

## Agenda – Y Pwyllgor Deisebau

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Lleoliad:	I gael rhagor o wybodaeth cysylltwch a:
Ystafell Bwyllgora 1 – y Senedd	Graeme Francis – Clerc y Pwyllgor
Dyddiad: Dydd Mawrth, 17 Ebrill 2018	Kath Thomas – Dipwrwy Glerc
Amser: 09.00	0300 200 6565
	<a href="mailto:SeneddDeisebau@cynulliad.cymru">SeneddDeisebau@cynulliad.cymru</a>

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### 1 Cyflwyniad, ymddiheuriadau, dirprwyon a datganiadau o fuddiant (Tudalennau 1 – 34)

### 2 Deisebau newydd

2.1 P-05-806 Rydym yn galw am roi rhif Tystysgrif Mynediad i bob safle busnes yng Nghymru, yn debyg i'r Dystysgrif Hylendid Bwyd  
(Tudalennau 35 – 42)

2.2 P-05-807 Dylid adolygu a newid y canllawiau o ran gwobrau am bresenoldeb mewn ysgolion yng Nghymru  
(Tudalennau 43 – 48)

### 3 Y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am ddeisebau blaenorol

### Yr Amgylchedd

3.1 P-04-399 Arferion lladd anifeiliaid  
(Tudalennau 49 – 51)

3.2 P-04-433 Teledu Cylch Cyfyng mewn Lladd-dai  
(Tudalennau 52 – 67)

3.3 P-05-759 Ailagor Ffordd Goedwig Cwmcarn adeg y Pasg 2018  
(Tudalennau 68 – 72)

3.4 P-05-778 Amddiffyn Cyllyll Môr ar Draeth Llanfairfechan  
(Tudalennau 73 – 77)



3.5 P-05-779 Sganio gorfodol gan gynghorau am ficrosglodion mewn anifeiliaid anwes

(Tudalennau 78 – 92)

3.6 P-05-785 Atal Trwydded Forol 12.45.ML

(Tudalennau 93 – 121)

3.7 P-05-786 Arbedwch ein cefn gwlad – dylid adolygu TAN 1

(Tudalennau 122 – 128)

## **Tai ac Adfywio**

3.8 P-04-519 Diddymu Taliadau Comisiwn wrth werthu Cartrefi mewn Parciau

(Tudalennau 129 – 130)

## **Addysg**

3.9 P-04-522 Asbestos mewn Ysgolion

(Tudalennau 131 – 141)

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

(Tudalennau 142 – 144)

3.11 P-04-606 Sicrhau bod ysgolion yn defnyddio eu pwerau statudol o dan reoliad 7 o Reoliadau Addysg (Cofrestru Disgyblion) (Cymru) 2010

(Tudalennau 145 – 148)

## **Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol**

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

(Tudalennau 149 – 161)

3.13 P-05-754 Diffyg cymorth i blant ag anableddau mewn argyfwng

(Tudalennau 162 – 166)

3.14 P-05-761 Mynnu cyllid gan Lywodraeth Cymru i gefnogi Autism Spectrum Connections Cymru

(Tudalennau 167 – 174)

3.15 P-05-771 Ailystyried y penderfyniad i roi'r gorau i Grant Byw'n Annibynnol  
Cymru a'r angen i gefnogi pobl anabl i fyw'n annibynnol

(Tudalennau 175 – 182)

## **Economi a Thrafnidiaeth**

3.16 P-05-731 Gwerthu Tir a Lonydd Mynediad yn Abercwmboi

(Tudalennau 183 – 185)

**4 Cynnig o dan Reol Sefydlog 17.42 i benderfynu gwahardd y  
cyhoedd o'r cyfarfod ar gyfer y busnes a ganlyn:**

Eitemau 5 a 6

**5 Trafod yr Adroddiad Drafft – Deisebau P-04-472 Gwnewch y  
Nodyn Cyngor Technegol Mwynau yn ddeddf and P-04-575 Galw  
i Mewn Pob Cais Cynllunio ar Gyfer Cloddio Glo Brig**

(Tudalennau 186 – 198)

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

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

**6 Crynodeb o Dystiolaeth – P-05-736 Darparu Gwasanaethau  
Iechyd Meddwl Mwy Hygyrch**

(Tudalennau 199 – 203)

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

### **P-05-806 Rydym yn galw am roi rhif Tystysgrif Mynediad i bob safle busnes yng Nghymru, yn debyg i'r Dystysgrif Hylendid Bwyd**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Bridgend Coalition of Disabled People, ar ôl casglu 2,391 o lofnodion ar-lein.

#### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i gyflwyno "Tystysgrif Mynediad" yn dangos rhifau o ddim i bump yn yr un modd â'r Dystysgrif Hylendid Bwyd. Dylid asesu pob adeilad a ddefnyddir gan y cyhoedd fel siopau, siopau bwyd, clybiau chwaraeon, tafarndai a swyddfeydd, yn ogystal â gwasanaethau trafndiaeth gyhoeddus, yn ôl pa mor hygyrch pa mor hygyrch ydynt i gadeiriau olwyn, yn ogystal â pha mor hawdd ydynt i rywun sydd â nam ar y synhwyrau neu anabledd dysgu eu defnyddio.

Rydym eisiau i bob safle busnes gael rhif i'w arddangos i ddangos sut mae ei adeiladau yn ystyried pobl anabl. Rydym yn gobeithio y bydd y rheini sy'n cael sgoriau uchel yn darbwylo safleoedd cyfagos i wella mynediad ac ennill sgôr uchel eu hunain.

Pan gyflwynwyd Tystysgrifau Hylendid Bwyd gyntaf yng Nghymru, nid oeddent yn orfodol, ond fe ddaethant yn orfodol yn ddiweddarach. Ers cyflwyno'r Dystysgrif Hylendid Bwyd, rydym yn credu bod safonau bwyd wedi gwella'n helaeth ac mae safleoedd sydd â rhif uchel yn arddangos eu tystysgrifau â balchder. Rydym yn credu y bydd safleoedd yn gwneud mwy o ymdrech i wella mynediad a gwasanaethau i'r gymuned anabl pe bai Tystysgrif debyg ar gyfer mynediad yn cael ei chyflwyno.

Rydym yn credu y bydd cyflwyno tystysgrif o'r fath yn gwella'n aruthrol y gwasanaethau i siopwyr anabl a'r rheini sydd eisiau mynd allan am ddiod neu bryd o fwyd, neu ddefnyddio trafndiaeth gyhoeddus, sef cyfleusterau y mae'r rhan fwyaf yn eu cymryd yn ganiataol.

Er mwyn ennill sgôr o bump, yn ogystal â bod yn hygyrch i gadeiriau olwyn, bydd angen i safleoedd fod yn gwbl gynhwysol i'r rheini â nam ar eu golwg a'u clyw, ac o bosibl bod gan staff ddealltwriaeth o'r rheini ag anabledd dysgu.

Mae bwyty â bwydlen braille neu staff sy'n gallu defnyddio iaith arwyddion yn gallu gwneud gwahaniaeth enfawr a chynnig profiad llawer haws a llai o straen i rywun wrth wneud y pethau bob dydd y mae'r rhan fwyaf yn eu cymryd yn ganiataol.

Un syniad posibl, yn ogystal â chael sgôr dim i bump, fyddai cael symbolau ychwanegol o dan hyn i ddangos a oes gan safle fynediad llawn i gadeiriau olwyn, toiledau hygyrch, gwybodaeth mewn braille neu staff sy'n gallu defnyddio iaith arwyddion, ac a yw'n ystyried awtistiaeth.

Rydym yn teimlo y byddai hyn yn arwain at welliannau mawr. Mae llawer o siopau bwyd yn cystadlu â'i gilydd i gael sgôr uwch ac rydym yn gobeithio y bydd hyn hefyd yn digwydd yn achos Tystysgrif Mynediad.

#### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

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

## Tystysgrifau mynediad ar gyfer eiddo

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau | 17 Ebrill 2018

Petitions Committee | 17 April 2018

### Papur briffio gan y Gwasanaeth Ymchwil:

Rhif y ddeiseb: P-05-806

**Teitl y ddeiseb:** Rydym yn galw am roi rhif Tystysgrif Mynediad i bob safle busnes yng Nghymru, yn debyg i'r Dystysgrif Hylendid Bwyd.

**Testun y Ddeiseb:** Rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i gyflwyno "Tystysgrif Mynediad" yn dangos rhifau o ddim i bump yn yr un modd â'r Dystysgrif Hylendid Bwyd. Dylid asesu pob adeilad a ddefnyddir gan y cyhoedd fel siopau, siopau bwyd, clybiau chwaraeon, tafarndai a swyddfeydd, yn ogystal â gwasanaethau trafndiaeth gyhoeddus, yn ôl pa mor hygyrch pa mor hygyrch ydynt i gadeiriau olwyn, yn ogystal â pha mor hawdd ydynt i rywun sydd â nam ar y synhwyrâu neu anabledd dysgu eu defnyddio. Rydym eisiau i bob safle busnes gael rhif i'w arddangos i ddangos sut mae ei adeiladau yn ystyried pobl anabl. Rydym yn gobeithio y bydd y rheini sy'n cael sgoriau uchel yn darbwyllo safleoedd cyfagos i wella mynediad ac ennill sgôr uchel eu hunain.

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## Cynllun Sgorio Hylendid Bwyd

Mae'r ddeiseb hon yn trafod y cynllun sgorio hylendid bwyd presennol fel model y gellid ei fabwysiadu i gyflawni nod y deisebwyr.

Roedd *Deddf Sgorio Hylendid Bwyd (Cymru) 2013* yn sefydlu cynllun sgorio hylendid bwyd statudol yng Nghymru. Daeth i rym ym mis Tachwedd 2013. Roedd y cynllun yn adeiladu ar gynllun anstatudol oedd yn bodoli a oedd yn cael ei weithredu gan awdurdodau lleol ledled Cymru. Cafodd y cynllun anstatudol ei ddatblygu gan yr Asiantaeth Safonau Bwyd mewn ymgynghoriad â diwydiant, defnyddwyr a rhanddeiliaid awdurdodau lleol a'r nod oedd darparu gwybodaeth i ddefnyddwyr ar safonau hylendid busnesau bwyd.

Caiff safleoedd eu harolygu gan swyddogion o'r awdurdod lleol y mae'r busnes wedi'i leoli ynddo. Yna, caiff y safonau hylendid a ganfyddir ar adeg yr arolygiad ei sgorio ar raddfa o 0 i 5. Sgôr o 5 yw'r uchaf, sy'n golygu bod y safonau hylendid yn dda iawn. Mae sgôr o 0 yn golygu bod angen gwella ar frys.

Pan fydd gweithredwr sefydliad busnes bwyd yn cael hysbysiad o'i sgôr hylendid bwyd, rhaid i'r gweithredwr arddangos y sticer sgôr hylendid bwyd a ddarperir. Mae'r Rheoliadau yn nodi lle dylid arddangos y sticer fel ei bod yn weladwy.

## Rheoliadau Adeiladu – mynediad i adeiladau a defnydd ohonynt

Mae un agwedd o'r ddeiseb hon yn ymwneud â mynediad i adeiladau. Mae Rhan M o'r Rheoliadau Adeiladu yn ymwneud â Mynediad i adeiladau a defnydd ohonynt. Mae [\*Dogfen Gymeradwy M \(Mynediad i adeiladau a defnydd ohonynt\)\*](#) yn rhoi canllawiau ar sut i fodloni'r gofynion hynny. Mae Rhan M yn gymwys os caiff adeilad annomestig neu annedd newydd ei adeiladu. Mae hefyd yn gymwys pan fydd adeilad annomestig presennol yn cael ei ymestyn, neu'n cael ei addasu'n sylweddol. Yn ogystal, mae'n cynnwys rhai sefyllfaoedd lle mae adeilad presennol yn newid defnydd yn sylweddol. Hyd yn oed heb y Rheoliadau Adeiladu, mae goblygiadau wedi'u rhoi ar ddarparwyr gwasanaeth o dan *Ddeddf Cydraddoldeb 2010* i ystyried rhwystrau sy'n cael eu creu gan nodweddion ffisegol mewn adeiladau.



## Deddf Cydraddoldeb 2010 – addasiadau rhesymol

Mae *Deddf Cydraddoldeb 2010* yn rhoi dyletswydd ar ddarparwyr nwyddau, gwasanaethau a chyfleusterau i wneud addasiadau rhesymol er mwyn osgoi person anabl rhag cael ei roi mewn 'anfantais sylweddol' o gymharu â pherson nad yw'n anabl wrth gael mynediad i wasanaethau a chyfleusterau.

Nid yw *Deddf Cydraddoldeb 2010* yn rhagnodi beth yw addasiad rhesymol, mae'n rhaid penderfynu ar hynny yn ôl amgylchiadau penodol pob achos unigol.

O dan [Adran 20 o Ddeddf Cydraddoldeb 2010](#), rhaid i ddarparwyr gwasanaeth gael dyletswydd i wneud addasiadau rhesymol ar gyfer person anabl yn y ffordd maent yn darparu eu gwasanaethau. Mae hyn er mwyn sicrhau nad oes gan berson anabl anfantais sylweddol o gymharu â pherson nad yw'n anabl yn cael yr un gwasanaethau. Mae'r ddyletswydd yn cynnwys tri gofyniad:

- Newid y ffordd y gwneir pethau (mae'r Ddeddf yn cyfeirio at le mae darpariaeth, meini prawf neu arfer yn rhoi person anabl o dan anfantais sylweddol);
- Gwneud newidiadau i oresgyn rhwystrau a gaiff eu creu gan nodweddion ffisegol safleoedd darparwyr gwasanaeth (mae'r Ddeddf yn cyfeirio at le mae nodwedd ffisegol yn rhoi person anabl o dan anfantais sylweddol); neu
- Darparu cymhorthion a gwasanaethau ychwanegol fel darparu offer ychwanegol neu ddarparu gwasanaeth gwahanol neu ychwanegol (mae'r Ddeddf yn cyfeirio at le y byddai person anabl, heb y cymorth ategol, o dan anfantais sylweddol).
- Gall yr hyn a ystyrir fel addasiad rhesymol i sefydliad mawr, fel banc, fod yn wahanol i'r hyn sy'n addasiad rhesymol i siop fach annibynnol. Dylai addasiad rhesymol fod yn ymarferol yn sefyllfa unigol y darparwr ac yn ôl yr adnoddau y gallai fod gan y busnes. Ni fydd rhaid i'r darparwr gwasanaeth wneud addasiadau nad ydynt yn rhesymol gan eu bod yn anfforddiadwy neu'n anymarferol.

## Camau gan Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

Ar 31 Ionawr 2018, cynhaliwyd [dadl fer](#) dan arweiniad Suzy Davies AC o'r enw *Agor drysau: sicrhau eglurder ynghylch mynediad i bobl anabl ac argaeledd diffibrilwyr*. Roedd y ddadl yn tynnu sylw at y ddeiseb hon a rhai o'r materion sy'n deillio ohoni gan gynnwys yr heriau y byddai unrhyw gynllun yn wynebu.

Wrth ymateb i'r ddadl, dywedodd Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol, Vaughan Gething AC, “ mewn egwyddor, mae peth rhinwedd i'r syniad, ac rwy'n croesawu awgrymiadau ynghylch agweddau ymarferol a sut y gallai cynllun o'r fath weithio”. Aeth yn ei flaen i ddweud:

Mae angen inni hyrwyddo trafodaeth onest ac agored [...] rhwng grwpiau anabledd, unigolion, y sector busnes, darparwyr gwasanaethau cyhoeddus a'r trydydd sector er mwyn deall beth y credwn

sydd ei angen a beth y credwn sy'n bosibl, boed hynny drwy system sgoriau ar ddrysau neu drwy ddulliau eraill, i ystyried yr opsiynau a beth yw'r cyfle gorau i wneud rhywbeth ymarferol er mwyn gwella hygyrchedd ac ymwybyddiaeth ohono yn ogystal.

## Camau gan Lywodraeth Cymru

Mewn llythyr at Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau, dywedodd Arweinydd y Tŷ a'r Prif Chwip – sy'n gyfrifol am gydraddoldeb – fod rhinwedd i'r cynllun a gynigir gan y deisebwyr a'i bod yn gefnogol iawn i'r egwyddorion y tu ôl i'r cynnig.

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

Julie James AC/AM  
Arweinydd y Tŷ a'r Prif Chwip  
Leader of the House and Chief Whip



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-806  
Ein cyf/Our ref JJ/00284/18

David John Rowlands AC  
Cadeirydd - Y Pwyllgor Deisebau  
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru  
Bae Caerdydd  
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8 Mawrth 2018

Annwyl David

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 21 Chwefror yn nodi manylion deiseb oddi wrth Bridgend Coalition of Disabled People (Deiseb P-05-806). Mae'r ddeiseb yn galw am roi rhif Tystysgrif Mynediad i bob safle busnes yng Nghymru, yn debyg i'r Dystysgrif Hylendid Bwyd.

Fel y Gweinidog â chyfrifoldeb dros gydraddoldeb, rydw i wedi ymrwymo i fynd i'r afael â rhwystrau cymdeithasol i gydraddoldeb ac i gynyddu lefelau cynhwysiant fel bod yr un cyfleoedd ar gael i bobl anabl â phawb arall. Rydw i'n dymuno gweld pobl anabl yn cael yr un mynediad at siopau, bwytai a mannau cyhoeddus eraill, sy'n rhywbeth y mae'r rhan fwyaf ohonom yn ei gymryd yn ganiataol.

Er bod Deddf Cydraddoldeb 2010 yn cynnwys darpariaeth y dylid cynllunio amgylcheddau a gwasanaethau i fod mor hygyrch â phosibl i bawb, mae'n amlwg bod cynnydd yn y maes yn llawer arafach nag yr hoffwn i. Rydw i'n deall nad yw'n bosibl efallai i rai siopau a busnesau llai mewn adeiladau hŷn wneud yr holl 'addasiadau rhesymol' y byddai'n ddelfrydol eu cael. Fodd bynnag, mae'n bosibl i'r mwyafrif wneud rhai newidiadau o leiaf, er mwyn gwneud eu busnesau'n fwy croesawus i bobl anabl.

Byddai dull cynhwysol o weithredu ynghyd ag agwedd gadarnhaol gan staff o fudd i bob cwsmer, nid y rhai anabl yn unig ond hefyd pobl â choetsis babis, pobl ag anafiadau dros dro, pobl â bagiau trwm, neu bobl hŷn sydd efallai angen help. Dylai busnesau sy'n cynnig gwasanaethau fel hyn gael eu cydnabod a'u gosod yn esiampl i eraill.

Mae'n ymddangos felly bod gan y cynllun arfaethedig ei rinweddau ac nid wyf yn synnu ei fod wedi ennyn cryn sylw. Rydw i'n gefnogol iawn i'r egwyddorion y tu ôl i'r cynnig hwn ac

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[Correspondence.Julie.James@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Julie.James@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.

rydw i'n awyddus i'r materion ymarferol fyddai ynghlwm â chynllun o'r fath gael eu harchwilio Er enghraifft, pwy fyddai'n gyfrifol am gynnal yr asesiadau, neu ai'r bwriad fyddai i fusnesau asesu eu hunain? A fyddai'n fwy ymarferol datblygu ateb digidol fel bod defnyddwyr gwasanaethau eu hunain yn gallu darparu sylwadau a graddfeydd ar hygyrchedd gwasanaethau? Sut gellid monitro cynllun fel hyn a'i warchod rhag ymyriadau maleisus?

Mae'r rhain yn faterion rydw i'n hyderus y bydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau'n eu harchwilio gyda'r deisebwyr, ac edrychaf ymlaen at weld eich casgliadau.

Yn gywir



**Julie James AC/AM**  
Arweinydd y Tŷ a'r Prif Chwip  
Leader of the House and Chief Whip

### **P-05-807 Dylid adolygu a newid y canllawiau o ran gwobrau am bresenoldeb mewn ysgolion yng Nghymru**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Laura Charles-Price, ar ôl casglu 123 o lofnodion ar-lein.

#### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i adolygu unrhyw ganllawiau y mae'n eu rhoi o ran gwobrau am bresenoldeb mewn ysgolion yng Nghymru.

Mae llawer o blant ledled Cymru yn dioddef o salwch cronig sy'n effeithio ar eu presenoldeb yr ysgol. Gall plentyn gollu ysgol oherwydd y salwch ei hun neu oherwydd apwyntiadau ysbyty y mae'n rhaid iddo fynd iddynt mewn cysylltiad â'r salwch.

Caiff gwobrau am bresenoldeb, y mae llawer o'r plant hyn yn colli cyfle i'w hennill, eu cyflwyno gan ysgolion bob blwyddyn. Mae hyn yn annheg, ac mae hefyd yn gwahaniaethu yn erbyn y plant hyn.

Hoffwn gynnig bod Llywodraeth Cymru naill ai'n cyflwyno ystyriaethau ar gyfer y plant hyn, neu'n cynghori awdurdodau lleol ac ysgolion na ddylid rhoi gwobrau am bresenoldeb.

#### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

- Gŵyr
- Gorllewin De Cymru

## Gwobrau am bresenoldeb

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau | 17 Ebrill 2018

Petitions Committee | 17 April 2018

### Papur briffio gan y Gwasanaeth Ymchwil:

Rhif y ddeiseb: P-05-807

Teitl y ddeiseb: Dylid adolygu a newid y canllawiau o ran gwobrau am bresenoldeb mewn ysgolion yng Nghymru

Testun y ddeiseb: Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i adolygu unrhyw ganllawiau y mae'n eu rhoi o ran gwobrau am bresenoldeb mewn ysgolion yng Nghymru.

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### Canllawiau Llywodraeth Cymru

Mae gwella presenoldeb disgyblion wedi bod yn destun amrywiaeth o adolygiadau, polisïau a chynlluniau cenedlaethol gan Lywodraeth Cymru dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Mae'r rhagair i [Fframwaith Presenoldeb ar gyfer Cymru Gyfan](#) Llywodraeth Cymru (2011) yn datgan:

Mae'n debygol y bydd lefelau presenoldeb gwael yn cael effaith negyddol ar lwyddiant plentyn yn yr ysgol.

Mae Adran 3 o'r Fframwaith Presenoldeb ar gyfer Cymru Gyfan, sef y [Strategaethau i Ysgolion Wella Presenoldeb a Rheoli Diffyg Prydlondeb](#) (2011) yn datgan:

Mae ymchwil wedi dangos bod gwobrau yn llawer mwy effeithiol na chosb wrth ysgogi disgyblion. Yn ogystal ag annog a gwobrwyo presenoldeb, gall y cynlluniau hyn hefyd gynyddu proffil presenoldeb, yn yr ysgol ac yn y gymuned ehangach.

Mae llythyrau i rieni a gofalwyr a breintiau arbennig ymhlith llawer o ffyrdd arbennig o effeithiol o ddangos canmoliaeth am bresenoldeb da neu well. Gellir defnyddio system wobrwyo fwy ffurfiol o gredydau, rhinweddau a gwobrau i gydnabod a llongyfarch disgyblion, mae rhai enghreifftiau ohonynt yn fanwl [yn yr arweiniad].

Roedd ymateb Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg i'r ddeiseb yn nodi mai mater i ysgolion oedd penderfynu ar unrhyw feini prawf y maent yn eu gosod os ydynt wedi sefydlu cynlluniau gwobrwyo presenoldeb. Nid yw'r Fframwaith Presenoldeb ar gyfer Cymru Gyfan yn cynnig awgrymiadau penodol ynghylch y ffyrdd y dylai cynlluniau gwobrwyo weithredu neu ba faterion y dylid eu cymryd i ystyriaeth.

Mae Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet hefyd yn sôn am adroddiad Estyn, [Arfer effeithiol o ran gwella presenoldeb mewn ysgolion cynradd](#) (Mehffin 2015). Dywedodd hwn:

Mae llawer o ysgolion yn cydnabod ei bod yn bwysig annog presenoldeb da ar gyfer pob disgybl, yn enwedig y rhai na fyddent efallai'n gallu cael tystysgrif am ganran presenoldeb uchel dros gyfnod hir. Yn yr achosion gorau, mae'r ysgolion hyn yn datblygu systemau cymhellol sy'n gwobrwyo presenoldeb gwell neu bresenoldeb llawn dros gyfnod treigl, fel pum wythnos ar y tro. Mae hyn yn galluogi pob disgybl i barhau i anelu at bresenoldeb uchel, oherwydd ar ôl unrhyw gyfnod o absenoldeb, gellir gosod eu targed eto.

Mae ymateb Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet hefyd yn tynnu sylw at y ffaith bod yn rhaid i ysgolion wneud addasiadau rhesymol ar gyfer disgyblion (o dan Ddeddf Cydraddoldeb 2010) ac felly dylai ysgolion ystyried hyn wrth sefydlu cynlluniau gwobrwyo.

Mae dogfen Llywodraeth Cymru [Cefnogi Dysgwyr ag Anghenion Gofal Iechyd](#) (Mawrth 2017) yn nodi'n fwy eglur ei fod yn 'arfer annerbyniol' i:

cosbi dysgwr am eu cofnod presenoldeb os bydd yr absenoldeb yn gysylltiedig â'u hanghenion gofal iechyd. Ni ddylid defnyddio 'absenoldeb awdurdodedig' gan gynnwys apwyntiadau gofal iechyd, amser teithio i'r ysbyty neu i apwyntiad nac amser adfer rhag triniaeth neu salwch i gosbi dysgwr mewn unrhyw ffordd. Mae hyn yn cynnwys, ond nid yw'n gyfyngedig i, gymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau, teithiau neu wobrwyon lle mae cofnodion presenoldeb yn rhan o'r cymhelliant.

Mae Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet yn datgan bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn adolygu'r canllawiau presenoldeb, ac y caiff gwobrwyon eu hystyried fel rhan o hyn.

## Camau gweithredu Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

Cynhaliodd Pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc (y Pedwerydd Cynulliad) [Ymchwiliad i Bresenoldeb ac Ymddygiad](#) (Awst 2013). Mewn tystiolaeth, tynnodd Cymdeithas Genedlaethol y Prifathrawon a Chomisiynydd Plant Cymru sylw at y manteision o gyflwyno gwobrau am bresenoldeb da. Fodd bynnag, ni chynigiodd y Pwyllgor unrhyw sylw neu argymhelliad pellach o ran gwobrwyon.

## Deisebau Senedd y DU

Cyflwynwyd deisebau tebyg i Lywodraeth a Senedd y DU, er enghraifft, [Stop medical appointments affecting school attendance](#) (a gaewyd ym mis Ebrill 2017) a ddenodd 11,713 o lofnodion. Roedd ymateb Llywodraeth y DU yn debyg i ymateb Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg a Sgiliau:

The Department [of Education] does not specify or influence how schools might choose to reward good attendance. However, any system should comply with schools' legal duties around disability and medical conditions.

Caewyd deiseb debyg, [Ban attendance awards in schools](#), a ddenodd 2,602 o lofnodion, ar 15 Mawrth 2018.

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





Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-807  
Ein cyf/Our ref KW/00597/18

Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

David John Rowlands AC  
Cadeirydd - Y Pwyllgor Deisebau  
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru  
Bae Caerdydd  
Caerdydd CF99 1NA  
[government.committee.business@cymru.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:government.committee.business@cymru.gsi.gov.uk)

5 Mawrth 2018

Annwyl David ,

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 21 Chwefror am ddeiseb Laura Charles-Price yn annog Llywodraeth Cymru i newid y canllawiau ar wobrau presenoldeb mewn ysgolion yng Nghymru.

Mae [Fframwaith Presenoldeb Cymru Gyfan](#) yn rhoi arweiniad a safonau ar gyfer ysgolion ac awdurdodau lleol i sicrhau yr adroddir ar bresenoldeb mewn ffordd gyson. Os oes gan yr ysgol gynllun gwobrwyo presenoldeb ar gyfer disgyblion, yna cyfrifoldeb yr ysgol yw penderfynu ar y meini prawf ar gyfer rhoi'r gwobrau. Mae ysgolion yn pennu eu targedau presenoldeb eu hunain, ar y cyd ag awdurdodau lleol. Mae hyn yn ffordd o sicrhau y caiff amgylchiadau penodol pob ysgol ei ystyried. Y disgwyl yw bod y targedau hyn yn heriol, ond yn realistig.

Ar dudalen 8 o'r [canllawiau](#) atodedig rhoddir cyngor ar y defnydd o wobrau a chymhelliannau mewn ysgolion, ynghyd ag ambell astudiaeth achos.

Yn 2014, comisiynwyd Estyn i wneud adolygiad thematig o bresenoldeb mewn ysgolion. Un o brif ganfyddiadau'r [adroddiad](#) ar arfer effeithiol mewn ysgolion cynradd yw bod ysgolion sydd â phresenoldeb da neu bresenoldeb sy'n gwella yn defnyddio gwobrau a chymhelliannau i annog presenoldeb. Nododd yr adroddiad y gall hyn fod yn ffordd dda o annog presenoldeb.

Fodd bynnag, hoffai Llywodraeth Cymru bwysleisio bod angen tegwch mewn system o'r fath.

Mae Deddf Cydraddoldeb 2010 (Deddf 2010) yn rhoi dyletswydd ar sefydliadau dysgu i wneud addasiadau rhesymol ar gyfer plant a phobl ifanc ag anabledd (fel y'i diffinnir gan y Ddeddf). Dylid ystyried hyn wrth benderfynu pwy sy'n gymwys ar gyfer

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[Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales](mailto: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.

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cynlluniau gwobrwyo er mwyn sicrhau nad yw disgyblion ag anableddau a/neu anawsterau dysgu dan anfantais.

Mae Deddf 2010 yn gymwys i bob ysgol a gynhelir ac ysgol annibynnol, gan gynnwys ysgolion arbennig. Mae'r Llywodraeth wedi cyflwyno dyletswyddau penodol gyda'r nod o helpu awdurdodau cyhoeddus i gyflawni eu hymrwymiaidau o dan Ddeddf 2010. Felly, os oes gan ysgol gynllun gwobrwyo presenoldeb, rhaid sicrhau ei fod yn cyd-fynd â darpariaethau Deddf 2010 gan sicrhau nad yw'n rhoi plant ag anableddau neu gyflyrau meddygol dan anfantais. Golyga hyn na ddylai plant neu bobl ifanc sydd â phresenoldeb sy'n llai na 100% am resymau meddygol ddioddef oherwydd hynny, o ran system gwobrwyo presenoldeb yr ysgol.

Mae canllawiau statudol Llywodraeth Cymru '[Cefnogi Dysgwyr ag Anghenion Gofal iechyd](#)' hefyd yn berthnasol ac yn bwysig yn y cyd-destun hwn. Yr hyn a ddwedwn yw ei bod yn annerbyniol cosbi dysgwyr am eu presenoldeb os yw'r absenoldeb oherwydd anghenion gofal iechyd. Ni ddylid defnyddio 'absenoldebau awdurdodedig', megis apwyntiadau meddygol, amser teithio i'r ysbyty, amser gwella ar ôl triniaeth ac ati, i gosbi dysgwyr mewn unrhyw ffordd. Mae hyn yn cynnwys, ond nid yw'n gyfyngedig i, gymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau, teithiau neu wobrau annog presenoldeb.

Gan weithio gyda rhanddeiliaid a phartneriaid, mae fy swyddogion ar hyn o bryd yn adolygu'r canllawiau presenoldeb i sicrhau bod y trefniadau'n parhau i ddarparu cefnogaeth effeithiol ac eglurder i awdurdodau lleol, ysgolion, rhieni a dysgwyr. Fel rhan o'r adolygiad hwn, rhoddwn sylw dyledus i gynlluniau gwobrwyo a chymell.

Yn gywir



**Kirsty Williams AC/AM**

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg  
Cabinet Secretary for Education

## **P-04-399 Arferion lladd anifeiliaid**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Royce Clifford ac ystyriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor yn ystod Mehefin 2012, ar ôl casglu 400 o lofnodion ar bapur.

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Galwn ar y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i wahardd yr arfer o ladd anifeiliaid heb eu llonyddu i ddechrau.

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Ynni, Cynllunio a Materion Gwledig  
Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-399 & P-04-433  
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/00435/18

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13

March 2018

Dear David

Thank you for your email of 23 February, regarding petitions P-04-399 Slaughter Practices and P-04-433 CCTV in Slaughterhouses.

Animal welfare is a priority for the Welsh Government and the Wales Animal Health and Welfare Framework Group (WAHWFG). We have some of the highest animal welfare standards in the world and strict regulations to address any cases where these standards are not met. There are a number of controls already in place in slaughterhouses and official veterinarians are present, overseeing welfare and compliance with regulations. The larger slaughterhouses, which process the majority of animals, have CCTV and official veterinarians are able to access footage if they suspect welfare standards are not being met.

In my previous update to the petitions committee, I said that I was waiting for the views of the WAHWFG before commenting or making any decisions. The Framework Group recognised the evidence presented to support the use of CCTV and support the aspiration for there to be CCTV in all slaughterhouses in Wales. However, they subsequently agreed with the Task & Finish Group, based on the statistics presented concerning the number and type of welfare incidents in slaughterhouses, and the important role played by smaller slaughterhouses in parts of Wales, that currently there is not sufficient basis upon which to make CCTV a mandatory requirement. Please find the Group's report attached in Annex 1.

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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 50

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 being said, I am determined to improve standards and practices where it is necessary and reasonable to do so. My officials will be working closely with the industry to take further steps to improve operational standards and to safeguard animal welfare in the whole process. The intention is to provide support to the industry which could assist in improving facilities, operating processes, training and, as a result, the delivery of higher standards of animal welfare in all slaughterhouses across Wales and other parts of the meat supply chain. The increased use of CCTV will support this objective.

I have noted with interest the UK Government has, on 23 February, laid legislation which will make CCTV cameras mandatory in slaughterhouses in England. The legislation will come into effect from May 2018, once it passes through Parliament, at which point businesses will have six months to comply. The Scottish Government has also a commitment to consult.

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**Lesley Griffiths AC/AM**

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Ynni, Cynllunio a Materion Gwledig  
Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs

## Eitem 3.2

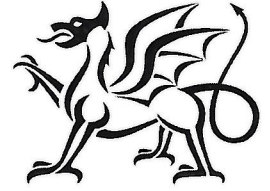
### **P-04-433 : Teledu Cylch Cyfyng mewn Lladd-dai**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Animal Aid ac ystyriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor yn ystod Tachwedd 2012, ar ôl casglu 1066 o lofnodion.

#### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym yn galw ar y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i'w gwneud yn orfodol i osod teledu cylch cyfyng mewn lladd-dai er mwyn helpu milfeddygon i reoli a monitro yn well, darparu deunydd ffilm er budd hyfforddiant ac ail-hyfforddi, atal cam-drin anifeiliaid, fel y ffilmiwyd gan Animal Aid, ac fel tystiolaeth ar gyfer erlyniad mewn achosion o gam-drin.

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Ynni, Cynllunio a Materion Gwledig  
Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs



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**Lesley Griffiths AC/AM**

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Ynni, Cynllunio a Materion Gwledig  
Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs





April 4<sup>th</sup> 2018

Dear Petitions Committee,

Thank you for your continued interest in our petition which calls for mandatory CCTV in Wales' slaughterhouses, and for writing to the Cabinet Minister once again regarding this campaign.

We are, of course, disappointed with the Minister's response to the Committee in which she indicates that she will not make CCTV mandatory at this time. She does, however, commit to driving up welfare standards and, in recognition of the value of CCTV, she writes that Official Veterinarians (OVs) 'are [already] able to access footage if they suspect that welfare standards are not being met'.

It is important to be reminded of the shortcomings of this voluntary approach. OVs can access footage only in slaughterhouses that have cameras, and where those cameras are installed in the correct parts of the slaughterhouse, turned on, facing the right way, and where the footage is retained. Moreover, it depends on FBOs voluntarily handing over that footage. The FSA admitted in April 2016 that 33 slaughterhouses in England and Wales were refusing to hand over their footage when requested by regulators.<sup>i</sup>

This voluntary approach also begs the question: what if the OVs don't suspect welfare standards are not being met? In many of Animal Aid's undercover investigations at 14 English slaughterhouses – where 13 were found to be breaking animal welfare laws – neither the FBO nor the FSA apparently had any idea that these breaches were occurring. If the vets in Wales' slaughterhouses were similarly unaware, they would not ask to see the footage.

While the Animal Health and Welfare Framework Group 'support the aspiration for there to be CCTV in all slaughterhouses in Wales', it does not go so far as to recommend mandatory CCTV for two reasons: the cost to smaller slaughterhouses and because in its view the number and type of welfare incidents revealed inside Wales' slaughterhouses were not deemed sufficient to warrant legislation.

To our knowledge, there have been no undercover investigations into Wales' slaughterhouses and so evidence of welfare breaches has not been discovered and revealed. Moreover, the regulators' own audits suggest that Wales' slaughterhouses are generally deemed to be of an acceptable standard, with just one slaughterhouse falling below the 'Generally Satisfactory' benchmark since January 2017.

However, it is not safe to assume that what happens on a day when the auditor visits – a pre-arranged visit when FBOs know exactly what they will be asked to demonstrate – is indicative of a typical day when an auditor is not standing before them. With that in mind, it

is all the more concerning that so many of Wales' 24 approved slaughterhouses failed to comply with fundamental legal welfare requirements during their audits in the past 16 months. For example:

- Requirement 24: personnel are required to demonstrate an appropriate level of competency in relation to animal welfare. Two slaughterhouses revealed severe breaches while three others revealed minor breaches.
- 25: the structure of the building itself must safeguard animal welfare. This is a fundamental issue and yet 10 slaughterhouses were unable to demonstrate full compliance with the law.
- 27: the scheduled arrival times and waiting times must safeguard animal welfare. Eleven slaughterhouses were unable to demonstrate full compliance, with two of them failing this aspect on two consecutive audits.
- 29: any crates or modules used to transport animals must be in an acceptable condition and handled appropriately. Two slaughterhouses failed to comply with this basic requirement.
- 210: lairaging conditions and pen provisions must be adequate – there must be bedding, water and food provision if the animals are kept overnight. One slaughterhouse displayed a serious breach of this legal requirement, while seven others were also unable to show compliance, three of them on two consecutive audits.
- 214: any stunning equipment must be adequately designed, constructed and maintained. One slaughterhouse displayed a serious breach of this legal requirement and another failed to be fully compliant.
- 215: the method of stunning must ensure quick and effective loss of consciousness and sensibility followed by death. Four slaughterhouses were not compliant with this requirement, with one of them failing on two consecutive audits.
- 216: there must be provision for back-up stunning and its use, yet five slaughterhouses were not fully compliant, with one failing to show compliance on two consecutive audits.
- 217: after stunning, checks to verify the animal is unconscious should be made. Four slaughterhouses failed to show compliance at their audits.

If slaughterhouses cannot comply with welfare laws when an auditor is standing in front of them, then action must be taken to protect animals at the most vulnerable time of their lives throughout the rest of the year.

The case Animal Aid puts forward for mandatory CCTV with independent monitoring is based on the significant welfare benefits to animals. However, there are other benefits, too, including ensuring compliance with hygiene regulations. In this regard, the audits of Wales' slaughterhouses over the past 16 months are deeply concerning. In some cases, it is unlikely CCTV would make a difference, but there are cases where cameras might be used to help drive compliance, such as:

- Requirement 32: all handling and processes from slaughtering to despatch must be done in a way that avoids the contamination of meat and offal entering the food chain. Just one slaughterhouse has been fully compliant with this requirement since January 2017; seven had a serious breach, while six more had a serious breach on two consecutive audits.
- 34: where relevant, all edible co-products are handled hygienically and subject to relevant controls (including raw materials intended for further processing). One slaughterhouse displayed a serious breach.
- 311: controls must ensure that risk of cross contamination is minimised, prevented or reduced to acceptable levels during operation and appropriate action taken should contamination occur. Two slaughterhouses displayed a serious breach, with a third seriously breaching this requirement in two consecutive audits.
- 314: wrapping and packaging materials must not be a source of contamination, and must be stored and handled in such a way that product contamination is avoided. One slaughterhouse displayed a serious breach.
- 41: design and layout must permit good food hygiene practice and protect against contamination between and during operations. Three slaughterhouses displayed a serious breach of this fundamental requirement.

There is, therefore, evidence that better regulation is needed in Wales' slaughterhouses to ensure full compliance with both welfare and hygiene requirements.

Ten days after the Cabinet Secretary wrote to the Petitions Committee, saying that she was determined to improve standards and practices, she announced a £1.1M Food Business Investment scheme package for small- and medium-sized slaughterhouses. This will include funds being made available for welfare-friendly infrastructure and facilities, including the installation and upgrading of CCTV monitoring systems.<sup>ii</sup>

While disappointed that the Minister has not announced a policy to make CCTV mandatory for Wales in line with the legislation that will shortly come into effect in England, Animal Aid nonetheless welcomes the Minister's commitment to welfare, and her indication that she will continue to explore opportunities to legislate for CCTV in the longer term.

Until that time, Animal Aid we will continue to make the case for mandatory CCTV with independent monitoring of the footage across Wales.

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<sup>i</sup> <https://www.thebureauinvestigates.com/stories/2016-08-28/severe-welfare-breaches-recorded-six-times-a-day-in-british-slaughterhouses>

<sup>ii</sup> <http://gov.wales/newsroom/environmentandcountryside/2018/180322-1.1m-grant-aid-scheme-for-small-and-medium-size-slaughterhouses/?lang=en>

**P-04-433 CCTV in Slaughterhouses –  
Correspondence from David Grimsell to Committee, 04.04.18**

Chair of the Welsh Assembly  
Petitions Committee

By email

31<sup>st</sup> March 2018

Dear Chair of the Petitions Committee

re Petition P-04-433 CCTV in Slaughterhouses  
Letter for consideration at the forthcoming Petitions Committee meeting  
scheduled for the 17<sup>th</sup> April 2018

1 The welfare of farm animals at the time of their slaughter is a matter of the utmost importance and of great concern to citizens across the U.K. There are Regulations to protect welfare of animals at this time which have been arrived at through democratic process and which citizens have a right to expect are properly monitored and enforced<sup>1</sup>.

2 Considerable concerns about welfare standards at slaughter have been raised particularly as a result of a number of fully documented undercover investigations into slaughterhouses in England from 2011 onwards<sup>2</sup>. These found that in 13 out of 14 slaughterhouses investigated that there were significant and frequent breaches of welfare regulations, including mis-stunning, failure to stun and others, as well as many instances of overt cruelty. The investigations were fully documented and relevant photographic and video material from these is available on-line<sup>2</sup>. The video and other footage was systematically reviewed against regulatory requirements and was submitted to the Food Standards Agency (FSA). A number of prosecutions and revocations of licenses in investigated slaughterhouses have followed based on the evidence submitted e.g. <sup>3</sup>.

3 In light of this evidence it is incontrovertible that welfare breaches at slaughter are frequent and widespread. It is clear also that the current mechanisms for monitoring welfare standards at slaughter have failed and are not detecting or preventing many such breaches. There is a very evident discrepancy between officially published statistics (eg from official veterinarian, OV, reports) and the actuality of welfare breaches occurring. While the undercover investigations were undertaken in English slaughterhouses there is no basis for assuming that things

are any different in Welsh slaughterhouses. It is, instead, highly likely that there are equivalent problems in Welsh ones.

4 The Welsh Government has been very tardy in seeking to respond to these issues. Its primary response has been to 'commission' a review by self-nominated industry representatives only (ie particularly those from the abattoir sector) referred to as the 'Task and Finish Group'. The Group produced a report which it submitted to the Government<sup>4</sup>. This report recommended that installation of CCTV in Welsh slaughterhouses should not be made compulsory.

5 The report of the Task and Finish Group has been strongly criticised for its poor quality and industry bias. As a concerned Welsh citizen, I submitted a detailed critique of the report to the Welsh Government and supplied copies to Assembly Members (a copy is supplied with this letter). Animal Aid<sup>5</sup> and the RSPCA<sup>6</sup> have each also submitted rigorous critiques (n.b. Animal Aid's submission has been previously supplied to the Petitions Committee). The British Veterinary Association (BVA) has been outspoken in its criticism of the report<sup>7</sup>.

6 The industry Task and Finish Group report fails to consider the fully-documented, extensive and publicly available evidence of welfare breaches and cruelty provided through undercover, independent investigations. While the report disregards this, the evidence was formally recognised by the Food Standards Agency (FSA), has been sufficient to be used in a number of successful prosecutions, and when publicly revealed, provided sufficient impetus to most large retail chains in the UK to require that their meat suppliers install CCTV and monitor the footage appropriately.

7 Secondly, ignoring the key relevant evidence (above), the report presumes, instead to rely on very limited data available through official statistics provided by the FSA, which is based primarily on Official Veterinarian (OV) reports. Even this evidence is misrepresented by the Task and Finish Group, which draws inappropriate conclusions from the limited data considered (see footnote).

*(Footnote: the report infers that because official statistics show there was a similar, small, number of reports of welfare breaches across all Welsh slaughterhouses with CCTV installed, and those without, that CCTV does not make a difference to detection of welfare breaches. However, the raw data used is not meaningful as it should have been adjusted for the significantly higher throughput of animals (about four times as many animals processed) in*

*slaughterhouses in Wales with CCTV (in some form) than those without. No such adjustment was made. This failure to adjust is an elementary error and reflective of the poor quality of analysis throughout the report).*

8 The official statistics cannot, however, be relied on, with or without adjustment. The evidence is overwhelming that they do not reflect the number of instances of welfare breaches occurring, and fail entirely to record the many instances of cruelty shown in video footage of the English slaughterhouses investigated. The comparison made by the Task and Finish Group relies also on a crude 'do they have CCTV or do they not' distinction. CCTV may or may not be located appropriately, footage may or not be monitored or reviewed etc.) properly. The Task and Finish Group's undertook no investigation, analysis or assessment of where or how any such CCTV was used. This is surprising in light of their report's pretension to assess the use and value of CCTV in Welsh slaughterhouses.

9 Thirdly, the Task and Finish Group report makes little reference to any outside sources of evidence, reports, papers or other material. The one source their report refers to is the published Opinion of the Farm Animal Welfare Committee (FAWC)<sup>8</sup>. However, the FAWC report is used in a highly selective and misleading way which misrepresents its content and recommendations. For example, the Task and Finish Group Report seeks to imply that the FAWC did not consider CCTV to be of particular value, and that it did not feel it necessary to recommend that CCTV be installed in slaughterhouses. This is far from the truth. The FAWC Opinion highlights a long series of benefits that CCTV is likely to provide, including that of protecting animal welfare. They specifically recommended that all Food Business Operators should install it (see, for example, FAWC Opinion Recommendation 90, '*In order to realise the potential benefits to animal welfare and to businesses identified in this Opinion, FAWC recommends that all approved slaughterhouse operators (Food Business Operators, FBOs) should install CCTV in all areas where live animals are kept and where animals are stunned and killed*').

10 Finally, the Task and Finish Group fails to make any reference to the conclusions and stated recommendations of any of the Food Standards Agency (FSA)<sup>9</sup>, the British Veterinary Association (BVA)<sup>10</sup>, or the RSPCA<sup>11</sup>, each of which strongly supports compulsory introduction of CCTV in all slaughterhouses and have provided arguments for doing so. The Report is more generally of low calibre, with poor quality of argument. It appears throughout to be selectively

biased towards industry-serving conclusions which imply that there are no significant welfare issues in Welsh slaughterhouses and that CCTV is not needed.

11 In 2017, the Welsh Government referred the Task and Finish Group Report to the advisory Wales Animal Health and Welfare Framework Group (WAHWFG). It also referred the critiques supplied by myself and Animal Aid. A critique published by the RSPCA was not, for some reason, considered by it. The advice provided to the Cabinet Secretary by WAHWFG was not made public, and its deliberations were not minuted. However, a copy has been obtained through FOI (copy supplied with this letter).

12 The WAHWFG advice repeated almost verbatim the content of the industry Task and Finish Group report. It made no reference to the content of critiques supplied in relation to it, or to any other criticisms that had been raised externally (e.g. by the BVA and others). The report only states without any further discussion of evidence or criticism that, '*We recognise the very good evidence presented to support the use of CCTV*'. This is simply vacuous.

13 The WAHWFG advice, following the Task and Finish Group Report, does not address at all the extensive, publicly available evidence of widespread welfare breaches revealed by fully-documented undercover investigations. Instead, it presumes to dismiss it stating, '*Much of the evidence countering the statistics presented in the Task and Finish Group report focussed on the alleged situation in England (we would ask the question as to whether these incidences were reported through official channels)*'. This comment seeks to imply that certain sources of clear evidence, without which the welfare problems would not otherwise have been detected, should be ignored. It also seeks to insinuate that the situation in Wales might be anticipated to be different from that evidenced in 13 out of 14 slaughterhouses in England. There is no basis for this. The reference to not '*reported through official channels*' is strange as the documented findings were indeed reported through these, being supplied directly to the FSA in full, and subsequently by the FSA to DEFRA with respect to pursuit of prosecutions arising.

14 The overall import of the WAHWFG advice to the Minister in relation to the Task and Finish Group Report is that,

a) they support '*the aspiration*' for CCTV to be used in Welsh slaughterhouses (p.1)

b) there is '*not sufficient basis upon which to make CCTV a mandatory requirement in abattoirs in Wales*'. (p.2)



c) they, *'recommend effort is focussed on developing, promoting and implementing the voluntary approach'*.(p.3)

d) the problem is not significant because, *'Looking at the evidence provided, all large slaughterhouses in Wales already have CCTV installed. Therefore the majority of animals slaughtered in Wales are already protected in this way'*. (p.4)

(Despite the many hundreds of thousands of animals slaughtered in abattoirs without CCTV).

It is noteworthy that throughout the Task and Finish Group Report, and the WAHWFG advice which mirrors it, that there is no recognition or acknowledgement at all of the extent, frequency or severity of welfare breaches in slaughterhouses (or the evidence that supports this). There appears to be denial and complacency about the need to prevent this. Instead, the reports presume to deflect attention to injuries and problems associated with transport to slaughterhouses, but not occurring within them (eg pp 4 and 5).

15 The WAHWFG advice, like that of the Task and Finish Group itself, is remarkably narrow. It doesn't even consider or reflect the content of the FAWC Opinion. It moreover, fails to reflect:

- ⑩ the specific current view and recommendation of the FSA<sup>9</sup> that CCTV should be compulsorily installed in all slaughterhouses and the multiple benefits likely to arise from this
- ⑩ the strong recommendation of the British Veterinary Association (BVA)<sup>10</sup> that CCTV should be compulsorily installed with footage available to OVs.
- ⑩ the strong recommendation of the RSPCA that CCTV should be compulsorily installed to protect animal welfare.

16 It is pertinent to note that, while it includes some veterinary representatives, the WAHWFG is heavily meat industry-dominated. That evaluation of the potential arguments for installing CCTV in Welsh slaughterhouses has presumed to be suitably dealt with by firstly a self-nominated abattoir and associated meat-industry group, and subsequently by a meat-industry dominated advisory group is astonishing. It could have been anticipated that the Task and Finish Group, with vested interest in downplaying or denying welfare problems in slaughterhouses, and in avoiding incurring costs and changes to incorporate CCTV, would dismiss relevant evidence and argue for no change. Similarly, this could have been anticipated to be reinforced by an industry-dominated advisory group. And that appears to be precisely what has happened - to the advantage of the industry, but to the risk and detriment of animal welfare.

16 The process followed by the Government to date, can be characterised as follows:

- a) very tardy consideration of the issue of CCTV in slaughterhouses – evidence-based concerns were raised back in 2011. The Government's concern for animal welfare at slaughter has not been evident from this.
- b) to ask the abattoir industry, the subject of criticism of failure to prevent welfare breaches, to itself nominate people to assess the 'value' of CCTV in Welsh slaughterhouses (without a clear or adequate brief and without any independent membership)
- c) to refer an industry-determined report to an industry heavy 'advisory' body whose discussions and review were not made public
- d) to fail to consult with the public on this matter at any point despite this being a matter of widespread public concern that bears on the proper application of welfare at slaughter laws.
- e) to fail to make publicly apparent any of the steps it was taking or the process it was following. (The Petitions Committee itself last requested further information from the Government on April 17<sup>th</sup> 2017, without response almost a year later). This, despite the fact the process has the potential to lead to introduction of legislation by the Assembly, or its rejection.

18 Since the WAHWFG advice was supplied to the Minister the UK Government has confirmed that it will introduce a requirement in May for CCTV to be compulsorily installed in all slaughterhouses in England within 6 months. A consultation associated with this found that 99% of 4000 respondents supported this. It can reasonably be anticipated that public feeling in Wales is very similar, though the Welsh Government has not consulted the public. The Scottish Government has recently announced its own consultation in relation to proposals to require compulsory installation of CCTV in Scottish slaughterhouses. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018 the Welsh Secretary admonished the Welsh Government for failing to yet take action to improve welfare in slaughterhouses and urged it to introduce legislation requiring compulsory CCTV<sup>12</sup>.

19 On 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018 the Cabinet Secretary, Lesley Griffiths announced that Wales would not be requiring the introduction of CCTV in Welsh slaughterhouses, instead offering general financial support to small and medium Welsh abattoirs, and only hinting at potential future legislation on CCTV. The Cabinet Secretary stated, '*Officials worked closely with a slaughter industry task and finish group which provided a report of recommendations to me last year on ways to improve*

*animal welfare at slaughter. The Wales Animal Health and Welfare Framework Group supported the recommendations...’.*

20 The Cabinet Secretary’s statement evidences a complete failure to understand the very extensive limitations of the industry Task and Finish Group Report and its rubber-stamping by the industry heavy WAHWFG. It recognises not at all the comprehensive criticisms of the inadequacies of the industry report, a report which demonstrates not the slightest concern or recognition of significant welfare problems in slaughterhouses that has led to legislation in England, and the current consultation in Scotland. It accepts the denial of relevant evidence by the industry, evidence which has shown again and again and again through fully documented undercover investigations that not just a few but likely hundreds of thousands of animals (or more) experience unnecessary suffering or cruelty at the time of their death every year in the UK. The Cabinet Secretary’s Statement evidences in particular disregard for the animals.

21 The Government appears to view the slaughter industry as the only relevant ‘stakeholder’. It is worth remembering that key stakeholders are all Welsh citizens whose views about how animals are treated is highly relevant. Citizens have, amongst other things, a ‘stake’ in legislation relating to slaughter, democratically arrived at, to be properly applied and for their to be mechanisms to ensure that it is. CCTV has an important role to play in this and it urgently requires to be implemented. The most important ‘stakeholders’ though are the animals themselves, who require protection when at their most vulnerable.

21 I exhort Members of the Petitions Committee to press for proper recognition of the welfare harms and risks that exist for animals at the time of their slaughter in Welsh slaughterhouses, and to press for urgent legislation to require implementation of CCTV in ALL slaughterhouses as part of a strategy to prevent these harms. A voluntarist, industry-serving approach is not sufficient particularly where the industry itself denies any problems.

Thank you for your attention.

David Grimsell  
Welsh citizen

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12 Office of the Secretary of State for Wales (2018) Welsh Secretary calls on Welsh Government to improve welfare standards in Welsh slaughterhouses. Press Release: 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/welsh-secretary-calls-on-welsh-government-to-improve-welfare-standards-in-welsh-slaughterhouses>

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# Eitem 3.3

## **P-05-759 Ailagor Ffordd Goedwig Cwmcarn adeg y Pasg 2018**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan The Friends of Cwmcarn Forest Drive ar ôl casglu 1450 llofnod - 353 ar bapur a 1097 ar-lein.

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ddarparu'r dull angenrheidiol i ganiatáu i Gyfoeth Naturiol Cymru ailagor Ffordd Goedwig Cwmcarn yn llawn i geir preifat adeg y Pasg 2018.

### **Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:**

Yn ystod haf 2014, dywedodd Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru y byddai Ffordd Goedwig Cwmcarn, a elwir hefyd yn Daith Cwmcarn, ar gau am o leiaf ddwy flynedd o fis Tachwedd 2014, a bod hyn yn angenrheidiol oherwydd haint llarwydd Japan yn nyffryn Cwmcarn a'r llechweddau cyfagos. Mae'r broses o gael gwared ar y llarwydd bellach bron wedi'i gwblhau ac mae Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru yn dechrau adfer y llwybrau beiciau a llwybrau troed, ond nid ymddengys fod bwriad adfer Taith Cwmcarn, er bod y mwyafrif helaeth o'r llwybr heb ei niweidio. Mae canolbwyntio ar ddefnyddwyr ceir preifat y ffordd yn annheg ac yn ddianghenraid pan fydd defnyddwyr eraill dim ond yn wynebu amhariad dros dro. Mae llawer o'r rhai sy'n cael mynediad i'r Ffordd gyda char preifat yn gwneud hynny am na allant symud llawer - mae rhai yn deuluoedd gyda phlant bach, mae llawer yn hŷn, yn anabl neu o'n cymunedau lleiafrifoedd ethnig a mewnfudwyr. Mae methu â darparu cyfleuster ar gyfer y bobl hyn yn wahaniaethol, yn enwedig pan fo cynlluniau, a'r arian ar gael, i ddarparu cyfleusterau pellach ar gyfer defnyddwyr eraill. Mae diffyg ffordd sy'n gwbl hygyrch yn amddifadu'r bobl hynny sydd fwyaf difreintiedig yn ddiwylliannol ac yn fateryddol o'u prif gyfleuster ar gyfer iechyd a lles. Mae ein sefydliad, Cyfeillion Ffordd Goedwig Cwmcarn eisiau mynediad cyfartal i holl ddefnyddwyr Taith Cwmcarn ac yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru a Chyfoeth Naturiol Cymru i ddarparu ffordd o wneud hyn yn bosibl.

### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

- Islwyn
- Dwyrain De Cymru



David J Rowlands AC/AM  
Chair  
Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018

Dear Mr Rowlands,

**PETITION P-05-759 : Re-Open the Cwmcarn Forest Drive at Easter 2018**

Thank you for your letter of 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018 requesting a progress report for your Committee. You have asked that we write to you with an update following the public meeting planned for Spring 2018, which we will do.

I can provide a short interim update now which you might find helpful.

To provide the necessary impetus and focus that this issue requires I have appointed one of my management tier staff, who comes with a background of delivering large scale energy projects on the Welsh Government's Woodland Estate, to act as a Project Executive and establish the work required as a formal Project. This will include a proposal to reinstate and open the Forest Drive to the community and public.

He has already started to establish relationships with Caerphilly County Borough Council staff and Mr Rob Southall (Friends of Cwmcarn Forest Drive), and met with Mr Southall on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February.

In trying to achieve our aim we must also take a longer-term view of the entire recreational facility at Cwmcarn and, jointly with Caerphilly County Borough Council, have the objective of making it financially sustainable. This will inevitably see a project of change and investment lasting several years.

## **Public Meeting – Spring 2018**

The spring public meeting you refer to is scheduled for 7<sup>th</sup> March and the necessary and appropriate members of staff from Natural Resources Wales will be in attendance and will provide an update on progress.

We will provide you with a more detailed briefing after that meeting as requested.

## **Welsh Government Funding Options**

As stated in my letter of 17<sup>th</sup> November 2017, the reinstatement of the Forest Drive will need significant capital investment. This is due to the unusual impact of concentrated forest operations forced upon us by the need to remove large areas of infected larch trees and a need to reinstate in accordance with current safety standards.

Before we can discuss detailed capital funding options with Welsh Government we must first commission a structural engineering survey to determine as accurate an estimate of cost for reinstatement as we can. Our civil engineering expertise is in lower specification forest roads whilst Caerphilly County Borough Council will have expertise in highways more akin to a Forest Drive and so we will explore the possibility of CCBC undertaking the structural survey but failing this we will aim to tender and have this completed by June 2018, subject to operational funding being available.

## **Looking Forward**

The Cwmcarn Project needs the next three months to become properly established with the clear long term objective of a financially sustainable operational facility. This will only be achieved by NRW and Caerphilly County Borough Council determining a sustainable long-term relationship that provides appropriate stakeholders, including the Friends of Cwmcarn, the opportunity to influence the future of the facility.

We will provide a further update after the public meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> March but I hope that this reassures you in the meantime that we are progressing this matter as we have previously committed to do.

Yours sincerely,



Kevin Ingram  
Interim Chief Executive





David Rowlands AM  
Chair – Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales,  
Ty Hywel,  
Cardiff Bay,  
Cardiff,  
CF99 1NA

Saturday 7th April 2018

Dear David

Thank you very much for forwarding Kevin Ingram, Interim Chief Executive, of NRW's dated 22nd February 2018 letter and I am pleased to confirm that I we had a very successful public meeting on the 7th March with over 100 members of the public in attendance. John Hogg, Steve Morgan, Derek Stephen and Sally Tansey attended on behalf of NRW and the overall impression we gained from what they said was positive. We believe that, with the necessary revenue streams sourced, it should be possible to get the Scenic Drive re-opened by September of 2019. We would once again like to re-iterate that question raised by our petition asks for the Welsh Government to help source the finances required to re-open the Forest Drive and if there is a requirement to draw on European Union (WEFO) funding then time is now of the essence and it should be done as soon as possible. The Welsh Government were consulate on the closure of the Forest Drive and as an aspect of this they should have insisted upon NRW ring-fencing a re-instatement fund. As they failed to do this our society considers that the problems surrounding this issue were caused by the Welsh Government's lack of due diligence on this matter and hold them accountable. We would appreciate a commitment from them that they will ensure that, if necessary, funds will be made available to ensure the Drive will be re-opened to private cars as soon as is possible.

Our petition calls for the Cwmcarn Forest Drive to re-open at Easter 2018 and it seems that it may be time to close it to consideration by the Petitions committee, however given that the project led by Derek Stephen is only just starting I would like to suggest that the Petitions committee maintains a watch brief on this issue for at least the next six months. Obviously it is very much up to your committee to determine whether it wants to do this or not but given NRW's track record it may be considered appropriate at this time to keep an eye on how things move forward.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R Southall', written in a cursive style.

Robert Southall  
Chair, Friends of Cwmcarn Forest Drive

### P-05-778 Amddiffyn Cyllyll Môr ar Draeth Llanfairfechan

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Vanessa L Dye, ar ôl casglu 225 o lofnodion ar-lein a 234 ar bapur – cyfanswm o 459 lofnodion.

#### Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i wneud y canlynol:

- comisiynu astudiaeth ymchwil i ganfod cyflwr gwelyau'r cyllyll môr a'u hyfywedd fel adnodd naturiol hirdymor, a rhoi moratoriwm ar waith ar gyfer pysgota cyllyll môr hyd nes y gall yr ymchwil adrodd ar ei ganfyddiadau;
- cadarnhau tymor 'caeëdig' ar gyfer cynaeafu cyllyll môr sy'n cyd-fynd â'r tymor silio h.y. mis Mai i fis Medi;
- llunio rheoliadau yn ogystal â'r maint glanio lleiaf o 10cm i gynnwys cwotâu penodol y mae unigolion yn cael eu casglu; a
- chyflwyno deddfwriaeth a rheoliadau i amddiffyn y cyllyll môr ar draeth Llanfairfechan.

"Mae'r cynaeafu ar raddfa fawr o gyllyll môr ar draeth Llanfairfechan wedi bod yn destun pryder i lawer o drigolion a chadwraethwyr ers nifer o flynyddoedd." (Cyf: llythyr at Lesley Griffiths AC, Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet gan Janet Finch Saunders AC 28 Gorffennaf 2017.)

Ar hyn o bryd yr unig reolaeth reoliadol ar gyllyll môr yw bod yn rhaid iddynt fod â maint glanio lleiaf cyfreithiol o 10cm, ac mae gwiriadau sy'n ymwneud â rheoli'r hyn sy'n dod yn rhan o'r gadwyn fwyd. Mae llawer o drigolion yn pryderu am y diffyg ymddangosiadol o weithdrefnau a/neu reoliadau sy'n llywodraethu'r broses o gasglu cyllyll môr yn enwedig o ran dynodi tymor 'caeëdig' yn ystod silio, y cwotâu a ganiateir, a'r angen am gynnal gwaith ymchwil ar y cyllyll môr i ganfod yr effaith ar yr ecosystem a'r amgylchedd lleol.

Ers 2013 nodwyd gan nifer o ffynonellau fod cyllyll môr yn cael eu cynaeafu mewn niferoedd mawr o draeth Llanfairfechan. Mae tystiolaeth i gefnogi'r honiad hwn wedi cael ei dogfennu ar sawl achlysur yn y cyfryngau cymdeithasol. Mae cais diweddar ar Hysbysfwrdd Llanfairfechan ar gyfer unrhyw luniau neu fideos o'r rheini sy'n casglu cyllyll môr yn dangos yn glir bod nifer fawr o bobl yn ymwneud â'r gweithgarwch hwn. Mae'r broses o gasglu'r cyllyll môr fel arfer yn digwydd ar ôl llanw uchel.

### **Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:**

Dyma rywfaint o gefndir hanesyddol am y mater hwn. Yn 2013 amlygwyd y cynaeafu gan bapur newydd Weekly News gan Tom Davidson pan nodwyd fod 'criw o dros 100 o bobl yn cynaeafu llawer iawn o gyllyll môr...' Roedd pryderon hefyd fod gweithwyr anghyfreithlon yn cael eu hecsbloetio a bod y cyllyll môr yn cael eu pysgota at ddibenion masnachol. Ar y pryd, dywedodd un o'r trigolion ei fod 'wedi gweld golygfeydd tebyg yn ymwneud â nifer cynyddol o gasglwyr yn ystod yr ychydig wythnosau diwethaf. Mae'r trigolion yn flin oherwydd y nifer fawr o gynaeafwyr gydag ofnau y gallai'r cynefin lleol gael ei ddifrodi yn anadferadwy, gyda channoedd o gyllyll môr yn cael eu casglu oddi ar y traeth yn rheolaidd.'

Er bod yr ofnau o ran bod y casglwyr yn cael eu defnyddio fel rhan o gaethwasiaeth fodern a'r pysgod cregyn yn dod yn rhan o'r gadwyn fwyd wedi cael eu tawelu gan ymdrechion parhaus yr heddlu a'r Asiantaeth Safonau Bwyd, mae canlyniadau amgylcheddol y broses gyson a systematig o gasglu cyllyll môr yn parhau i fod yn broblem fawr, a all effeithio ar fywyd adar môr ac eraill yn yr ardal, ynghyd ag achosi newidiadau posibl yn y dwysedd o dywod ar y traeth. Mae rhai pryderon ynglŷn â'r tywod yn ansefydlog mewn mannau a gallai pobl sy'n anghyfarwydd â'r traeth yn hawdd fynd i drafferthion e.e. mae rhai o'r casglwyr yn cynaeafu'r cyllyll môr gryn bellter i ffwrdd oddi wrth ddiogelwch y tir.

Mae wedi bod yn eithaf diraddiol a rhwystredig i ddinasyddion cyffredin wylio'r ysbeilio o adnodd amgylcheddol ac yn cwestiynu pam mae sefydliadau sydd â chylch gwaith i warchod yr amgylchedd yn ymddangos i gael eu llyffetheirio oherwydd y diffyg gweithdrefnau/deddfau priodol. Mae hyn yn syndod o gofio bod traeth Llanfairfechan wedi'i dynodi'n Safle o Ddiddordeb Gwyddonol Arbennig, Ardal Gwarchodaeth Arbennig ac Ardal Cadwraeth Arbennig. 2013. Mae'n rhaid bod rheoliadau o fewn y cyrff hyn o wybodaeth i fanteisio arnynt fel ffynhonnell i ddiogelu'r anghydbwysedd hwn mewn ecosystem o'r fath?

### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

- Not provided

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Ynni, Cynllunio a Materion Gwledig  
Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-778  
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/00563/18

David John Rowlands AM

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

20 March 2018

Dear David

Thank you for your letter of 12 March, regarding P-05-778 Protect the Razor Clams on Llanfairfechan Beach.

I expect to receive the razor clam stock assessment methodology report on 31 March 2018 or shortly afterwards. The timescale for the development of a method for razor clam stock assessment will depend on the report findings and will probably take several months. Any potential recommendations relating to the optimal time of year for stock assessment will also have to be considered.

Once a razor clam stock assessment method has been agreed a new contract for delivery of the assessment will be put out for tender via the Welsh Government Fisheries and Marine Environmental Evidence Framework.

Bilingual signs relating to the closure are prominently displayed at the 5 access points to the Llanfairfechan and Penmaenmawr beaches. The signs are checked periodically and have been replaced when necessary.

Regards  
Lesley

**Lesley Griffiths AC/AM**

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Ynni, Cynllunio a Materion Gwledig  
Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning 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 75**

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-05-778 – Protection of Razor Clams on Llanfairfechan beach –  
Correspondence from petitioner to Committee, 23.03.18**

Dear Petition Committee Members,

**Re: Comments for Petition Committee Meeting March 2018 – See  
emboldened sections for key points**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments for the next Petition Committee Meeting.

In respect of the Cabinet Secretary for Energy, planning and rural affairs letter (March 2018), which states that the ‘stock assessment methodology’ report is due to be submitted by 31<sup>st</sup> March. After the report is received a contract will be put out to tender for the assessment work to be conducted. Being mindful of comments forwarded to the Petition Committee in February; the residents, who attended the Public meeting held by Janet Finch-Saunders (AM) last July, raised many concerns about the apparent total lack knowledge regarding the types /extent/ density/ overall health and potential environmental effects of over fishing of the razor clam beds on Llanfairfechan beach. Therefore, **could I kindly request these areas of concern be built into the wording of the remit that is given those persons who are successful in the bid for the tender?**

To restate February comments, stories about overfishing are being played out across the planet, so it’s good to have the opportunity to do something positive to improve the environment at local level. **It is important that the people the Welsh Government select to conduct the research of the razor clam beds on Llanfairfechan beach that the researchers are apprised of fundamental concerns outlined within the ongoing documents and information about this Petition and the underpinning need for rigorous legislation to protect the razor clams on Llanfairfechan beach.**

Once again; the lack of a current strategy for assessing razor clam stocks means that **whoever conducts this research will be in the unrivalled position**

**of being 'map makers' rather than 'map readers' in collecting evidence and setting benchmarks and recommendations which will inform 'fisheries' practices to help maintain this precious environmental area for the future. THIS REALLY IS AN OPPORTUNITY, NOT, TO BE MISSED.**

In addition, the Cabinet Secretary for Energy, planning and rural affairs letter (March 2018), states that signs relating to the closure of the razor clam beds are prominently displayed at the 5 access points to the beach. However, **as of this today, (3<sup>rd</sup> April), I found only two signs on the promenade. One of which is sello-taped to a waste bin near the main jetty and another which is tied to a nearby lamp post. Neither of which are prominent. There do not appear to be any signs on or near other access points.**

I wish to thank the Petition Committee for continuing work on this petition.

Yours faithfully,

Vanessa L Dye

## Eitem 3.5

### **P-05-779 Sganio gorfodol gan gynghorau am ficrosglodion mewn anifeiliaid anwes**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan #CatsMatter Campaign, ar ôl casglu 910 o lofnodion ar-lein.

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

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i gyflwyno polisi er mwyn sicrhau sganio gorfodol gan gynghorau am ficrosglodion mewn anifeiliaid anwes.

Mae milfeddygon a llochesi yn sganio anifeiliaid anwes y deuir o hyd iddynt, ond nid oes unrhyw ofyniad ar gynghorau i wneud hynny. Gall y system ficrosglodion fod yn gwbl effeithiol dim ond os yw anifeiliaid sydd â microsglodion yn cael eu sganio. Mae'r drefn hon yn hanfodol o safbwynt perchnogion sy'n gorfod dioddef yr artaith o chwilio am anifail anwes sydd wedi mynd ar goll am wythnosau neu fisoedd, a hynny heb wybod beth sydd wedi digwydd iddo.

Ar hyn o bryd, nid oes polisi ar waith i sicrhau bod cynghorau yn sganio'r cathod a'r cŵn y mae'r timau sy'n glanhau'r strydoedd ar ran y cynghorau yn dod o hyd iddynt. Os yw anifail anwes yn mynd ar goll, gall hyn fod yn brofiad arteithiol i'w berchennog. Weithiau, pan fydd cath yn mynd ar goll, ni fydd ei berchennog byth yn cael gwybod a yw wedi cael ei lladd mewn damwain ffordd, er enghraifft. Nid oes unrhyw derfyn ar y mater i berchennog yr anifail, a gall y teimlad o golled barhau'n ddi-ben-draw.

#### **Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:**

Ar hyn o bryd, dyma'r cynghorau yng Nghymru nad ydynt yn sganio anifeiliaid anwes: Gwynedd, Ynys Môn, Caerdydd, Casnewydd, Blaenau Gwent a Chastell-nedd Port Talbot. Ar hyn o bryd, mae'r cynghorau sy'n weddill yn sganio anifeiliaid.

Fodd bynnag, mae'r cynghorau hyn yn cyfaddef eu bod ond yn sganio anifail pan fyddant yn penderfynu ei fod mewn cyflwr priodol i wneud hynny. Mae'r drefn hon ond yn lleddfu galar perchnogion yn rhannol; bydd nifer o berchnogion yn parhau i fod yn y tywyllwch. Mae mwyafrif yr anifeiliaid sy'n cael eu taro ar y ffyrdd yn dioddef anafiadau difrifol. Ni ddylid defnyddio anaf o'r fath fel esgus i beidio â bodloni'r ddyletswydd foesol i roi gwybod i'r perchennog. Dylid sganio pob anifail anwes, waeth beth yw ei gyflwr, a rhoi



gwybod i'r perchennog. Rydym y cydnabod y gall glanhawyr stryd deimlo gofid neu drallod wrth sganio anifeiliaid sydd mewn cyflwr drwg, ond y ffaith yw y byddant yn gorfod ymdrin â'r anifeiliaid hyn waeth beth yw ein polisi arfaethedig. Maent yn ymdrin ag achosion o'r fath yn rheolaidd ar hyn o bryd. Rydym yn gwerthfawrogi natur y gofid hwn, ond ni fydd y sefyllfa sy'n bodoli ar hyn o bryd yn gwaethygu o ganlyniad i'r polisi arfaethedig, ac ni fyddai'r gofid hwn yn cyfateb i ofid perchnogion sy'n adnabod ac yn caru'r anifeiliaid hyn ar lefel bersonol ac y mae ganddynt hawl foesol i wybod beth sydd wedi digwydd iddynt.

### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

- Not residing in Wales

**P-05-779 Compulsory scanning of domestic pets for microchips by councils- Correspondence from Blaenau Gwent CBC to the Chair, 22.2.18**

Dear Mr Rowlands

Blaenau Gwent CBC does not currently scan cats/dogs, for identification purposes, which have been involved in RTA's. Officers are currently investigating the implications for adopting a policy whereby these animals are scanned, which will include discussions with colleagues in neighbouring L/A's. Once the implications have been identified, a decision will be made as to whether it is, or is not, feasible to implement such a policy.

Sent on Behalf of Michelle Morris

Managing Director

# Pennaeth Adran Amgylchedd

(Cynllunio, Gwarchod y Cyhoedd, Eiddo, Trafnidiaeth a Chefn Gwlad)

## Head of Environment Department

(Planning, Public Protection, Property, Transport & Countryside)

**Dafydd Wyn Williams**



Gofynnwch am/Ask for: Dafydd Wyn Williams

☎(01286) 679371

Ein Cyf / Our Ref: **DWW/gmo**

Eich Cyf / Your Ref:

✉ DafyddWynWilliams@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

David J Rowlands AC

Cadeirydd

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

Bae Caerdydd

Caerdydd

CF99 1NA

14 Mawrth/March 2018

Annwyl Syr/Fadam

Dear Sir/Madam

**Deiseb P-05-779 Sganio Gorfodol gan Gynghorau am Ficrosglodion mewn Anifeiliaid Anwes**

**Petition P-05-779 Compulsory Scanning of Domestic Pets for Microchips by Councils**

Diolch am eich gohebiaeth dyddiedig 25 Ionawr 2018.

Thank you for your correspondence dated 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

Mae'r Cyngor yn cydnabod y gall colli anifail anwes fod yn drallodus iawn i berchnogion anifeiliaid anwes a'u teuluoedd.

The Council recognizes that the loss of a pet can be very distressing for pet owners and their families.

Er bod yr RSPCA yn argymhell gosod microsglodion ar gathod fel arfer da, y sefyllfa gyfreithiol yw nad oes rheidrwydd ar berchnogion i wneud hynny. O ystyried y sefyllfa yma, nid oes gan Gyngor Gwynedd bolisi ar gyfer sganio anifeiliaid anwes sydd wedi marw.

Whilst the RSPCA does recommend microchipping cats as good practice, the legal position is that owners are not required to microchip their pet cats. Given the current legal position, Gwynedd Council does not have a policy for scanning deceased pets for microchips.

Yr ydym yn gwerthfawrogi ac yn deall yr effaith y gall colli anifail anwes gael ar y perchennog, ond mae'n rhaid i ni yn anffodus eich cynghori bod cyfyngiadau ariannol presennol llywodraeth leol - lle'r ydym yn cael trafferth i ddarparu'r swyddogaethau y mae'n ofynnol i ni i ddarparu yn ôl y gyfraith - yn ei gwneud yn annhebygol iawn y bydd polisi ar gyfer sganio cathod marw yn cael ei fabwysiadu

I must stress again that we appreciate and understand the impact that the loss of pet can have on the owner, but we must advise you that due to the current financial constraints in local government, we are even struggling to provide the functions that we are required to provide by law. It is therefore unlikely that a policy for scanning deceased cats will be adopted by the Council

130318\_LIC\_Deiseb

Swyddfa'r Cyngor  
Caernarfon  
Gwynedd. LL55 1SH  
01766 771000

Yr wyf yn gobeithio bod hyn yn egluro safbwynt y I hope that this clarifies the Council's position regarding  
Cyngor ynghylch y mater hwn a diolch i chi unwaith eto this matter and thank you again for your  
am eich gohebiaeth. correspondence.

Yn gywir Yours sincerely



**Dafydd Williams**  
**Pennaeth Adran Amgylchedd/Head of Environment Department**

**SWYDDFA CYMORTH Y CABINET  
CABINET SUPPORT OFFICE**

Fy Nghyf / My Ref : MM

Eich Cyf / Your Ref: P-05-779

Dyddiad / Date : 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018



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Mr David J Rowlands AM  
Chair of the Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

Annwyl/Dear David,

**Re: P-05-779 Correspondence from the Chair of the Petitions Committee –  
Compulsory Scanning of Domestic Pets for Microchips by Councils**

Thank you for your letter dated 25 January 2018 regarding the compulsory scanning of deceased domestic pets for microchips by councils in Wales, which was sent to the Council's Chief Executive.

I can confirm that following a review that was undertaken in 2010, Cardiff Council has implemented a process for dealing specifically with deceased dogs found on the adopted highway in the city. If and when they find and are able to recover the deceased dog, Council officers will take the animal to Cardiff Dogs Home where the dog is then scanned and where possible, the dog owner will be informed based on the information provided by any microchip that is present.

Cardiff Dogs Home is manned 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and keeps both a register of dogs impounded in the Dogs Home and those reported lost. A log is also kept of all deceased dogs that are scanned at the Dogs Home.

Unfortunately, there are some instances where dogs are hit and killed by vehicles on high speed roads and it can be extremely difficult to recover the animal carcass or find the microchip to enable it to be scanned. In such instances, the safety of council employees and the general public must take priority in any operational decision to recover the animal carcass from the adopted highway. The Council's Street Cleansing Service will keep a record of such incidents and where feasible, will also retain any recoverable items such as dog collars and tags, which can then be passed on to the dog owner. However, generally in these circumstances, the



deceased dogs have to be disposed of appropriately in accordance with relevant waste and animal health regulations.

I can further confirm that the Council is considering expanding this process to include the recovery, scanning and disposal of other deceased domestic pets, such as cats, which are found on the adopted highway. We have also looked into the possibility of taking any deceased cats that are recovered to local vets, as opposed to the Dogs Home for obvious reasons, but have been unable to find a partner that was willing to support this service.

As a result, the Council has introduced an informal process whereby cat owners can contact the Council's contact centre, Connect to Cardiff (C2C), with a location and description of their missing pet and officers from the Street Cleansing Service will then check any records held to see if the cat has been found dead and disposed of appropriately by Council officers. Where there is a likely match, the owner is then contacted to inform them of their loss. However, it is not currently compulsory for cat owners to have their pets microchipped in the same way as dogs and therefore, the routine scanning of all deceased cats found on the adopted highway is considered to be both time consuming and inappropriate in terms of maintaining the efficiency of our highway and street cleansing operations.

As the relevant Cabinet Secretary pointed out in correspondence to your Committee back in September 2017, the Welsh Government saw no need previously to require local authorities to compulsorily scan dogs for microchips when developing the current legislation that requires the microchipping of all dogs in Wales. Any proposal for the Welsh Government to mandate the compulsory microchipping and scanning of domestic cats or pets more generally would therefore require a review of existing legislation and guidance. This would also have specific operational and cost implications for local authorities.

The Council understands the views that have been expressed by the petitioner to the National Assembly for Wales and by other cat owners or animal welfare charities in previous correspondence with the Council on this matter. However at this point in time, the Council believes that the introduction of a voluntary charter, based on existing best practice, which sets out how deceased domestic pets found on the adopted highway will be dealt with by local authorities, may provide a more appropriate way forward that the Welsh Government may wish to consider.

Yn gwyir,  
Yours sincerely,



**Cynghorydd / Councillor Michael Michael**  
**Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling & Environment /**  
**Aelod Cabinet dros Strydoedd Glân, Ailgylchu a'r Amgylchedd**

Ask for/*Gofynnwch am* Paul Jones  
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Your Ref/*Eich Cyf*  
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DX  
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**Streetscene**  
**Y-Strydynun**



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Mr D.J Rowlands  
Chair of Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CARDIFF  
CF99 1NA

7<sup>th</sup> February 2018

**RE: Petition P-05-779 Compulsory scanning of domestic pets for microchips by councils**

Dear Mr Rowlands,

In response to your recent enquiry regarding our current policy of the above I am able to confirm that we do actually carry out scanning of suitable animal carcasses involved in highway incidents together with temporary storage of collected carcasses allowing owners to have some time to make enquiries and locate their animals. Any carcasses not retrieved are eventually disposed of via incineration.

I trust this information is of use, any queries please contact writer.

Yours sincerely

Paul Jones

Head of Streetscene and City Services



**CYNGOR SIR  
YNYS MÔN  
ISLE OF ANGLESEY  
COUNTY COUNCIL**

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Ein Cyf - Our Ref. WGJ/VLJ  
Eich Cyf - Your Ref.

20 February, 2018

Dear Mr Rowlands

**Petition P-05-779 Compulsory scanning of domestic pets for microchips by councils**

I refer to your letter dated 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018 regarding the above.

The Council's Waste Management Section has discussed the matter with the Environmental Health Section and its waste cleansing contractor Biffa, and we can confirm that domestic pets will be scanned by the Council's Environmental Health Section from now on.

Yours sincerely

**Dr Gwynne Jones  
Chief Executive**



**P-05-779 Compulsory scanning of domestic pets for microchips by councils -  
Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 19.03.18**

CatsMatter's views in light of council correspondence

We sincerely thank the petitions committee's commitment, and support, throughout our petition's process. We feel we have been listened to, and our concerns met with the severity we feel they deserve thus far. As hoped, writing to the remaining 5 councils who did not scan has seen some great success. We are of course thrilled at the responses from Newport and Anglesey, and thoroughly commend the actions to now implement a scanning procedure.

In regard to Blaenau Gwent and Cardiff, it is extremely encouraging that they have agreed to review the process they currently have in place, and we look forward to confirmation of what action they ultimately decided upon. In terms of Cardiff, it is fully understandable not all deceased pets can be scanned due to the state some may be collected in. We fully respect there may be cases where seeking a microchip may prove impossible, but we would appreciate good attempts are made to locate a chip where possible in most cases. We would personally welcome compulsory microchipping of cats, simply for the reason it would ease pressure on the rescue and shelter systems, however we do not feel considering such legislation should be directly linked to the scanning of cats at this stage. Persons should microchip their pet as good and responsible practice, but if an owner fails to have one microchipped it is not the councils fault, or place, to search for the owner. However, we highly appreciate and commend Cardiff making records, such as markings etc, of those found and do agree it could help give an owner closure should any unchipped cats description match their missing pet. We agree, and stand with Cardiff, on that a voluntary charter outlining the best practice for local authorities, would be a good consideration. This also fits with our argument that, in some cases, cats 'slip through the net' for various reasons. Apart from the above considerations to damaged or un-scannable chips, this could be a good outline for councils to opt to follow to minimize the unacceptable reasons for which some pets are not routinely scanned. Again, we commend Cardiff for outlining this possible measure the Assembly could consider.

Gwynedd's response is thoroughly disappointing and, should Cardiff and Blaenau Gwent soon confirm they have implemented this procedure, Gwynedd will be the only council in Wales to not have this in place. It would be a great achievement for the Welsh Government to be able to say they are the first country in the world to have an all scanning procedure throughout, and we believe it would be honourable

to be able to show how high standards are. Our previous attempts to work with Gwynedd have failed, and in the latter stages of discussions, ourselves and residents struggled to receive a response at all. The fact the petitions committee also had to re-chase them for a response, for us, shows a complete lack of sympathy and regard to resident's requests, and a complacency for the importance of this issue.

Gwynedd highlight there is no legislation surrounding the compulsory microchipping of cats currently, which is true. However, the law does state dogs must be microchipped by law and we are not aware of them scanning deceased dogs found through our previous enquiries with staff. We thoroughly appreciate the current climate councils find themselves in, but equipment has been offered free to the council by numerous sources previously which were declined. The cost to implement in the first instance would be extremely low. Scanners can cost between £20-£40 generally, and the chest freezers councils use to store pet remains can be collected free from their own recycling centre - such as Carmarthenshire who chose to do this to keep cost to a minimal, also due to financial restraints. To equip 3 depots, it would not exceed £100 if alternatives such as the freezer option was considered and used. The cost to continue this would cost no more than the odd phone call in reality. Every council is different of course, but we have found generally they will collect around 7 cats a month in constituencies with a mostly rural landscape. Of the 7, around 4 will be microchipped, meaning just 4 phone calls per month would have to be made to notify the owners. To be more accurate on this, it would be reasonable if Gwynedd at least explored the possibilities, and accepted a trial of such a procedure. We are confident, should they honour a trial, they will learn it is inexpensive to implement and run, and would be much more encouraged to adopting it full time. We find it difficult to understand why Gwynedd would not do this, especially given every other council in Wales manages it perfectly well, with the new exceptions of Cardiff and Blaenau Gwent of course. We would greatly appreciate if the Welsh Government could work further with Gwynedd on this and we see no reason why mutual ground could not be found in the near future.

A number of our supporters are of course residents in the above 5 regions. We are sending a second document with their thoughts on the council's new procedures, or lack of, in hope you will sympathise and understand how important it is for the residents these procedures will directly affect. We do ask the Government to consider both ours, and residents, concerns and act in the best way they see fit for moving forward. One statement in particular is from a rescue volunteer who's made

it her unpaid role to collect deceased cats from the roadside in the Gwynedd and Anglesey regions, knowing the council won't, and she will scan them and return them to the owner. All she wishes for is owners have closure and can grieve properly. This is all anyone asks the council to do, although their jobs already is to collect and dispose of them, all we ask is the added procedure of scanning them and notifying them. Welsh residents should not feel they need to go out there and do this themselves because their council's have ultimately failed them.

Thank you again for the dedication, commitment, and success you have brought to this petition to date, ultimately ensuring residents in Cardiff, Newport, Blaenau Gwent and Anglesey, receive the closure they deserve should the worst happen to their pets. To receive closure, regardless of how difficult the news may be, is invaluable to a pet owner.

Mandy & Tiya

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## Responses from residents

- To the Petitions Committee of the Welsh Assembly. Many Members will know me for my campaign to ban wild animals being used in circuses in Wales. My concern for animals and their welfare is well documented, as is my work as a former branch Trustee and Committee member for RSPCA West Gwynedd Branch and volunteer at RSPCA Bryn-y-Maen Animal Centre. As you may know I live in Gwynedd, I share my home with two rescue cats Rosa and Grace. As a responsible owner I have ensured both my girls are spayed and micro chipped. I have known for some time that sadly Gwynedd Council choose not to scan the remains of deceased companion animals they find on the side of the road. They simply dispose of their bodies at landfill. Veterinary practices in this area will tell you that it's my practice to take any bodies of companion animals involved in RTA to them to be scanned. Should I find them or am told of such cases. As you can imagine this is not a pleasant task for either myself or the staff at the vets. I do this because somewhere a grieving owner or family may be looking for their beloved pet. Plus, I know if the pet isn't chipped the practice will dispose of their body in the proper manner, after first trying to find their owner. I know Gwynedd Council are under great financial pressure, as all LA's are, but I really cannot see how their current position

on this is tenable. If other cash strapped LA's can do this in Cymru, why can't Gwynedd? I believe Gwynedd have been offered scanners free of charge. I for one would be willing to buy the scanners for them. I am sure animal rescue centres, veterinary practices and indeed RSPCA West Gwynedd Branch would be willing to work with Gwynedd so a solution could be found. To my mind bodies such as Government's even local governments are looked to to set standards. What is the point of the WG making it a legal requirement for dog owners to microchip them, if a LA simply disposes of their remains like rubbish at landfill without scanning? I know my girls will not be with me for ever, but the thought that my local council – Gwynedd could threaten their remains like rubbish without even letting me know what happened to them is a truly horrendous prospect.

- Thank you for the work you are doing to help make scanning deceased cats mandatory by local councils. I think the decision by Gwynedd not to participate is extremely disappointing. Microchip scanners are not expensive to buy and I would donate even and it only takes seconds to scan a cat and contact a vets with the details. I cannot understand why they won't and can only feel that the people making the decision are not animal lovers and don't appreciate how we feel. Losing a pet and not knowing what has happened to him or her can be as bad as losing a person. It saddens me deeply that these humans in the council won't help with such an easy process to help people come to terms about what has happened to a loved one. Many thanks
- Disgusted and appalled that Cyngor Gwynedd Council can't find it in their budget or whatever to scan deceased cats. There is growing number of social media sites in Gwynedd and Anglesey working together to reunite lost pets and sadly the deceased ones too but what about the ones us the public don't find and take to the vets or local scanner. Please Cyngor Gwynedd Council rethink this stupid decision.
- I live in Gwynedd and am appalled to learn that Gwynedd County Council can't be bothered to buy scanners to scan microchipped strays/deceased animals. It's compulsory for all dogs to be microchipped (at our own cost) in Wales so why can't ALL councils scan and hopefully reunite our pets. They are family.

- I have 2 cats microchipped, i took comfort in the knowledge that if one of them died at the roadside, the council were obliged to scan for the owner. I live in Bangor, Gwynedd. I was shocked to discover this is not the case in Gwynedd.
- I don't live in Wales but my mother was from what is now Gwynedd. As a lifetime cat lover and owner, she would be horrified to know that the cats of Gwynedd and their families are so little respected by the local Council. My Welsh blood is boiling.
- They should be ashamed of themselves they need to think if it was their beloved pet how would they feel and change animals matter x
- Hello, I live in Gwynedd and am guardian for a young rescued cat. She is microchipped and when she went missing for a short while last year I had the reassurance that if she was found, alive or dead, we would get closure. Or that is what I thought at the time. I am horrified to discover that this is not the case. Dora was only missing for a day and was found via social media, it felt awful in the meantime. But many don't ever find out and imagine dog baiters etc. Never knowing what has happened to a furry family member must be horrible.
- I saw your post about the microchip scanning issue in Wales and wanted to share my thoughts on the matter. This is my comment: "I live in Conwy County where scanning deceased pets is mandatory. I was completely shocked when I discovered Gwynedd, our neighbouring county, has not yet adopted this strategy. I think this is absolutely ludicrous! Owners have a right to know what has happened to their animals. Allowing people to unnecessarily remain distressed over a missing animal because the council is unwilling to scan is wrong on many levels. At the cost of a microchip scanner and the little effort it takes to scan, this is completely inexcusable. Denying people closure is cruel and something I certainly would not expect from a council in Wales; especially considering every other council in the country has adopted the policy. I urge Gwynedd County Council to listen to general public opinion and in doing so I hope they will reconsider their position on the matter.

- I am writing in support of your campaign to have all councils scan cats which have been found deceased. It is a distressing time when your cat goes missing. As many end up having been run over and consequently picked up by the council the application of a hand held scanner could at least give closure to the owner. Having been in the position of having cats disappear without knowing what happened I welcome the fact that my local council has adopted this system already. Many councils have taken on this task the few that remain should now follow suit and adopt the same procedures.

### **P-05-785 Atal Trwydded Forol 12/45/ML i ollwng gwaddodion morol ymbelydrol o safle niwclear Hinkley Point yn nyfroedd glannau Cymru ger Caerdydd**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Tim Deere-Jones, ar ôl casglu 7,033 o lofnodion ar-lein a 138 ar bapur - cyfanswm o 7,171 lofnodion.

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

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i gyfarwyddo Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru i atal y drwydded y mae wedi'i rhoi i NNB Genco, sy'n caniatáu gollwng hyd at 300,000 o dunelli o ddeunydd a halogwyd yn ymbelydrol, wedi'i garthu o wely'r môr ar safle pwerdy niwclear Hinkley Point, yn nyfroedd glannau Cymru.

Rydym hefyd yn gofyn bod cyfnod atal y drwydded yn cael ei ddefnyddio fel cyfle i sicrhau bod asesiad llawn o'r effaith Amgylcheddol, dadansoddiad radiolegol cyflawn a samplu craidd yn cael eu cynnal o dan arweiniad Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru, a bod ymchwiliad cyhoeddus, gwrandawriad llawn o dystiolaeth annibynnol ac ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus yn cael eu cynnal cyn rhoi caniatâd i ollwng unrhyw waddodion o Hinkley.

#### **Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:**

Mae Trwydded Forol 12/45/ML, a roddwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru, yn caniatáu gwaredu hyd at 300,000 o dunelli metrig o waddod morol a halogwyd yn ymbelydrol, wedi'i garthu o wely'r môr ar safle pwerdy niwclear Hinkley Point, ar safle dympio morol Cardiff Grounds yn agos at arfordir de Cymru. Bydd hyn yn caniatáu i waith ddechrau ar y ddwy bibell newydd yn adweithydd niwclear Hinkley C.

Mae'r gwaddodion sydd i'w carthu wrth ymyl y pibellau gwastraff a ddefnyddir ar gyfer gollyngiadau o bedwar adweithydd presennol Hinkley. Mae dadansoddiad a gomisiynwyd gan asiantaethau Llywodraeth y DU yn dangos bod y gwaddod wedi'i halogi gan wastraff ymbelydrol a ryddhawyd i'r môr dros gyfnod o 50 mlynedd a mwy o waith ar safle Hinkley. Mae'r cyfrifiadau sy'n deillio o'r data swyddogol yn nodi y gallai'r gwaddodion carthu arfaethedig fod yn dal o leiaf 7 biliwn o Bqs o ymbelydredd, ond mae'r

adroddiadau yn nodi y byddai'r symiau y byddai pobl yn dod i gysylltiad â nhw'n isel iawn.

Mae gollyngiadau ymbelydrol Hinkley i'r môr yn cynnwys dros 50 o radio-niwclidau, ond dim ond tri ohonynt yr ymchwiliwyd iddynt drwy'r dadansoddiad. Felly, bydd cynnwys ymbelydredd gwirioneddol y gwaddodion yn llawer uwch na'r hyn a ddangosir drwy'r dadansoddiad sydd ar gael. Mae'r dystiolaeth sydd ar gael hefyd yn awgrymu mai dim ond samplau arwynebol (0 i 5cm o ddyfnder) o'r gwaddodion a ddadansoddwyd, er bod ymchwil samplau craidd o fannau eraill ym Môr Iwerddon yn dangos y gall crynodiadau fod hyd at bum gwaith yn uwch ar ddyfnderoedd islaw 5cm.

Er bod deunydd ymbelydrol gwaddodol yn debygol o wasgaru i ddechrau, mae astudiaethau'n profi ei fod wedyn yn ailgronni ar wastadeddau llaid arfordirol ac aberol a morfeydd heli, a'i fod hefyd yn gallu cael ei drosglwyddo o'r môr i'r tir yn sgil gwyntoedd o'r môr a llifogydd arfordirol. Rydym yn nodi nad oes ymchwil ar yr hyn sy'n digwydd i ymbelydredd o'r fath yn nyfroedd glannau de Cymru. Yn y cyd-destun hwn, rydym yn pryderu nad oes gwaith ymchwil digonol wedi digwydd ynghylch y risgiau amgylcheddol a'r risgiau i iechyd pobl yn sgil y gwaredu arfaethedig, a bod unrhyw gasgliadau sy'n seiliedig ar y data anghyflawn presennol yn annibynadwy.

### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

- Gorllewin Caerfyrddin a De Sir Benfro
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru



**P-05-785 Suspend Marine Licence 1245ML -  
Correspondence from Petitioner to Committee, 13.03.18**

Dear Committee Chairman and Clerking Team:

As stated in my email of last week, the Campaign has been working on a further briefing in respect of the Radiological Surveys carried out by Gamma Spec' Analysis. Please find that Briefing attached to this email.

This Briefing addresses further issues relating to the three previous radiological surveys (2009, 2013 & 2017) but does NOT address issues relating to the Gamma Spec' Raw Data.

With regard to our issues regarding access to the Raw Gamma Spec' Data, I can inform you that the Campaign is about to undertake a final attempt to persuade CEFAS to help us to translate their preferred in house software into a format which is accessible to our analytical consultants. I apologise for the lack of progress in this area to date.

The Campaign would be most grateful if this message and its attachment could be distributed to the members of the Senedd Petitions Committee and if receipt of this message and its attachment could be confirmed.

With apologies to all concerned for this delay

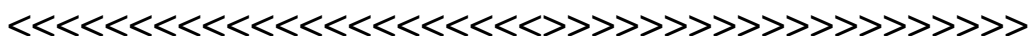
Yours Sincerely

Tim Deere-Jones (for Postpone the Dump of Hinkley Radioactive Mud at the Cardiff Grounds "Disposal" site)

**Briefing Paper from:**  
**Postpone the Dump of radioactive Sediments at Cardiff Grounds**  
**to Senedd Petitions Committee**

**Do the CEFAS Radiological Analysis Reports provide full data on  
the radio nuclides present in Hinkley sediments?**

**Submitted Monday March 12 2018**



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## **Summary Conclusions:**

### **Section 1:**

This Briefing supplements an earlier submission which discussed aspects of the CEFAS radiological surveys (2009, 2013, 2017) commissioned by the nuclear industry (EDF) and / or NRW.

Following CEFAS / EDF / NRW evidence given at Senedd Petitions Committee hearings, the Campaign requested (and has been granted) access to the Gamma Spectrometry Raw Data. To date it has not proved possible to overcome “conflicts” between the CEFAS software and that employed by the Campaign’s independent radiological analysts, although efforts continue to reconcile the relevant softwares.

However, additional (limited) data made available has been reviewed by the Campaign and the results of that review are set out in the following pages of this Briefing.

### **Sections 2 &3:**

EDF and CEFAS have proposed that the Gamma Spectrometry analysis has identified and quantified ALL radionuclides present in the Hinkley sediments.

However, the Campaign reports that it is universally understood that a number of radio nuclides DO NOT emit gamma rays, or do so only at very low levels, and that these radio nuclides cannot be identified, or quantified directly, by Gamma Spectrometry and must be identified and quantified by other means.

This is demonstrated by the fact that, although CEFAS could not identify or quantify the Plutonium content of the Hinkley sediments by Gamma Spectrometry, they knew from other sources that Plutonium was present in those sediments, and indeed have “estimated” that concentrations of Plutonium in the sediments are greater than the Americium 241 that their surveys did “positively” identify.

### **Sections 4&5:**

The Campaign notes that Gamma Spectrometry did not, and could not, identify the presence or concentrations of Plutonium in the Hinkley sediments.

The Campaign draws attention to the fact that CEFAS were compelled to use the “derived estimate” process to conclude that average Plutonium content of the Hinkley sediments for all 3 surveys exceeded all of the “positive” findings for Americium 241 recorded by Gamma Spectrometry. The Campaign concludes that this fact alone is evidence that Gamma Spectrometry cannot and has not identified ALL of the radio nuclides present in the sediments.

The Campaign offers examples of a number of radio nuclides (all of which are known to have been present in the Hinkley liquid effluents) and universally known to be incapable of either identification or quantification by the use of Gamma Spectrometry.



The Campaign concluded that the 3 surveys had **“failed to provide sufficient, coherent, conclusive and precise scientific data for the assessment of radiological impacts to the inhabitants and users / stakeholders of the south Wales inshore waters and coastal zone”**

**Subsequent EDF, CEFAS and NRW evidence to the Senedd Petitions Committee have not modified the Campaign’s concerns**

.....

Following the evidence from CEFAS, EDF and NRW, the Campaign requested access to the RAW DATA produced by the CEFAS Gamma Spectrometry analysis, and CEFAS forwarded us the material in question. However, the “raw data” that CEFAS has provided is presented in a format (Canberra Genie analytical) that cannot be read by the Campaign’s independent radiological analytical experts, who do not use that format. We have been in further contact with CEFAS who find themselves unable to assist further.

We have been in contact with specialists from the "Canberra" company who have offered additional information, but to data that information has NOT been sufficient to clarify a way forward for our analytical expert to access the CEFAS data. The Campaign, and our analyst, continue, as a matter of priority to seek a way to untangle this problem, but as of today we have no end date for this work.

However, ongoing scrutiny of data from other relevant CEFAS sources has revealed further information of high relevance to the EDF claim that Gamma Spectrometry can describe the TOTALITY of radio nuclide concentrations in the Hinkley sediments information.

**This additional information is now shown (in the following paragraphs) to directly contradict claims made by EDF, that the Gamma Spectrometry analysis carried out by CEFAS has revealed precise data on ALL of the radio nuclides expected to be present in the Hinkley sediments.**

.....

**2: EDF and CEFAS reporting (to date) on the radioactivity in Hinkley dredge/dump sediment**

a: CEFAS reporting of sediment radiological analysis (2009, 2013 & 2017) conducted on the material proposed for dumping at Cardiff Grounds has reported the presence of only 3 of the 50+ man-made radio nuclides discharged to sea from the historic reactors at Hinkley Point

b: The Campaign has consistently expressed concern that many man-made radio nuclides, other than the Americium 241, Cesium 137 and Cobalt 60 identified by the surveys, might be present in the sediments subjected to the testing regime.

However, EDF have insisted that ALL radio nuclides present in the Hinkley sediments have been tested for, and identified, as set out (in the extract of transcript of the 5th Dec 2017 meeting of the Petitions Committee) below:

Neil McEvoy AM: Yes. Just following on from what the witness said earlier, the first question is: how many radionuclides were tested for?

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Peter Bryant 10:13:22

Perhaps I'll answer that one. So, basically the testing was done by CEFAS. They would have used something called high-purity germanium detection. It sounds very complicated, but in essence each radionuclide normally emits a gamma ray, which is a byproduct of alpha and beta decay. That's always at a specific energy, and that energy is like a signature that says, 'This particular radionuclide has emitted an emission of radioactivity.' So, the high-purity germanium detection system looks across all the energy range, really, so wherever there's a peak that corresponds to a particular radionuclide. *So, you detect actually what's present, and so it will detect way above 50 plus different types of radionuclides that occur in the environment.* So, it is very much looking for the signature of radionuclide: rather than just going, 'I'm going to target these three or four'; it goes, 'I look across the entire range of energies and I detect exactly what's present.' 147

Neil McEvoy AM 10:14:20

So, in effect, all the man-made radionuclides were tested for through that process.

Peter Bryant 10:14:27

Yes

### My emphasis in italics

The statement made by Peter Bryant of EDF confirms the EDF assertion that **ALL** man-made radio nuclides (*“exactly what’s present”*) had been tested for and that **ALL** radio nuclides present had been detected. Thus we may assume that it is EDF’s position that the reporting of the 3 named man made radio nuclides (Americium, Cesium and Cobalt) confirmed that these were the **ONLY** man made radio nuclides detected, and hence the only man made radio nuclides present.

*NB: This statement was a response to both the direct question from Neil McEvoy AM and previous evidence and written submissions from the Campaign*

The Campaign rejects the NRW / EDF / CEFAS implied claim that **all** man-made radio nuclides present in the mud can be detected by the Gamma Spectroscopy, because it is the fact that a number of radio nuclides do not emit gamma rays (or do so in very small percentage of their decays) and therefore **cannot be identified or quantified** directly by gamma spectroscopy.

Non gamma emitters consist of a range of radio nuclides including a number of alpha and beta emitting Plutonium isotopes, Tritium (H<sub>3</sub>) and organically bound Tritium (*Tritium bound to organic particles achieves high levels of bio- concentration in the marine environment and generates elevated doses to seafood consumers*), Strontium 90, Carbon 14, Phosphorus 32 and a number of others. These radio nuclides must be analysed by other means such as radiochemistry, alpha analysis or liquid scintillation counting for extremely low-energy beta emitters.

**Proof of the inability of Gamma spectrometry to detect non gamma emitting, alpha emitters is evidenced by statements in the relevant CEFAS radiological survey reports (see below):**

The 2013 & 2017 CEFAS survey reports states that *“In addition to the nuclides detected by gamma spectrometry, sediments are also known to contain activities of Pu (Plutonium) radionuclides. The Am 241 data were used to derive estimates for the radio nuclides Pu 239, Pu 240 and Pu 241, assuming their activity was proportional to the ratio in the time integrated Sellafield discharges”*

*Ref: “CEFAS BEEMS Technical Report TR444, HPC intake and outfall location pre-dredge sediment sample analysis results. Page 30 of 36”.*

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### **3: CEFAS Plutonium estimates**

It is evident from the statement reproduced in the preceding paragraph (above) that Plutonium isotopes **could not be, and were not, detected by Gamma spectrometry** and in order to obtain some form of quantification it was necessary to undertake extrapolated **“estimations”** from the available Americium 241 data.

The three surveys in question gave **no measured (or analysed)** quantification for the plutonium isotopes Pu 238, Pu 239, Pu 240 and Pu 241 as can be seen from the Tables entitled *“Radioactivity in Sediment dredged from Hinkley Point C”* presented in each of the 3 Radiological surveys.

The absence of empirical data on alpha emitters is somewhat surprising since the alpha emitting Plutonium isotopes are understood to be a major potential health risk if ingested or inhaled, and their presence in the Hinkley marine environment is explicitly, and regularly, referenced in the annual RIFE monitoring reports. However, since none of the relevant CEFAS reports provided details of the outcomes of the CEFAS Plutonium “estimates”, in February 2018, the Campaign contacted CEFAS and requested details of those Plutonium estimates.

*NB: RIFE Reports are annual Radioactivity In Food and the Environment Reports, generated by UK Regulatory Agencies including the Environment Agency, SEPA and the Food Standards Agency*

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#### 4: The CEFAS reply to Campaign query concerning Plutonium estimates

“We can confirm that the data for Pu-238, Pu-239+240 and Pu-241 are derived estimates (i.e. calculated from Am-241 concentration measurements). Moreover, given the Am-241 data are mostly reported as less than values, the plutonium nuclide data are very conservatively estimated values (in line with the tiered approach of the radiological assessment methodology and in line with the IAEA guidelines).

We can also confirm that the plutonium values are not given in the analytical results table (because the tables only contain measured values). The estimated plutonium values are included in the radiological assessment and reproduced in the Figure of dose to individual members of crew and the public. The conservatively estimated “average” activity concentration values for each Plutonium from the assessment are as follows (as specific activity (Bq/kg, dry weight);

2009	2013	2017
Pu 238 (estimated) 0.076029 [0.07 Bq/Kg]	Pu-238 (estimated) 0.135394 [0.13 Bq/kg]	Pu-238 (estimated) 0.115984 [0.11 Bq/Kg]
Pu-239+240 (estimated) 0.461494 [0.46 Bq/Kg]	Pu-239+240 (estimated) 0.821839 [0.82 Bq/Kg]	Pu-23+240 (estimated) 0.704023 [0.70 Bq/Kg]
Pu-241 (estimated) 4.098069 [4.09 Bq/kg]	Pu-241 (estimated) 7.297931 [7.29 Bq/Kg]	Pu-241 (estimated) 6.251724 [6.25 Bq/Kg]
<b>total average for 4 Pu’s</b> <b>4.62 Bqs/Kg</b> (my insertion)	<b>total av’: 4 Pu’s</b> <b>8.24 Bqs/Kg</b> (my insertion)	<b>total av’: 4 Pu’s</b> <b>7.06Bqs/Kg</b> (my insertion)

CEFAS also state that “If the resultant dose was not considered to be *de minimis* (in this tiered assessment approach) then plutonium radio nuclides would be analysed by chemistry methods (which have significantly lower detection limits than gamma-ray spectrometry) to establish measured values - and the assessment would be repeated” (my emphasis).

.....

#### 5: Campaign’s response to CEFAS reply

The Campaign takes issue with a number of the CEFAS statements.

The Campaign warns that “derived estimates” should **NOT be considered as if they were empirical observations.**

The Campaign notes that the **average** concentrations of total Plutonium nuclides, identified by the CEFAS “derived estimates” process, **far exceed the maximum positive concentrations of Americium 241** recorded in any of the three Gamma Spectrometry surveys carried out by CEFAS, thus the Pu concentrations are far more significant than the Am concentrations.... yet no attempt has been made to record them by empirical measurement and the information that is available is the result of “**estimations**” only.



The CEFAS radiological analysis reports on the Hinkley sediments, produced in support of the dredge and dump proposal clearly states that the Hinkley “*Am 241 data were used to derive estimates for Pu 239, Pu 240 and Pu 241, assuming that their activity was proportional to the ratio in the time-integrated Sellafield discharges*”.

It is inferred from this statement that the CEFAS estimates of Plutonium in the Hinkley sediments are derived from assumptions that Americium / Plutonium activity “was proportional to the ratio in the time integrated Sellafield discharges”.

However, annual RIFE Reports consistently state that the radio nuclides in the Hinkley marine environment are derived from multiple sources of both local (Hinkley, Oldbury and Berkely nuclear power stations) and more distant sources outside the Bristol Channel including Sellafield, weapons testing and Chernobyl. **Ref: RIFE 22: 2016.pps 122 - 124**

The historical Hinkley A (Magnox) and Hinkley B (AGR) stations both discharged low levels of Plutonium nuclides and Americium-241 in liquid nuclear waste effluents released to sea over 50+ years. Lists of the constituent nuclides in the proposed Hinkley C liquid radioactive waste discharges also reference Plutonium nuclides and Americium-241 and also imply the presence of alpha emitting Curium (Cm-244, Cm-245 and Cm-248)

Given the long half-lives of Plutonium, Americium and Curium nuclides it is inevitable that a percentage of that Plutonium, Americium and other alpha emitters **discharged from the Hinkley A and B sites** will still be present in the sediments proposed for the dredge and dump scheme.

Thus, from the evidence of the official monitoring agencies, plutonium, and indeed other alpha emitters, in the Hinkley region are demonstrably derived from multiple sources. Therefore, the CEFAS proposition, that Plutonium concentrations in the Hinkley sediments can be calculated from “measured Americium data” on the basis of time integrated Sellafield discharges only, is flawed.

The issue is further complicated by the fact that the largely beta emitting Plutonium-241, with a half-life of only 14 years, decays to produce the alpha emitting Americium-241. Since the Hinkley A, Hinkley B, Oldbury and Berkeley reactors all discharged Plutonium-241 **and** Americium-241, it is evident that attempts to calculate total Plutonium levels on the assumption that “*Am 241 data ... ..was proportional to the ratio in the time-integrated Sellafield discharges*” are mis-directed and lacking in rigour.

**For this reason, the Campaign has little confidence in the accuracy of CEFAS “estimates” of Plutonium (and other alpha emitters) since they are stated to be based only on the proportionality of Americium-241 in Sellafield related time integrated discharges and take no account of either Bristol Channel sourced Americium-241 (Hinkley A and B, Oldbury, Berkeley) or Bristol Channel sourced Plutonium-241.**

**Had Alpha analysis been deployed on the Hinkley sediments proposed for disposal at the Cardiff grounds site, the precise concentrations of alpha emitters in the sediments could have been quantified.**

.....

**6: Gamma spectrometry “Counting Times”**

The Campaign has analysed scientific papers undertaking research and review of the methodology of Gamma spectrometry. From these papers the Campaign concludes that because such decay occurs randomly through time, the measurement of decay “events” detected over a given time period is never exact but represents an average value and that longer “counting” periods will provide more reliable results. In that context the Campaign understands that a certain amount of unreliability may be expected when results are presented, especially if the counting times are relatively short.

Data presented to the Campaign by CEFAS (machine “translations” of the raw Gamma Spectrometry data) indicates that the CEFAS methodology “counted” the samples for approximately 15 hours or 55,000 seconds. However many papers reference much longer counting times for maximum statistical efficiency.

Recent papers have explained that the 55,000 seconds is now regarded as an **“optimal measurement counting time”, and that the “optimal” standard is achieved by arriving at the best balance between financial costs and the effectiveness of the Spectrometry results.**

There is now a consensus that “Better average values can be obtained by acquiring data over longer time periods” and “for the analysis of environmental samples with low radioactivity, a relatively long counting time is required e.g. up to 1-2 days to obtain accurate and precise results”.

*Ref: UNSCEAR Report to the General Assembly. Annex B: Exposures from Natural Radiation Sources (2000)*

*Ref: IAEA-TECDOC-1401: “Quantifying Uncertainty in Nuclear Analytical Measurements”, International Atomic Energy Authority, (2004)*

*Ref: Nuclear Forensic International Technical Working Group, Guidelines Task Group, high resolution gamma spectrometry general overview: INFL-GSOV (2013)*

A 2016 paper references counting “for 86,400 seconds (24 hrs) for effective peak area statistics of above 0.1%”

*REF: Joel et al’ “Precision measurement of radioactivity in gamma rays spectrometry using two HPGe detectors comparison techniques: Application to the soil measurement”: published online 2016 Dec 31. Doi: 10.1016/j.mex.2016.12.003*

A 2017 paper explains that “Better average values can be obtained by acquiring data over longer time periods” and “for the analysis of environmental samples with low radioactivity, a relatively long counting time is required e.g. up to 1-2 days to obtain accurate and precise results.”

This paper also provides detailed analysis of fourteen consecutive analytical measurements of selected “natural” radio nuclides under the influence of different time measurement and counting statistics using HPGe detectors (similar to those used by CEFAS) for time periods ranging from 5 minutes up to 72 hours.

This paper shows that only one radio nuclide (Pb-212, a radioactive isotope of Lead, a decay product of Uranium-235) was detected after 5 minutes counting, but the related error was greater than 20%, longer counting time demonstrably reduced the related error. After ten minutes counting the radio nuclides Bismuth-212 and Potassium-40 were detected but their related errors were 27% and 33% respectively, again longer counting times reduced the related error.

At the other end of the scale Uranium-235 and Radium-226 required a count of 3 hours before they were initially detected but appropriate statistical results were not achieved until 24 and 36 hours respectively.

Figure 1 of the 2017 paper reports (in graph form) the Relative Error (in terms of percentage) , related to Specific Activity (Bq/Kg) of nine radio nuclides over the fourteen set count times and confirms that, after approximately 36 hours counting, the Relative Error for all nine radio nuclides is approaching its minimum level and that, as also shown in Table 1, the lowest error is achieved after 72 hours (259,200 seconds).

**REF: “Optimal Measurement Counting Time and Statistics in Gamma Spectrometry Analysis: The Time Balance” Joel et al’: American Institute of Physics, Conf Proceedings 1792 100001 (2017); doi: 10.1063/1.4969040**

**On this basis, the Campaign concludes that greater accuracy of measurements of radioactivity concentrations in the Hinkley sediments would have been achieved if longer counting times had been used, and that longer counting times were not deployed in the interests of reducing costs to EDF and that this conclusion is supported by the scientific research and reviews reported above.**

**The Campaign therefore has no faith in the accuracy or veracity of the claims put forward by EDF and apparently supported by the NRW (who have confirmed that they do not have any in-house marine environmental radioactivity expertise).**

.....

## **7: Gamma spectrometry “Less than” results**

The Campaign is also concerned by the “less than” results given in the tables of radioactivity in Hinkley sediments presented in the three CEFAS radiological analysis reports for the following reasons:

A: The Campaign notes the dis-continuity (*wide difference between*) between “less than” results for Americium-241 presented in the tables. For example, the 2013 results for 17 samples (Table 1) presents 14 of those results as “less thans” and 3 results as definitive positives.

The 14 “less than” results vary widely, ranging from “less than” 0.66 Bq/Kg to “less than” 1.71 Bq/Kg, with the maximum “less than” being more than twice as great than the minimum.

It should also be noted that of the three **positive** results presented in the 2013 table of Americium results (0.63 Bq/Kg, 0.97 Bq/Kg and 3.16 Bq/Kg), one (0.63) is lower than **all** of the presented “less thans” and the other is lower than 11 of the “less thans”. Neither CEFAS nor EDF have offered an explanation for this dichotomy

Similar effects are noted for the tables for the 2009 and 2017 results.

B: The Campaign also notes the lack of continuity of Cobalt-60 “less thans” presented in the tables for the three surveys. For example, the 2013 results for 17 samples (Table 1) are all given as “less thans”, but they range from “less than” 0.25 Bq/Kg to “less than” 0.49 Bq/Kg, with the maximum “less than” being nearly twice as great as the minimum “less than”.

The Campaign concludes that these widely varying figures for “less thans”, and the occasional “positives” which are smaller / lower than many of the “less thans”, are a product of truncated count times and the wider relative errors associated with shorter counts.

**In the context of the above, the Campaign concludes that the methodology used by CEFAS has generated confusing and contradictory outcomes. The Campaign therefore has little faith in the data produced for EDF by CEFAS using the relatively short counting times of around 15 hours compared to the frequently recommended, and much greater, extended counting times.**

.....

**8: “Radioactive Particles” Released from Nuclear Power Stations:**

A study of the annual RIFE reports confirms the Campaign’s concerns that there may be “particles” of relatively radioactive material (discharged from Bristol Channel nuclear power stations) in both the sedimentary environment of the south Wales coast **and** in those Hinkley sediments proposed for dredge and dumping off Cardiff Bay.

These are **not** the same type of Sellafield derived particles referred to in the submissions from Dr Chris Busby, rather they are radioactive particles like those found at the end of the discharge outfall of the Magnox nuclear power station at Chapelcross (southern Scotland) and identified by the authors of the RIFE Reports (Environment Agency, Food Standards Agency and Scottish Environmental protection Agency) as mostly “limescale” and believed to “originate from deposits within the pipeline”.

In 2005, 95 such items were detected around the Chapelcross liquid waste outfall with radioactivity levels elevated above “background”. Finds of similar particles had been reported from 1992 onwards. From the Campaign’s brief review of the annual RIFE reports and their predecessors (the MAFF AEMRs) we conclude that the monitoring of “end of discharge outfalls” for “particles” is relatively uncommon at nuclear power stations as such activity is rarely reported elsewhere.

**To date, despite our search of the available literature, the Campaign has NOT been able to find any reporting of such investigations at the Bristol Channel nuclear power stations (Hinkley A and B, Oldbury and Berkeley).**

A scientific paper submitted to the 2009 “Radioactive Particles in the Environment” Conference confirmed that “Radioactive particles and colloids are also released via effluents from reprocessing facilities **and civil reactors, and radioactive particles are identified in sediments in the close vicinity of radioactive waste dumped at sea.**” (*my emphasis*)

The 2009 paper further reported that “Radioactive particles in the environment are heterogeneously distributed and can carry substantial amounts of refractory fission products, activation products and transuranics. Samples collected may not be representative and inert particles can be difficult to dissolve. For particle contaminated areas, the estimated inventories can therefore be underestimated” (*transuranics include Plutonium, Curium and Americium*).

The 2009 paper also noted that “Radioactive particles in the environment are defined as localised aggregates of radioactive atoms” that give rise to an inhomogeneous distribution of radionuclides significantly different from that of the matrix background (IAEA CRP, 2001). In water, “particles are defined as entities having diameters larger than 0.45 µm, which will settle due to gravity, while particles larger than 1 mm are referred to as fragments. Particles less than 10 µm are considered respiratory.” i.e. easily inhaled.

**Ref: “Radioactive Particles Released from Different Nuclear Sources”, (pp3-13) Brit Salbu: Conference paper, from “Radioactive Particles in the Environment”: 2009: editors DH Oughton & V. Kashparov. Nato Science for Peace & Security Series. Pub: Springer**

The Campaign considers that there is a high probability that, during the 50+ year lifetime of liquid nuclear waste effluent discharges from the Hinkley Magnox and AGR reactors, radioactive particles, similar to those discharged from the Chapelcross site will have been discharged into the Hinkley marine and sedimentary environment.

**As stated above, the Campaign has (to date) found no reporting of searches for “radioactive particles” in the sediments around the Hinkley outfalls, and certainly the CEFAS sediment sampling related to the dredge and dump proposal does not appear to have included any such investigation.**

**The absence of such work is a further reason why the Campaign does not believe that the investigations commissioned by EDF, supported by NRW and the Welsh Government, have provided sufficient information to justify the permitting of the dumping of radioactively contaminated sediments into the Cardiff Grounds dispersal site.**

.....





**Cyfoeth  
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Cymru  
Natural  
Resources  
Wales**

Our Ref: CH18-004

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David J Rowlands AM  
Chair, Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

27 March 2018

Dear David,

**'Petition P-05-785 Suspend Marine License 12/45/ML to dump radioactive marine sediments from the Hinkley Point nuclear site into Wales' coastal waters off Cardiff'**

Further to my letter of 22 January 2018, I am now able to address the remaining points raised in your original letter dated 12 January.

**Sampling of sediment**

For public reassurance, we requested that Cefas undertake radiation dose analysis of the 2009 samples, as this analysis had been carried out on samples from 2013 and 2017; this has now been completed. In addition to the specialist advice provided by Cefas, we consulted Public Health Wales and NRW's own internal expert in relation to the dose analysis results. The assessment concluded that the values for individual dredger crew members, the public, and the total collective dose were within the *de minimus* criteria according to the generic radiological assessment procedure developed by the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency). Therefore, the results, based on Cefas' analysis and the IAEA criteria, show that the material possesses no radiological risk to human health or the environment.

We have also completed our assessment of the suite of samples that were submitted to us in November 2017. The report and conclusions were produced by Cefas and we also conducted a technical consultation with Public Health Wales and NRW's experts using the same international guidelines as for previous samples. The chemical and radiological

results were within acceptable limits and we are satisfied that there is no risk to human health or the environment.

Following your request, we also asked the licence holder to consider further voluntary sampling at depth. However, following the results of the samples taken in 2009, 2013 and 2017, it is not considered necessary as there is no scientific basis for any additional sampling. Unfortunately, this is not something that we can re-visit through the licence or its conditions.

We have therefore formally discharged condition 9.5 of the marine licence. However, there is a further condition regarding site monitoring that the licence holder needs to discharge before NRW will provide written approval before the disposal activity can commence.

Our dedicated web-page (link below) will publicise the decisions we make and provide timely updates, including downloadable content of key documents.

### **Analysis of radioactivity**

We have obtained from Cefas the full range of radionuclides that have been tested/screened and have made this information available on a dedicated page on our website: [www.cyfoethnaturiolcymru/GwarediadGwaddodCardiffGrounds/](http://www.cyfoethnaturiolcymru/GwarediadGwaddodCardiffGrounds/) / [www.naturalresources.wales/CardiffGroundsSedimentDisposal.](http://www.naturalresources.wales/CardiffGroundsSedimentDisposal.)

### **Sampling sites and dispersal studies**

Cefas have provided information regarding the movement of sediments disposed of at Cardiff Grounds, which I have attached to this correspondence for your assistance.

Environmental sampling of the Severn Estuary for radionuclides is also conducted as part of the joint UK regulators Radioactivity in Food and the Environment (RIFE) programme. This is an extensive monitoring programme measuring radionuclides in air, water, soil and foodstuffs and is an independent check-monitoring programme, supplementing the environmental monitoring that the regulators require of permitted nuclear sites to carry out and report to us in the UK. NRW are partners in this programme.

This independent programme is conducted annually and published each October. The most recent is No. 22, covering sampling in 2016, published in October 2017.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/radioactivity-in-food-and-the-environment-rife-reports-2004-to-2016>



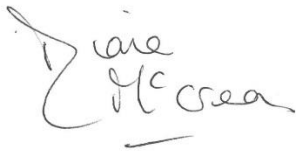
Key references to the monitoring programmes near Hinkley Nuclear Power Stations (A, B and C), including in the Estuary are in the following sections;

P122, S 4.6  
P146 Table 4.7b

In addition to the annual environmental sampling conducted for RIFE, in 2016, the Environment Agency also undertook an additional sampling programme of sediments in the nearby River Parrett. This is included in the report in Section for Hinkley. (4.6)

I hope the above answers your outstanding queries. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

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

**Diane McCrea MBE**

**Cadeirydd, Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru  
Chair, Natural Resources Wales**



**SUMMARY OF INFORMATION REGARDING STUDIES RELATING TO THE FATE OF  
SEDIMENT DISPOSED OF TO CARDIFF GROUNDS DISPOSAL SITE**

From: Charlotte Clarke,  
Cefas, Lowestoft Laboratory  
Date: 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018  
Tel: 01502 524327  
E-mail:  
[regulatory\\_assessment@cefass.co.uk](mailto:regulatory_assessment@cefass.co.uk)

**To: Adam Cooper - NRW (by e-mail)**

1. With reference to the above request for information regarding studies relating to the fate of sediment disposed of at Cardiff Grounds disposal site (LU110), dated 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018, please find my comments below.

**Documents reviewed**

2. Sediment dynamics of the Severn Estuary and inner Bristol Channel, McLaren et al., 1993
3. Distribution, transport and exchanges of fine sediment, with tidal power implications: Severn Estuary, UK, Kirby, 2010
4. A review of sediment dynamics in the Severn Estuary: Influence of flocculation, Manning et al., 2010
5. Sedimentation Processes in the Bristol Channel/Severn Estuary, Dyer, 1984
6. The Sediment Regime of the Severn Estuary Literature Review, Phil Cannard (Bristol City Council), 2016
7. Tidal Lagoon Cardiff: Conceptual Process Model, Tidal Lagoon Power, 2016

**Description of the proposed works**

8. On the 6<sup>th</sup> February, Natural Resource Wales (NRW) contacted Cefas with a query regarding the disposal of sediment at Cardiff Grounds disposal site (LU110), arising from works at Hinkley Power Station.
9. NRW requested that Cefas supply any relevant information on "any studies relating to how the sediments would likely to be dispersed following dumping at the Cardiff Grounds site"
10. The documents listed in points 2 - 7 above have been identified as being relevant to informing how sediments would likely be dispersed around the Cardiff Grounds site. I have summarised the main outcomes of these studies below.
11. In addition, it is expected that an EIA statement will shortly be released by Tidal Lagoon power for the Cardiff Tidal Lagoon project, which should also provide information regarding sediment transport in the area.

**Comments**

12. The Severn estuary, in which the Cardiff Grounds disposal site is located, is widely regarded as a highly turbid estuary that is primarily influenced by tidal forces, with waves having an influence on a more local scale.
13. The estuary is funnel shaped, which causes incoming tidal wave energy to be concentrated, and results in an increased amplitude and high currents upstream.



14. As a result, the general net transport of sands within the estuary is upstream, driven by these strong tidal currents. However, several of the studies observed that there is a split in the estuary, with the eastern part of the estuary being dominated by flood currents, and ebb currents being more prevalent in the western part.
15. Although the net transport may be upstream, it should be noted that the area in the vicinity of the Cardiff Grounds disposal site has been identified as being in equilibrium, meaning that sediment within this area is more likely to remain in the sediment cell, rather than being characterised by erosion or deposition (Figures 1-3)

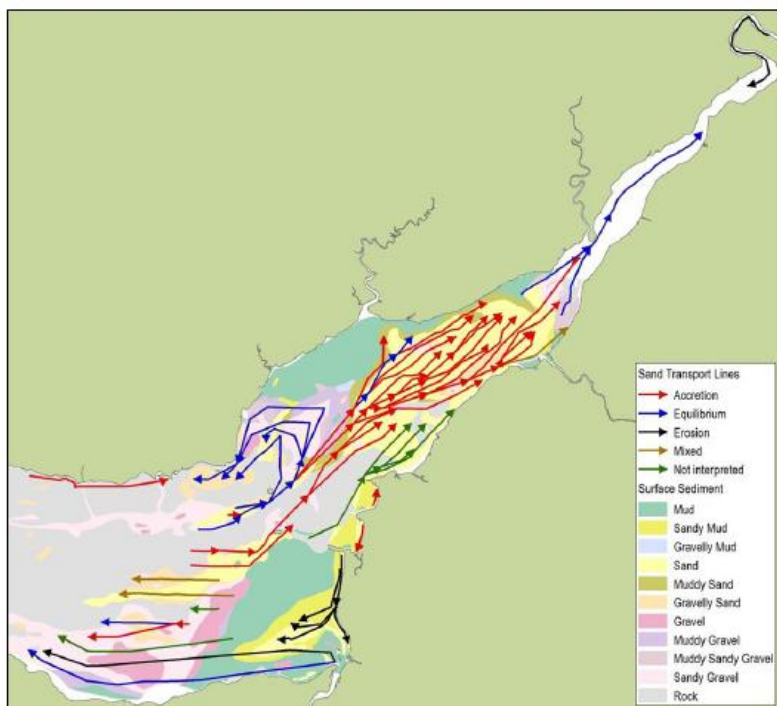


Figure 1. (Taken from Tidal Lagoon Cardiff, 2016). Sand transport lines, deduced from Sediment Trends Analysis

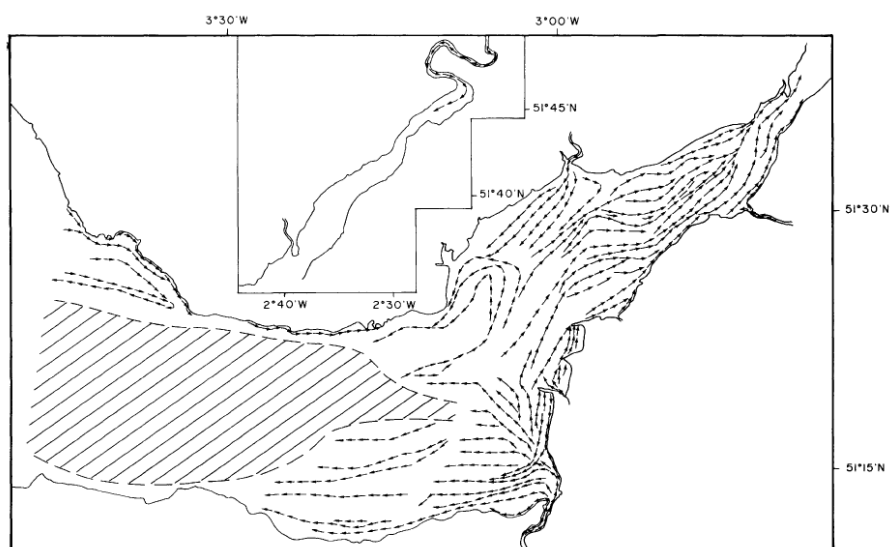


Figure 2. (Taken from McLaren et al., 1993). Patterns of net sediment transport



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Cefas is an executive agency of Defra

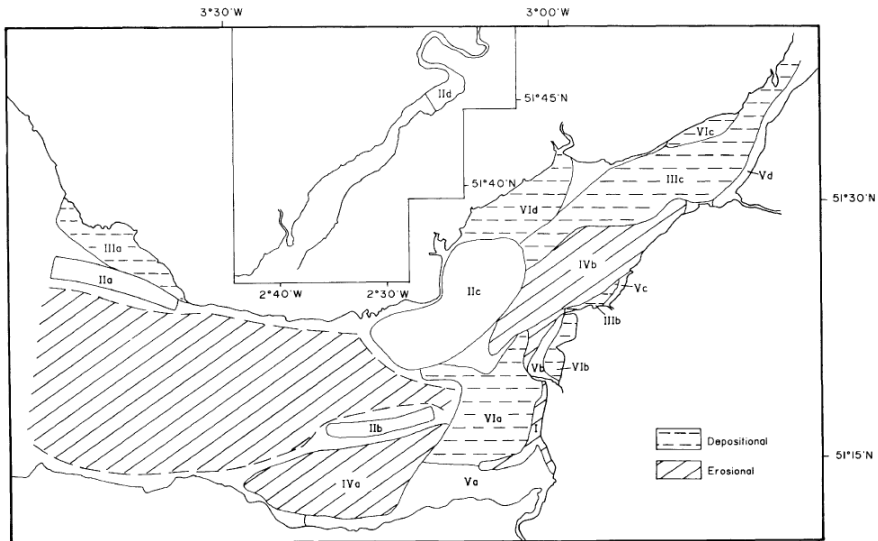


Figure 3. (Taken from McLaren et al., 1993). Sediment transport environments, on the basis of dynamic states.

16. In addition, the general sediment trend within the intertidal area around Cardiff, and the shoreline closest to Cardiff Grounds, has been identified as one of erosion. Therefore, it is unlikely that any sediment leaving the cell would settle in those areas.
17. Finally, due to the high turbidity and tidal forcing of the estuary, it is noted within several of the studies listed above that sediment within the estuary is highly mobile, with sediment being frequently resuspended, and rarely settling out permanently. Therefore, if any sediment disposed of to the area is found to contain contaminants (within acceptable levels for disposal), it is likely that this contamination will be further diluted over time through mixing in the water column.

**Charlotte Clarke**  
**Advisor (Sustainable Marine Management)**

Quality Check	Date
Jemma-Anne Lonsdale	20/02/2018



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**P-05-785 Suspend Marine Licence 1245ML -  
Correspondence from Petitioner to Committee, 09.04.18**

**Postpone the Dump of Hinkley Sediments Campaign: BRIEFING to Senedd  
Petitions Committee: April 2018**

The Campaign's original petition to the National Assembly expressed concerns relating to the absence of information about the possible impact/effect of the disposal of up to 300,000 tonnes of radioactively contaminated sediment from Hinkley Point.

These concerns were threefold, and all revolved around the issue of "baseline data" which should have been gathered BEFORE the project was approved:

- 1: the absence of information about the final destination of the radioactively contaminated sediments, post dumping:
- 2: the absence of information about the pre-dumping radioactivity exposures (dose rates) of the general population of the south Wales coastal zone, despite their long term proximity to the marine and atmospheric discharges from the multiple Bristol Channel nuclear sites.
- 3: the absence of information about man-made, Hinkley derived, beta and alpha emitting radio nuclides in the Hinkley sediments (see previous briefings).

**NRW have recently submitted documentation, to the Petitions Committee, which they have obtained from CEFAS, in support of the EDF/CEFAS/NRW proposition that studies relating to the fate of sediment disposed of at Cardiff Grounds disposal site raise no concerns about the environmental and impact of the proposed dumping of radioactively contaminated sediments at Cardiff Grounds.**

1: CEFAS summary of their review of the following papers:

*A: Sediment dynamics of the Severn Estuary and Inner Bristol Channel, McLaren et al., 1993*

*B: Distribution, transport and exchanges of fine sediment, with tidal power implications: Severn Estuary, UK, Kirby, 2010*

*C: A review of sediment dynamics in the Severn Estuary: Influence of flocculation, Manning et al., 2010*

*D: The Sediment Regime of the Severn Estuary Literature Review, Phil Cannard (Bristol City Council), 2016*

*E: \*Sedimentation Processes in the Bristol Channel/Severn Estuary, Dyer, 1984*

*F: \*Tidal Lagoon Cardiff: Conceptual Process Model, Tidal Lagoon Power, 2016*

*N.B: Copies of the last 2 papers (asterisked) have not been received to date:*

The CEFAS Summary Document concludes as follows:

Para 14: CEFAS state that “net transport of sands within the estuary” is “upstream” in the Cardiff sector of the Severn estuary: and that the Cardiff Grounds area is identified as being “in equilibrium” (i.e. the sediments are more likely to remain in the sediment cell)

Para 15: CEFAS state that the “general trend of sediment behaviour within the intertidal area around Cardiff and the shoreline closest to Cardiff Grounds has been identified as one of erosion. Therefore it is unlikely that any sediment leaving the cell would settle in those areas.” Para 16: CEFAS propose that several of the listed studies imply that “sediment within the estuary is highly mobile, with sediment being frequently re-suspended and rarely settling out permanently” and concludes that, as a result any “contamination will be further diluted over time through mixing in the water column”.

Para 17: Finally, due to the high turbidity and tidal forcing of the estuary, it is noted within several of the studies listed above that sediment within the estuary is highly mobile, with sediment being frequently resuspended, and rarely settling out permanently. Therefore, if any sediment disposed of to the area is found to contain contaminants (within acceptable levels for disposal), it is likely that this contamination will be further diluted over time through mixing in the water column.

Campaign comments on the papers submitted by NRW:

**“Sediment Dynamics of the Severn Estuary and inner Bristol Channel”:**

**MacLaren.P. et al': Journal of the Geological Society of London. Vol 150; 1993; pp 589–603**

The majority of this 1993 paper principally refers to and discusses the sand resource in the context of its major commercial significance.

However, in the context of fine suspended sediments, the paper does report that the “presence of fine grained material caused the formation of extensive peripheral salt marshes (140 square kms in area) and high suspended sediment concentrations in the water column.” in the inner Bristol Channel and Severn estuary sea area.

Page 601 of the paper identifies the inner Bridgwater Bay, the sub tidal area within Swansea Bay, the area off the River Usk, and the fringing mudflats of the inner Severn Estuary as “major depositional areas”.

Page 590 of the paper reports that “the present state of knowledge is still insufficient to understand fully sediment supply and transport within such a complex system.”

**“Distribution, transport and exchanges of fine sediment, with tidal power implications: Severn Estuary, UK,” Kirby, 2010; Marine Pollution Bulletin. Vol 61: 2010: pps 21–36**

Although it is focused specifically on the potential impact of a Cardiff/Weston Barrage constructed within the inner Bristol Channel/Severn estuary, this paper has a greater focus on fine suspended sediments than the other papers so far made available.

The paper reports (page 20) that the study and understanding of Bristol Channel sediments is now additionally “complicated by large scale ecosystem collapse due to climate change”.

The paper (page 26) reports that the Newport Deep is a “natural fine .... sediment sink receiving mud from foreshore erosion and reworked dredge material disposal at Cardiff Grounds” and with reference to the Cardiff Roads (Cardiff Port Approaches) the paper states that “ the fact that it engenders high rates of mud maintenance dredging..... makes it likely that it is a sink similar in many ways to the adjacent Newport Deep”: *N.B. this paper does not reference these statements*

**“A Review of Sediment Dynamics in the Severn Estuary: Influence of Flocculation”:** Manning AJ et al’: Marine Pollution Bulletin. Vol 61: 2010: pps 37–61

This paper (page 49) concludes that “much of the research and data collection was undertaken several decades ago, hence there is a requirement for further investigation”

The paper then catalogues 8 subject areas where such further investigations are recommended in order to provide better data and permit a more complete understanding of sediment dynamics.

The paper reports that, in the Severn Estuary, 70% of sediments suspended during spring tides settled out during the neap tides and described the Wentlooge Flats (fringing mudflats of Gwent levels) as “accreting”: i.e. areas where fine sediments are deposited.

The paper contains no reference/discussion of the movement of sediments out of the Cardiff Grounds disposal site area

**“The Sediment regime of the Severn Estuary: Literature Review”:** Bristol City Council: P. Cannard. 29<sup>th</sup> June 2016. This review reports that Severn Estuary salt marsh and mudflat environments represent “sinks of sediment deposition” (page 9,10)



Also reports that the main sediment sink locations for fine sediments are Newport Deep and Bridgwater Bay, and that “sediment sinks also occur around the estuary’s tributaries including the R. Avon and the R. Usk”

The paper contains no reference/discussion of the movement of sediments out of the Cardiff Grounds disposal site area

### **Campaign Conclusions on the NRW submission:**

The papers submitted by NRW provide very little useful or reliable data about the potential fate of radioactively contaminated sediment emplaced into the sea at the Cardiff Grounds disposal site about 2 miles off shore of Cardiff because:

A: all the papers are Severn Estuary wide in scope and none report any site specific (Cardiff Grounds) data investigations.

B: the main subjects for several papers were commercial issues (sand & aggregate resource, barrage proposal) and fine sediments were of little interest to the research.

C: a 1993 paper stated that **“the present state of knowledge is still insufficient to understand fully sediment supply and transport within such a complex system”**: a 2010 paper concludes that **“much of the research and data collection was undertaken several decades ago, hence there is a requirement for further investigation”** : another 2010 paper reports that the study and understanding of Bristol Channel sediments is now additionally **“complicated by large scale ecosystem collapse due to climate change”**.

D: the campaign agrees with CEFAS that the papers confirm

a: a north and east movement of sediment in the Cardiff sector of the Bristol Channel, *The Campaign notes that this means—from the Cardiff Grounds towards the mudflats to the north east, i.e. Gwent levels/Wentlooge Flats and the estuarine and intertidal mudflats fringing the south Wales coast up to the Wye estuary*

b: that the sediments are more likely to remain in the sediment cell and to circulate throughout the cell ***The campaign notes that this is until deposited in sites such as those listed above***

E: CEFAS state that the “general trend of sediment behaviour within the intertidal area around Cardiff and the shoreline closest to Cardiff Grounds has been identified as one of erosion. Therefore it is unlikely that any sediment leaving the cell would settle in those areas.” ***CEFAS offer no other comment on the end fate of the sediments. The Campaign believes it unlikely that no sediment from the dump site would be deposited in a “Cardiff shoreline”. The Campaign notes the failure of NRW or CEFAS to bring forward any data relate to the fate of sediment dumped at Cardiff Grounds.***

F: the Campaign’s concerns about the end fate of material dumped at Cardiff Grounds have always encompassed those of its supporters, and that the entire south Wales coast is the issue. ***The CEFAS commentary above, is plainly inadequate because it comments only on the intertidal area around Cardiff and offers no information on the potential impact on coastlines to the north and east***

G: CEFAS proposes that any “contamination will be further diluted over time through mixing in the water column”. ***The Campaign disagrees with this claim, because although contamination may be diluted through mixing in the water immediately post dumping period, over the longer term the re-concentration of radioactivity in sediments is always shown in the Bristol Channel, where annual monitoring of sea water and sediments demonstrates that unfiltered sea water always shows lower radioactivity concentrations than fine sediment samples. (see RIFE reports)***

H: from the papers offered by NRW, the Campaign concludes that there is a consensus that extensive inter-tidal sites to the north and east of the Cardiff Grounds (R. Usk, Newport Deep, Cardiff Roads, Wentlooge Flats etc..) are depositional and accretion sites where fine sediments entrained in the Severn

Estuary water column and transported north and east from the Cardiff Grounds may be deposited out. *The campaign notes that NRW, the relevant devolved Welsh Government Agency, appear to not have undertaken any review of, or search for, relevant data and are relying on the UK CEFAS, a Westminster Government agency, for information*

*l: the Campaign concludes that the NRW submission has NOT allayed the concerns expressed in the original petition text and that the submissions have confirmed that radioactively contaminated sediments proposed for dumping at Cardiff Grounds appear most likely to travel north-east towards the mud flat and estuary depositional environments of the east Glamorgan and Gwent coasts where they may deposit out and remain for uncertain time scales. The Campaign notes that had an exhaustive (site and proposal specific) EIS been carried out these issues could have been settled long ago.*

Tim Deere-Jones:

for the Campaign:

April 2018

# Eitem 3.7

## P-05-786 Arbedwch ein cefn gwlad – dylid adolygu TAN 1

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Cllr Mike Priestley, ar ôl casglu 706 o lofnodion ar-lein.

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb:**

Mae newidiadau i Nodyn Cyngor Technegol 1 (TAN1) yn 2015 wedi arwain at dargedau tai blynyddol na ellir eu cyrraedd. Mae hyn wedi arwain at wahanu penderfyniadau cynllunio oddi wrth y broses gynllunio ddemocrataidd leol, ac wedi tanseilio Cynlluniau Datblygu Lleol mabwysiedig (CDLlau) ledled Cymru.

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i adfer y defnydd o "fethodoleg cyfraddau adeiladu yn y gorffennol" o fewn Nodyn Cyngor Technegol 1, ochr yn ochr â'r "fethodoleg weddilliol". Byddai hyn yn sicrhau bod Cynghorau yn gallu cynnal asesiadau anghenion cyflenwi tir deallus a chredadwy. Mae perfformiad o ran cyflenwi tai yn y gorffennol wedi adlewyrchu amodau economaidd a gallu a gwydnwch y diwydiant adeiladu lleol.

Er mwyn sicrhau cyflenwad o dir hygyrch a chyflawnadwy, ac i gydbwysu'r angen am dai gyda'r angen i ddiogelu ein hamgylchedd a'n treftadaeth, mae'n hanfodol bod amodau economaidd a chynhwysedd y diwydiant adeiladu lleol yn cael eu hystyried mewn cyfrifiadau blynyddol o ran y Cyflenwad Tir Pum mlynedd ar gyfer Tai.

Mae newidiadau i TAN1 wedi gorfodi Cynghorau Lleol i ganiatáu datblygiadau tai sy'n fwy na'r hyn a ystyrir yn alw lleol. Mae'r datblygiadau hyn yn aml ar raddfa fawr ac yn cael effaith andwyol ar y llain werdd a threftadaeth ein Sir, wrth i ardaloedd trefol a gwledig or-ehangu. Mae hyn, yn ei dro, yn rhoi galwadau ychwanegol ar wasanaethau sydd eisoes wedi'u hymestyn, fel Meddygon Teulu, Ysbytai, Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ac Ysgolion.

Mae tynnu methodoleg y cyfraddau adeiladu yn y gorffennol yn 2015 yn achosi i nifer cynyddol o Awdurdodau Lleol ddatgan diffyg Cyflenwad Tir am bum mlynedd. Mae hyn, yn ei dro, yn gorfodi Cynghorau Lleol, yn erbyn eu hewyllys a'u tueddiad naturiol, i gymeradwyo ceisiadau datblygu hapfasnachol ar dir maes glas sy'n sensitif yn lleol, tir heb ei ddyrannu yn eu

CDLlau a, phan na roddir cymeradwyaeth leol i'r ceisiadau hapfasnachol hyn, mae penderfyniadau democrataidd lleol yn cael eu gwrthdroi ar apêl, yn benodol oherwydd diffyg Cyflenwad Tir 5 mlynedd ar gyfer Tai.

### **Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:**

Yn 2014, roedd gan Gyngor Sir Conwy gyflenwad tir am fwy na saith mlynedd pan archwiliwyd ei Gynllun Datblygu Lleol gan yr Arolygydd Cynllunio, ac y cymeradwywyd ef. Lai na 12 mis yn ddiweddarach roedd y newidiadau i TAN 1 wedi lleihau cyflenwad tir Sir Conwy i lai na phum mlynedd. Mae hyn wedi lleihau ymhellach gyda chyfrifiadau blynyddol o'r cyflenwad tir a fu ers hynny. Yn 2017, mae cyflenwad tir Conwy yn 3.1 blynedd erbyn hyn, o ganlyniad uniongyrchol i'r newidiadau i TAN1, ac mae'r Gyngor yn cael ceisiadau datblygu hapfasnachol ar gyfer tir nad yw wedi'i ddyrannu yn y CDLI, er bod tir a ddyrannwyd ar gael. Pe bai methodoleg y cyfraddau adeiladu yn y gorffennol yn cael ei ganiatáu o hyd, byddai gan Sir Conwy gyflenwad am 8.5 mlynedd heddiw.

Mae canllawiau Llywodraeth Cymru ar TAN1 yn dweud wrth Gyngorau Lleol sut i gyfrifo eu cyflenwad o dir tai. Dylai pob Gyngor feddu ar ddigon o dir i ddiwallu anghenion ar gyfer pum mlynedd o adeiladu tai. Yn y TAN1 blaenorol, roedd dau ddull o gyfrifo faint o dir yr oedd ei angen:

1. Y dull gweddilliol, sy'n seiliedig ar gyfanswm yr angen am dai o Gynllun mabwysiedig.
2. Y dull cyfraddau adeiladu yn y gorffennol, gan ddefnyddio'r cyfraddau adeiladu tai ar sail y 5 mlynedd ddiwethaf i ragweld y drefn am y 5 mlynedd nesaf.

Mae Deddf Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol (Cymru) 2015 yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i ni gydbwyso ein penderfyniadau a'n gweithredoedd o ran effaith heddiw ac effaith yn y dyfodol. Yn sicr, oni ddylem ddefnyddio'r meddylfryd hwn i gynllunio tir a'r defnydd o dir? Mae polisi presennol Llywodraeth Cymru yn gorfodi i dir glas allweddol gael ei goncritio ac i ddod yn dir llwyd yn barhaol. Gwrthodwyd yn chwyrn y cam o osod a chyfyngu ar y defnydd o'r "fethodoleg weddilliol" yn ystod y cyfnod ymgynghori a thu hwnt, ond anwybyddwyd lleisiau'r Cynghorau Lleol. Mae angen i Gyngorau Lleol allu:

- amddiffyn treftadaeth a'r amgylchedd, a'r defnydd o dir glas sensitif, ac ymarfer disgresiwn, dyfarnu a rheolaeth leol o ran ble y mae angen datblygu a ble y'i caniateir.

#### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

- Aberconwy
- Gogledd Cymru

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Ynni, Cynllunio a Materion Gwledig  
Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-786  
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/00436/18

David John Rowlands AM  
Chair, Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

[SeneddPetitions@assembly.wales](mailto:SeneddPetitions@assembly.wales)

6 March 2018

Dear David

Thank you for your letter of 23 February regarding Petition P-05-786 concerning Technical Advice Note 1 (TAN 1).

I am aware of the current housing land supply and housing delivery position across Wales and of the issues raised in this regard by some Local Authorities. The research commissioned by the Welsh Government, carried out by Arcadis, examined this matter and concluded the problems were the result of issues elsewhere in the planning process and were not due to the methodology for calculating housing land supply set out in TAN 1. In particular, the research demonstrated viability is a critical factor in sites coming forward for development and concluded there is a need for the assessment of viability and deliverability issues to be more effectively incorporated into the beginning of the development plan process. The recommendations from the research are being taken forward as part of the current reviews of *Planning Policy Wales* (which is out for public consultation until 18 May) and the *Development Plans Manual*.

Sustainable development and the creation of cohesive communities are central to Welsh Government planning policy. The proposed changes to *Planning Policy Wales* further strengthen the importance of sustainable development and the creation of cohesive communities, in particular the important role which place-making should play in shaping future development.

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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 125

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.

In addition, Local Planning Authorities themselves have the opportunity to take action to address housing delivery issues as part of the annual monitoring of their Local Development Plans (LDPs). This could include revising their housing requirement and trajectory to take account of delivery by house-builders.

Under *Prosperity for All* the Welsh Government is committed to increasing housing supply. Therefore, in addition to the revisions proposed in *Planning Policy Wales* and the *Development Plans Manual*, my officials will be conducting further research into the issues raised in connection with the determination of housing land supply as expressed through TAN 1. This will include consideration of matters such as the alternative approach to calculating housing land supply proposed in the Petition. However, to be effective a Local Planning Authority's housing land supply needs to be based on meeting the housing requirement they have identified in their adopted LDP and be deliverable and this will be the basis for considering any alternative approaches proposed.

A handwritten signature in blue ink. The word 'Regards' is written in a cursive style on the top line, and the name 'Lesley' is written below it, also in a cursive style.

**Lesley Griffiths AC/AM**

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Ynni, Cynllunio a Materion Gwledig  
Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs



## **P-04-786 Save our Countryside – Revise TAN 1 –**

### **Correspondence from Petitioner to Committee, 04.04.18**

Once again thank you for dealing with this very sensitive issue, I thank the committee for listening to my views regarding Tan1 and the difficulties it is causing and allowing for speculative applications in areas outside our Local Development Plans. I would ask that this issue be discussed in plenary (if possible) where every Assembly Member could have the opportunity to discuss this issue.

Once again my thanks to you for discussing this.

Regards

Mike Priestley

### **Correspondence from Petitioner to Committee, 08.04.18**

It is acknowledged that the Arcadis research identified issues with viability as being the cause of delays in a number of sites. However as they were commissioned to look specifically at viability in the planning process, it is inevitable that other problems may not have been considered.

It is agreed that the TAN1 JHLAS methodology is not a cause of delays in housing delivery, rather that the residual methodology fails to recognise the effects of the recession, the slowdown in the housing market and reductions in population and household projections. The residual method means that local authorities are still having to chase housing targets that became outdated some 4 years ago. This is the problem which is causing ongoing housing supply shortfalls.

Local authorities can address this issue, however it is not as simple a process as the Minister appears to suggest; LPAs cannot revise housing requirements as part of the LDP annual monitoring reports. This can only come through a review of the LDP which will take a number of years to complete. Conwy have started the review process this process, but until it is complete and the replacement LDP has been adopted, we and many other Welsh authorities are producing JHLAS reports which include absurd and unachievable annual housing requirements. In the mean time, we will continue to have a significant housing land supply shortfall, with our communities risking an increasing number of greenfield, unallocated sites being granted permission on appeal.

Using the residual method of calculation can indicate *'land shortages or surpluses, which do not exist in practice. In such cases, a comparison of available land with*

*past build rates can provide a measure of the adequacy of land supply that is more relevant to the achievement of the general objectives of the development plan.*' This was recognised in the 2006 edition of TAN1, however the current edition fails to acknowledge, let alone address the shortcomings of the residual method.

The proposed alternative calculation, which would use an LDP's annual requirement as the basis for assessing a 5-year housing land requirement would allow LPAs to aim for a realistic level of housebuilding. This would avoid the present situation where the problem is exacerbated by the backlog of housing under-delivery due to the recession, which in many cases took place prior to LDP adoption but was ignored in the WG household projections included in LDPs.

Despite numerous requests from Conwy and other authorities, WG are continuing to avoid directly addressing the problems mentioned here, citing the need to inflexibly use the residual method based on LDP housing requirements, without acknowledging the unachievable annual requirements that result. We urge the Assembly to consider the issues raised here and to listen to the views of local authorities and their communities, who understand first-hand the consequences of WG continuing to ignore the underlying cause of the problems in housing land supply across Wales.

### **P-04-519 Diddymu Taliadau Comisiwn wrth werthu Cartrefi mewn Parciau**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Caerwnon Park Residents Association ac ystyriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor yn ystod Rhagfyr 2013.

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

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i ddileu o Ddeddfwriaeth yr hawl sydd gan berchnogion parciau i fynnu comisiwn pan gaiff cartrefi mewn parciau eu gwerthu'n breifat, am nad ydynt yn rhan o'r broses werthu mwyach.

#### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

- Brycheiniog a Syr Faesyfed
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru

Rebecca Evans AC/AM  
Y Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio  
Minister for Housing and Regeneration



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-519  
Ein cyf/Our ref RE/00199/18

David John Rowlands AM  
Cadeirydd - y Pwyllgor Deisebau  
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

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

07 Mawrth 2018

Annwyl David,

### **P-04-519 Diddymu Taliadau Comisiwn wrth werthu Cartrefi mewn Parciau**

Diolch am eich llythyr yn gofyn am ddiweddariad ar yr ymgynghoriad ar gyfradd y comisiwn. Rwyf wedi penodi dadansoddwyr annibynnol i adolygu gwybodaeth ariannol y perchenogion parciau sydd wedi cytuno i rannu eu cyrifon busnes â ni. Rwy'n disgwyl i'r adroddiad gael ei gyflwyno erbyn y Pasg ac wedyn byddaf yn gwneud cyhoeddiad cyn gynted ag y bo'n ymarferol.

Yn gywir,

**Rebecca Evans AC/AM**  
Y Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio  
Minister for Housing and Regeneration

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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 130**  
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-04-522 Asbestos mewn Ysgolion

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Cenric Clement-Evans ac ystyriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor yn ystod Rhagfyr 2013, ar ôl casglu 448 o lofnodion ar bapur.

### Geiriad y ddeiseb:

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

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

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

### Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad

- Ceredigion
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru

**P-04-522 Asbestos in Schools –  
Correspondence from Petitioner to Committee, 26.02.18**

Bore Da

I must apologise for the lateness of this response, which is entirely due to pressure of work.

I am grateful for your supplying a copy of the letter of the Cabinet Secretary of the 6<sup>th</sup> February.

I note she states:

***“Condition and Management of Asbestos in Welsh Schools***

*As I indicated in my letter of 3 November, information about the presence of asbestos in schools throughout Wales and confirmation that asbestos management plans are in place forms part of our annual condition survey. I am pleased to report that the vast majority of local authorities have confirmed that those schools in their estate with asbestos present also have an asbestos management plan in place. My officials are currently working with local authorities to ensure that this information is current and that any gaps in the information are addressed.*

*At present I have no plans for my officials to share the data; however once the information has been received, further consideration will be given to the most appropriate way to deal with it.”*

I am deeply concerned that there are local authorities who do not have an asbestos management plan in place. This is in breach of Regulation 4 of the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012. I am also concerned that whilst the Cabinet Secretary indicates that her officials are working together with local authorities to address gaps etc, there is no time scale provided. In my respectful experience, where there are no timescales then matters inevitably. I remain grateful to this Committee for continuing to shine the light of scrutiny upon this issue. It would appear that there are local authorities not adhering to Welsh Government’s guidance as it presently stands.

I must also commend to the Committee the presentation provided by Mr John Evans of Santia to the Cross Party Group on the 9<sup>th</sup> January. Whilst the

presentation is very valuable to gain a better understanding of the issue, I would refer specifically to slides 12–14 which refer to the FOI responses to Lucie Stephens which revealed inter alia the schools in Wales containing asbestos. I also refer to slides 21–24 where Mr Evans raises considerable concerns regarding the

I refer to his comments on Slide 24

*“Given the expected widespread occurrence of ACMs in schools in Wales, the strong recommendation is that this CPG should request the present Cabinet Secretary for Education to require the local education authorities to provide copies of the AMPs governing the management of Asbestos in schools in their administrative areas • Each school should, in line with the advice issued by the Assembly Government in 2014, (Guidance document 138/2014 – Asbestos Management in Schools) have its’ own AMP prepared under the cover of an Education Authority wide Asbestos Management Plan • Arrangements should be made for these AMPs to be subject to independent audit to ensure that they are compliant with legislative requirements and are adequate for preventing all exposures to Asbestos”*

In other words whilst the Guidance and its review is very welcome, it is essential that the Guidance is adhered to.

With regard to the other matters in the letter of the Cabinet Secretary, I fail to understand the coyness with regard to the dates and I look forward to being provided with a copy of the Consultation.

Turning to the stakeholders and correspondence, I refer to my email of the 19<sup>th</sup> February to **Natalie James–Rutledge** (Tîm y Rhaglen i Sicrhau Addysg ac Ysgolion ar gyfer y 21ain Ganrif/21st Century Schools and Education Programme Team), which is attached in full so that the committee may see that I instigated the correspondence. I am yet to receive a response.

*“Dear Natalie*

*Thank you for your email. I must apologise for not responding sooner. I have extremely busy at work since the beginning of January.*

*In response to who might be invited to contribute as key stakeholders, I have made suggestions to the Petitions Committee over time. This has included on the 6<sup>th</sup> May 2015*

<http://senedd.assembly.wales/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=218&MID=2917>

*“In particular such a group should be led by the Department and include Assembly Members, members representing local authorities, governors, trade unions, health professionals, the HSE and asbestos experts”*

*The Petitions Committee had previously corresponded with Governors Wales*  
<http://www.senedd.assembly.wales/documents/s32207/04.09.2014%20Correspondence%20-%20Governors%20Wales%20to%20the%20Chair.pdf#search=asbestos%20governors%20wales>

*Subsequently I have also suggested that key stakeholder groups should also include those representing asbestos experts. There are a number of different organisations that can be contacted. Also it is important that Victims Organisations ought to be considered. In particular the Asbestos Victims Support Groups Forum UK <http://www.asbestosforum.org.uk/contact.asp> and also Mesothelioma UK <http://www.mesothelioma.uk.com/contact-us/>*

*I would be grateful also if the Cross Party Group could be added as a key stakeholder as the Group includes colleagues from a variety of different areas keen to highlight asbestos issues.*

*Kind regards*

*Cenric”*

Once again I apologise for the lateness of this response which I trust is of assistance. I have copied Dawn Bowden AM into the correspondence in her capacity as Chair of the Asbestos CPG.

Diolch yn fawr unwaith eto.

Cenric



**P-04-522 Asbestos in Schools –  
Correspondence from Petitioner to Committee, 05.03.18**

Annwyl Graham

Thank you again for your email. Further to my previous correspondence I have become aware of a significant development from the DfE yesterday that should be drawn to the attention of the Committee and indeed to the Cabinet Secretary (although she may be aware of this from her official who attends the DfE steering group meeting).

I am quoting from one of my JUAC colleagues.

*“The DfE has now launched its Asbestos Management Assurance Process (AMAP), which requires ‘Responsible Bodies’, via an online portal, to provide an electronic declaration that their schools are compliant with legislation on the management of asbestos in their education estate. ‘Responsible Bodies’ are the main employer of staff at maintained schools and academies (academy trusts, LAs and in some cases governing bodies). Although it is not described as compulsory, Responsible Bodies are ‘expected’ to comply and the DfE has stated that it intends to publish data which shows which Responsible Bodies have provided assurance declarations. The AMAP will not apply to non-maintained nursery schools or early years providers, FE and HE institutions, sixth form colleges and independent schools.*

*Although it is the duty of each Responsible Body to ensure that the form is submitted on behalf of all its schools, it can ask individual schools to provide it with the relevant information. However, the Responsible Body remains ultimately responsible for validating and ensuring the accuracy of information submitted by individual schools, and for providing the overall assurance declaration to the DfE.*

*The AMAP will be open for 3 months (the deadline for submitting assurances is 31 May 2018). During this time the DfE will remind Responsible Bodies of the expectation that responses are submitted.”*

The DfE user guide is here

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/asbestos-management->

[assurance-process-ama-user-guide](https://onlinecollections.des.fasst.org.uk/onlinecollections_ns/) The AMAP online portal is at [https://onlinecollections.des.fasst.org.uk/onlinecollections\\_ns/](https://onlinecollections.des.fasst.org.uk/onlinecollections_ns/)

You will note that it is stated on the introductory page.

“The AMAP meets the department’s commitments set out in the March 2015 review of Asbestos Management in Schools, enhancing scrutiny on those responsible for managing asbestos in schools.

You are expected to complete the AMAP if you are a Responsible Body.

- Responsible Body: the main employer of staff at State-Funded Schools and Academies.
- State-Funded Schools and Academies: maintained nursery schools, maintained schools (including primary, secondary and middle schools), maintained special schools and academy special schools, pupil referral units, academies and free schools and non-maintained special schools.

This guidance is for anyone who is responsible for the management of asbestos in the education estate and compliance with the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012.”

Seemingly the DfE is providing an online solution for data collection which thus far Welsh Government has been reluctant to embrace.

I am also pleased to advise following further correspondence with the official from the 21st Century Schools and Education Programme Team that I have been advised that the guidance documents for the consultation are being finalised with a view to being sent to key stakeholders as soon as possible. Also my additional recipient suggestions (as referred to in my previous email) have been added to their distribution list.

Diolch yn fawr  
Cenic

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



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-522  
Ein cyf/Our ref KW/00768/18

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21 March 2018

Dear David

Thank you for your letter of 12 March in respect of your discussions at the Petitions Committee meeting on 27 February about publically sharing asbestos data collected as part of the condition survey.

Further to my letter of 6 February, my officials continue to work with local authorities to ensure that information received is current and that any gaps in the information are addressed.

Although I acknowledge your recommendation to publish this information; I feel I will be best placed to consider the most appropriate way to deal with this, once my officials have completed this validation work.

Yours sincerely

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

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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 137

**P-05-522 Asbestos in Schools –  
Correspondence from petitioner to Committee, 10.04.18**

Dear Kathryn

Thank you for your further email.

I can confirm that the Cross Party Group on Asbestos is presently considering the consultation on Welsh Government Guidance on Management of Asbestos in Schools with a view to preparing a response. The consultation such as it consists of 2 documents which largely mirror the Department for Education Guidance. Other than the draft Guidance documents there are no questions seeking discussion of issues and it would appear that the documents have only been distribute to those identified as key stakeholders and are not widely available.

I would be grateful if the Petitions Committee might be reminded of the recent report of the Public Accounts Committee at Westminster on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2018

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmpubacc/760/76005.htm>.

I refer in particular to section 6 which seemingly goes beyond Academy Schools in England.

*“6. The Department does not have enough information about the extent of asbestos in schools to ensure that the risks are being properly managed. Asbestos is a significant, and potentially dangerous, problem in many schools. In April 2017, we found that the Department did not have a complete picture of the extent of asbestos in school buildings. The Department’s first property data survey did not assess the extent of asbestos. Only a quarter of schools responded to its second survey, in 2016, which aimed to collect data on this issue. We recommended that the Department should set out a plan by December 2017 for how it would fill gaps in its knowledge about the school estate in areas not covered by the property data survey. The Department’s latest property data survey is currently taking place and will provide more information on the presence and management of asbestos. The Department accepted that information on asbestos in school buildings should be available locally and easily accessible*

*to parents and local communities. ESFA told us that it expected information on asbestos to be available locally for parents to view, and without recourse to Freedom of Information requests. We were concerned to hear of an example where this had not been the case and local communities could not easily access this information.*

**Recommendation:** The Department should publish the results of its ongoing exercise to collect data on asbestos; and make clear to Local Authorities and academy trusts that information should be made available by the end of June 2018.”

The Committee is clearly intent on ensuring that the Department for Education is fully informed about the extent of asbestos in schools in England. I would suggest that we should expect no less with regard to schools in Wales.

As you are aware the right to know about the presence of asbestos in our schools in Wales is central to the petition before the Committee.

I am heartened both by the concern of the Petitions Committee regarding transparency over the issue of the asbestos in our schools in Wales and also by the statement of the Public Accounts Committee (see above) that “*The Department accepted that information on asbestos in school buildings should be available locally and easily accessible to parents and local communities. ESFA told us that it expected information on asbestos to be available locally for parents to view, and without recourse to Freedom of Information requests.*”. In other words the Department for Education in Westminster now accepts the need for openness over the issue. Recent correspondence from the Cabinet Secretary is indicative of wholly different approach. I respectfully ask that the Petitions Committee continues to press for full disclosure of the data relating to asbestos in our schools in Wales. It may be the Cabinet Secretary ought to be reminded of her statement following the closure of Cwmcarn High School in 2012.

<http://www.welshlibdems.wales/en/article/2012/621814/parents-pupils-and-staff-have-a-right-to-know-about-asbestos-in-their-schools-kirsty-williams>

***'Welsh Liberal Democrats***

***Parents, pupils and staff have a right to know about asbestos in their schools  
– Kirsty Williams***

*October 16, 2012 1:17 PM*

***Kirsty Williams, Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats, is calling on the Welsh Government to conduct a national audit of asbestos in schools following the closure of a school in Caerphilly.***

*Cwmcarn High School, which has more than 900 pupils, shut late last Friday after a structural report identified asbestos. Many school buildings in Wales were built between the 1940s and 1980s, when asbestos was used extensively.*

***Kirsty Williams, Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats, said:***

*"Asbestos is a hidden killer and I am very concerned that pupils, staff and teachers at our schools could be unknowingly exposed to asbestos. Many of our schools that were built between 1940s and 1980s used asbestos during construction for its fire-retardant and insulating properties and the mere act of sticking a drawing pin into a wall could disturb the fibrous crystals. The prolonged inhalation of these fibres can cause serious illnesses including malignant lung cancer, mesothelioma and asbestosis.*

*"I do not want to cause undue alarm, however when a school of 900 pupils has had to close because asbestos was found in airborne particles, I think that people across Wales have a right to know if asbestos is a danger in their local school. Britain imported hundreds of thousands of tons of asbestos in the last century and we do not know the extent of its use in our schools nor how secure it is in school buildings.*

*"The welfare of the pupils, teachers and staff at our schools is paramount and I want to Welsh Government to conduct an audit of situation right across Wales. The Welsh Government will try to shift the responsibility onto local authorities and schools however they do not have the sufficient resources or skills to take the lead on this. It's time for the Welsh Government to take*

*responsibility so that our teachers and pupils can have the confidence that they are teaching and learning in safe surroundings."*

Once again I am grateful for the continued interest shown in my petition by the Committee.

Diolch o galon  
Cenric

# Eitem 3.10

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

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Bethany Walpole-Wroe ac ystyriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor yn ystod Gorffennaf 2014, ar ôl casglu 1008 o lofnodion ar bapur (casglodd ddeiseb gysylltiedig dros 10,300 o lofnodion).

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

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.

### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

- Ceredigion
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru



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



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-576 and P-04-606

David J Rowlands AM  
Chair, Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

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

8 March 2018

Dear David

**P-04-576 Allow Children in Wales to Have a Family Holiday During Term Time / P-04-606 Ensure schools exercise their statutory powers under regulation 7 of The Education (Pupil Registration) (Wales) Regulations 2010**

Thank you for your email of 23 February requesting an update on recent developments relating the above petitions.

The final report of the independent evaluation of fixed penalty notices for regular non-attendance at school was finalised by ICF Consultancy Ltd in February 2018. In accordance with social research project protocols, the report will be published within 12 weeks from this point. I will ensure that the Committee is provided with an update once the report has been published.

The findings of the report will be considered alongside the other evidence my officials have gathered as part of the wider review of attendance policy which is currently underway.

Yours sincerely

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

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

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[Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales](mailto: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

**P-04-576 Allow Children in Wales to Have a Family Holiday During Term Time – Correspondence from Petitioner to Committee, 06.04.18**

This was brought to my attention today, I do hope that Carwyn Jones is not going to look like a hypocrite over this matter, when his Labour colleagues in Plymouth are standing up for good sense and fair play towards parents and children that deserve a holiday and family time for a few days a year

***St Budeaux – Plymouth Labour Councillors***

*April 4 at 11:08pm ·*

*Holidays in July and August are so expensive and beyond the means of many families. Everyone deserves the chance to get away and spend some precious time together as a family. That's why Plymouth Labour voted to stop the council fining parents, while the Tories voted to keep the fines.*



**P-04-606** Sicrhau bod ysgolion yn defnyddio eu pwerau statudol o dan reoliad 7 o Reoliadau Addysg (Cofrestru Disgyblion) (Cymru) 2010 heb unrhyw ymyrraeth neu ragfarn.

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan *Rhieni Pembs eisiau cael dweud* ac ystyriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor yn ystod Rhagfyr 2014, ar ôl casglu 812 o lofnodion ar lein.

### Geiriad y ddeiseb

Gofynnwn i Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru sicrhau bod ysgolion yn rhydd i ddefnyddio eu pwerau statudol o dan reoliad 7 o Reoliadau Addysg (Cofrestru Disgyblion) (Cymru) 2010 heb ymyrraeth gan gyrff fel awdurdodau lleol a chonsortia addysg rhanbarthol, a heb fygythiad o gael eu cosbi drwy'r prosesau arolygu ysgolion, dyfarniadau perfformiad a bandio.

Mae'r awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru a'u consortia yn argymhell na ddylai ysgolion ddefnyddio eu pwerau statudol o dan y ddeddfwriaeth uchod, gan adael mwy o deuluoedd yn agored i'r bygythiad o hysbysiadau cosb o dan Reoliadau Addysg (Hysbysiadau Cosb) (Cymru) 2013 nag a fyddai wedi bod fel arall. Gwneir yr argymhellion hyn ar y sail eu bod yn gallu gwella cyrhaeddiad er gwaethaf y diffyg tystiolaeth bod absenoldeb o'r math a ganiateir o dan reoliad 7 o Reoliadau Addysg (Cofrestru Disgyblion) (Cymru) 2010 yn arwain at gyrhaeddiad gwaeth.

Ar hyn o bryd gellir cosbi ysgolion yng Nghymru trwy'r prosesau arolygu, dyfarniadau perfformiad a bandio ysgolion am awdurdodi absenoldebau cyfreithlon fel salwch, gwyliau teuluol neu ddigwyddiadau ac achosion eraill sy'n galluogi teuluoedd i gymryd rhan lawn mewn bywyd teuluol preifat arferol.

Mae'r argymhellion a'r prosesau hyn yn gogwyddo ysgolion yn erbyn awdurdodi absenoldeb cyfreithlon, ac yn gwneud ysgolion yn amharod i arfer eu pwerau statudol o dan reoliad 7 o Reoliadau Addysg (Cofrestru

Disgyblion) (Cymru) 2010. Gall hyn niweidio'r berthynas rhwng y cartref a'r ysgol a lles plant. Lle bydd teulu yn anghytuno â'r penderfyniad i wrthod awdurdodi absenoldeb ar sail cydraddoldeb, hawliau dynol neu les plant does dim llwybr apêl annibynnol. Lle mae teulu yn anwybyddu'r penderfyniad i wrthod awdurdodi absenoldeb gall hynny arwain at hysbysiad cosb a throeddoli posibl. Ceir effaith economaidd ar y diwydiant twristiaeth a hamdden yng Nghymru sy'n darparu cyflogaeth ac incwm i lawer o'n teuluoedd.

### **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol**

Mae Rheoliad 7 o Reoliadau Addysg (Cofrestru Disgyblion) (Cymru) 2010 yn rhoi pŵer disgrisiynol i ysgolion i awdurdodi hyd at 10 diwrnod o absenoldeb yn ystod y flwyddyn ysgol ar gyfer gwyliau teuluol a mwy na 10 diwrnod o absenoldeb mewn amgylchiadau eithriadol.

Cynghorir ysgolion yn erbyn defnyddio'r pŵer hwn gan eu hawdurdodau lleol. Maent yn teimlo dan bwysau i wella ffigurau presenoldeb ysgolion gan Estyn, arolygiaeth addysg a hyfforddiant Cymru, a all eu cosbi os yw presenoldeb yn is na lefel benodol.

Mae'r ymgyrch i wella presenoldeb yn seiliedig ar y dybiaeth y bydd yn gwella cyrhaeddiad addysgol. Mae hyn yn gor-symleiddio mater cymhleth iawn. Mae presenoldeb a chyrhaeddiad yn gysylltiedig ond ni phrofwyd bod cysylltiad achosol. Mae ymchwil yn dangos nad yw absenoldeb ar gyfer gwyliau teuluol yn effeithio ar gyrhaeddiad ar lefel ysgol gynradd, a bod rhywfaint o absenoldeb yn annhebygol o gael unrhyw effaith ar lefel ysgol uwchradd. ("Proffil o Absenoldeb Disgyblion, 2011, DfE").

Gall penderfyniad ysgol i wrthod awdurdodi absenoldeb a ganiateir o dan y gyfraith niweidio o ddifrif y berthynas rhwng y cartref a'r ysgol, yn enwedig os bydd y teulu yn credu bod yr absenoldeb yn bwysig i les eu plentyn, ac yn cymryd eu plentyn o'r ysgol beth bynnag. Gall y teulu gael hysbysiad cosb (dirwy) neu gael eu troseddoli.

Mae llawer o resymau dilys pam bod plant a theuluoedd angen yr hyblygrwydd i fod yn absennol o'r ysgol yn ystod amser tymor. Mae hynny'n cynnwys anhawster i gael gwyliau blynyddol yn ystod gwyliau'r ysgol, digwyddiadau teuluol pwysig, yn byw'n bell o rieni dibreswyl, neiniau a theidiau, a theulu estynedig. Mae teuluoedd sy'n cael eu cyflogi yn y diwydiant twristiaeth a hamdden yng Nghymru wedi teimlo effaith economaidd sylweddol o'r gwaharddiad ar wyliau amser tymor yn Lloegr eleni. Nododd Adroddiad Plentyndod Da 2014 bod yr ysgol yn ddim ond un o'r deg agwedd ar fywyd sy'n cael y dylanwad mwyaf ar les plant. Y lleill oedd y teulu, y cartref, sefyllfa ariannol, ffrindiau, iechyd a dewis.

#### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

- N/A

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



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-576 and P-04-606

David J Rowlands AM  
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Yours sincerely

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

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[Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales)

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Tudalen y pecyn 148

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

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Geraint Vaughn Jones ac ystyriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor yn ystod Mehefin 2014, ar ôl casglu 2,754 o lofnodion

### **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'.

### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

- Dwyfor Meirionnydd
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru

**P-04-564 Restoration of Inpatient Beds, Minor Injuries Cover and X-Ray Unit to the Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital – Correspondence from Gwynedd Council to the Clerking Team, 19.01.18**

Dear Graeme

As chairman of the Gwynedd Care scrutiny committee and chairman of the special meeting on 5 September I am delighted that you agree with our recommendations regarding Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital.

This is a tribute to our support officer Gareth James and the efforts of my committee members.

The issue is on our agenda for the 30th January and I will inform the committee of this e-mail from David J Rowlands chair of the Petitions committee.

Regards

Cllr Eryl Jones-Williams.

Dyffryn Ardudwy.





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Ebost | Email: admin@waleschc.org.uk

6<sup>th</sup> February 2018

David J Rowlands AM - Chair  
National Assembly for Wales's Petitions Committee  
BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Mr Rowlands

**Petition P-04-564 Restoration of Inpatient Beds, Minor Injuries Cover and X-Ray Unit to the Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital**

North Wales Community Health Council welcomes the January 2018 report of the Petitions Committee.

North Wales CHC strongly supports both of the Committee's conclusions and we also share the view that the local scrutiny process initiated by the Gwynedd Council's Care Scrutiny Committee will be the best way to investigate and address the concerns of the local community and to restore public confidence in the decision-making process.

For its part, the CHC is keen to fully co-operate with any independent report. It is vitally important that Betsi Cadwaladr UHB also engage in this process willingly and openly and is prepared to act on the recommendations and learn from past errors. We would expect that the Health Board's response to the Petitions Committee will give such an assurance.

Yours sincerely

**GEOFF RYALL-HARVEY**  
**PRIF SWYDDOG / CHIEF OFFICER**



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

Vaughan Gething AC / AM  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau  
Cymdeithasol  
Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref :P-04-564  
Ein cyf/Our ref VG/00213/18

David John Rowlands AC  
Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau  
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru  
Bae Caerdydd  
CF99 1NA

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

7 Chwefror 2018

Annwyl David,

Diolch ichi am eich llythyr dyddiedig 19 Ionawr ar ran y Pwyllgor Deisebau ynglŷn â Deiseb: P-04-564 sy'n ymwneud ag adfer gwelyau cleifion mewnol, darpariaeth anafiadau mân, ac uned pelydr-X i Ysbyty Coffa Blaenau Ffestiniog.

Rwy'n nodi'r adroddiad cryno a chasgliadau'r pwyllgor.

Roedd yn bleser gennyf agor Canolfan Goffa Ffestiniog ym Mlaenau Ffestiniog yn swyddogol ar 30 Tachwedd 2017. Cafodd y Ganolfan ei hadeiladu gyda £3.9 miliwn o gyllid cyfalaf gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Mae'r ganolfan newydd yn ddatblygiad cyffrous sy'n darparu amrywiaeth o wasanaethau ychwanegol ym maes iechyd, llesiant ac atal ar gyfer y gymuned leol.

Fel sy'n ofynnol i brosiectau sydd wedi cael eu hariannu drwy raglen Cyllid Cyfalaf GIG Cymru Gyfan, rhaid i Fwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Betsi Cadwaladr gynnal gwerthusiad o'r prosiect ar ôl i'r Ganolfan newydd ddechrau ar ei gwaith, a hynny erbyn diwedd 2018. Bydd y gwerthusiad hwn yn asesu'r manteision a'r canlyniadau i'r boblogaeth leol sydd wedi dod yn sgil y datblygiad. Hefyd, bydd y bwrdd iechyd yn parhau i sicrhau bod y ganolfan ar gael i gynnig gwasanaethau ychwanegol lle bo gofyn amdanynt, a'r disgwyl yw y bydd ei gwasanaethau'n datblygu dros gyfnod o amser mewn modd sy'n adlewyrchu'r angen i wella iechyd y cyhoedd ac yn unol â'r strategaeth Gofal yn Nes at y Cartref.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
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[Correspondence.Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Vaughan.Gething@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.

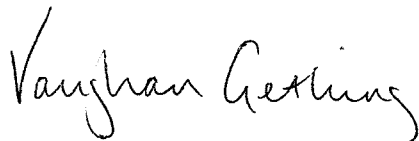
## Tudalen y pecyn 152

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.

Rwy'n ymwybodol bod y bwrdd iechyd wedi ymateb i argymhellion Pwyllgor Craffu Gwynedd sy'n ymwneud â gofal iechyd yn ardal Ffestiniog, o fis Medi 2017, a'i fod wedi cadarnhau ei fod wedi ymrwmo i weithio gyda'i bartneriaid a rhanddeiliaid yn yr ardal. Rwy'n deall y bu trafod pellach yng nghyfarfod Pwyllgor Craffu ar Ofal y cyngor a gynhaliwyd ar 30 Ionawr.

Gobeithio y bydd yr ateb hwn o gymorth ichi.

Yn gywir,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vaughan Gething". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Vaughan Gething AC / AM**

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services



Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Betsi Cadwaladr  
University Health Board

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Llanellwy LL17 0JG

Block 5, Carlton Court, St Asaph Business  
Park, St Asaph, LL17 0JG

David J Rowlands AC  
Cadeirydd  
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru  
Parc Cathays  
CAERDYDD

trwy e-bost  
[SeneddPetitions@assembly.wales](mailto:SeneddPetitions@assembly.wales)

Ein cyf / Our ref: GD/MO/6290/1455

Eich cyf / Your ref:

☎: 01745 448788 est 6364

Gofynnwch am / Ask for: Dawn Lees

E-bost / Email: [Dawn.Lees@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Dawn.Lees@wales.nhs.uk)

Dyddiad / Date: 2 Mawrth 2018

Annwyl Mr Rowlands

**Ynghylch: Deiseb P-04-564 Adferiad Gwelyau Cleifion Mewnol, Gwasanaeth Mân Anafiadau ac Uned Pelydr-x yn Ysbyty Coffa Ffestiniog**

Yn dilyn eich llythyr diweddar, dyddiedig 19 Ionawr 2018, yn amgáu adroddiad byr yn crynhoi ystyriaethau'r Pwyllgor Deisebau ynghylch y ddeiseb ac yn gwneud cais am farn y Bwrdd Iechyd am eich dau gasgliad, gweler ein sylwadau isod:

**Casgliad 1 y Pwyllgor Deisebau:** Mae'n amlwg o'n ystyriaethau o'r ddeiseb hon bod angen gwneud ymdrechion pellach i godi pontydd rhwng adrannau'r gymuned leol a BIPBC. Gall agor Canolfan Goffa Ffestiniog helpu i ddarparu ysgogiad ar gyfer hyn. Fodd bynnag, rydym yn cydnabod nad yw'r ganolfan hon yn mynd i'r afael â'r cymhelliant gwreiddiol y tu ôl i'r ddeiseb, sef darparu gwelyau cleifion mewnol, gwasanaeth mân anafiadau a chyfleusterau pelydr-x ym Mlaenau Ffestiniog. Er hynny, gobeithiwn bydd y ganolfan newydd yn gallu cynorthwyo i ddatblygu gwell perthynas a bodlonrwydd gyda lefel y gofal iechyd a ddarperir yn y gymuned.

Fel y gwyddoch, agorwyd Canolfan Goffa Ffestiniog, y ganolfan iechyd, gofal cymdeithasol a lles integredig newydd ym Mlaenau Ffestiniog yn ffurfiol gan yr Ysgrifennydd Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ar 30 Tachwedd 2017.

Mae'r ganolfan newydd yn darparu dros 35 o wasanaethau newydd, estynedig a phresennol rheolaidd o'r ganolfan a thros 45 clinig ar draws y sbectrwm cychwynnol, iechyd cymuned, gofal cymdeithasol, rhwystro a lles. Mae adborth anffurfiol gan gleifion, y cyhoedd a'r staff hyd yn hyn wedi bod yn gadarnhaol iawn. Mae'n flaenoriaeth gan y Bwrdd Iechyd i sicrhau bod y chyfleusterau newydd yn cyflawni'r hyn a gafodd ei addo. Disgwylir i'r ddarpariaeth gwasanaeth esblygu a datblygu dros amser yn unol â pholisi strategol Llywodraeth Cymru a Strategaeth Agosach i'r Cartref y Bwrdd Iechyd, a bydd y Bwrdd Iechyd yn parhau i wneud y ganolfan ar gael i wasanaethau newydd ac ychwanegol pan yn briodol.



Mae datblygu gwell perthnasau gyda'r gymuned leol yn bwysig i ni, ac i'r perwyl hwn, rydym wedi gweithredu ymarferiad ymgysylltu a chyfathrebu eang dros y 12 mis diwethaf drwy Swyddogion Ymgysylltu a Chyfathrebu Ardal y Gorllewin. Mae hyn wedi cynnwys nifer o weithgareddau ymgysylltu lleol ym Mlaenau Ffestiniog ac mae newyddlenni a diweddariadau rheolaidd wedi'u cylchredeg yn eang, gan gynnwys drwy gyfryngau cymdeithasol. Nid yw cyfathrebu gyda'r gymuned leol yn ardal Blaenau yn dod i ben gydag agoriad Canolfan Goffa Ffestiniog. Mae'r Bwrdd Iechyd yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd ymgysylltu parhaus gyda chymunedau lleol, ac mae Cynllun Ymgysylltu a Chyfathrebu drafft wedi'i greu ar gyfer Canolfan Goffa Ffestiniog am y 12 mis nesaf a thu hwnt.

Fel y nodwyd yn flaenorol, ac yn unol â chanllawiau Llywodraeth Cymru, yn gysylltiedig â chynlluniau cyllideb cyfalaf Cymru gyfan, byddwn yn ymgymryd â gwerthusiad ôl-brosiect o gynllun cyfalaf Blaenau Ffestiniog cyn diwedd 2018 (yn ofynnol gan Lywodraeth Cymru o fewn 12 mis o agor), gyda'r nod o asesu'r buddion a'r canlyniadau yn erbyn ystod o fesurau a osodwyd yn y cynllun busnes a gymeradwywyd. Bydd hyn yn cynnwys ymgymryd ag arolygon bodlonrwydd cleifion a gofalwyr penodol gyda gwasanaethau lleol. Byddwn hefyd yn ailedrych ar asesiad Effaith Cydraddoldeb y ganolfan newydd cyn bo hir, i asesu effaith y ganolfan newydd ar grwpiau nodweddiadol a warchodir.

Mae'r Bwrdd Iechyd hefyd yn falch o gadarnhau bu nifer o benodiadau newydd dros y misoedd diwethaf yn y Practis MT, gan gynnwys ail MT cyflogedig, Rheolwr Canolfan Iechyd/Practis, Uwch Nyrs Ymarferydd brofiadol, Nyrs Bractis newydd ac mae'r gweithiwr cefnogi gofal iechyd ar hyn o bryd yn ymgymryd â hyfforddiant i'w galluogi i ymgymryd â dyletswyddau ehangach. Yn ogystal â hyn, cyflogwyd unigolyn lleol fel prentis gwaith derbynfa a gweinyddol. Mae'r tîm llawn hwn yn gallu manteisio ar fuddion y cyd-leoliad gydag ystod eang o staff proffesiynol iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol, yn ogystal â chael mynediad at sefydliadau trydydd sector, y cyfan ar yr un safle.

O ran y datganiad nad yw'r Ganolfan hon wedi mynd i'r afael â'r cymhelliant gwreiddiol y tu ôl i'r ddeiseb, sef darparu gwelyau cleifion mewnol, gwasanaeth mân anafiadau a chyfleusterau pelydr-x ym Mlaenau Ffestiniog, mae'r Bwrdd Iechyd bob amser wedi gwneud ei orau i danlinellu'n glir mewn cyfarfodydd a gohebiaeth gyda'r Pwyllgor Amddiffyn yr Ysbyty, yn ogystal â bod yn fanwl o fewn y ddogfen Mae Gofal Iechyd yng Ngogledd Cymru yn Newid (HCiNWiC), egwyddorion a'r rhesymau y tu ôl i'r newidiadau yn y ddarpariaeth gwasanaeth cymuned ar draws gogledd Cymru a Blaenau Ffestiniog. Y ddau brif egwyddor yw:

- Canolbwyntio ein hadnoddau i ddarparu **gwasanaethau gofal iechyd dibynadwy mewn llai o ysbytai** er mwyn sicrhau bod y gwasanaethau a ddarperir ar gael yn gyson;
- **Darparu'r un gwasanaethau gofal iechyd gyda'r un amserau agor o fewn 40 munud** o amser gyrru i gymaint o bobl â phosibl yng ngogledd Cymru;

Yn ogystal â hyn, rydym wedi esbonio bod canolbwyntio adnoddau i ddarparu gwasanaethau gofal iechyd dibynadwy mewn llai o ysbytai yn bwysig iawn i sicrhau bod trwygyrch yn uwch, gan sicrhau bod galluedd yn cael eu cynnal a bod gofal yn ddiogel.



GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Betsi Cadwaladr  
University Health Board

Esboniwyd y rhesymau pam na chafodd Ysbyty Coffa Ffestiniog (YCFf) ei ddewis fel un o'r deg ysbyty cymuned hwb ar draws gogledd Cymru (yn HClNWIC). Dangosodd ddadansoddiad o dderbyniadau bod dalgylch YCFf wedi'i gyfyngu'n bennaf i Blaenau ei hunan, gyda lefel isel o dderbyniadau o'r ardal i'r gorllewin ac ychydig neu ddim gweithgaredd o gwbl o'r dwyrain neu ardal y 'tir uchel gwledig'. Fodd bynnag, roedd data ar gyfer Ysbyty Alltwen yn dangos ei fod eisoes yn tynnu cleifion o ddalgylch ehangach. Roedd y trwygyrch cleifion ar gyfer UMA a phelydr-x yn uwch yn Ysbyty Alltwen nac yn Ysbyty Coffa Ffestiniog. Mae anawsterau cynnal sgiliau a galluoedd staff gyda thrwygyrch isel wedi'u dogfennu'n dda.

Bellach mae'n gonglfaen a dderbynnir yn eang yn y DU, Llywodraeth Cymru a pholisi iechyd strategol BIPBC, dylai cleifion dderbyn gofal yn eu cartrefi eu hunain yn hytrach na'u derbyn i ysbyty, os yw hyn yn ddiogel a phriodol i'w wneud. Mae'r newid mewn gwasanaeth cleifion mewnol ym Mlaenau yn adlewyrchu'r egwyddor hon. Mae pobl ar ddiwedd eu bywyd yn dewis marw yn eu cartrefi eu hunain, ac mae'r newid hwn i'w weld yn llwyth gwaith gofal lliniarol cynyddol a ysgwyddir gan nyrsys ardal, yn enwedig yn ardal Blaenau dros yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf. Byddai'r cleifion hyn wedi derbyn eu gofal yn flaenorol mewn lleoliad cleifion mewnol.

**Casgliad 2 y Pwyllgor Deisebau:** Rydym yn ystyried bod y broses graffu leol nawr yn barhaus drwy Bwyllgor Craffu Gofal Cyngor Gwynedd, yn cynrychioli'r ffordd fwyaf briodol i'r materion a gynhwysir yn y ddeiseb gael eu trafod a derbyn sylw. Rydym yn cefnogi'r argymhellion y Pwyllgor ac rydym yn annog pawb sy'n gysylltiedig i'w hystyried yn ofalus. Yn benodol, cytunwn byddai'n well i bryderon y gymuned leol dderbyn sylw yn unol â'r argymhelliad i gomisiynu adroddiad annibynnol ynghylch darpariaeth iechyd yn ardal Blaenau Ffestiniog.

Bydd BIPBC yn parhau i weithio'n agos â Phwyllgor Craffu Gofal Cyngor Gwynedd i ddarparu gwybodaeth pan fydd ei angen. Yn unol ag ymateb gwreiddiol y Bwrdd Iechyd i argymhellion y Pwyllgor Craffu, mae BIPBC yn ailadrodd na fyddai'n briodol iddo gomisiynu ac ariannu adroddiad annibynnol am ddarpariaeth gwasanaethau iechyd yn ardal Blaenau. Y flaenoriaeth i ni yw sicrhau bod y cyfleusterau integredig newydd ym Mlaenau yn cyflawni yn ôl yr addewid yn unol â gweledigaeth Gofal yn Agosach i'r Cartref Llywodraeth Cymru a PBC.

Yng nghyfarfod diweddaraf y Pwyllgor Craffu Gofal, awgrymwyd mai Cyngor Iechyd Cymuned Gogledd Cymru fyddai orau i ymgymryd â hyn.

Yn gywir

**Gary Doherty**  
Prif Weithredwr / Chief Executive

**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, 01.04.18**

Dear Mr Rowlands,

We thank you for this further opportunity to respond to BCUHB Chief Exec's latest claims regarding healthcare provision at what is now referred to by the Board as the Ffestiniog Memorial Centre.

Judging from the arguments that he has presented, it is patently obvious that the Betsi Cadwaladr Health Board remain in a state of denial as they stubbornly try to justify past and present failures.

There are several points in his letter that need to be challenged:-

**1. His claim of '35 new, increased and existing regular services' now being provided in the Ffestiniog Welsh Uplands.**

In July 2017, the Board was listing those same 35 services as '*new services*', a **definition that, at the time, could only have been intended to deliberately mislead the public**. In fact, of the 35 services listed in that newsletter, as many as 23 were already being provided, whilst others on the list included what can only be described as non-essential group sessions such as '*Community Wellbeing Group Mindfulness Courses*', '*Job Centre Plus*', '*Walking Sessions*', '*Disability Employment Advisors*', '*Stop Smoking Wales Clinic*'.

Professor Longley in his study of healthcare services in rural mid-Wales, used a proforma to list the comparative healthcare services available in various wellbeing community. The healthcare services promised by Betsi Cadwaladr in the Welsh Uplands around Ffestiniog fall far short of those listed as suitably comprehensive for the Tywyn and the Dolgellau well-being areas, a fact Betsi Cadwaladr has never denied. Mr Doherty's argument seems to be that he cannot afford to provide more than the primitive service, by international measures, that he has planned to supply, in the Welsh Uplands and the residents there will have to tolerate a service far less comprehensive than provided in places like Tywyn, Dolgellau and Pwllheli.

When eventually an independent assessor examines the service in the Ffestiniog area, that assessor will use a comparative method to illustrate the difference in healthcare services provided between wellbeing areas and demonstrate by epidemiological analysis of patient outcomes the impact of the service downgrade that Betsi Cadwaladr has imposed on the Welsh Uplands residents.

2. The paragraph on page 2 of his letter ( *'The Health Board is also pleased ...'* ) is typical of the sort of bluster to which we have become so accustomed. For example:-
  - i) The so-called **'new appointments'**, that Mr Doherty takes such pride in, are not new positions at all, but **mainly** replacement appointments. For example, the recent need to appoint a new Practice Manager arose out of the hush-hush sacking of a predecessor in the post, one who had also been appointed by the Health Board!
  - ii) When applauding the appointment of the *'second salaried GP'*, Mr Doherty should surely have clarified that the only other salaried GP in the Practice has been semi-retired since January 2014, having postponed full retirement in response to an earnest request from the Health Board itself!
  
3. Like his predecessors in the post, Mr Doherty seems intent on presenting a case that **the Ffestiniog area actually deserved to lose such crucial services** and that the region is adequately provided for under the terms of the 2014/15 Well-being Acts. This is far from being the case and his claim that ***'the catchment area for FMH [i.e. Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital] was confined largely to Blaenau itself, with a low level of admissions from the area to the west and little or no activity from the east or the "rural uplands" area'*** is a **blatant misrepresentation of the facts.**

For instance, in 2015, Dolwyddelan Community Council (to the north-east) felt the need to call its own referendum, in which the residents voted 99%+ in favour of a return of the services that are listed in our Petition. A similar referendum held in Blaenau Ffestiniog and its surrounding villages, produced an almost identical result, and for **Mr Doherty to claim that residents are now satisfied with their lot is disingenuous to say the least.**

In fact, in his letter to you, dated *2nd March 2018*, he admits, albeit inadvertently, to the Board's **true intentions** in closing the Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital when he refers to what he calls BCUHB's **two key principles**. i.e. :-



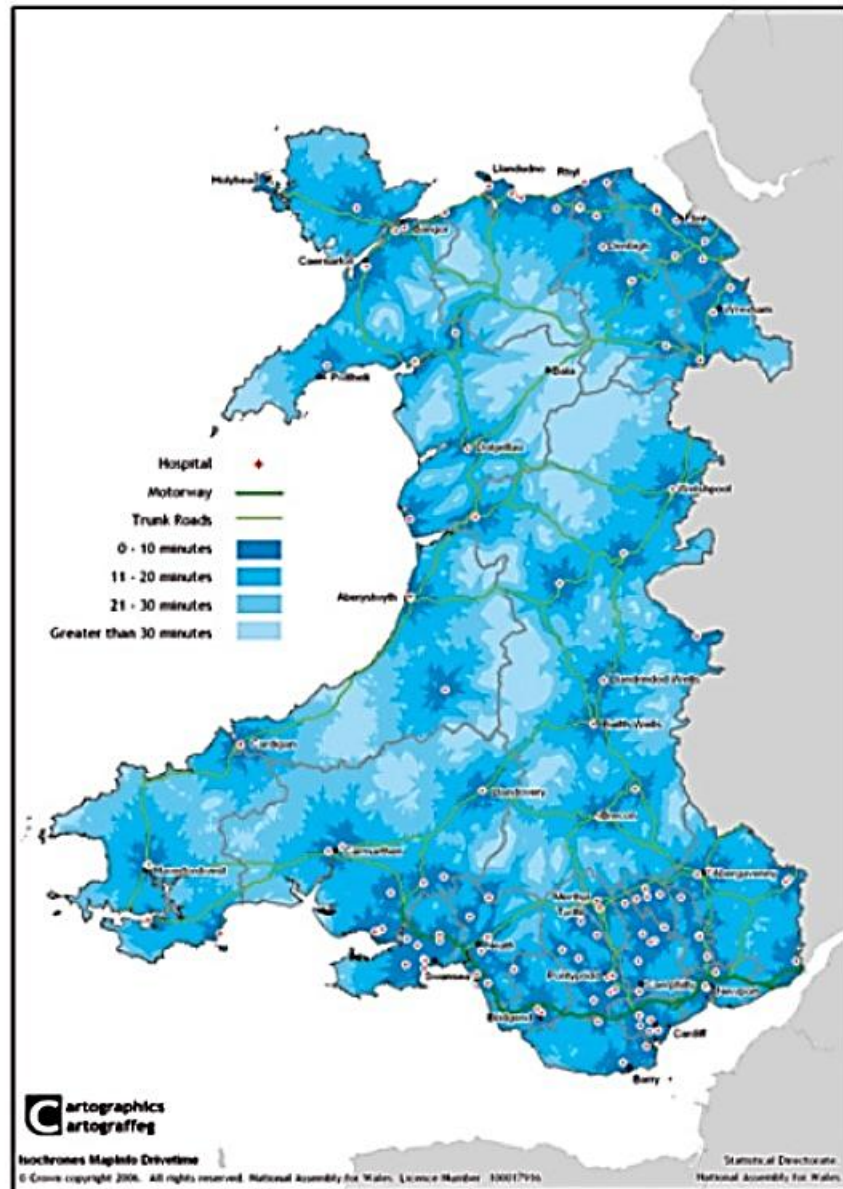
- (i) *'Focusing our resources on **providing reliable healthcare services at fewer hospitals** to make sure that the services provided are consistently available.'*
- (ii) He then compounds his argument by quoting the second of those key principles: *'Providing the same Healthcare services with the same opening times within 40 minutes drive for as many people as possible in North Wales.'*

Mr Doherty should be asked to explain the source of his **40 minute** criterion. In fact, such a time scale was **pure invention** by the Health Board itself, during the period when Mrs Mary Burrows was the Chief Executive, and it is surprising, to say the least, that someone in Mr Doherty's exalted position hasn't yet realised that fact. **The World Health Organization makes no reference whatsoever to such a 40 minute timescale in any of its guidance. 40 minutes does not appear in any Welsh or UK regulations.**

The last "Profile of rural health in Wales" conducted for the Welsh Government includes on page 20 a "time and distance analysis to hospitals in Wales". It uses the internationally deployed bandings of 0-10 mins, 11-20 mins 21-30 mins and "greater than 30mins". We include the map below. You will note that without a hospital in the Ffestiniog locality, a wide area of the Welsh Uplandss is now without the 30 minute zone.

Mrs Burrows was formally censored by the Welsh Assembly Public Accounts Committee in its Decemebr 2013 report on "Governance Arrangements at Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board". While the report was being prepared Mrs Burrows left the employ of the Wales NHS.

Fig. 17: Time and distance analysis to hospitals in Wales



Source: Welsh Assembly Government

**We feel that Mr Doherty needs to specify his source in this respect.**

4. The Chief Exec presents other so-called ‘facts’ to strengthen his argument, but none as banal or as clichéd as where he claims that Blaenau people have said that they prefer to die at home rather than in hospital. To seriously present such an argument in support of the decision to close our Memorial Hospital, or any other hospital for that matter, is an insult to any person’s intelligence, leave alone yourselves as members of the Welsh Government’s Petitions Committee.

5. Over the past five years (ever since the hurried closure of our memorial hospital in March 2013), we have presented BCUHB with several examples where patients from the Welsh Uplands have been sent (and are still being sent) from Ysbyty Gwynedd to step-down hospitals and into the care of other unfamiliar doctors many miles distant from their homes - egs. Alltwen (up to c. 20 miles), Bryn Beryl Pwllheli (up to 32 m.), Dolgellau (c. 24m.). In most of those instances, patients will have been out of the care of their own GP for many weeks, if not months, at a time.

Mr Doherty needs to explain whether that is in line with his Health Board's '*Care Closer to Home vision*' (see penultimate sentence in his letter to you.)

We know of other instances, where pressure has been brought to bear on families to transfer their relatives out of those step-down hospitals and into private nursing homes, as a means of alleviating bed-blocking brought about by hospital closures.

In respect to the letter from the Cabinet Secretary, we feel that we should draw to the Committee's attention that on his visit to Blaenau Ffestiniog, the Cabinet Secretary made no effort to meet with the many residents displeased with the downgraded healthcare services that we now have and that the timing of his visit was withheld from us until very late. Clearly the Cabinet Secretary is not very comfortable with meeting with the public.

We thank you again for giving our Petition the continued consideration that it merits.

Yours very sincerely,

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

# Eitem 3.13

## P-05-754 Diffyg cymorth i blant ag anableddau mewn argyfwng

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Rebecca Weale ar ôl casglu 200 llofnod.

### Geiriad y ddeiseb

Yr wyf yn ceisio tynnu sylw at yr angen i dîm argyfwng plant Cwm Taf gydnabod bod angen hanfodol i blant ag anableddau gael cymorth mewn argyfwng, a chael yr hawl i gael eu trin fel unrhyw blentyn arall.

Yr wyf yn fam i bedwar o blant. Mae gan Tom, fy mab canol, anghenion niferus, anawsterau dysgu difrifol, awtistiaeth, anhwylder hwyliau yn ogystal â phroblemau iechyd ychwanegol eraill. Mae Tom yn cyrraedd pwynt argyfwng bob hyn a hyn, sy'n golygu cynnydd mewn ymddygiad ymosodol, gweiddi yn uwch nag arfer, anafu ei hun yn ogystal ag eraill, a llawer o newidiadau eraill mewn ymddygiad. Mae sgiliau cyfathrebu Tom yn hynod gyfyngedig ac nid yw'n gallu dweud wrthym beth sydd o'i le na beth y gallwn ei wneud i helpu. Rydym wedi bod ar bwynt argyfwng gyda Tom, sydd bellach yn 15 oed ac ar ddogrn uchel o feddyginiaethau, lawer gwaith dros y blynyddoedd ac mae'n rhyfeddol nad yw'r sefyllfa wedi gwella o ran cymorth i blant ag anableddau pan fyddant mewn argyfwng. Mae Tom mewn argyfwng ar hyn o bryd, ac wedi bod felly ers peth amser. Ychydig iawn o gymorth yr ydym ni fel teulu wedi'i gael, os o gwbl, i'w helpu drwy'r cyfnod anodd hwn. Rwyf wedi cael gwybod bod tîm argyfwng plant yn bodoli. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'n cefnogi plant ag anableddau! Siawns nad yw plentyn mewn argyfwng, p'un a oes ganddo anableddau neu beidio, yn dal i fod yn blentyn mewn argyfwng. Yn wir, efallai fy mod yn anghywir, ond mewn rhai achosion efallai bod angen mwy o gymorth argyfwng arno. Ni allaf gredu bod y rhaniad hwn yn dal i fod yn dderbyniol yn yr oes hon.

### Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad

- Merthyr Tudful a Rhymni
- Dwyrain De Cymru



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Cwm Taf  
University Health Board

Your ref/eich cyf:  
Our ref/ein cyf:  
Date/Dyddiad:  
Tel/ffôn:  
Fax/ffacs:  
Email/ebost:  
Dept/adran:

AJW/TLT  
16 March 2018  
01443 744803  
01443 744888  
Allison.williams4@wales.nhs.uk  
Chair and Chief Executive

Mr David Rowlands AM  
Chair  
Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

Dear David

**Petition P-05-754 Lack of support for children with disabilities at crisis**

I write in response to your letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018 regarding petition P-05-754 'Lack of support for children with disabilities at crisis'.

I am sorry that the person that submitted this petition is experiencing the difficulties described. Children with Learning Disabilities would generally receive their care and support from their paediatric clinical team with support the Learning Disabilities (LD) team, led by Dr Amani Hassan. The LD team actively engage with young people and their families to ensure that they are receiving the care that they require, including the available treatment options and the appropriate support package where this relates to Social Services. Should a young person or their family be facing long term challenges then this should be highlighted to the LD team so that they can support a resolution, whether this be directly with the treatment offered or through liaison with other services.

The Cwm Taf CAMHS Crisisteam is made up of 4.0 WTE CAMHS Nurses and has been set up to support young people presenting with emergency mental health issues. Should a mental health crisis occur out of hours then such young people could receive their emergency care and support via the Crisis team (currently working until 8pm Monday-Friday) or the on call CAMHS service, delivered by a middle grade and consultant CAMHS doctor, every night and throughout the weekend. The response time is normally with 24 hours. Should the emergency relate to social issues rather than mental health, however, then this would need to be escalated through the Local Authority responsible for providing the package of care.

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**Return Address: Ynysmeurig House, Unit 3, Navigation Park, Abercynon, CF45 4SN**

I hope that this helps to clarify the role of the CAMHS, Crisis and Learning Disabilities services in such a situation and that this information will support the person that wrote this petition to access the service that is required.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allison Williams". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

**Mrs Allison Williams**  
**Chief Executive/Prif Weithredydd**

**P-05-754 Lack of support for children with disabilities at Crisis –  
Correspondence from petitioner to Committee, 28.03.18**

Hi,

Firstly I would like to thank you once again for your response. However I am fully aware of all services available. My main point of the petition was that, yes there is a crisis team, again yes there is a crisis CAMHs team, but as pointed out in the petition children with learning difficulties (LDs) cannot not access these services due to having additional needs and not just mental health issues.

I have been in contact with CAMHs this AM, to check if the service' had changed over the last few months and that maybe I was uninformed regarding these changes, however this is not the case. I have been advised that the CAMHs crisis team is available up until 9.30pm (week days only) and only really provide support for children with mental health issue, e.g/ suicidal thoughts, self harm, and similar issues. Again no real support for children with LDs. The mental health crisis team is available 24/7, although once again only support children with mental health issues not LDs. Are you aware of the undue stress A&E can cause for a vulnerable child while at crisis? I myself having first hand experience strongly believe this is not really an option.

Dr Hassan has provided advice and some support for Tom, but with very limited resources, staffing levels and no beds available in Wales for children with mental health and learning difficulties, there is only so much Dr Hassan can do.

Social services also can only do so much. They are not medically trained, and resources are limited. Our constant battle to try and get Tom the support he is rightfully entitled to is shocking. It's unfair and causes more unnecessary stress to families when they are already seeing their child suffer.

I would also like to point out this is not a social matter, this is me as a concerted, worried mother of a child who is failed by the system. I am continually being told there are services available, and yes there are services

available to some children, but not for children with both mental health issues, learning difficulties and challenging behaviour.

I have so many questions and issues regarding these services which I feel could be discussed better face to face rather than just briefly highlighting some issues in writing. The petition was brought about almost a year ago and I feel after reading the most recent response from Alison Williams, that we are no more clearer than we were at the start of this petition and nothing has be resolved.

Kind regards,  
Rebecca Weale



## **P-05-761 Mynnu cyllid gan Lywodraeth Cymru i gefnogi Autism Spectrum Connections Cymru**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Aled Thomas, ar ôl casglu 148 o lofnodion ar wefan e-ddeiseb arall.

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i ddarparu cyllid i gefnogi Autism Spectrum Connections Cymru.

Mae'r elusen hon yn unigryw yng Nghymru. Nid yw Autism Spectrum Connections Cymru yn cael dim cyllid gan y Llywodraeth ar hyn o bryd. Mae'n dibynnu'n llwyr ar gyllid gan ffynonellau nad ydynt, o angenrheidrwydd, yn gallu ei chefnogi'n barhaol.

Mae'r ganolfan galw heibio agored, unigryw hon yn chwarae rhan bwysig o ran gwella bywydau pobl sy'n byw gydag awtistiaeth yng Nghymru.

Hoffem gael sicrwydd gan Lywodraeth Cymru y bydd yr elusen hon yn parhau i fod ar agor ac yn cael ei hariannu'n llawn o hyd.

### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

- De Caerdydd a Phenarth
- Canol De Cymru

Vaughan Gething AC/AM  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau  
Cymdeithasol  
Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-761  
Ein cyf/Our ref VG/00683/18

David John Rowlands AM  
Chair - Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

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

9 March 2018

Dear David,

Thank you for your follow up letter of 23 February regarding petition P-05-761: Demand Funding from the Welsh Government to Support Autism Spectrum Connections Cymru.

The decision to establish the Integrated Autism Service was based on evidence gathered through a scoping exercise undertaken as part of the delivery of the ASD Strategic Action Plan, Interim Delivery Plan in 2015. The purpose was to establish options for future integrated autism support services in Wales and involved consultation with a wide range of stakeholders, advisory groups and professionals to gather data on existing good practice and gaps in service provision. This included a desk top review of current research, relevant NICE guidelines and visits to established autism services across the UK, including the One Stop Shop model introduced in Scotland, to assess the strengths and weaknesses of existing models of care and support. Learning was also taken from the Community and Monitoring and Support project for autistic people which was supported by the Welsh Government between 2010-2014.

The findings and recommendations of the scoping exercise resulted in the Welsh Government's commitment to introduce an Integrated Autism Service (IAS) across Wales. The service is based on best practice advice contained in relevant NICE Guidelines<sup>1</sup> which recommend that services for children, young people and adults should be provided by specialist community based multi-disciplinary teams. Also as stakeholders frequently raised concerns about inconsistencies in service provision, it was important to take a national approach to service delivery. An independent evaluation of the delivery of the ASD Strategic Action Plan has been commissioned, the interim report was published on 1 March, which I attach. One of the key findings stated:

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<sup>1</sup> Autism: The management and support of children and young people on the autism spectrum (NICE Guideline CG 170) and Autism: recognition referral, diagnosis and management of adults on the autism spectrum (NICE Guidelines CF142)

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[Correspondence.Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Vaughan.Gething@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.

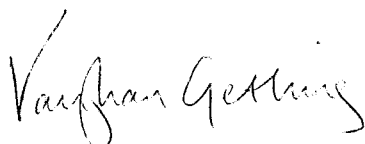
**Tudalen y pecyn 168**

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.

*Weaknesses and inconsistencies in both assessment and diagnostic services for adults with autism and in support services for adults and children with autism provide a strong case for national action to drive up standards and ensure good practice is adopted across Wales. All stakeholders interviewed support this view.*

The IAS is funded through the Integrated Care Fund (ICF) which promotes integration and innovation. Funding is allocated to regional partnership boards, which comprise of health boards, social services and third sector organisations. A competitive tendering process is not required as ICF funding is allocated to health boards on behalf of the regional partnership boards. The boards should collectively determine how ICF funding is utilised. The IAS is intended to increase skills and capacity, not to replace existing services including those already provided by third sector organisations. In each region it has been developed by working in partnership with local stakeholders including the third sector, to minimise duplication. We have also established a national IAS Leads group to ensure that the service continues to develop and improve through collaborative working and best practice.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vaughan Gething". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'V'.

**Vaughan Gething AC/AM**

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services

David J Rowlands AM  
Chair, National Assembly for Wales Petition Committee  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

21 March 2018

Dear David

**Petition P-05-761 Demand Funding from the Welsh Government to Support Autism Spectrum Connections Cymru**

Further to your letter of 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018, I am writing on behalf of the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board to update you on our Integrated Autism Service (IAS).

Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan were identified by the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) as one of the four early implementation areas for the Welsh Government's Integrated Autism Service in 2016/17.

At this time Cardiff and Vale University Health Board had an existing service – the Cardiff and Vale Autism Spectrum Service (CAVASS) – which was hosted within Mental Health Services and provided diagnostic assessment to adults presenting with suspected Autism. In addition, CAVASS also delivered a range of post-diagnostic support groups to individuals following diagnosis. This was delivered in partnership with the local third sector service and led by a Clinical Nurse Specialist in Autism.

Alongside this, Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan local authorities were providing information, advice and assistance to individuals presenting at first point of contact pre-and post-diagnosis. In addition, the Councils were running informal groups and supporting other services working with individuals with Autism spectrum disorder.

The proposals for the new service delivery were informed by the guidance produced by Welsh Government on implementing a National IAS. This included staffing the service with the key professionals identified, in addition to securing staff with an appropriate skill mix to support delivery of the service as set out within the guidance. The Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan proposal was subsequently approved in October 2016 and enabled local service managers to begin recruitment to key posts within the service.

It was also agreed at this time that the two existing services would merge into the IAS to create one service. Therefore Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan have an enhanced version of the IAS which includes wider information, advice and assistance services to individuals,

with information and signposting for individuals presenting pre-diagnosis, and existing diagnostic links to mental health services and diagnosing psychiatrists.

The service has been operational in part from April 2017 (using existing services to maintain delivery) and was then launched in September 2017. All practitioners are now in post as of March 2018 and the service is currently operational, although still developing.

On-going activity to support full operational delivery includes training the IAS team in diagnostic assessments and developing further links with other ASD services to enhance the local offer. A review of the current post-diagnostic training has taken place, led by the clinical lead within the IAS and in partnership with Autism Spectrum Connections Cymru (ASCC). The intention is to maintain the existing arrangement in delivery of this post diagnostic training in partnership between the IAS and the ASCC practitioners.

More recently in 2018, the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan IAS Programme Board identified opportunities to work more closely with the third sector through reallocation of slippage within the IAS budget, as a direct result of staffing delays. This was facilitated by Cardiff Third Sector Council and supported four voluntary sector organisations to deliver additional benefits to individuals with ASD between January and March 2018. It is unlikely that this opportunity can be revisited into the next financial year, as all resources within the IAS have been allocated to the staffing team required, as set out within the original IAS guidance.

We hope this provides you with an update on how the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Integrated Autism Service is working locally, but if you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely



**Cllr Susan Elsmore**  
**Cabinet Member for Social Care, Health and Well-being, Cardiff Council; and**  
**Chair of Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Partnership Board**

**P-05-754 Demand Funding from the Welsh Government to Support Autism Spectrum Connection Cymru –  
Correspondence from petitioner to Committee, 05.04.18**

Dear Petitions Committee.

I'm writing a response to the latest information sent to me regarding my petition under the reference number P-05-761.

I'm concerned that the latest responses from the Welsh Government do not address many of the questions raised in previous responses.

The response from the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Integrated Health and Social Care Partnership does not demonstrate how they are truly working in partnership with Autism Spectrum Connections Cymru (ASCC). It mentions working in partnership. How can a partnership and services for people with autism be maintained without funding for them?

I am interested in knowing who the membership of the regional partnership boards are. Also, which third sector organisations are included as part of the boards and are ASCC being consulted or have they been consulted in any way in the development of the autism strategy and/or the Integrated Autism Service (IAS) and if not, why not?

It is clear from the previous letter from Autism Spectrum Connections Cymru that requests for funding from people involved at a grass roots level within the NHS/ Council to support rather than replicate existing services have been refused. Who has refused them? How much control over the Regional Partnership Boards is there from the WLGA/ Welsh Government? In the Interim evaluation of the IAS it shows that there has been an over reliance upon one person's vision. Where is the oversight and partnership working needed to truly deliver something which meets the needs of people with autism. What qualifies this one person employed by the WLGA to set government policy and many millions of pounds of public money?

It is clear from the literature and press releases that whilst the interim evaluation states that the IAS is not "the" autism service, Welsh Government and the WLGA have marketed it exactly as such. I am aware that a number of the things promised have not yet materialised and accessing these services is problematic for some others with autism who I have spoken with.

I have recently become aware that the individual who led the autism strategy on behalf of the Welsh Government and was employed by the WLGA has left her role and has set up a private consultancy and is being commissioned by statutory services including the IAS to provide groups and training for professionals and people with autism which already exists through the services of Autism Spectrum Connections Cymru. This is the same person who the Evaluation report states has led the design and delivery of the IAS. This seems corrupt to me.

The web address for this company is [www.auspicious.wales](http://www.auspicious.wales).

Do you have details of how much money has been paid to this consultancy?

Can I have all documents and emails pertaining to the development of the proposals for the IAS? The FOI that I have seen shows no proposal for the scoping exercise– instead it shows that the WLGA received additional funding to carry this out based upon a telephone conversation.

Who decided that an IAS needed to happen in the first place? And where did the proposal for the scoping exercise come from? And why was the WLGA the chosen private company selected to undertake this exercise? How much money do the WLGA receive without a procurement exercise? And why is it acceptable not to have a procurement exercise when commissioning a private company with hundreds of thousands of pounds of public money?

Are the large sums of money being given to the WLGA part of the money that is being given to the Integrated Care Fund?

What procurement exercise was undertaken in funding the WLGA associated posts and what appears to be duplication of funding for staff and projects?

According to an FOI, for every member of staff there is a £10,000 management charge paid to the WLGA by the Welsh Government. Is this standard practice? Does this represent best use of public funds? Per year that amounts currently to seventy thousand pounds in management charges alone!

From reading the Freedom of Information (FOI) requests, there seems to be salary and project costs which appear to show duplication in funding from Welsh Government.

You gathered data as part of your scoping exercise which justifies the development of this form of support. Who was engaged, what were the numbers of people engaged and what were the outcomes? Do you have this data? How many people with autism were involved in this scoping exercise?

Many of the responses from the government mention working in partnership with the third sector. Where is the partnership working with the third sector within the autism strategy? Which third sector organisations are they? What funding is given to the third sector through the autism strategy and the IAS?

The government mentions that the One Stop Shop model in Scotland was considered as part of the scoping exercise, why did it not occur to the Welsh Government and the WLGA to consult with the One Stop Shop that exists in Wales run by Autism Spectrum Connections Cymru?

I am very concerned about this evidence which shows that this whole process is procedurally improper and shows favouritism and bias against the third sector.

Yours Sincerely,

Aled Thomas.



### **P-05-771 Ailystyried y penderfyniad i roi'r gorau i Grant Byw'n Annibynnol Cymru a'r angen i gefnogi pobl anabl i fyw'n annibynnol**

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Nathan Lee Davies, ar ôl casglu 324 o lofnodion ar-lein a 307 ar bapur - cyfanswm o 631 lofnodion.

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

Fel rhywun sy'n cael Grant Byw'n Annibynnol Cymru ac yn ymgyrchu dros bobl anabl, rwy'n bwriadu gofyn i Lywodraeth Cymru ailystyried ei phenderfyniad i roi'r gorau i Grant Byw'n Annibynnol Cymru o fis Ebrill 2019 ymlaen.

Cyflwynwyd Grant Byw'n Annibynnol Cymru i helpu pobl a oedd yn arfer hawlio arian gan Gronfa Byw'n Annibynnol Llywodraeth y DU, a gaewyd yn 2015. Mae'r cynllun yn helpu mwy na 1,500 o bobl ledled Cymru. Mae gan bawb sy'n cael y Grant lefel uchel o anghenion gofal a chymorth.

Y bwriad oedd rhoi'r gorau i'r cynllun ym mis Mawrth 2017, ond ym mis Tachwedd, dywedodd Rebecca Evans, y Gweinidog gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, y byddai'r cyllid yn parhau am flwyddyn arall.

Yna, bydd y gronfa £27 miliwn yn cael ei throsglwyddo'n uniongyrchol i awdurdodau lleol yn ystod 2018-19 fel y gallant ddiwallu anghenion cymorth y rhai a oedd yn arfer cael arian drwy'r Gronfa Byw'n Annibynnol erbyn 31 Mawrth 2019.

#### **Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:**

Pam yr ydym yn gwrthwynebu'r penderfyniad:

Dywedodd Llywodraeth Cymru fod y penderfyniad wedi'i wneud ar sail cyngor gan randdeiliaid. Cynrychiolwyr o'r trydydd sector neu ddinasyddion oedd y mwyafrif ar y grŵp rhanddeiliaid. Ond nid oeddynt eisiau cael gwared ar Grant Byw'n Annibynnol Cymru, a'r pwynt allweddol yw na chafodd ein cyngor ei dderbyn.

Dylid cofio hefyd nad oes yn rhaid rhoi'r gorau i Grant Byw'n Annibynnol Cymru, ac mae llwyddiant Cronfa Byw'n Annibynnol yr Alban yn brawf o hynny; sydd hefyd yn ddadl o blaid cefnogi Cronfa Byw'n Annibynnol Gogledd Iwerddon.

At hyn ny, roedd maniffesto poblogaidd y blaid Lafur yn nodi cynlluniau i sefydlu system ofal gene dlaethol a fyddai'n annibynnol ar awdurdodai lleol.

Dyma'r union amser y dylai'r Blaid Lafur uno yn erbyn y Torïaid ar faterion o'r fath. Rhaid i ni gwestiynu pam nad yw Plaid Lafur Cymru yn chwarae ei rhan wrth newid y tirlun gwleidyddol?

Yn wir, yn y pen draw, dylem fod yn anelu at sefydlu Cronfa Byw'n Annibynnol i Gymru fel nad oes yn rhaid i unrhyw berson anabl ddioddef yr ansicrwydd a'r unigedd a wynebir gan y rheini sy'n cael Grant Byw'n Annibynnol Cymru ar hyn o bryd. Ni allwn ddechrau credu bod gwir gyfiawnder cymdeithasol a chydaddoldeb i bawb yn bosibl oni fydd Llafur Cymru yn ailystyried ei benderfyniad ynghylch Grant Byw'n Annibynnol Cymru.

Mae'n siŵr y bydd Llafur Cymru yn dadlau y dylem roi cyfle i Ddeddf Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Llesiant (Cymru) lwyddo. Fodd bynnag, mae angen buddsoddiad ac adnoddau sylweddol ar y Ddeddf ddelfrydyddol hon i sicrhau ei bod yn llwyddo – ac nid oes dim golwg o'r gwelliannau sydd eu hangen ar ein seilwaith er mwyn sicrhau bod y Ddeddf yn llwyddo. Efallai'n wir ei bod yn bryd cael chwyldro yn y ffordd y darperir gofal cymdeithasol, ond gallai'r fath drawsnewid gymryd degawd neu ragor, ac nid yw'r rhai sy'n derbyn Grant Byw'n Annibynnol Cymru yn haeddu cael eu trin fel arbrawf pan fo'u hanghenion o ran gofal a chymorth yn gofyn am sefydlogrwydd a strwythur hirdymor.

### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

- Wreccsam
- Gogledd Cymru

Huw Irranca-Davies AC/AM  
Y Gweinidog Gofal Cymdeithasol a Phlant  
Minister for Children and Social Care



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-771  
Ein cyf/Our ref HID/00170/18

David J Rowlands AM  
Chair  
Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

[government.committee.business@gov.wales](mailto:government.committee.business@gov.wales)

20 March 2018

*Dear David,*

Thank you for your letter of 23 February following the Committee's recent further consideration of Mr Nathan Davies' petition (P-05-771) regarding the Welsh Independent Living Grant (WILG).

While I appreciate the apprehension Mr Davies has, both about the implementation of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and the change in which WILG recipients will be supported to live independently in future, I do not recognise the extent of the concerns he raises. The decisions we have taken have not sought to prevent disabled people in Wales from living independently at home, or to reduce the support for which they are entitled. As a government we have sought to support this right to live independently through the 2014 Act, where we are changing the emphasis upon the way people are supported to give them more voice and control over the care and support they require to meet the wellbeing outcomes they wish to achieve.

We are taking tangible action to deliver this aim. For example, Social Care Wales is working with a range of key stakeholders and partners in the delivery of the 2014 Act including employers, local authorities and the voluntary and third sector. This includes undertaking a programme of learning with the social care workforce and the wider sector on the requirements and expectations of the Act to ensure this is delivered on the ground, covering such issues as expert classes on advocacy, co-production, direct payments and supporting the workforce to move to delivery of outcomes focused practice.

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[Correspondence.Huw.Irranca-Davies@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Huw.Irranca-Davies@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 177**

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.

It is true to say it will take time for this change in direction to completely bed down. However, there are many signs of this becoming standard practice across Wales to the benefit of those who rely on support, which in turn will have a positive effect on the future support packages which are being agreed for WILG recipients.

As regards monitoring of the implementation of the 2014 Act, we have committed previously to a formal independent evaluation of the Act. A stakeholder evaluation group was established in 2017 to help guide the evaluation and includes a range of external representatives, some of whom were actively involved in the development of the Act.

The evaluation will commence this autumn and will last a minimum of three years. It will consider the implementation of the Act and its delivery, the outcomes delivered so far and the impact it has had on the well-being of those who need care and support, as well as their carers. It will also provide a rich source of evidence to support continued improvement in the sector. I am also seeking to capture care recipient's experience, through a complimentary evaluation project, on how local authorities provide care under the new provisions. I am issuing a Written Statement regarding the evaluation shortly which will contain more information and which will be available at:

<http://gov.wales/about/cabinet/cabinetstatements/2018/?lang=en>

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "My Kind Regards, Huw". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name "Huw".

**Huw Irranca-Davies AC/AM**

Y Gweinidog Gofal Cymdeithasol a Phlant  
Minister for Children and Social Care

**P-05-771 Reconsider the closure for the Welsh Independent Living Grant and support disabled people to live independently –  
Correspondence from petitioner to Chair, 05.04.18**

David J Rowlands AM  
Chair  
Petitions Committee  
National Assembly for Wales

SeneddPetitions@assembly.wales

5<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Dear Mr Rowlands,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to respond to the letter you received from Huw Irancca- Davies AM regarding the planned closure of the Welsh Independent Living Grant (WILG).

I feel like a broken record having to repeat myself time and again. Whatever evidence I provide regarding the disastrous effects of transferring Independent Living funds to local authorities in England, the Minister for Children and Social Care seems to be burying his head in the sand. At the bottom of this letter, I have included links to DWP and Inclusion London studies on the impact of the closure of the Independent Living Fund (ILF). These need to be read and digested to fully appreciate why we should not follow the irresponsible and dangerous path taken by the UK Government.

Please excuse me for having to repeat myself, but I made several key points and raised important questions in my last letter which were totally ignored. Subsequently, I find myself having to raise these questions and observations once again.

Please find attached my previous letter to Huw Irranca-Davies that has not been addressed. With this in mind, I am going to try and make things as clear as possible, in order to emphasise just how serious and important this is:

1. With respect to Mr. Irranca–Davies when he says he “appreciates my apprehension”, he **cannot** possibly do so. Unless you have to go through this yourself, you cannot even begin to comprehend the difficulties and shear frustration of having to expend all your energy, campaigning for what is right while being ignored by those in power.
2. WHY are Welsh Labour making this dangerous change to start with? DEMONSTRABLY this change is not, will not and cannot be an improvement for existing WILG recipients.
3. As things stand, even under WILG, I, and every other recipient I know, already believe we have too much responsibility and too much to worry about before we even have to deal with our health conditions on top. The new proposal will mean this level of responsibility will significantly increase. Not only this, but HID seems to not recognise at all that most recipients of WILG will not be in a position to take on these extra responsibilities, worries, admin etc. This seems to have been completely ignored.
4. Why not wait until any independent investigation has come to it’s conclusions BEFORE subjecting vulnerable people to even more confusing, and unnecessary, change?
5. Mr. Irranca–Davies seems very confident, no matter how it is worded or defended, that losing the ‘third arm’ of the support triangle (the other two being local authorities and the contribution of the recipient themselves) is nothing to worry about. Recipients should not be made to have to battle with hostile local authorities who are only concerned with their budgets. Disabled people deserve independent representation so that they can move forward with their lives with confidence instead of trepidation. Demonstrably, local authorities are wildly inconsistent, and therefore, the consequences of these changes will be highly erratic and terrifying without the support of a third party.

6. If HID and his team are working with Social Care Wales, as a WILG recipient, I'd expect consultation for our input and consideration. Disabled people should not be treated as mere objects that need dealing with, but should be involved in matters that will impact on their lives.
7. I would like to ask Mr. Irranca-Davies why it is that as a passionate Welsh Labour party member and campaigner, he thinks I should have to suffer like this? Why is it that our own MPs, AMs and EVERY SINGLE PARTY MEMBER CONSULTED, TO A PERSON, is vehemently against the scrapping of WILG? These people are willing to support me consistently, in order to reverse a decision that should NEVER have been made.
8. HID admits that he expects these new changes to take time to bed-in. Well, I am afraid time is a luxury I, and many WILG recipients, do not have. As you are aware, I live with Friedreich's Ataxia. The average life expectancy for someone with my condition is 35 years of age. I am 41. I am having to spend what ever time I have left fighting against my own party, against a decision no one outside of the authorities agrees with. That is not fair. Yet, I HAVE to do this as my principles will not allow me to simply sit back and watch, while Welsh Labour ignore all the evidence in front of them and make a grave mistake that will severely damage the disability rights movement in Wales.

This is unbelievably difficult to write. I genuinely hope it is hard to read, too. This is because I am afraid that the people who desperately need to understand, simply do not get it. I think another meeting with Mr. Irranca-Davies is urgently needed. I cannot, and will not, give up the fight.

I look forward to Huw Irranca-Davies' response. Thank you very much indeed for facilitating things Mr. Rowlands, I am grateful to you for doing this.

Yours in hope,

Nathan Lee Davies

Please find below links to three different reports into the effects of the ILF closure in England:

*<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/independent-living-fund-post-closure-review>*

*<https://www.inclusionlondon.org.uk/campaigns-and-policy/facts-and-information/independent-living-social-care-and-health/ilf-one-year-on/>*

*<https://www.disabilitynewsservice.com/independent-living-fund-shocking-drop-in-support-after-ilf-closure/>*

In addition, I have added some links below concerning my own fight for the continuation of WILG:

*<http://www.leaderlive.co.uk/news/2015/07/07/gallery/our-fight-to-fund-independent-lives-in-flintshire-and-wrexham-74959/#.VZu96zMTWf4.twitter>*

*<http://www.disabilitynewsservice.com/welsh-government-has-sold-disabled-people-down-the-river-on-post-ilf-plans/>*

*<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-politics-38385381?SThisFB>*

*<https://nathanleedavies.wordpress.com/save-wilg-campaign/>*

*<https://www.disabilitynewsservice.com/disabled-activist-is-fighting-for-his-life-as-he-hands-petition-to-welsh-government/>*



## P-05-731- Gwerthu Tir a Lonydd Mynediad yn Abercwmboi

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Sue Waterson ar ôl casglu 66 llofnod bapur

### **Geiriad y ddeiseb**

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i atal gwerthu'r tir a'r ffordd fynediad y tu ôl i eiddo 1 i 67 Park View Terrace, Abercwmboi hyd nes y ceir sylwadau gan y gymuned leol, a hyd nes y caiff opsiynau eraill eu hystyried. Mae'r gwerthiant hwn yn mynd rhagddo heb hysbysu nac ymgynghori â'r bobl hynny a gaiff eu heffeithio gan werthiant o'r fath.

### **Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Cynulliad**

- Cwm Cynon
- Canol De Cymru

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



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-731  
Ein cyf/Our ref KS/00590/18

David John Rowlands AM  
Chair - Petitions Committee

[government.committee.business@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:government.committee.business@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

19 March 2018

*Dear David,*

I understand you are reviewing the petitions currently under consideration.

On the matter of the land to the rear of Park View Terrace, Abercwmboi, I believe Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council is leading the discussions in respect of the redevelopment of the adjacent Phurnacite land with a potential developer. My officials are playing a supportive role in the sale and have informed me that the discussions are still ongoing.

It is proposed that the land referred to will be retained until these discussions conclude.

*Yours ever,  
Ken*

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

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[Correspondence.Ken.Skates@gov.wales](mailto: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.

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 184

**P-05-731 Land & Access lane at Abercwmboi –  
Correspondence from petitioner to Committee, 28.03.18**

Thank you for your recent email & attachment. I note that discussions with regard to the development of land adjacent to the land in question are on going.

I am disappointed that even at this stage the Minister is unable to indicate, even provisionally, that his department will consult with the residents directly affected by the proposed sale of the land to rear of 1-67 Park View Terrace, Abercwmboi. It is my understanding that initially this land sale was halted until negotiations re access to the proposed development land (The old Phurnacite site) was concluded. This would have taken a strip of land, running parallel with the existing access road into the Aberamen Industrial Estate which is on the far side of the land to the rear of 1-67 Park View Terrace & thus in no way impacts directly on the residents. The sale of the remaining land would impact negatively for reasons already identified in previous correspondence.

Thank you to the Petitions Committee for following this matter through with such diligence.

Yours

Sue Waterson

# Eitem 5

Yn rhinwedd paragraff(au) vi o Reol Sefydlog 17.42

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