

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau

Lleoliad:

Ystafell Bwyllgora 1 – y Senedd

Dyddiad:

Dydd Mawrth, 3 Chwefror 2015

Amser:

08.45

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



I gael rhagor o wybodaeth, cysylltwch a:

Steve George

Clerc y Pwyllgor

0300 200 6565

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Agenda

MeetingTitle

- 1 Cyflwyniad, ymddiheuriadau a dirprwyon**
- 2 Sesiwn Dystiolaeth – P-04-597 Diogelu dyfodol Draig Ffynti, Cynulliad Plant a Phobl Ifanc Cymru (Tudalennau 1 – 8)**

Catriona Williams OBE – Prif Weithredwr, Plant yng Nghymru

Lynne Hill – Cyfarwyddwr Polisi, Plant yng Nghymru

Ed Janes – Swyddog Datblygu (Cyfranogiad), Plant yng Nghymru
- 3 Deisebau newydd**
 - 3.1 P-04-612 Dŵr Potel Gwladol (Tudalennau 9 – 10)**
 - 3.2 P-04-614 Cefnogi Gwasanaeth Dosbarth Cyntaf Arriva Trains Cymru (Tudalennau 11 – 14)**

3.3 P-04-615 Taliad Benthyciad Teg i Fyfirwyr yn y Flwyddyn Olaf o Hyfforddiant (Tudalennau 15 – 18)

3.4 P-04-616 Rhaid Atal Gwerthu Tân Gwyllt i'r Cyhoedd (Tudalennau 19 – 23)

4 Y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am ddeisebau blaenorol

Iechyd

4.1 P-04-448 Gwella gwasanaethau iechyd rhywiol yng ngorllewin y Fro (Tudalennau 24 – 28)

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

4.2 P-04-466 Argyfwng Meddygol – Atal cyflwyno gwasanaeth iechyd o safon is yng ngogledd Cymru. (Tudalen 29)

4.3 P-04-479 Deiseb Adran Pelydr-X ac Uned Man Anafiadau Ysbyty Tywyn (Tudalen 30)

4.4 P-04-564 Adfer Gwlâu i Gleifion, Gwasanaeth Mân Anafiadau ac Uned Pelydr-X i Ysbyty Coffa Ffestiniog (Tudalennau 31 – 44)

4.5 P-04-570 Argaeledd Anghyfartal o Ran Triniaethau Nad Ydynt Wedi'u Harfarnu'n Genedlaethol Gan GIG Cymru (Tudalennau 45 – 50)

4.6 P-04-604 Diddymu Grwpiau Cyfeirio Cleifion â Diabetes a chanslo cyfarfodydd y Grŵp Cynllunio a Chyflawni Gwasanaethau Diaelpu Babanod 22 Wythnos Oed i Oroesi (Tudalennau 51 – 54)

Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus

4.7 P-04-602 Personoleiddio Beddau (Tudalennau 55 – 57)

Addysg

4.8 P-04-522 Asbestos mewn Ysgolion (Tudalennau 58 – 65)

4.9 P-04-581 Gwrthwynebu'r Toriadau yn y Ddarpariaeth ar gyfer Dysgwyr

Saesneg fel Iaith Ychwanegol (Tudalennau 66 – 69)

Cyfoeth Naturiol

- 4.10** P-04-537 Plannu Coed i Leihau Llifogydd (Tudalennau 70 – 72)
- 4.11** P-04-575 Galw i Mewn Pob Cais Cynllunio ar Gyfer Cloddio Glo Brig (Tudalennau 73 – 75)

Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth

- 4.12** P-04-393 Grŵp Gweithredu Ffordd Osgoi Llanymynech a Phant (Tudalennau 76 – 80)

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

- 4.13** P-04-475 Yn eisiau – Bysiau i Feirionnydd (Tudalen 81)
- 4.14** P-04-513 Achub gwasanaeth bws X94 Wrecsam/Abermo (Tudalen 82)
- 4.15** P-04-515 Darparu rhagor o arian ar gyfer Gwasanaethau Bysiau Cymru (Tudalennau 83 – 92)
- 4.16** P-04-468 Pryderon am Ddiogelwch Ffordd A48 Cas-gwent (Tudalennau 93 – 94)

5 Cynnig o dan Reol Sefydlog 17.42 i benderfynu gwahardd y cyhoedd o'r cyfarfod ar gyfer y canlynol:

Item 6

6 Blaenraglen Waith

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

Yn rhinwedd paragraff(au) ix o Reol Sefydlog 17.42

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

P-04-612 Dŵr Potel Gwladol

Rydym ni sydd wedi llofnodi isod yn ymbil ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i greu Cwmni Dŵr Potel nid-am-elw a berchnogir gan Gymru. Byddai hyn yn cael gwared â'r rhyngfasnachwyr corfforaethol sy'n gwneud elw o'r hyn a ddylai fod am ddim fel genedigaeth-fraint i ddinasyddion Cymru: ein dŵr ein hun.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:

Mae gan Gymru adnoddau naturiol helaeth, yn enwedig dŵr – ac rydym yn galw ar y weinyddiaeth Lafur yn y Cynulliad i wneud rhywbeth sy'n ymdebygu i sosialaeth a chynnig ffynhonnell o ddŵr potel i ddinasyddion Cymru nad yw er elw.

Prif ddeisebydd: Plebeian Laboratories

Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:

Nifer y llofnodion: 25

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-612
Ein cyf/Our ref CS/05775/14

William Powell AM
Assembly Member for Mid & West Wales
Chair - petitions committee
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

14th January 2015

Dear Bill

Thank you for your letter of 22 December 2014, regarding a petition to create a Wales owned not for profit Bottled Water Company. At present the Welsh Government has no plans to establish a Nationalised Bottled Water Company.

A key aim in Wales' Programme for Government is to be a 'One Planet Nation', putting sustainable development at the heart of Government. The provision of a nationalised water product which uses non or limited reuse plastic bottles, taken from source to consumer, makes this a non-sustainable activity, which would be in direct conflict with the Programme for Government.

Access to high quality drinking water for everyone in Wales is a key priority for Welsh Government. We work closely with the Drinking Water Inspectorate and water companies in Wales to ensure that the people of Wales have access to a high quality drinking water source from their tap. Most of the drinking water supplied in Wales is derived from surface water, which is not suitable for bottling.

Yours sincerely

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

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

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P-04-614 Cefnogi Gwasanaeth Dosbarth Cyntaf Arriva Trains Cymru

Credir y bydd Trenau Arriva Cymru yn cyhoeddi cyn bo hir eu bwriad i ddod â'u gwasanaeth dosbarth cyntaf rhwng Caergybi a Chaerdydd i ben. Mae'r gwasanaeth hwn yn rhan o'u gwasanaeth 'Premier', sy'n rhedeg bob diwrnod gwaith.

Mae'n debyg mai ymateb fydd hyn i benderfyniad Llywodraeth Cymru i roi'r gorau i ariannu'r gwasanaeth hwn ddechrau 2015.

Mae'r ddeiseb hon yn annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ailystyried eu penderfyniad i roi'r gorau i ariannu'r gwasanaeth gwerthfawr a phoblogaidd hwn, neu o leiaf i annog Trenau Arriva Cymru i barhau â'r gwasanaeth cystal ag y gallant drwy ddulliau eraill.

Gwybodaeth Ychwanogol

Y gwasanaeth dosbarth cyntaf hwn gan Trenau Arriva Cymru (neu wasanaeth Gerallt Gymro, fel y caiff ei alw hefyd) yw un o'r ychydig wasanaethau rheolaidd ar rwydwaith rheilffyrdd Prydain sy'n parhau i gynnig prydau bwyd o safon.

Byddai'n drueni mawr colli'r gwasanaeth hwn, nid yn unig o safbwynt y teithwyr, ond hefyd o safbwynt y staff a'r criw ar y trêen sydd wedi gweithio mor galed i sicrhau bod teithio ar y trêen hwn yn brofiad mor werth chweil.

Prif ddeisebydd: Gareth Peate

Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:

Nifer y llofnodion: 54

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-04-614
Ein cyf/Our ref EH/06506/14

William Powell AC
Cadeirydd – y pwyllgor deisebau
committeebusiness@cymru.gsi.gov.uk

13 Ionawr 2015

Annwyl William,

Diolch ichi am eich llythyr dyddiedig 22 Rhagfyr ynghylch deiseb P-04-614 yn cefnogi gwasanaeth dosbarth cyntaf Trenau Arriva Cymru o Gaergybi i Gaerdydd.

Rwyf wedi ystyried yr opsiynau ynghylch dyfodol y gwasanaeth hwn ac ar 1 Rhagfyr, fe ysgrifennais at yr holl Aelodau yn disgrifio'r gwelliannau fydd yn cael eu gwneud. Rwy'n atodi copi o'r ddogfen er hwylustod i chi hefyd.

E Edwina Hart

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

All Assembly Members

01 December 2014

Dear Assembly Members

I am writing to inform you about changes to the provision of First class on the North–South Wales Premier Express rail service.

We have been working with Arriva Trains Wales to improve the catering provided on this service. From 15 December, 2014, first class will be rebranded to business class with a catering service in keeping with the needs of business travellers. A range of hot meals will be served by a travelling chef and will be available for all passengers using the service. There will be a new, more extensive and flexible menu range and three course meals will be available in the evening and either a continental breakfast or hot breakfast rolls provided in the mornings.

Business class passengers will have their meals served at their table, as part of the ticket price. Standard class passengers will be able to purchase any of the food options, as at present. Standard class passengers will also be able to pay a supplement to upgrade to the business class carriage.

Arriva Trains Wales have provided assurance that there will be no staff redundancies as a result of these changes, and it will improve the marketing and promotion of the service to generate additional patronage.

