

Agenda – Y Pwyllgor Deisebau

Lleoliad: I gael rhagor o wybodaeth cysylltwch a:
Ystafell Bwyllgora 1 – y Senedd Graeme Francis – Clerc y Pwyllgor
Dyddiad: Dydd Mawrth, 9 Mai 2017 Kath Thomas – Dipwrwy Glerc
Amser: 09.00 0300 200 6565
SeneddDeisebau@cynulliad.cymru

1 Cyflwyniad, ymddiheuriadau, dirprwyon a datganiadau o fuddiant (Tudalennau 1 – 45)

2 Deisebau newydd

2.1 P-05-750 Ar gyfer eitemau untro: cyflwyno System Dychwelyd Ernes ar gyfer cynwysyddion diodydd a sicrhau y gellir compostio cynwysyddion bwyd cyflym a'r offer sy'n gysylltiedig â hwy
(Tudalennau 46 – 54)

2.2 P-05-751 Cydnabod achosion o Ddieithrio Plentyn oddi wrth Riant
(Tudalennau 55 – 65)

2.3 P-05-752 Meithrin gallu plant i wrthsefyll seiberfwlio
(Tudalennau 66 – 73)

3 Y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am ddeisebau blaenorol

Prif Weinidog

3.1 P-05-712 Byddai Adran Ewrop o fewn Llywodraeth Cymru yn Sicrhau Llais Clir, Strategol ac Atebol i Gymru yn y Trafodaethau Parhaus
(Tudalennau 74 – 76)

Iechyd

3.2 P-04-466 Argyfwng Meddygol – Atal cyflwyno gwasanaeth iechyd o safon is yng ngogledd Cymru.
(Tudalennau 77 – 79)

3.3 P-04-505 Uned Anhwylderau Bwyta yng Nghymru
(Tudalennau 80 – 81)



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

(Tudalennau 82 – 100)

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

(Tudalennau 101 – 105)

3.6 P-05-693 Rhowch y Brechlyn Llid yr Ymennydd B i Bob Plentyn yng Nghymru am ddim

(Tudalennau 106 – 108)

Amgylchedd a Materion Gwledig

3.7 P-04-472 Gwnewch y Nodyn Cyngor Technegol Mwynau yn ddeddf

(Tudalennau 109 – 112)

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

(Tudalennau 113 – 115)

3.9 P-05-705 Annog Pwyllgorau Cynllunio i Sicrhau bod Penderfyniadau ar Faterion Cynllunio yn Rhoi sylw Dyledus i'r Effaith ar Grwpiau Ymunedol a Sefydliadau Gwirfoddol neu i'r Posibilrwydd y Bydd y Grwpiau a'r Sefydliadau hyn yn Cau.

(Tudalennau 116 – 118)

3.10 P-05-741 Mae angen Cyfyngiadau Llymach ar Gyfoeth Naturiol Cymru

(Tudalennau 119 – 124)

3.11 P-05-743 Rhowch Derfyn ar Fasnachu Anifeiliaid Anwes Egsotig yng Nghymru

(Tudalennau 125 – 132)

Addysg

3.12 P-04-481 Cau'r bwlch ar gyfer disgyblion byddar yng Nghymru

(Tudalennau 133 – 141)

3.13 P-04-576 Caniatáu i Blant yng Nghymru Gael Gwyliau Teuluol yn Ystod Tymor yr Ysgol

(Tudalennau 142 – 149)

3.14 P-05-694 Amseroedd Ysgol Awr yn Hwyrach

(Tudalennau 150 – 151)

- 3.15 P-05-707 Rhaid i Hyfforddiant Athrawon Gynnwys Hyfforddiant Statudol ar Awtistiaeth**
(Tudalennau 152 – 156)
- 3.16 P-05-735 Gwneud y cyfnod sylfaen yn fwy effeithiol ar gyfer ein plant, darparu mwy o athrawon a dileu y TASau blwyddyn 2.**
(Tudalennau 157 – 162)
- Economi a'r Seilwaith**
- 3.17 P-04-594 Apêl Cyngor Cymuned Cilmeri ynghylch y Gofeb i'r Tywysog Llywelyn**
(Tudalennau 163 – 165)
- 3.18 P-05-692 Adeiladu Cofeb Mamieithoedd Rhyngwladol ym Mae Caerdydd**
(Tudalennau 166 – 167)
- 3.19 P-05-716 Cludiant am Ddim ar y Trenau i Ddisgyblion Ysgol gyda Threnau Arriva Cymru**
(Tudalennau 168 – 175)
- 3.20 P-05-720 Deiseb Cyngor Cymuned Hirwaun a Phenderyn i Osod Band Eang opteg Ffibr yn y Pentref**
(Tudalennau 176 – 178)
- 3.21 P-05-721 Deiseb Terfyn Cyflymder Penegoes**
(Tudalennau 179 – 180)
- 3.22 P-05-748 Bysiau Ysgol i Blant Ysgol**
(Tudalennau 181 – 183)
- Comisiwn y Cynulliad**
- 3.23 P-04-526 Gwnewch Senedd TV yn hygyrch i bobl fyddar**
(Tudalennau 184 – 187)
- Gyllid a Llywodraeth Leol**
- 3.24 P-05-726 Rhoi Rhyddhad Ardrethi i Awdurdodau Lleol ar gyfer Cyfleusterau Hamdden a Diwylliannol**
(Tudalennau 188 – 190)
- Gymunedau a Phlant**
- 3.25 P-05-742 Peidiwch â gadael i Forsythia gau!**
(Tudalennau 191 – 196)

Deisebau hirsefydlog a drafodwyd ddiwethaf gan y Pwyllgor ar 4 Ebrill

3.26 P-04-524 Rheolaeth Gynllunio a'r Gymraeg

(Tudalen 197)

3.27 P-04-559 Ymwybyddiaeth mewn Ysgolion Uwchradd o Hunan-niweidio

(Tudalen 198)

**4 Evidence session – P-05-710 Sicrhau y gall Pobl Anabl
Ddefnyddio Trafnidiaeth Gyhoeddus Pryd Bynnag y Bo'i Hangen
Arnynt**

(Tudalennau 199 – 211)

Ken Skates AM – Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure

Rhodri Griffiths – Deputy Director, Transport Policy, Planning & Partnerships

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

Eitem 2.1

P-05-750 Ar gyfer eitemau untro: cyflwyno System Dychwelyd Ernes ar gyfer cynwysyddion diodydd a sicrhau y gellir compostio cynwysyddion bwyd cyflym a'r offer sy'n gysylltiedig â hwy.

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Gymdeithas Cadwraeth Forol ar ôl casglu 1,993 llofnod.

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Mae'r Gymdeithas Cadwraeth Forol yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i weithredu er mwyn i Gymru gyfrannu'n gadarnhaol at y nod byd-eang yn Neddf Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol (Cymru) 2015, ac i adeiladu ar y canlyniadau rhagorol a gafwyd drwy godi tâl ar fagioau plastig, drwy weithredu dau gam arall a fyddai'n helpu Cymru i gyrraedd economi diwastraff, cylchol. Hynny yw:

1. Cyflwyno system dychwelyd ernes yng Nghymru ar gyfer pob cynhwysydd diod untro, fel poteli gwydr a phlastig a chaniau alwminiwm.
2. Deddfu er mwyn codi tâl ar yr holl gynwysyddion bwyd a diodydd cyflym a'r offer sy'n gysylltiedig â hwy nad oes modd eu compostio'n llawn, oni bai ei bod yn bosibl eu hailddefnyddio, eu hail-lenwi, eu cynnwys mewn cynllun dychwelyd neu eu casglu i'w hailgylchu mewn siopau.

Mae systemau dychwelyd ernes eisoes ar waith mewn mwy na 40 o wledydd ledled y byd a phrofwyd bod y rhain yn lleihau sbwriel, yn cynyddu cyfraddau ailgylchu drwy greu cyflenwad mwy dibynadwy o ddeunyddiau o ansawdd da, yn lleihau costau ar gyfer awdurdodau lleol ac yn creu swyddi.

Mae papurau lapio bwyd cyflym a chwpanau untro yn eitemau sbwriel cyffredin ar ein strydoedd a bydd sicrhau bod modd eu hail-lenwi/eu hailddefnyddio, a'i bod yn hawdd eu hailgylchu neu eu compostio, yn lleihau sbwriel.

Mae'r gwaith o gynhyrchu cynwysyddion diodydd newydd yn ogystal â chynwysyddion bwyd cyflym a chwpanau newydd yn defnyddio llawer iawn o ynni, sy'n cyfrannu at allyriadau nwyon tŷ gwydr. Po fwyaf yr ydym yn ailgylchu, a pho leiaf o ysbwriel yr ydym yn ei ollwng, gorau oll ar gyfer ein hamgylchedd a'n heconomi.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad

- Rhosan ar Wy
- Swydd Henffordd

System dychwelyd ernes / deunydd pacio y gellir ei gompostio

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau | 9 Mai 2017

Petitions Committee | 9 May 2017

Papur briffio gan y Gwasanaeth Ymchwil:

Rhif y ddeiseb: P-05-750

Teitl y ddeiseb: Ar gyfer eitemau untro: cyflwyno system dychwelyd ernes ar gyfer cynwysyddion diodydd a sicrhau y gellir compostio cynwysyddion bwyd cyflym a'r offer sy'n gysylltiedig â hwy

Testun y ddeiseb:

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Cefndir

Mae polisi gwastraff (gan gynnwys ailgylchu) yn fater datganoledig. Fel y cyfryw, mae polisiâu Llywodraeth y DU yn berthnasol i Loegr yn unig a chyfrifoldeb y gweinyddiaethau datganoledig yw datblygu a gweithredu eu polisiâu a'u dulliau eu hunain, o fewn fframwaith gofynion yr UE. Mae strategaeth [Tuag at Ddyfodol Diwastraff](#) (2010) Llywodraeth Cymru yn nodi ei pholisi yn y maes hwn.

System dychwelyd ernes / system ad-dalu ernes (DRS)

A deposit-refund system is the surcharge on the price of potentially polluting Products. When pollution is avoided by returning the products or their residuals, a refund of the surcharge is granted. (OECD, Glossary of Statistical Terms)

Diben system o'r fath yw annog pobl i ddychwelyd deunyddiau i broses drefnus o aildefnyddio, ailgylchu neu drin / gwaredu. Egwyddor sylfaenol systemau ernes ar ddeunydd pacio diodydd yw bod manwerthwyr, wrth brynu diod, yn talu ffi ychwanegol am y deunydd pacio, ar ffurf ernes. Y deunydd pacio a maint y cynhwysydd sy'n penderfynu'r ffi, yn gyffredinol, a chaiff ei nodi ar label ar y pecyn. Wrth brynu diod yn y siop, bydd y cwsmer yn talu'r ffi ychwanegol i'r manwerthwr a bydd y ffi wedyn yn cael ei had-dalu pan fydd y cwsmer yn dychwelyd y pecyn gwag. Cynwysyddion diodydd yw targed mwyaf cyffredin systemau dychwelyd ernes ond cafwyd awgrymiadau y gellid rhoi'r cynllun ar waith yn ehangach, er enghraifft i fatris a theiars.

Bu diddordeb o'r newydd yn y defnydd o systemau ernes yn ddiweddar ynghyd â defnyddio peiriannau gwerthu o chwith fel dull o gasglu cynwysyddion diodydd. Nid oes dim cynlluniau dychwelyd ernes ar waith yn y DU ar hyn o bryd. Awgrymodd gwaith ymchwil a gynhaliwyd ar gyfer y Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) y bydd y cynllun ernes yn arbed arian i'r defnyddiwr yn y tymor hir, ac y byddai ernes o 15c am gynwysyddion llai na 500ml a 30c am y rhai mwy o faint yn creu cyfraddau dychwelyd o tua 90%.

Amlinellodd yr [adroddiad](#) a baratowyd gan Eunomia yn 2010 ar gyfer CPRE nifer o fanteision posibl system dychwelyd ernes:

- Cynyddu cyfradd ailgylchu cynwysyddion y talwyd ernes amdanynt (i'w hail-lenwi neu eu hailgylchu);
- Sicrhau bod llai o sbwriel (gan y bydd pobl yn llai tebygol o daflu eitemau sy'n werth arian);
- Cynyddu'r defnydd o gynwysyddion y gellir eu hail-lenwi / / lleihau'r dirywiad yn y defnydd o gynwysyddion o'r fath; ac

- Atal cemegau niweidiol rhag crynhoi yn yr amgylchedd (er nad mewn cynlluniau sy'n ymwneud â diodydd e.e. batris neu blaladdwyr).

Daeth yr adroddiad i'r casgliad:

The combined overall cost benefit analysis indicated that, even with the additional costs incurred in the running of the DRS, there is a high likelihood of a significant net benefit to Society. The influence of the reduction in dis-amenity associated with litter appears to be particularly strong.

Comisiynodd Defra [adroddiad ar gynlluniau ernes](#) (PDF 1.44mb) yn 2008, ac roedd ei ganfyddiadau'n awgrymu y byddai system ernes yn drafferthus. Daeth yr adroddiad hefyd i'r casgliad y byddai system ernes yn cynyddu cyfanswm y tunelli o ddeunyddiau a gesglir, er y byddai cyfran sylweddol o'r deunydd pacio y talwyd ernes arno yn dod yn uniongyrchol o gynlluniau casglu presennol. Awgrymwyd yn yr adroddiad hefyd y byddai cyflwyno ernesau yn cael effaith andwyol ar ddulliau casglu presennol yn gyffredinol, a chasgliadau ymyl y ffordd gan gynghorau yn arbennig.

Mae beirniaid systemau o'r fath hefyd yn mynegi pryderon difrifol am lefel y seilwaith y dywedant y bydd ei angen pe byddai cynlluniau o'r fath yn mynd rhagddynt. Mae'r adroddiad gan Defra yn amlinellu rhai o'r amodau y byddai'n rhaid eu bodloni cyn gallu sefydlu system dychwelyd ernes; bydd angen i gynhyrchwyr a mewnforywr fod wedi cofrestru a labelu eu cynnyrch, bydd angen i fanwerthwyr fod â system gasglu ar waith, bydd yn rhaid i gludwyr ac ailbroseswyr fod yn barod i dderbyn y deunydd pacio a ddychwelwyd drwy'r sianeli newydd, a rhaid rhoi gwybod i ddefnyddwyr am y systemau newydd. Gellid ystyried bod system dychwelyd ernes yn arwain at gost ychwanegol i bobl nad ydynt yn gallu cymryd rhan yn hawdd, e.e. drwy ddychwelyd cynwysyddion i gasglu ernesau.

Mae [Deddf Newid yn yr Hinsawdd \(yr Alban\) 2009](#) yn cynnwys pwerau i gyflwyno cynlluniau ernes a dychwelyd. Ym mis Mai 2014, cyhoeddodd Zero Waste Scotland [adroddiad ar System Dychwelyd ernes yn yr Alban](#). Roedd yr adroddiad yn asesu nodweddion cynllunio allweddol system o'r fath, a pha mor ymarferol fyddai ei sefydlu yn yr Alban. Yn fwy diweddar, mae Coca-Cola wedi [cefnogi ymgyrch am system dychwelyd ernes](#) ar gyfer caniau a photeli yn yr Alban.

Deunydd pacio bwyd y gellir ei gompostio

Polystyren wedi'i ehangu (EPS) yw un o'r deunyddiau mwyaf trafferthus na ellir ei ailgylchu. Mae'n cael ei ddefnyddio yn y marchnadoedd pacio bwyd ar gyfer prydau bwyd a diodydd poeth. Mae'n eithriadol o ysgafn ac mae'n ynysydd da, felly mae'n effeithiol i gadw bwyd yn gynnes. Er bod rhai diwydiannau wedi gwneud ymdrech i hyrwyddo'r arfer o ailgylchu polystyren, ni phrofwyd unrhyw ddull cyffredin ar draws y diwydiant o fewn y sector bwyd cyflym. Mae rhai o'r cadwyni bwyd cyflym mwyaf wedi cymryd camau i gyfnewid EPS am

ddewisiadau eraill bioddiraddadwy, ond mae busnesau bwyd cyflym annibynnol llai yn dal i ddefnyddio deunydd pacio EPS yn rheolaidd oherwydd bod ei gost fesul uned is.

Yng Nghymru, mae tystiolaeth yn awgrymu bod sbwriel EPS yn broblem sylweddol, yn enwedig ar yr arfordir. Mewn [adroddiad yn 2008](#), canfu Cadwch Gymru'n Daclus wastraff bwyd cyflym ar gyfartaledd o 17.2 y cant o strydoedd Cymru. Mae hyn yn cynnwys EPS yn ogystal â phapur, cardfwrdd a gwastraff bwyd ei hun. Mewn ardaloedd arfordirol, gwastraff polystyren yw'r trydydd math mwyaf cyffredin o sbwriel a geir ar draethau yn y DU yn ôl [Arolwg Beachwatch 2013 y Gymdeithas Cadwraeth Forol](#). Roedd [Papur Polisi Sbwriel Morol](#) Cadwch Gymru'n Daclus yn 2011 yn amcangyfrif mai £18 miliwn yw cost casglu sbwriel ar y traethau, a bod y gost honno wedi cynyddu 37.4 y cant dros y 10 mlynedd diwethaf. Er nad yw hyn oherwydd gwastraff polystyren yn unig, mae'n elfen fawr o'r broblem. Ar wahân i'r arfordir, mae'n costio tua £40 miliwn y flwyddyn i drethdalwyr gadw strydoedd Cymru'n lân, yn ôl [Papur Polisi Sbwriel Bwyd Cyflym](#) (2008) Cadwch Gymru'n Daclus.

Mae plastigau bioddiraddadwy (neu biopolymerau) wedi cael eu defnyddio ers peth amser. Mae biopolymerau wedi'u cynllunio yn gyffredinol i gael eu compostio yn hytrach na'u hailgylchu, ac fel y cyfryw, mae angen dull casglu / gwaredu gwahanol i blastig confensiynol ar eu cyfer. Mae biopolymerau yn costio mwy na phlastig confensiynol (a wneir fel arfer o ddeilliadau olew crai) ac fel y cyfryw maent yn llai cyffredin yn y farchnad.

Cyn dadl gan Bwyllgor Deisebau San Steffan ym mis Ionawr 2017, cynhyrchodd Llyfrgell Tŷ'r Cyffredin [becyn ar gyfer y ddadl](#) i'r Aelodau. Mae'r papur briffio manwl hwn yn disgrifio'r fframwaith deddfwriaethol ar gyfer deunydd pacio bwyd a chyfrifoldeb y cynhyrchydd, gan gynnwys Cyfarwyddbau perthnasol yr UE. Yn dilyn y ddadl, gwrthodwyd unrhyw waharddiad ar becynnau na ellir eu hailgylchu ac ailadroddodd Gweinidog Adnoddau Llywodraeth y DU mai gweithredu ar sail wirfoddol yw dewis y llywodraeth. Awgrymodd ymateb Llywodraeth y DU mai cyfrifoldeb busnesau a chwsmeriaid yw penderfynu pa ddeunyddiau pacio sy'n cael eu cyflenwi a'u prynu, yn hytrach na bod y llywodraeth yn gorfodi'r defnydd o ddeunyddiau penodol.

Camau Gweithredu Llywodraeth Cymru

Yn ei llythyr at y Pwyllgor, mae Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Amgylchedd a Materion Gwledig yn nodi bod y problemau sy'n ymwneud â deunydd pacio bwyd a diod untro a deunydd y gellir ei gompostio yn niferus ac yn gymhleth. Mae hi'n awgrymu bod angen edrych ar y problemau yn eu cyfanrwydd er mwyn cael ateb tymor hir. Dywedodd ei bod yn bwriadu gwneud hyn fel rhan o'r broses o werthuso ac adnewyddu strategaeth Tuag at Ddyfodol Diwastraff 2010 Llywodraeth Cymru. Mae'r gwerthusiad eisoes wedi cael ei wneud, ac mae hi'n dweud y bydd y canlyniadau'n cael eu cyhoeddi yn ystod haf 2017, gyda'r ymgynghoriad ar y strategaeth newydd wedi'i gynllunio ar gyfer haf 2018.

Roedd nifer o gynlluniau sector yn cydfynd â'r strategaeth Tuag at Ddyfodol Diwastraff wreiddiol. Un o'r rhain oedd y [Cynllun Gwastraff Diwydiannol a Masnachol](#). Er nad yw'n sôn yn benodol am gynlluniau dychwelyd ernes, nod y cynllun yw sicrhau bod cynhyrchion, gan gynnwys deunydd pacio bwyd a diod, yn defnyddio llai o adnoddau, yn fwy gwydn a / neu ag oes hwy. Mae hefyd yn amlinellu y dylai cynhyrchion greu llai o wastraff ar ddiwedd eu hoes, y dylent fod yn ailgylchadwy, ac y dylai mwy o'u cynnwys fod yn ddeunydd wedi'i ailgylchu. Mae'r cynllun hefyd yn tynnu sylw at gyfrifoldeb estynedig cynhyrchwyr (EPR, neu 'extended producer responsibility') – y dylai'r cynhyrchydd gymryd mwy o gyfrifoldeb am reoli'r cynnyrch ar ddiwedd ei oes, gan gynnwys costau rheoli diwedd oes. Mae Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet yn awgrymu bod y cynhyrchion posibl y gellid eu hystyried ar gyfer dull gweithredu hwn yn cynnwys deunydd pacio tafladwy sy'n gysylltiedig â bwyd a diod, gan gynnwys cyllyll a ffyrc plastig.

Camau gweithredu Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

Ar 14 Mawrth 2017, mewn ymateb i [ddadl yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ar ailgylchu](#), dywedodd Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Amgylchedd a Materion Gwledig y byddai system dychwelyd ernes yn cael ei hystyried fel rhan o'r gwaith o adnewyddu'r polisi Tuag at Ddyfodol Diwastraff.

Ar 5 Ebrill 2017, arweiniodd Simon Thomas AC [ddadl ar Gynnig Deddfwriaethol gan Aelod ar Fil Lleihau Gwastraff ar gyfer Cymru](#). Roedd y cynnig yn galw am system dychwelyd ernes ar gyfer plastig, caniau, poteli a gwydr, a gwaharddiad neu ardoll ar ddeunydd pacio polystyren (na ellir ei ailgylchu). Trafododd y ddadl nifer o faterion yn ymwneud â'r systemau hyn a deunydd pacio na ellir ei ailgylchu, ac mae nifer ohonynt yn cael eu crynhoi isod:

- Mae **pwerau newydd yn Neddf Cymru i gyflwyno trethi arloesol**, er enghraifft treth / ardoll ar ddeunydd pacio polystyren, y gellid ei hymestyn i bob plastig na ellir ei ailgylchu;
- Mae system dychwelyd ernes yn cyd-fynd â'r symudiad tuag at **economi gylchol**;
- Awgrym y dylem fod yn symud tuag at sefyllfa lle gellir ailgylchu'r holl ddeunydd pacio yng Nghymru;
- Nid oes fawr o gymhelliant i fanwerthwyr ddefnyddio deunydd pacio mwy cynaliadwy pan mae polystyren yn llawer llai costus;
- Yr angen i annog **newid mewn ymddygiad** ymysg dinasyddion, a gwella addysg ynglŷn â'r hyn y gellir ei ailgylchu a'r hyn na ellir ei ailgylchu;
- Yr angen i feddwl yn ofalus am ganlyniadau anfwriadol posibl cynllun dychwelyd ernes, fel pobl yn gwneud teithiau ychwanegol yn y car i ddychwelyd poteli ac ati; a

- Chydnabod bod Cymru ar hyn o bryd yn arwain y ffordd yn y DU o ran lefelau ailgylchu, ac ystyried yr effeithiau posibl y gallai system dychwelyd ernes eu cael ar hyn. Hefyd, sut y gallai effeithio ar drefniadau casglu gwastraff presennol awdurdodau lleol.

Cafodd y cynnig gefnogaeth drawsbleidiol, a phasiwyd y cynnig gyda 34 o blaid, dim yn erbyn a 12 yn ymatal.

Ystyriodd y Pwyllgor Deisebau [ddeiseb flaenorol](#) ar wahardd deunydd pacio polystyren rhwng 2014 a 2016. Yn dilyn yr ymateb gan Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet, cytunodd y Pwyllgor nad oedd fawr mwy y gallai'r Pwyllgor ei wneud i symud y mater ymlaen a chytunodd i gau'r ddeiseb.

Ym mis Rhagfyr 2015, arweiniodd William Powell AC [ddadl yn y Cyfarfod Llawn](#) ar 'Gynllun dychwelyd blaendal ar gyfer cynwysyddion diodydd: mae'n amser i ystyried y syniad hwn unwaith eto '. Mewn ymateb i'r ddadl, dywedodd y Gweinidog dros Adnoddau Naturiol ar y pryd:

Mae hefyd yn demtasiwn i ddweud am gynlluniau dychwelyd blaendal sy'n gweithio mewn gwledydd eraill, y byddai'n gweithio yma yng Nghymru, ond mae'n rhaid dod o hyd i ateb sy'n gweddu orau i'n hanghenion busnes, ein defnyddwyr a'n cymunedau, a bydd angen i ni weithio gyda'n gilydd i ddeall y materion hyn. Bydd angen i ni weithio gyda'n gilydd i ddeall manteision ac anfanteision yr ymyriadau arfaethedig, a sicrhau nad oes unrhyw ganlyniadau anfwriadol yn arwain at newid yn y patrymau ailgylchu ac aildddefnyddio, yn hytrach nag ychwanegu atynt [...] **[nid] wyf yn gwrthwynebu'r cynllun mewn egwyddor.**

Gwneir pob ymdrech i sicrhau bod y wybodaeth yn y papur briffio hwn yn gywir adeg ei gyhoeddi. Dylai darllenwyr fod yn ymwybodol, fodd bynnag, nad yw'r papurau briffio hyn yn cael eu diweddarau na'u diwygio fel arall o reidrwydd i adlewyrchu newidiadau dilynol.

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Amgylchedd a Materion Gwledig
Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-750
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/00640/17

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Ebrill 2017

Annwyl Mike

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 27 Mawrth 2017 ynghylch deiseb P-05-750 mewn cysylltiad ag eitemau untro: cyflwyno System Dychwelyd Ernes ar gyfer cynwysyddion diodydd a sicrhau y gellir compostio cynwysyddion bwyd cyflym.

Mae llawer o ystyriaethau cymhleth ynghlwm wrth gompostio deunydd pacio bwyd a diod untro. Yn fy marn i, er mwyn cael hyd i ateb tymor hir a gwireddu'r nod o greu Cymru sy'n gyfrifol ar lefel ryngwladol, rhaid pwysu a mesur yr holl ystyriaethau hyn. Gwnawn hynny wrth werthuso ac adnewyddu *Tuag at Ddyfodol Diwastraff*, ein strategaeth wastraff ar gyfer Cymru.

Un amcan yn ein cynllun ar gyfer y sector Diwydiannol a Masnachol yw sicrhau bod cynnyrch, gan gynnwys deunydd pacio bwyd a diod, yn defnyddio llai o adnoddau (llai o ddeunydd anadnewyddadwy yn arbennig), eu bod yn para'n hirach a/neu bod modd estyn eu hoes. Hefyd, dylai cynnyrch gynhyrchu llai o wastraff ar ddiwedd eu hoes, dylid medru ailgylchu mwy ohonyn nhw a dylai mwy o'u cynhwysion fod yn ailgylchadwy.

