-----Pecyn dogfennau cyhoeddus ------Pecyn dogfennau cyhoeddus

### Agenda - Y Pwyllgor Cydraddoldeb, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau

Lleoliad: I gael rhagor o wybodaeth cysylltwch a:

Ystafell Bwyllgora 2 - y Senedd **Naomi Stocks** 

Dyddiad: Dydd Mercher, 21 Mawrth Clerc y Pwyllgor 2018 0300 200 6565

Amser: 09.00 SeneddCymunedau@cynulliad.cymru

- Cyflwyniad, ymddiheuriadau, dirprwyon a datgan buddiannau 1
- 2 Papurau i'w nodi

(Tudalen 1)

2.1 Gwybodaeth ychwanegol gan Fyddin yr Iachawdwriaeth yn ymwneud â chysgu ar y stryd yng Nghymru

(Tudalennau 2 – 14)

2.2 Llythyr gan Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth yn ymwneud â gwneud i'r economi weithio i'r rheini sydd ag incwm isel

(Tudalennau 15 - 16)

2.3 Gohebiaeth gyda'r Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau yn ymwneud â gwneud i'r economi weithio i'r rheini sydd ag incwm isel

(Tudalennau 17 - 22)

- 3 Cynnig o dan Reol Sefydlog 17.42 (vi) i wahardd y cyhoedd o weddill y cyfarfod
- Ymchwiliad i gysgu ar y stryd yng Nghymru: trafod yr adroddiad 4 drafft

(09.00 - 10.30)

(Tudalennau 23 - 79)



# 5 Llythyr gan y Llywydd mewn perthynas ag adnoddau ar gyfer craffu ar Brexit

(10.30 - 10.35) (Tudalennau 80 - 85)

6 Llythyr drafft at y Prif Weinidog ynghylch hawliau dynol yng Nghymru

(10.35 – 10.45) (Tudalennau 86 – 90)

Bydd y Pwyllgor yn cynnal grwpiau ffocws anffurfiol o 11.00 i lywio ei waith ar feichiogrwydd, mamolaeth a gwaith.

## Eitem 2

### Y Pwyllgor Cydraddoldeb, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau

### 21 Mawrth 2018 - clawr papurau i'w nodi

Rhif y papur Mater		Oddi wrth	Gweithrediad	
ELGC(5)-10-18 Ymchwiliad i		Byddin yr	Gwybodaeth	
Papur 1	Papur 1 gysgu ar y stryd		Ychwanegol yn	
	yng Nghymru		dilyn y cyfarfod	
			ar 8 Chwefror	
			2018	
ELGC(5)-10-18	Ymchwiliad i	Ysgrifennydd y	Gwybodaeth	
Papur 2	dlodi yng	Cabinet dros yr	Ychwanegol yn	
	Nghymru:	Economi a	dilyn y cyfarfod	
	gwneud i'r	Thrafnidiaeth	ar 25 Ionawr	
	economi weithio		2018	
	i'r rheini sydd ag			
	incwm isel			
ELGC(5)-10-18	Ymchwiliad i	Gohebiaeth	Ymateb i lythyr y	
Papur 3	dlodi yng	rhwng y	Cadeirydd,	
	Nghymru:	Cadeirydd a'r	dyddiad 11	
	gwneud i'r	Adran Gwaith a	Hydref 2017	
	economi weithio	Phensiynau yn		
	i'r rheini sydd ag	ymwneud â		
	incwm isel	gwneud i'r		
		economi weithio		
		i'r rheini sydd ag		
		incwm isel		

### Case Study Preformat

Title of the case study/ Project Name: Reconnection 1/12/17					
MN – Successful Reconnection to LA					
Key contact: Name, Job Title, Name, Email Address and Telephone Number					

### What did you do?

### Provide a brief outline/overview of an individual case study (detail the background and what the intervention was)

- MN was referred to the Reconnection Service after it was established that he had no local connection to Cardiff.
- We carried out an assessment of individual need and risk, where his housing history was ascertained.
- It became evident that his local connection was in Bridgend where he had been living with his mother.
- Reconnection Team worked with MN to establish his background history and it quickly became
  evident that he had left due to unresolved differences with his mother, where she issued him with
  an eviction order.
- We established that MN departed his mother's property on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2017 and made his way to the City of Cardiff.
- We further liaised with **Bridgend Council (Homeless Team)** to ascertain whether MN had presented to them and to get an accurate address history to date.
- It transpired that MN had received a housing assessment, but this was closed as he had taken up residence with his mother.
- MN was advised he was referred to us in Reconnection for help and support, he can make the
  choice to return to his local authority and we would support him to establish contact and a travel
  warrant.

MN opted to return to his local authority.

#### What resources were used?

Provide a brief outline/overview of financial, staff, partnership, in-kind resources required to undertake the project

- MN Supported to access a food parcel from the Huggard Kitchen for his journey back to Bridgend as he hadn't eaten and stated he was hungry.
- MN supported by reconnection staff by offering light snack and hot drink. Whilst he was being assessed.
- Reconnection staff supported MN to the train station to collect his tickets and direct him to the appropriate platform.
- Reconnection liaised with HANR Outreach team for a "travel warrant", enabling MN to return to Bridgend.
- MN was supported to complete a "feedback questionnaire" for the reconnection team.

Joint working with any other agencies etc

- Reconnection team supported MN to contact **Bridgend Council** to ascertain information in relation to his housing situation / address history.
- MN Supported to access a food parcel from the Huggard Day Centre for his journey back to Bridgend as he hadn't eaten and was hungry.
- MN supported by Reconnection staff by offering light snack and hot drink
- Reconnection liaised with HANR Outreach staff for a travel warrant, enabling MN to return to Bridgend.
- MN was supported to complete a "feedback questionnaire" for the Reconnection team.

### What has changed as a result of the project?

What has been the benefit? What difference has it made to the individual?

- MN was re-directed back to his **local authority** in Bridgend Council for a "housing assessment", this being his preferred choice.
- Contact made with Bridgend Housing Team who informed us MN has presented.
- MN presented on the 14<sup>th</sup> November 2017, where he was assessed and given a 73 duty, he was allocated a place in a "backpacker's hostel" in the Bridgend Borough.

Tudalen y pecyn 3

- MN was also given a support worker who will work with him to find suitable accommodation
- Information received that MN is now waiting to view a "studio flat "within the Bridgend Borough.
- MN will receive ongoing support from his local authority.

#### **Feedback and Evaluation**

Please include a quote(s) or a range of feedback from participant(s) / Partnership agency / your own feedback. Lessons learned.

- It was clear that on assessment that MN was clearly affected by the altercation between mother and son as MN stated that it had a profound effect on his mental health causing him stress.
- MN stated that he knew he needed to make positive changes and that maybe this was a start and the way forward.
- MN was made aware that he will be supported by his local authority who will work with him, helping and supporting to enable him to make informed choices and have more control over his future / housing options.
- MN expressed his gratitude to the Reconnection staff and completed a feedback questionnaire, contained within feedback annex.

LH



- LH presented at HOC April 2017 and was referred to us in Cardiff Reconnection Service
- LH local connection was clearly identified as Wolverhampton. He has been residing in PRS in
- Wolverhampton as a lodger from six years. It was also the area he was born and brought up in.
- LH had been advised to leave his private tenancy by the Police as his landlord had been charged and arrested for keeping illegal animals in the property. The property was in a very poor condition.
- LH had come to stay in Cardiff with a friend instead of taking the advice of the police.
- It was established that LH suffered from anxiety and depression which had worsened after the loss of his tenancy.
- Cardiff Reconnection Service contacted LH's local authority, to confirm that support and accommodation would be made available to him if he was to return. They were aware of the incident due to previous police contact.
- LH was supported by Cardiff Reconnection Service to attend a GP, to acquire medication for his mental health and a sick note.
- LH was advised and supported by Cardiff Reconnection Service to consider his options in terms of attempting to access private rented accommodation in Cardiff, or to return in a supportive and planned way to Wolverhampton, where his local authority, have already agreed to help him.
- LH was supported to attend the train station, a checked was purchased as he return to Wolverhampton. Reconnection Service, sought confirmation that he had presented to Wolverhampton local authority.







### Case Study Proforma

### Title of the case study/ Project Name:

GN- Positive Other – Successful Reassessment					
Key contact: Name, Job Title, Name, Email Address and Telephone Number					

### What did you do?

# Provide a brief outline/overview of an individual case study (detail the background and what the intervention was)

- This gentleman was referred to Reconnection service today; after it was felt that he had no local connection.
- We conducted an initial assessment of individual need, where his housing history in particular was considered.
- In consideration of his risk, we sourced information from probation services in Ebbw Vale; we ascertained
- Client has a history of sex offences/ convictions, he has also been placed on the sex offenders register for 7
  years.
- We further liaised with Gwent probation so we were able to ascertain a more descriptive picture of the
  offences to date
- GN was given Reconnection Service EOS on Huggard floor space, all risk elements was shared with GN's
  consent, and he was worked with two staff to ensure safety measures and risk.
- It transpired that GN had a local connection in Ebbw Vale Gwent, but was unable to return to the matrimonial home he once shared because of his arrest for sexual offences involving children.
- Phone call made by us in reconnection to his local authority and it was given consideration and they agreed
  he would be accepted by them.
- GN would not have returned without our advice and contact with his local connection to establish accommodation for him, he needed our support to establish his rights.
- The address history was documented, submitted as third party evidence and GN was supported to be reassessed in his local area.
- Many phone calls to his local authority to challenge their initial thought on the duty for him

This reassessment was successful and now GN has been given temporary accommodation (hostel) within hocal authority.	his
GM will not receive ongoing support in his local area.	
Albert recovered were used?	
What resources were used?	
Joint working with any other agencies etc	
• CN was given printed sity man and free feed provision print outs, for in and around the City of Cardiff from t	·ho

- GN was given printed city map and free food provision print outs, for in and around the City of Cardiff from the Reconnection Team.
- Reconnection advised of the Salvation Army Bus Project.
- Referral to Gateway to allocate Floor space in **Huggard Hostel** for the night and continuing nights.
- GN was supported to access Wallich Night Shelter, Solutions drop in service, for shower and toiletries
- Supported/advised to visit **Jenny (Huggard Advocate)** for help/advice to apply for benefits.
- Liaised with PPU to inform them of assessment/outcome, keep them up-to-date (networking).

•	Reconnection staff further liaised with <b>Blaenau Gwent Housing/ Homeless Team</b> to ascertain local connection/duty and to collate accurate address history.
•	Liaised with HANR Outreach team for travel warrant to relocate back to local authority.
•	Reconnection team Supported to complete a "feedback questionnaire.
•	We followed up on his <b>new accommodation</b> and he moved in and settled with no issues
•	. Case closed – positive outcome.
What h	as changed as a result of the project?
	CN was to directed back to his local authority in Plannau Cwant, where he was are ided with
•	GN was re-directed back to his local authority in Blaenau Gwent, where he was provided with temporary accommodation, placed in a hostel.

Full maximised entitlement to benefits giving him choice's of services required.

A sense of identity and purpose living back within his local community.

Tudalen y pecyn 8

<ul> <li>Assigned to a support worker for help with his preferred needs.</li> </ul>
A chance of a new start!
Feedback and Evaluation
GN was very cooperative throughout the process of his engagement with the reconnection team; he showed respect and gratitude to all staff.
At first point of contact GN was very apprehensive on returning to his local authority, saying, "he didn't think he could return," due to his difficult circumstances and seemed very doubtful, but after engaging with the reconnection team who worked/supported GN to make informed choices, he was then given an option to return and, felt that this was in his best interests - long term.
GN has now been accommodated in a hostel on a temporary basis, where he continues to make steady progress, until he can be further re-assessed and hopefully move into alternative accommodation to suit his needs/requirements.
GN happy to reconnect with his local authority and thanked Reconnection staff for all their help and support.







### Case Study Performa

Title of the case study/ Project Name: Cardiff Reconnection Service Q3 17/18

SB - Positive Other – Successful Reassessment					
Key contact: Name, Job Title, Name, Email Address and Telephone Number					

### What did you do?

Provide a brief outline/overview of an individual case study (detail the background and what the intervention was)

- SB was referred to the Reconnection Service after it was felt he had no local connection to the Cardiff Area.
- We conducted an initial assessment of individual need and risk, where his housing history in particular was considered.
- In consideration of his risk we sourced information from Probation Services in Cardiff, Norwich and Bath. SB has a history of mental health and alcohol related issues, he has also been placed on the sex offenders register for previous convictions.
- We further liaised with the Cardiff Public Protection Unit in order to ensure SB's safety and the safety of others. SB was also given Reconnection Service EOS on Huggard floor space. All risk was shared with SB's consent and he was worked with by two staff at all time in Reconnection Service due to his risk.
- Reconnection Team worked with SB and PPU to establish a more accurate address history for SB. It
  quickly transpired that his life has been very transient and that he had not held any stable
  accommodation in many years. This process took several days as SB was very guarded and reluctant
  to disclose information about him.
- The address history was documented, submitted as third party evidence to the local authority and SB was supported to be reassessed.
- This reassessment was successful and SB is now accommodated as a non-priority individual, and will transition into a hostel in Cardiff when one becomes available.

#### What resources were used?

Provide a brief outline/overview of financial, staff, partnership, in-kind resources required to undertake the project

- SB was given printed **city map** and **free food provision leaflets**, for in and around the City of Cardiff from the **Reconnection Team**.
- SB was supported to access **clothing** items as on interview he appeared to be wet and cold this provision was offered with liaison with **HANR Outreach** staff time.
- Floor space was booked in Huggard Hostel for the night and continuing nights.
- SB was supported to access Wallich Night Shelter, Solutions drop in service, for shower and toiletries
- Was supported to register with the **GP**, **Kay Saunders** Doctor for the homeless, **Butetown Medical Centre.**
- Supported to contact Department of Work and Pensions to ensure maintenance of Universal Credit payments.
- Reconnection Team accessed risk information and address history from Norwich and Bath
  Probation Services and Cardiff Public Protection Unit, this was crucial to ensure the safety of SB
  and others around him and the success of his reassessment.
- SB was **supported by two members of staff at all times** due to history of sexual assault against females and aggression towards staff

Joint working with any other agencies etc

- SB was supported to access **clothing** items as on interview he appeared to be wet and cold this provision was offered with liaison with **HANR Outreach** staff time.
- Floor space was booked in Huggard Hostel for the night and continuing nights.
- SB was supported to access Wallich Night Shelter, Solutions drop in service, for shower and toiletries
- Was supported to register with the **GP**, **Kay Saunders** Doctor for the homeless, **Butetown Medical Centre.**
- Supported to contact Department of Work and Pensions to ensure maintenance of Universal Credit payments.
- Day to day contact was maintained with Jenny Buckley Day Centre Advocate and Rachel Woods
   Huggard EOS Advocate in order to monitor SB's behaviour and manage concerns.
- Reconnection Team accessed risk information and address history from Norwich and Bath
   Probation Services and Cardiff Public Protection Unit, this was crucial to ensure the safety of SB and others around him and the success of his reassessment.

### What has changed as a result of the project?

What has been the benefit? What difference has it made to the individual?

- SB was re-directed to through **Cardiff Council Housing Options** in order to have a new housing assessment with a more accurate address history.
- SB was then given a local connection to Cardiff.
- Contact made with Bath Probation to inform them SB has now secured emergency accommodation and the ability to access transitional hostel accommodation in Cardiff.
- SB continues to engage effectively with all required agencies including Huggard EOS Rachel Woods and PPU.
- He will transition into a hostel placement when one becomes available.
- Case closed as Positive Other Successful Reassessment.

#### **Feedback and Evaluation**

Please include a quote(s) or a range of feedback from participant(s) / Partnership agency / your own feedback. Lessons learned.

- SB has been very polite and co-operative with all Reconnection staff; he continues to make steady progress in his EOS placement and will shortly transition into a hostel.
- SB is aware that he will now be supported by other services will continue to work with him, helping
  and supporting with a desire to empower him to make the best choices and to have more control
  over his future.
- Please see Annex Client Feedback Surveys attached.

# TSA Cardiff Reconnection Service Statistical Reporting Q3, Q4 2015/2016, Q1 - Q4 2016/2017 & Q1, Q2, Q3 2017/2018

	Qtr 3 (Nov-Dec)	Qtr 4 (Jan-Mar)	Qtr 1 (Apr-Jun)	Qtr 2 (Jul-Sept)	Qtr 3 (Oct–Dec)	Qtr 4 (Jan–Mar)	Qtr 1 (Apr-Jun)	Qtr 2 (Jul-Sept)
Number of clients referred to Reconnection Service	32	2 43	3 23	23	29	52	54	52
Number of clients who chose to engage with the service	28	3	5 19	22	26	43	51	50
Number of clients who did not present to the service	4	1	7 4	1	3	9	3	2
Number of potential Reconnect clients referred or engaged with via Huggard,								
Bus Project, Breakfast Run, or other outreach surgery	Not recorded	Not recorded	Not recorded	35	57	88	89	81
	Qtr 3 (Nov-Dec)	Qtr 4 (Jan-Mar)	Qtr 1 (Apr-Jun)	Qtr 2 (Jul-Sept)	Qtr 3 (Oct – Dec)	Qtr 4 (Jan – Mar)	Qtr 1 (Apr-Jun)	Qtr 2 (Jul-Sept)
Number of clients reconnected to friends and family	(	5 10	) 5	7	5	6	9	7
Number of clients reconnect to make presentation at own LA	į	; <u>!</u>	5 5	5	6	9	11	14
Number of clients supported to move into private rented accommodation		2	2 0	1	1	3	12	4
Number of clients offered other supported accommodation via								_
waiver/reassessment/other	Į.	5 (	9 6				6	15
Total	18	3 20	5 16	18	20	28	38	40
Other - prison/hospital		L	) 1	. 0	1	4	2	2
Case ongoing, into next quarter	N/A	N//	N/A	. N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Did not engage to reconnection stage	9						10	8
Number of wavers submitted	Qtr 3 (Nov-Dec)	Qtr 4 (Jan-Mar)	Qtr 1 (Apr-June)	Qtr 2 (Jul-Sept)		,	Qtr 1 (Apr-Jun) 3	Qtr 2 (Jul-Sept) 5
			-				-	
Waver Outcome – Accepted Indefinitely		2	5 4	. 2	0	2	1	0
Waver Outcome – Accepted Temporarily		) (	0	1	1	1	2	5
Waver Rejected		)	1 1	. 1	0	0	0	0

	Qtr 3 (Oct-Dec)	Total
-	39	347
	31	306
	8	41
_		
	62	412
	Qtr 3 (Oct-Dec)	Total
-	12	67
_	7	67
	1	26
	4	68
<u> </u>	24	228
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<u>a</u>	1	12
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Tudalen y pecyn 14	2	57
	Qtr 3 (Oct-Dec)	Total
	0	29
	0	16
	0	10
	0	3

### Ken Skates AC/AM Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport

ELGC(5)-10-18 Papur 2/ Paper 2 Oddi wrth: Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth

From: Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport

John Griffiths AC Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Cymunedau, Cydraddoldeb a Llywodraeth Leol



7 Mawrth 2018

### Annwyl John

Rwy'n ysgrifennu atoch yn dilyn sesiwn craffu'r Pwyllgor Cydraddoldeb, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau ar 25 Ionawr i roi rhagor o wybodaeth ichi am y pwyntiau canlynol. Byddaf yn trafod bob un yn ei dro.

- Gweithgarwch Llywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau ymrwymiadau cyflogwyr yn gyfnewid am gymorth sectorol;
- Rôl menywod mewn teuluoedd sy'n derbyn Credyd Cynhwysol, ar ôl ymgynghori ag Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyllid a'r Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio.

Mae'r Contract Economaidd yn ganolog i'n hymdrechion i ddatblygu'r economi yn unol â'r Cynllun Gweithredu ar yr Economi. Byddwn yn defnyddio'r Contract Economaidd i greu perthynas newydd a mwy deinamig â busnesau. Bydd y berthynas yn cydnabod y busnesau hynny sydd eisoes yn camu at fod yn fusnesau a chyflogwyr cyfrifol ac yn annog a helpu busnesau eraill i ddilyn trywydd tebyg.

Yn ogystal â dylanwadu ar yr hyn y mae busnes yn ei wneud, bydd y Contract yn ein herio i weithio mewn ffordd wahanol ac yn ymwneud mewn ffordd fwy ystyrlon a deinamig â'r gymuned fusnes ar bynciau ehangach fel iechyd a sgiliau yn y gweithle, datgarboneiddio a gwaith teg.

Mae'r ddeialog rhyngom â busnesau ac eraill yn mynd rhagddi i bennu natur lawn y Contract Economaidd ac yn arbennig, i benderfynu'n union beth mae pob maen prawf yn ei olygu a'r un mor bwysig, sut y gall busnes ddangos ei fod yn cydymffurfio. Rydym am sicrhau cymaint o gonsensws â phosib yn y broses, a hynny cyn lansio'r Contract Economaidd yn gynnar yn y flwyddyn ariannol newydd.

Cafwyd cwestiwn penodol hefyd am deuluoedd sy'n gymwys am y Credyd Cynhwysol a ph'un a fu gohebiaeth oddi wrth Lywodraeth Cymru at Lywodraeth y DU ynghylch pa mor bwysig yw sicrhau mai menywod yw derbynyddion diofyn y Credyd Cynhwysol. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi mynegi'n gryf ei phryderon droeon wrth Lywodraeth y DU gan alw arni i roi stop ar gyflwyno'r Credyd Cynhwysol nes bod y problemau arwyddocaol niferus

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay Caerdydd • Cardiff CF99 1NA Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre: 0300 0604400

<u>Gohebiaeth.Ken.Skates@llyw.cymru</u>

<u>Correspondence.Ken.Skates@gov.wales</u>

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.

sydd ynghlwm wrthi wedi'u datrys. Mae'r diffygion mawr hyn yn cael effaith enfawr ac eang ar bobl sy'n agored i niwed.

Nid yw Llywodraeth Cymru wedi codi'n benodol y pwnc o wneud menywod yn dderbynyddion diofyn y Credyd Cynhwysol. Nid yw rheolau budd-daliadau'r Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau'n gwahaniaethu rhwng y rhywiau. Fel arfer, mae Credyd Cynhwysol yn cael ei dalu bob mis i mewn i un cyfrif banc yn ôl dewis yr hawlydd. Fodd bynnag, caiff hawlwyr sy'n bâr ofyn am rannu'r taliad drwy'r Trefniant Talu Amgen. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn awyddus i sicrhau bod dewis deallus yn cael ei gynnig i bob hawlydd Credyd Cynhwysol, heb iddo orfod gofyn amdano, sut y bydd yn derbyn ei daliad Credyd Cynhwysol, a hynny drwy gynllun Trefniadau Talu Amgen yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau.

Mae Rebecca Evans AC, y Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio eisoes wedi ysgrifennu at Esther McVey AS, Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Waith a Phensiynau, yn gofyn iddi ystyried sut y gall hawlwyr Credyd Cynhwysol gael gwybodaeth well am yr opsiynau talu sydd ar gael iddynt. Bydd gweithgor partneriaeth yn cael ei sefydlu rhwng Llywodraeth Cymru a'r Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau, a bydd yn edrych ar sut orau y gall Credyd Cynhwysol helpu unigolion a theuluoedd sydd angen cymorth ychwanegol.

Ken Skates AC/AM

your ever,

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport

**National Assembly for Wales** 

Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee

David Gauke AS Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Waith a Phensiynau

11 Hydref 2017

Annwyl Ysgrifennydd Gwladol

### Credyd Cynhwysol

Ysgrifennaf yn rhinwedd fy swydd fel Cadeirydd Pwyllgor Cydraddoldeb, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru.

Fel rhan o ymchwiliad yn edrych ar <u>wneud i'r economi weithio i bobl sydd ag</u> incwm isel, cymerom dystiolaeth yn ddiweddar gan yr academyddion Dr Sharon Wright, Prifysgol Glasgow a Dr Lisa Scullion, Prifysgol Salford ar rôl budd-daliadau lles wrth gefnogi pobl ar incwm isel. Mae'r ddwy ohonynt hefyd yn rhan o'r prosiect Welfare Conditionality: Sanctions, Support and Behaviour Change.

Treuliwyd rhan helaeth o'r sesiwn yn archwilio effaith cyflwyno Credyd Cynhwysol hyd yma. Clywsom nad yw Credyd Cynhwysol yn ei ffurf bresennol yn debygol o fodloni rhai o'i amcanion. Yn benodol, er y bydd pobl yn cael eu gwthio tuag at waith, bydd yn waith nad yw'n debygol o godi pobl allan o dlodi ac felly bydd tlodi mewn gwaith yn parhau i gynyddu.

Ar wahân i'r mater sylfaenol hwn o bryder, clywsom hefyd am rai materion gweithredol, sy'n achosi pryder i ni ynghylch parhau i gyflwyno'r rhaglen.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Pwyllgor CLILCh, Cofnod y Trafodion (RoP) 21 Medi 2017, Paragraff [18]



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National Assembly for Wales Cardiff Bay, Cardiff, CF99 1NA

Roedd y materion a godwyd gan y tystion yn cynnwys:

- Oedi wrth dderbyn taliadau ar ôl i'r cais cychwynnol gael ei wneud. Clywsom y gall pobl fod yn aros hyd at 10 wythnos cyn derbyn taliad. Er y gellir talu blaensymiau, mae'r rhain ar ffurf benthyciadau, felly mae pobl sydd eisoes yn byw ar ymylon fforddiadwyedd mewn dyled ar unwaith, cyn iddynt dderbyn Credyd Cynhwysol. Yn dilyn eich cyhoeddiad yr wythnos hon ynghylch argaeledd blaensymiau, a allech chi egluro ar ba gyfradd y bydd yn rhaid talu'r benthyciad yn ôl. Sut mae argaeledd y benthyciad yn cael ei hysbysebu i hawlwyr?
- Yn gysylltiedig â'r uchod, yw bod taliadau budd-dal tai bellach wedi'u cynnwys yn y taliad incwm personol. Mae hyn yn arbennig o broblemus pan fo oedi o hyd at 10 wythnos cyn derbyn taliadau. Clywsom hefyd y gallai cynnydd mewn cosbau (gweler isod) arwain at gynnydd mewn ôl-ddyledion rhent, ac yn y pen draw, troi allan. Clywsom, er nad yw'r taliad tai yn ddarostyngedig i gosb, os caiff lwfans byw unigolyn ei gosbi, mae'n cael ei roi mewn sefyllfa amhosib o orfod dewis rhwng talu'i rent neu dalu costau hanfodol eraill, megis bwyd. O ganlyniad, mae troi allan a digartrefedd yn risgiau newydd sy'n dod yn sgil credyd cynhwysol.<sup>2</sup>
- Mae'r broses hawlio ar y cyd yn golygu y gellir cosbi cartrefi cyfan yn awr.
   Mae hawliadau ar y cyd yn gosod pobl mewn perthnasoedd camdriniol o dan anfantais benodol. Awgrymodd y tystion wrthym y dylai'r taliad fynd i'r prif ofalwr yn hytrach na'r prif enillydd, a fyddai'n golygu bod anghenion ariannol plant a'u prif ofalydd yn cael eu blaenoriaethu.
- Ymestyn cosbau i bobl sydd mewn gwaith. Clywsom fod disgwyl i bobl sydd mewn gwaith fynd i'r Ganolfan Byd Gwaith o hyd. Mewn rhai achosion, mae pobl wedi'u cosbi pan nad ydynt wedi gallu ail-drefnu apwyntiadau, na allant eu mynychu am eu bod yn gweithio. Clywsom fod dwysedd

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Y Pwyllgor CLILCh, Cofnod y Trafodion, 21 Medi 2017, Paragraff [8]



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- amodoldeb, ynghyd â'r gofyniad i fod yn chwilio am swydd 35 awr yr wythnos, yn hynod o anodd ac yn straen.
- Materion gweinyddol o amgylch cosbau. Clywsom y gosodir cosbau yn annisgwyl yn aml, a bod pobl dim ond yn darganfod eu bod yn destun cosb wythnosau neu fisoedd ar ôl y digwyddiad perthnasol. Gall hyn ei gwneud yn anodd i bobl herio'r gosb. Rydym hefyd yn pryderu y bydd cosbau'n berthnasol i rai o'r grwpiau mwyaf agored i niwed. Er ein bod yn ymwybodol bod nifer o grwpiau na ellir eu cosbi, rydym yn pryderu y bydd pobl o fewn y tri grŵp y gellir eu cosbi a allai gael eu hystyried yn agored i niwed.
- Problemau sy'n gynhenid wrth gyflwyno'r rhaglen, er enghraifft y broses hawlio ddigidol yn ôl rhagosodiad. Er ein bod wedi clywed bod rhywfaint o ddarpariaeth ar gael i bobl na allant wneud cais yn ddigidol, gwyddom nad yw hyn ar gael yn eang. Yn ogystal, codir cyfradd premiwm o ran rhif y llinell ffôn. Dywedodd y tystion wrthym mai gweithred syml, ond defnyddiol iawn fyddai pe bai'r rhif yn rhad ac am ddim i'w ffonio, ac mae hwn yn alwad yr ydym ni yn ei gefnogi'n gryf.
- Symud hawddfreintiau allan o ddarpariaeth ffurfiol i ganllawiau, sy'n golygu eu bod wedi dod yn fwy dewisol. Mae hyn yn cyflwyno mwy o amrywiaeth i'r system, ac yn rhoi'r rhai mwyaf agored i niwed mewn perygl.
- Y cyfyngiadau ariannol tynn iawn y mae pobl yn gweithredu ynddynt wrth symud i mewn ac allan o waith. Clywsom, mewn rhai achosion, wrth i enillion gynyddu, y caiff hyd at 63% o'r cynnydd ei dynnu i ffwrdd drwy'r system.

Yng ngoleuni hyn, a phryderon eraill a godwyd yn ystod y sesiwn, hoffem ychwanegu ein lleisiau at y rhestr gynyddol o'r rhai sydd wedi galw arnoch chi i roi'r gorau dros dro i barhau i gyflwyno'r system tra bod rhai o'r materion gweithredol hyn yn cael sylw. Rydym ni'n poeni, wrth i'r gwaith o gyflwyno



gyrraedd achosion mwy cymhleth, os na roddir sylw i'r materion hyn, gallai fod cynnydd sylweddol mewn caledi, amddifadedd a thlodi.

Yn gywir

John Griffiths AC

Cadeirydd

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.





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Our ref: POS(2)5025/12

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Den John,

Thank you for your email of 11 October to the Secretary of State about Universal Credit. I am replying as the Minister responsible for this area of the Department's work.

There are no plans to pause the rollout of Universal Credit. It is already delivering big improvements to people's lives, with more people finding work under Universal Credit, people spend longer looking for work and people take up jobs they would not have previously considered. We continue to roll out Universal Credit in a careful and coordinated way, to ensure that improvements can be made along the way.

Our recently published figures show that the vast majority of Universal Credit claimants receive their money in full and on time. If we are unable to completely verify a Universal Credit claim, many claimants receive part-payment. Universal Credit work coaches make new claimants aware of advances, if they need money to tide them over. New claimants can receive up to 50 per cent of their first payment, interest-fee, and repay over six months. If claimants are in significant need, this can be extended to nine months.

The main route to access Universal Credit is through digital channels. We actively encourage people to use the service in a digital manner in every instance but we understand there are circumstances in which this may not be possible. Flexible and tailor made support will be provided by work coaches to assist people who do not have access or the IT skills to complete an online application. Claimants can also phone the Universal Credit helpline, for which the Department of the controlled access to

telephones for people who require support for their job search or benefit enquiry.

All jobcentres across the country have Wi-Fi and computers available, including 6000 additional computers installed to support the introduction of Universal Credit. This provides access to digital channels in every Jobcentre for claimants to use when they do not have access at home. A telephone helpline and face to face support are also available for claimants to make and manage a Universal Credit claim. Advice, assistance and support from Jobcentre Plus or local partners to help Universal Credit claimants with managing their claim, which includes accessing and using online services, is also available.

In April 2016, the Universal Credit taper reduced from 65p to a more generous 63p. A single taper of 63 per cent per £1 is applied as earnings rise and some claimants will also receive a work allowance depending on their circumstances. This single taper enables the household to clearly see the benefit of increasing its working income and means that support does not suddenly stop when claimants start work or increase their incomes. This measure is part of a package of changes announced in the Summer Budget 2015 such as the increase to the personal tax allowance and introduction of the national living wage.

If I can be of further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

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Damian Hinds MP Minister for Employment

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Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

# Eitem 5

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

## Eitem 6

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon