcomes should accord with the key priorities set out in Welsh Government's annual remit letter to Sport Wales.

The former Minister for Natural Resources, Culture and Sport asked, in his remit letter to Sport Wales dated 5 March 2014, to see a particular effort to broaden the base of participation with a focus on developing programmes that attract children and young people who do not currently participate in sport. Further, one of the priorities is to narrow the participation gap between those living in deprived areas (i.e Communities First areas) and the national average and increase levels of regular physical activity amongst women and girls, disabled people and BME communities.

I met with Roger Lewis, Chief Executive, WRU, this week. We spoke about the WRU's new strategy, launched on 2 October 2014, which aims to strengthen the game at community and elite level. The strategy includes plans to increase participation across all levels of rugby, to unify the pathway for players and coaches and reinforce the cultural values of rugby. It will provide a seasonal structure that supports club, school and representative rugby simultaneously and is based on the appropriate development of players according to their age.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300  
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400  
Correspondence .Ken.Skates@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i tueddi (100%)  
paper

Printed on 100% recycled

The WRU has been working with secondary schools to create school-club hubs across Wales. In total, 43 schools including 3 FE colleges are currently employing full time rugby officers to increase participation within schools across Wales and help strengthen links with clubs, improving the sustainability of club rugby and long term player involvement. The initiative will aim to develop good role models within the school, providing playing opportunities for boys and girls of all abilities and creating leadership development through coaching and refereeing qualifications via the Welsh Baccalaureate.

Outside the school environment, the WRU is working to encourage more women and girls to take part in rugby. They have been successful in securing funding from the International Rugby Board (IRB) towards a programme to increase women and girls participation and there is greater involvement in the international women's game as Roger Lewis continues as the appointed chair of the Women's' Six Nations Committee.

With regards to the coverage of rugby, although the Welsh Government is actively involved in discussions in relation to broadcasting issues that affect Wales, broadcasting is not devolved to the Welsh Government. We therefore do not have any direct control or influence over what is broadcast by commercial or public service broadcasters. Likewise, the issue of televising rugby matches below regional level is not within our control and is a matter for the event organisers and the broadcasters.

I hope this substantive response with the very latest information about rugby activity is helpful.

Yours ever,



**Ken Skates AC / AM**

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

**P-04-561 Promotion of Grassroots Rugby in Wales to Encourage Take-Up of the Sport- Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Clerking Team, 17.11.14**

Dear Kayleigh

Thank you for your email of 12th November, which we have had the chance to read and consider.

Whilst we feel from experience that the Welsh Rugby Union is not doing nearly enough to help the grassroots of Welsh rugby and to support Welsh Rugby Clubs (as evidenced by sides failing to fulfil fixtures or disbanding), we appreciate the position the Petitions Committee will find itself in, in having to accept the Minister's letter at face value. The "new strategy" mentioned in the letter has only been in place since 2nd October and sadly therefore we cannot assess its impact at this stage. However it is clear to us that such a strategy has been implemented at an extremely late juncture and notably after our original petition was submitted. We would like to question why this has only now been introduced despite the protracted problems in the lower echelons of Welsh rugby, as well as women's and junior rugby (often highlighted in our own programme, IWRTV and not covered by the BBC) and why the Welsh Government had not sought to expedite the process.

There is however a great omission from this letter and that is any absence of a resolution relating to the broadcast of games below professional rugby in Wales. Whilst we appreciate the Minister's explanation that broadcasting in general and in terms of the specific events in question are not within the direct power of the Welsh Government, we are clear in stating that more could be done to facilitate such a development, particularly given the fact that a substantial subsidy has been accorded with the specific remit of widening the appeal of sport and narrowing the participation gap. Broadcast of matches at this level would substantially support that aim and it is certainly surprising to hear the Government is not pressing this issue to the forefront of broadcasters minds at this time.

Anecdotally, since our original submission we have noted an attempt to broadcast a lower level match such as those we had included in our own programme, however rather than being a positive experience for those concerned, it was managed in a manner which alienated the participants. If required, further evidence could be

provided regarding this issue which should be used to understand how broadcast in the correct manner will enhance the sport.

I trust this response will assist your deliberations and hopefully enable you to decide upon a solution which will enable us all to shore up the foundations of the National sport of Wales.

Yours sincerely

Paul Turner, Stewart Spencer and Gareth Spencer

# Eitem 4.10

## **P-04-397 Cyflog Byw**

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i gadw at ei haddewid i weithio tuag at gyflog byw i bob gweithiwr yng Nghymru a dweud wrthym pryd a sut y bydd yn gwneud i hyn ddigwydd.

Waeth pa mor galed y maent yn ymdrechu, nid yw'r isafswm cyflog yn ddigon i rai rhieni gael deupen llinyn ynghyd a rhoi'r cyfle gorau mewn bywyd i blant fel ni. Mae'r cyflog byw yn golygu y byddai rhieni sy'n gweithio yn ennill o leiaf £7.20 yr awr.

Rydym yn ymgyrchwyr ifanc sy'n gweithio gydag Achub y Plant ledled y DU o blaid newid. Rydym yn ymgyrchu dros gyflog byw, ac yn cynrychioli barn pobl ifanc, teuluoedd a chymunedau yng Nghymru.

**Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb gan:** Achub y Plant

**Ystyriwyd y ddeiseb am y tro cyntaf:** 19 Mehefin 2012

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 483

Leighton Andrews AC / AM  
Y Gweinidog Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus  
Minister for Public Services



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-397  
Ein cyf/Our ref LA -/05180/14

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

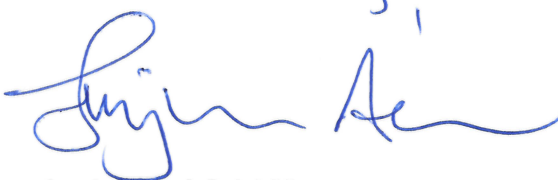
committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

6 November 2014

Dear Bill,

Thank you for your recent letter to Jane Hutt AM, Minister for Finance and Government Business, regarding Petition P-04-397 on the Living Wage. I am responding as this matter falls within my portfolio.

I can reassure you that the December Workforce Partnership Council meeting will take place. Potential agenda items, including the Living Wage in the public sector, will be considered and decided in discussion between the Welsh Government and social partners.

Yours sincerely,  


Leighton Andrews AC / AM  
Y Gweinidog Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus  
Minister for Public Services



**Save the Children**

Achub y Plant

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

18<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Dear Bill,

Re: Petition P-04-397 Living Wage

Thank you for your correspondence regarding our petition on the living wage, which the committee will be considering at the next meeting of the committee on Tuesday 25 November 2014.

As you will be aware, Save the Children's Young Ambassadors in Wales were a group of children and young people committed to campaigning on the issue of how a living wage could help support families and children living on a low income in Wales and they submitted the original petition to the Petitions Committee in 2012. The Young Ambassadors are no longer meeting as a structured group but are still in contact with Save the Children and we will be updating them on the consideration and progress of their petition.

Save the Children is an accredited living wage employer and a principle partner of the Living Wage Foundation. Earlier this year we published a Wales briefing of our UK report 'A Fair Start for Every Child', both attached. 'A Fair Start' contains further evidence of the rise of in work poverty and the impact it has on children's lives. We note that the Chartered Business Institute has

**Achub y Plant  
Rhaglen Cymru**

3ydd Llawr, Tŷ Ffenics  
8 Ffordd yr Eglwys Gadeiriol  
Caerdydd CF11 9LJ

Ffôn 029 2039 6838  
Ffacs 029 2022 7797

[www.savethechildren.org.uk](http://www.savethechildren.org.uk)

**Save the Children  
Wales Programme**

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Phoenix House  
8 Cathedral Road  
Cardiff CF11 9LJ

Telephone 029 2039 6838  
Fax 029 2022 7797

[www.savethechildren.org.uk](http://www.savethechildren.org.uk)

The Save the Children Fund, a company limited by guarantee, registered in England (number 178159). Registered charity number 213890. Registered office: 1 St. John's Lane, London EC1M 4AR. Patron: Her Majesty the Queen; President: Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal; Chief Executive: Jasmine Whitbread. Save the Children UK is a member of the International Save the Children Alliance.





**Save the Children**

Achub y Plant

recently stated that employers who can afford to pay the living wage should do so whenever possible.

We are pleased that a meeting of the Workforce Partnership Council will go ahead in December and hope that there will be a full discussion on the importance of paying workers in Wales a living wage including recognition of how paying a living wage can have a positive impact on the lives of children and young people in working families living in poverty.

Yours sincerely

Mary Powell Chandler, Head of Save the Children in Wales

The attachment mentioned above is accessible via the following link:

[Wales briefing of our UK report 'A Fair Start for Every Child'](#)

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## Eitem 4.11

### **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/05358/14

William Powell AM  
Chair Petitions Committee

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

11 November 2014

Dear William

Thank you for your letter of 14<sup>th</sup> October on behalf of the Petitions Committee requesting an update on the use of hourly based and fixed term contracts.

I also note with interest the research brief which you have provided, which sets out an informal review of the use of casual contracts in further education in Wales.

As set out in my letter to the Committee in July 2013, the Welsh Ministers do not have specific statutory powers on the use of hourly based and fixed term contracts.

However, following a consultation exercise by the UK Government, provisions to ban exclusivity clauses in Zero Hours Contracts (ZHCs) have been included in the Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Bill introduced in to Parliament on 25 June 2014.

The Welsh Government is aware of the wide-spread concerns which have been raised about the use of ZHCs and is engaging in discussions with social partners about their impact in Wales.

Yours sincerely

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

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
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**Tudalen y pecyn 87**  
Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300  
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400  
Correspondence.Huw.Lewis@wales.gsi.gov.uk  
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# Eitem 4.12

## P-04-518 Ciniawau ysgol am ddim yn gyffredinol

### Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym ni, y rhai sydd wedi llofnodi isod, yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i gyflwyno cynllun ciniawau poeth am ddim i bob plentyn mewn dosbarthiadau derbyn, blwyddyn1 a blwyddyn 2.

### Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol:

Mae nifer o astudiaethau wedi dangos fod bod â chwant bwyd yn effeithio ar y gallu i ganolbwyntio, a bod plant sy'n cael digon o faeth yn gwneud yn well yn yr ysgol. Byddai ymestyn y ddarpariaeth ciniawau ysgol am ddim hefyd yn helpu teuluoedd i dalu eu costau byw, oherwydd amcangyfrifwyd bod cinio ysgol cyffredin ar gyfer pob plentyn yn costio £437 y flwyddyn i rieni. Mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi cyhoeddi y bydd pob plentyn rhwng pump a saith mlwydd oed yn ysgolion y wladwriaeth yn Lloegr yn cael ciniawau ysgol am ddim. Rydym ni o'r farn y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru wneud yr un peth.

**Prif ddeisebydd:** Jane Dodds

**Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:** 26 Tachwedd 2013

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 14



Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-518  
Ein cyf/Our ref HL/05357/14

William Powell AM  
Chair Petitions Committee

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

11 November 2014

Dear William

Thank you for your recent letter, received 30 October, regarding Free School Meals (FSM).