Dywed cynllun y sector hefyd y dylai'r cynhyrchydd ysgwyddo mwy o gyfrifoldeb am reoli'r cynnyrch ar ddiwedd ei oes. Rwyf nawr wedi galw am ymchwil i estyn cyfrifoldeb y cynhyrchydd (EPR) am ddeunydd o'r fath. Bydd hynny'n cynnwys ymchwilio i ddeunydd pacio compostadwy.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

Tudalen y pecyn 53

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

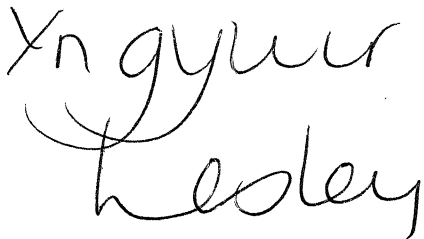
Mae EPR go iawn yn golygu bod y cynhyrchydd yn ysgwyddo'r cyfrifoldeb am holl gostau net casglu, didoli, ailgylchu a thrin y gwastraff a gesglir ar wahân sy'n deillio o'i gynnyrch a'i ddeunydd pacio. Mewn theori, byddai'r costau llawn yn cynnwys hefyd gostau casglu, cludo a thrin gwastraff nad yw'n cael ei gasglu ar wahân; costau hysbysu'r cyhoedd a chodi ymwybyddiaeth i sicrhau bod y cyhoedd yn cymryd rhan; costau atal gwastraff a chostau atal a rheoli sbwriel.

Gallai deunydd pacio untro ar gyfer bwyd a diod, gan gynnwys cyllyll a ffyrac plastig fod yn gynnyrch posib o dan EPR.

Byddwn yn comisiynu astudiaeth i ystyried ymarferoldeb, gan gynnwys costau a manteision, yr opsiynau i leihau gwastraff mewn cynnyrch a deunydd pacio, i ailgylchu mwy ac i leihau sbwriel o dan gynlluniau EPR yng Nghymru. Bydd yr astudiaeth yn cynnwys opsiynau i gynyddu cyfraddau ailgylchu a gofalu bod llai o ddeunydd pacio bwyd a diod yn cael ei daflu fel sbwriel.

Rydym wedi gwerthuso *Tuag at Ddyfodol Diwastraff* ac yn cyhoeddi'r canlyniadau yn yr haf. Byddwn yn comisiynu'r ymchwil i EPR cyn hir ac yn cyhoeddi'r adroddiad hwnnw hefyd yn yr haf. Caiff yr ymgynghoriad ar *Tuag at Ddyfodol Diwastraff* newydd ei gyhoeddi yn haf 2018.

Byddwn yn ystyried canlyniadau'r astudiaeth o EPR ac yn pwysu a mesur y dystiolaeth. Byddwn yn cynnal ymgynghoriad eang â'r rhanddeiliaid fel rhan o'r broses o ofyn barn pob sector cyn cyhoeddi'r *Tuag at Ddyfodol Diwastraff* newydd.



Lesley Griffiths AC/AM

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Amgylchedd a Materion Gwledig
Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs

P-05-751 Cydnabod achosion o Ddieithrio Plentyn oddi wrth Riant

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Families Need Fathers Both Parents Matter Cymru ar ôl casglu 2,058 llofnod – 752 ar bapur a 1,306 ar-lein.

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cymru i berswadio Llywodraeth Cymru i ddiogelu plant a phobl ifanc Cymru drwy gydnabod yn ffurfiol fod unrhyw un sy'n 'Dieithrio Plentyn oddi wrth Riant' yn cam-drin plentyn yn emosiynol. Rydym yn galw ymhellach ar Lywodraeth Cymru i gymryd camau penodol i leihau'r effaith a gaiff achosion o Ddieithrio Plentyn oddi wrth Riant ar blant a'u teuluoedd.

Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol

Rydym yn cynnig bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn cymryd y camau a ganlyn:

- Cydnabod bod unrhyw un sy'n 'Dieithrio Plentyn oddi wrth Riant' yn cam-drin plentyn yn emosiynol ac, wrth ddiffinio'r term, dylid cynnwys y diffiniad a gafwyd gan y Weinyddiaeth Gyfiawnder (paragraff 1) yma <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/164983>)
- Comisiynu ac ariannu hyfforddiant gorfodol i weithwyr proffesiynol gan gynnwys staff y Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Cafcass Cymru (ond nid dim ond y rhain), i'w helpu i adnabod achosion o Ddieithrio Plentyn oddi wrth Riant ac i sicrhau eu bod yn gwybod am y trefniadau sydd ar waith i ddiogelu plant rhag niwed.
- Sefydlu ac ariannu ymgyrch genedlaethol i roi gwybodaeth i blant a'u teuluoedd a'u dysgu am y cysyniad o Ddieithrio Plentyn oddi wrth Riant a'r niwed y mae'n ei achosi.
- Rhoi dyletswydd ar Weinidogion Cymru i gymryd camau i ddiogelu plant rhag cael eu cam-drin a'u niweidio drwy eu Dieithrio oddi wrth Riant.

Dyma sut y diffiniwyd 'Dieithrio Plentyn oddi wrth Riant' gan y Weinyddiaeth Gyfiawnder:

'In cases where parents are separated, parental alienation refers to a situation in which one parent (usually the parent with whom the child lives) behaves in a way

which creates anxiety in the child, so that it appears the child is opposed to living or spending time with the other parent.'

Daw'r diffiniad hwn o'r paragraff cyntaf yn ymateb y Llywodraeth i ddeiseb Mr. Darren Towill sydd i'w gweld yn: <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/164983>
Mae CAF/CASS Lloegr eisoes wedi cydnabod bod unrhyw un sy'n dieithrio plentyn oddi wrth riant yn euog o gam-drin y plentyn hwnnw. Mewn erthygl yn y Telegraph ar-lein, dyddiedig 12 Chwefror, 2017, dywedodd Anthony Douglas, Prif Weithredwr CAF/CASS, fod Dieithrio Plentyn oddi wrth Riant yn sicr gyfystyr ag esgeuluso neu gam-drin plentyn, o ran ei effaith bosibl. <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/02/12/divorced-parents-pit-children-against-former-partners-guilty/>

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad

- Gorllewin Caerdydd
- Canol De Cymru

Papur Briffio ar gyfer y Pwyllgor Deisebau

Rhif y ddeiseb: [P-05-0751](#)

Teitl y ddeiseb: **Cydnabod achosion o Ddieithrio Plentyn oddi wrth Riant**

Testun y ddeiseb: Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cymru i berswadio Llywodraeth Cymru i ddiogelu plant a phobl ifanc Cymru drwy gydnabod yn ffurfiol fod unrhyw un sy'n 'Dieithrio Plentyn oddi wrth Riant' yn cam-drin plentyn yn emosiynol. Rydym yn galw ymhellach ar Lywodraeth Cymru i gymryd camau penodol i leihau'r effaith a gaiff achosion o Ddieithrio Plentyn oddi wrth Riant ar blant a'u teuluoedd.

Rydym yn cynnig bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn cymryd y camau a ganlyn:

- Cydnabod bod unrhyw un sy'n 'Dieithrio Plentyn oddi wrth Riant' yn cam-drin plentyn yn emosiynol ac, wrth ddiffinio'r term, dylid cynnwys y diffiniad a gafwyd gan y Weinyddiaeth Gyfiawnder (paragraff 1) yma <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/164983>).
- Comisiynu ac ariannu hyfforddiant gorfodol i weithwyr proffesiynol gan gynnwys staff y Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a CAF/CASS Cymru (ond nid dim ond y rhain), i'w helpu i adnabod achosion o Ddieithrio Plentyn oddi wrth Riant ac i sicrhau eu bod yn gwybod am y trefniadau sydd ar waith i ddiogelu plant rhag niwed.
- Sefydlu ac ariannu ymgyrch genedlaethol i roi gwybodaeth i blant a'u teuluoedd a'u dysgu am y cysyniad o Ddieithrio Plentyn oddi wrth Riant a'r niwed y mae'n ei achosi.
- Rhoi dyletswydd ar Weinidogion Cymru i gymryd camau i ddiogelu plant rhag cael eu cam-drin a'u niweidio drwy eu Dieithrio oddi wrth Riant.

Cefndir

Fel y nododd y deisebydd, mae Gweinyddiaeth Gyfiawnder y DU wedi disgrifio 'dieithrio oddi wrth riant' fel a ganlyn:

In cases where parents are separated, parental alienation refers to a situation in which one parent (usually the parent with whom the child lives) behaves in a way which creates anxiety in the child, so that it appears the child is opposed to living or spending time with the other parent.

Galwodd [deiseb](#) ddiweddar ar Lywodraeth y DU i gyflwyno deddf sy'n cydnabod dieithrio rhag riant fel trosedd. Mewn [ymateb](#), dywedodd Llywodraeth y DU nad oedd yn credu bod angen

deddfwriaeth i droseddoli rhiant sy'n dieithrio plant rhag y rhiant arall gan fod gan y llys y pŵer eisoes i gymryd camau effeithiol:

The family court has a range of powers to deal with cases where alienating behaviour features. A parent who has concerns about such behaviour could make an application to the family court about the arrangements for their child. The Children Act 1989 contains adequate provisions to deal with these concerns and the welfare of the child is the court's paramount concern in making its decision. Under legislation introduced in 2014, family courts are legally required to presume that the involvement of a parent in the life of the child concerned will further that child's welfare, unless there is evidence to the contrary.

Caewyd y ddeiseb honno ar 16 Chwefror 2017.

Y ddeddfwriaeth o 2014 y cyfeirir ati yn ymateb Llywodraeth y DU yw [Deddf Plant a Theuluoedd 2014](#). Mae rhan 2 o'r Ddeddf yn ymwneud â chyfiawnder teuluol ac mae'n berthnasol i Gymru a Lloegr fel ei gilydd. Mae'n cynnwys nifer o ddarpariaethau sy'n ceisio gwella gweithrediad y system cyfiawnder teuluol, fel yr argymhellwyd gan yr [adolygiad cyfiawnder teuluol](#) yn 2011. Mae adran 11 y Ddeddf Plant a Theuluoedd yn ceisio pwysleisio pwysigrwydd perthynas barhaus rhwng plentyn a'r ddau riant wedi i deulu wahanu, lle bo hynny'n ddiogel ac er lles y plentyn. Mae'n ofynnol i'r llysoedd dybio y bydd cyfraniad y ddau riant yn hybu lles plentyn mewn bywyd, oni bai y gellir dangos na fyddai hyn yn wir. Mae hyn yn golygu unrhyw fath o gysylltiad uniongyrchol neu anuniongyrchol, ond nid unrhyw fath o raniad penodol o amser y plentyn.

Ymateb Llywodraeth Cymru

Mewn ymateb i ddeiseb y Cynulliad, mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn nodi yr adolygodd y Rhwydwaith Cyfiawnder Teuluol ar gyfer Cymru ei safbwynt ar ddieithrio rhag rhiant ar 28 Mawrth 2017, a'i fod wedi cytuno bod gan y llys teulu ddigon o bwerau eisoes i ymdrin ag achosion lle ceir ymddygiad dieithrio, ac y dylai achosion o ddieithrio barhau i gael eu trin o dan y ddeddfwriaeth bresennol. Mae'r ymateb hefyd yn nodi y gall y llys ofyn i CAF/CASS Cymru (y Gwasanaeth Cynghori a Chynorthwyo Llys i Blant a Theuluoedd) baratoi adroddiad lles ar unrhyw faterion sy'n berthnasol i'r plentyn neu'r teulu, a bod gweithwyr proffesiynol CAF/CASS Cymru yn cael eu hyfforddi i adnabod y posibilrwydd o elyniaeth na ellir ei datrys mewn achosion o wahanu, a sut y gallai hyn effeithio ar blentyn.

Mae rhagor o wybodaeth am y Rhwydwaith Cyfiawnder Teuluol ar gyfer Cymru ar gael ar [wefan Llywodraeth Cymru](#).

CAF/CASS Cymru

Cymerodd Llywodraeth Cymru gyfrifoldeb am swyddogaethau CAF/CASS yng Nghymru o 1 Ebrill 2005 (nid yw achosion/cyfraith teulu wedi'u datganoli, ond mae swyddogaethau CAF/CASS wedi'u datganoli). Caiff CAF/CASS ei benodi gan y llysoedd, ond mae'n wasanaeth gwaith cymdeithasol, yn hytrach nag yn wasanaeth cyfreithiol. Ei rôl yw:

- diogelu a hyrwyddo lles plant;
- rhoi cyngor i'r llys am geisiadau mewn achosion teuluol;
- gwneud darpariaeth i blant gael eu cynrychioli mewn achosion o'r fath;
- darparu gwybodaeth, cyngor a chymorth arall i blant a'u teuluoedd.

Defnyddir [Rhestr Wirio Asesiad Lles Plant a'r Glasoed \(CAWAC\)](#) i gynorthwyo ymarferwyr CAFCASS Cymru wrth asesu'r risg emosiynol/seicolegol i blant sy'n dod i gysylltiad â gwrthdaro rhwng rhieni. Mynegwyd rhai pryderon ynghylch a yw CAWAC yn addas at y diben wrth drafod deiseb flaenorol ([P-04-588 Siarter ar gyfer Plant a Thadau](#); caewyd y ddeiseb hon ym mis Chwefror 2016). Mae [adroddiad blynyddol](#) diweddaraf CAFCASS Cymru yn datgan ei fod wedi comisiynu gwaith i 'adnewyddu a diweddarau' CAWAC, ac y bydd y gwelliannau a nodwyd yn cael eu cwblhau yn 2016-17.

Amddiffyn a diogelu plant yng Nghymru – trosolwg

Llywodraeth Cymru sy'n gyfrifol am amddiffyn plant yng Nghymru. Mae'r system amddiffyn plant yng Nghymru yn debyg i system Lloegr, ond cyflwynodd [Deddf Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Llesiant \(Cymru\) 2014](#) fframwaith newydd ar gyfer gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, gyda'r nod o gryfhau'r trefniadau ar gyfer diogelu plant ac oedolion sy'n agored i niwed yng Nghymru. Dilynir yr un trefniadau ag yn Lloegr o hyd i ymdrin â phryderon ynghylch amddiffyn plant sy'n arwain at achos llys.

Sefydlodd Deddf Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Llesiant (Cymru) 2014 chwe bwrdd rhanbarthol diogelu plant (cyn hynny, roedd bwrdd lleol diogelu plant yn ardal pob awdurdod lleol). Mae'r byrddau rhanbarthol yn cydlynu gwaith lleol i ddiogelu a hyrwyddo lles plant ac yn sicrhau ei fod yn effeithiol. Mae pob bwrdd rhanbarthol yn cynnwys unrhyw awdurdod lleol, prif swyddog yr heddlu, bwrdd iechyd lleol, ymddiriedolaeth y GIG, a darparwr gwasanaethau prawf sydd yn ardal y bwrdd diogelu. Hefyd, sefydlodd y Ddeddf Fwrdd Diogelu Annibynnol Cenedlaethol i gefnogi'r byrddau diogelu rhanbarthol a monitro'u heffeithiolrwydd.

Mae [Canllawiau Amddiffyn Plant Cymru Gyfan](#) yn llywio arfer amddiffyn plant ym mhob un o'r byrddau diogelu plant ar draws Cymru. Maent yn seiliedig ar yr egwyddor bod amddiffyn plant rhag niwed yn gyfrifoldeb i bob unigolyn ac asiantaeth sy'n gweithio gyda phlant a theuluoedd, ac oedolion a allai fod yn risg i blant. Cânt eu goruchwyllo gan [Grŵp Adolygu Gweithdrefnau Amddiffyn Plant Cymru Gyfan](#), sy'n cynrychioli holl fyrddau diogelu plant Cymru a'u hasiantaethau partner.

Mae [Diogelu Plant – Gweithio Gyda'n Gilydd o dan Ddeddf Plant 2004](#) yn amlinellu sut y dylai sefydliadau ac unigolion gydweithio i ddiogelu a hyrwyddo lles plant.

Carl Sargeant AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gymunedau a Phlant
Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref CS/00498/17

Mike Hedges AC
Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau:
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru.
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12 Ebrill 2017

Annwyl Mike,

Diolch ichi am eich llythyr 27 Mawrth yn gofyn am fy marn am y materion a godwyd gan y ddeiseb Cydnabod Dieithrio Plentyn oddi wrth Riant (Deiseb P-O5-751).

Yng ngoleuni datblygiadau diweddar, adolygodd Rhwydwaith Cyfiawnder Teuluol Cymru ei safbwynt ar Ddieithrio Plentyn oddi wrth Riant yn ei gyfarfod ar 28 Mawrth. Mae dieithrio plentyn oddi wrth riant yn un o lawer o fathau o gam-drin emosiynol sy'n gallu effeithio'n andwyol ar blant ac fe gydnabu'r Rhwydwaith yr effaith sylweddol y gall y math hwn o ymddygiad ei chael ar lesiant emosiynol plentyn.

Er hynny, nid yw'r Rhwydwaith Cyfiawnder Teuluol o'r farn y dylid cydnabod bod dieithrio plentyn oddi wrth riant yn ffurf ar gam-drin emosiynol. O dan y ddeddfwriaeth bresennol mae gan y llys teulu ystod o bwerau eisoes i ymdrin ag achosion o ymddygiad dieithrio a lle bo'n briodol, gall achosion gael eu hystyried, ac mae achosion wedi cael eu hystyried, gan awdurdodau lleol Cymru o dan weithdrefnau amddiffyn plant.

Mae gan y llys ddisgresiwn eang i wneud trefniadau i ddiwallu anghenion plentyn ac mae ganddo'r pŵer i ofyn i CAFCASS Cymru baratoi adroddiad lles ar unrhyw faterion sy'n berthnasol i'r plentyn neu'r teulu. Mae ymarferwyr CAFCASS Cymru, fel gweithwyr cymdeithasol cymwysedig proffesiynol, wedi'u hyfforddi i ddeall a chydabod y potensial ar gyfer gelyniaeth ddifaddeuant gan barti mewn achosion ysgaru neu wahanu lle bo gwrthdaro uchel rhwng y rhieni.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

Tudalen y pecyn 60
We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Lle bo gorchymyn llys wedi'i sefydlu i amddiffyn plentyn lle mae dieithrio plentyn oddi wrth riant yn bodoli, mae gan y llys bŵer i orfodi dirwy neu gyfnod o garchar os caiff gorchymyn ei dorri.

Yn gywir

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

Carl Sargeant AC/AM

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gymunedau a Phlant
Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children

P-05-751 Parental Alienation - Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 03.05.17



FNF BOTH PARENTS MATTER CYMRU

61 COWBRIDGE RD EAST

CARDIFF

CF11 9AE

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1st May 2017

Mike Hedges AM

Chair, Petitions Committee

National Assembly for Wales

Cardiff Bay

CF99 1NA

Dear Mr Hedges

P05-751 Parental Alienation

Thank you for the opportunity of responding to the correspondence from the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children. We note that the response is almost exactly the same as those shared with our service users who have raised the issue with him directly. We had assumed that in responding to a Committee of the Assembly that officials would have provided a more detailed and comprehensive response for the Cabinet Secretary.

We are shocked at the seemingly complacent response from Welsh Government. They recognize the harm that Parental Alienation can cause to children but do not believe that any consistent approach is required to identify and combat the abuse.

There are 2 key points in the Welsh Government's position. Firstly they assert that **'the Family Court already has sufficient range of powers to deal**

with cases where alienating behaviours feature’. The Cabinet Secretary is no doubt relying on the fact that Family Justice is a non-devolved matter so that responsibility for preventing the abuse of Welsh children can be passed to Westminster.

Recognition and prevention of Parental Alienation is at best patchy in the Family Courts. This view is borne out by the words of the most senior judge in the Family Division, Sir James Munby speaking at a conference we attended in Bristol in March 2017:

‘...we have got to recognise openly and frankly the existence of parental alienation.’

Sir James followed this up by stating that the Family Justice system must:

‘...recognise its reality, identify it for what it is when it is, and take steps to ameliorate things’.

The Welsh Government has a legal responsibility under s35 (1) b of the Children Act 2004 in relation to Family proceedings to *‘give advice to any court about any application made to it in such proceedings’*. The Family Court cannot use the powers that Welsh Government asserts it has without clear and unequivocal advice that must be grounded in a consistent and transparent framework for assessment and action. The provision of advice to the Family Court- unlike almost every other front line delivery aspect of the devolved settlement - rests with Welsh Ministers directly.

The second key point is the Cabinet Secretary’s assertion that:

‘CAFCASS Cymru practitioners, as professionally qualified social workers, are trained to understand and recognise the potential for implacable hostility by a party in divorce or separation cases and its potential impact on the child’

We know of no requirement in social work training in Wales to comprehensively recognise ‘implacable hostility’ or any other form of Parental Alienation or alienating behaviour. We would be interested to see

evidence from Welsh Government that contradicts our view. We have no evidence that Cafcass Cymru or Local Authorities have any training to identify parental alienation or any form of alienating behaviour.

Training for professionals to identify and combat Parental Alienation is available in Wales, and has been approved by the British Psychological Society. More than 300 practitioners have undertaken this training in the UK so far. They are asked to rate their understanding of Parental Alienation at outset and at end of training and to state what they would do differently in their practice from what they have learned. A consistent theme in the responses is that practitioners felt that training on the subject should be more widely available.

Speaking in a recent debate on Parental Alienation in the House of Commons Simon Danczuk MP stated

*'According to the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service, parental alienation is responsible for some 80% of the most difficult cases that come before the family courts.'*ⁱ

Cafcass in England have various assessment tools and frameworks - that are available to the public to examine via their websiteⁱⁱ that is in stark contrast to the lack of any form of transparency by Welsh Government

The Chief Executive of Cafcass Sir Anthony Douglas was quoted in the Daily Telegraph in February of this year as saying about Parental Alienation that

"It's undoubtedly a form of neglect or child abuse in terms of the impact it can have.....I think the way you treat your children after a relationship has broken up is just as powerful a public health issue as smoking or drinking."

iii

In light of the above we are asking the Petitions Committee to press the Welsh Government for the following specific actions

P-05-751 Parental Alienation - Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 03.05.17

- To provide the Committee with the details of the training and assessment frameworks and materials that are currently in use by social workers in Local Authorities and Cafcass Cymru that specifically enable them to identify various forms of Parental Alienation and make recommendations to Courts as a result
- Provide to the committee the number of cases of Parental Alienation, alienating behaviour and 'implacable hostility' identified by Cafcass Cymru and Local Authorities in the most recent latest 12 month period
- To agree to a debate on the subject of Parental Alienation in Plenary in the Assembly.

We look forward to the consideration of our Petition by the Committee on the 9th May.

Regards

PAUL APREDA

National Manager, FNF Both Parents Matter Cymru

ⁱ <https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-03-15/debates/1920253C-C972-40A3-9A63-714220EDE50D/ParentalAlienation> column 496

ⁱⁱ https://www.cafcass.gov.uk/media/215246/impact_of_parental_conflict_tool.docx

ⁱⁱⁱ <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/02/12/divorced-parents-pit-children-against-former-partners-guilty/>

Eitem 2.3

P-05-752 Meithrin gallu plant i wrthsefyll seiberfwlio

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Jamie Denyer ar ôl casglu 421 llofnod.

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i ariannu a chynnal gwaith ymchwil yn seiliedig ar dystiolaeth, a chynhyrchu strategaeth ac argymhellion i feithrin gallu ein plant, o'u plentyndod cynnar, i wrthsefyll effeithiau distrywiol seiberfwlio.

Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol

Dylai'r strategaeth gynnwys cyngor i rieni ac ysgolion ynghylch:

- * sut i greu safbwyntiau iach a chreu perthynas iach ag eraill ar y cyfryngau cymdeithasol
- * sut i baratoi plant i adnabod ac amddiffyn eu hunain rhag y math o ymddygiad sy'n cyfateb i seiberfwlio
- * sut i ddysgu plant i wahanu profiadau ar-lein oddi wrth brofiadau bywydau 'go iawn'
- * sut i feithrin gallu plant i ymdopi'n emosiynol ag ymosodiadau personol ar-lein

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad

- Gŵyr
- Gorllewin De Cymru

Papur Briffio ar gyfer y Pwyllgor Deisebau

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau | 9 Mai 2017

Petitions Committee | 9 May 2017

Papur briffio gan y Gwasanaeth Ymchwil: Meithrin gallu plant i wrthsefyll seiberfwlio

Rhif y ddeiseb: [P5-05-752](#)

Teitl y ddeiseb: Meithrin gallu plant i wrthsefyll seiberfwlio

Testun y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i ariannu a chynnal gwaith ymchwil yn seiliedig ar dystiolaeth, a chynhyrchu strategaeth ac argymhellion i feithrin gallu ein plant, o'u plentyndod cynnar, i wrthsefyll effeithiau distrywiol seiberfwlio.

Dylai'r strategaeth gynnwys cyngor i rieni ac ysgolion ynghylch:

- sut i greu safbwyntiau iach a chreu perthynas iach ag eraill ar y cyfryngau cymdeithasol
- sut i baratoi plant i adnabod ac amddiffyn eu hunain rhag y math o ymddygiad sy'n cyfateb i seiberfwlio
- sut i ddysgu plant i wahanu profiadau ar-lein oddi wrth brofiadau bywydau 'go iawn'
- sut i feithrin gallu plant i ymdopi'n emosiynol ag ymosodiadau personol ar-lein.

Cefndir

Dyletswyddau cyfreithiol

Mae dyletswydd gyfreithiol ar bob ysgol yng Nghymru i sicrhau bod unrhyw fath o fwlio yn cael ei drin yn effeithiol. Mae amrywiaeth o ddeddfwriaeth sy'n berthnasol i Gymru â'r nod o amddiffyn plant a phobl ifanc rhag camdriniaeth, gan gynnwys bwlio. Mae'r ddeddfwriaeth bresennol sy'n berthnasol i fwlio yn cynnwys: *Deddf Cydraddoldeb 2010*; *Deddf Addysg ac Arolygiadau 2006*; *Deddf Plant 2004*; *Deddf Addysg 2002*; *Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998*; *Deddf Hawliau Dynol 1998*.

Canllawiau

Yng Nghymru, cefnogir y ddeddfwriaeth hon gan **ganllawiau a chylchlythyrau Llywodraeth Cymru**. Nid yw'r rhain yn gosod dyletswyddau cyfreithiol yn uniongyrchol, ond maent yn rhoi canllawiau i awdurdodau lleol ac ysgolion ar sut i roi polisiau bwlio ar waith o ddydd i ddydd. Bwriad y canllawiau yw bod o gymorth i gyflawni dyletswyddau cyfreithiol.

Mae dogfen Llywodraeth Cymru [Parchu Eraill: Canllawiau gwrth-fwlio: Cylchlythyr 23/03](#) yn nodi bod yn **rhaid i benaethiaid a chyrff llywodraethu, yn ôl y gyfraith, feddu ar bolisi i atal pob math o fwlio ymysg disgyblion**. Mae'r cylchlythyr yn nodi'r math o wybodaeth y dylid ei chynnwys o fewn polisi ysgol a sut y gall ysgolion fynd i'r afael â bwlio.

Mae'n amlinellu polisi bwlio ysgol gyfan, wedi'i rannu'n bedwar cam:

- Cam 1 – Codi ymwybyddiaeth ac ymgynghori;
- Cam 2 – Gweithredu;
- Cam 3 – Monitro;
- Cam 4 – Gwerthuso.

Mae'r cylchlythyr hefyd yn nodi y dylai uwch aelod o staff oruchwylio'r polisi; y dylai egwyddorion y polisi gael eu hadnewyddu'n rheolaidd i atgoffa disgyblion a staff; ac y **dylai corff llywodraethu'r ysgol adolygu'r polisi yn flynyddol** i sicrhau ei fod yn effeithiol. Dywed y cylchlythyr:

Mae'n arfer da i roi'r cyfrifoldeb cyffredinol dros reoli'r polisi gwrth-fwlio ac ymdrin ag achosion o fwlio, unwaith y bydd y polisi yn cael ei sefydlu i uwch athrawon.

Yn 2011, datblygodd Llywodraeth Cymru gynnwys y cylchlythyr hwn gyda **chyfres o ddeunyddiau gwrth-fwlio** a oedd yn darparu canllawiau ac atebion ymarferol i rwystro ac ymateb i ddigwyddiadau o fwlio mewn ysgolion: [Parchu eraill: Trosolwg gwrth-fwlio \(dogfen Ganllaw 050/2011\)](#). Mae'r ddogfen hon yn cynnwys trosolwg byr ac arweiniad manwl ar y pum maes canlynol o fwlio:

- Bwlio ar sail hil, crefydd a diwylliant
- Bwlio sy'n ymwneud ag anghenion addysgol arbennig ac anabledau
- **Seiberfwlio**
- Bwlio homoffobig
- Bwlio rhywiaethol, rhywiol a thrawsffobig.

Canllawiau ar Seiberfwlio

Fel y nodwyd uchod, mae un o eitemau Llywodraeth Cymru o ran [canllawiau gwrth-fwlio sy'n ymdrin yn benodol â seiberfwlio](#) (PDF 869KB). Mae hwn yn benodol ar gyfer ysgolion, awdurdodau lleol, rhieni / cynhalwyr, teuluoedd, dysgwyr, llywodraethwyr ysgolion, gweithwyr cymdeithasol, gweithwyr iechyd proffesiynol a mudiadau gwirfoddol sy'n ymwneud â phlant ysgol.

Mae canllawiau 66 tudalen Llywodraeth Cymru ar seiberfwlio yn cynnwys yr adrannau canlynol:

- **Deall** seiberfwlio (gan gynnwys diffiniadau, lefelau ers 2011, a mathau gwahanol o seiberfwlio)
- Y **gyfraith** sy'n ymwneud â seiberfwlio
- **Atal** seiberfwlio
- **Ymateb** i seiberfwlio
- **Adnoddau a darllen pellach**

Mae tudalennau 33–34 yn rhoi arweiniad ar hyrwyddo ymwybyddiaeth a dealltwriaeth o seiberfwlio. Mae tudalennau 43–45 yn rhoi arweiniad ar sut i gefnogi'r sawl sy'n cael ei seiberfwlio. Mae hyn yn cynnwys yr egwyddorion allweddol canlynol:

- Annog dysgwyr i geisio cymorth
- Eu sicrhau eu bod wedi gwneud y peth iawn drwy ddweud wrth rywun
- Cydnabod ei bod yn sicr wedi bod yn anodd i'r unigolyn ymdrin â'r mater
- Ailadrodd nad oes gan neb yr hawl i wneud hynny iddynt hwy
- Cymryd camau i sicrhau bod yr ysgol yn mabwysiadu diwylliant nad yw'n goddef seiberfwlio, gan y gall hyn hefyd fod o gymorth i wneud i'r sawl sy'n cael ei seiberfwlio deimlo'n ddiogel.

Mae'r canllawiau'n cynnwys y '**cyngor ar ymrymuso ar-lein**' canlynol, a allai fod yn arbennig o berthnasol i'r alwad am strategaeth i ddatblygu gwydnwch emosiynol plant a phobl ifanc i ymosodiadau personol ar-lein:

Mae'n bwysig cyngori'r unigolyn a gafodd ei fwlio i beidio â dial neu anfon neges yn ôl. Ymateb i'r negeseuon, yn enwedig mewn tymer, yw'r union beth mae'r bwli am i chi ei wneud, a thrwy beidio ag ymateb efallai y bydd y bwli yn meddwl nad oedd y targed wedi derbyn neu weld y neges, neu nid oedd y neges yn ei boeni. Yn lle hynny, dylai'r unigolyn gadw'r dystiolaeth a'i dangos i'w riant/gofalwr neu aelod o staff.

Dylech chi ddweud wrth y dysgwr i feddwl am yr wybodaeth sydd ganddo neu ganddi y gall y cyhoedd ei gweld a pha safleoedd mae ef neu hi'n eu cyrchu ar-lein. Mae'n bwysig bod dysgwyr yn ystyried yn ofalus i bwy maen nhw'n rhoi eu rhif ffôn symudol, ac a ddylen nhw barhau i fod yn aelodau o ystafelloedd sgwrsio, er enghraifft, lle mae pobl yn eu trin yn wael.

Gall cyngori plentyn i newid ei fanylion cyswllt, megis ei rhif adnabod gwibnegeseua neu rif ffôn symudol fod yn ffordd effeithiol o atal cyswllt nas dymunir. Fodd bynnag, mae'n bwysig i fod yn ymwybodol na fydd rhai plant yn awyddus i wneud hyn, a bydd yn ei ystyried yn ddewis olaf am resymau ymarferol a chymdeithasol, a gallan nhw deimlo eu bod nhw'n cael eu cosbi. (tudalennau 43–44)

Adroddiad Estyn, 2014

Ym mis Mehefin 2014, cyhoeddodd Estyn adroddiad thematig, [*Gweithredu ar fwlio*](#). Roedd yr adroddiad yn edrych yn fanwl ar **effeithiolrwydd y camau a gymerwyd gan ysgolion** i fynd i'r

afael â bwlio, gan gyfeirio'n benodol at fwlio ar sail nodweddion gwarchoddedig disgyblion (oed, anabled, aillbennu rhywedd, priodas a phartneriaeth sifil, beichiogrwydd a mamolaeth, hil, crefydd neu gred, rhyw a chyfeiriadedd rhywiol). O ran seiberfwlio, adroddodd Estyn:

Yn y rhan fwyaf o ysgolion uwchradd, mae **disgyblion a staff yn pryderu am y cynnydd mewn bwlio seiber**, yn enwedig mewn perthynas â'r nodweddion gwarchoddedig. Mae bwlio seiber wedi creu **mathau newydd o fwlio nad yw rhai staff yn gyfarwydd â nhw**. Yn yr arfer orau, mae staff yn cael y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y technolegau y mae disgyblion yn eu defnyddio ac yn deall y potensial i'w camddefnyddio yn yr ysgol a thu hwnt. (Para 10)

Yn y rhan fwyaf o ysgolion uwchradd, mae'r cynnydd mewn bwlio seiber, fel **cyfrwng ar gyfer bwlio dienw**, yn **destun pryder i ddisgyblion a staff**. Yn gyffredinol, mae ysgolion yn gweld y math hwn o fwlio yn anodd i'w drin. Nid ydynt yn aml yn cael gwybod am hyn chwaith, am fod disgyblion yn teimlo gormod o gywilydd neu embaras i siarad amdano. Yn aml, erbyn i'r ysgol fod yn ymwybodol o fwlio seiber, mae wedi bod yn digwydd ers tro. Mae llawer o ddisgyblion yn teimlo bod y sefyllfa'n gwella wedi i oedolion fynd i'r afael â phroblemau unigol, a siarad am deimladau'r dioddefwr yn agored. Mae hyn yn aml yn cynnwys cysylltu â swyddogion cyswllt yr heddlu sy'n gweithio gyda grwpiau o ddisgyblion ac yn eu hatgoffa am oblygiadau cyfreithiol posibl bwlio seiber. (Para 28)

Mae'r cynnydd mewn bwlio seiber wedi creu mathau newydd o fwlio nad yw staff yn aml yn gyfarwydd â nhw. Nid yw llawer o staff yn ymwybodol o'r feddalwedd a ddefnyddir gan ddisgyblion i gyfathrebu â'i gilydd trwy ffonau symudol a gweithgareddau ar-lein, y tu mewn a'r tu allan i'r ysgol. Yn 2012, canfu adroddiad gan Ofcom ('Children and parents: Media use and attitudes in the nations') fod 80% o blant 5-15 oed yn defnyddio'r rhynggrwyd gartref. Mae technoleg yn rhan bwysig o fywydau plant a phobl ifanc erbyn hyn ac maent yn gwybod mwy amdani na rhai rhieni a staff. Yn yr arfer orau, mae staff yn dilyn hynt a helynt technoleg ac yn cynnal ymwybyddiaeth o'r feddalwedd a ddefnyddir gan ddisgyblion a'r potensial i'w chamddefnyddio. (Para 69)

Roedd yr adroddiad yn cynnwys astudiaethau achos o arfer gorau a oedd yn dangos y ffordd orau y mae'r ysgolion yn ymdrin â bwlio. Mae'n cynnwys **astudiaeth achos** benodol, o ran sut y mae Gwasanaeth Seicoleg Addysg Sir Ddinbych yn cefnogi staff, disgyblion a rhieni drwy ddarparu gwybodaeth wedi'i theilwra am seiberfwlio, a sut i'w atal. Mae adroddiad Estyn hefyd yn cynnwys **rhestr wirio gwrth-fwlio**. Mae'r rhestr yn cynnwys holi:

- a oes gan ysgolion ystod o strategaethau i fynd i'r afael â seiberfwlio;
- a yw staff ysgolion yn cael y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am ffurfiau newydd o fwlio, fel seiberfwlio; ac
- a yw ysgolion yn mynd i'r afael â seiberfwlio yn yr ysgol a'r tu allan i'r ysgol.

Roedd Estyn yn **argymhell** y dylai ysgolion 'sichrau bod gan staff ddealltwriaeth glir o'r graddau a natur bwlio a allai ddigwydd yn yr ysgol, gan gynnwys seiberfwlio'.

Gwneir pob ymdrech i sichrau bod y wybodaeth yn y papur briffio hwn yn gywir adeg ei gyhoeddi. Dylai darllenwyr fod yn ymwybodol, fodd bynnag, nad yw'r papurau briffio hyn yn cael eu diweddarau na'u diwygio fel arall o reidrwydd i adlewyrchu newidiadau dilynol.

Kirsty Williams AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg
Cabinet Secretary for Education



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-752
Ein cyf/Our ref KW/00530/17

Mike Hedges AC
Cadeirydd - Y Pwyllgor Deisebau
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
Tŷ Hywel
Bae Caerdydd
Caerdydd
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4 Ebrill 2017

Annwyl Mike,

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 27 Mawrth.

Hoffwn fod yn gwbl glir na fyddaf yn goddef unrhyw fath o fwlio yn y maes addysg yng Nghymru. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cyflawni gwaith sylweddol i sicrhau bod plant a phobl ifanc yn rhydd o ganlyniadau seiberfwlio, a bod pob dysgwr yn cyfrannu'n gadarnhaol at y byd digidol. Rwyf hefyd yn disgwyl i ysgolion a gwasanaethau addysg fabwysiadu dull gweithredu tebyg a mynd i'r afael â phob achos o fwlio a seiberfwlio yn gadarn, gan sicrhau bod disgyblion yn cael eu cefnogi'n briodol.

Cyflwynwyd y Fframwaith Cymhwysedd Digidol ar 1 Medi 2016. Dyma'r elfen gyntaf o'r cwricwlwm newydd i'w chyflwyno a bydd yn rhan o dri chyfrifoldeb trawsgwricwlaidd, ochr yn ochr â llythrennedd a rhifedd. Mae'r Fframwaith yn ymwneud ag ymgorffori sgiliau a gwybodaeth ddigidol ym mhopeth a wnaiff dysgwyr wrth iddynt ddatblygu drwy'r ysgol a bydd athrawon yn cymhwyso'r sgiliau digidol perthnasol yn eu gwersi yn gynyddol.

Mae elfen Dinasyddiaeth y Fframwaith yn cynnwys ffocws ar hunaniaeth, delwedd ac enw da; iechyd a lles ac ymddygiad ar-lein a seiberfwlio. Mae'r elfen yn canolbwyntio ar ddysgwyr yn datblygu'r sgiliau sydd eu hangen arnynt i gyfrannu'n gadarnhaol at y byd digidol o'u cwmpas. Bydd y sgiliau hyn yn helpu dysgwyr i werthuso eu lle o fewn y byd digidol mewn modd beirniadol, er mwyn sicrhau eu bod yn barod i wynebu'r agweddau cadarnhaol a negyddol ar fod yn ddinesydd digidol.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Tudalen y pecyn 71

Ers mis Ionawr 2014, mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi gweithio mewn partneriaeth â Grid Dysgu'r De-orllewin (SWGfL) i hyrwyddo a darparu ystod o weithgareddau diogelwch ar-lein ar faterion sy'n cynnwys seiberfwlio.

Mae'r gweithgareddau hyd yma yn cynnwys darparu sesiynau hyfforddi i weithwyr addysg proffesiynol a llywodraethwyr ysgol ledled Cymru, a datblygu adnoddau i gefnogi plant, rhieni, gofalwyr ac athrawon. Mae dros 60 o ddiwrnodau hyfforddi wedi cael eu darparu dros y tair blynedd diwethaf, gyda sesiynau pellach wedi'u trefnu ar gyfer mis Mai yn benodol ar 'Ddefnyddio Cyfryngau Cymdeithasol yn Ddiogel'. Yn ystod yr hydref, caiff 12 o ddiwyddiadau hyfforddi dwyieithog ar 'Fynd i'r afael â seiberfwlio a chasineb ar-lein' eu cyflwyno ar gyfer ymarferwyr addysg.

Fel rhan o'r contract gyda SWGfL, rydym wedi datblygu'r [Adnodd Diogelwch Ar-lein i Gymru](#). Bwriad hwn oedd grymuso dysgwyr i feddwl yn feirniadol, ymddwyn yn ddiogel, a chymryd rhan yn gyfrifol yn ein byd digidol. Mae'r deunyddiau hyn yn seiliedig ar adnoddau Common Sense Media o'r Unol Daleithiau. Mae pum gwrs unigol ar gyfer pob grŵp blwyddyn gyda chyfres o ddeunyddiau ategol.

Ym mis Chwefror, roeddwn yn falch o lansio'r [Parth Diogelwch Ar-lein](#) ar [Hwb](#) i ddarparu siop un stop sy'n rhoi gwybodaeth am faterion diogelwch ar-lein. Mae'r parth yn darparu mynediad i ffynonellau arweiniad a chynghor i ddysgwyr, rhieni ac ysgolion, yn ogystal ag ystod o adnoddau defnyddiol a dolenni i hyfforddiant a chymorth pellach gan arbenigwyr.

Er mwyn cefnogi ysgolion yng Nghymru i ddelio'n briodol â materion yn ymwneud â 'secstio', mae fy swyddogion yn gweithio gyda SWGfL a rhanddeiliaid addysg i addasu, rhoi yn eu cyd-destun a chyfieithu canllawiau Canolfan Diogelwch y Rhyngwlad y DU 'Sexting in schools and colleges: Responding to incidents and safeguarding young people'. Bydd y canllawiau hyn ar gael i ysgolion yng Nghymru yn ystod tymor yr haf.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi llunio cyfres o ddeunyddiau canllaw gwrth-fwlio – 'Parchu eraill' – sy'n rhoi cyngor a chymorth i ysgolion a gwasanaethau addysg i reoli achosion o fwlio. Wrth i fwy o mwy o ysgolion ymateb i her gynyddol seiberfwlio, mae'n hanfodol bod ysgolion yn deall y problemau, yn gwybod sut i atal ac ymateb i achosion, ac yn cael yr wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y materion cyfreithiol sy'n ymwneud â'r pwnc heriol hwn. Dyna'r union reswm pam – fel rhan o'r gyfres hon o ddeunyddiau canllaw – yr ydym wedi llunio cyngor penodol ar sut y dylai ysgolion a gwasanaethau addysg ymateb i achosion o seiberfwlio.

Rhaid i bob ysgol, yn ôl y gyfraith, fod â pholisi ymddygiad ysgol ar waith. Dylai strategaethau gwrth-fwlio effeithiol fod yn ganolog i'r polisi ymddygiad hwnnw a chael eu datblygu a'u rhoi ar waith gan bawb yn yr ysgol, yn cynnwys y disgyblion.

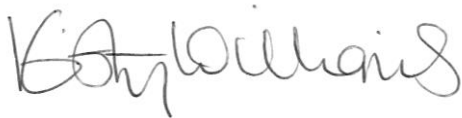
Fodd bynnag, rwy'n ymwybodol ein bod yn gweithredu mewn byd sy'n newid yn barhaus a rhaid i ni bob amser fod yn effro i dechnolegau newydd a'r ffordd y maent yn cael effaith – gadarnhaol a negyddol – ar fywydau pobl ifanc. Rwyf wedi cytuno felly y dylai'r canllawiau 'Parchu eraill' cyfredol gael eu hadolygu a'u diweddarau i sicrhau eu bod yn parhau'n addas at y diben ac yn parhau i gefnogi ysgolion ac ymarferwyr yng Nghymru.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru hefyd wedi cyhoeddi canllawiau diogelu statudol 'Cadw dysgwyr yn ddiogel' i helpu ysgolion a cholegau addysg bellach i sicrhau bod materion lles plant yn cael eu nodi a bod modd gweithredu arnynt. Mae'r canllawiau'n amlinellu cyfrifoldebau gwasanaethau addysg i wella dealltwriaeth, ymwybyddiaeth a chadernid plant drwy'r cwricwlwm ac maent hefyd yn rhoi cyngor penodol ar e-Ddiogelwch.

Cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth Cymru hefyd fodiwlau diogelu e-ddysgu hydref diwethaf, wedi'u hanelu at holl staff ysgolion, i helpu ymarferwyr i ddeall eu rolau a'u cyfrifoldebau diogelu. Gellir gweld y rhain ar Hwb. Bydd dau fodiwl sy'n canolbwyntio'n benodol ar ddiogelwch ar-lein yn cael ei ychwanegu'n fuan at y gyfres hon i helpu i wella dealltwriaeth ymarferwyr a llywodraethwyr ysgol o faterion diogelwch ar-lein. Bydd seiberfwlio yn rhan o'r modiwl hwn.

Hoffwn achub ar y cyfle hwn i'ch sicrhau bod gwaith sylweddol eisoes yn mynd rhagddo yn y maes hollbwysig hwn, i helpu dysgwyr i gadw'n ddiogel ar-lein ac i'w paratoi i fod yn ddiogel ac yn gyfrifol, meddwl yn feirniadol, ymddwyn yn ddiogel, a chymryd rhan yn gyfrifol yn ein byd digidol.

Yn gywir



Kirsty Williams AC/AM

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg
Cabinet Secretary for Education

Eitem 3.1

P-05-712 – Byddai Adran Ewrop o fewn Llywodraeth Cymru yn Sicrhau Llais Clir, Strategol ac Atebol i Gymru yn y Trafodaethau Parhaus

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Tegid Roberts, ar ôl casglu 22 llofnod ar lein

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i greu Adran Ewrop fel mater o frys, â'r dasg o ddeall a datblygu strategaeth ar gyfer ymgysylltiad parhaus Cymru â'r UE a'n perthynas â phartneriaid yn Ewrop yn y dyfodol.

Ers y refferendwm i adael yr Undeb Ewropeaidd, mae ymateb Llywodraeth y DU wedi bod yn araf ac yn amwys – cafodd uned o fewn swyddfa'r Cabinet ar gyfer gadael yr UE ei gynnig yn wreiddiol ac yna'i ddisodli gan swydd newydd, sef Gweinidog dros adael yr UE, rôl sy'n ymddangos i fod â diffyg amcanion clir, ac sy'n cael ei arwain gan AS sydd wedi treulio'r 20 mlynedd diwethaf ar y meinciau cefn.

Yng Nghymru, mae ymateb Llywodraeth Cymru wedi bod yn dawel a dweud y lleiaf, ac mae'n bryd nawr bod Cymru ei hun yn cymryd camau fel bod y trafodaethau rhwng y DU a gweddill yr UE yn esmwyth a bod gan Gymru – buddiolwr net o aelodaeth â'r UE – rôl bendant wrth lunio ein perthynas gyda'r UE yn y dyfodol. Fel y mae pethau ar hyn o bryd, mae Lloegr a'r Alban yn dominyddu'r holl drafodaethau gyda'r UE ehangach. Heb gynllun gweithredu strategol penodol gan Lywodraeth Cymru, mae'r sefyllfa hon yn debygol o barhau.

Dylai fod gan yr Adran hon Ysgrifennydd Cabinet cryf sydd â phrofiad o weithio yn Ewrop ac sy'n gallu gweithio ar draws yr holl adrannau. Dylai'r Ysgrifennydd gael cefnogaeth gan bwyllgor trawsbleidiol i graffu ar bob maes ymgysylltu presennol ac i helpu i lunio ein perthynas â'r UE yn y dyfodol. Dylai'r pwyllgor hwnnw, yn ei dro, gael cyngor gan grŵp o gynghorwyr arbenigol allanol o'r sectorau cyfreithiol, economaidd, busnes, amaethyddol, diwylliannol ac academaidd.

Byddai Adran Ewrop o fewn Llywodraeth Cymru yn sicrhau llais clir, strategol ac atebol i Gymru yn y trafodaethau parhaus. Rydym hefyd angen llais cryf yn Ewrop ar ôl gadael yr UE i sicrhau ein bod yn parhau i elwa a chyfrannu at y meysydd yr ydym eisoes yn cymryd rhan ynddynt ac yn datblygu perthynas gyda'r UE yn y sectorau nad ydym yn hyn o bryd yn ymwneud yn llawn â hwy.

P-05-712 A Welsh Government Department for Europe would ensure a clear, strategic and accountable voice for Wales in ongoing negotiations – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 13.04.17

Dear Ms Driscoll

Thank you for sending this report which I have previously read. My comments are as follows:

1. I would like to know how many staff have been allocated full time to the Brexit project in Wales as there is a danger that it could be under resourced. Brexit will touch many of the devolved areas the Welsh government and Welsh Parliament concern themselves with. They also have direct interaction at the Brussels level.

2. I am still concerned that a dedicated Minister has not been allocated to a specific Brexit department. Mark Drakeford though extremely able is also responsible for other important areas of government in Wales.

3. I would like to better understand if the WG has done a detailed SWOT analysis of Brexit as the report you have forwarded does not cover this most basic of analysis.

4. Given that the JMC process has been shown to be flawed by evidence given by Prof Drakeford to the Brexit Parliamentary select committee how does the WG expect relations between the WG and the UK brexit departments to work in future.

5. Given that Brexit and the great repeal bill now introduces a further challenge to the Welsh Assembly sovereign on devolved matters how will the department mitigate these.

With kindest regards

Tegid Roberts

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

RE: P-04-466 Petitions Committee – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee,
28.04.17

28/4/2017

RE: P-04-466 Petitions Committee (F AO)

Dear Sir(s)

In relation to your latest communication I would wish to comment as follows:

I am firmly of the opinion that the articulate **and precisely worded petition that I submitted – should not be considered any further**. Sadly and clearly, the inaction by the Committee suggests that they were not open-minded and that it was given lip service only.

I am also firmly of the opinion that the Petitions Committee seriously need to review and consider their position as an alleged functional entity – as they have clearly not covered themselves in glory here.

The rationale for the last statement is simple and brief.

Had the **precisely worded petition** been seriously and thoroughly considered when submitted – then by default the **predicted meltdown** of the BCUHB would have been foreseen and perhaps some pre-crash action should have ensued or been recommended by the Petitions Committee to the Welsh Government.

Clearly enough detailed evidence was supplied to the Petitions Committee, that patently gave unambiguous indicators of the direction of travel of the BCUHB – yet the Petitions Committee chose to ignore the information supplied (assuming it was even read !).

I consider this element to be absolutely appalling and the fact that my evidence was ignored is clearly demonstrated by the fact that the BCUHB went into special measures not long afterwards – and that **is a status it still enjoys!**

Insult to injury was added, by the fact that the petition was lumped in for consideration under the banner of the Tywyn Hospital Committee petition – which was the complete reverse of what should have happened in my view– as I had resisted in the petition wording, to be parochial – as my concerns were clearly for the Health service **as a whole in North Wales**.

Clearly had our petition been addressed seriously by the petitions Committee – it could have avoided my accusation of “I told you so “!

The ones I feel sorry for here are of course the general public, who are *the ones that ultimately suffered* – from the inefficiency and incompetency of Government and administrations. **Even inaction has its side effects.**

My conscience is completely clear in this matter and whilst I am clearly not a rocket scientist, a few quotes from **some of the information originally provided** would not go amiss

-

"BCUHB like it or not are presiding over the biggest meltdown of Health services in North Wales"

"WAG need to intervene to ensure that we do not come to any harm!"

"This will be an acid test to see if WAG really does care about our communities and our wellbeing - and that they are willing to do something about it!"

"Indeed demand that the Welsh Government and its Assembly Members intervene and protect what is literally OUR LIVES ! "

To conclude, the above quotes, which are by no means not exhaustive – says it all does it not?

I can hold my head up high in this matter- can the Petitions Committee? I doubt it.

Special measures happened on their watch and clearly they were forewarned and failed to act in the best interests of the public this matter.

I would therefore be obliged if you could inform me as to what course of action is available to me to formally complain about the lack of a reasonable response to our petition. Would that be the Ombudsman or is there a preceding hurdle? Please advise accordingly.

Sincerely,

Michael Parry
Petitioner

Eitem 3.3

P-04-505 Uned Anhwylderau Bwyta yng Nghymru

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

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

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:

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

Prif ddeisebydd: Keira Marlow

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

Nifer y llofnodion : 526

**P-04-505 Eating Disorder Unit in Wales – Correspondence from the
Petitioner to the Clerk of the Committee, 23.04.17**

Dear Graeme,

I would like the committee to consider my petition again.

Since I created the petition there has been another campaign set up, known as the cwtched campaign, which is to open the first inpatient treatment centre for eating disorders in Wales, it will be privately funded but accessible through local authority funding. There is no date yet for when this will happen but it is a great step forward, however it will be a private hospital so the majority of eating disorder patients are unlikely to be able to afford private treatment and if they receive local authority funding there is likely to be a very long waiting list and limited spaces available. However, if a specialist NHS hospital was built, it would allow sufferers to hopefully access and receive treatment quicker, without having to travel all over the country to receive it.

Best wishes,

Keira

Eitem 3.4

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



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Unit IB and D Wilkinson Business Park
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LL13 9AE

Ffôn | Tel: 01978 356178

Ebost | Email: admin@waleschc.org.uk

18th April 2017

FAO Kayleigh Driscoll
The Petitions Committee – Welsh Assembly
BY EMAIL ONLY
SeneddPetitions@assembly.wales

Dear Kayleigh

Petition Reference: P-04 -564 / Restoration of Inpatient Beds, Minor Injuries Cover & X-Ray Unit to the Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital

North Wales Community Health Council's Council's Gwynedd and Conwy Local Committees have previously offered their support for the concerns regarding the provision of healthcare in Blaenau Ffestiniog outlined in the above petition by the Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital Defence Committee. On 13th March 2017 the Gwynedd Local Committee received a further update from the Defence Committee and they confirmed their continued support.

These concerns are similar in many aspects to the concerns being raised by HIW and the Older Persons' Commissioner and they accord with the findings of the CHC on recent visits – as well as concerns received by our complaints and advocacy service. I attach for your attention a range of correspondence with the Health Minister, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB and the Older Persons Commissioner.