Edwina Hart

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CF99 1NA

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i atgysychu (100%)
Tudalen Yn eiddo 14

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Correspondence.edwina.Hart@Wales.gsi.gov.uk
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P-04-615 Taliad Benthyciad Teg i Fyfyrywyr yn y Flwyddyn Olaf o Hyfforddiant

Mae'r taliad i fyfyrywyr bydwreigiaeth a gofal iechyd yn y flwyddyn olaf wedi'i ostwng yn sylweddol, gan nad yw'n cymryd i ystyriaeth yr wythnosau ychwanegol yn astudio na'r wythnosau a dreulir mewn lleoliad gwaith ym mis Awst. Caiff y taliad benthyciad ei ad-dalu pan fydd y myfyriwr mewn cyflogaeth, ond mae hyn yn effeithio ar y flwyddyn olaf o gymaint â £150 y tymor. Mae Gofal Iechyd yn radd cwbl wahanol o ran theori a lleoliadau gwaith, ac mae'n parhau drwy fis Awst, pan fydd cyrsiau eraill yn cael egwyl ar gyfer gwyliau haf.

Hoffem pe bai'r system benthyciadau i fyfyrywyr yn cymryd cynnwys y cwrs yn y drydedd flwyddyn i ystyriaeth, a bod hyn yn cael ei adlewyrchu yn y taliadau benthyciadau a roddir i fyfyrywyr bydwreigiaeth a myfyrywyr gofal iechyd.

Prif ddeisebydd: Maryanne Bray

Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:

Nifer y llofnodion: 47

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-615
Ein cyf/Our ref HL/05685/14

William Powell AM
Chair - Petitions Committee

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

12 January 2015

Dear William

Thank you for your letter of 22 December on behalf of the Committee about student loan payments in the final year of training.

I can confirm that support for healthcare students is tailored to include funding for any additional weeks of study specific to their course. Although these students are only entitled to a reduced rate of maintenance loan this is because they are eligible to apply for a means tested NHS bursary. The NHS bursary takes into account the length of the course in each academic year, including periods of practice placement for all NHS students, and is increased for each week over and above the standard 30 weeks of study. This means that most students would receive an additional £83 per week for each week over 30 weeks.

The student finance arrangements take account of a number of factors when considering eligibility for loan payments, including the award of NHS bursaries. It is worth noting that students on NHS funded courses do not have to pay tuition fees and are also eligible to apply for non means-tested help with travel costs.

You will be aware of the ongoing Review of Higher Education Funding and Student Finance Arrangements in Wales (Diamond Review), due to report next year, and the Health Investment Review which will be reporting shortly. It is likely that both these reviews will consider student finance arrangements, although of course it will be for panel members to decide those areas on which they will concentrate. They are cognisant of each other's work and I will ensure that your letter is brought to the attention of both Panel chairs.

Yours sincerely

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

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Tudalen 16 o 16

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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P-04-615 A Fair Students Loan Payment in the Final Year of Training (Wales) Bill – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 26 January 2015

Dear Committee Members

Thank you for taking the time to consider my petition in relation to fairer student loan payments in the final year of study. This relates to my experience and the experience of others as a third year student midwife and the loan payments we are entitled to in relation to this.

When first applying for a student loan to help with costs and living expenses to study midwifery it is automatically taken into account that you may be entitled to a NHS means tested bursary which is not repayable. You are only entitled to the maintenance loan element of this student loan as tuition fees are not payable on healthcare courses.

The student loan is repayable and as from study starting in 2012 (when I proceeded with this degree) this is repayable after earning £21,000..

In my first year I received three payments based on “term” dates in the sum of £766.92, £766.92 and £790.16. In my second year I received three payments in the sum of £832.26, £832.26 and £857.48. My final year payments are £655.38, £655.38 and £675.24. These payments are made in September, January and April. As you can see there is a difference every year in the payments made but in the final year of study the loss of between £91.68 and £176.88 per term is a huge loss.

Term dates in relation to midwifery do not exist as per normal degree studies and I understand that these have to be set by the student loan company to streamline payments.

Midwifery students and other healthcare students work extremely hard. At any one time we are preparing assignments, studying for examinations, being assessed on scenario based work and presentations all whilst attending a full time Nursing and Midwifery Council accredited course or long placements which include 12 hour shifts working during daytime, night time and weekends.

The final placement on the course starts in July and finishes at the end of August where we are then assessed to proceed to be included into the Nursing and Midwifery Council register. This is not utilised as “summer holidays”.

I have received correspondence from the Students Finance Wales who have responded as follows:

“Good morning Maryanne, Many thanks for your patience in responding to this email. The reason that your maintenance loan is less in your final year is because you leave higher education at the end of the summer term and are therefore not entitled to financial support over the summer holiday; this is normal and applies to all students who are in their final year.”

This is not the case in the final year as midwifery students as we continue to study throughout this period and our midwifery course does not finish until 22 September 2015.

Midwifery is a lifelong dream of mine. Having a family to support and children to provide for the acute drop in the student loan has been a shock to me. Losing as I have stated above the amount of money at every instalment has been a struggle.

This student loan is repayable by all students who continue into employment and earn over the threshold that has been set. I and all my student midwife colleagues hope to work in the National Health Service in Wales and utilise our training to the fullest extent and benefit the women and families of Wales and “repay” the funding that has been provided for our studies.

I would ask that the student loan is looked into for healthcare students to allow the actual “term” times to be assessed and payments made accordingly.

Yours sincerely

**Maryanne Bray
Third Year Student Midwife**

P-04-616 Rhaid Atal Gwerthu Tân Gwylt i'r Cyhoedd

Rydym am ofyn am newid i'r ddeddfwriaeth, er mwyn sicrhau mai digwyddiadau trwyddedig yn unig a all drefnu arddangosiadau tân gwylt a defnyddio tân gwylt. Rydym am i'r arfer o werthu tân gwylt i'r cyhoedd yn gyffredinol gael ei wahardd. Rydym am i'r cyhoedd yn gyffredinol gael eu gwahardd rhag defnyddio tân gwylt. Fel y gwyddom, ers dathliadau'r Mileniwm, nid yw tân gwylt bellach yn ddigwyddiad 'unwaith y flwyddyn' yn unig. Bob blwyddyn, caiff tân gwylt ei danio am fwy nag wythnos cyn 5 Tachwedd, ac yn gyffredinol byddant yn parhau i danio'n achlysurol nes dathliadau'r Flwyddyn Newydd, pan fyddant ar eu hanterth unwaith eto. Caiff plant ac oedolion eu hanafu bob blwyddyn gan dân gwylt a gaiff ei danio gan y cyhoedd yn gyffredinol. Gall defnyddio tân gwylt mewn lleoliad domestig, nad oes ynddo unrhyw gamau rheoleiddio na pherson proffesiynol cymwys sy'n gyfrifol am y tân gwylt, fod yn angheuol, ac mae hynny wedi'i brofi. Yn ychwanegol, rhaid ystyried yr anifeiliaid anwes diamddiffyn, druan. Yn ôl ffigurau'r RSPCA ar gyfer 2013, mae oddeutu 22 miliwn o anifeiliaid anwes yn ein cartrefi yn y DU – ar gyfartaledd oddeutu un ym mhob dau ddy. Gall unrhyw berchennog anifail anwes ddeall yr arswyd a achosir gan dân gwylt mewn gardd cymdogion, lle nad oes rheolaeth. Gall tân gwylt fod yn rhywbeth gwych i edrych ymlaen ato. Ond fel y mae, mae llawer o bobl yn ofni amser a oedd unwaith yn amser hwyliog a hapus o'r flwyddyn. Helpwch ni a'n hanifeiliaid anwes i deimlo'n ddiogel unwaith eto.

Prif ddeisebydd: Kathy Peart

Ysytiriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor:

Nifer y llofnodion: 110

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04 - 615
Ein cyf/Our ref LA -/05365/14

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

Petition@Wales.gov.uk

8 January 2015

Dear William,

Thank you for your letter of 22 December regarding a petition from Ms Kathy Peart calling on the Welsh Government to prevent fireworks being sold to the general public.

The sale of fireworks is not a devolved matter. It is governed by the Fireworks Act 2003 and regulations made under it by the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills. Those regulations restrict the sale and use of fireworks, for instance by prohibiting their sale to children and requiring retailers to be licensed; but neither I nor the Assembly could ban the sale of fireworks completely in Wales.

However, the Welsh Government has funded the Fire and Rescue Service to improve firework safety. For instance, the Fire and Rescue Service works in partnership with the Police to carry out Operation BANG (Be A Nice Guy) which aims to reduce anti-social behaviour and dangerous use of fireworks. I am happy to support these initiatives, but could not commit to the complete ban which your petition advocates.

Yours sincerely,


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

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

Tudalen y becyn 20

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Correspondence: Leighton.Andrews@wales.gsi.gov.uk
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Yn rhinwedd paragraff(au) ix o Reol Sefydlog 17.42

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

Eitem 4.1

P-04-448 : Gwella gwasanaethau iechyd rhywiol yng ngorllewin y Fro

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i gynyddu'r cyllid i Fwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Caerdydd a'r Fro. Dylid defnyddio'r cyllid ychwanegol hwn i wella gwasanaethau iechyd rhywiol yng ngorllewin y Fro.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol

Ar hyn o bryd, cynhelir dim ond un clinig yr wythnos bob amser cinio ar ddydd Gwener yn Llanilltud Fawr. Mae'r clinig hwn yn gwasanaethu pawb yng ngorllewin y Fro. Mae'n darparu gwasanaethau cyngor iechyd rhywiol a chynllunio teulu. Nid yw'r gwasanaeth hwn yn ddigonol i ateb gofynion yr ardal ddaearyddol fawr hon. Cynhelir tri chlinig yr wythnos yn nhref y Barri. Helpwch ni i wella iechyd rhywiol nifer o bobl ifanc a phobl agored i niwed nad ydynt yn gallu teithio 10 milltir neu fwy yn aml i glinig lleol. Mae'r clinigau hyn yn cynnig gwybodaeth/addysg/cefnogaeth/triniaeth feddygol hanfodol y mae ar bobl ifanc eu hangen. Gall gwella gwasanaethau iechyd rhywiol helpu i ddangos y ffordd i'r grwpiau mwyaf agored i niwed yn ein cymdeithas, i'w cefnogi ac i ofalu amdanynt. Helpwch ni i wneud gwahaniaeth. Er bod cyfraddau beichiogrwydd ymysg y glasoed yn gostwng, mae cyfraddau erthyly yn codi (fel y dyfynnwyd gan Helen Rogers, Cyfarwyddwr Coleg Brenhinol y Bydwagedd, ffynhonnell BBC Wales 29/03/12). Yn ei hymateb i'r adroddiad hwn, addawodd Llywodraeth Cymru y byddai'n cynyddu'r cyllid drwy Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru i wella mynediad i ganolfannau iechyd rhywiol integredig (BBC Wales 29/03/12). Daw'r bobl ifanc hyn sy'n agored i niwed yn aml o deuluoedd difreintiedig, nad ydynt yn cael y gofal sydd ei angen arnynt. Pe bai'r bobl ifanc hyn yn byw yn y Barri, byddent yn cael gwasanaeth llawer gwell. Caiff ardal wledig y Fro ei diystyru fel ardal "gyfoethog", ond mae enghreifftiau o amddifadedd economaidd-gymdeithasol i'w cael yn yr ardal. Mae angen rhagor o glinigau. Mae Cymru am gael "Gwasanaeth Iechyd o'r Safon Uchaf" ar gyfer y dyfodol. Y bobl ifanc hyn yw ein dyfodol. Gall beichiogrwydd/erthyliadau ymysg y glasoed gael

effaith niweidiol eang ar bobl ifanc yng Nghymru. Gellir atal clefydau a drosglwyddir yn rhywiol os rhoddir y wybodaeth gywir i bobl.

Prif ddeisebydd: Rebecca Lowrie

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

Nifer y llofnodion: 16



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Caerdydd a'r Fro
Cardiff and Vale
University Health Board

Ysbyty Athrofaol Cymru
University Hospital of Wales
UHB Headquarters
Heath Park
Cardiff, CF14 4XW

Parc Y Mynydd Bychan
Caerdydd, CF14 4XW

Eich cyf/Your ref:
Ein cyf/Our ref: AC-ns-01-4367
Welsh Health Telephone Network:
Direct Line/Llinell uniongychol: 02920 745681

Adam Cairns
Chief Executive

20 January 2015

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

Dear Mr Powell

RE: P-04-448 – Improve Sexual Health Services for Western Vale

Thank you for your recent correspondence concerning sexual health services provided by Cardiff and Vale UHB. I apologise for the length of time that it has taken me to reply and for failing to acknowledge your previous letters.

In my letter to you of 13 March 2013 I indicated that the UHB was undertaking a review of the service. This review concluded in the Summer of 2013 but did not take the form of a paper. Instead, the review concluded with an action plan which provided a baseline for the development of a wider service, workforce and financial review to be undertaken by the new management team. Due to the volume of changes required to modernise the service, much of the most recent work has prioritised development of the service on the Cardiff Royal Infirmary site where, in July 2014, we opened a new purpose-built clinic facility.

During 2015, the service will be focusing on access arrangements across its community sites. Our aim is to standardise the set up of these clinics and to ensure the same level of staff are present each day. We intend to simplify access for patients and ensure the maximum number of clinics provide an appropriate full range of sexual health services. There will be public engagement on these plans but it is not anticipated that there will be any plans to change the clinic at Llantwit Major.

I hope I have been able to provide you with an appropriate explanation in respect of your concerns. Should you have any further queries or concerns or require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Adam Cairns
Chief Executive

cc Mark Drakeford AM



Yn rhinwedd paragraff(au) ix o Reol Sefydlog 17.42

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

P-04-466 Argyfwng Meddygol – Atal cyflwyno gwasanaeth iechyd o safon is yng ngogledd Cymru.

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym ni sydd wedi llofnodi isod yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau nad yw'r cynigion yn ymgynghoriad Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Betsi Cadwaladr, Mae Gofal Iechyd yng Ngogledd Cymru yn Newid yn arwain at ddarpariaeth iechyd o safon is a marwolaethau a dioddefaint dianghenraid.

Bydd y cynigion yn cael effaith andwyol ar y rhan fwyaf o feysydd darpariaeth iechyd a gwasanaethau brys ac ni ellir galw'r cynigion yn welliant mewn unrhyw ffordd, fel yr honnir. Mae'r gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru eisoes yn mynd â'i ben iddo, a bydd yn wynebu chwalfa lwyr os caiff y cynigion hyn eu rhoi ar waith ar eu ffurf bresennol. Mae cynigion ymgynghori presennol Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Betsi Cadwaladr ar ofal iechyd yng ngogledd Cymru yn ymddangos yn andwyol i'r ddarpariaeth iechyd gyffredinol ac i ddiogelwch ein cymunedau. Mae hygyrchedd, darpariaeth pelydr-X, mân anafiadau, iechyd meddwl, y gwasanaeth ambiwlans, y gwasanaeth tu allan i oriau a gallu meddygon teulu i ddarparu gwasanaeth integredig yn mynd i gael eu taro'n benodol gan y cynigion – gan eu bod yn cyferbynnu'n llwyr â gweledigaeth Llywodraeth Cymru yn y dogfennau Law yn Llaw at Iechyd, Gosod y Cyfeiriad a Cyflenwi Gwasanaethau Gofal Brys – ymddengys ei bod hefyd yn mynd yn groes i'r "compact" a gyhoeddodd y Gweinidog Iechyd ar 25 Medi 2012.

Prif ddeisebydd: Mike Parry

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

Nifer y llofnodion: 306

Eitem 4.3

P-04-479 Deiseb Adran Pelydr-X ac Uned Man Anafiadau Ysbyty Tywyn

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Galwn ar y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol dros Gymru i annog y Llywodraeth Gymraeg i atal diddymu a chwtogi ar y gwasanaethau Adran Pelydr-X ac Uned Man Anafiadau Ysbyty Tywyn fel mater o frys.

Prif ddeisebydd: Tywyn & District Health Care Action Group

Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 14 Mai 2013

Nifer y llofnodion : 4486

P-04-564 Adfer Gwlâu i Gleifion, Gwasanaeth Mân Anafiadau ac Uned Pelydr-X i Ysbyty Coffa Ffestiniog

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Nes y bydd y Gweinidog Iechyd wedi cael cyfle i ystyried argymhellion yr Athro Marcus Longley yn ei adroddiad ar safon y gwasanaeth iechyd yng nghefn gwlad Cymru – adroddiad a gomisiynwyd gan y Gweinidog ei hun yn Ionawr 2014 – yna rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i ddwyn perswâd ar Lywodraeth Lafur Cymru i ohirio trafod Cynllun Busnes Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Betsi Cadwaladr sy'n argymhell israddio Ysbyty Coffa Ffestiniog i ddim byd mwy na 'Canolfan Goffa'.

Prif ddeisebydd: Geraint Vaughn Jones

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

Nifer y llofnodion: 2,754

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

P-04-570 Argaeledd Anghyfartal o Ran Triniaethau Nad Ydynt Wedi'u Harfarnu'n Genedlaethol Gan GIG Cymru

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym ni, sydd wedi llofnodi isod, yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i adolygu defnydd y rheol eithriadoldeb ("exceptionality rule") wrth benderfynu a ddylai claf gael triniaeth drwy'r broses Ceisiadau Cyllido Cleifion Unigol.

Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol: I gael mynediad at driniaethau drwy'r broses Ceisiadau Cyllido Cleifion Unigol, rhaid i boblogaeth o gleifion ddangos ei heithriadoldeb. Ar gyfer anhwylderau cyffredin, mae'n bosibl bod modd adnabod is-gyfes o gleifion, o fewn y boblogaeth gyffredinol, sy'n fwy tebygol o ymateb i therapi benodol. Ar gyfer cleifion afiechydon prin, mae dangos eich bod yn glaf unigryw pan fo'ch yn rhan o grŵp bychan o gleifion y mae eu cyflwr yn cael ei ystyried yn brin yn amhosibl bron. Mae'r meini prawf o ran eithriadoldeb yn gosod y cyfrifoldeb ar glinigwyr i ddarparu tystiolaeth bod cyflwr clinigol y claf yn wahanol iawn i'r boblogaeth gyffredinol o gleifion sydd â'r un cyflwr a'i fod yn debygol o gael budd sylweddol uwch o'r driniaeth nag y byddai rhywun yn ei ddisgwyl. Mae'r gofyniad hwn o ran y dystiolaeth yn ormod o faich i'w roi o ran cleifion sydd ag afiechydon prin, o ganlyniad i'r nifer fach o gleifion o fewn y boblogaeth sydd ag afiechydon prin. Caiff cleifion sydd ag anghenion clinigol mawr eu hatal rhag cael mynediad at driniaethau sy'n newid / achub eu bywyd.

Prif ddeisebydd Genetic Alliance UK, Tuberous Sclerosis Association, Association of Glycogen Storage Disorders

Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 15 Mehefin 2014

Nifer y llofnodion: 1089



**William Powell AM
Chair of the Petitions Committee**

15 January 2015

Dear William,

P-04-570 Inequitable access to treatments that have not been national appraised in Wales

Thank you for your letter of December 2014, received on 9 January 2015, about the above petition.

In the light of the Health and Social Care Committee's existing policy and legislative scrutiny commitments, it is unlikely that it will have capacity to undertake a specific inquiry into the use of the 'exceptionality rule' in the Individual Patient Funding Request ("IPFR") process. However, the petitioners may be interested to note the following recent work undertaken by the Committee.

Inquiry into progress made to date on implementing the Welsh Government's Cancer Delivery Plan

The Committee took evidence in relation to the IPFR process during its inquiry into progress made to date on implementing the Welsh Government's Cancer Delivery Plan. In its [report](#), published in October 2014, the Committee noted that it shared the concerns of many of those who gave evidence to the inquiry about varying interpretations of 'exceptionality', the lack of flexibility to respond to cohorts of patients seeking to access new treatments, inconsistencies in clinicians' willingness to engage with and access the IPFR process, and inconsistencies in the decisions made by local panels. The

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Tudalen y pecyn 46

Committee indicated in its report that it believed that to ensure equity of access to novel and innovative treatments, a national panel should be established for the purpose of considering and making decisions about individual patient funding requests. To this end, recommendation 8 of that report recommends that:

“to ensure that there is consistency and equity across Wales, the Minister for Health and Social Services establishes a national panel to consider and make decisions about Individual Patient Funding Requests”.

The Welsh Government indicated in its [response to the Committee’s report](#) that it did not accept the Committee’s recommendation. The Minister for Health and Social Services said that the review of the IPFR process, commissioned by the Minister in October 2013, had concluded that:

“the IPFR process supports rational, evidence based decision making to access medicine and non–medicine technologies that are not routinely available in Wales”.

He went on to say that the Review Group had made a number of recommendations to strengthen the process, improve transparency and inter–panel consistency. He said that once the revised arrangements had bedded in, he intended that the IPFR process would be reviewed again.

During the [Plenary debate on the Committee’s report](#) on 10 December 2014, I noted the Committee’s disappointment that the Welsh Government had not been able to accept the Committee’s recommendation. I reiterated the Committee’s concerns, including the interpretation of ‘exceptionality’, and asked the Deputy Minister for Health to ensure that the review of the revised IPFR arrangements would take them into account.

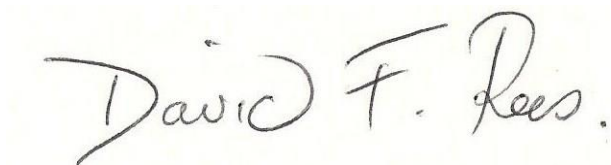
Inquiry into access to medical technologies

During its [inquiry into access to medical technologies](#), the Committee heard concerns about the operation of the IPFR process in relation to new medical technologies, with witnesses referring to the difficulties associated with assessing exceptionality. The Committee did not make an explicit

recommendation about the IPFR process as it had already done so as part of its work on the implementation of the Cancer Delivery Plan, however its [report](#) did make a number of recommendations to address what it concluded was variable service provision across health services in Wales. The Welsh Government's response to the report is due in February 2015 and is expected to be debated by the Assembly shortly thereafter.

I hope that this information is of interest to you and the petitioners.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David F. Rees." The signature is written in a cursive style and is centered on a light yellow rectangular background.

David Rees AM

Chair, Health and Social Care Committee



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

28 January 2015

Dear Mr Powell,

[Response to letter from David Rees AM, Chair of the Health and Social Care Committee, regarding the Petition P-04-570 – Inequitable access to treatments that have not been nationally appraised in NHS Wales](#)

The petitioners extend thanks to David Rees AM for his response to the request to review the current 'exceptionality' criteria within the IPFR process and acknowledgement that the Health and Social Care Committee has limited capacity to conduct a review of this criteria.

In his written statement on next steps following a review of the Individual Patient Funding Request (IPFR) Process dated 5th November 2014, the Minister for Health and Social Services, Mark Drakeford, outlined that, 'it is not appropriate to routinely use the IPFR process to determine access to orphan and ultra-orphan medicines'. The petitioners support this statement, as it is recognised that the exceptionality criterion is a barrier that prevents patients being able to access these medicines due to deficiencies within the rest of the system. We are committed to working with the All Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Committee (AWTTC) to ensure that the new process for appraising these medicines is timely and robust, drawing on both clinical and patient expertise. It is also critical that mechanisms for developing patient cohort policies are developed by the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC) to ensure that the current gaps in process are addressed.

In response to a written question by Darren Millar AM on 18th November 2014, Mark Drakeford stated that he expected work on the revised process to be completed in full by September 2015. It is essential that interim commissioning measures are put in place to enable access to orphan and ultra-orphan medicines for patient cohorts whilst new processes are in development. Patients with great clinical need are currently being denied access to life-enhancing treatments because they have no route of access to these medicines. They are denied access through the IPFR process as they are not considered 'exceptional', even though their clinician agrees that they require access to the therapy.

The petitioners request that the Minister outlines timescales for developing interim commissioning policies for patient cohorts who are currently denied equitable access to potentially life-saving therapies. It is critical that patients receive interim decisions whilst processes are developed. This issue affects two groups of patients. Firstly, patient cohorts who are denied access to therapies as a result of insufficient routes to make them available to the patient community. Secondly, those patients who

are at risk of withdrawal of treatment received via compassionate grounds from pharmaceutical companies.

Denial of access to or withdrawal of a therapy for a patient with a rare disease often results in an immediate decline in the health of the individual and has a significant, detrimental impact on the patient and their family. It is therefore essential that interim measures are put in place to prevent decisions based on inappropriate and inequitable processes and, to ensure that therapies are available to those who need them.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alastair Kent".

Alastair Kent OBE, Director of Genetic Alliance UK and Chair of Rare Disease UK

[Genetic Alliance UK](#) is the national charity working to improve the lives of patients and families affected by all types of genetic conditions. We are an alliance of over 180 patient organisations. Our aim is to ensure that high quality services, information and support are provided to all who need them. We actively support research and innovation across the field of genetic medicine.

[Rare Disease UK](#) is a multi-stakeholder campaign run by Genetic Alliance UK, working towards the delivery and implementation of the UK Strategy for Rare Diseases, which was published by the Department of Health in November 2013.

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

P-04-604 Diabetes Patient Reference Groups / Diabetic Planning and Delivery Groups in Powys – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Chair of the Committee, 13.01.2015

In response to the attached letter from William Powell AM I would be obliged if the following could be brought to the attention of the Petitions Committee.

Dear Mr. Powell,

Thank you for your letter of December 2014 detailing the Petitions Committee consideration of my submission. As is stated in the attached letter from Mr. Mark Drakeford AM, Minister for

Health and Social Services, the Powys Diabetic Planning and Delivery Group has now met and I am pleased to report that future meetings, on a quarterly basis, are now planned and a commitment has been given to re-establish the local Patient Reference Groups.

Given assurances that the prescribed channels of patient input into the diabetes planning and delivery process are to be re-established I am content that the Committee will be minded to close the petition.

On behalf of diabetes patients here in Powys I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Committee for taking on board the issues I raised and particularly the support I have received from yourself and my local AM Mr Russell George.

Yours sincerely,

Robert V.Wright.

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 -/00047/15

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

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

20 January 2015

Dear William,

Thank you for your further letter on the petition your Committee has received calling on the Welsh Government to amend legislation relating to Local Authorities' cemeteries in respect of the personalisation of graves.

I remain sympathetic to the situation experienced by the petitioners and agree people who are bereaved should have clear and consistent rights to place appropriate tributes on graves provided, of course, these do not pose a health and safety risk or impede the maintenance of the cemetery.

However, following review, I have concluded the law governing the management of cemeteries is clear and does not need reform at this time. It is for each Local Authority to develop and justify their own approaches to their communities, just as with any other service.

I would expect all Local Authorities to be clear on what is and what is not allowed in their cemeteries, and to ensure this is communicated clearly. The rules and regulations should clearly set out the process for inspection of cemeteries for unpermitted items, including a reasonable period of notice, and the action which would be taken to remove them.

I intend to write to all Local Authorities about this particular issue, in order to convey this expectation and ask them to ensure they have clear rules and regulations for the management of their cemeteries in place which are kept up to date and enforced consistently. I will also be asking them to ensure they have an appropriate communication policy in place.

*Yours sincerely,
Leighton Andrews*

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

Eitem 4.8

P-04-522 Asbestos mewn Ysgolion

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i roi mesurau ar waith i sicrhau bod rhieni a gwarcheidwaid plant yng Nghymru yn gallu cael mynediad rhwydd at wybodaeth am bresenoldeb asbestos mewn adeiladau ysgolion a beth a wneir i'w reoli.

O ystyried y risg i iechyd sy'n gysylltiedig â phresenoldeb asbestos mewn adeiladau cyhoeddus, credwn fod gan rieni a gwarcheidwaid yng Nghymru yr hawl i:

- gael gwybod os oes asbestos yn ysgolion eu plant;
- cael gwybod, os oes asbestos yn yr ysgol, ei fod yn cael ei reoli yn unol â Rheoliadau Rheoli Asbestos 2012;
- cael mynediad rhwydd at y wybodaeth honno ar-lein.

Prif ddeisebydd: Cenric Clement-Evans

Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 10 Rhagfyr 2013

Nifer y llofnodion: 448



Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-522
Ein cyf/Our ref HL/00062/15

William Powell AM
Chair - Petitions Committee

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

21 January 2014

Dear William

Thank you for your letter of January 2015 in respect of asbestos management in schools in Wales. You asked for my views on further correspondence received and discussed at your meeting on 21 October, and the reasons for not conducting a public consultation in Wales.

I refer to my previous letter to you whereby I informed you that I will consider the findings of the consultation carried out by Department for Education and decide if any action is appropriate in Wales. I am aware that the consultation process ended in March 2014 but to date no outcome has been published. I therefore do not intend to consider this matter further at this time.

Although health and safety is a top priority, asbestos is safe if undisturbed so there is not necessarily a need for a programme to remove asbestos from all schools. It is safer to leave undamaged asbestos in situ and subject to regular assessment, rather than creating additional fibre or dust disturbance through its removal. The presence and removal of asbestos in schools will be addressed when schools are replaced or refurbished as part of the 21st Century Schools Programme.

All schools are required to have an asbestos management plan in place, but I do not intend to impose a duty on them to inform parents annually about the presence of asbestos as this would increase the administration burden.

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-04-522 Asbestos in Schools – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Chair, 28.01.15

Dear Chair,

I would first of all like to thank you and all the members of the committee for the work carried out in scrutinising the petition and matters arising there from. It has given me an additional insight into the work of Assembly Members and the work that the Committee does is an important part of the democratic process here in Wales.

I have been asked to comment upon the letter of the Minister for Education and Skills of the 21st January 2015.

Responsibility for asbestos policy

In the course of the Petition a crucial, and potentially dangerous, constitutional matter has been highlighted, namely that no-one accepts that they have overall responsibility for asbestos policy in Welsh Schools.

The UK Government states the responsibility is that of the Welsh Government, whereas the Welsh Government states the responsibility lies with the HSE. The very people the Minister relies upon to set asbestos policy for his schools, the HSE, have clearly stated that they advise and regulate but do not hold the responsibility as that lies with the Welsh Government. The matter has been raised with the Minister on a number of occasions over the course of more than a year but his letter has failed to resolve the issue.

It is essential to have a clear statement from the Minister that he accepts that the Welsh Government is responsible for asbestos policy in Welsh Schools.

Review of policy of managing asbestos in schools

Welsh Government has not formally accepted responsibility for policy for asbestos in schools in Wales. It follows that Welsh Government cannot have formulated any formal policy on the issue. I would repeat therefore my request that Welsh Government consult on the issue in order to formulate policy to ensure the safety of children and staff from asbestos in our schools.

The Minister's counterpart in the Westminster Government has accepted that he is responsible for asbestos policy in English schools, which is why he is conducting a review. The Minister states that he will wait for the outcome of the DfE review before he considers the matter further. As he is aware the review is of the 'policy of managing asbestos in schools.' However rather than waiting, he has pre-empted the conclusion by stating that it is safer to leave undamaged asbestos in situ and manage it rather than removing it. This is a remarkable statement when the two major asbestos incidents that have occurred in Welsh schools have proved that the policy has failed.

Incidents in Welsh schools show system of management has failed

In 2006 tests were carried out in six CLASP schools in Rhondda Cynon Taf that showed that there was a significant release of asbestos fibres when doors were slammed, walls and columns hit and even when people sat on window sills. The schools and local authorities thought the asbestos was being safely managed as it was either painted or enclosed, and yet cumulatively dangerous levels of amosite fibres were released from normal classroom activities. The tests confirmed ones carried out in 1987 that showed amosite fibres can be released from asbestos insulating board (AIB) walls when doors are slammed or the walls are hit, and that was despite the fact that the walls appeared to be in good condition.

An additional problem that was discovered is common with many system built schools. The structural columns are clad in AIB or sprayed asbestos and significant levels of amosite fibres can be released when the columns are hit or vibrated by slamming doors or windows. This is a particular concern as the asbestos was thought to be safe as it was enclosed in a non-asbestos casing, which is a method of management recommended by HSE – however it had not worked, but because it was hidden nobody had realised that asbestos fibres were being released.

The resultant asbestos remedial work in this one local authority cost in the order of £5.3m and resulted in disruption and stress for children and staff when at least nine schools were closed for a prolonged period of time.

The other major incident occurred in 2012 at Cwmcarn High School which resulted in anxiety and disruption with the school being closed for more than a year. Two firms of asbestos consultants, the Council and an independent expert considered that the school was unsafe. There was widespread asbestos contamination with AIB debris and amosite fibres in the ceiling voids, heaters, classrooms and corridors. Tests showed that, when disturbed, the heaters emitted amosite fibres. The leaking roof couldn't be repaired, and the electrical systems could not be checked or maintained because of the presence of the asbestos contamination.

The system of management was the one advocated by the Minister. The asbestos was left in place and managed. There were extensive AIB walls in places vulnerable to damage from children. They were disturbed and damaged on numerous occasions when children jostled down the corridors, kicked the AIB beneath their desks or threw a cricket ball into a wall. The AIB was not removed but it was managed with the numerous scuffs and scrapes being filled and painted each time they occurred. Accordingly the system of damage didn't prevent damage, it concealed it.

Caerphilly Council spent more than £2m in remediating and removing the asbestos before the school was safe to reopen. It was from bitter experience that the Council realised that the policy of managing asbestos had failed. So that it does not happen again the Council have now adopted a policy of removing all AIB that is accessible to children from their schools.

Labour Party in England would adopt a long term policy of removal

It is noteworthy that in England the Labour party are taking the issue of Asbestos in our public buildings including schools very seriously and have reviewed their asbestos policy. I refer to the recent article in SHP on line when Stephen Timms MP Shadow Minister of State for Employment was interviewed on the subject. (It is pertinent that he would be the Minister responsible for the HSE.) He argued passionately that the next government should introduce and establish a strategy for the removal of asbestos from the built environment. "That is not going to happen in the course of one parliament but we think it is time for a strategy with a timetable for removing the asbestos," he says. <http://www.shponline.co.uk/banging-health-safety-drum/> I would commend such a strategy to the Welsh Government.

Teachers' mesothelioma deaths increase

The latest statistics for mesothelioma deaths in the Education sector have been obtained under the FOI. They show that the numbers of school teachers' deaths continue to increase. 291 have died since 1980, with 158 dying in the last ten years. In 1980 they were dying at a rate of 3 a year and now they are dying at a rate of 19 a year. School caretakers, cleaners, secretaries, cooks and former pupils are also dying. For every teacher there are 20 to 30 children, and they are more vulnerable to exposure to asbestos. A leading epidemiologist estimated that between 200 and 300 former pupils would die each year because of their asbestos exposure as a child at school. Because of Government policy most of the asbestos remains and the evidence is that it is being frequently damaged. The deaths will therefore continue unless long term strategic policies are adopted to remove the potential for exposure. (See: <http://www.asbestosexposureschools.co.uk/pdfnewlinks/INCREASING%20MESOTHELIOMA%20DEATHS%20AMONGST%20SCHOOL%20STAFF%20AND%20FORMER%20PUPILS%20%2017%20JAN%2015.pdf>)

There is evidence that the policy of managing asbestos in schools has failed. A future UK Labour Government would aim for a long term strategic policy of removing asbestos from buildings, including schools. This policy has already been adopted by at least one Welsh local authority. It is recommended that the Minister reviews his policy, and that of others, and reconsiders his policy that children and staff are safer if the asbestos in their schools is managed rather than removed.

Asbestos major expense in 21st Century School Programme.

The Minister has delayed setting policy for more than a year to see what his counterpart in England will do. He states that the presence and removal of asbestos will be addressed when schools are replaced or refurbished as part of the 21st Century Schools Programme. The Programme was announced in 2011 at a cost of £1.4billion. It therefore seems remarkable that such a decision has not already been made as asbestos remediation or removal can be a major expense in maintaining, refurbishing or demolishing a school.

The Programme is a collaboration between the Welsh Government, the Welsh Local Government Association and local authorities. It is therefore recommended that the policy advocated by the Minister of managing rather than removal should be reviewed without further delay in light of at least one

of those local authorities adopting a policy of removing all AIB accessible to children from their schools. If financial forecasts are to be sound he will also need to establish the extent, type and condition of asbestos in schools. If he does not then the forecasts will be meaningless.

Telling people what asbestos is in their school and how it is being managed.

Turning to the Minister's final comments:-

"All schools are required to have an asbestos management plan in place, but I do not intend to impose a duty on them to inform parents annually about the presence of asbestos as this would increase the administration burden"

May I first of all refer to the wording of the petition itself. Whilst informing parents and guardians annually of the presence of asbestos in schools may be commendable, it was not what was sought. I refer to the words of the Petition which speak for themselves:

"We call on the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government to put measures in place to ensure that parents and guardians of children across Wales can easily access information about the presence and management of asbestos in all school buildings.

Given the health risks associated with the presence of asbestos in public buildings, we believe parents and guardians across Wales have the right;

- to know if asbestos is located in their school;
- to know whether, where asbestos is present, it is being managed in line with the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012;
- to access that information easily online"

Schools have a legal requirement to comply with the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012. They have a duty to share asbestos information with workers who may be affected. Putting the information on line would not be an administrative burden as the information is already there. In essence the petition is simply asking that the information be made available to those responsible for those most at risk, namely the children of Wales.

The HSE no longer carry out proactive inspections to assess the standards of asbestos management in schools. If parents were aware of how asbestos was being managed in their children's school then they would ensure that it was being managed effectively. It would act as a cost effective system of self regulation. In the USA there has been such a policy since 1986, parents have not over reacted and the policy of transparency has worked well.

Transparency and Accountability.

The Welsh Government advocates a policy of transparency and accountability. Their Programme for Government states "This annual report puts transparency and accountability at the heart of what we do as a Government. This is because the people of Wales should know what their Government is doing on their behalf."

I ask that the Minister follows his Government's policy of transparency and accountability.

I ask that he accepts the responsibility for asbestos policy in schools is his and that he should review that policy and inform parents and guardians as to what is that policy

I ask that he makes the information available to parents and guardians so they that they know what asbestos is present in their children's schools and what measures are in place to manage it.

Asbestos is a hidden killer. Surely the people of Wales have a right to know about its presence in the schools of our nation.

**Cenric Clement-Evans
28th January 2015**

Eitem 4.9

P-04-581 Gwrthwynebu'r Toriadau yn y Ddarpariaeth ar gyfer Dysgwyr Saesneg fel Iaith Ychwanegol

Manylion:

Rydym ni, sydd wedi llofnodi isod, yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ailystyried y toriadau yn y ddarpariaeth ar gyfer disgyblion sy'n dysgu Saesneg fel iaith Ychwanegol mewn ysgolion. Mae angen cyllid ychwanegol i atal disgyblion o gefndiroedd ethnig lleiafrifol rhag cael eu gwthio i'r cyrion mewn ysgolion drwy ddarparu cymorth arbenigol gyda'r nod o gynyddu safonau addysgol a sicrhau cyfle cyfartal i bawb

Mae'r gostyngiad yn y Grant Cyrhaeddiad Lleiafrifoedd Ethnig yn cael effaith unigryw ar ddisgyblion lleiafrifoedd ethnig ar adeg pan mae'r nifer fwyaf erioed o ddysgwyr Saesneg fel iaith Ychwanegol yn ein hysgolion. Mae'r diffyg ymgynghori wedi methu ag ystyried graddfa, cwmpas ac effaith y cymorth hwn o ran unigolion, eu teuluoedd a llwyddiant yr ysgol gyfan.

Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol

The reduction in the MEAG grant impacts exclusively upon ethnic minority pupils at a time when unprecedented numbers of EAL learners are in our schools. Lack of consultation fails to examine the scale, scope and impact of our support upon individuals, their families and whole school achievement.

Prif ddeisebydd : Helen Myers

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

Nifer y llofnodion: 37

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-581
Ein cyf/Our ref HL/00014/15

William Powell AM
Chair - Petitions Committee

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

14 January 2015

Dear William

Thank you for your letter dated 30 September on behalf of the Petitions Committee regarding Petition P-04-581 from Helen Meyers about the reduction in the Minority Ethnic Achievement Grant (MEAG).

The Welsh Government supports local authorities through the administration of the MEAG, which helps raise the educational attainment of children from minority ethnic backgrounds. The MEAG is provided to reimburse local authorities for eligible expenditure to support children and young people from minority ethnic backgrounds who are learning English, or Welsh, as an additional language and to improve standards of achievement for pupils from minority backgrounds who are under achieving, or at risk of doing so, for reasons other than language acquisition.

I do recognise that pressure on services will continue to grow as the numbers of minority ethnic learners increase, and that there will be a disproportionate impact on some areas of Wales. That is why we need to be considering the focus of the grant and ensuring that funding is directed at areas of need where its impact will be greatest. There are significant pressures on a range of funded programmes and it is right that we look critically at both existing and future budgets. In that context, we must be prepared, collectively, to consider how we might continue to live within the tight financial constraints while delivering better, and more effectively targeted, services to improve outcomes for all learners, including those with more diverse needs.

In 2014-15, the Welsh Government does need to make some reductions in our education funding, whilst continuing to deliver against our commitment to protect schools funding by 1% above the rate of change to the Welsh block. My officials have been working with colleagues in local government to identify how we can best achieve these reductions. I have written to local authority Chief Executives on this matter. One of the areas identified where there has been an impact is the MEAG. However, our approach has been to seek to work with Chief Executives in identifying how additional flexibility around a number of grants might enable authorities and consortia to identify alternative areas to make the required savings to lessen the impact on schools and learners. The proposals I have approved go some way to lessen the impact on schools and learners and the resulting changes will be reflected in the second supplementary Budget. My officials continue to work with officers in Swansea City Council to examine how the savings which are required might be delivered.

Yours sincerely



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

P-04-581 Opposition to Cuts in Provision for Learners of English as an Additional Language – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 28.01.2014

Many thanks for your recent email informing me of the discussion of my petition.

As you will be aware, since the submission of my petition, the MEAG, which had provided ring fenced funding for the support of pupils in the process of acquiring English as an Additional Language (EAL), no longer exists. Resourcing for EAL learners is now drawn from the Education Improvement Grant (EIG).

While I am unaware of new arrivals data across Wales, the withdrawal of the MEAG has coincided with an unprecedented number of new referrals to Swansea's EMLA Service– an average rate of six new referrals per day, or over 500 pupils across both primary and secondary phases since the beginning of the Autumn Term, 2014.

Can the Welsh Government guarantee that adequate priority is given to EAL learners given the multiple demands on the E.I.G., and ensure that areas with the greatest need– Cardiff, Newport and Swansea LAs are targeted?

Regards,

Helen Myers

Eitem 4.10

P-04-537 Plannu Coed i Leihau Llifogydd

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i leihau'r risg o lifogydd i filoedd o gartrefi drwy'r wlad drwy gefnogi plannu o leiaf 10 miliwn coeden dros y pum mlynedd nesaf, gan greu perthi, lleiniau coed a manau coediog wedi'u targedu yn y manau gorau ar gyfer amsugno'r dŵr ac arafu dŵr ffo. Byddai plannu'r coed hyn yn cyfrif tuag at nod bresennol Llywodraeth Cymru i blannu 100,000 hectar o goed i amsugno carbon deuocsid o'r awyrgylch.

Prif ddeisebydd: Coed Cadw

Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 18 Chwefror 2014

Nifer y llofnodion: 2708

Date: 12th January 2015

By e-mail: angharadevans@woodlandtrust.org.uk

Dear William Powell AM,

Response to correspondence received by Minister For Natural Resources

Apologies in the delay in getting back to you on this matter. May we thank you and the Committee for giving us the opportunity to respond to this letter formally and to share some of our thoughts on the matter for your consideration at your next meeting.

Coed Cadw broadly agrees with the letter the Committee received for the Natural Resources Minister, in the sense that the degree to which trees and other 'natural' flood defences are effective does depend on the location. We think the key issues are that;

- Trees and other natural solutions must be an integral part of decision making around flood defences solutions, and
- That the wider benefits of trees and natural solutions (for biodiversity, air quality, landscape etc.) are also factored in when making decisions on the most cost effective approach.

There is nothing ostensibly incorrect in the letter and much of it indisputable – trees are just one of many measures, their use for natural flood risk management needs to be assessed depending on location, topography etc. so it is right that we can't set a deterministic target for a certain number of trees across Wales to deliver reduced flood risk by a certain per cent.

However, we wish to highlight the fact that the influence of trees is real and supported by research and that assessing the cost efficiency of flood alleviation schemes needs to factor in the multiple benefits that land management based flood risk measures can deliver. Currently the calculations do not take these benefits into account when deciding on a traditional versus natural approach.

Secondly, we need to ensure that when any flood alleviation scheme is being considered – standard or natural – that the whole catchment's impact on the flood risk is taken into account. This could highlight the considerable ameliorating impact that land management measures may have downstream rather than dealing with the problem only through hard engineering closer to a town/city. The way in which the management of flood risk is considered in the first place is key to ensure natural approaches feature in thinking at the outset.

We would be interested in knowing whether the Welsh Government are working with other advocates of land management approaches to flood amelioration in Wales and whether there is sense that NRW are fully embracing more naturalistic measures when considering flood risk schemes? We need the flood risk teams in NRW to fully assess and incorporate such measures into their thinking regarding flood risk alleviation i.e. we need the portfolio of options to be expanded to include land management and tree planting measures, and we also need the rules governing public spending on flood risk to change to fully recognise the multiple benefits that natural flood risk measures can bring.

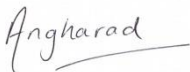
We are aware of two innovative projects lead by NRW in relation to natural flood risk management for the Clwyd catchment in North Wales which will support and enhance improved flood defences, particularly in relation to coping with future climate change and also contribute wider ecosystem services, in particular clean water and sustainable livestock production, both identified by stakeholders in the catchment as being the key priorities to stakeholders, in addition to flooding. We understand that the results/reports from these by will be available soon.

Lastly, the mapping reference at the end of the letter refers to revised woodland opportunity map. This will help identify areas where NRW can focus its efforts regarding supporting tree planting but ground truthing of the mapping and working closely with flood risk specialists and land owners will be required in order to fully understand where trees will deliver any flood risk benefit. Coed Cadw will be pleased to help facilitate such work.

Coed Cadw would like to see a commitment from the Minister promising that trees and the natural environment considerations will continue to be advocated and incorporated and even undertaken where it is appropriate. We suggest that a target is adopted to ensure that this process happens. The Welsh Government is the party that can direct NRW in the approach it takes and can approve and fund planting, and will be able to influence and advise others to do so, and therefore it would be better to see a stronger commitment to use its influence to ensure approaches that more sustainable and support multiple benefits.

We look forward to observing the next discussion on the matter.

Yr eiddoch yn gywir,



Angharad Evans
Swyddog Ymgyrchoedd / Campaigns Officer

P-04-575 Galw i Mewn Pob Cais Cynllunio ar Gyfer Cloddio Glo Brig

Manylion:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i alw i mewn pob cais cynllunio ar gyfer cloddio glo brig dros gyfnod o ddeg mlynedd neu sydd dros 350 hectar o faint gan fod goblygiadau'r datblygiadau hyn yn bellgyrhaeddol ac yn hirsefydlog gydag effeithiau y tu hwnt i'r ardal leol.

Prif ddeisebydd United Valleys Action Group

Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 15 Gorffennaf 2014

Nifer y llofnodion: 130 – Casglodd ddeiseb gysylltiedig a oedd yn ymwneud â chais cynllunio penodol dros 6500 o lofnodion

Y Pwyllgor Amgylchedd a Chynaliadwyedd
Environment and Sustainability Committee

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru
National
Assembly for
Wales



William Powell AM
Chair of the Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
petition@assembly.wales

19 January 2015

Annwyl William

P-04-575 Call in All Opencast Mining Planning Applications

Thank you for your correspondence in relation to the above petition, which was drawn to the attention of the Environment and Sustainability Committee as a paper to note on 13 November 2014.

We have noted the issues raised by petition P-04-575 'Call in All Opencast Mining Planning Applications'.

We are unable to undertake any further work in relation to this petition due to pre-existing work programme commitments.

Our current work programme has been agreed to the end of 2015. Whilst we have no plans to look at this issue at the present time, should we decide to consider this issue in the future I will inform you.

Yn gywir

Alun Ffred Jones AM
Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Committee

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**Steve George
Clerk to Petitions Committee
Welsh Assembly Petitions Committee
Welsh Assembly
Cardiff Bay
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CF99 1NA**

**Re-United Valleys Action Group (UVAG) Views to Petitions Committee,
With regards to Environment & Sustainability Committee reply on
P-04-575 Call in on all Opencast Mining Applications over
10 years Duration or 350 Hectares in Size.**

Petitions Committee

UVAG are very disappointed with the reply from the Environment & Sustainability Committee, UVAG was hoping for a favourable response from them because it is fact that coal is not sustainable in the long term and therefore would support our petition.

UVAG would like the Petitions Committee to accept their earlier submissions to enable the petition to go to plenary, as stated in earlier submissions, the Wales planning bill actually supports our petition because they propose to take all energy planning applications including opencast mining away from local authorities.

Please find attached the earlier submissions from UVAG

**Terry Evans
Chair, United Valleys Action Group (UVAG)**

Eitem 4.12

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/00168/15

William Powell AC

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

21 Ionawr 2015

Annwyl William

Diolch am eich llythyr a ddaeth i law ar 13 Ionawr ynghylch P-04-393
Llanymynech a Grŵp Gweithredu Ffordd Osgoi Pant.

Mae copi o'm llythyr at yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Drafnidiaeth wedi ei
amgáu, a'i ymateb yntau.

Cynhaliwyd telegynhadledd gan fy swyddogion gyda swyddogion cyfatebol yn
yr Adran Drafnidiaeth ar 8 Ionawr i drafod cynlluniau trawsffiniol. Mae
amserlen o gyfarfodydd wedi'u trefnu bellach, a fydd yn cynnwys yr Asiantaeth
Briffyrdd, i ystyried y ffordd orau o gydweithio i fynd ymlaen â'r trafodaethau.

Edwina Hart

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff

CF99 1NA

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i atgysylltu (100%) Tudalen y bacyn 78

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Rt Hon Patrick McLoughlin MP
Secretary of State for Transport
Department for Transport

TransportSecretary@dft.gsi.gov.uk

13 October 2014

Dear Patrick

I have received a number of representations recently about the importance of improving our cross border road links in Mid Wales.

Our departments have worked together in the past on plans for a bypass of the communities of Pant and Llanymynech on the A483 in Powys.

As we have now completed works to improve the A483 at nearby Four Crosses, I would be very grateful if we could reopen discussions to explore whether this bypass scheme could now be progressed.

I am copying this letter to the Secretary of State for Wales.

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

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay

Caerdydd • Cardiff

CF99 1NA

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%) **Tudalen pecyn 79**

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300

Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400

Correspondence.edwina.Hart@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

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Department
for Transport

Edwina Hart MBE CStJ AC/AM
Minister for Economy, Science and Transport
Welsh Government
Cardiff Bay
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From the Secretary of State
The Rt. Hon. Patrick McLoughlin

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Our Ref: MC/117702

11 NOV 2014

De Edwina

Thank you for your letter of 13 October, about representations you have received about improving cross border road links in Mid Wales.

I understand the importance of cross-border investment proposals for the Welsh Government, and have been clear that Ministers and officials here are more than happy to discuss any such proposals.

In terms of investment planning, the Highways Agency (HA) are completing a programme of Route Strategies covering all of the English strategic road network. These strategies are the process by which future investment needs and plans for the network will be identified and evaluated, and I know the HA had invited Welsh Government officials to specific stakeholder events for those routes that contain cross-border roads.

Where there are priorities for investment identified by the Welsh Government on roads which have cross-border aspects, I am more than happy for the Department to work closely with the Welsh Government. In terms of the specific investment proposals for the A483, as with all our investments, there will of course need to be a strong value for money case for investment.

Could I suggest that in the first instance, your officials make contact with Elliot Shaw, Deputy Director in Strategic Roads (020 9744 4508) to arrange to explore during the next week or so, the details of the proposed investment and the Highways Agency's route strategy investment planning work.

I hope this is helpful and I have copied this letter to the Secretary of State for Wales.

*y - e
Patrick*

THE RT. HON. PATRICK McLOUGHLIN

Tudalen y pecyn 80

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

Eitem 4.14

P-04-513 Achub gwasanaeth bws X94 Wrecsam/Abermo

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Mae Bysiau Arriva wedi cyhoeddi y bydd yn cael gwared ar wasanaeth X94, sy'n cysylltu trefi Abermo, Dolgellau, Bala, Corwen, Llangollen a Wrecsam, a phump o wasanaethau bws eraill ar 21 Rhagfyr eleni. Mae'r holl wasanaethau bws yma'n cysylltu cymunedau ledled Cymru â'i gilydd, o'r gogledd i'r de ac o'r dwyrain i'r gorllewin. Rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i ymchwilio i sut y gellir osgoi cael gwared ar y gwasanaethau yma ac i'r ffordd orau o sicrhau a hyrwyddo gwasanaethau bysiau cenedlaethol sy'n cysylltu rhanbarthau Cymru â'i gilydd, yn enwedig lle nad oes gwasanaeth rheilffordd ar gael.

Prif ddeisebydd: Karen Dunford

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

Nifer y llofnodion: 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-040475/513/515
Ein cyf/Our ref EH/00166/15

William Powell
Cadeirydd – Y Pwyllgor Deisebau
committeebusiness@cymru.gsi.gov.uk

23 Ionawr 2015

Annwyl William,

Diolch ichi am eich gohebiaeth bellach ynghylch ymchwiliad y Pwyllgor Deisebau i Wasanaethau Bysiau a Thrafnidiaeth Gymunedol.

Atodaf atebion manwl i gwestiynau'r Pwyllgor ynghyd â gwybodaeth gefndir ychwanegol i gefnogi'r atebion hynny.

Edwina Hart

PETITIONS COMMITTEE INQUIRY INTO BUS AND COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

A Current levels of public financial support for bus and community transport services

I am satisfied that the current levels of public funding to support bus and community transport services are sufficient to secure an efficient network. Despite severe pressure on the Welsh Government's budget as a result of decisions by the UK Government, the following evidence of substantial investment demonstrates my commitment to this in the current financial year.

Bus Services Support Grant (BSSG)	£25m (maintained at 2013-14 levels)
Mandatory concessions reimbursement	£67.75m
Local Transport Fund	£4.8m
Local authorities concessions administration	£2.2m (estimated)
Traws Cymru network	£1.8m
Bwcabus	£120,000
Traveline Cymru	£1m
Integrated transport pilots in the Vale of Glamorgan and Ceredigion	£200,000
Cardiff Airport Express (T9)	£312,000
Cardiff Airport Shuttle	£128,000
Bus Users' Cymru	£230,000
Community Transport Association	£200,000
Metro Phase 1 (bus priority corridors)	£13.1m
Metro Phase 1 (Newport bus station)	£3.0m
Metro Phase 1 (Merthyr bus station)	£800,000
Metro Phase 1 (Integrated ticketing)	£800,000

In addition, the £4.3bn local authorities have received in 2014-15 includes unhypothecated local government revenue funding to enable them to support bus and community transport services, and to support concessionary travel. I will continue to urge local authorities to protect the funding that they allocate in support of bus and community transport, in particular, but those are decisions for each authority to take.

As far as each of our Programme for Government objectives for the bus and community transport sectors are concerned, I would refer the Committee to the published updates.

B The effect of recent changes, and proposed future changes, in public funding levels and mechanisms on bus and community transport services

One of my key objectives for the bus network is that it should be helped to reduce what has become a significant dependency on public funding.

In Wales, just under three quarters of local bus services are provided by private and municipal bus companies on a commercial basis. While they need to make sufficient, appropriate profits from their operations to enable them to invest in improving the services that they provide, those profits also need to reflect the fact that they receive taxpayers' support.

Given the low pressures we see on wage inflation and fuel, it would be surprising if those factors were to play a significant part in influencing operators' network decisions for the foreseeable future. It is more difficult to estimate changes in insurance and other costs, but I believe that overall there is little if any fare inflation currently in the Welsh bus market. The most recent figures show that between 2013 and 2014 bus fares rose in Wales by, on average, 1.6%. This was a lower increase than elsewhere in Great Britain, and a fall in real terms. A report by the TAS Partnership has identified that profit margins for six operators assessed in Wales were 8.3% overall.

In addition to our core funding of the Community Transport Association (CTA) in Wales, community transport projects benefit from local authority decisions arising from their BSSG allocations and authorities' own budgets. My officials review the performance of the CTA at regular intervals with the CTA and annual funding decisions are based on detailed Business Plans. Ahead of decisions about funding for 2015-16, the CTA has been asked to produce an updated "State of the Sector" report to highlight current issues. That report will help to inform future funding decisions and my officials have been advised that the CTA will publish it soon.

I am keen that future public investment in the bus network, in particular, should be coordinated with operators' own investment. In that way, we and our partners will achieve the maximum positive impact. It is for this reason that I am exploring the potential for route-based investment partnerships where we have identified the greatest potential for increasing the number of passengers. The longer-term viability of the bus industry will depend especially on attracting more fare-paying passengers and reducing the industry's dependence on public funding.

C The social and economic impact of recent and proposed future changes, in public funding levels and mechanisms for the bus and community transport sectors

In November 2014 the Public Policy Institute for Wales published its report "A fare deal? Regulation and Financing Bus Services in Wales". That exercise looked specifically at the impact of deregulation in Wales. The report identifies that fares have increased in Wales while operators' costs have reduced, and notes that "As a result, Wales is paying higher subsidies than the rest of Great Britain outside London without any noticeable added benefit". Though in part this reflects the more rural nature of Wales, meaning that buses carry fewer passengers for longer distances than elsewhere in Great Britain, I am pleased that the report endorses my emphasis on statutory Partnerships between local authorities and bus operators.

Inevitably, the Welsh Government and local authorities sometimes need to make difficult decisions about the level of services that can be supported. For my part, those decisions only follow careful review of the proposals and competing demands for funding. Where appropriate, Equality Impact Assessments are undertaken. As far as the funding that I provide to local authorities is concerned, I require that their decisions are taken only after their detailed consideration of local circumstances and priorities. In the same vein, I wish to encourage bus operators to consult the travelling public before implementing changes to their timetables and networks.

Local authorities are responsible for reimbursing operators for concessionary journeys undertaken on local bus services, and ensuring compliance with the legal obligation that operators are "no better or no worse off" as a result.

Work carried out in 2013-14 with local authorities and the bus industry to identify a new three-year funding package for the scheme established that £67.75m would be sufficient in 2014-15 to meet this obligation based on approximately 50m concessionary journeys a year.

The Welsh Government recently announced that, from September 2015, we will provide a discounted travel scheme for young people on buses. Detailed work is being taken forward on that. It is vital that we target public funding for this sort of initiative and at the same time encourage the private sector to work with us to grow the fare-paying part of the market.

The Welsh Government has funded Traveline Cymru since 1999 to provide public transport information through a variety of media including a contact centre, website and mobile telephone applications.

D 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

My future decisions will be aimed at helping to provide a period of stability within difficult funding constraints to enable the industry to develop and deploy its commercial acumen to grow the number of fare-paying passengers, and the proportion of those within the overall total. That is why I consider the use of statutory agreements between local authorities and bus operators to be so important.

The Metro initiative in south east Wales illustrates our commitment to provide integrated solutions. This will increase and improve access to education, healthcare and employment, supporting increased economic activity. The first phase of the project includes an investment of £13.1m to help the reliable movement of buses, including bus priority measures between Cardiff and St. Athan – Cardiff Enterprise Zone. Such initiatives will make bus travel more attractive to the public, and reduce operating costs and therefore subsidy through the more effective and efficient use of the network. In addition, £3.8m has been allocated to enhance bus interchanges at Newport and Merthyr Tydfil, and provide suitable waiting facilities.

An effective, integrated public transport network comprises several strands, and must achieve a balance between modes. For example, it would not be possible to carry all train passengers on buses or vice versa without unaffordable expenditure on their respective infrastructures. Nor would I wish to see either of those modes surrender its market to the other. The important thing is that public funding is affordable, effectively targeted and avoids costly duplication, offering people a number of practical and affordable alternatives.

The ability to facilitate integration between different modes and services will increase the geographical coverage of the public transport network and link desired origins and destinations.

I would like to see more local authorities considering the potential for voluntary agreements with bus operators, statutory bus Quality Partnership Schemes or Quality Contracts. One of the benefits of a binding, statutory scheme is that local authorities and operators would be required to deliver their commitments and investments. I would like to see Welsh Government funding for the bus network increasingly to be linked to statutory Partnerships so that, in perhaps five years, BSSG would be allocated only in support of those services which were in a Partnership.

From September 2015 I will have secured powers to enable the Welsh Government to contract direct with bus operators for subsidized services, rather than going through a local authority intermediary. I am confident that this will provide me with greater influence over which bus services are publicly funded and, as a result, what sort of bus and integrated public transport networks we have in Wales.

The ability to travel seamlessly between services is often determined by the availability of joint tickets, the primary example being the All-Wales concessionary bus travel scheme. This enables pass holders to travel on any local bus service anywhere in Wales. The deregulated market results in several commercial and practical constraints which have, historically, limited opportunities to provide fully integrated commercial ticketing. Notwithstanding these, progress is being made to implement smart ticketing, initially in the Metro area, to reduce complexity for bus users.

In addition, under Section 135 of the Transport Act 2000 a local authority or two or more authorities may make a ticketing scheme covering the whole or any part of their area, or combined area. I would like more local authorities in Wales to explore the potential for such schemes.

Bus passenger satisfaction levels are pleasingly high. Data for 2010 shows that Wales compared well with a representative selection of areas across England. In particular, across Wales:

- 88% of bus passengers were satisfied with their bus journey;
- 61% of fare-paying passengers were satisfied with the value for money of their journey; and
- 76% of bus passengers were satisfied with the punctuality of their bus service.

For a number of years the Welsh Government has funded Bus Users' Cymru to represent the interests of bus passengers. I am extremely pleased with the work that Bus Users' Cymru does, including its input to policy development and in organizing around 20 bus passenger surgeries throughout Wales. Bus Users' Cymru also employs three full-time Bus Compliance Officers (BCOs) funded by me to monitor the industry's performance so that more potential failures are prevented, and acted upon promptly where they exist.

The BCOs work closely with the Traffic Commissioner for the Wales Traffic Area, who is responsible for taking action against errant bus operators, and who may impose financial penalties – payable to the Welsh Government – where significant failures are proved.

You will remember that in April 2014 capital funding via the regional transport consortia ceased and was replaced by the Local Transport Fund, which is paid directly to local authorities to deliver schemes that are aligned to Welsh Government priorities. In 2014-15 the Local Transport Fund is supporting a number of public transport schemes across Wales, including in Newport, Cardiff, Carmarthenshire and Powys. These schemes will provide enhanced interchange and bus stop facilities for both local bus services and regional services such as TrawsCymru.

E Recent trends in bus and community transport in Wales

Almost half – 44% - of all local bus journeys in Wales are undertaken by some 725,000 concessionary pass holders, and that is not financially sustainable when compared with the rest of Great Britain, where the equivalent figure (also including travel by young people) is around 35%. That is not to say that I do not wish to see older or disabled pass holders make the most of their passes by getting out and about at every opportunity. I certainly do, knowing very well how important a contribution they make to wellbeing and establishing and maintaining social contacts. But we need to work with local authorities and the bus industry to increase the number of fare-paying journeys.

The recent decline in the number of bus passenger journeys in Wales is certainly disappointing, though not unique to Wales, as there have been similar falls in the past two or three years across the North of England and the Midlands.

F Potential impact of changes in levels of funding available

While it is true that, before last year, there was a 17% reduction in the Welsh Government's funding for subsidized services, it is not always possible to avoid difficult decisions. In addition, when determining the services that they wish to support using their own or Welsh Government funding, local authorities tend to prioritize those services that require the least subsidy. The most vulnerable subsidized services will be those that carry fewest passengers and therefore require the greatest subsidy for each passenger journey.

Nevertheless, my guidance to local authorities on spending BSSG allocations recommends that they should seek to ensure a minimum standard and frequency of service to all communities, and not concentrate simply on the largest and therefore least expensive settlements. Currently, each local authority is responsible for making those decisions.

It is easy but unhelpful to attempt to compare and contrast the level of public subsidy provided to the rail industry with that to the bus industry. There are significant differences between the funding and business models of these sectors. For example, the average journey length of train trips is significantly greater than that for buses, which also benefit from our investment in the road network.

G Development of Welsh Government bus and community transport policy

Increasingly, the public money that is spent in support of bus services must be linked to the delivery of specific quality outcomes. For example, improved driver training, enhanced audio visual announcements and better accessibility generally, the offer of discounted travel, and minimum standards of information. This approach is reflected in the work of my Bus Policy Advisory Group, which is advising me on future strategic priorities for the bus and community transport sectors.

I would also remind you that the new National Transport Plan is currently out to public consultation. The draft plan contains a number of interventions that clearly demonstrate my long term commitments to support and enhance bus and community transport services and facilities. The new National Transport Plan will be complemented by the new Local Transport Plans being developed at the same time by local authorities. The draft National Transport Plan can be found via the following link - <http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/transport/draft-national-transport-plan/?lang=en>

I am pleased to be providing an office for the Traffic Commissioner in Wales to help his work with local authorities, bus operators and others based here.

P-04-468 Road Safety Concerns A48 Chepstow

Petition wording:

We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government to reduce the speed limit on the A48 Bridge at Chepstow from 50mph to 30mph.

Petition raised by: Chepstow Town Council

Date petition first considered by Committee: 19 March 2013

Number of signatures : An associated petition collected 1,000 signatures

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref EH/00167/15

William Powell AC
petition@cymru.gov.uk

21 Ionawr 2015

Annwyl William,

Diolch ichi am eich llythyr a gyrhaeddodd ein swyddfa ar 13 Ionawr ynghylch deiseb P-04-468 sy'n ymwneud â phryderon diogelwch ar yr A48 yng Nghas-gwent.

Bellach, mae fy swyddogion wedi cwblhau'r gwaith o adolygu terfynau cyflymder holl gefnffyrdd Cymru. Bydd y manylion ar gael yn fuan.

Edwina Hart