Ms Dodds is correct that the Welsh Government received funding as a consequence of England's decision to introduce FSM for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. However, Wales is a devolved government, and as such is not bound by the education policy decisions of England. Furthermore, the funding sent to the Welsh Government was not sufficient to put in place the same FSM scheme as that being introduced in England - UK Government departments submitted an additional 'top-slice' which provided supplementary funding for the scheme in England, but this was not replicated in Wales.

We used some of the funding consequential to launch Schools Challenge Cymru. This innovative and exciting initiative will inject resources, alongside proven expertise, to deliver a package of tailored support to meet the needs of 40 of our most challenged secondary schools and their cluster primaries. Schools Challenge Cymru is about recognising that some schools face unique challenges and that these require more intensive, additional support, above and beyond that which is provided as a matter of course.

The programme's concentration of efforts on a fifth of Welsh secondary schools in particularly challenging circumstances has the potential to encourage wider change. Alongside the 40 Pathways to Success Schools, many other schools in Wales will also benefit. This includes each school's cluster primaries and some of Wales' finest practitioners and highest performing schools, who will play a key role as they share expertise and leadership.

This collaborative approach will generate important learning with the potential to stimulate system-wide improvements.

We continue to be committed to ensuring that FSM are provided to those learners who need them most. In addition, it is important to remember that Wales led the way by introducing universal free breakfasts in maintained primary schools in 2004. Now, under the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, local authorities have a duty to ensure that the provision of primary school free breakfasts continues in schools in Wales. According to the 2014 Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC), 82.6% of all maintained primary schools in Wales operate a free breakfast club.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Huw Lewis'.

**Huw Lewis AC / AM**

Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau  
Minister for Education and Skills

## **P-04-593 Rhoi cyngor i ysgolion ar ymweliadau â Noah's Ark Zoo Farm**

### **Manylion:**

Gofynnwn i'r Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau yn Llywodraeth Cymru adolygu pa mor addas yw Noah's Ark Zoo Farm ar gyfer ymweliadau gan ysgolion o Gymru. Yn ein barn ni, mae'r sŵ yn anaddas oherwydd: 1. Mae'n tanseilio'r ddealltwriaeth o wyddoniaeth ac yn gwrth-ddweud y cwricwlwm cenedlaethol. 2. Cafodd y sŵ ei diarddel o gorff y diwydiant sŵau, BIAZA, yn 2009.

Mae mynd ar dripiâu ysgol yn rhan bwysig o broses ddysgu ein plant, gan eu helpu i gael profiad ymarferol o'r byd o'u cwmpas. Mae athrawon a rhieni yn gwerthfawrogi hyn, ac yn rhoi llawer o amser ac ymdrech i sicrhau bod y tripiâu a drefnir ganddynt yn cefnogi proses ddysgu'r plant, a'u bod yn ddiogel. Er mwyn gwneud hyn, maent yn dibynnu ar ganllawiau a gwybodaeth. Gofynnwn ichi ymchwilio i Noah's Ark Zoo Farm ar unwaith a sicrhau bod pob ysgol yn ymwybodol o ganfyddiadau'r ymchwiliad.

### **Gwybodaeth ychwanegol**

1 The Department for Education 2011 – Free Schools FAQs – Curriculum:

“We would expect to see evolution and its foundation topics fully included in any science curriculum. We do not expect creationism, intelligent design and similar ideas to be taught as valid scientific theories in any state funded school” <http://www.education.gov.uk/a0075656/free-schools-faqs-curriculum#faq5>;

<https://humanism.org.uk/2014/02/04/alice-roberts-bha-complain-michael-gove-noahs-ark-zoo-farms-quality-badge-breaching-creationism-policy/>;

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/dec/08/wont-go-back-to-creationist-zoo-bristol>

2 BIAZA (2009):

‘Council believes that the behaviour of NAZF has brought the association into disrepute’

<sup>TM</sup><http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/somerset/8391779.stm>

**Prif ddeisebydd :** Jane Henderson

**Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:** 23 Medi 2014

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 221



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



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref  
Ein cyf/Our ref HL/05154/14

William Powell AM  
Assembly Member for Mid & West Wales  
Chair Petitions Committee  
Ty Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

12 November 2014

[committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk)

Dear William

Thank you for your letter of 30<sup>th</sup> September on behalf of the Petitions Committee seeking my views on the information provided in relation to the suitability of Noah's Ark Zoo Farm for visits from Welsh schools.

I do not condone the teaching of Creationism and the Curriculum should not be used as a vehicle or seen as a route for its promotion.

Whilst it falls within the remit of Local Authorities and Consortia, working in partnership with schools, to determine appropriate venues for educational visits and to ensure they are investigated and assessed appropriately, the selection and use of such venues is a responsibility I expect them to take very seriously.

Once a venue has been determined, headteachers and members of staff must ensure that a comprehensive Health and Safety risk assessment is carried out for each school visit. The Outdoor Education Adviser Panel has produced revised national guidance for schools and governing bodies on school trips which can be found at the following link.

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/allsectorpolicies/healthandsafety/educationalvisits/?skip=1&lang=en>

The National Curriculum in Wales is broad and balanced the programmes of study that have been developed for each statutory national curriculum subject, from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 4, identify and map the subject contexts that are most appropriate for development.

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Tudalen 93

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Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400  
Correspondence.Huw.Lewis@wales.gsi.gov.uk  
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This is to ensure that we aim to reduce prescription in the curriculum and give control and responsibility to schools and learners. Schools in planning their curriculum have a clear responsibility to organise and deliver the curriculum in the way that best suits their circumstances and needs. They can choose to retain their existing approach to curriculum organisation whilst adopting a new approach to delivery or develop more imaginative and innovative ways of delivering the statutory curriculum. Such changes in approach might include using a series of whole days – in or out of school – to focus on a particular topic.

However I do not endorse the teaching of creationism as a factual or scientific explanation of the origin of life. The curriculum is designed to be 'broad and balanced' to give learners the opportunity to interface with the world around them through the processes of gathering and analysing evidence, robust debate and critical thinking.



**Huw Lewis AC / AM**

Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau  
Minister for Education and Skills

### The Minsters comments

We welcome the statement from the minister that 'I do not condone the teaching of creationism and the Curriculum should not be used as a vehicle or seen as a route for its promotion' and that 'I do not endorse the teaching of creationism as a factual or scientific explanation of the origin of life' and his encouragement to schools to teach students through 'evidence, robust debate and critical thinking.'

It is clear that Noah's Ark Zoo Farm is in direct contradiction to the Curriculum, as shown in its mission statement: 'To build a place where people of all ages, faiths and backgrounds can come and learn the wonders of Creation through fun, adventure and scientific discovery....'

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/279090/NAZF\\_Business\\_Plan\\_2014.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/279090/NAZF_Business_Plan_2014.pdf) (accessed 18/11/2014). There is a great deal of other information available from the Farm's website and other sources that show that NAZF presents Creationism as opposed to valid scientific theory throughout we refer to some below.

We recognise, as the minister says, that schools have the freedom 'to organise and deliver the curriculum in the way that best suits their circumstances and needs', and we are sure that schools understand their responsibility to carry out risk assessments and have confidence in our own children's school and others to undertake this. However, it is clear from our experience, and from the experience of parents with children in other primary schools in Wales gained from the process of developing this petition, that busy teachers, giving in many cases their own free time to research venues for school trips, can be unaware of the implications on the curriculum of visiting NAZF. We are aware of many parents at other schools who only found out about the issues of the zoo when discussing with their children after a visit, and others who, while unhappy with their school's proposed trip were not given the time, or the opportunity to complain.

The Minister for Education and Skills has made it clear in his statement that the selection of venues for education visits is in the remit of Local

Authorities and consortia but also that there is an expectation from the Welsh Government that this process is conducted rigorously and in line with the curriculum, making explicit that teaching creationism should not be part of that curriculum. Our concern is that information is not sufficiently available to schools to make informed decisions. It is clear from our experience, and from the number of different schools represented on this petition, that teachers are unaware of the issues around this zoo.

**We ask that an appropriate department issues a briefing note restating the need to teach evidence based scientific curriculum appropriate to all ages, to draw attention to the underlying dispute between NAFZ and our current scientific understanding of creationism and evolution and to encourage schools to consider this during any planning phase and prior to confirming a booking.**

### Background

The petition submitted followed a particular experience in a Cardiff primary school where confusion and upset was caused by the booking of a school trip to the site to continue the learning on the curriculum on the theme of animals. Following parents raising concerns about the nature of the zoo the school opted to look elsewhere.

### Information about the Zoo

This zoo is created on a basis of a young earth theory commonly known as creationism. Their mission is reproduced in the literature and signage of the park and is in contradiction to education policy.

### Information on the website

The Zoo's website presents on first glance like any bright child friendly educational destination. It is no surprise then that at first people may not identify the mission of the zoo. By following the *about us* link from the main page the mission, or theme, of the zoo is set out. This section encourages a discussion on evolution and creationism and offers what they describe as a 'new approach to looking at the natural world.' The zoo offers a view that the date of the earth is 'much younger than 4.5 billion years'. Following the

pages it is made clear that the zoo is arguing that the ark story is evidenced in the geological record and offer statements such as:

'Through ongoing research, a current estimate proposes that all mammals, living and extinct, can be grouped into fewer than 50 original kinds. As we are still getting to grips with the amazing capacity of species to change form as they diversify and evolve, the actual number is likely to have been even smaller. Similarly there may have been fewer than 20 original kinds of bird and 20 kinds of reptile.'

<http://www.noahsarkzoofarm.co.uk/pages/about-us/earth-history/constructing-the-ark.php>

The site makes it clear that their views contest received scientific understanding noting that 'The [Darwinian](#) view offers a different framework.'

<http://www.noahsarkzoofarm.co.uk/pages/about-us/earth-history/evolution.php>

Readers are encouraged to follow this up to linked sites with a more detailed critique of evolution. The culmination of this set of pages leads to text including the following:

If, after honest inquiry, you find that you cannot explain such things as made by the world itself, it may then be reasonable to ask whether there is a Creator. <http://www.noahsarkzoofarm.co.uk/pages/about-us/earth-history/what-really-happened.php>

In an interview in 2006 the owner is reported to have said:

**From the outside, our farm is not overtly Christian. But, from the inside, we are very strongly Christian. I am a Creationist, and we see the farm as a mission station to give people scientific permission to believe in God.**

<http://www.churchtimes.co.uk/articles/2006/5-may/features/interview-anthony-bush-co-founder-of->

## Noah's Ark Farm Zoo Petition

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[noah%E2%80%99s-ark-zoo-farm-and-former-general-synod-member](#)  
accessed 18/11/2014

### Public information boards on the site

It is evident that the Zoo aims to challenge evolution. Their mission is reflected within the communication boards and signage at the zoo. Images of the signs with and explanation of how they are distributed throughout the site can be found on the humanist website:

<http://blog.newhumanist.org.uk/2010/08/noahs-ark-redux-counter-educational.html>. To quote the signs include

'Eating meat was allowed after the Flood" but "Before this most people might have been veggies', and that "All the people in the world come from Noah's sons Shem, Ham and Japheth. Caucasian from Japheth, Semitic from Shem, and Negroid/Mongoloid/Redskin from Ham.'

The public information boards are discussed in a review of the zoo by Dr Alice Roberts Professor of Public Engagement in Science at the University of Birmingham who observed posters in 2013 that stated :

All in all, bacteria do not look as if they were the products of chance. They look as if they have been designed... Why has science closed its mind to the possibility that life was created?" asked one.

Another one presented "30 reasons why apes are not related to man'. She notes that these posters are ' clustered by the picnic tables in the indoor play park - somewhere all the children are almost guaranteed to visit.' <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/dec/08/wont-go-back-to-creationist-zoo-bristol> accessed 18/11/2014

### Christianity and scientific evidence

We would like to note clearly here that our views on this zoo are not related to Christianity in any way. We feel it is important to note that the views given at NAZF are completely misrepresentative of mainstream Christianity in that the Anglican and Catholic faiths agree with evolutionary theory, as well as being misrepresentative of more minority established Christian faiths who

have rather different versions of creationism. This raises more issues for faith schools in terms of visits to NAZF. The views presented on the Church of England website on this point can be found on this link:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/our-views/medical-ethics-health-social-care-policy/darwin/malcolmbrown.aspx>

### Animal Welfare

Another issue raised in the petition is animal welfare. The Daily Mail raised a series of concerns in their expose piece of

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1221493/Zoo-skinned-dead-tiger-Tira-stored-head-freezer.html>. Whilst we are not in a position to

comment on the voracity of this article many of the claims are reinforced by this BBC investigation

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/somerset/8391779.stmn> which relate

to inappropriate relationships with circuses and animal welfare issues

including the disposal of dead animals. The British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums (BIAZA) is the professional organization representing

the zoo and aquarium community in Britain and Ireland. In 2009 the zoo was expelled from the body due to a breakdown of trust. "

"The reasons for termination are due to a refusal to provide BIAZA with information when requested and entering into an arrangement with the Great British Circus, which contravenes the Animal Transaction Policy, despite having been warned of possible consequences.

"Council believes that the behaviour of NAZF has brought the association into disrepute and that there has been a breakdown of trust between BIAZA and NAZF, and this has unfortunately resulted in a parting of the ways." <http://www.bristolpost.co.uk/Noah-s-Ark-Zoo-Farm-stripped-BIAZA-membership/story-11285228-detail/story.html#ixzz3JSm5FLZa>

Whilst we would not necessarily suggest that schools should only visit sites registered by lead bodies, a lack of membership would add an additional risk assessment burden as those aspects that the lead body audits as part of

## Noah's Ark Farm Zoo Petition

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their professional membership cannot be externally validated, in the case of BIAZA who ensure that:

Member collections must undertake significant work in the field of animal welfare, conservation, education and research. Members must follow and comply with the [Memorandum and Articles of Association](#) (pdf) and Codes of Practice of the Association. All members must adhere to the [Animal Transaction Policy](#) (pdf), which ensures that all animal movements conform to the highest ethical and welfare standards. <http://www.biaza.org.uk/biaza-membership/>

To conclude we hope that the Petitions committee are able to recommend that the Welsh Government pass on this information and advice.

Your sincerely,

Jane Henderson and Ashley Harris on behalf a large group of concerned parents



## **P-04-529 Ombwdsmon Asiantaethau Gosod Tai ar gyfer Cymru**

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i roi Ombwdsmon Asiantaethau Gosod Tai i bobl Cymru drwy gynnwys y mater hwn yn ei Bil Tai.

Bydd ombwdsmon yn rhoi canllawiau, a gyhoeddir gan Lywodraeth Cymru, i bobl ynghylch beth yw eu hawliau fel tenantiaid. Bydd y canllawiau hyn yn dweud wrthynt sut i gwyno'n uniongyrchol drwy weithdrefn gwyno'r asiantaethau gosod tai, a phan fyddant wedi gwneud popeth sy'n bosibl i geisio cael ateb, gallant ofyn i'r Ombwdsmon gymryd yr awenau a gweithredu.

**Prif ddeisebydd:** Let Down in Cardiff

**Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:** 21 Ionawr 2014

**Nifer y llofnodion:** tbc

Lesley Griffiths AC / AM  
Y Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi  
Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-529  
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/05325/14

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

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

Tachwedd 2014

Ysgrifennoch chi atom ar 14 Hydref ynghylch deiseb P-04-529, *Ombwdsmon Asiantwyr Gosod i Gymru*. Mae'r deisebwr wedi bod yn llythyru â'm swyddogion. Gofynnoch yn benodol am fy marn am e-bost diweddaraf y deisebwr gan ofyn imi ymateb i bob pwynt a godwyd gan y deisebwr.

Roedd fy swyddog eisoes wedi ateb y deisebwr cyn i'ch llythyr ein cyrraedd. Amgaeaf gopi o'r ateb, sydd yn fy marn i yn mynd i'r afael â phob un o ofidiau'r deisebwr.

I grynhoi felly, er fy mod yn cytuno'n llwyr â bwriadau'r deisebwr, ni allaf yn fy myw weld beth allai Ombwdsmon Asiantwyr Gosod ei gynnig sy'n ychwanegol i'r hyn a gynigir gan Ran 1 Deddf Dai (Cymru) 2014.

**Lesley Griffiths AC / AM**  
Y Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi  
Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty

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Liz

I will answer your questions in the order in which they were posed:

1. The Codes of Practice are being worked by our stakeholder groups on as we speak. Whilst we do not have a set-in-stone date for bringing the Codes in, the scheme is due to begin next year. The Codes will need to be in place before then, and have to be publicly consulted on, so it will be sooner rather than later that you will be able to have your input.
2. The penalty for non-compliance with the Codes is the removal of a person's licence to manage a property in Wales.
3. We do not intend to be prescriptive in terms of the Ombudsman scheme which letting agents choose to become a member of.
4. We don't envisage there being any issues as, all being well, the scheme will be delivered by one authority on behalf of the other twenty-one. Whatever is agreed upon, this situation should not change.
5. Where the landlord lives is inconsequential, it is where the property that they own and let is situated.
6. To be confirmed after consulting with our stakeholder groups. The current thinking is that landlords / agents will be encouraged to disseminate this information alongside the rental agreements, but there will be scope to promote and distribute via tenant representative organisations such as NUS Wales and Shelter Cymru, as well as through the central scheme.
7. Alongside the existing avenues for such information (Shelter, Citizens Advice, NUS, local authorities), the designated licensing authority will be the place for tenants to go for information / advice and to report problems. Information will be available through all of the usual means, including online.
8. Yes, information will be collected and published.

Ombudsman: The Letting Agent Ombudsman you requested in your petition does not go as far as this scheme. For a start, a Letting Agent Ombudsman would not cover a very sizeable chunk of the private rental market, as in properties let directly by a landlord to a tenant. Secondly, there was no suggestion that this Ombudsman would be mandatory for letting agents. This scheme is mandatory, and covers all landlords and letting / management agents who own or are involved in the letting or management of properties in Wales. Compliance is not optional.

Letting Agent Fees: There are no plans at present to limit the amount of fees that a letting agent can charge, but the plan is to ensure that fees are up-front through the Codes of Practice being developed as part of the implementation of Part 1 of the Housing (Wales) Act. The UK Government's Consumer Rights Bill (<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2014-15/consumerrights.html>) has been subject to a Government amendment which, if agreed, enters a duty upon all letting agents in England and Wales to be up-front about their fees. This means that tenants will have an informed choice when entering into an agreement with a letting agent, and will not be stung by hidden charges or "surprise" fees.

Regards

Gareth Baglow  
Llywodraeth Cymru / Welsh Government  
Adran Polisi Tai / Housing Policy Division  
Tîm Tai Sector Preifat / Private Sector Housing Team  
Llinell Union / Direct Line: 03000 628 155 (GTN 2843 8155)

# Let Down in Wales

*Campaigning for  
Private Rented Sector  
reform*

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2014

To the Petitions Committee,

Whilst the Housing Bill has passed, much of the effects on what private tenants can expect from their landlords/letting agents will depend on the Code of Practice, which is yet to be complete.

We maintain that much of housing legislation, both at a UK and Wales level, is too focused on buyers rather than renters. It is an unfortunate political reality that we cannot build enough houses – affordable ones in particular – that are needed and people are far less likely than ever to be able to save for a house deposit.

The Housing Bill focused mostly on social housing, rather than how to improve rental conditions that increasing amounts of vulnerable people are finding themselves in. Correspondence with the Housing Department has not reassured us that the information will be properly promoted; the rogue landlords and bad letting agents may be ‘encouraged’ to disseminate information, but it would not be in their interests to point tenants towards the Licensing Authority that could take their license away. It’s vital that tenants not only know about the Code of Practice, but are also made aware of their right to complain without fear of ‘revenge evictions’ or the simpler mechanisms that landlords/agents can use against them, such as increasing rent or not offering to renew contracts at short notice.

There is also not much confidence in local authorities being able to govern their responsibilities, due to dwindling resources. Housing Officers will only inspect a property if there is a complaint so whether it complies with the standards will be up to the tenants to decide, and then to decide whether to complain about it or ask the landlord/agent to improve it. Again, tenants’ knowledge of their rights is integral and tenants’ fears of evictions are only rising.

The Renting Homes Bill is a clear opportunity where this can be rectified. We very much welcome that contracts will be made simpler in plain language, making it easier for tenants to understand the terms. However we are very concerned about the proposal to end the 6-month moratorium. Very few tenants would want to rent a property for less than 6 months and this could lead to a severe increase in a lack of security from landlords who are not sure how long they want to rent the property out for and would

offer much shorter or rolling contracts as standard. The rental market is not one of choice for tenants, their options are very limited and they are often forced to accept any contract that is offered to them.

We still believe that a redress scheme, either in the form of Ombudsmen or a Housing Tribunal is a key factor in ultimately ensuring fairness in the private rented sector. This would help to create a much-needed culture change as well, where landlords and agents know that they **have** to abide by Codes or they could incur costs. We also do not think the removal of a license is enough incentive to change rogue landlords' or letting agents' behaviour. Having an Ombudsman or Tribunal would also ensure better information and resources are there for landlords too, who equally need as much information and support to run their businesses appropriately, and for stronger penalties to be enforced when they have treated tenants badly.

Following the Housing Bill, we were very disappointed to see the removal of a Minister for Housing and Regeneration. Whilst the Communities and Tackling Poverty portfolio certainly relates to housing, it is concerning to see it appear to be less of a priority now it's been combined. This raises questions over how much priority the Welsh Government are giving to the Renting Homes Bill, which is an opportunity to fix so many problems for tenants.

We would also be interested to know of any Welsh Government and AMs' views on the Tenancies (Reform) Bill, a Private Member's Bill ([https://www.gov.uk/government/news/stephen-williams-vows-to-outlaw-revenge-evictions](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/stephen-williams-vows-to-outlaw-revenge-<u>evictions</u>)) sponsored by Stephen Williams MP and Sarah Teather MP, reaching its second reading debate on Friday 28th November 2014. It has government backing in principle, but it is yet unclear as to whether it will progress.

Has the Welsh Government considered introducing similar legislation? And does it have the necessary powers to do so? If it doesn't, it also raises questions as to how effective housing legislation can be in Wales if there are not enough levers to regulate it.

And, if the Tenancies (Reform) Bill were to be passed, would the Welsh Government consider passing the legislation through a Legislative Consent Memorandum, and does it believe LCMs to be an effective way of delivering housing policy in Wales?

We'd appreciate any views on the above matters.

Many thanks,

Liz Smith  
*Co-ordinator*  
*Let Down in Wales*

## **P-04-573 Galwad ar Lywodraeth Cymru i Ymchwilio i'r System Lesddaliadau Preswyl yng Nghymru**

### **Manylion:**

Rydym ni sydd wedi llofnodi isod yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ddechrau ymchwiliad i'r ffordd y caiff y system lesddaliadau preswyl ei gweithredu yng Nghymru er gwaetha'r newidiadau a wnaed yn sgîl y Ddeddf Diwygio Cyfraith Lesddaliad ac i ystyried a ddylid cael terfyn ar godiadau mewn cytundebau lesddaliad yng Nghymru.

Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol: Cafodd y ddeiseb hon ei chyflwyno yn sgîl pryder preswylwyr ar ystâd Elba yn Nhre-gŵyr, oherwydd cynnydd o hyd at 5000% mewn rhent tir blynyddol y mae Cyngor Abertawe yn gofyn i'r lesddeiliaid ei dalu.

**Prif ddeisebydd** Residents of Elba Estate

**Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:** 15 Mehefin 2014

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 583

Lesley Griffiths AC / AM  
Y Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi  
Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-573  
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/05328/14

William Powell AC  
Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

8

Tachwedd 2014

*Annyl Bill*

Rwy'n cyfeirio at eich llythyr dyddiedig 30 Hydref ynghylch Deiseb P-04-573 *Galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i ymchwilio i'r System Lesddaliad Preswyl yng Nghymru*. Mae'r deisebydd wedi ysgrifennu i ymateb i'r cyn Weinidog Tai ac Adfywio, Carl Sargeant AC.

Mae'r deisebydd yn gywir wrth ddatgan bod rhai achosion sy'n cynnwys cynnydd mewn rhent tir o ganlyniad i gymalau adolygu rhent o fewn y les yn cael eu clywed gan yr Uwch Dribiwnlys (Siambwr Tir). Dyma'r weithdrefn ar gyfer dadlau penderfyniadau a gyflwynir gan y Tribiwnlys Prisio Lesddaliadau. Yr hyn yr ydym yn ei anghofio yma yw mai tribiwnlysoedd yw'r dull a ddefnyddir i apelio yn erbyn arferion annheg. Dyma ble y gellir sicrhau atebolrwydd.

Nid wyf eto wedi dod i wybod beth yw'r lefelau rhent tir diwygiedig sy'n cael eu cynnig gan Gyngor Abertawe i breswylwyr ystad Elba. Rwy'n gobeithio'n wir eu bod wedi dod at eu coed, a bod y rhentiau tir yn cael eu pennu ar lefel mwy rhesymol a fforddiadwy, fydd gobeithio yn osgoi yr angen i sicrhau atebolrwydd drwy'r system y tribiwnlysoedd.

Fel y dywed y deisebydd, mae Deddf Diwygio Cyfraith Lesddaliad 1967 wedi bodoli ers 47 mlynedd. Mae hyn wedi rhoi digon o amser i unrhyw broblemau ymddangos, ond nid yw hyn wedi digwydd. Nid oes tystiolaeth o broblem amlwg yng Nghymru.

Bydd yr adroddiad gan y Gwasanaeth Cyngori ar Lesddaliadau ar gael i Aelodau'r Cynulliad unwaith y bydd y fersiwn derfynol wedi dod i law.

*Yn gywir*  
*Lesley*

Lesley Griffiths AC / AM  
Y Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi  
Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ddiogelwch 108

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300  
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400  
Correspondence.Lesley.Griffiths@wales.gsi.gov.uk  
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**P-04-573 Call on the Welsh Government to investigate the residential leasehold system in Wales – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 19.11.14**

From – Mr Kenneth Douglas

To Mr William Powell, AM Chair of Petitions Committee

Dear Sir,

I refer to your letter dated 8th November 2014, with a letter attached from Lesley Griffiths AM concerning Petition P-14-573 asking for my comments.

I can only speak for myself, and not for all the residents of the Elba Estate, Gowerton, Swansea. The first letters sent, 6th June 2014, to residents, varied; subject to plot size up to 5000%+ per annum, up from 7% per annum, when the properties were purchased, plot size was not an issue at that time.

The Action Committee negotiations with Swansea council have resulted with a reduced offer of £400 per annum for all residents. This may well appear a wonderful result, however, it is still an increase of 800%, and will still be an enormous burden to many young families and pensioners, with the one main equation missing, that any diligent administration would have penciled in first, 'Affordability'. We are also told via the local press, that the properties on the Elba Estate "are worthless", due to the massive increase in the ground rent.

I understand, that following a 'Freedom of Information request', it seems the Elba estate were the highest rated leasehold properties in Swansea, even before this increase: These are working class people, not London stockbrokers. A savvy, experienced administration, receiving such a hot potato from a defunct authority, would have seen the failings of such a lease, a lease that is based on those used in the world of commercial properties, and should have been seen in this case, not fit for residential properties, and therefore not fit for purpose..

I believe this petition is vital, to safeguard the many thousands of residents within Wales, who's councils may be tempted to go the same route, if Swansea council is seen to be successful. I also believe it is essential for good governance, that the Welsh Assembly Government should have the authority to be able to intervene in

such matters, in the same way that it has been seen necessary to Cap council tax charges. Not all councils have competent management, and not all discharge a 'Duty of Care'. We the people, require a recourse at such times.

Thank you for your time

Yours faithfully

Ken Douglas

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

6 November 2014

Dear William,

Re: PETITIONS COMMITTEE – P-04-573 – RESIDENTIAL LEASEHOLD SYSTEM IN WALES

The above petition is being processed via the Petitions Committee at this time.

In Carl Sargeant's AM letter dated 3 September he clearly indicates that the Leasehold Advisory Service had advised the Welsh Government that they found absolutely no evidence that this issue exists outside this estate.

Alas, this is not the case.

I have been approached by the family of an 85 year old from Cockett, Swansea, who on reading the newspaper articles on the Elba Site contacted City and County of Swansea (SCC) in May this year to ascertain if she could extend her lease as it has only approximately 12 years left to run; at present she is paying £4.37 ground rent. The Council informed her that they would grant a new lease (50 years) at a modern ground rent of approximately £1,900 per annum.

The elderly lady also enquired after the freehold sale price and received a letter from SCC dated 23 September 2014 stating that the freehold was £27,950 plus Council's legal and surveyor's fees of £1,690. This has subsequently been

negotiated down to £25,000 plus £1,600 fees. However, the family are not in a position to proceed with purchase.

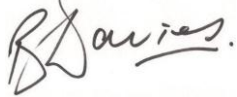
I write as I feel sure that there are more cases like this out there involving the elderly who are under tremendous stress, embarrassed to tell the families or have no family to advise them.

I have requested a full list from SCC of all Leasehold properties that they control.

I will forward all the necessary documentation to you for your consideration in due course

If there are any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Byron Davies'.

**H. Byron Davies**

**Regional Assembly Member for South Wales West**

**Shadow Minister for Transport and Regeneration, European Affairs and Whip**

Lesley Griffiths AM  
Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty  
(Housing and Regeneration)  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

6 November 2014

Dear Minister,

Re: PETITIONS COMMITTEE – P-04-573 – RESIDENTIAL LEASEHOLD SYSTEM IN WALES

The above petition is being processed via the Petitions Committee at this time. Your predecessor, Carl Sargeant AM under his previous office as Minister for Housing, wrote to William Power AM, Chair of the Petitions Committee on 3 September 2014. Copy enclosed for your easy reference.

In this letter he clearly indicates that the Leasehold Advisory Service had advised the Welsh Government that they found absolutely no evidence that this issue exists outside this estate.

Alas, this is not the case.

I have been approached by the family of an 85 year old from Cockett, Swansea, who on reading the newspaper articles on the Elba Site contacted City and County of Swansea (SCC) in May this year to ascertain if she could extend her lease as it has only approximately 12 years left to run; at present she is paying £4.37 ground rent. The Council informed her that they would grant a new lease (50 years) at a modern ground rent of approximately £1,900 per annum.

The elderly lady also enquired after the freehold sale price and received a letter from SCC dated 23 September 2014 stating that the freehold was £27,950 plus Council's legal and surveyor's fees of £1,690. This has subsequently been negotiated down to £25,000 plus £1,600 fees. However, the family are not in a position to proceed with purchase.


I write as I feel sure that there are more cases like this out there involving the elderly who are under tremendous stress, embarrassed to tell the families or have no family to advise them.

I will be forwarding all the necessary documentation to the Chair regarding this particular case in due course.

I have requested a full list from SCC of all Leasehold properties that they control.

I look forward to hearing from you that LEASE have taken this incident into account when preparing their report and subsequent recommendations.

Yours sincerely,



**H. Byron Davies**

**Regional Assembly Member for South Wales West**

**Shadow Minister for Transport and Regeneration, European Affairs and Whip**

**Encl**



Mr Jack Straw  
Chief Executive Officer  
Civic Centre  
City and County of Swansea  
Oystermouth Road  
Swansea  
SA1 3SN

6 November 2014

Dear Sir,

Re:LEASEHOLD PROPERTIES IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

I write further on the subject of leasehold properties within the control of the City and County of Swansea.

I have recently been approached by a Swansea resident who is in a similar position to those people on the Elba site. It would appear that there are more leaseheld properties, other than the Elba site, which are currently experiencing difficulties with the prospect of increases in their ground rents .

Under the Freedom For Information Act 2000 I therefore request a complete and up-to-date list of all properties held by the Council which are currently leaseheld within the jurisdiction of the City and County of Swansea; the term of the leases, the renewal dates of those leases and the ground rent currently being paid to SCC by the leasees.

I look forward to receiving the information.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "H. Byron Davies". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underlining the name.

**H. Byron Davies**

**Regional Assembly Member for South Wales West**

**Shadow Minister for Transport and Regeneration, European Affairs and Whip**

cc Mr Geoff Bacon

Corporate Building & Property Services

## **P-04-532 Gwella Gwasanaethau Niwrogyhyrol Arbenigol yng Nghymru**

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i anog Llywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau bod Byrddau Iechyd yn gweithredu'r buddsoddiad a gynigir yn Nogfen Weledigaeth Rhwydwaith Niwrogyhyrol Cymru i wella gwasanaethau niwrogyhyrol arbenigol yng Nghymru.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol: Mae Rhwydwaith Niwrogyhyrol Cymru'n argymhell y dylid blaenoriaethu'r datblygiadau canlynol: 1. Cynyddu nifer y Cynghorwyr Gofal Teulu a lefel y gefnogaeth. 2. Ffisiotherapyddion niwrogyhyrol arbenigol ar gyfer oedolion. 3. Penodi ymgynghorydd anhwylderau niwrogyhyrol ar gyfer oedolion. 4. Cynyddu seicoleg glinigol. 5. Cyllideb offer at bryniannau mân a threfniadau lesio.

**Prif ddeisebydd:** Muscular Dystrophy Campaign

**Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:** 4 Chwefror 2014



Eich cyf/Your ref: P-04-532  
Ein cyf/Our ref: MD/03323/14

William Powell ACCadeirydd  
Y Pwyllgor Deisebau

Stephen.george@wales.gov.uk

15 Hydref 2014

*Annwyl William,*

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 1 Medi ynghylch y Ddeiseb P-04-532 am wasanaethau niwro-gyhyrol arbenigol.

Efallai bod y Pwyllgor yn ymwybodol ein bod wedi cyhoeddi Cynllun Cyflawni ar gyfer Cyflyrau Niwrolegol ar 8 Mai, yn amlinellu ein disgwyliadau ar gyfer gofal pobl â chyflyrau niwrolegol gan gynnwys y rheini sydd â chlefyd niwro-gyhyrol.

Mae'r Cynllun Cyflawni ar gyfer Cyflyrau Niwrolegol yn darparu fframwaith gweithredu gan fyrddau iechyd a'u partneriaid. Mae'n amlinellu disgwyliadau Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer cynllunio a darparu gofal sy'n canolbwyntio ar yr unigolyn, ac yn canolbwyntio ar ddiwallu anghenion y boblogaeth, mynd i'r afael ag amrywiadau o ran mynediad at wasanaethau a lleihau anghydraddoldebau ar draws 7 thema:

- Codi ymwybyddiaeth o gyflyrau niwrolegol
- Diagnosis cyflym o gyflyrau niwrolegol
- Gofal cyflym ac effeithiol
- Byw â chyflwr niwrolegol
- Plant a phobl Ifanc
- Gwella gwybodaeth
- Targedu ymchwil

Bydd Byrddau Iechyd bellach yn datblygu ac yn gweithredu eu cynlluniau eu hunain i ddarparu gwasanaethau cydgysylltiedig i gleifion. Mae angen i ofal arbenigol gael cysylltiadau da â gwasanaethau lleol, gan ddarparu profiad a chanlyniadau gwell i gleifion. Yn arbennig, mae'n hanfodol bod y GIG a'i bartneriaid yn canolbwyntio ar ddiwallu anghenion y boblogaeth, lleihau anghydraddoldebau ym maes iechyd ac amrywiadau o ran mynediad at wasanaethau ledled Cymru. Caiff y materion a nodwyd gan yr Ymgyrch Nychdod Cyhyrol eu hystyried fel rhan o'r broses o weithredu'r Cynllun.

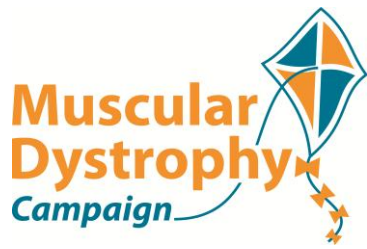
Mewn perthynas â Chadeirydd newydd Rhwydwaith Niwro-gyhyrol Cymru, mater i'r GIG yw hwn, ond rwy'n deall bod trafodaethau'n mynd rhagddynt i benodi Cadeirydd newydd.

*Ingywir Mark*

**Mark Drakeford AC / AM**

Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol

Minister for Health and Social Services



## **Muscular Dystrophy Campaign comment for the Petitions Committee on 25<sup>th</sup> November**

The Muscular Dystrophy Campaign acknowledges the correspondence from the Minister for Health and Social Services to the Petitions Committee outlining the Neurological Conditions Delivery Plan and welcomes his statement that the issues identified by the Muscular Dystrophy Campaign will be considered as part of the implementation plan.

It is essential that the complex nature of muscular dystrophy and related neuromuscular conditions is recognised and not just generically grouped with neurological conditions or long-term conditions. Other specialisms are also needed for these rare and very rare conditions, such as genetic, respiratory, rehabilitation and cardiac support.

We understand that after five months there is still no appointment of a Chair of the Welsh Neuromuscular Network, which is a matter needing to be resolved as a matter of urgency to build on the progress made by Dr Andrew Goodall made when he was Chair of the Network.

The Muscular Dystrophy Campaign reiterates the call for Health Boards to act now to ensure that the Welsh Neuromuscular Network's investment priorities identified a year ago are implemented so that all people living with muscle-wasting conditions have comparable access to specialist services to other parts of the UK. The priorities for investment are as follows:

- **increased neuromuscular care advisor support**
- **specialist adult neuromuscular physiotherapy**
- **long-term dedicated neuromuscular consultant time**
- **specialist neuromuscular psychology support**

If the Health Boards in Wales agree to the recommended investment, emergency hospital care could be dramatically reduced.

The Muscular Dystrophy Campaign hopes that the urgent need for neuromuscular service development can be scheduled for a debate in the Assembly at the earliest available opportunity.

# Eitem 4.17

## **P-04-582 Newid Mawr ei Angen i'r Rheolau yn ein Hysgolion o ran Llau Pen a Nedd**

### **Manylion:**

Mae angen newid y rheolau o ran llau pen mewn ysgolion. Ar hyn o bryd, ni chaniateir i staff yr ysgol nodi pwy yn y dosbarth y mae llau pen arnynt—ni ellir dweud wrth rhiant y plentyn sydd â llau pen, hyd yn oed. Yr unig beth sy'n digwydd yw bod llythyr generig yn cael ei ddosbarthu. Pam na ellir dweud wrth y rhieini bod llau pen ar eu plentyn, a'i fod yn heintio'r dosbarth, a gofyn iddynt ei gasglu? Yna, dylai'r plentyn gael ei gadw i ffwrdd o'r ysgol hyd nes bod aelod o staff yn barnu y gall ddychwelyd, fel sy'n digwydd mewn rhai ysgolion yn yr Unol Daleithiau! Os bydd plentyn yn chwydu yn yr ysgol, bydd yn cael ei anfon adref ar unwaith. Mae llau pen yr un mor heintus ac maent yn achosi'r un faint o ofid i'n plant. Gellir gwneud hyn mewn modd cynnil a synhwyrol – nid oes rhaid i neb wybod, oni bai fod y rhiant yn dewis rhannu'r wybodaeth. Nid yw'n ymyrryd â hawliau dynol neb. Os rhywbeth, byddai'n amddiffyn plant y rhai ohonom sy'n ddiwyd ac yn gofalu amdanynt, ac felly yn gwario llawer o arian yn trin ein plant yn ofer!

**Prif ddeisebydd :** Marnie Hill

**Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:** 23 Medi 2014

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 31



Mark Drakeford AC / AM  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-582  
Ein cyf/Our ref MD/05358/14

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

29 October 2014

*Dear William,*

Thank you for your letter of 30 September addressed to the Minister for Education and Skills, seeking his comments on the petition P-04-582 on the subject of the control of head lice in schools. The letter has been passed to me to respond, as the subject falls within my portfolio.

I understand parents' concerns. Head lice can be a persistent problem which can be uncomfortable and irritating for children and highly frustrating and worrying for parents. It can be extremely challenging to clear any infestation and a co-ordinated approach between parents, teachers, the school nurse and the wider community is advised.

Routine screening, followed by the exclusion of those affected used to take place in some schools. This proved to be ineffective in preventing spread. Despite the fact that head lice are no respecters of social status and the cleanliness of hair, there can still be a social stigma attached to infestation with head lice. To compound matters, children would miss significant periods of school for something that, although uncomfortable and irritating, has relatively mild symptoms.

The best way to stop infection is for parents to learn how to check their children's heads for lice. The responsibility for frequent checks must lie with the individual parent who is best placed to detect infestation. In order to encourage this method the Parent Teacher Associations of some schools have organised family health promotion sessions with health professionals. Many schools participate in initiatives such as National Bug Busting Days (31 January, 15 June and 31 October) which aim to ensure children and parents know how to detect and treat head lice and prevent their circulation.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300  
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400  
Correspondence.Mark.Drakeford@wales.gsi.gov.uk

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

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Tudalen y pecyn 125

The Welsh Government has published a leaflet and a factsheet for use in schools (<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/health/protection/communicabledisease/publications/headlice/?lang=en>) which explains and normalises the issue and gives detailed information on how to treat the infestation. Parents may wish to discuss this with the school nurse and teachers if they would find that helpful.

Best wishes,

Mark

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

**P-04-582 Much Needed Change to the Rules in our Schools with Regards to Head Lice and Nits – Correspondence from the Hairforce – Lice Assassins to the Committee, 22.09.14**

**WELSH ASSEMBLY PETITION**

**P-04-582 Much needed change in the rules in our schools with regards to Head Lice and Nits**

**Supporting arguments by Natalie Nurse, The Hairforce – Lice Assassins, Cardiff**

I wish to submit supporting arguments to the above petition submitted by Marnie Hill. I run the Cardiff branch of a business dedicated to the professional checking and clearing of head lice and their eggs (the nits), The Hairforce – Lice Assassins. In this position I am uniquely placed to give insight into both the research that exists around this topic and the human evidence extracted from our client base, and how both these sources support the need for the sort of change the petition is seeking.

**WHY EVIDENCE SUPPORTS THE PETITION:**

**1. The highly infectious nature of the issue**

Head lice are passed from human to human by close contact, and that contact is a natural occurrence in the classroom and in the playground amongst groups of children. Children carrying head lice therefore put other children constantly at risk.

A quantification of that risk can be found in academic research which shows that as far back as 2005 nearly 50% of 4-11 year olds, or nearly 3 million children, have nits and lice annually in the UK, with 10% to 15% having them at any one time. Researchers suspect that this figure is a gross underestimate of the true size of the issue in 2014. In addition the traditional way of measuring the reach of the problem – i.e. just the 4 to 11 age group – does not take into account the rise of nursery education, and therefore the under 4 age group; the fact that infestations are carried from primary school into the secondary school system, so beyond the age of 11; and the rest of the family members – parents, grandparents, and carers who are often infested by the primary carrier. Research in 2011 estimated that a quarter of all parents caught Head Lice from their children.

The speed at which infestations are properly dealt with is therefore critical to containing the repercussions through the age ranges and through different environments.

The market growth rates amongst 4–11 year olds since the late 1990's show a significant pattern of growth – 19% 1997; 28% 1998; 37% 2003; 50% 2005 (Sources: KG Coates; 1997 & 1998 AM Downs; 2003 J Harris; 2005 Hill).

In addition research shows that as Head Lice spread, growing numbers of children have their schooling adversely affected, and with that their parents working lives similarly disrupted – children lose 2.74 million days from school, and parents take 2.78 million days off work to tackle infestations (Sept 2011 NYDA). An Ipsos Mori poll in the same year in Northern Ireland revealed that parents were taking 97,120 days off work and children were losing 63,327 days of school as a result of the problem (Sept 2011).

## 2. The negative effect on the well-being of our children within School

In 2012 a ground breaking piece of research appeared in the USA which strips away the traditional product bias in Head Lice research and turned to the children and their interests. The publisher of this research – the **National Association of Social Workers** – gives both credibility and a refreshing sense of honesty to the paper. Significantly this is a body that is child centric not product sales driven.

This 2012 research by Purdy and True, whilst conducted in America, speaks of our children here in Wales and the rest of the UK. Their child centred study sought to discover the personal and emotional responses of children to having head lice – and their findings will be of interest to all, as they hinge on the very happiness of the children.

The research identified that amongst 7–11 year olds having head lice was seen by the individual child as a 'symbolic failure', associated with (real and imagined) ridicule and blame from peers. There was a strong association of head lice with embarrassment, sadness and anger, as well as peer rejection and negative labelling:

- 60% of children interviewed had **experienced public humiliation** as a result of having head lice

- 90% reported being **teased by schoolmates, parents, and relatives** when they had head lice
- **Rejection** by peers was the number one concern of the participating children
- Peer **acceptance was greatly diminished** for a child who had head lice; and **negative labelling** often **followed the child throughout his or her school life**
- The majority of the children in the study showed signs of **diminished self-perception** because of this issue. Furthermore, most of the children felt a sense of personal responsibility for having lice, and expressed feelings of being 'bad' or 'dirty'

All the findings '**illustrated the intense negative impact that head lice infestations, and the perceptions surrounding infestations could have on children**'.

The credibility of this research is underpinned by its clinical methodology. It utilises cognitive-developmental frameworks used in understanding child development. The cross referencing of those frameworks with what these children revealed has lead Purdy and Ture to believe that these effects can have **long term implications into adulthood**. They write that negative self-perception can remain with a child for years and has the potential to affect their social development – 'A sense of inferiority develops when perceived or actual failure is dominant. A child with head lice may experience teasing from peers, resulting in exclusion from activities and relationships. Consequent inferiority may evolve into the reduction of self-esteem, isolation, and shame. The child may feel less worthy of respect from others and inadequate in social situations. These person-environment relationships are critical to the development of competence, self-direction, relatedness, and self-esteem. Repeated head lice infestations may prevent the sense of belonging necessary to the preparation for competent adult performance.' This theory is supported by the work of leading authorities in child psychology (Erickson and Piaget) who believe that positive development is critical if a child is to achieve psychological competence.

The findings of this research are supported by The Hairforce – Lice Assassins, the UK’s nit and head lice clearing service. Through our hands-on work physically clearing thousands of infestations, we witness the diminishing effects head lice have on children on a day to day basis. Clearing a sustained and/or heavy infestation can transform a child; elicit immediate comments from the school and their teachers about them socially and academically; positively change their demeanor and their feelings towards going to school; and physically restore them and their health. One of the most frequent comments from the parents of the children they clear is ‘my child is his or herself again’. To quote Dee Wright of The Hairforce, ‘Because we work closely with the child and see them over a number of appointments we can actually track and witness the effects head lice have, and the positive change that is evident as they are cleared. What these children need more than anything is to get this parasite and its eggs, the nits, out of their hair quickly, safely and effectively so they can get on with their childhood and schooling, and be restored as a person’.

### **3. The risk to the health of our children in School**

The significance of Head Lice as a health issue has for some time been pigeon-holed by the Department of Health and Education, as a minor issue. However thinking ignores significant facts concerning Head Lice:

- They are blood suckers and move from host to host in a society that is more mobile and more international
- Pediculosis, the medical term for an infestation of lice, is a communicable disease and causes serious dis-ease for those who catch it
- They are commonly known in public health to carry the highly infectious impetigo
- There is growing evidence and data to show that these parasites carry serious organisms that impact on human health – this link is to a

comprehensive list of research findings which gives significant weight to this argument <http://www.headlice.org/news/research/index.htm>

#### **4. No nit policies work in the USA**

No nit policies are a policy of zero tolerance of Head Lice in the classroom and were a part of American school culture for many years. Some states abandoned them a few years ago because of the very issues raised by Marnie in her Petition – fear of exclusion, discrimination etc. Since rescinding that policy many schools in the USA have found that the Head Lice situation has significantly worsened and in the last year many school boards have returned to no nit policy ([www.headlice.org](http://www.headlice.org) has tracked this policy reversal).

#### **HOW THE HAIRFORCE – LICE ASSASSINS CAN HELP**

##### **1. We counter the ineffectiveness of the products**

In 2006 research by the National Public Health Service for Wales Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre in Cardiff published a leading piece of research on Head Lice. The results conclusively showed that 80% of the time lice were immune to the products applied to eradicate Head Lice. This research was based on a substantial sample drawn from 3 of the 5 health authority areas of Wales. The findings confirmed that Head Lice had further evolved developing immunity to the various chemical formulas that constitute this £33 million market.

This research confirmed what a lot of parents already knew, and still know – the products do not deliver what they say they do, often establishing a long term cycle of despair for both the parents and the child.

The leading entomologists in the UK believe that 80% figure to be higher in 2014, and at The Hairforce the parents we see are living testament to that – using products regularly but still remaining infested.

This evidence is played out consistently in the press. In Caroline Scott's substantial article on head lice in the Daily Mail in September 2012 she made a very clear analysis of how parents – especially mum's – are peddled false hope by Head Lice products under the guise of 'expert' advice. It was a healthy break

from the usual hopeless narrative around head lice, because it gave further in-depth explanation as to why this problem just simply won't go away. Scott wrote about Clara who has 'tried every product on the market without success ranging, from tea-tree and herbal shampoos to some really nasty chemicals'. At The Hairforce - Lice Assassins, we see this same experience repeated time after time amongst our substantial client base.

One of the accusations levied at mums is that somewhere in every class there is a mum that doesn't care about head lice, and because she doesn't tackle it everyone else's efforts are undermined. What we see, and what Scott's article verifies, is that mums try very hard to do something about head lice but the products they are using on the back of expert advice are letting them down. If, as the article lays bare, products are often backed by poor evidence; deeply flawed research (the base sizes of much of the research are shockingly low); and more worryingly research - and therefore the 'impartial' experts behind that research - is funded by the drug companies themselves, you see an equivalent to a Ponzi scheme with concerned parents as the losers. As Scott concludes 'It's an ideal market to sell expensive products that don't quite work.'

In our business we see the really unacceptable face of this when we clear heavy infestations. The worst case we have ever seen is of a 6 year old girl whose very serious infestation had been tackled by her GP with repeated prescriptions of dimeticone over a long period of time. What we found was a child whose hair was brittle, whose scalp was scarred, and most distressingly whose hair was simply coming away in places when you attempted to nit comb - and who was still riddled with head lice. Repeated uses of dimeticone hadn't solved anything and had literally siliconed the nits so firmly onto the hair that you couldn't get all of them off. You may feel criticism for the mother when you read this, but she made repeated trips to her GP for help and with his help put her faith in a product.

The Hairforce was developed as a direct response to the 80% failure rate delivered by the products. We believe that parents and children deserve an open and honest solution to the Head Lice issue, which supports rather than exploits them. 'We do exactly what we say on the tin' and we back this with a 100% guarantee that we will shut it all down and end the infestation. Our process is entirely chemical free so Head Lice are unable to become immune to our



process. We use a clever combination of technology (we Hoover the hair with a specialist lice Hoover, and dehydrate the eggs with controlled heated air) and hand removal. In just 2 appointments, 7 days apart – 2.5 hours of intense, forensic work – we remove everything, cutting off the development process. In contrast a parent can be many weeks, often months, and sometimes years struggling to keep it under control themselves. That invariably involves a lot of product – and at the price of the products, that can add up to a lot of money. People who use our service would say it is the best money they have ever spent after having lived with months or years trying to clear them. We use unique controlled, heated air technology with the to dehydrate the nits in order to speed up the whole process, but we also do what Scott advocates in her Daily Mail article – we remove all the nits (the eggs), because at the heart of shutting down an infestation you need to get those nits out of the hair. The products would have you believe that isn't necessary because they want you to keep using them, time and time again.

At the end of the day Hedrin Once have used the following line in their TV campaign for a reason – ‘Hedrin Once **could** kill head lice and their eggs’ – because the advertising regulators who caution against unsubstantiated promises would have made them.

It is clear that the focus on product has been allowed to drive the policy and policy makers have not listened to both the research that repeatedly challenges their effectiveness, nor to the parents who are constantly fire-fighting this issue. But when products are so fundamentally ineffective and repeated applications simply add to the problem, allowing infestations to often take a hold and multiply substantially this means the problem is never really addressed. Because of this we would argue that the authorities need to step back from this product focus and say at the center of this issue are the children, their welfare, and their happiness, and there is a fundamental need for a truly effective approach to clearing and shutting down head lice infestations and to controlling the situation.

## 2. We are fast

If a child is identified as having Head Lice we need to see them twice, 7 days apart. For an average infestation the first appointment is 1.5 hours at which we

clear everything out that is visible. This means that child can go straight back to school and get on with their studies without being infectious to anyone else and the parent can get back to work.

We would then see them a week later for a one hour appointment. This second appointment deals with those eggs that are not visible at the first appointment because when Head Lice lay their eggs they are invisible sacks of liquid. After their second appointment everything has been extracted and the infestation totally shut down.

Heavy and very heavy infestations require a third appointment. At the first appointment two Lice Assassins would work on the hair together to extract the extra volume of both Head Lice and nits (the eggs).

Alternatively with the products parents are working with 20% effectiveness rate and must then remove all the eggs to ensure further hatching does not occur.

### **3. We can provide the role of Nit Nurse in Schools**

We provide schools with a professional Checking service where we can check specific classes or the whole school. These are constructed to preserve the privacy of the children. Each child receives exactly the same check regardless of whether we can identify Head Lice or not, ensuring that no one can work out who has it and who doesn't. Results are not communicated to anyone during the process. At the end of the job we then hand over the results to a dedicated person who will then email those parents whose children are found to have Head Lice.

This service removes the uncertainty of who may or may not have Head Lice and how it is identified, and then ensures the problem is tackled for that community.

In addition we also conduct forensic Head Lice checks for other members of the family if they are unsure whether they have caught them or not, ensuring that the cycle of re-infestation is prevented.

### **How we can work with the Welsh Government**

A petition of this nature has immense logic when you examine the situation – this is an infectious disease that can spread swiftly within the school environment, with significant repercussions for children and their parents. The Petition is one pillar of

the support parents and children require. They also need an effective way of shutting down the infestation and getting their child back into school. The potential for failure at this stage needs to also be established. We can provide this essential support.

### **1. Providing a support service to those with Head Lice**

We can provide some very clear deliverables

- We can clear head lice infestations guaranteeing 100% effectiveness
- We can significantly shorten the time children are away from school and get them back in the classroom in a matter of hours without any risk to their classmates
- We can check the whole family to identify who else has them and reduce the risk of re-infestation
- We can deliver a service and approach that removes the stigma of Head Lice for individuals and within the community

### **2. Checking service in Schools**

We can provide a supportive network of detection that enables the school system to professionally identify those in need

- A discreet, privacy preserving checking service for all with a link to then clearing

### **3. Expand to meet demand**

Our employment model is to create part time employment for women in the community, offering 15 to 18 hours a week paid work. This fits with the demands of family life and brings women back into the job market. This model would enable expansion through the school system as well as benefit the community with employment opportunities.

### **4. Establishing the relationship and raising awareness in Schools**

We can work with the Welsh Assembly and the school system in establishing this solution to the Head Lice issue and in communicating it to the parents:

- A launch road show for school staff, parents and school nurses
- Educational pack and/or mobile phone app
- School email communication pack for schools to parents
- You Tube demonstration and education

**Natalie Nurse**

**Lice Assassin**

**The Hairforce – Lice Assassins**

[www.thehairforce.co.uk](http://www.thehairforce.co.uk)

**029 2236 2013 and 07538 367 692**

**Key sources for reference:**

1. Surveillance of insecticide resistance in head lice 14 Jun 2006; J D R Thomas BMJ
2. The Times 14<sup>th</sup> June 2006 'Head lice defeat the lotions & potions. How lice are becoming invincible'
3. Daily Mail, Caroline Scott 20<sup>th</sup> September 2011 'Head lice cures are money down the drain'
4. NYDA publication 27<sup>th</sup> September 2011 Ipsos MORI (2011) Capibus Survey. Head Lice Study. 08 July–14 July 2011
5. Belfast Telegraph, Claire McNeilly 15<sup>th</sup> September 2011 'Parents missing 97,120 days at work because of head lice'

These sources can be provided if requested.



## **P-04-601 Gwaharddiad Arfaethedig ar Ddefnyddio e-sigaréts Mewn Mannau Cyhoeddus**

### **Manylion**

Rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i beidio â bwrw ymlaen â'u gwaharddiad arfaethedig ar ddefnyddio e-sigaréts mewn mannau cyhoeddus caeedig, mannau cyhoeddus sylweddol gaeedig, a gweithleoedd yng Nghymru. Ni all y cynnig hwn, os caiff ei weithredu, ond arwain at ostyngiad yn y nifer a fydd yn defnyddio e-sigaréts a chynnydd yn y nifer a fydd yn ysmegu sigaréts.

### **Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:**

Mae 100,000 o bobl yng Nghymru yn defnyddio e-sigaréts eisoes. Mae'r rhain yn ysmegu llai o sigaréts neu nid ydynt yn ysmegu sigaréts o gwbl; dylai hyn fod yn achos dathlu, nid yn achos pryder. Yn ôl arolwg a gynhaliodd y BBC yn ddiweddar, mae 62% o'r cyhoedd yn gwrthwynebu gwahardd defnyddio e-sigaréts yn gyhoeddus. Yn Sbaen, lle gwaharddwyd defnyddio e-sigaréts yn gyhoeddus, bu gostyngiad o 70% yn y defnydd o e-sigaréts a chynnydd yn y nifer a oedd yn ysmegu. Rydym yn ofni y bydd yr un peth yn digwydd yng Nghymru os bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn rhoi eu gwaharddiad arfaethedig ar waith. O gofio y bydd hysbysebu a hyrwyddo e-sigaréts yn cael ei wahardd yn fuan ar ôl pasio'r Gyfarwydddeb Cynhyrchion Tybaco, ble fydd ysmygwyr yn cael gwybodaeth am e-sigaréts, yn enwedig os ydynt yn cael eu gwahardd mewn mannau cyhoeddus? Mae angen i ysmygwyr weld pobl yn defnyddio e-sigaréts yn gyhoeddus, mae angen iddynt fedru mynd at y rhai sy'n defnyddio e-sigaréts i siarad â nhw a chael rhagor o wybodaeth ac yna dewis defnyddio sigaréts mwy diogel, gobeithio

**Prif ddeisebydd:** Simon Thurlow

**Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:** 7 Hydref

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 1,196 llofnod a'r lein

Mark Drakeford AC / AM  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-601  
Ein cyf/Our ref MD/05473/14

William Powell AC  
Aelod Cynulliad dros Ganolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru  
Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau  
Tŷ Hywel  
Bae Caerdydd  
Caerdydd  
CF99 1NA

[committeebusiness@cymru.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:committeebusiness@cymru.gsi.gov.uk)

29 Hydref 2014

*Annog William,*

Diolch am eich llythyr diweddar ar ran y Pwyllgor Deisebau ynglŷn â Deiseb P-04-601 am y gwaharddiad arfaethedig ar ddefnyddio e-sigaréts mewn mannau cyhoeddus.

Mae smygu'n parhau i fod yn berygl mawr i iechyd y cyhoedd yng Nghymru. Mae tua 20% o'r nifer sy'n cael eu derbyn yn ysbytai'r GIG yn dioddef salwch sy'n gysylltiedig â smygu, am gost o fwy na £1 miliwn y dydd. Rydym yn parhau i fuddsoddi mewn annog pobl i beidio â dechrau smygu, yn ogystal â chefnogi'r rhai hynny sydd am roi'r gorau iddi. Ein nod yw ceisio gostwng lefelau smygu yng Nghymru i 16% erbyn 2020, a'n gweledigaeth yn y pen draw yw creu cymdeithas ddi-fwg sydd wedi cael gwared ar niwed tybaco'n gyfan gwbl.

O ran y cyfraniad y gall e-sigaréts ei wneud i helpu smygwyr i roi'r gorau iddi: ar hyn o bryd, maent yn nwyddau anrheoledig ac nid ydynt wedi'u trwyddedu i fod yn gymhorthion rhoi'r gorau i smygu. Yn ychwanegol, gan nad oes tystiolaeth ddigonol am ddiogelwch hirdymor e-sigaréts, rydym yn cynghori defnyddwyr i fod yn ofalus, ac yn annog pobl i siarad â'u meddyg teulu neu fferyllydd, neu gysylltu â Dim Smygu Cymru i gael cymorth i roi'r gorau iddi, yn hytrach na dibynnu ar e-sigaréts yn unig.

Fel y gwyddoch, mae Papur Gwyn Iechyd y Cyhoedd, *Gwranddo arnoch chi: Mae eich iechyd yn bwysig*, a gafodd ei lansio ar 2 Ebrill, yn ceisio barn i bennu a ddylai Llywodraeth Cymru ystyried cyfyngu ar y defnydd o e-sigaréts mewn mannau a gweithleoedd cyhoeddus caeedig a sylweddol gaeedig, fel bwytai. Nid yw ein cynnig yn amharu ar ddefnyddio e-sigaréts yn gymorth i roi'r gorau i smygu, gan nad yw'r cynnig hwn yn cyfyngu ar eu defnyddio mewn mannau lle mae smygu'n cael ei ganiatáu. Yn fwyaf penodol, mae'n ymwneud â'r effaith y mae defnyddio e-sigaréts yn ei chael ar y gwaharddiad presennol ar smygu sy'n cael ei orfodi, a'r pryderon ynglŷn â normaleiddio smygu unwaith eto. Gallai hynny annog pobl, yn enwedig plant a phobl ifanc, i ddechrau smygu.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300  
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400  
Gohebiaeth.Mark.Drakeford@cymru.gsi.gov.uk

Daeth yr ymgynghoriad i ben ar 24 Mehefin, ac rydym ar hyn o bryd yn ystyried y 676 o ymatebion a dderbyniwyd. Caiff adroddiad cryno ei gyhoeddi ar wefan Llywodraeth Cymru yn yr hydref, a bydd hwnnw'n sail i'r camau nesaf a fydd yn cael eu cymryd.

Rwy'n gobeithio bod yr wybodaeth hon o ddefnydd i'r Pwyllgor.

In gywir,  
Mark

**Mark Drakeford AC / AM**

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

# Eitem 4.19

## P-04-544 Gwahardd Saethu Gwyddau Talcen-wen yr Ynys Las

### Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i wrthdroi ei phenderfyniad i beidio â gwahardd saethu rhywogaeth sydd mewn perygl, sef Gŵydd Talcen-wen yr Ynys Las, gan olygu mai Cymru yw'r unig wlad o hyd ar lwybr hedfan y rhywogaeth hon sydd mewn perygl, lle gallant barhau i gael eu saethu a'u lladd yn gyfreithlon. Mae tystiolaeth wyddonol wedi dangos bod y rhywogaeth yn agored iawn i bwysau hela. Yn ei hadroddiad ymgynghori, mae Llywodraeth Cymru hefyd yn cyfaddef y gallai methu â chymryd camau priodol i leihau marwolaethau cymaint â phosibl nifer y Gwyddau Talcen-wen yr Ynys Las sy'n oedolion, gael ei ystyried fel methu â bodloni rhwymedigaethau cadwraeth. Yn wahanol i'r Alban, Iwerddon, Gwlad yr Iâ a'r Ynys Las nid oes gwaharddiad ar saethu a lladd yr aderyn hwn sydd mewn perygl yng Nghymru ar hyn o bryd. Mae gwaharddiad gwirfoddol ar waith ar ran o aber afon Dyfi yng Nghymru ond mae tystiolaeth bod y gwyddau hefyd yn defnyddio ardaloedd eraill i ffwrdd o'r aber yng nghanolbarth a gogledd Cymru lle nad oes unrhyw gytundebau gwirfoddol ar waith.

Mae poblogaeth y gwyddau hyn, ar y cyfan, yn dirywio ac maent wedi bod yn bryder o ran cadwraeth ers y 1970au hwyr pan arweiniodd dirywiadau sydyn at amddiffyn rhag hela ar eu tiroedd gaeafu. Mae ganddynt amddiffyniad statudol cryf. Fodd bynnag, ers canol y 1990au mae'r boblogaeth wedi dirywio'n sydyn eto. Er bod Cymdeithas Adareg Cymru wedi cydnabod bod gwaharddiadau gwirfoddol hirsefydledig ar saethu ar waith mewn rhai gwlyptiroedd fel aber afon Dyfi, cred na fydd unrhyw beth sy'n llai na gwaharddiad statudol ar saethu yn sicrhau y caiff Gwyddau Talcen-wen yr Ynys Las eu hamddiffyn.

**Prif ddeisebydd:** Aaron Davies

**Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:** 29 Ebrill 2014

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 240



Carl Sargeant AC / AM  
Y Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol  
Minister for Natural Resources



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-544  
Ein cyf/Our ref CS/05294/14

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

1 Tachwedd 2014

Annwyl Bill

Diolch am eich llythyr ynghylch deiseb o'r enw '*Gwahardd Saethu Gwyddau Talcenwyn yr Ynys Las*'.

Fel y bu ichi nodi, roedd Alun Davies AC, yn barod i ailystyried ei safbwynt ar y pwnc hwn pe byddai rhagor o dystiolaeth wyddonol wedi dod i'r amlwg.

Yn ystod yr ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus ar y pwnc hwn, daeth gwybodaeth am saethu o ardal Ynys Môn a oedd yn cynnwys yr un cyfnod â'r hwnnw y cyfeiriwyd ato yn y llythyr cyfredol atoch gan Gymdeithas Adareg Cymru. Mae'r ohebiaeth ddiweddaraf yn gwneud yn glir fod hyn ddim yn ddeunydd newydd felly nid oes sail i adolygu'r penderfyniad.

Mae'r deisebydd yn gwneud rhai pwyntiau cyffredinol hefyd ynghylch tystiolaeth answyddogol a storïol o ladd. Mae'r ardaloedd a ddefnyddir gan *Wyddau Talcenwyn yr Ynys Las* yn cael eu gwyllo'n fanwl gan y Gymdeithas Frenhinol er Gwarchod Adar, yr ymddiriedolaethau bywyd gwyllt, Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru, grwpiau adar y gwlyptiroedd a nifer o adaregwyr amatur, eto nid oes unrhyw adroddiadau neu ddrwgdybiaethau o'r fath a ddisgrifiwyd.

Yn gywir

**Carl Sargeant AC / AM**  
Y Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol  
Minister for Natural Resources

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Caerdydd • Cardiff

Tudalen y pecyn 141

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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## Eitem 4.20

### **P-04-577 Adfer Cyllid i'r Prosiect Cyfleoedd Gwirioneddol**

#### **Manylion:**

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i adfer cyllid i'r prosiect Cyfleoedd Gwirioneddol a ariannwyd yn flaenorol gan Gronfa Gymdeithasol Ewrop yng Nghymru, neu brosiect tebyg newydd sydd â'r un gwerthoedd â'r prosiect Cyfleoedd Gwirioneddol. Mae'r prosiect yn hanfodol i helpu pobl ifanc rhwng 14 a 19 oed sydd ag anableddau dysgu neu anhwylder ar y sbectrwm awtistig i feithrin sgiliau bywyd a bod yn annibynnol.

#### **Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:**

Mae'r prosiect Cyfleoedd Gwirioneddol yn caniatáu i bobl ifanc rhwng 14 ac 19 oed sydd ag anabledd dysgu neu anhwylder ar y sbectrwm awtistig ddatblygu sgiliau sy'n hanfodol wrth iddynt symud i addysg golegol yn ogystal â'u galluogi hwy i symud i'r byd gwaith a datblygu sgiliau bywyd sylfaenol sy'n hollbwysig i'w hannibyniaeth. Mae'r prosiect wedi helpu dros 1700 o oedolion ifanc sydd ag anableddau dysgu neu anhwylder ar y sbectrwm awtistig ac mae wedi helpu i hyfforddi dros 1000 o fentoriaid cymheiriaid gyda'r bwriad o wella integreiddio rhwng disgyblion ysgolion prif ffrwd a'r rheini sydd mewn unedau anghenion arbennig. Mae gwerthoedd y prosiect hwn yn hanfodol i'r bobl ifanc hyn a all fod ag ychydig iawn o ymwybyddiaeth, os o gwbl, o hylendid personol ac ati ar y dechrau, ac sydd, erbyn y diwedd, yn ymwybodol o'u hylendid personol ac wedi cwblhau cymwysterau Agored Cymru na fyddent wedi gallu eu sicrhau fel arall.

**Prif ddeisebydd** Aled Davies

**Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:** 15 Gorffennaf 2014

**Nifer y llofnodion:** 25 – Casglodd ddeiseb gysylltiedig 226 o lofnodion.

Jane Hutt AC / AM  
Y Gweinidog Cyllid a Busnes y Llywodraeth  
Minister for Finance and Government Business



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-577  
Ein cyf/Our ref JH/05082/14

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

6 Tachwedd 2014

*Anwyl Hilian,*

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 17 Hydref ynghylch cynnig ar gyfer cyllid yr UE sydd wedi dod i law eich Pwyllgor gan Mr Aled Davies. Mae hyn yn dilyn deiseb Mr Davies, a ddaeth i'ch llaw ym mis Awst, yn gofyn i Lywodraeth Cymru adfer y cyllid ar gyfer y Fenter Trawsnewid i Gyflogaeth AAA Rhanbarthol (prosiect Cyfleoedd Gwirioneddol) a gafodd gymorth drwy raglenni Cronfeydd Strwythurol Ewropeaidd 2007-2013.

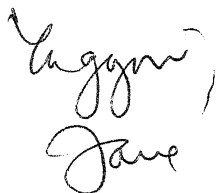
Er y bydd Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru (WEFO) yn gwneud galwad agored ar gyfer gynigion am brosiectau newydd cyn gynted ag y bydd y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd yn cytuno ar raglenni 2014-2020, bydd yn ceisio rhoi cymorth i brosiectau strategol sy'n gallu cyflwyno dull cydgysylltiedig i helpu unigolion ar lefel ranbarthol neu ar lefel Cymru gyfan.

Mae WEFO yn cydnabod llwyddiannau'r prosiect AAA Rhanbarthol ac mae'n awyddus i weld hyn yn parhau. Efallai y bydd gan Mr Davies ddiddordeb gwybod, fel rhan o'r gwaith paratoi sy'n cael ei wneud, bod WEFO wrthi'n trafod â Chyngor Caerffili, a arweiniodd y prosiect Cyfleoedd Gwirioneddol, i ddatblygu prosiect newydd a fydd yn helpu pobl ifanc ag anawsterau dysgu, gan gynnwys pobl ifanc yn Sir Gaerfyrddin. Bydd fy swyddogion yn parhau i weithio gyda'r Cyngor i helpu i ddatblygu ei gynnis cyn gynted â phosibl.

Pe bai Mr Davies yn dymuno ystyried cysoni ei gynnis gyda chynnig Cyngor Caerffili, rwy'n awgrymu ei fod yn cysylltu â'r Cyngor yn uniongyrchol: tel: 01443 815588 / 01495 226622 or email: [info@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:info@caerphilly.gov.uk)

Fodd bynnag, pe bai'n dymuno gwneud cais annibynnol am gyllid yr UE, dylai gysylltu â WEFO yn y lle cyntaf i gael gwybodaeth am gymhwysedd a sut i wneud cais: ffôn: 01845 010

3355, neu e-bost:: Enquiries-WEFO@Wales.GSI.Gov.UK

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jane Hutt', with a large, stylized initial 'J'.

**Jane Hutt AC / AM**

Y Gweinidog Cyllid a Busnes y Llywodraeth  
Minister for Finance and Government Business

**P-04-577 Reinstate Funding to the Real Opportunities Project –  
Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 20.11.14**

Hi Kayleigh

Many thanks for the attached, and apologies that this reply is after your set deadline. Unfortunately I have been having issues with logging in to my email and EE have had issues with their mobile towers in the area which has prevented me sending emails on my phone. Thankfully after a long wait they have been able to fix it and I hope we are not too late to reply.

Please can you thank the Petitions Committee for their kind words regarding our hard work in providing proposals to support young people with learning difficulties across Wales.

We have extended 2 invitations to Jane Hutt to meet with us & discuss our proposal. We have also advised her that the Children's Commissioner for Wales's office have indicated they would be happy to comment on our proposal if she wishes to contact them. Keith Towler & his Policy Team have both visited our club recently and have asked to be kept in the loop with our progress. I trust she has received our invites but we have had no response?

Jane's reply directing us to the Caerphilly Council switchboard is a little disappointing and in truth appears to suggest a lack of engagement. The Mix Committee, Peer Mentors & a high percentage of club members & families are already "plugged in" to the Real Opportunities additional funding process which we fully support. Consequently we are aware that whilst the project has been widely viewed as a success, the WEFO funding renewal process is complex and lengthy with no guarantees of success or timescales for implementation. Our concern in raising this petition was that if the project ceased without some additional resource contingency whilst new funding was sought then vulnerable families would suffer.

Sadly that is exactly what has happened. The Real Opportunities Project closed in August 2014 with no additional interim support. Across Wales, many skilled staff who have built valuable relationships with learning disabled young people and their families, schools, colleges & employers have been made redundant. The families who had come to rely on this support are now suffering as a result of this service closure. With each passing day the return on the significant investment already

provided by WEFO in Wales is unravelling. This cannot be good value in social or financial terms. It is unacceptable to pin the responsibility for the support of our disabled friends and their families in Wales on the hope of a future European funding application.

Our proposal is intended to share how our own experience of a learning disabled Youth Club environment brings together the benefits of Real Opportunities type transition support and the key principles of The Children Commissioners 2014 Full Lives Short Breaks Report. Our proposals are scale-able, sustainable and value for money. We believe this essential support can be provided for approximately the same cost as the Match funded element previously required to support the WEFO Real Opportunities programme. It is therefore not dependent on additional WEFO money or timescales.

We are anxious not to duplicate resources and mindful of Jane's comments The Mix Committee have this week spoken with the Project leader of the Real Opportunities WEFO funding application. We have sent her copies of our proposals & again offered our full support if we can help in any way with the application process. We have clarified how our model builds on the existing work of the Real Opportunities project and

- Provides the preferred Short Break opportunities identified by young disabled people themselves in the Children's Commissioners Full Lives Short Breaks Report
- Delivers these Short Break opportunities at a fraction of the cost of residential support, allowing the majority of young people and their families to benefit before they reach "critical" or "substantial" need.
- Provides a base for the delivery of transition focussed life skills & independence training through activities such as travel training, Agored certification, 1 page profiles, CV preparation and interview support. An environment preparing young people for independence, education and employment rather than dependency.
- Restores the Peer Mentor programme allowing young people to develop their own social responsibilities through supporting their learning disabled friends at school, and into the wider community.

Additionally Tyler Payne, the other named Petitioner has been invited to present at the Senedd on 11thDecember 2014 as part of the Real Opportunities evaluation process. Tyler is 17 & has been a Peer Mentor with Real Opportunities for the past 3 years. Tyler's brother Bradley is a participant in the Real Opportunities programme. He is autistic & has a learning delay and will also be presenting to explain how the project has influenced their family life. Bradley is a member of The Mix where Tyler & I are Peer Mentors.

We would once again like to invite Jane, members of her team & indeed interested members of the Petitions Committee to meet with Tyler & Bradley on the 11thDecember. We would welcome an opportunity to discuss how our petition proposals integrate with both the new WEFO application and the Full Lives Short Break recommendations whilst enabling Welsh local authorities to act now to support our learning disabled friends and their families. We are sure our proposals can be improved with engagement from Jane's team and welcome any further advice from members of the Petitions Committee & their colleagues.

Warm Regards

Aled