You will note from this correspondence that there is a consistent concern from the CHC that BCUHB has failed to deliver the changes promised in the consultation "*Healthcare in North Wales is Changing*" in 2012. Whilst the construction of the Health Centre has recently commenced, Enhanced Care at Home has not delivered the promise replacement for the community hospital beds and the continuing issues with recruitment



Croesawir gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg – Correspondence welcomed in Welsh or English
Cyngor Iechyd Cymuned Gogledd Cymru yw enw gweithredol Cyngor Iechyd Cymuned Betsi Cadwaladr
North Wales Community Health Council is the operational name of the Betsi Cadwaladr Community Health Council

Tudalen y pecyn 83

are making it extremely difficult to replace GP Principals who left the local practice following the closure of the hospital. This has led to concerns about the continuity of care, particularly for older people. The solution of replacing GPs with specialist nurses raises its own problems, as these nurses are no easier to recruit.

The current situation means that step up and step down care is not provided in the community as was promised in 2012. Instead, local people travel large distances to access such care. For example Ffestiniog residents with a dementia diagnosis are often placed in Penrhos Stanley Hospital in Holyhead and there is now no local facility for end of life care.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G.A. Ryall-Harvey'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Geoff Ryall-Harvey
Chief Officer – North Wales CHC

NORTH WALES LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE
PWYLLGOR MEDDYGON TEULU GOGLEDD CYMRU

SECRETARIAT:

MS A LLOYD WILLIAMS

JESSUP

'Yr Allt'

Ffordd Tan y Gopa

Abergele

Conwy LL22 8DS

Tel: 01745 825780

Email: northwaleslmc@yahoo.co.uk

BURROWS

Website: <http://www.northwaleslmc.co.uk>

CHAIRMAN: DR E D

SECRETARY: DR P W WHITE

TREASURER: DR G O JONES

ACCOUNTS: MS J

Welsh Assembly Petitions Committee Ref P-04-564 Restoration of in-patient beds, Minor injuries cover and X-ray Unit.

To the Clerk Mr Graeme Francis

National Assembly for Wales

Cardiff Bay

Cardiff CF99 1NA

30th. March, 2017

Dear Sir

Re: Hospital Services in Blaenau Ffestiniog

Members of the LMC Executive met with a group representing Blaenau Ffestiniog Hospital earlier this month.

Previously the LMC supported the retention of inpatient facilities, a minor injuries unit and x-ray facilities at Blaenau as it was in keeping with Welsh Government policy of provision of services close to home.

We appreciate the rural nature of the area and transport difficulties experienced, especially by the elderly, in reaching other NHS sites. This problem is further exacerbated when the weather is bad.

We noted argument that the Meirionnydd area is equally rural and equally populated but decisions have been made there to maintain and expand facilities, in contrary to the situation in Blaenau Ffestiniog. We also note that the argument regarding tourists

now applies equally to both areas given the increasing number of tourist attractions in the area.

We also note that there are no registered nursing homes in the area and a care home that has been used as a step-down facility does not have the capability for such a role. In patient facilities would provide this service.

We understand that in the past the hospital support group has consulted consulted architects and for some £300,000 the building, it was felt at this stage, could be enlarged sufficiently to include a ward facility, x-ray facilities and a minor injuries unit at a future date were additional revenue funding to be identified as, hopefully, the country's economic situation improved.

We also noted that The Hospital League of Friends had suggested some time ago, £150,000 funding towards this.

North Wales LMC would fully endorse and support the campaign to alter the current development sufficiently to include space for the facilities currently being withdrawn, as a future proofing. We foresee with tele medicine and IT links for radiology reporting that remote provision of such services will be the way forward for rural Wales, such that local provision of service is the norm. At this stage, such provision would prove far cheaper than future additional building work, were contingency plans not introduced at this stage

We would also support the reintroduction of those withdrawn services as soon as possible, to maintain service provision close to home as is the stated policy of Welsh Government

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop at the top and a smaller, more complex scribble below it.

Dr Phil White, LMC secretary and CEO

c.c. Sally Baxter

c.c. Local Health Board

c.c. Mr Geoff Ryall-Harvey Community Health Council, Cartrefle, Cefn Road, Wrexham
LL13 9NH

P-04-564 Restoration of Inpatient Beds, Minor Injuries Cover and X-Ray Unit to the Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 03.05.17

Dear Kayleigh,

We would be obliged if you bring the attachment to the notice of members of the Petitions Committee. It contains our recent email correspondence (dated 01.03.2017 and 04.04.2017), with Dr Peter Higson, Chair of BCUHB, together with his interim response of 21st March.

All three emails relate to Betsi Chief Exec Gary Doherty's letter to Mr Hedges on 6th January, which the Petitions Committee discussed at their last meeting. Appendix 1 in that letter was penned by Dr Whitehead, lead practitioner for Meirionnydd, some of whose statements are challenged in our emails to Dr Higson.

Hopefully, the members will see once again how disingenuous and intentionally misleading the Board's argument continues to be. Since the Betsi was formed in 2009, Mr Doherty is the FIFTH chief exec. that we have had to deal with, the others being Mary Burrows, Geoff Lang (in office during Mrs Burrows' prolonged absence), David Purt and Simon Dean (Mark Drakeford's 'trouble-shooter!'), all in the space of seven years. And yet the Board is still being kept under special measures! And as if that fact alone hasn't made it difficult for us to hold meaningful discussion over the years, we have also had to correspond with as many as FOUR different Health Ministers, all of whom have refused to involve themselves in the argument, implying that the buck stops with BCUHB, which is surely an uncommon stance for any Minister to be taking.

We thank the members for respecting our petition and hope that they will continue to seek a full and honest response from BCUHB to the true level of healthcare now being delivered in the Welsh Uplands.

Diolch yn fawr,

Geraint V Jones (Chair of Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital Defence Committee)

01.03.2017

Pwyllgor Amddiffyn Ysbyty Coffa Ffestiniog

Dear Dr Higson,

On behalf of the above Committee, I wish to issue a formal complaint about comments made by Dr Bill Whitehead in *Appendix 1* of Mr Doherty's recent response to the Petitions Committee.

There are several issues that we could challenge even in Mr Doherty's own e-mail but, for the present, we will confine ourselves to pinpointing misleading and blatantly inaccurate statements by Dr Whitehead that could only have been intended to mis-inform the Petitions Committee. In fact, what Dr Whitehead sets out to prove in this *Appendix* is that Blaenau Ffestiniog actually **deserved** to lose its services, simply because some villages '*along the coastal strip*' don't have them either, and he applies a rationale that could just as easily apply not only to Tywyn and Dolgellau but also to most other parts of Gwynedd. In fact, his whole argument seems to be based on astounding geographical ignorance when he claims that '*Blaenau Ffestiniog is clearly rural*' whereas, in fact, Blaenau is still recognized as the third largest town in Gwynedd, behind Bangor and Caernarfon.

Dr Whitehead claims that '*Blaenau has as good access to health services as anywhere else in Meirionnydd and has much better access to a wide range of primary care services.*' Such a statement is both incorrect and clearly intended to misinform Members of the Petitions Committee. For instance these words – '*The surgery in Blaenau is fully manned by doctors, most of whom have a regular committment to the practice, some of whom have salaried posts and are not simply locums.*' Dr Whitehead knows full well – or at least he should know, being the lead practitioner for the area! – that our **only** salaried doctor is semi-retired (working 3 days a week) and that all others are locums who, bar one, have to travel 30 miles or more to attend daily surgery. The gist of Dr Whitehead's reasoning, however, is that the people of the Welsh Uplands should be thankful for what is now on offer to them!

In fact, his arguments are more in keeping with those of the hard-nosed businessmen running the health board than those of a medical practitioner whose main concern should be to prioritize patient care. He must surely know that his views are at odds with those of his colleagues on the north Wales LMC? Some might even argue that he was appointed chair of the Project Board merely as a stooge to ensure that BCUHB's wishes were carried out!

When Dr Whitehead argues against having 'isolated' branch surgeries, then he should list those that come within his definition. For instance, is Trawsfynydd an isolated branch surgery despite it being open four days a week? Can we please be given the health board's official definition of an '*isolated branch surgery*' and perhaps be told how many others are being targeted for closure by the likes of Dr Whitehead on the excuse that they are not *adequately staffed* or don't have the *necessary facilities*? By implication, Dr Whitehead's definition leads us to believe that the Blaenau GP Practice, before it was taken over by BCUHB, acted irresponsibly for over 60 years in maintaining 'inadequate' and 'isolated' surgeries in Dolwyddelan and Llan Ffestiniog!

He goes on to claim that '*Full MIU services are provided by the practice in Blaenau during surgery hours*'. Let him therefore respond professionally, if not to the numerous examples that we have already provided but at least to the case of the 87 year old pensioner living alone in Llan Ffestiniog who fell on her garden path last year whilst hanging out her washing. Dr Whitehead's so-called '*full MIU services*' in Blaenau wanted to send her on to Alltwen (14 miles distant), and Ysbyty Alltwen on from there to Ysbyty Gwynedd! Fortunately, an off-duty district nurse took pity on her and attended to her injuries at her own home. When we sent in details of her case, BCUHB refused to respond, preferring instead to hide behind the old excuse of '*patient confidentiality*'. But I have the elderly lady's permission to attach a photograph of her that was taken at the time, but with name with-held. Are the Health Board and Dr Whitehead, our so-called lead practitioner, honestly of the opinion that a woman of her age should be expected to find her own way to a hospital 35 miles from home, simply because the MIU at her own surgery, or that in Alltwen Hospital, weren't prepared to do what an off-duty

district nurse was perfectly capable of doing? In the light of this case, it would be interesting to hear Dr Whitehead's definition of *'full MIU services'* as provided in Blaenau.

There are several other of his statements that need to be challenged but we take particular offence when he makes the spurious claim of *'a clear perception that some individuals are constantly searching for examples of care ... in order to generate political ammunition'*. How dare he make such an accusation! We challenge him to name the *'individuals'* that he has in mind! In fact, our Committee was presenting Blaenau's case well before he ever arrived on the scene; otherwise he would not show such ignorance and would know that we have sought the backing of all political parties over the years. The newly elected Petitions Committee, in its response, already respect that fact.

We have always maintained that Dr Whitehead had a vested interest in seeing the Blaenau Memorial Hospital closed in order to safeguard and to enhance services at Dolgellau Hospital. That claim has never been challenged by anyone in authority. Some of Dr Whitehead's tenuous arguments in *Appendix 1*, recently sent by Mr Doherty to the Petitions Committee, give further credence to our claim.

You will know better than anyone, Dr Higson, that we have asked consecutive Chief Executives, as well as both yourself and your predecessor as BCUHB Chairs, not to mention the Health Minister himself, the following questions regarding Dr Whitehead's appointment as chair of the Project Group that decided on the future of health services in the Rural Uplands – (i) *'How ethical was it for the health board to place him (i.e. Dr Whitehead) in such an influential position? And also (ii) How ethical was it for Dr Whitehead himself to accept the responsibility? Should he not have declared a vested interest and refused to take part? Why is it that we still await answers from every single one of you?*

Another question that was put to you several times (albeit in Welsh) was this –

'Os na ddangoswyd ffafriaeth i un ardal mwy nag arall, ga i ofyn sut yr aeth BIPBC ati i bwyso a mesur rhwng gwahanol ardaloedd yng ngogledd orllewin Cymru. Roedd rheidrwydd ar y Bwrdd i gynhyrchu dogfen yn cloriannu'r sefyllfa, nid yn unig yma yn Stiniog ond hefyd yn nalgylchoedd Tywyn,

Dolgellau, Alltwen, Pwllheli a Chaernarfon. Carwn wneud cais am gopi o'r ddogfen honno, ... er mwyn gweld beth yn union oedd y dadleuon dros roi gwell gwasanaeth i drefi llai poblog ond mwy Seisnig y glannau.'

I wonder why that request was also ignored at every asking?

In the meantime, the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, with the blessing of a dispassionate Labour government, has seen fit to completely desecrate a war memorial to the sacrifice of 353 young men of the Welsh Uplands who lost their lives in the Great War; a war memorial that the people of this area have held in high esteem for the best part of a hundred years. Rather than taking pride in the new construction, successive BCUHB executives, plus Dr Whitehead, should be hanging their heads in shame.

We have been assured by a qualified architect that, even at this late stage, plans for the new building can easily be adapted without any significant extra cost to include those facilities that were stolen from us – namely an inpatient ward, X-ray equipment and a MIU worthy of the name.

There has to come a point, Dr Higson, where high-handed bureaucracy must answer to the democratic process, otherwise we might as well be living in a one-party state that is answerable to no one but to itself and where the wishes of the people can be totally ignored, even when expressed in a democratic referendum.

Is it too much to hope for a response to each of the matters that are being raised in this letter?

Yours sincerely,

Geraint V. Jones (Chair of Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital Defence Committee)

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21.03.2017



Geraint Vaughan Jones
Chair of Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital Defence
Committee

Via E-mail: geraintvaughanjones@gmail.com

Ein cyf / Our ref: PH/RE

Eich cyf / Your ref:

☎: 01248 384290

Gofynnwch am / Ask for: Mandy Williams

E-bost / Email:

Mandy.williams7@wales.nhs.uk

Dyddiad / Date: 21st March 2017

Dear Mr Jones,

Thank you for your letter received via e-mail on 1st March 2017.

I think it is important to state that we do not accept that Dr Bill Whitehead has misinformed the Petitions Committee with his analysis of statements made recently by the Defence Committee in the 'Elder Abuse in the Uplands' pamphlet. As Cluster Lead for Meirionnydd and Barmouth GP, he is well placed to provide an analysis from a primary care perspective of local health service provision in the locality.

It is important to be clear that his appointment as Chair of the Blaenau Integrated Health & Social Care Project Board in June 2013 was entirely appropriate as the Meirionnydd Cluster Lead and post-dates the decision made by the Health Board (following Health Care in North Wales is Changing) on the closure of Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital. His remit was to lead the Project Board in developing the business case for a new integrated health and social care centre in Blaenau and to secure a wider range of services for delivery from the new building.

I do not understand your assertion that the war memorial has been completely desecrated by the Health Board. It was an important principle agreed with the Design Team at the beginning of the project design, that the original core memorial building would be retained, the stonework restored and features such as the pillars at the rear of the building would be extended to the front. The contractor has also worked hard to ensure that the external war memorial has been suitably covered and fully protected during the construction phase, with the internal plaques having been removed and stored safely in Ysbyty Alltwen. These plaques will of course be displayed prominently in the new Centre when it opens.

Following the last Remembrance Day commemoration, Anwyl Construction and the Health Board received comments of appreciation from the British Legion for the assistance given both on and before Remembrance Sunday.

Cyfeiriad Gohebiaeth ar gyfer y Cadeirydd a'r Prif Weithredwr / Correspondence address for Chairman and Chief Executive:

Swyddfa'r Gweithredwyr / Executives' Office,
Ysbyty Gwynedd, Penrhosgarnedd

Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2PW

Gwefan: www.pbc.cymru.nhs.uk / **Web:** www.bcu.wales.nhs.uk

Final par.

The Building Design is in line with the approved business case by Welsh Government and is on course to complete in the late summer and open following a short period of commissioning.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Higson, Chairman

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04.04.2017

Dear Dr Higson,

Your response dated 21st March 2017 to my e-mail of the first of that month is again hugely disappointing, in that you yet again avoid most of the matters raised and persist in trying to defend the mistakes and the half-truths and the deceptions of past Health Board executives.

You further insist that Dr Whithead's appointment as Chair of the Blaenau Integrated Health and Social Care Project Board was *'entirely appropriate'*. Of course, that was probably the case from the Health Board's point of view, but *'appropriate'* and *'ethical'* are hardly synonymous, are they? As you well know, *'ethical'* has direct moral implications which is why we again challenge not only yourself and the Board but also Dr Whitehead himself to argue the case that it was ethical for him to oversee the closure of essential services in the Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital whilst at the same time ensuring that those very same services were safeguarded at the Dolgellau-Barmouth Hospital that serves his own Practice. And for him to claim that *'Blaenau has as good access to health services as anywhere else in Meirionnydd and has much better access to a wide range of primary care services'* is totally shameful, coming from one who is professionally in a better position than anybody to know the true facts, should he choose to face them.

However, it has become patently obvious, that you have no intention of responding directly to matters that we have raised with you time and time

again, not even to the case of the elderly lady who was refused minor injuries treatment both at the Health Centre in Ffestiniog and in Alltwn Hospital, only to be treated by a compassionate off-duty district nurse at the nurse's own home. Are we to assume, therefore, that you and the BCUHB concur with Dr Whitehead's biased opinion that such a case exemplifies the *'good access to health services'* now being delivered in the Welsh Uplands and that we should be satisfied with our lot?

Finally, permit me to draw your attention to yet another example of undue hardship to elderly patients in the Welsh Uplands. It seems that BCUHB's policy now is for patients needing longer-term nursing care to find alternative arrangements in private nursing homes, as a means of alleviating the bed-blocking dilemma created by the closure of community hospitals such as our own. With assistance from Cyngor Gwynedd, we now know that pressure is being brought to bear on patients and family members to make such arrangements. Does it, therefore, not concern the Health Board that, of the eight so-called *'well-being areas'* in Gwynedd, the Welsh Uplands is the only area without a single nursing home? Compare that with the number of such establishments in the more affluent anglicized areas. For instance, Porthmadog and the small town of Cricieth between them can boast at least seven! Furthermore, Bryn Blodau in Llan Ffestiniog is the only care home for the elderly throughout the Uplands and that has a permanent waiting list.

Consequently, patients from this area, having spent time in Ysbyty Gwynedd or Glan Clwyd before being moved to Alltwn, and even Bryn Beryl or Dolgellau, are eventually expected to find alternative nursing care, if not at home then more often than not in a private and costly nursing home. To

my knowledge, as many as NINE elderly patients, from Blaenau and Llan Ffestiniog alone, are now permanent residents, through no choice of their own, in nursing homes in Llandudno (38 miles distant), Cricieth (17m.), Pentrefelin (15m.), Llanrwst (15m.), Porthmadog (13m) ... and that within the past twelve months a number of others have passed away in some of those same establishments, as also in Cartref Bryn yr Eglwys, Pentrefoelas (18m. distant).

The most recent death was that of an elderly lady from Tanygrisiau who was moved earlier this year from Alltwen to a nursing home in Tywyn of all places, 42miles from home! Her partner had no car, nor could he drive, so please consider what a day visit entailed for him – clippa bus from Tanygrisiau to Blaenau (10 minutes), bus ride (hourly service) from Blaenau to the Oakeley Arms in Maentwrog (20 + minutes) to catch a connection (two hourly service) to Dolgellau (c. 1 hour) and a further connection from there to Minffordd near Talylllyn for yet another connection to Tywyn (c. 1½ hours) and then an additional 10 minutes on foot to the nursing home, totalling over 3 hours one way! Alternatively, he could have used bus connections from Tanygrisiau to Penrhyndeudraeth (10 + 35minutes) to catch a less frequent railway connection (2-hourly service) on to Tywyn (1hr16m), totalling over 2 hours one way, provided of course that convenient connections were available for outward and return journeys.

Within two months of being moved, the lady passed away with no family member at her bedside and was buried in Ffestiniog a fortnight ago. The irony and the callousness of such an example must surely be obvious to you all.

So where does the blame lie, Dr Higson? Everywhere else but ... , presumably! In the meantime the discrimination and the injustice continues against the indigenous Welsh population of the Uplands!

The Board's publication *'Health Care in North Wales is Changing'* promised *'more care closer to home'* and claimed that its aim was *'to improve health, not just extend life'*. With due respect, successive BCUHB members, together with the lead practitioner whose views you so readily condone, should today be hanging their heads in shame as far as the Welsh Uplands are concerned. But rather than do that, you will, no doubt, be reminding us yet again that we are getting a £4m new building, to house not only the few services that are left to us (see attachment), but also a very impressive Administrative Block and office accommodation overlooking the wonderful panorama that was originally intended for the benefit of inpatients of the Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital.

Yours, with increasing concern,

Geraint V Jones (on behalf of members of Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital
Defence Committee)

**COMPARISON OF CURRENT & PLANNED HEALTHCARE SERVICES
IN THREE 'WELL BEING' COMMUNITIES IN MEIRIONNUYDD
MEIRIONNUYDD**

SERVICES	DOLGELLAU	TYWYN	FFESTINIOG
24 hour on site medical cover	YES	YES (OP - OOH)	NO
24 hour nursing cover	YES	YES	NO
Minor Injuries Unit	YES - 8-4	YES 10-6	NO
Radiography cover	YES - Daily	YES Several days	NO
Beds available	YES - 20	YES - 10 now 16	NONE
Out of Hours treatment service	YES	NO -Dolgellau	NO -Tremadog
Emergencies	YES	YES	NO
Inpatient alcohol detox	YES	NO	NO
Integrated Midwifery service	YES	YES	YES
Diagnostic Ultrasound service	YES	NO	NO
Palliative Care	YES	YES	PLANNED NEW
Terminal Care	YES	YES	NO
Minor Surgery	YES	YES	NO
Podiatry	YES	YES	YES
Physiotherapy	YES	YES	YES
Speech and Language Therapy	YES	YES	YES
Occupational Therapy	YES	YES	NO - Tremadog
24 Hour BP monitoring	YES	YES	YES
Event Monitoring	YES	YES	NO
Community Paediatric Clinic	YES	YES	YES
Community Dental Service	YES	YES	YES
Video Conferencing Facility	YES	YES	NO
Visiting Services			
General Surgery Clinic	YES	YES	NO
Audiology Clinic	YES		
Healthy Hearts Clinic	YES	YES	YES
Continence Promotion Clinic	YES	YES	YES
Eye Clinic	YES	YES	YES
Chest Clinic	YES		PLANNED NEW
Rheumatology Clinic	YES	YES	YES
CKD Nurse Clinic	YES		
Diabetic Retinopathy Clinic	YES		
Tele Medicine Clinic	YES		
Paeds Clinic	YES	YES	YES
Diabetic Nurse Clinic	YES	YES	YES
Orthopaedic Clinic	YES	YES	
Orthoptist Clinic	YES	YES	YES

03.05.17 – Petitioner to the Committee

Dear Kayleigh,

Thank you for confirming that our e-mail to Dr Higson (dated 1st March of this year), in which we challenged claims made by Betsi Chief Exec Gary Doherty in Appendix 1 of his letter to the Petitions Committee, will be included on the agenda next Monday. Permit me also to remind the members of the following facts –

1. In 2014, Blaenau Ffestiniog Town Council and Dolwyddelen Community Council instigated community polls calling for the return of inpatient beds, X-ray facilities and minor injuries cover to our Memorial Hospital. Of the 52% turnout, over 99.6% voted in favour of restoration of those services. Dr Peter Higson's response however was to say that the health board was not in any way obliged to take account of such a poll. (He had similarly rebuffed the results of an earlier petition that had over 4,000 signatories.). In other words, he was telling us that the health board is not obliged to respect any form of democratic process.
2. Your members will be well aware that neither the community nor the various interested professional bodies support the Health Board's discriminatory stance against the Welsh Uplands.
3. The North Wales LMC opposed the closure of the services in 2013 (the original letter, which the LMC sent to every member of the Health Board personally, is attached) and have confirmed this view in the letter which the current LMC has sent to the Petitions Committee.
4. The CHC did not originally refer the closure of the beds, X-ray and MIU to the Health Secretary having received assurances, statements and promises from the Health Board that proved totally false. Since then the CHC has frequently complained about the on-going discrimination, as confirmed by correspondence already supplied to the Petitions Committee by the Chief Officer.
5. A request from the MP for the area, first in person and then in writing, to the Chief Executive of Betsi Cadwaladr to initiate an independent enquiry into the inadequacy of the healthcare in the Welsh Uplands was rejected by Betsi Cadwaladr, thus again indicating that the health board does not consider itself answerable to democratic process. Meanwhile, people in the

predominantly Welsh-speaking Uplands still have to suffer an unreasonably bad health service.

Given the impasse between the Health Board and the community and the reluctance of the Cabinet Secretary to take any personal interest in the residents' plight, we wonder if the Petitions Committee would consider recommending to the "Health, Social Care and Sport Committee" that that Committee uses its scrutiny powers to examine the petitioners' request and to report upon it?

Yours very sincerely as always,

Geraint

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

STATEMENT BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

TITLE The Individual Patient Funding Request Review

DATE 21 March 2017

BY Vaughan Gething AM, Cabinet Secretary for Health, Well-being and Sport

Last July I announced the establishment of an independent review of the IPFR process. The purpose of the review was to look afresh at the clinical criteria, usually referred to as “clinical exceptionalism”, used to make IPFR decisions and the potential to reduce the number of IPFR panels in Wales.

My approach to this review has been to be open, inclusive and transparent from the outset involving all political parties, the public and the NHS in Wales. For example:

- Health opposition spokespeople have been fully involved in the whole process, including briefing sessions with the chair of the review group at the outset and conclusion of the review;
- The patient perspective featured strongly – two patients were members of the review group and discussion sessions were held across Wales for patients, their families and carers and patient organisations; and,
- The pharmaceutical industry, health boards and clinicians participated fully giving their views on how the process could be improved.

I published the report in January as soon as it was available to provide everyone with the earliest opportunity to consider the findings and recommendations. In parallel, my officials have been discussing the report with health boards, the

Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI) Cymru Wales and our medicines experts at the All-Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Centre (AWTTC).

The consensus is that this is a helpful report that makes thoughtful and pragmatic recommendations that will help health boards to deal with what are sensitive and very often complex decisions. I am particularly pleased that the patient voice has centre stage in the report.

I will now deal with the review group's recommendations on the issues they were asked to consider:

Clinical Exceptionality

Clinical exceptionality has been the underpinning principle upon which IPFR decisions have been made across the UK. It is not a well understood concept and is open to varying interpretation. This is discussed fully in the report with practical recommendations to reform the IPFR decision criteria which have been broadly welcomed.

The proposed changes cover situations where there is a recommendation from the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) or the All-Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG) and where a recommendation from NICE or AWMSG has not been made. The review group recommends a new two-part test covering:

- Significant clinical benefit to the patient; and,
- Value for money.

This means assessing the degree of clinical benefit expected by the treatment and whether the cost of the treatment is in balance with the expected benefits.

Number of Panels

In relation to whether the number of IPFR panels should be reduced, the review group concluded the risks inherent in moving to a single panel or reducing the number of panels negated any compelling argument for change. The review group has however, made other helpful recommendations to support health boards in making further improvements to the process. This includes clarifying commissioning policies and embedding IPFR policy within those frameworks and

strengthening the central expert support, quality assurance and governance function of the AWTTTC.

Implementation

Health boards, supported by AWTTTC, have already begun the initial work to reform the clinical decision criteria with the aim of making this change to the guidance by May. Today, I have written to health board chairs to confirm the arrangements for implementing all of the recommendations by September.

Health boards will always have to make difficult choices about the relative clinical benefits versus the cost and value for money at an individual patient level, balanced against the health needs for their local population. IPFR decisions will therefore always be sensitive. However, taken together, all of the recommendations when implemented will have a positive impact on the IPFR process, making it more easily understandable and less prone to being misused.

The IPFR process has a place within the policy framework for access to treatment for relatively small numbers of individuals. For the majority of the population, we will continue to place the appraisal process at the centre of our evidence-based approach; ensuring people have access to clinically and cost effective treatment. The new £80 million treatment fund I announced in January supports this approach by providing earlier access to new, medicines recommended by NICE or the AWMSG.

The review group endorses our policy position of placing appraisal at the heart of decisions on the routine availability of treatment. They also highlight the importance of appraisal as the best way to evaluate clinical effectiveness and value for money. In particular I welcome their recommendation that the pharmaceutical industry should submit their medicines for appraisal as soon as possible after licensing to ensure a timely and transparent appraisal of the clinical benefits.

We have a good relationship with industry and the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI) Cymru Wales. The ABPI and individual companies engage with us and AWMSG on the appraisal agenda and the wider new medicines work. The ABPI contributed to the review group's work and are supportive of implementing the report's recommendations. I will continue to support and encourage industry to work with us and the NHS in Wales to ensure the earliest possible access to innovative treatments.

I would like to finish by thanking the review group for their effort and commitment in tackling a highly complex area, compassionately and intelligently and delivering their recommendations within a challenging timeframe.

Eitem 3.6

P-05-693 – Rhowch y Brechlyn Llid yr Ymennydd B i Bob Plentyn yng Nghymru am ddim

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Rhian Cecil ar ôl casglu 1,195 llofnod.

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Mae iechyd wedi'i ddatganoli'n llwyr i Gymru. Gofynnwn i'r Cynulliad ac i Mark Drakeford newid yr ystod oedran fel bod pob plentyn yn cael y brechlyn.

Mae pob plentyn mewn perygl o ddal yr haint ofnadwy hwn, ac eto dim ond babanod 2 i 5 mis oed y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu brechu. Mae angen cyflwyno rhaglen i frechu pob plentyn hyd at 11 oed o leiaf. Gall heintiau meningococaid fod yn ddifrifol iawn, gan achosi LLID YR YMENNYDD, SEPTISEMIA A MARWOLAETH

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad

- Pontypridd
- Canol De Cymru

Rebecca Evans AC/AM
Gweinidog Iechyd y Cyhoedd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Social Services and Public Health



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref RE/00331/17

Mike Hedges AM
Chair - Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

government.committee.business@wales.gsi.gov.uk

5 April 2017

Dear Mike,

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the Petitions Committee about Petition P-05-693 Give Every Child in Wales the Meningitis Vaccine for Free.

The joint letter from Meningitis Now and the Meningitis Research Foundation provides a helpful summary of the understandable public concerns about meningococcal infection and the views supporting the wider use of the Bexsero® Meningitis B (MenB) vaccine.

At its meeting in June 2016, the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) undertook a comprehensive review of the evidence for extending MenB vaccination to older age groups. The Committee noted the significant public opinion represented by the number of signatures to the petition and the evidence presented by the Meningitis charities in supporting the wider use of the vaccine.

The JCVI considered the cost effectiveness of extending the programme to a number of older age groups and other factors such as vaccine supply and concluded that the routine programme as currently offered remained the priority.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Correspondence.Rebecca.Evans@gov.wales
Gohebiaeth.Rebecca.Evans@llyw.cymru

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

Tudalen y pecyn 107

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

No further advice has been provided since that time. The JCVI will continue to monitor the programme and its impact on meningococcal disease. Any updated advice received from the JCVI will be given careful consideration by the Welsh Government at that time.

Yn,
Rebecca

Rebecca Evans AC/AM

Gweinidog Iechyd y Cyhoedd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Social Services and Public Health

P-04-472 Gwnewch y Nodyn Cyngor Technegol Mwynau yn ddeddf

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i wneud y Nodiadau Canllaw Nodyn Cyngor Technegol Mwynau, yn arbennig y rheini'n ymwneud â chlustogfa 500 metr o amgylch gweithfeydd brig, yn orfodol yn neddfau cynllunio Cymru.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol: Ar 20 Ionawr 2009, cyflwynodd Jane Davidson, y Gweinidog Amgylchedd, nodiadau canllaw Cyngor Technegol Mwynau Glo (MTAN) a oedd newydd eu cyhoeddi, ar gyfer Cymru, a nododd: “.. bydd y Nodyn Cyngor Technegol Mwynau Glo yn cyflawni'r addunedau (yn 2008) i gyflwyno Aseidiadau Effaith ar Iechyd ar gyfer ceisiadau glo, ynghyd â chlustogfeydd, a gyda phwyslais ar weithio'n agos â chymunedau lleol. Mae'n ailddatgan yr ymrwymiad (yn 2008) i glustogfa 500m.” Yn 2009 nid oedd gan Lywodraeth Cymru'r pŵer i wneud ei chanllawiau cynllunio yn ddeddf. Mae ganddi'r pŵer bellach

Prif ddeisebydd: Dr John Cox

Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 16 Ebrill 2013

Nifer y llofnodion: 680. Casglwyd deiseb gysylltiedig 330 o lofnodion

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Amgylchedd a Materion Gwledig
Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-472
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/00474/17

Mike Hedges AM
Chair - Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

government.committee.business@wales.gsi.gov.uk

28 March 2017

Dear Mike

Thank you for your letter of 27 February regarding petition P-04-472 Make the MTAN Law. As you will be aware, I cannot comment on specific cases but I can give you an outline on what has happened since the petition was last mentioned during the No-Named Day Motion debate in April 2015.

In July 2015, the previous Minister for Natural Resources and officials held a summit on opencast coal where a number of stakeholders from industry, local authorities and residents, including Dr Cox, the lead petitioner, attended and a number of speakers were heard. One of the actions to emerge from the summit was a focused review of MTAN2 Coal.

Following this, in January 2016, officials held a consultation event on focused changes to MTAN2 attended by industry, local authority officers and local residents. Discussions centred on exceptions to the buffer zone policy, extensions and restoration/financial arrangements. Other views raised at the event included the need for coal, the environmental dis-benefits of coal, the need for a presumption against coal, the need to give health and well-being more importance and the need for better quality information. However some respondents felt MTAN2 worked well, that no changes were necessary and that coal would continue to have a role.

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Gohebiaeth.Lesley.Griffiths@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Lesley.Griffiths@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Tudalen y pecyn 110

The position of coal has since been shown as uncertain, particularly following Amber Rudd's energy statement in November 2015 outlining no unabated coal fired power stations following 2025 and the subsequent consultation paper *Coal generation in Great Britain: The pathway to a low-carbon future* published in November 2016. In the Energy Statement which I gave in plenary in December 2016 I stated support for the phasing out of unabated coal fired power and indicated my intentions to amend planning policy to limit the opportunities for new coal development.

Proposed amendments to Planning Policy Wales will be subject to consultation later this year.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Amgylchedd a Materion Gwledig
Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs

P-04-472 Make the MTAN Law – Correspondence from the Petitioner for P-04-575 Call in All Opencast Mining Planning Applications to the Committee

Response letter for Petitions Committee

UVAG would like to make some comments on the petition; UVAG totally supports the petition and would like to give some background on the MTAN 2.

I am chairman of the Residents Against Ffos-y-Fran group (RAFF) as well as the chairman of United Valleys Action Group (UVAG), RAFF was instrumental in getting the 500 metre buffer zone put in the MTAN 2, initially the Welsh Government (WG) wanted only a 200 metre buffer zone in the draft MTAN 2, but RAFF campaigned and obtained 5,500+ letters calling for the WG to have a 500 metre buffer zone in the MTAN 2, these letters came from 24 towns around South Wales from Llanelli in the west to Newport in the east and from Brecon in the north and Cardiff in the south, these letters were presented to WG at the Senedd, from this the WG put in a 500 metre buffer zone in the MTAN 2.

Our utopia was short lived and was soon dismissed when it was apparent that although we won the battle for a 500 metre buffer zone in the MTAN 2 the WG cleverly had included up to 10 clauses or opt outs as we called them included in the MTAN 2 that allowed the local planning authority or planning inspector to interpret the MTAN 2 as they wanted and therefore they could dismiss the 500 metre zone on opencast applications and allow opencast right up to a properties garden, like myself who lives just 37 metres from the Ffos-y-Fran opencast in Merthyr Tydfil, this is basically ruling out everywhere in South Wales that would qualify for a 500 metre buffer zone.

An example of this interpretation of the MTAN 2 500 metre buffer zone is the Varteg opencast application, the Torfaen Council refused permission because a school and residents were only 200 metres from the opencast, the planning inspector overturned this and approved the opencast only for the WG Minister to overturn the inspector decision and refuse permission making a complete mockery of the MTAN.

So basically it came down to the decision makers interpretation of the MTAN, this is why we want the MTAN to be made law, so every decision maker on opencast planning application would make the same decision regarding a 500 metre buffer zone.

Therefore Petitions committee we support this petition to make the MTAN law that cannot be open to miss interpretation by any local authority, planning inspector or decision maker

Terry Evans UVAG

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

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Amgylchedd a Materion Gwledig
Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-575
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/00475/17

Mike Hedges AM
Chair - Petitions Committee
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7 March 2017

Dear Mike

Thank you for your letter, on behalf of the Petitions Committee, in which you ask for an update on the circumstances relating to the petition from the United Valleys Action Group. The petition calls upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government to call in all opencast mining planning applications.

My predecessor, Carl Sargeant, the former Minister for Natural Resources wrote to the Petitions Committee in November 2014 setting out the Welsh Government's position on the petition. The letter, which I have attached for information, sets out the Welsh Government's policy on calling-in planning applications and specifically applications for the mining and working of minerals. I can confirm the Welsh Government's policy has not changed since.

Regards
Lesley

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Amgylchedd a Materion Gwledig
Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

Tudalen y pecyn 114

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Petition P-04-575

Response to Ministers letter for Petitions Committee

The demand for coal is reducing so quickly due to market demand and the world reduction in coal use for power stations that opencast coal is no longer required in the long term, UVAG stand by their petition that all opencast mine applications over 10 years or 350 hectares in size should be called in by the Welsh Government.

Here in Wales there are numerous abandoned and mothballed opencast sites because the demand for coal is falling, Aberthaw power station can no longer use the low volatile coal found in South Wales, some of these opencast sites will not have the restoration done and it will be left to the Welsh Government or Local Authorities to find the finance to complete the sites, if there is no finance available then the sites will be left abandoned, some with a massive dangerous big hole in the ground, this it is a very worrying situation.

There are large opencast mine planning applications in progress at the moment where the Welsh Government should intervene.

Given that opencast mining and coal markets are changing very quickly and in light of the above, UVAG would like the petition to go to Plenary for debate by all parties with the view of implementing the petition.

Terry Evans UVAG

Eitem 3.9

P-05-705 – Annog Pwyllgorau Cynllunio i Sicrhau bod Penderfyniadau ar Faterion Cynllunio yn Rhoi sylw Dyledus i'r Effaith ar Grwpiau Ymunedol a Sefydliadau Gwirfoddol neu i'r Posibilrwydd y Bydd y Grwpiau a'r Sefydliadau hyn yn Cau.

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Mike Walker ar ôl casglu 79 llofnod.

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Mae niferoedd cynyddol o eglwysi ac adeiladau cymunedol yn cau ac yn cael eu gwerthu ar gyfer datblygiadau eraill, er gwaethaf y ffaith eu bod yn parhau i gael eu defnyddio gan grwpiau cymunedol. Yn aml, mae'r gwerthiannau hyn yn amodol ar roi caniatâd cynllunio ar gyfer addasu neu ddymchwel adeiladau cyn i brynwyr gwblhau gwerthiannau. Yn anffodus, mae'r broses hon yn aml yn golygu bod grwpiau cymunedol fel meithrinfeydd a'r Sgowtiaid yn gorfod gadael adeiladau yn ystod y broses gynllunio. Felly, rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i newid y gyfraith gynllunio, neu ganllawiau ynghylch y gyfraith hon, i sicrhau bod pwyllgorau cynllunio yn ystyried yr effaith ar y gymuned o droi grwpiau cymunedol allan yn ystod y broses o roi caniatâd cynllunio.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad

- Gogledd Caerdydd
- Canol De Cymru

Our ref AN/00

Date 15/04/17

Mike Hedges AC/AM
Cadeirydd/ Chair
Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff

Dear Mike Hedges AM

Petition: P-05-705 Planning decisions taking due regard of the impact on, or closure of, local community groups and voluntary organisations.

Thank you for your letter seeking WCVA's views on the scale of the issues raised by the above petition. In developing this response, we have consulted colleagues in County Voluntary Councils (CVCs).

Access to affordable spaces where community and voluntary groups can meet and undertake activities is hugely important and a foundation for many groups.

We are aware of examples where developments which are subject to planning have impacted negatively on voluntary groups.

Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary Services (PAVS) has recently supported groups in relation to two developments which have threatened voluntary and community activity. PAVS is supporting two community groups in their efforts to negotiate continued use of a church hall in light of new development plans for the church.

PAVS is also working to support Transition Bro Gwaun, a community project in Abergwaun, Fishguard that uses surplus waste from supermarkets to produce food in a community café. Their future is now threatened by a new road development. Despite having been offered alternative premises, the costs of refurbishment are proving prohibitive. PAVS is now working with the project to secure funds for new premises, but it is difficult.

Swansea Council for Voluntary Service (SCVS) has been contacted by Friends of Stepping Stones about their concerns in light of redevelopment plans. The charity exists to provide additional funding for the Stepping Stones Children's Centre to maximise the services it provides for disabled children and their families in Swansea. The charity understands that the building where the Centre is currently based is being sold and may be redeveloped. Trustees are concerned that the future location of the Centre will put at risk the ongoing success of the project.

However, it is not clear from the level of enquiries and requests for support received by WCVA and CVCs that this is a large scale issue for groups across Wales.

Tudalen y pecyn 117



Wales Council for Voluntary Action

Registered Office - Head Office
Baltic House, Mount Stuart Square
Cardiff CF10 5FH

WCVA Helpdesk 0800 2888 329
Fax 029 2043 1701
Minicom 0808 1804 080
help@wcva.org.uk
www.wcva.org.uk

Offices also at Rhyl
and Aberystwyth

Cyngor Gweithredu Gwirfoddol Cymru

Swyddfa Gofrestredig - Prif Swyddfa
Tŷ Baltig, Sgwâr Mount Stuart
Caerdydd CF10 5FH

Lein Gymorth 0800 2888 329
Ffacs 029 2043 1701
Minicom 0808 1804 080
help@wcva.org.uk
www.wcva.org.uk

Swyddfeydd hefyd yn y
Rhyl ac Aberystwyth



Chair/Cadeirydd:
Peter Davies CBE
Vice-Chair/Is-Gadeirydd:
Catriona Williams OBE
Chief Executive/Prif Weithredwraig:
Ruth Marks MBE
Treasurer/Trysorydd:
Mair Gwynant
Secretary/Ysgrifennydd:
Tracey Lewis

Registered Charity/Elusen Gofrestredig 218093
Company Limited by Guarantee/
Cwmni Cyfyngedig drwy Warant 425299
Registered in Wales/Wedi ei gofrestru
yng Nghymru

VAT Registration No/Rhif TAW 991 2938 79

There are some examples where the system has supported new community buildings or where local authorities are increasing engagement with community groups. Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations (PAVO) is aware that the Scout Hut in Llandrindod Wells was closed as part of the Tesco development, but also that it was replaced by a new youth centre constructed as part of Tesco's community benefit payment related to the development.

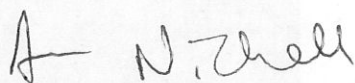
In Conwy, Community and Voluntary Support Conwy (CVSC) has developed positive relationships with Conwy Council planning team and are now sent any planning applications that may affect children and their play. The CVC is also working with planning officers to support improved consultation in relation to other areas of voluntary and community activity, such as youth provision and youth clubs. Early engagement with voluntary and community and access to information supports good decision making and there may be opportunities for more local authorities to work with CVCs to support this engagement.

There are a number of factors that can result in the loss of community buildings and community facilities. Reduced funding and withdrawal of funding can lead to buildings previously being used by community and voluntary groups no longer being viable. Many public bodies are struggling to maintain assets that have previously been important resources for the community. Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations (GAVO) recently ran a successful Community Asset Transfer pilot. The findings suggest that there are cost effective ways of empowering more third sector organisations to manage community assets previously managed by public bodies.

In summary, voluntary and community activity is sometimes negatively affected by developments which require planning permission. However, we do not have evidence to suggest that this affects third sector organisations on a significant scale across Wales.

I hope this supports the Committee in its considerations. Please do contact me at anicholl@wcva.org.uk or on the number above if you would like to any further information.

Yours sincerely



Anna Nicholl
Director of Strategy and Sector Development

P-05-741 Mae angen Cyfyngiadau Llymach ar Gyfoeth Naturiol Cymru

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan John Thomas ar ôl casglu 19 llofnod.

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Mae angen llywodraethu a chraffu llymach ar Gyfoeth Naturiol Cymru. Mae angen rhoi'r gorau i droi tir amaethyddol proffidiol yn gynefinoedd ac yn Safleoedd o Ddiddordeb Gwyddonol Arbennig lle mae'n rhaid i'r ffermwr gydymffurfio gyda hyd yn oed mwy o gyfyngiadau er mwyn ceisio gwneud bywoliaeth!

Ar hyn o bryd, mae Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru (yr ochr Amgylcheddol) yn sefydliad sy'n cynnwys swyddogion nad ydynt yn barod i wrando ar wybodaeth leol, a dim ond yn rhoi cyngor yn unol â'r hyn y gallant ei ddarllen mewn llyfrau! Dim ond un nod mewn bywyd sydd ganddynt, a hynny yw troi ein cefn gwlad yn un warchodfa natur amhroffidiol enfawr ar draul y trethdalwr a chymunedau gwledig yn gyffredinol! Mae angen i'n cynrychiolwyr etholedig graffu'n agosach ar eu gwaith!

Felly, rydym yn galw ar y Cynulliad i adolygu arferion a pholisiau cyfredol Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru o ran y ffordd y mae'n gweinyddu tir a allai gael ei droi'n gynefin neu'n Safle o Ddiddordeb Gwyddonol Arbennig. Ar hyn o bryd, mae'r sefydliad yn gwneud mwy o ddrwg na da i gefn gwlad! Mae angen taro cydbwysedd a fydd o fudd i bawb.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad

- Dwyfor Meirionnydd
- Mid and West Wales

Mike Hedges AM
Chair, National Assembly for Wales Petitions
Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

22 March 2017

Dear Mr Hedges,

P-05-741 Natural Resources Wales (Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru) Needs Tighter Restriction

Thank you for your letter and enclosures of 23rd February seeking a response to the points raised by the petitioner. We note that the Committee is seeking clarification on how Natural Resources Wales takes account of competing interests and any agricultural usage of land in the process of designating Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs).

Sections 28 to 33 of Part 2 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act detail the law regarding SSSIs and Natural Resources Wales' responsibility for selecting and notifying SSSIs in Wales. Specifically, Section 28 gives NRW a duty to notify land in Wales that, in its opinion, is of special interest by reason of any of its flora, fauna, or geological or physiographical features.

SSSIs are only identified and evaluated carefully after detailed survey and evaluation against published criteria available on the [Joint Nature Conservation Committee website](#).

Once a site has been identified and evaluated, and discussions with owners and occupiers of the land and a formal public consultation have taken place, a site may be proposed to an NRW Executive Director for approval to confirm the notification. Where a site has unresolved objections, a sub group of the NRW Board, the Protected Areas Committee (PAC), will consider the notification.

When the Committee meet to consider a notification proposal anyone who has a pecuniary interest in the site(s) under consideration can attend. At the beginning of every committee meeting NRW's legal advisors advise Committee Members that when coming to a decision on whether or not to approve the confirmation of notification, that due regard be given to the needs of agriculture and forestry and the economic and social interests of rural areas (as laid down in Section 37 of the Countryside Act 1968) as well as to relevant human rights considerations. They are also reminded that SSSI designation is one of the material

considerations taken into account by local planning authorities in their decisions to consent or refuse planning permission. Socio economic issues are discussed during the question and answer session, especially if any objections are based on such matters.

Natural Resources Wales is committed to working with the owners and occupiers of SSSIs to achieve the most appropriate conservation management to benefit the habitats or species which are of special interest, and has the powers to offer to enter into a management agreement. Management agreements are a voluntary contract between Natural Resources Wales and a landowner or occupier in which a payment is made in return for land being managed to an approved plan. The management agreement is generally for positive actions which would otherwise be uneconomic. These actions may be ongoing annual activities such as grazing with cattle, or one-off capital works such as fencing or scrub clearance (or most commonly both). We recognise that without this financial support landowners may not be willing or able to manage their land in a way that supports the designated features.

Natural Resources Wales is currently in discussion with the petitioner and his agent regarding a possible management agreement in order to secure the longer term future for the habitat supporting the rare marsh fritillary butterfly.

Yours sincerely,



Emyr Roberts

**Prif Weithredwr, Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru
Chief Executive, Natural Resources Wales**

P-05-741 Natural Resources Wales (Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru) Needs Tighter Restriction - Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 23.04.17

Mike Hedges AM

Chair, National Assembly for Wales Petitions Committee

National Assembly for Wales

Cardiff Bay

Cardiff

CF99 1 NA

23rd April 2017

Dear Mr Hedges,

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the new correspondence submitted by NRW for your Committee's consideration. I submit the following views:

1. The letter from the Chief Executive contains little or no detail as to how the body takes into account competing interests, including agricultural land usage when designating Sites of Special Scientific Interest. It merely outlines the process to be followed, without any mention as to protocol details, or exact process guidelines. In my view, it is merely a broad policy statement.
2. The process of making SSSI designations as set out, in the letter, is designed in the first instance to include all interested parties, statutory and non-statutory bodies and this after survey and reference to the published relevant criteria. No mention is made of either the landowner/tenant at this preliminary stage. Indeed from personal experience, there is little or no consultation with the party managing the land on a daily basis, and certainly no meaningful dialogue, which I would suggest, that in the majority of cases would lead to a better understanding of the needs of all parties. It could even in certain cases, do away with the need to instigate Section 28 processes, with all parties working together for the common good. Nature will always strive to redress any imbalance, and the majority of land utilisation in the agricultural sector, will always accommodate these natural processes.

3. With reference to the procedure as outlined by NRW, again from personal experience, the limited and minimal discussion that took place between local officials and myself as tenant farmer, did not once encompass my farm business plan for the new venture, and the significant financial and operational burden, that the Section 28 designation would incur. In my case, the local officer chose to enter into discussion with the land owner direct, despite the fact that he is elderly, and in poor health. I would suggest that this course of action was utterly deplorable. The same officer,, chose to involve the wildlife crime unit of North Wales Police, and I was subjected to formal interview, but subsequently no charges were even laid or brought before a court .I question the officer's integrity, and that of NRW in giving sanction to such a course of actions.
4. The Committee stage of the Section 28 process, although formal in nature, does not in my view allow for the views of all stake holders to be either presented or considered. Having witnessed the proceedings, I accept that the scientific and legal documentation submitted in general terms was impressive little was made of its significance in relation to the specific parcel of land, and the implication thereof. Whilst represented at the hearing, the committee was seemingly not concerned with the practicalities of day to day management and financial restraints imposed on the business. A wider focus of both interests and outcomes , could possibly have resulted in a fairer and certainly a much more practical solution to all concerned.
5. NRW emphasises its commitment to working with all owner and occupiers of SSSI controlled land, and I welcome that assertion. However, from the preliminary discussions that have recently taken place, it is clear that payments in return for any management agreements do not in any way compensate for the loss that the business as a whole will have to support. Again, I understand that 'purse strings' have been tightened in recent years, but the financial loss to the predicted business plan for the enterprise is seemingly to be sacrificed . In my particular case, I have lost nearly 44% of the available productive land to SSSI governance, with no or little prospect of any financial remuneration.
6. My petition relates primarily to the way the body, or more precisely its officers, act in their day to day operation, and would emphasise that my

views are based on personal experience, although I have also discussed and gained insight into the problems encountered in similar situations, with other land owners and tenants, over a much wider area. In my view decisions are made locally and nationally, with little or no regard to either the socio or local land management practices of the specific locality. Morfa Harlech has been managed in much the same manner for centuries past, and both agriculture and natural habitats have thrived consistently over the years. There was never any intention on my part or the part of others, to modify this eco system in any way. Nature has and will always provide a buffer, an outcome and solution to any pressures placed upon it. It cannot however respond positively to any 'artificial' pressures without unwelcome consequences.

Diolch yn fawr,

John Edward Thomas

P-05-743 Rhowch Derfyn ar Fasnachu Anifeiliaid Anwes Egsotig yng Nghymru

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan David Sedley ar ôl casglu 222 llofnod.

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i gymryd camau gweithredu yn erbyn masnachu mewn anifeiliaid egsotig sy'n cael eu dal a'u magu ar gyfer y fasnach anifeiliaid anwes yng Nghymru. Dylai hefyd wahardd trwyddedu pob busnes sydd ynghlwm â'r fasnach ddinistriol, greulon ac anfoesegol hon, gydag eithriadau clir ar gyfer canolfannau achub a chanolfannau achub trwyddedig.

Rydym hefyd yn annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ddilyn esiampl Llywodraeth yr Alban, sydd wedi ymrwymo i adolygu masnachu a mewnforio anifeiliaid egsotig ar gyfer y fasnach anifeiliaid anwes yn yr Alban ym mis Chwefror 2015, dan arweiniad Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Faterion Gwledig a'r Amgylchedd. Er mwyn i Gymru gael ei chymryd o ddifrif yn y gymuned gadwraeth fyd-eang, rydym o'r farn na allwn gael ein gweld yn caniatáu i'r fasnach hon barhau yn ein gwlad ein hunain. Mae hyn yn amlygu pryderon Cymdeithas Milfeddygon Prydain (BVA), y Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) a'r RSPCA. Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau bod unrhyw newidiadau a gaiff eu gwneud i raglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn gwarchod Canolfan Ieuenctid Forsythia rhag cael ei gau.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol

Mae anifeiliaid fel mwncïod, 'meerkats', ymlusgiaid a chrwbanod yn anifeiliaid gwyllt sy'n perthyn i'w cynefin naturiol, ac ni ddylent fod mewn cewyll a thanciau gwydr yng nghartref rhywun. Caiff dros 1000 o rywogaethau o famaliaid, adar, infertebratau, ymlusgiaid, amffibiaid a physgod eu magu a'u dal ar gyfer y fasnach anifeiliaid anwes egsotig. Ein dadl ni yw mai dim ond yn eu cynefinoedd naturiol y gellir bodloni anghenion cymdeithasol, corfforol ac ymddygiadol cymhleth yr anifeiliaid hyn. Hefyd, ceir tystiolaeth gref sy'n cysylltu'r fasnach mewn anifeiliaid egsotig â dinistrio cynefinoedd a difodiant rhywogaethau yn y gwyllt. Ochr yn ochr â dioddefaint anifeiliaid o'r fath wrth deithio – gan gynnwys llawer o gofnodion am farwolaethau – gall anifeiliaid ifanc dyfu i fod yn oedolion peryglus a all fynd dros

ben llestri mewn amgylcheddau domestig nad ydynt yn addas i fodloni eu hanghenion lles am fwy o le a bwyd.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad

- Gorllewin Abertawe
- Gorllewin De Cymru

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Amgylchedd a
Materion Gwledig
Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs




Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-743
Ein cyf/Our ref JH/00014/17

Mike Hedges AM
Chair - Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
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government.committee.business@wales.gsi.gov.uk

 April 2017

Dear Mike

Thank you for your letter of 15 March regarding 'End the Exotic Pet Trade in Wales' petition.

The welfare of any animal, including exotic pets, is of concern for the Welsh Government.

There are a number of strands of work which could be addressed and we are monitoring the work which the Scottish Government has been undertaking and the work of the Federation of British Herpetologists on ensuring compliance with the Animal Welfare Act 2006.

The Chief Veterinary Officer for Wales has historically added this topic to the agenda of a UK CVO meeting to commence a UK-wide discussion.

The way we treat animals is an important reflection of the values of our society. Since the implementation of the Animal Welfare Act 2006, we have been developing policies to promote animal welfare and responsible ownership. The Wales Animal Health and Welfare Framework (AHWF) sets out our plan for continuing and lasting improvements in standards of animal health and welfare for kept animals. The Framework Group's Implementation Plan for 2016-17 includes responsible ownership as Welsh Government priority. Both the Framework and Implementation Plan are available on our website here:

<http://gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/ahw/wales-animal-health-welfare-framework/?lang=en>

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Correspondence.Jane.Hutt@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Tudalen y pecyn 127

A short discussion paper on the trade in exotic pets was been presented to the Framework Group and they have now requested a presentation from experts working in this specialist field.

Officials met with representatives from RSPCA Cymru to discuss their briefing document calling for a ban on exotic pets, specifically primates and further meetings on this subject are expected to take place.

Regards
Lesley

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Amgylchedd a Materion Gwledig
Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs

P-05-743 End the Exotic Pet Trade in Wales – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 25.04.17

Dear Mr Hedges,

Many thanks for forwarding the reply you received from Lesley Griffiths AC/AM, dated April 10 2017, in reference to the consideration of my petition to end the sale of exotic pets in Wales (P-05-743), and to the specific questions sent in relation to such for the consideration of your committee. I am delighted that there will be a further discussion on May 9.

I was very pleased to read that a 'short discussion paper' on the issue of exotic pets was presented to the AHWF group, and that, as a result, the group is to be addressed by experts. Although I do not have any further details of the expertise concerned, I trust that the welfare needs of exotic, wild animals kept as domestic pets will be paramount to their concerns and interests. It is also of great encouragement that RSPCA Cymru's important campaign to ban the keeping of all primates as pets is receiving the attention of the Wales Executive.

At this time, I am grateful for this opportunity to direct your committee's attention to the following.

Ms Griffiths states that a paper on the exotic pet trade has been presented to the Wales Animal Health and Welfare Framework (AHWF) group. Please see below the Government Implementation Plan 2016-17 concerning the Wales Animal Health and Welfare Framework (AHWF) which gives a commitment to review the Welsh Government's Codes of Practice as published under the Animal Welfare Act 2006. This includes considering whether additional Codes of Practice are required for other species. I have attached a copy of the link for ease of reference: <http://gov.wales/docs/drah/publications/160804-animal-health-welfare-framework-2016-implementation-plan-en.pdf>

It is my understanding that the Framework Group is due to meet with a reptile specialist in a forthcoming meeting. In addition, the Chief Veterinary Officer for Wales (CVO) has historically added this topic to the agenda of a UK CVO meeting to commence a UK-wide discussion.

Whilst the AHWF briefing makes it clear that the Welsh Government can begin the process to revise the Animal Welfare Codes of Practice, no specific timescales are given. Also, there does not appear to have been any progress to tighten the rules, despite the Welsh Government having had devolved powers over budgets for the

Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) since 2011. APHA are an executive arm of the Department for Environment and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) who are very specific in their Code of Practice on implementing the Animal Welfare Act 2006 – you will find the link

here: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/218679/primate-cop.pdf

It should be possible to tighten the licensing process to ensure exotic pets are not housed with other animals and are kept in conditions appropriate to their natural habitat, i.e. diet, temperature, bedding etc. Also, banning the import of exotic pets, thereby allowing these animals only to be traded within their existing country, would have the long-term impact of significantly reducing the industry in the UK, as well as sending out the clear message that such a trade, wherever perpetrated, is detrimental to the animals concerned and their environment. By tightening the guidelines we could, potentially, significantly reduce the number of exotic pets in Britain and thereby combat the industry domestically and abroad.

I would therefore ask that the following questions, as yet unaddressed in the latest correspondence from Ms Lesley Griffiths, AC/AM, Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs, be foremost in the committee members' minds when considering the fate of my petition:

Will the Minister be undertaking a review of animal welfare, including the welfare of exotic pets?

What discussions have taken place between the Chief Veterinary Officer on behalf of the Minister and her counterparts in Scotland and England regarding the welfare of exotic pets?

What discussions have taken place between the Welsh and Scottish Governments on the Scottish Government's review of the trade in exotic pets? What would plans for a similar review in Wales be dependent on?

What proposals does the Minister have to regulate the sale of exotic animals?

What were the outcomes of the meeting between the Minister's officials and RSPCA Cymru on the matter of the keeping of primates as pets?

It may be of interest to you that 21 of 22 local authorities in Wales replied to my request for information regarding the number of licenses issued to businesses selling exotic pets (not including on the web). I can therefore report that there are

134 such licensed premises in Wales. Although I do not have the figures for the numbers of animals involved – that is, reptiles, birds, mammals and fish – it is clear that many thousands are being kept and traded. This situation – the capture, breeding, transportation, sale and care of wild animals, unsuited to lives as domestic pets in a northern climate – continues to need urgent redress.

As mentioned by Ms Griffiths in her letter to you, she is aware of the current review of the trade in exotic pets instigated by the Scottish Government. This was in response to the successful campaign launched by the charity One Kind and supported by the RSPCA, PDSA, Captured Animals Protection Society, Four Paws, Wild Futures, and Born Free Foundation amongst others. I am sure that a similar campaign here in Wales would attract an identical level of support. As I write, The Assembly is in receipt of a briefing document from RSPCA Cymru highlighting the unsuitability of keeping primates as pets, and calling for a ban on the practice. A meeting with RSPCA Cymru to discuss its concerns has since taken place.

At the very least, I am asking that the petition to end the exotic pet trade in Wales be considered for further actioning on the grounds that a wider debate of the welfare issues occasioned by it are long overdue. I would urge that there be no complacency on the part of the committee, or concerned members thereof, as many thousands of captured wild, and domestically bred, animals are enduring unnatural and cruel lives in shops and domestic homes throughout the country, today and everyday.

I further ask the committee that short of asking The Assembly to debate a total end to the trade in exotic pets that it, at least, consider the introduction of a Positive List System. This would permit the keeping of an exotic pet only if its suitability to life in private ownership were incontrovertibly assessed by such a system using clear, transparent and evidence based criteria collated on species conservation, the dangers of invasive disease, ease of good husbandry – including proof of appropriate knowledge of needs and care – and the clear availability of care guidelines, and enforcement measures.

For your convenience I include the notification from the Scottish Government about the review instigated by The Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment, Richard Lochhead:

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Review-of-exotic-pet-trade-15ea.aspx>

Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely, and faithfully yours,

David Sedley

P-04-481 Cau'r bwlch ar gyfer disgyblion byddar yng Nghymru

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ddatblygu strategaeth genedlaethol ar gyfer Cau'r Bwlch o ran cyrhaeddiad addysgol rhwng disgyblion byddar a'u cyfoedion.

Mae'r Gymdeithas Genedlaethol i Blant Byddar yng Nghymru yn cyflwyno'r ddeiseb hon heddiw oherwydd ei bod yn Wythnos Ymwybyddiaeth o fod yn Fyddar, ac mae dwy flynedd wedi mynd heibio ers i 55 Aelod Cynulliad roi adduned y byddent yn cymryd camau i Gau'r Bwlch ar gyfer plant byddar.

Er hynny, mae ystadegau Llywodraeth Cymru yn dangos bod bylchau sylweddol o ran cyrhaeddiad rhwng disgyblion byddar a'u cyfoedion. Yn 2012, roedd disgyblion byddar 26 y cant yn llai tebygol o lwyddo i basio 5 TGAU ar radd A*-C, a 41 y cant yn llai tebygol o lwyddo i basio ar raddau A*-C yn y pynciau craidd Saesneg, Cymraeg, Mathemateg a Gwyddoniaeth.

Mae ein deiseb fideo yn gofyn i'r arbenigwyr (plant byddar eu hunain) beth sydd bwysicaf yn eu barn hwy. Dywedasant wrthym:

Mae angen cefnogaeth briodol arnom yn yr ysgol a'r coleg

Mae angen acwsteg dda ym mhob ystafell ddosbarth arnom

Bydd rhai ohonom yn defnyddio iaith arwyddion. Helpwch ni i annog ein cyfoedion sy'n clywed a'n hathrawon i ddysgu iaith arwyddion.

Mae arnom angen i fwy o athrawon a disgyblion fod ag ymwybyddiaeth o fod yn fyddar.

Mae gormod o ddisgyblion byddar yn wynebu rhwystrau yn hyn o beth. Mae angen strategaeth genedlaethol er mwyn goresgyn y rhwystrau a Chau'r Bwlch!

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:

Mae modd llwytho ein deiseb fideo a'r adroddiad sy'n cyd-fynd â hi oddi ar y wefan: www.ndcs.org.uk/ClosetheGapWales

Cynhyrchwyd y ddeiseb fideo gyda chymorth wyth o bobl ifanc byddar, ac mae'n disgrifio'r pedwar ffactor pwysicaf i ddisgyblion byddar mewn ysgolion a cholegau, yn eu barn hwy.

Mae'r adroddiad sy'n cyd-fynd â'r fideo yn nodi'r rhwystrau y bydd llawer o ddisgyblion byddar yng Nghymru yn eu hwynebu yn y meysydd hyn. Mae hefyd yn cynnig awgrymiadau ynghylch sut y gallai strategaeth helpu i oresgyn y rhwystrau hyn.

Prif ddeisebydd: NDCS

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

Alun Davies AC/AM
Gweinidog y Gymraeg a Dysgu Gydol Oes
Minister for Lifelong Learning and Welsh Language



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref ARD/00241/17

Mike Hedges AM
Chair - Petitions Committee
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April 2017

Amwy Mike,

Thank you for your letter of 20 March following my previous response to you with regard to the petition '*Close the Gap for deaf pupils in Wales*' (P-04-481).

Funding of the 21st Century Programme has not been reduced and we are currently developing the next five year wave of investment for the Programme, commencing in April 2019. I can assure you that compliance of good acoustic standards as a condition of funding will continue under this second 21st Century Schools investment.

I am aware of the evidence that the petitioners have submitted to the Children, Young People and Education Committee. The Committee will consider this, along with all evidence submitted, as part of the scrutiny process for the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal Bill (ALNET Bill). The matters raised within the evidence are being considered by my officials as we continue to work towards a new system for supporting learners with additional learning needs (ALN).

With regard to the skills of the education workforce, teachers in Wales are required to understand and be aware of the well being, personal, emotional and social development of all learners. For learners with disabilities in particular, they should improve access to the curriculum, make physical improvements to increase participation in education and provide information in appropriate formats.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

Tudalen y pecyn 135

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

This requirement is embedded very early on in the profession as the current Qualified Teacher Standards (QTS) require student teachers to demonstrate they understand the diverse learning needs of all learners. In doing so, they should endeavour to provide the best possible education for the learner to reach their potential, whatever their personal circumstances.

The QTS standards are underpinned by the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) – that all children and young people are entitled to an education that develops their potential and widens their opportunities having regard to the well being, additional learning needs and disabilities of all learners.

The new accreditation criteria for initial teacher education (ITE) in Wales require future accredited providers of ITE to develop future teachers to meet the needs of all learners including those with ALN such as hearing impairment. The Criteria for the accreditation of ITE programmes in Wales can be found at <http://learning.gov.wales/resources/browse-all/initial-teacher-education-accreditation-criteria/?lang=en>.

We are continuing to consult with stakeholders about scope and content of the ALNCO qualification. The new ALNCo role will be a strategic one, with a focus on leadership and management. It is not yet decided at what level the content could include an emphasis on specialisms. This will emerge as the development of the qualification moves forward. However, as I referred in my letter of 11 January, the national workforce planning system will help to ensure that training and recruitment of staff delivering specialist learning provision, including for learners who are deaf, will be in place. Working with the WLGA, we are currently undertaking a survey of local authority specialisms. The data gathered will provide us and the WLGA with the intelligence needed to understand the issues and action required. We expect the findings of the survey to be available in the autumn.

We will be working across education sectors to develop the skills of the education workforce. This will help to ensure that we plan and deliver for the training needs of those working in early years, schools, and post 16 providers.

We recognise the importance of ensuring we have an education workforce that is skilled and confident in meeting a wide range of additional learning needs. I have recently announced a £20m package of funding to support implementation of the ALNET Bill and delivery of the wider Transformation Programme. This funding builds on investment we have already made, for example, a £2m Innovation Fund aimed at developing multi-agency practices; and the roll out of person centred practice. A substantial amount of the £20m will be targeted at workforce development, to ensure practitioners are fully equipped to deliver the new ALN system.

I hope this response use useful to you and the Petitioner.



Alun Davies AC/AM

Gweinidog y Gymraeg a Dysgu Gydol Oes
Minister for Lifelong Learning and Welsh Language

Petition P-04-481, April 2017

NDCS Cymru is grateful for the opportunity to comment on the Minister's response of 11.04.17 in relation to our correspondence of February 2017.

As previously outlined, we welcome many of the points identified by the Minister. However, much of the response outlines initiatives that span across the ALN spectrum and does not address our specific calls for deafness to be included. As such, further assurances and commitments are required to ensure that these generic initiatives will benefit deaf learners.

Teacher Training

For the young deaf people submitting the original petition, the need to increase deaf awareness among staff was of paramount importance. This is an issue that continues to hold prominence for many deaf young people in Wales. In addition, school teachers have also told NDCS Cymru that they have a need for specific deaf awareness training.

While we welcome the inclusion of ALN within the new Initial Teacher Education accreditation criteria, we remain concerned that there is **no direct reference to basic deaf awareness**. As such, we are unconvinced that training providers will specifically cover deafness.

This is a real issue. In many instances, deaf awareness is not just about including a deaf child, but can also be about acknowledging that a child has a hearing loss in the first place. Indeed, there is a general misconception that assistive listening devices restore typical hearing levels, which they do not. Therefore, a learner's deafness can often go unacknowledged.

We seek a commitment from the Welsh Government that ITE providers will have a clear expectation placed on them to cover basic deaf awareness.

Furthermore, we acknowledge that the recently published ITE accreditation criteria outlines the possibility of a thematic Estyn inspection report on ALN within ITE courses. We welcome this suggestion and urge that such a report specifically assesses whether providers are covering discreet ALN needs, including deafness.

ALNCO training

NDCS Cymru is aware of the intention to develop a qualification for the new ALNCo role. We are disappointed that the Welsh Government has not yet determined whether this training programme will cover specialisms such as deafness.

Under the proposed ALN reforms, the ALNCo will play a crucial role in coordinating IDPs and determining which professionals are included within assessments. As such, it is imperative that they have a basic understanding of deafness, as well as an awareness of the specialist advice that should be accessed.

ALN Transformation Programme Funding

We welcome the funding package referred to by the Minister to assist workforce development and to ensure practitioners are fully equipped to deliver the new ALN system. However, we seek assurances that this development will include deaf-specific training.

Acoustics and the 21st Century School Programme

NDCS Cymru welcomes the Minister's commitment to continue the contractual clause for compliance with acoustic standards within the second wave of investment in the 21st Century School Programme. As with previous changes to contracts, we would welcome the opportunity to work with officials on any alterations to existing wording to ensure the clause remains as robust as possible.

Furthermore, NDCS Cymru notes with interest the following statement on the 21st Century Schools Programme website:

The long term aim is to develop an overarching capital investment programme for all education sectors including both Further and Higher Education Sectors that will aim to deliver priority improvement projects.

As outlined in our initial petition, existing building regulations do not cover FE or HE buildings, other than sixth form colleges that are linked to school buildings. It would, therefore, be imperative to ensure that the contractual clause for the next wave of 21st Century Schools Programme clearly covers FE and HE buildings. After all, accessible classrooms are important to learners of all ages.

Furthermore, NDCS Cymru would repeat our calls for the Welsh Government to extend its commitment to good acoustics by amending legislation. This issue was not addressed in the Ministerial response. A change in law would ensure that good acoustics will continue to be on the agenda should the 21st Century Schools Programme come to a close in the future.

In addition, our offer to work with the Welsh Government to raise awareness of measures to improve acoustics in existing buildings within the schools estate was not addressed within the Minister's response. We would welcome further discussion in this regard.

Workforce planning

As outlined within our former submission, we welcome the review of the specialist education workforce in Wales. We would like to repeat our offer to work with the Welsh Government in this regard. We seek firm assurances that this review will include action to address existing difficulties in accessing Teachers of the Deaf, Communication Support Workers with an appropriate level of BSL and specialist Speech and Language Therapists.

Ongoing monitoring of the attainment gap

The Close the Gap Petition began after Welsh Government statistics revealed significant attainment gaps between deaf children and their peers. In addition to seeking the assurances that we have outlined above, we feel it is imperative that the attainment of deaf learners continues to be monitored so that we can ensure such initiatives are working appropriately.

However, we are concerned that proposals within the Donaldson Review to change the way in which pupil census information is collected would present difficulties for monitoring attainment levels among small cohorts of learners, including deaf pupils. We call on the Welsh Government to ensure that this issue is avoided.

Conclusion

NDCS Cymru is grateful to the Petitions Committee for its ongoing consideration of our *Close the Gap* petition. In response to our petition, the Welsh Government has outlined a number of initiatives that span across different ALN types. In order to address the attainment gap for deaf learners, a specific focus is required. At this stage in the process, we seek clear and deaf specific assurances from the Welsh Government.

The key assurances we seek are as follows:

1. That a clear requirement be placed on ITE providers to include specific deaf awareness training.
2. That a firm commitment is made to specifically include basic deaf awareness training within the new ALNCo qualification.
3. That the ALN Transformation Programme includes deaf specific training.
4. That the Welsh Government works with NDCS Cymru on any alterations to the acoustics clause within future 21st Century School funding contracts.
5. To ensure that FEIs and HEIs are appropriately covered by the acoustics clause when extending the 21st Century Schools Programme to cover such buildings.
6. That the Welsh Government works with NDCS Cymru to raise awareness of measures to improve acoustics in existing buildings within the schools estate.
7. That the workforce planning exercise will specifically address existing issues relating to access to Teachers of the Deaf, Communication Support

Workers with an appropriate level of BSL and specialist Speech and Language Therapists.

- 8. That ongoing review of attainment levels for deaf learners as a discreet group is not compromised by plans to change the way in which data is collated within the Donaldson Review.**
- 9. That the Welsh Government commits to keep under review whether sufficient progress in closing the attainment gap between deaf learners and their peers is being made.**

NDCS Cymru is happy to assist in further consideration of our petition – please contact campaigns.wales@ndcs.org.uk or call 02920 373474.

Eitem 3.13

P-04-576 Caniatáu i Blant yng Nghymru Gael Gwyliau Teuluol yn Ystod Tymor yr Ysgol

Manylion:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i adolygu'r canllawiau i Awdurdodau Lleol o ran penaethiaid ysgolion yn gallu awdurdodi absenoldeb ar gyfer gwyliau teuluol yn ystod y tymor. Mae llawer o deuluoedd o gefndiroedd tlawd, na allant fforddio mynd ar wyliau yn ystod y tymor, oherwydd bod gwyliau tua 60% yn ddrutach yn ystod y cyfnod gwyliau. Hefyd, mae llawer o deuluoedd lle mae'r rhieni yn gweithio yn methu cymryd amser i ffwrdd yn ystod gwyliau'r ysgol. Gall gwyliau fod yn hynod o addysgiadol, a rhoi ymwybyddiaeth i'r plant o'r byd y maent yn byw ynddo.

Prif ddeisebydd Bethany Walpole-Wroe

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

Nifer y llofnodion: 1008 – – Casglodd ddeiseb gysylltiedig dros 10,300 o lofnodion.

Kirsty Williams AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg
Cabinet Secretary for Education



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-576
Ein cyf/Our ref KW/00548/17

Mike Hedges AM
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4 April 2017

Dear Mike

Thank you for your letter of 28 March about holidays in term time. I am grateful for the Committee's continued interest in this matter.

I believe it is important that attendance remains a priority for schools and that all absence from schools is taken seriously. My focus is on ensuring children attend school at every possible opportunity to reduce any adverse impact on their education, so they are able to reach their full potential.

In terms of allowing children in Wales' holidays during term time, as you will know, the *Education (Pupil Registration) (Wales) Regulations 2010* provide headteachers with a discretionary powers to authorise leave for a family holiday during term time where parents seek permission. In determining whether to authorise a parent's request to take their child out of school, headteachers should assess the merits of each request on a case by case basis.

I do of course recognise that this is a very important area for parents and education services alike and it is critical that there is a consistent understanding right across Wales to ensure that there is public confidence in the arrangements we have in place. Since taking up post as Cabinet Secretary for Education, I have established arrangements to review and, where appropriate, revise the current attendance policy in Wales. I have asked my officials to work closely with education practitioners, children, young people and their parents to make certain the policy remains fit for purpose and supports continued improvement in pupil attendance. As part of this review, I have specifically commissioned an independent evaluation of fixed penalty notice arrangements in Wales to ensure it provides a robust, objective base for future arrangements across Wales.

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Gohebiaeth.Kirsty.Williams@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Tudalen y pecyn 143

I have noted that the parental holiday notification form for Ysgol Iau Ton Pentre Junior School does not appear to allow for applications for holidays in term times to be considered on an individual basis as required by our Regulations. My officials have contacted Rhondda Cynon Taff about this matter and have received assurances that the issue will be taken up directly with the school.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kirsty Williams'.

Kirsty Williams AC/AM

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg
Cabinet Secretary for Education

P-04-576 Allow Children in Wales to Have a Family Holiday During Term Time – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 13.04.17

Dear Petitions committee,

This farce has to end, there needs to be some honesty, on the part of the Assembly Education department, Every time we tell them there is a problem with the way the Consortia are dealing with parents and head teachers and present evidence of the misuse of Welsh Assembly legislation, we get told there is no problem and that head teachers in Wales have the right to allow Holidays during term time. This is a lie, in just a couple of hours I had all these responses, when I asked for schools that are still operating blanket bans, this means there are many more, I have also attached documents that are representative of those being given to parents across Wales. We keep getting told that the situation in Wales under Labour is different to England, as far as I can see, the only difference is that in England the government tells the truth about the situation and stands by it, whilst in Wales the Assembly hides the real situation, with lies and falsehoods, do you have no shame? It is despicable to hold the threat of reporting parents for putting their child's welfare at risk, when all they want to do is take them on holiday, this disgusting cowardly bullying behaviour has to stop. Families are put under strain and are being permanently damaged, you need to stop messing around, telling lies and being ineffective cowards in general, and do something about this now.

Bethany Walpole-Wroe



The Governing Body at Narberth School are in agreement with ERW's directive not to grant holiday leave during term time. However, it acknowledges that there may be 'special' circumstances when families may need to be absent from school and will therefore consider each application on its own merit.

If the pupil/s do/does not return by the agreed date, they are at risk of losing their school place/s and they will be removed from the school register in accordance with the admissions guidance Education (Pupil Registration) (Wales) Regulations 2010 Section 4 which states 'the pupils has ceased to attend the school and no longer resides within a reasonable distance from the school'.

Please note that we cannot guarantee that a place will be available for your child in the school of your choice on your return but you will be offered a place at the nearest school with room available in the year group.

Failure to return on the agreed date will prompt welfare concerns; a child who goes missing from education may be considered to be at risk of significant harm. Any such concerns will immediately be referred to the statutory authorities for consideration.

SIGNED : _____ Parent or Guardian DATED : _____

SIGNED : _____ Headteacher DATED : _____

For Office Use Only :

Granted Not Granted

Reason given : _____

Signed : _____ Dated : _____



YSGOL ARBERTH NARBERTH SCHOOL

APPLICATION FOR TERM TIME ABSENCE/CAIS AM ABSENOLDEB YN YSTOD TYMOR

Please note that the decision has been taken at Consortium level that all absences due to holidays and extended visits should not be authorised by any Head Teacher within the six Local Authorities in the South West and Mid Wales Consortium.

Pupil/s Personal Details :	Enw/Name	Dosbarth/Class
Manylion Personol Disgyblion :		
Name of Parent/Carer : Enw'r Rhiant/Gofalwr :		
Contact Number/s : Rhif/au Cysylltu :		
Reason for Term Time Absence : Rheswm am Absenoldeb Ystod Tymor :		
Place of visit : Lle'r Ymweliad :		
Date of Visit : Dyddiad yr Ymweliad :	From/O :	To/I :
Date of Absence for Pupil/s : Dyddiadau Absenoldeb Disgybl/ion :	From/O :	To/I :
Date pupil/s will return to School : Dyddiad bydd y disgybl/ion yn dychwelyd i'r Ysgol :		
Contact details (Name, address and contact number of a relative or friend who we can make contact with if you do not return on the stated date) Manylion Cyswllt (Enw, cyfeiriad a rhif cyswllt perthynas neu ffrind y gallwn cysylltu a os na fyddwch yn dychwelyd ar y dyddiad penodig)		

PLEASE TURN OVER...

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

Eitem 3.14

P-05-694 – Amseroedd Ysgol Awr yn Hwyrach

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Cai Ellerton ar ôl casglu 16 llofnod.

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Rwyf yn ysgrifennu i ofyn ichi ystyried fy neiseb. Fel mae rhieni, athrawon a myfyrwyr/disgyblion yn gwybod, mae ysgolion cynradd yn dechrau am 08:45 ac mae ysgolion uwchradd yn dechrau am 08:30. Hoffwn i ysgolion ddechrau awr yn hwyrach yn y bore, sy'n golygu y byddai ysgolion cynradd yn dechrau am 09:45 ac ysgolion uwchradd yn dechrau am am 09:30.

Mae prawf yn Lloegr wedi dangos bod myfyrwyr yn sicrhau gwell canlyniadau arholiad os yw ysgol yn dechrau awr yn hwyrach.

Diolch ichi am ystyried y cais hwn.

Cai Ellerton, 13.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad

- Bro Morgannwg
- Canol De Cymru

P-05-694 School Times an Hour Later – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 04.04.17

Dear Petitions Committee,

I would like my petition to be given as a recommendation to schools across Wales, as I think that it is vital for young people to have both a longer sleep and a chance to properly wake up in the morning.

The Teenage years are a crucial time for everyone's education and I believe that the schools that follow my proposed recommendation would show improved exam results from previous years.

Thank you very much,

Cai Ellerton, 14

Eitem 3.15

P-05-707 – Rhaid i Hyfforddiant Athrawon Gynnwys Hyfforddiant Statudol ar Awtistiaeth

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Tim Thomas ar ôl casglu 313 llofnod.

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Un o'r prif bryderon ar gyfer pobl sy'n gofalu am bobl ag Awtistiaeth yw'r diffyg dealltwriaeth gan athrawon ac eraill sy'n gweithio yn y proffesiwn addysg.

Tra bod addysgu yng Nghymru o ansawdd uchel, gellid gwneud gwelliannau o ran codi ymwybyddiaeth o Awtistiaeth, yn enwedig o ystyried pa mor gyffredin mae wedi dod yn y gymdeithas. Cynigir, fel rhan o'r adolygiad hyfforddi athrawon Saesneg, bydd Anghenion Addysgol Arbennig, gan gynnwys Awtistiaeth yn rhan allweddol o hyfforddiant athrawon yn Lloegr. Rhaid i'r adolygiad o

Addysg Gychwynnol Athrawon yng Nghymru sicrhau bod athrawon yn cael hyfforddiant penodol a statudol o ran cefnogi pobl ag Awtistiaeth fewn amgylchedd yr ysgol.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad

- Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr
- Gorllewin De Cymru

**P-05-707 Teacher Training must Include Statutory Training in Autism –
Correspondence from the National Autistic Society to the Chair, 17.01.17**



Dear Mike,

RE: P-05-705 Teachers' training must include statutory training in autism

Please find enclosed a submission to the National Assembly for Wales' Petitions Committee outlining the National Autistic Society Cymru's position on initial teacher training in Wales.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this discussion and please do let me know if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

Meleri Thomas

Meleri Thomas
External Affairs Manager

**P-05-707 Teacher Training must Include Statutory Training in Autism –
Correspondence from the National Autistic Society to the Chair, 17.01.17**

P-05-707 Teachers' Training Must Include Statutory Training in Autism

**Submission to the National Assembly for Wales' Petitions Committee from The
National Autistic Society Cymru 17 January 2017**

Background

According to the Welsh Government, more than 5,300 autistic pupils were supported in mainstream schools either through School Action, School Action Plus or a Statement of Educational Need in 2016. This represents an increase of 254 per cent in the number of autistic children in maintained schools in Wales since 2003.

The vast majority of autistic pupils are in mainstream education rather than in specialist provision and so all teachers should expect to teach autistic children during their career. This means that all school staff who come into contact with, or make decisions about autistic pupils would benefit from an understanding of the condition.

We note that in England the UK Government has already confirmed that from September 2018 every new teacher will have to learn about the needs of autistic children and young people as part of their teacher training programme. We welcome this development in England.

The Welsh Government is currently transforming its autism provision through its new integrated autism service and its Additional Learning Needs reform. The National Autistic Society Cymru believes therefore that it is timely to consider including autism as a specific component of Initial Teacher Training and would strongly support such initiatives in Wales.

Why autism should be included within Initial Teacher Training

The first step in improving the educational experience and outcomes of autistic children is to improve the training that teachers receive. Autism should be included as a specific component within Initial Teacher Training courses for the following reasons:

- Autism is a common condition affecting one in one hundred pupils. This means that every teacher is likely to have an autistic child in their class

P-05-707 Teacher Training must Include Statutory Training in Autism – Correspondence from the National Autistic Society to the Chair, 17.01.17

during their career, and probably several.¹ There are more than 5,300 school-aged children with autism in Wales receiving additional support because of their autism, with the vast majority educated in mainstream schools;

- Understanding the reasons why children may respond in particular ways to particular situations, and knowing what to do to help, results in better outcomes for those children. Children with autism may need adjustments to be made to the classroom environment to enable them to focus on their learning.² Teachers should be provided with the right help to be able to make those adjustments for children with autism;
- Being taught in an environment in which autism is understood benefits not just children with autism but also their classmates, by helping everyone be more aware of each other's needs, offering a wider range of learning materials and reducing the risk of potentially disruptive behaviour;
- Strategies that are good practice in supporting children with autism are also good practice for children with various other special educational needs; and
- It is not uncommon for autistic children to develop mental health problems and fall behind both socially and academically if they are not adequately supported at school. In Wales, only one in five (21 per cent) of autistic pupils were achieving expected outcomes in Foundation Phase Indicator Assessments in 2015.

Benefits for newly qualified teachers

NAS Cymru believes that trainee teachers need an introduction to two things in relation to learners with additional learning needs (ALN):

- The personal attitudes, values, knowledge and skills that are required to enable them to support inclusion and diversity in their classroom; and
- The specific characteristics of the most commonly occurring conditions that their students are likely to have, including autism. In particular, they need to understand that disabilities such as autism can be 'hidden', with the result that children may have significant needs that are overlooked, because they 'don't look disabled'.

While a broad understanding of ALN is essential, this should not remain overly generalised, as this will not necessarily be effective in addressing the unique

¹ Baird, G. et al (2006), *Prevalence of disorders of the autism spectrum in a population cohort of children in South Thames: the Special Needs and Autism project (SNAP)*, *The Lancet*, 368 (9531), pp. 210-215.

² The National Autistic Society (2011), *Great expectations*.

P-05-707 Teacher Training must Include Statutory Training in Autism – Correspondence from the National Autistic Society to the Chair, 17.01.17

challenges of teaching autistic pupils. Initial Teacher Training courses should begin the process of equipping new teachers to meet the individual needs of every child, and to give them the knowledge and tools to provide the best possible support to autistic students. This should be backed up by continuing professional development throughout teachers' careers. The training they receive should:

- Prepare new teachers for the situations they are most likely to experience in the classroom;
- Offer a way of thinking about meeting the needs of children with autism for their career ahead, recognising that children on the autism spectrum think and learn differently and are often affected by severe anxiety; and
- Focus on treating children as individuals and overcoming specific barriers to learning,

This training should be put in place regardless of training route, whether as part of a traditional college or university-based course or via a schools-based route.

What autistic children and their families currently experience at school

Our recent Act Now survey showed that of those who responded over a quarter of parents or carers (27 per cent) of autistic pupils currently in primary school are not satisfied with their teachers' understanding of autism.

Parents also report having to fight to get the right help for their child in school. Recent statistics from the Special Educational Needs Tribunal Wales (SENTW) showed that families with autistic go to Tribunal more often than families with any other special educational need. In 2013-14, more than a third (35 per cent) of all SENTW hearings involved families with autistic children. A better trained workforce – of which Initial Teacher Training will be one part – would help ensure that teachers are better equipped to support autistic children. If autistic children receive better support at school this could improve their outcomes and potentially reduce the need for families to go to Tribunal.

P-05-735- Gwneud y cyfnod sylfaen yn fwy effeithiol ar gyfer ein plant, darparu mwy o athrawon a dileu y TASau blwyddyn 2.

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Tamsin Osborne ar ôl casglu 14 llofnod.

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Hoffwn i Gynulliad Cymru roi'r gorau i siomi ein plant yn y Cyfnod Sylfaen.

Dylai ddilyn esiampl systemau addysg mwyaf llwyddiannus Ewrop, fel yn y Ffindir a Sgandinafia.

Dylai ddarparu hyfforddiant a chyllid i ysgolion ar gyfer sicrhau cymarebau priodol rhwng athrawon a phlant, er mwyn cyflawni addysgeg y Cyfnod Sylfaen yn effeithiol.

Galwaf am ddiddymu'r TASau, sef y profion gwladol, yn y Cyfnod Sylfaen. Yn syml, nid ydynt yn cyfateb ag ethos y Cyfnod Sylfaen.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol

Rydym wrth ein bodd gydag ethos y cyfnod sylfaen. Mae ymagwedd y Cynulliad yn chwa o awyr iach, ac yn unol â sawl darn o waith ymchwil sy'n cefnogi chwarae a arweinir gan blant hyd at saith oed. Fodd bynnag, mae'n anffodus bod addysgeg y cyfnod sylfaen yn cael ei cholli mewn llawer o ysgolion ledled Cymru. Mae hyn oherwydd diffyg hyfforddiant mewn darpariaeth chwarae yn y blynyddoedd cynnar; hyd yn oed pe bai gan yr athro yr hyfforddiant, yr angerdd a'r ddealltwriaeth i ddarparu addysgeg y cyfnod sylfaen, mae'r cymarebau rhwng yr athrawon a'r plant yn ei gwneud bron yn amhosibl. Sut y gall unrhyw athro ddilyn plentyn wrth iddo chwarae pan mae hyd at 30 o blant yn y dosbarth hwnnw, gyda dim ond un cynorthwy-ydd addysgu i gefnogi pob un o'r plant hynny wrth iddynt chwarae, darganfod a dysgu?

Nid ydym yn credu bod gan y TASau, sef y profion gwladol, unrhyw le yn y cyfnod sylfaen yng Nghymru. Mae'r cyfnod sylfaen yn ymwneud â chefnogi plant wrth iddynt chwarae:

I ddatblygu sgiliau echddygol bras drwy symud,
I ddatblygu sgiliau echddygol mân sy'n angenrheidiol ar gyfer ysgrifennu,
I gymryd risgiau a dysgu cyfrifoldeb,
I roi'r amser sydd ei angen arnynt i ddatblygu blociau adeiladu solid ar gyfer iaith a rhifedd,
I gael cyfleoedd i edrych yn ôl a dysgu yn ôl angen/dewis y plentyn hefyd,
I ddatblygu'r sgiliau i gael mynediad a darganfod eu hunain,
I ddysgu sgiliau cymdeithasol allweddol gyda'u cyfoedion ac oedolion,

Mae hwn yn ddull sydd wedi'i brofi er mwyn paratoi plant yn barod ar gyfer addysg gynradd yn saith oed. Dyma sut mae systemau addysg mwyaf llwyddiannus Ewrop yn gwneud pethau, ond mae disgwyl i blant chwech a saith oed ym mlwyddyn dau eistedd ac ysgrifennu mewn profion i gymharu ein plant â'r rhai yn Lloegr. Mae hyn yn gorfodi athrawon yn y Cyfnod Sylfaen i ddechrau dysgu seineg a rhifau i'n plant pan fyddant yn dechrau yn y Dosbarth Derbyn ac erbyn blwyddyn un bydd disgwyl iddynt eistedd ac ysgrifennu, gan eu gwneud yn barod ar gyfer y profion hynny sydd yn adlewyrchu ar yr ysgol.

Mae ein plant yn cael eu hamddifadu o'u plentyndod, plant sy'n dechrau yn yr ysgol yn ddim ond pedair oed yng Nghymru, sydd wedyn yn cael eu gorfodi i mewn i'r system hon, chwe awr y dydd o ddysgu dwys yn yr ystafell ddosbarth. Nid dyma ethos blaengar y Cyfnod Sylfaen y gwnaeth Cynulliad Cymru ei roi ar waith yn 2010. Rwy'n eich annog i gyd i ystyried effeithiolrwydd y Cyfnod Sylfaen ledled Cymru, gan ddarparu'r cyllid sydd ei angen i gael mwy o gynorthwyr dysgu a hyfforddiant i ymarferwyr y Cyfnod Sylfaen, fel y gall Addysg Gynradd Cymru fod yn un y gall Llywodraeth Cymru fod yn falch ohono, a ddarperir yn eithriadol ym MHOB ysgol ledled Cymru. Dylai pob plentyn yng Nghymru gael mynediad teg i chwarae cynhyrchiol, gan baratoi'r ffordd iddynt gael taith dysgu gadarnhaol a gwobrwyol.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad

- De Caerdydd a Phenarth
- Canol De Cymru

Research Briefing:

Petition number: P-05-735

Petition title: **Make Foundation Phase more Effective for our Children, Provide more Teachers and Abolish Year 2 SATs.**

Petition text:

I would like the Welsh Assembly to stop letting our children down in the Foundation Phase. To follow the lead of the most successful education systems in Europe, such as Finland and throughout Scandinavia.

To provide schools with training and funding for appropriate child teacher ratios, to enable the effective delivery of the Foundation Phase pedagogy.

I call for the abolishment of Nationalised tests, SATS, in the Foundation Phase. They simply do not correspond with the Foundation Phase ethos.

We love the ethos of the Foundation Phase, the approach Welsh Assembly have taken is refreshing, and in line with the heaps of research that supports child-led play up to the age of seven. However, it is unfortunate, that the ethos of the Foundation Phase is lost in many schools across Wales. This is because of a lack of training in early years play provision; even if the teacher had the training, passion and knowledge to deliver the Foundation Phase pedagogy, the ratios of teachers to child makes it near impossible. How can any teacher follow a child's lead in play when there are up to 30 children in that class, with only one TA to support all of those children as they play, discover and learn?

We do not believe that nationalised tests, SATS, have any place in the Welsh foundation phase. The foundation phase is about supporting children in their Play: To develop gross motor skills through movement,

To develop finer motor skills needed for writing,

To take risks and learn responsibility,

To give them the time they need to develop solid building blocks for language and numeracy,

To have opportunities to revisit and learn as and when a child needs/chooses too,

To develop the skills to self access and discover,

To learn key social skills with their peers and adults.

This is a proven approach to fully prepare children ready for primary education at the age of seven. This is how Europe's most successful education systems do it, yet children of six and seven years old in year two are expected to sit and write in tests to compare our children to those in England. This forces teachers in the Foundation Phase to start drilling phonetics and numbers into our children when they start Reception and by Year-one to be expected to sit read and write, "readying" them for these tests which reflect on the on the school. Our children are being robbed of their childhoods, children who are starting school at just turned four years old in Wales, who are then forced into this system, six hours a day of classroom drilling. This is not the progressive foundation phase ethos that Welsh assembly put into play in 2006. I urge you all to consider the effectiveness of the foundation phase across Wales, with some more TAs and training we can become productive early years practitioners paving the way for all children in Wales to have positive, rewarding, Learning Journeys

At its meeting on 14 February 2017, the Committee considered this petition and asked for some information on the pupil to teacher ratios in Scandinavian countries.

The OECD publication, [*Education at a Glance 2016*](#), provides some data on early childhood education staff ratios. Early childhood education: Refers to programmes with an intentional education component aimed at developing cognitive, physical and socio-emotional skills for participation in school and society. They are grouped into two categories:

- ISCED (International Standard Classification of Education) 010, early childhood educational development – programmes designed for younger children (between the ages of 0 and 2);
- ISCED 020, pre-primary – programmes designed for children from the age of 3 to the start of primary education (ISCED level 1).

The data in Table 1 is extracted from Education at a Glance and shows data for ISCED levels 01 and 02 for pupil to contact staff (teachers and teachers' aides) and pupil to teachers.

The figures should be interpreted with some caution because the indicator compares the teacher/student ratios in countries with 'education-only' and 'integrated education and daycare' programmes. In some countries, the staff requirements in these two types of provision are very different. A variety of job roles exist within the early childhood and education sector, and any classification of staff is problematical particularly when comparing across countries.

Table 1: Pupil to staff ratios in early years in selected countries, 2014

	<u>ISCED 01</u>		<u>ISCED 02</u>	
	Pupils to contact staff	Pupils to teaching staff	Pupils to contact staff	Pupils to teaching staff
Denmark	4	12	6	10
Finland	-	-	-	10
Sweden	5	5	6	6

Source: OECD, Education at a Glance 2016

Every effort is made to ensure that the information contained in this briefing is correct at the time of publication. Readers should be aware that these briefings are not necessarily updated or otherwise amended to reflect subsequent changes.

P-04-594 Apêl Cyngor Cymuned Cilmeri ynghylch y Gofeb i'r Tywysog Llywelyn

Manylion:

Oherwydd pwysigrwydd cenedlaethol Cofeb y Tywysog Llywelyn, mae cymuned Cilmeri yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i:

- Godi arwyddion brown at y gofeb â delwedd o faes brwydr arnynt ar yr A483 ar y ddwy brif ffordd sy'n mynd i mewn i'r pentref er mwyn dynodi arwyddocâd hanesyddol ein pentref;
- Gweithio mewn partneriaeth gyda Chyngor Sir Powys, Cyngor Cymuned Cilmeri a Cadw i helpu â gwaith cynnal a chadw'r gofeb enwog, er mwyn i ymwelwyr allu mwynhau ein safle sydd o arwyddocâd cenedlaethol a hanesyddol mewn amgylchedd diogel a phriodol;
- Helpu i ddod o hyd i adnoddau i weithredu, gam wrth gam, Cynllun Dehongli Lloyd Brown (Ionawr 2013) a gomisiynwyd gan Cadw.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:

Mae'r cynllun dehongli yn rhoi sylw i'r ffaith mai Llywelyn oedd Tywysog brodorol olaf Cymru i farw ar faes y gad, gan nodi diwedd llinach bwerus Gwynedd, a oedd yn bwysig wrth feithrin ymdeimlad o genedligrwydd a hunaniaeth Gymreig.

Prif ddeisebydd: Apêl Cyngor Cymuned Cilmeri

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

Nifer y llofnodion: 305

P-04-594 Cilmeri Community Council Appeal for The Prince Llywelyn Monument – Correspondence from Powys County Council to the Committee, 10.04.17

Dear Ms Driscoll,

Thank you for your e-mail.

Powys County Council (PCC) undertook to work with CADW to provide an improved visitor experience at the Prince Llywelyn Monument, Cilmeri. In line with the report and available funding at the time a number of specific items from the plan were implemented. These items included; a new well cover (image attached) to provide improved access to the well head and additionally, the installation of a number of interpretation panels around the site to enhance visitor knowledge.

Unfortunately, due to funding restrictions on both the part of CADW and the PCC managing service further access improvements were not undertaken in line with the design proposal. The site remains an important visitor attraction for the area but funding restrictions will continue to prevent further improvements to the site. PCC will support the free transfer of the asset to the Community Council as this would enable the Community Council to access grants currently unavailable to PCC to improve the site.

Yours sincerely

Barry Thomas
Executive Leader
Powys County Council



Tudalen y pecyn 165

Eitem 3.18

P-05-692 – Adeiladu Cofeb Mamieithoedd Rhyngwladol ym Mae Caerdydd

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Mohammed Sarul Islam ar ôl casglu 16 llofnod.

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Rydym ni sydd wedi llofnodi isod yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i gymell Llywodraeth Cymru i adeiladu cofeb leithoedd Rhyngwladol ym Mae Caerdydd ar gyfer pawb sy'n caru mamieithoedd ledled y byd.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol

Cafodd plac ei osod gan Arglwydd Faer Caerdydd yn 2012 ym Mharc Grange Moor, Bae Caerdydd. Ond o ganlyniad i ddiffyg cyllid ni chafodd ei hadeiladu.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad

- Gorllewin Caerdydd
- Canol De Cymru

**P-05-692 Welsh Assembly to Build a International Mother languages
Monument at Cardiff Bay – Correspondence from the Petitioner to Chair
20.04.17**

FAO

The Chair,
Petition committee,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to write to you again. I am very disappointed to say that the Welsh government did managed to find 85k to pay for the bills for the barristers to fight against 53% of Welsh (brexit) voters' wishes at supreme court. However this is even more important for all Welsh communities for community cohesion and all kinds of diversity. Language is the Identity for a Nation and I am very shocked to see the minister write to me about how serious he is about community cohesion and linguistic diversity whereas no actions are taken from his desk.

Recently on the 21st February at a Dinner party at City Hall Cardiff the Leader of Assembly Jane Hutt AM, Julie Morgan AM and Lane Rathbone AM said in their speeches that Welsh Labour government will support financially to build this monument and this project will only cost around 81k to complete.

I therefore like to urge your committee to recommend this petition for the all members to discuss at the Senedd please.

Looking forward to hear from you.

Your sincerely,

Mohammed Sarul Islam
Joint Chair,
International Languages Monument Project Committee

Eitem 3.19

P-05-716 – Cludiant am Ddim ar y Trenau i Ddisgyblion Ysgol gyda Threnau Arriva Cymru

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Elin Tuckwood ar ôl casglu 637 llofnod ar wefan e- ddeiseb amgen.

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Yma yn y DU mae gennym hawl i addysg am ddim, felly oni ddylem gael cludiant diogel, am ddim yn ôl ac ymlaen i'r ysgol? Yr ateb i hyn yw 'dylem'. Am nifer o flynyddoedd mae Trenau Arriva Cymru wedi bod yn darparu cludiant am ddim ar y trenau i ddisgyblion Ysgol Gyfun Treorci, ac mae hyn yn fantais enfawr i'r rhai sy'n byw y tu allan i'r dalgylch. Fodd bynnag, mae hyn wedi newid yn ddiweddar ac maent bellach wedi galw ar bob disgybl i brynu tocyn trê'n i fynd yn ôl ac ymlaen i'r ysgol ac mae prisiau'r rhain yn amrywio rhwng £19.95 a £32.90 fesul tymor ysgol. Gall hyn fod yn gostus iawn i rai rhieni sydd â mwy nag 1 plentyn, ac nid yw'r ysgol yn gallu helpu rhieni gyda'r arian hwn oherwydd bod y tocynnau yn cael eu darparu drwy gwmni Trenau Arriva Cymru. Mae Trenau Arriva wedi dweud mai diogelwch yw'r rheswm am hyn, ond mae'r plant sydd â'r tocynnau trê'n dynodedig o flaen rhwystr metal "amddiffynnol" yn agosach at ymyl y platfform, a'r plant nad oes ganddynt docynnau yn y man caeedig bach o fewn y rhwystr hwn, gan achosi mwy o berygl mewn gwirionedd oherwydd bod lle mor fach yn orlawn. Trwy gael cludiant am ddim ar y trenau unwaith eto bydd pob disgybl yn gallu cael cyfle teg i gael addysg a bydd yn gallu mynd ymlaen i wneud yr hyn y mae'n dymuno'i gyflawni mewn bywyd. Byddwn i gyd yn cael ein trin yn gyfartal ac ni fydd arian yn bryder mawr i neb..

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad

**P-05-716 Free School Transport for all Children in Wales -
Correspondence from Arriva Trains Wales to the Committee**

Kayleigh Driscoll
Deputy Clerk – Petitions Committee
Chamber and Committee Service
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

24 April 2017

Dear Kayleigh

Thank you for enabling me the opportunity to respond to the Petition p-05-716 regarding free train transport for school pupils attending Treorchy Comprehensive school.

We have been very clear in all of our communication about the change from the previously free to a paid arrangement that we are having to manage platform safety differently due to an updated risk assessment. We introduced safety officers from our security contractor with pupils now being held behind barriers until the train has come to a stand in the platform. This operation has a cost and we are therefore bringing Treorchy School in line with all other schools on our network where scholar tickets are paid for.

It may be helpful if I remind readers of this response that in January 2007, a pupil of Treorchy School died as the result of impact with a train on Treorchy station. The pupil was looking in the opposite direction from where the train was approaching, wearing headphones and had moved very close to the platform edge leaning over the side. His head was hit by the arriving train, despite the train horn being sounded. That dreadful and tragic incident has remained with all of us and influences our regular engagement with schools on the importance of railway safety across our network.

Since that incident we have had a number of safety measures in place at Treorchy station based on the risk assessment. They have included educational sessions at the school on rail safety, trains approaching the platform at a reduced speed whilst sounding their horn, the retiming of the train to arrive earlier into the platform and a yellow line painted on the platform as a guide

to where to stand safely. British Transport Police (BTP) officers also regularly attended to review and monitor the situation along with review of the platform by our CCTV monitoring team. Despite all of those measures and with increased numbers using the train service, our employees and the British Transport Police raised new concerns of platform crowding and behaviour by pupils that pointed to a lack of awareness of the risks of being on an operational train platform. This required a further risk assessment as a matter of urgency. The results of that risk assessment warranted immediate action and we arranged for security staff to be present to ensure pupils remained behind the yellow line until the train was at a stand. That has made an enormous difference and reassured me that this was an important course of action to have taken.

The CCTV images below come from footage taken on a typical day after school. In the moving images, pupils can be seen touching the side of the train as it approaches and are exceptionally close to the moving train and platform edge.



The educational season ticket arrangement brings Treorchy School in line with all other schools on our network and has also been successful in spreading the modal shift, particularly as RCT Council continues to provide free bus travel for pupils within the catchment area.

The petitioner asks Arriva Trains Wales to maintain free school transport for the following reasons (in black) with our responses to the point made in bold:

1. Buses are limited, so train represents the best travel option for many although it is only the bus service that is provided for free

We had seen pupil numbers grow enormously over the years of the free arrangement. We re-iterate that the introduction of the paid season ticket is a consequence of the updated risk assessment and the requirement to staff the platform to manage pupil safety. The introduction and images above set that point out in more detail.

2. Pupils that have to buy tickets often miss trains due to the queue at the ticket office

We have tried to make this process as easy as possible by offering the scholar season ticket which is a discounted product and eliminates any queue time at the ticket office. Putting an educational season ticket arrangement into place brings Treorchy School in line with all other schools.

3. The good name of the school draws in pupils from a wider catchment area

We are proud of our longstanding relationship with Treorchy School and our actions are solely about ensuring pupil safety at Treorchy station. We have a very positive and constructive relationship with the school which continues to this day. The school understands the rationale for our decision and has valued the free travel arrangement which they recognise has been an exceptional benefit for a number of years.

4. Some trains are only two carriages

Passenger counts taken by conductors shape train formations used on specific schedules on the ATW network. The key train that leaves Treorchy after school is always a 4 car train, unless there are exceptional operational issues that have made that impossible to deliver. However, it's important to remind the petitioner that our key safety concern has been on the platform rather than on the train

5. The barriers put pupils closer to the platform edge

Pupils are not able to get to the platform edge until the train has come to a stand in the platform. The introduction of this additional safety measure ensures pupil safety from the previous issues we had seen of pupils close to and touching the train on its approach into the platform

6. Perception that safety has got worse as pupils are standing on the trains

I can assure the petitioner that our safety specialists are reassured that the key safety risk was that of the interface with the train at the platform edge. This has been satisfactorily mitigated through our actions. Safety on board remains high, even when trains are busy with people standing. Trains are built to robust industry standards that ensure this situation.

7. The cost of the tickets should be spent on improving safety

That is exactly what the cost of the ticket is contributing to – the costs of stewarding and barriers

8. The cost of the ticket is expensive, even with a 55% discount

The discount makes the ticket as affordable as we can make it. In addition we have given a commitment to the school that pupils in receipt of free school meals will continue to receive a free travel ticket and a number of pupils are taking advantage of that offer

9. As stated in petition ‘because the passes are provided through ATW, the school is unable to help parents with the funding’

If the school wishes to support parents with the funding of season tickets, we would facilitate a way to make that happen

I do hope that my responses enable the petitioner to understand the rationale for our decision and I will be happy to clarify or provide any further information as required.

Yours sincerely

Lynne Milligan
Customer Services Director

Camera 4 : Camera Post 2 - 22/04/2015 15:16:59



Camera 2 : Help Point - 22/04/2015 15:16:59



Camera 6 : Shelter - 22/04/2015 15:16:59



Camera 5 : Platform - 22/04/2015 15:16:59



22-Apr-15

22-Apr-15



P-05-716 Free Train Transport for school pupils with Arriva Trains Wales – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 02.05.17

To whom it may concern,

In response to the correspondence received I still stand by the view that the safety issue was not the main priority of Arriva Trains Wales and the reason why they chose to start to charge Treorchy pupils for these transport services, even though the company claim that these barriers are safer to pupils, I have witnessed first-hand the Arriva staff pushing these barriers into pupils further enclosing them into the already claustrophobic space a 'precaution' I fail to believe is for safety reasons only.

When asked the question about why bus transport is free and not train transport which is the only means of transport to and from school for many pupils out of the catchment area they have labelled it as a "consequence" yet by charging pupils over £60 per term for these passes I don't see why pupils should suffer because Arriva need to employ more staff. I have witnessed that pupils that have to buy their tickets from the ticket office are being prevented from boarding the train due to the time it takes to dispatch these tickets and the staff are physically bordering and preventing these pupils from boarding the train which I don't think is fair because majority of pupils are unable to pay the price of the season ticket that Arriva want. Even though Arriva repeatedly mention how this money contributes towards the safety of the pupils I have not yet seen the effect of this money being put towards this, if anything the barriers that are put up on the platform are even more restricting and to reiterate the staff push these barriers in towards pupils which causes the area to be very restricted and tight which contradicts the 'safety' that Arriva repeatedly say charging pupils contributes towards.

Arriva have stated that this discounted ticket price is affordable yet the price of these tickets are increasing per term seeing them going from around £52 to £60 which I cannot see the reason for the inflation in prices as there has not been more staff employed nor any safety implications installed. I have witnessed when standing on the platform that members of the public are repeatedly asking Arriva why they have used such a small enclosure for pupils and have raised concerns about it not being very safe and Arriva respond with very little answers or explanation and often say that it's because of the behaviour of pupils which in my opinion behaviour on the train platform has only increased since the barriers were installed as pupils become very agitated and anxious in such a small enclosure.

To conclude I still stand by my original response to the issue and hope that Arriva Trains Wales take into consideration my views and opinions on the charging of school pupils.

Yours sincerely, Elin Tuckwood

Eitem 3.20

P-05-720- Deiseb Cyngor Cymuned Hirwaun a Phenderyn i Osod Band Eang opteg Ffibr yn y Pentref.

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Cllr James Campell ar ôl casglu 166 llofnod bapur.

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Rydym ni, trigolion Penderyn, wedi llofnodi'r ddeiseb isod i fynegi'n dymuniad i gael band eang opteg ffibr yn ein pentref. Byddai'r gwasanaeth hwn yn trawsnewid ein cymuned, yn ein helpu ni fel defnyddwyr i ddefnyddio'r rhyngwyd yn gymdeithasol yn ogystal â'r rhai sy'n gweithio yn y pentref naill ai mewn busnesau lleol neu sy'n gweithio gartref.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad

- Cwm Cynon
- Canol De Cymru

P-05-720 Hirwaun and Penderyn Community Council Petition for the Installation of Fibre Optic Broadband – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 25.04.17

Dear Kayleigh,

Thank you for your email and I apologise to you and the committee for the delay in my reply.

I must express how disappointed I am in the response received by Julie James AM and the reasons given for the lack of Fibre Optic Broadband in the village of Penderyn.

Firstly, I note in her response that the number of signatories was 163 – This is incorrect as the number of signatories gained on this petition was actually over 350 – An overwhelming response that shows how much interest there is in having use of this facility.

I note that there is also mention that work will be undertaken to install Fibre to the property (FTTP) and this was scheduled to start this spring. I was made aware of Email correspondence between a resident and BT where an email was received from Susi Marston (Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Manager – Super Fast Cymru – BT Group. Stadium House, Cardiff) where she stated "FTTP will be installed and estimated build work will be completed by the end of April (2017) and 6–8 weeks after this before customers can place an order".

FTTP is only going to service an extremely small proportion of the village, all of these being located in the Southern part. The petition started for the installation was completed by more than 350 people located in the Northern part of the village and this will not come as good news.

It appears from the response by Julie James AM that the only suggested way for the majority of Penderyn to benefit from Fibre Optic Broadband is to look at the Access Broadband Cymru (ABC) Scheme. I find this very disappointing as it would appear that all neighbouring areas to Penderyn do not have the struggle in gaining Fibre Optic Broadband and have been able to take advantage of this now every day technology simply by being in the right postcode.

Since our last correspondence I have also met with Vikki Howells AM Cynon Valley on this matter due to her involvement with Hirwaun and Penderyn Community Council. I have copied her in for her information.

Kind Regards,

James

P-05-721 – Deiseb Terfyn Cyflymder Penegoes

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Isabel Bottoms, Peter Bottoms and Sarah Holgate ar ôl casglu 298 llofnod bapur.

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i gyflwyno terfyn cyflymder 30 milltir yr awr drwy bentref Penegoes (o arwydd pentref Penegoes o gyfeiriad Machynlleth, i ochr arall mynedfa newydd arfaethedig Maes Carafannau Maesperthi) ar yr A489 tuag at y Drenewydd; a therfyn cyflymder 40 milltir yr awr o Fachynlleth i Benegoes.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad

Sir Drefaldwyn

Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru



Ein cyf/Our ref KS/01231/17

Mike Hedges AM
Chair - Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales

government.committee.business@wales.gsi.gov.uk
SeneddPetitions@assembly.wales

20 April 2017

Dear

Mike,

Thank you for your letter of 28 March regarding an update on the outcome of discussions on the Penegoes Speed Limit Petition between the petitioner, Mr Bottoms, and my official.

I can confirm that my official, Mr Ed Burness, Network Management Division, contacted Mr Bottoms via email on 28 March to request a location map of the surveys he had undertaken by Gwynedd. Mr Bottoms responded with maps later that day along with further background information on the issues at the site.

Mr Bottoms and Mr Burness had a telephone conversation the following day and discussed what the Welsh Government will do with the data and what the community would ideally like done such as a reduced speed limit.

Mr Burness explained the background to setting speed limits. I have been informed that Mr Bottoms did not require any further response following his conversation with Mr Burness, however that he would make contact in the near future to seek a progress update.

I am pleased to confirm that our commitment is to include the site in the new Speed Limit Review commencing this summer 2017.

*Yours ever,
Ken*

Ken Skates AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi a'r Seilwaith
Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Gohebiaeth.Ken.Skates@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Ken.Skates@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

Tudalen y pecyn 180
We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

P-05-748 Bysiau Ysgol i Blant Ysgol

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Lynne Chick ar ôl casglu 1,239 llofnod – 502 ar bapur a 737 ar-lein.

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau y rhoddir blaenoriaeth i ddiogelwch pob plentyn wrth iddynt deithio yn ôl ac ymlaen i'r ysgol.

Rydym am gael bysiau ysgol penodedig â sedd a gwregys diogelwch i bob plentyn, fel y gall plant deithio yn ôl ac ymlaen i'r ysgol yn ddiogel, ac ni ddylai unrhyw blentyn gael ei orfodi i deithio ar fysiau cyhoeddus gorlawn. Mae'n rhaid rhoi blaenoriaeth i ddiogelwch plant.

Mae gan ein plant yr hawl i deimlo'n ddiogel. Gall bysiau cyhoeddus fynd yn orlawn. Nid oes gennym ddim syniad pwy allai fod yn teithio ar fws cyhoeddus. Bysiau at ddefnydd y cyhoedd yw bysiau cyhoeddus ac nid cludiant i'r ysgol. Nid ydym yn gofyn am wasanaeth di-dâl. Nid ydym yn gofyn am gael rhywbeth am ddim, dim ond tawelwch meddwl bod ein plant yn ddiogel pan fyddant yn teithio yn ôl ac ymlaen i'r ysgol. Rydym yn dysgu ein plant bod pobl ddieithr yn beryglus ac eto mae disgwyl i ni eu hanfon ar fws cyhoeddus yn llawn pobl ddieithr bob dydd.

Bu farw fy merch ar ôl iddi gael ei tharo gan fws cyhoeddus a ddefnyddiodd i deithio adref o'r ysgol. Rwy'n teimlo ei bod hi'n anochel y bydd rhiant arall yn wynebu'r un hunllef â mi os na wneir rhywbeth i sicrhau bod gan blant ddull diogel o deithio yn ôl ac ymlaen i'r ysgol.

Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol

Bydd llawer o bobl yn cofio fy merch Louise a'r ffordd ofnadwy y bu farw. I'r rhai nad ydynt yn cofio, roedd Louise yn 11 oed ac ond megis dechrau yn yr ysgol uwchradd. Roedd fy mhlant yn dibynnu ar fws cyhoeddus oherwydd y pellter i gyrraedd yr ysgol. Ar 19 Mawrth 2001, roeddwn i'n disgwyl i Louise ddod adref o Ysgol Uwchradd Cei Connah ar yr amser arferol, ond roedd y bws yn hwyr y diwrnod hwnnw. Dechreuais boeni, ac wrth i mi adael y tŷ gwelais ffrindiau Louise a ddywedodd wrthyf ei bod hi wedi cael ei tharo gan gerbyd. Rhedais at ben y stryd i weld fy merch brydferth yn ymladd am ei bywyd yn y ffordd, â phlant ysgol gofidus o'i hamgylch. Roeddwn i'n methu â deall beth oedd wedi digwydd. Yn y misoedd

wedyn, daeth i'r amlwg bod y bws yr oedd Louise yn teithio adref arno yn orlawn. Roedd oedolion yn sefyll yn siarad â'r gyrrwr. Soniwyd am wthio, a bod ei bag wedi'i ddal yn y drws neu yn yr olwyn, gan achosi iddi gael ei llusgo o dan y bws yr oedd hi newydd ddod oddi arno. Profwyd bod manau dall nad oedd modd eu gweld yn y drychau ac roedd hynny wedi cyfrannu at y ddamwain.

Yn dilyn penderfyniad i gau ysgol leol, Ysgol Uwchradd John Summers, mae llawer o rieni wedi siarad â mi am eu pryderon ynghylch diogelwch eu plant wrth deithio ar fysiau cyhoeddus yn ôl ac ymlaen i'r ysgol. Codwyd pwyntiau sydd wedi codi ofn arnaf, felly rwy'n arwain ymgyrch yn enw fy merch er mwyn sicrhau na fydd unrhyw blentyn yn cael ei orfodi i ddefnyddio bysiau trafnidiaeth gyhoeddus fel cludiant i'r ysgol.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad

- Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy
- Gogledd Cymru

**P-05-748 School Buses For School Children – Correspondence from the
Petitioner to the Committee, 20.04.17**

Good Morning,

Thanks for emailing me for clarification re: LouiseOldfield school bus campaign petition. I thought details had been explained in detail.

The petition goal is for School buses for school Children regardless of distance, the aim being a dedicated school bus so no members of the public can ride on with children, each child to have a seat rather than be expected to travel standing up on public transport buses, seat belts to each seat regardless of age, and of course drivers to be CRB checked. We do not expect the service to be free as nothing in life is free, the petition aim is for maximum child safety.

Dedicated school buses each child with a seat, seat belts pre child regardless of age, drivers would have to be checked unlike those driving some public buses, but like I said we don't expect children to travel for free, may be subsidised or a fair price.

I hope I have explained things a little clearer and look forward to hearing back from you.

Kind regards

Lynne

#SchoolBusesForSchoolChildren

Eitem 3.23

P-04-526 Gwnewch Senedd TV yn hygyrch i bobl fyddar

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i ddarparu gwasanaeth isdeitlo ac iaith arwyddion pan fydd dadleuon a thrafodion y Cynulliad yn cael eu darlledu ar y teledu, er mwyn i'r 300,000 o bobl sydd â byddardod a nam ar y clyw yng Nghymru ddilyn y broses ddemocrataidd fel pobl eraill.

Prif ddeisebydd: Mervyn James

Ysytirwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor: 21 Ionawr 2014

Nifer y llofnodion: 25

**P-04-526 Please make Senedd TV accessible to deaf people -
Correspondence between the Petitioner and the Clerk to the Committee,
28.04.17**

Hi

My e-mail/computer was changed and ISP replaced etc. Yes please consider the petition as written, I still feel deaf people do not have access to the workings of the Senedd, whilst we are aware some has gone online, all party areas like the sensory and deaf ones now appear to have folded in 2014/15, so I feel even more so now, there is a need to make certain meetings like the health areas far more accessible via video means and of course subtitled or captioned. The consensus in the hearing loss area of Wales which is made up of 300,000+ needs to have this access.

errata: I also contacted, the Senedd website area regarding utter confusion as regards to having a valid 'search' option we can use to update ourselves on issues relevant to our sector via the Senedd website, where we found at least 11 differing descriptions of hearing loss and deafness in the health area alone, there seemed no attempt to define which sector they were talking about. They were all listed as 'Deaf' which is allied to a cultural area, a minority of those with hearing loss in Wales. We pointed out this was at odds with the Senedd;'s own equality area as well, and by default had set up some 'hierarchy' by decibel loss or background. We also read the all-party committee on deaf issues attended by various charities in Wales, had to provide own support to follow, and, that grass roots people were not invited to attend.

Thank you for contacting me.

Petitioner

M E James

Dear Mr James

Thank you for getting back to me. I am glad that we have been able to make contact with you regarding your petition.

I will happily put your comments below to the Committee at their next meeting on 9 May. However, it would help us if we could clarify a couple of points so that I can ensure that the Committee Members fully understand the issues you are raising.

In relation to your first paragraph below, does your concern relate to Cross Party Groups – such as the one on Deaf Issues – or other Assembly business (for example plenary sessions or committees)? Clarity on this issue will help the Members to decide how they can take the petition forward.

In the second paragraph, are you referring to using the ‘Search’ function on the general Assembly website (www.assembly.wales) or somewhere else? If so, this might be difficult for the Committee to take forward because the search brings up a wide range of results from different parts of Assembly business and the references to ‘deaf’ or hearing loss will often be from contributions made by Assembly Members in debates or committees and not official publications or articles by the Assembly.

Please let me know if I have misunderstood either of your points.

Many thanks

Graeme

Graeme Francis

Clerk/Clerc

Petitions Committee/Pwyllgor Deisebau

Hi

Yes, primarily we were concerned at the total lack of access to the cross-party area on deafness and hearing loss, and other coverage of the assembly, which has 'in house' video coverage that isn't accessible either. Apart from being inaccessible, it lacks inclusion too, and appears to vanish altogether it never disseminated proceedings effectively either. I would have much preferred as this all-party committee was set up for us, if we had the coverage and access to it, we never did in reality, and we are in limbo at present as to who if anyone, is forwarding access concerns to the Senedd. I did contact several welsh AM's but they insisted they couldn't comment?

In part the difficulties to accessing the website, because we cannot use that website as an alternative to gaining information on our area. I contacted the web site people and they were not really helpful.

Hope this helps.

M E James

Eitem 3.24

P-05-726 – Rhoi Rhyddhad Ardrethi i Awdurdodau Lleol ar gyfer Cyfleusterau Hamdden a Diwylliannol

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Ryan Dansie, ar ôl casglu llofnodion

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Oherwydd y pwysau cynyddol ar gyllidebau, mae awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru yn ystyried creu ymddiriedolaethau elusennol i gymryd drosodd y gwaith o redeg gwasanaethau cyhoeddus fel llyfrgelloedd a chanolfannau hamdden.

Y brif fantais o drefniant o'r fath yw'r rhyddhad ardrethi y byddai gan elusen hawl i'w gael. Mae hyn gyfystyr â symud arian o'r gronfa ganolog o ardrethi annomestig ac i gyllideb yr awdurdodau. Nid oes unrhyw arian cyhoeddus yn cael ei arbed yn gyffredinol, er bod gorbenion sy'n gysylltiedig â sefydlu trefniadau o'r fath a all gynnwys gwneud taliadau i ymgynghorwyr preifat arbenigol.

Mae Cyngor Sir Penfro ar fin dechrau'r broses o greu elusen i gymryd drosodd y gwaith o redeg yr holl wasanaethau hamdden a diwylliannol yn y sir gyfan. Mae bron yn anochel y bydd awdurdodau lleol eraill yng Nghymru yn gwneud yr un peth er mwyn ymdrin â'r pwysau amhosibl ar eu cyllidebau eu hunain.

Rwy'n galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i newid y rheolau rhyddhad ardrethi fel bod yr holl gyfleusterau hamdden a diwylliannol a gaiff eu rhedeg gan awdurdodau lleol yn cael eu hystyried yn yr un modd ag elusen. Os na chaiff hyn ei wneud, collir yr incwm ardrethi busnes hwn o hyd drwy greu'r ymddiriedolaethau elusennol hyn, ond byddwn yn colli rheolaeth ar ein gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yn ddiangen yn y broses.

Dylid cael gwarded ar y cymhelliant diangen hwn i allanoli ein gwasanaethau hamdden a diwylliannol pwysig. Er nad oes unrhyw ddata ar gael ar hyn o bryd, gellir damcaniaethu y byddai'r gymhareb cost a budd ariannol a fyddai'n deillio o'r buddsoddiad hwn mewn seilwaith yn y rhanbarth yn gadarnhaol, ac rydym yn gobeithio y bydd y Llywodraeth o leiaf yn ystyried y cynnig hwn.

P-05-726 Give Rate Relief to Local Authorities for Leisure and Cultural Facilities – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 16.04.17

Hi Kayleigh,

This is my response to the letter from Mark Drakeford dated 12 Jan 2017 in ref to petition p-05-726.

With regards to the planned changes to the NDR system to support small businesses, this sounds like something I would fully support and I would agree that supporting small businesses should be a priority.

However I would also suggest that local authority funding should also be an immediate priority. It's quite concerning to see that improving the local government finance system is considered to be a long term goal, coming even lower in the priority list than making administrative improvements to the NDR system. It seems to me that local authority funding will reach crisis point within the next term of council for many authorities. Local authorities have already been forced to implement so many cuts and efficiencies over the last few years and some authorities are at the point where there is simply no more savings to be made without severely degrading essential services.

It is my strong view that short/medium term action is needed to alleviate the financial pressures on local authorities.

With regards to the specific terms of the petition, there is an inherent unfairness in providing rate relief to outsourced local authority services while charging full rates to exactly the same services which are run by the local authority. This effectively rewards local authorities for outsourcing while penalising local authorities who decide to keep services in house. To put it another way, council tax payers are paying a premium for the privilege of keeping public services run by the public sector. Additionally, as local authority funding pressures keep increasing it can be expected that more and more of them will choose the outsourcing option and therefore the loss of NDR income will come whether this suggested rate relief is implemented or not. The only difference is we will have unnecessarily have lost control of many of our services in the process.

I would urge members to consider the difficult position which local authorities are in right now and show a willingness to support them.

Regards,

Ryan Dansie

P-05-742 Peidiwch â Gadael i Forsythia Gau!

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Forsythia Youth Centre ar ôl casglu 74 llofnod. Mae'r ddeiseb wedi casglu 533 o lofnodion ar wefan e- ddeiseb arall.

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Mae Canolfan Ieuenctid Forsythia mewn perygl o gael ei chau oherwydd ansicrwydd ynghylch ei threfniadau cyllido gan raglen Llywodraeth Cymru, Cymunedau yn Gyntaf.

Mae Canolfan Ieuenctid Forsythia yn gwasanaethu pobl ifanc yn rhad ac am ddim, ac mae ar agor:

- 4 noson yr wythnos am 51 wythnos y flwyddyn;
- Yn ystod y dydd a'r nosweithiau drwy gydol gwyliau'r ysgol;
- Yn ystod y penwythnos os oes gwaith prosiect i'w gwblhau.

Mae gan Forsythia o leiaf 50 o bobl ifanc rhwng 11-20 oed yn bresennol bob nos yn ddi-ffael, a'r rheini o ardaloedd Y Gurnos, Galon Uchaf, Pant, Dowlais a Phen-y-Darren.

Heblaw am Ganolfan Ieuenctid Forsythia, ni fyddai gan bobl ifanc le diogel i fynd iddo o fewn eu cymuned, ac ni fyddai ganddynt yr unman arall i fynd iddo oherwydd nad oes digon o ddarpariaeth i bobl ifanc.

Mae Canolfan Ieuenctid Forsythia yn rhoi'r cyfle i bobl ifanc gymryd rhan mewn prosiectau ieuenctid megis 'Commit to quit' gydag Ash Cymru, prosiectau Erasmus+ ar 'Agweddau a Gwerthoedd Gwaith Ieuenctid', a'r 'prosiect Agenda' mewn partneriaeth â Phrifysgol Caerdydd.

Mae cyfle i'r bobl ifanc hefyd ddefnyddio sefydliadau megis Drug Aid Cymru a chymryd rhan mewn prosiectau Iechyd Rhywiol, rhaglenni Rhoi'r Gorau i Ysmygu, rhaglenni i gynyddu hyder a gwella iechyd meddwl, cânt ennill sgiliau a chymwysterau, a derbyn cymorth mewnol gan gan weithwyr ieuenctid cymwys.

Mae'r bobl ifanc a'r gweithwyr yn pryderu'n fawr am yr ansicrwydd ynghylch trefniadau cyllido Cymunedau yn Gyntaf oherwydd heb y cyllid hwn, bydd yn rhaid i Forsythia gau.

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau bod unrhyw newidiadau a gaiff eu gwneud i raglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn gwarchod Canolfan Ieuencid Forsythia rhag cael ei gau.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol

1. Mae'r bobl ifanc sydd wedi bod ynghlwm â Chanolfan Ieuencid Forsythia wedi bod yn rhan o ymgyrch i wella diogelwch yn y gymuned, gan lwyddo i gael croesfan sebra wedi'i gosod y tu allan i'r Ganolfan Ieuencid, goleuadau wedi'u gosod ar heolydd ger yr ysbyty, a chau'r hen danlwybr peryglus a oedd yn llawn o offer a ddefnyddir i gymryd cyffuriau.
2. Mae'r bobl ifanc yn mynd i ysgolion lleol ac i Goleg Merthyr Tudful i roi addysg ar roi'r gorau i ysmegu.
3. Cydweithiodd pobl ifanc Forsythia â'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol ym mhedwerydd tymor Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan gymryd rhan mewn cyfarfod grŵp ffocws gydag aelodau o'r Pwyllgor i drafod yr ymchwiliad newydd i Sylweddau Seicoweithredol.
4. Mae Canolfan Ieuencid Forsythia wedi ennill 18 o wobrwyon dros y 13 blynedd ddiwethaf yn lleol, yn genedlaethol ac yn rhyngwladol.
5. Mae pobl ifanc Forsythia wedi casglu 533 o lofnodion gan ddefnyddio [change.org](https://www.change.org) i hybu'r ddeiseb.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad

- Merthyr Tudful a Rhymni
- Dwyrain De Cymru

Carl Sargeant AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gymunedau a Phlant
Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref CS/00446/17

Mike Hedges AM
Chair - Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

government.committee.business@wales.gsi.gov.uk

April 2017

Dear Mike

Thank you for your letter of 15 March in which you request further information on the support available to successful schemes and projects currently being delivered through Communities First, along with information on Families First and Flying Start support.

In reaching the decision to phase out Communities First, I listened and considered very carefully the responses to the engagement exercise. There has been evidence of much success at individual level, and I pay tribute to the hard-working Communities First workforce and delivery partners for their role in this. However, Communities First has not had an impact on overall poverty levels in Wales, which remain stubbornly high. I, along with Welsh Government colleagues, will take forward a new all-Wales approach to deal with the root causes of poverty. There was widespread support, throughout the engagement, for this approach.

This approach will involve a Welsh Government-wide commitment to building Resilient Communities across Wales as well as supporting the wider Employability Plan. The Valleys taskforce, the North and South Wales Metros, promoting financial and digital inclusion, the Better Jobs closer to Home project and the new childcare offer are part of a significant cross-Government investment in our communities.

I have recognised however that there will be an impact of phasing out Communities First and to mitigate this, I announced that there would be a year-long transition period to March 2018, providing budgets at 70% of the 2016-17 allocation. From April 2018, there will be a £6m Legacy Fund to preserve some of the most effective projects from Communities First across Wales. I have also made available a £4m capital budget to help protect valuable community assets.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400
Gohebiaeth.Carl.Sargeant@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Carl.Sargeant@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

Tudalen y pecyn 193

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

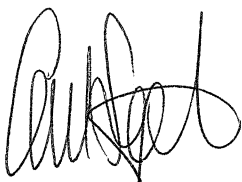
The new approach to building resilient communities will be a cross-government, all-Wales approach focused on helping people into work, giving children the best start in life, and ensuring people's voices are heard in the design of local services.

To support the delivery of one of my key priorities, employment, an additional £12m will be invested to support Communities for Work and Lift programmes and provide a community-based programme focussed on those furthest from the jobs market.

To address your questions about the support available from other programmes, unfortunately Flying Start is an Early Years programme and its funding would have no official role in supporting core sustainability of youth centres. With regard to Families First, delivery of the programme takes place at a local level and each local authority commissions services which respond to the identified needs of local populations. From April 2018 the strategic services commissioned through Families First will be refocused around parenting and support for young people, however, this does not mean that Families First funding could be used to support open access youth centres as part of this, as funding will need to be used to provide targeted support for young people.

All local authorities have a statutory duty to ensure all 11-25 year olds have access to the services they need to achieve their potential. In delivering services which support young people, Families First will be seeking to build on this core provision to ensure it can add value to services which are already available rather than funding it.

Yours sincerely



Carl Sargeant AC/AM

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gymunedau a Phlant
Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children

P-05-742 Stop Forsythia Closing! – Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 24.04.17

The situation at Forsythia has sadly got worse. Here is a bullet point update for you:

- All staff have been issued 'at risk of redundancy' letters
- Staff will be finishing at the end of June, with [the Manager] finishing at the end of July
- They have now lost 1 full time member of staff (37.5 hours per week), and 1 sessional member of staff (6 hours per week).

Some better news:

- They were nominated and won 1st place for the High Sheriff's Association of England and Wales' National Crimebeat Awards 206/17, and were presented their award in London.
- Have continuously achieved (and in most areas overachieved) their targets, and in one area, they have helped to get 12 young people into Full Time Employment as a direct result of their engagement with Forsythia.
- Have 248 young people attending the centre at least 3 nights a week.

Save x pass there x job
 Help x threat x many x dance
 we cant allow x time x help x shame x my
 brilliant x trouble x future x no fun x problems
 get lost x dedication x good retreat x their butts
 love x they moan x safe place x values x fight x my x thousand x keeps kids x fond x safe x passionate
 So sad x generations x it x hard work x flourish x open x family x get along! x for the kids x bullied
 Bored x Get rid x lot x we got children to grow x going x autism x gutted x friends x I x god send
 peers x other rubbish x rely x values x not fair x I'm sighing x amazing x grew up x are x love
 Bullied x I like youth club x them bond x memories x my granddaughter x second x awful
 Things that happens x first bunch x people morn x get along x my son x roads x end
 We love x job x comfort zone x my niece x know loads x things that happen x of
 Say what's about x there done x joy and hope x the streets x lovely x x the
 in life x stuff x they give us lots x engineer x o x Best x Merthyr x earth
 heart x power x not be x she looks forward x hanging x go here x
 breaking x real changes x meet x years to come x life x does
 stand x youngsters x breaking x out of x wild x better
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 thing x opportunity x harms
 second x judged x way
 home x loved
 x I am x

P-04-524 Rheolaeth Gynllunio a r Gymraeg

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym ni, y rhai sydd wedi llofnodi isod, yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, tra bydd yn ystyried y Bil Diwygio Cynllunio, i gynnwys darpariaeth i wneud y defnydd o arwyddion dwyieithog yn ofyniad cyfreithiol mewn amodau cynllunio ar gyfer pob adeilad newydd yng Nghymru y bydd y cyhoedd yn cael mynediad iddo, drwy dalu neu beidio.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol :

Dros hanner can mlynedd ar ôl i Gymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg ddechrau ar ei hymgyrch dros ddwyieithrwydd yng Nghymru, mae'r sector preifat yn parhau i fethu â chydymffurfio o bell ffordd. Mae angen deddfwriaeth er mwyn sicrhau bod y sector yn cydymffurfio â Pharagraff 13 o Nodyn Cyngor Technegol 20. Ni ddylai ymgyrchoedd unigol, fel yr ymgyrch Premier Inn, fod yn ofynnol oherwydd mae angen polisi cyffredinol sy'n trin y Gymraeg yn gyfartal yn y sector preifat

Prif ddeisebydd: Owain Arfon Jones

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

Nifer y llofnodion: 123

Eitem 3.27

P-04-559 Ymwybyddiaeth mewn Ysgolion Uwchradd o Hunan-niweidio

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i sefydlu rhagor o raglenni addysgol (yn benodol mewn Ysgolion Uwchradd) i leddfu camddealltwriaeth llawer o bobl o beth yw hunan-niweidio.

Mae hwn yn fater cynyddol ymysg pobl ifanc yng Nghymru ac, yn ôl arolwg gan y BBC, mae 43% o bobl yn adnabod rhywun sydd wedi hunan-niweidio. Yn yr un arolwg, cofnodwyd bod 41% o bobl yn credu bod hunan-niweidio yn weithred hunanol

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol: Oherwydd nifer digamsyniol yr achosion o hunan-niweidio ymysg pobl ifanc yn eu harddegau yng Nghymru, credaf y dylid hybu ymwybyddiaeth a hygyrchedd am y pwnc. Pam y dylai person ifanc ddiodef yn dawel? Dyna pam yr wyf yn credu y dylem ni, fel gwlad, ddarparu deunyddiau mwy sylweddol i ddiodefwr allu cael cymorth am ddim i frwydro yn erbyn hunan-niweidio.

Prif ddeisebydd: Eleanor Price

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

Nifer y llofnodion: 12

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon