Cofnod y Trafodion
The Record of Proceedings
12/02/2014

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Cyfarfu'r Cynulliad am 13:30 gyda'r Llywydd (Y Fonesig Rosemary Butler) yn y Gadair.

The Assembly met at 13:30 with the Presiding Officer (Dame Rosemary Butler) in the Chair.

13:30 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Good afternoon. The National Assembly for Wales is now in session.

Prynhawn da. Dyma ddechrau trafodion Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru.

13:30

Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol

Questions to the Minister for Health and Social Services

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Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

The first item this afternoon is questions to the Minister for Health and Social Services. Question 1 is asked by the Plaid Cymru spokesperson, Elin Jones.

Yr eitem gyntaf y prynhawn yma yw cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Gofynnir Cwestiwn 1 gan lefarydd Plaid Cymru, Elin Jones.

Ysbytai Cymunedol

Community Hospitals

13:30 **Elin Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

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1. Beth yw gweledigaeth Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer rôl ysbytai cymunedol yn nyfodol y gwasanaeth iechyd? OAQ(4)0390(HSS)

1. What is the Welsh Government's vision for the role of community hospitals in the future of the health service? OAQ(4)0390(HSS)

13:30 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

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

Diolch yn fawr am y cwestiwn. Mae'r newid anochel sy'n wynebu'r NHS yn berthnasol i ysbytai cymunedol Cymru hefyd. Yr ateb ar gyfer y dyfodol yw gwneud yn siŵr eu bod yn cyd-fynd, mewn ffordd hyblyg, â'r agenda integreiddio, gan ddarparu gwasanaethau iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol yn agos at le mae pobl yn byw, neu yn eu cartrefi.

Thank you very much for the question. Community hospitals in Wales are not exempt from the inevitability of change that faces the NHS. Their future lies in a flexible alignment with the integration agenda and a focus on the provision of health and social care services close to and within people's own homes.

13:31 **Elin Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Weinidog, byddwch yn gwybod bod Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda wedi cyhoeddi cau holl welyau ysbyty gymunedol Aberteifi. Mae prif weithredwr y bwrdd iechyd hwnnw wedi dweud yn gyhoeddus taw ei hoff fodel ef—hyd yn oed ar gyfer ysbyty newydd yn Aberteifi—yw model gyda gwelyau wedi eu hallanoli. Mae hynny'n golygu, wrth gwrs, welyau naill ai gan awdurdodau lleol, neu yn y sector breifat, ac yr ydym yn gwybod bod deddfwriaeth o ddoe yn golygu nad yw awdurdodau lleol yn gallu darparu nyrsio. A ydych chi'n rhannu, felly, weledigaeth, neu farn, prif weithredwr Hywel Dda, sy'n dweud taw yn y sector breifat—ac, mewn ardaloedd gwledig, mae'r sector breifat yn weddol fregus—y dylid darparu gwelyau gofal iechyd yn y dyfodol, yn hytrach nag yn yr NHS, mewn ysbytai cymunedol?

Minister, you will be aware that Hywel Dda Local Health Board has announced the closure of all beds at the community hospital in Cardigan. The chief executive of that health board has said publicly that his favoured model—even for a new hospital in Cardigan—is a model with beds being externalised. That means, of course, beds either held by local authorities or in the private sector, and we know that legislation dealt with yesterday will mean that local authorities will not be able to provide a nursing service. Do you therefore share the views and vision of the chief executive of Hywel Dda, who is saying that it is in the private sector—and, in rural areas, the private sector is rather fragile—that health care beds should be provided in future, rather than within the NHS, in community hospitals?

13:32 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Fel y dywedais, y peth pwysig yw bod yn hyblyg am y dyfodol. Mae gennym enghreifftiau yn barod yng Nghymru lle mae'r gwelyau yn cael eu darparu yn y sector preifat—yn Builth ac yn Ninbych y Pysgod, er enghraifft. Y peth pwysicaf i bobl, wrth gwrs, yw bod y taliad am y gofal i gyd yn dod o'r NHS. Fodd bynnag, nid ydym yn sôn am welyau yn y sector preifat yn unig—mae'n fwy na hynny. Gallwn feddwl am y sector lle nad ydynt yn tynnu elw mas o'r gwasanaethau, ac mae ffyrdd eraill yn y sector cyhoeddus hefyd, lle mae gwelyau yn gallu cael eu darparu.

As I said, the important thing is to be flexible about the future. We already have examples in Wales where beds are provided in the private sector—in Builth and in Tenby, for example. The most important thing for people, of course, is that all the payment for that care comes from the NHS. However, we are not just talking about beds in the private sector—there is more to it than that. We can think of the not-for-profit sector and there are also other models in the public sector where beds could be provided.

13:32 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I call on the opposition spokesperson, William Graham. [Interruption.] Oh, I am sorry; I beg your pardon, I thought that you had asked two questions. I call on Elin Jones.

Galwaf ar lefarydd yr wrthblaid, William Graham. [Torri ar draws.] O, mae'n ddrwg gennyf, roeddwn yn credu eich bod wedi gofyn dau gwestiwn. Galwaf ar Elin Jones.

13:32 **Elin Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Dros y ddwy flynedd ddiwethaf, mae gwelyau mewn ysbytai cymunedol wedi cau ar hyd a lled Cymru. Y dystiolaeth anecdotaidd ynglŷn ag impact hynny yw ei fod yn arwain at aros yn hirach mewn ysbytai acíwt, neu ei fod yn arwain at drosglwyddiad cost i awdurdodau lleol. Anecdot yw hwnnw. A ydych yn credu ei bod yn bryd i wneud asesiad gwrthrychol, yn genedlaethol, gan y Llywodraeth, o impact cau gwelyau yn y sector gymunedol—yn yr NHS—a'r impact y mae hynny'n ei gael ar ofal cleifion, ac, yn benodol iawn, ar y sector gyhoeddus yn ehangach?

Over the past two years, beds in community hospitals have closed the length and breadth of Wales. The anecdotal evidence on the impact of that is that it leads to longer stays in acute hospitals, or it leads to a cost transfer to local authorities. That is anecdotal. Do you believe that it is time to carry out an objective assessment on a national level, to be carried out by the Government, of the impact of closing beds in the community sector—in the NHS—and the impact that that has on patient care, and, very specifically, on the wider public sector?

13:33 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I certainly expect that, if beds are not to be provided in a community hospital setting, there is an impact assessment of that decision, in terms of how it affects individuals and the impact on the wider pattern of services in that locality. I think that it is very important that we continue to move away from regarding beds as the central currency in the national health service. It is about the service that is provided, and in many sectors we know that it is better that that service is provided in people's own homes and in other parts of the system. A simple focus on the number of beds that are there, in any part of the health service, only ever tells us one part of a picture.

Yn sicr, os penderfynir peidio â darparu gwelyau mewn lleoliad ysbyty cymunedol, disgwyliaf asesiad o effaith y penderfyniad hwnnw, o ran unigolion a phatrwm ehangach gwasanaethau yn yr ardal honno. Credaf ei bod yn bwysig iawn ein bod yn parhau i symud i ffwrdd oddi ar y ffocws ar welyau fel y prif beth sy'n llywio'r gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol. Mae a wnelo â'r gwasanaeth sy'n cael ei ddarparu, ac mewn llawer o sectorau gwyddom ei bod yn well i'r gwasanaeth hwnnw gael ei ddarparu yng nghartrefi pobl eu hunain ac mewn rhannau eraill o'r system. Dim ond un rhan o'r darlun a gawn wrth ganolbwyntio'n unig ar nifer y gwelyau, mewn unrhyw ran o'r gwasanaeth iechyd.

13:34 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

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We now move to the opposition spokesperson, William Graham.

Symudwn yn awr at lefarydd yr wrthblaid, William Graham.

13:34 **William Graham** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you very much, Presiding Officer. Minister, the function and the classification of hospitals, throughout south-east Wales, will clearly need to be revised on completion of the critical care centre in Cwmbran, raising public awareness, and trying to reassure people that the treatments that are available will also form part of their community, and how the role of community hospitals can be enhanced. What are your plans for this?

Diolch yn fawr iawn, Lywydd. Weinidog, yn amlwg, bydd angen diwygio swyddogaeth a dosbarthiad ysbytai yn y de-ddwyrain ar ôl cwblhau'r ganolfan gofal critigol yng Nghwmbrân, gan godi ymwybyddiaeth y cyhoedd, a cheisio rhoi sicrwydd i bobl y daw'r triniaethau sydd ar gael hefyd yn rhan o'u cymuned, a sut y gellir gwella rôl ysbytai cymunedol. Beth yw eich cynlluniau ar gyfer hyn?

13:34 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I think that the Member makes an important point. The classification of hospitals that we use, not just in Wales, but in other parts of the United Kingdom too, is essentially the classification set out in the 1963 hospital plan that Enoch Powell published when he was health Minister. We tend still to use the same classifications and they do not represent well the ways in which care in the future is likely to be delivered in a different series of settings. So, there is work going on; it has been partly led in England by Sir Bruce Keogh on terminology and nomenclature. The challenge, as I think William Graham said, is to be able to persuade the public to understand what new descriptions of services available in new settings really mean and to get them to use them in the most effective sort of way.

Credaf fod yr Aelod yn gwneud pwynt pwysig. Yn ei hanfod, mae'r ffordd y dosberthir ysbytai gennym, nid yn unig yng Nghymru, ond mewn rhannau eraill o'r Deyrnas Unedig hefyd, yn dilyn y dosbarthiad a nodwyd yng nghynllun ysbytai 1963, a gyhoeddwyd gan Enoch Powell pan oedd yn Weinidog Iechyd. Rydym yn tueddu i ddefnyddio'r un dosbarthiadau o hyd ac nid ydynt yn cyfleu'n dda sut mae gofal yn debygol o gael ei ddarparu yn y dyfodol mewn cyfres wahanol o leoliadau. Felly, mae gwaith yn mynd rhagddo; fe'i harweiniwyd yn rhannol yn Lloegr gan Syr Bruce Keogh o ran terminoleg ac enwau. Yr her, fel y dywedodd William Graham, fe gredaf, yw darbwyllo'r cyhoedd i ddeall beth mae disgrifiadau newydd o wasanaethau sydd ar gael mewn lleoliadau newydd yn ei olygu a'u hannog i'w defnyddio yn y ffordd fwyaf effeithiol.

13:35 **William Graham** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you very much for your answer, Minister. In terms of the reclassification, and the fact that community hospitals no longer have minor injuries units, how confident are you that ambulance times will conform to your present specification?

Diolch yn fawr iawn am eich ateb, Weinidog. O ran ailddosbarthu, a'r ffaith nad oes gan ysbytai cymuned unedau mân anafiadau mwyach, pa mor hyderus ydych y bydd amseroedd ambiwlans yn cydymffurfio â'ch manyleb rhagofynion presennol?

13:36 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

The Member will have heard me say many times in this Chamber that I am determined that we will modernise the way in which we measure the way in which ambulance services are provided, so that we measure the things that matter most to patients. It was a key recommendation of the McClelland review. Active work is going on with the Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust, with Professor McClelland herself, to develop a new series of measures, so that those people who need to be seen very quickly indeed, because their conditions will depend upon it, will get a service in very short order, and for those people who can wait a bit longer without making any difference to the clinical outcome in their case, the performance of the ambulance service will be measured against that. We have to see it in the wide context of unscheduled care and there is a part that community hospitals play in that, but I am determined that we will move in a more sensible direction.

Bydd yr Aelod wedi fy nghlywed yn dweud droeon fy mod yn benderfynol o foderneiddio'r ffordd yr ydym yn mesur y ffordd y caiff gwasanaethau ambiwlans eu darparu, er mwyn sicrhau ein bod yn mesur y pethau sydd bwysicaf i gleifion. Roedd hynny'n un o argymhellion allweddol adolygiad McClelland. Mae gwaith yn mynd rhagddo gydag Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Gwasanaethau Ambiwlans Cymru, a'r Athro McClelland ei hun, i ddatblygu cyfres newydd o fesurau, fel bod y bobl hynny y mae angen iddynt gael eu gweld yn gyflym iawn, am fod eu cyflwr yn dibynnu ar hynny, yn cael eu gweld mewn cyfnod byr iawn o amser, ac ar gyfer y bobl hynny sy'n gallu aros ychydig yn hirach heb unrhyw effaith ar ganlyniad clinigol eu hachos, caiff perfformiad y gwasanaeth ambiwlans ei fesur yn erbyn hynny. Rhaid inni ei ystyried yng nghyd-destun eang gofal heb ei drefnu ac mae ysbytai cymuned yn chwarae rhan yn hynny o beth, ond rwy'n benderfynol y byddwn yn symud i gyfeiriad mwy synhwyrol.

Gwasanaethau Iechyd Meddwl

Mental Health Services

13:37 **Janet Finch-Saunders** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

2. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddarpariaeth gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl yng ngogledd Cymru? OAQ(4)0395(HSS)

2. Will the Minister make a statement on the provision of mental health services in North Wales? OAQ(4)0395(HSS)

13:37 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I thank the Member for that question. Aspects of mental health services in north Wales, such as services for the deaf and hard of hearing, are groundbreaking. When difficulties or deficits arise, the local health board must act with determination to address them.

Diolch i'r Aelod am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Mae agweddau ar wasanaethau iechyd meddwl yn y gogledd, megis gwasanaethau i bobl fyddar a thrwm eu clyw, yn torri tir newydd. Pan fydd anawsterau neu ddiffygion yn codi, rhaid i'r bwrdd iechyd lleol weithredu gyda phenderfyniad i fynd i'r afael â hwy.

13:37 **Janet Finch-Saunders** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you. I am becoming increasingly concerned at the number of my constituents who are presenting who are really struggling to access mental health services. We have the Hergest unit that, for many years, has provided very valuable support. But, you are aware, Minister, of the complete disarray that that unit is in and the demoralised staff. We have the closure of the Ablett unit, the alleged victimisation of staff who have been legitimately raising safety concerns, and 35 whistleblowers. The Robin Holden report was due at the end of September, then November and then January. Minister, there is also an interim report due. This unit is vital to provide this really vital support to those needing this treatment. Will you please look into this matter with some priority, so that we can actually have those reports brought forward, and seek some reassurance for the valuable staff and consultants who work in the Hergest unit?

Diolch. Rwy'n dechrau pryderu'n fwyfwy am faint o'm hetholwyr sy'n dweud eu bod yn wir yn ei chael hi'n anodd cael gafael ar wasanaethau iechyd meddwl. Mae gennym uned Hergest sydd, am nifer o flynyddoedd, wedi darparu cymorth gwerthfawr iawn. Ond, rydych yn ymwybodol, Weinidog, o anhrefn llwyr yr uned honno a'r ffaith bod y staff wedi digalonni. Mae uned Ablett wedi cau, ceir erledigaeth honedig o'r staff sydd wedi bod yn codi pryderon am ddiogelwch a hynny'n gwbl ddilys, a 35 o chwythwyr chwiban. Roeddem yn disgwyl i adroddiad Robin Holden gael ei gyhoeddi ar ddiwedd mis Medi, yna ym mis Tachwedd ac yna ym mis Ionawr. Weinidog, rydym hefyd yn disgwyl adroddiad interim. Mae'r uned hon yn hollbwysig i ddarparu'r cymorth gwirioneddol hollbwysig hwn i'r rhai y mae angen y driniaeth hon arnynt. A fyddech cystal â rhoi rhywfaint o flaenoriaeth i ymchwilio i'r mater hwn, fel y gallwn gael yr adroddiadau hynny, a cheisio rhywfaint o sicrwydd i'r staff a'r meddygon ymgynghorol gwerthfawr sy'n gweithio yn uned Hergest?

13:38 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I am very well aware already of the issues that the Member raises. She will be aware, no doubt, that at its meeting on 23 January the local health board published both the Royal College of Psychiatrists report into the Hergest unit and Healthcare Inspectorate Wales's report of its unannounced inspection of that unit. I firmly reject the Member's allegation that the unit is in turmoil. It continues to enjoy a very solid reputation amongst those people who use it. The key issue, which the royal college's report identifies is this, and I will quote to her what the report says:

Rwy'n ymwybodol iawn eisoes o'r materion a godwyd gan yr Aelod. Bydd yn ymwybodol, yn ddiau, i'r bwrdd iechyd lleol, yn ei gyfarfod ar 23 Ionawr, gyhoeddi adroddiad Coleg Brenhinol y Seiciatryddion ar uned Hergest ac adroddiad Arolygiaeth Gofal Iechyd Cymru ar ei harolygiad dirybudd o'r uned honno. Gwrthodaf yn gryf honiad yr Aelod bod yr uned mewn cythrwfl. Mae ganddi enw da cadarn iawn o hyd ymhlith y bobl hynny sy'n ei defnyddio. Y brif broblem, fel y noda adroddiad y coleg brenhinol yw hyn, a dyfynnaf yr hyn a ddywed yr adroddiad:

'A key issue for this unit is that staff including consultant staff need to acknowledge that there is room for improvement at the Hergest unit. All staff, and senior staff in particular, need to commit to work collaboratively to identify areas where things could be improved and how improvements could be brought about.'

Un o brif broblemau'r uned hon yw bod angen i staff gan gynnwys staff ymgynghorol gydnabod bod lle i wella yn uned Hergest. Mae angen i bob aelod o staff, ac uwch staff yn benodol, ymrwymo i gydweithio i nodi meysydd lle y gellid gwella pethau a sut y gellid sicrhau gwelliannau.

13:39 **Ann Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Minister, welfare reform and the continued cost of living crisis are driving many families to a great deal of uncertainty. Clinicians and professionals tell us that this is having an effect on increasing demand for mental health services, particularly across north Wales, and that the complexity of cases is also increasing. I am sure that you will share my concern that this is a fact that is happening across north Wales and that many of my constituents are being driven into downward spirals of depression due to the callous Tory welfare cuts. Have you made any assessment of the effects of what the welfare reform agenda is doing to services such as mental health, and do you have any ideas of how the increased pressures are affecting those already in the system waiting for treatment?

Weinidog, mae diwygio lles a chostau parhaus argyfwng byw yn golygu bod llawer o deuluoedd yn wynebu llawer iawn o ansicrwydd. Mae clinigwyr a gweithwyr proffesiynol yn dweud wrthym bod hyn yn cael effaith ar y galw cynyddol am wasanaethau iechyd meddwl, yn enwedig yn y gogledd, a bod cymhlethdod achosion hefyd yn cynyddu. Rwy'n siŵr y byddwch yn rhannu fy mhryder bod hyn yn rhywbeth sy'n digwydd ledled y gogledd, a bod llawer o'm hetholwyr yn dioddef iselder cynyddol oherwydd toriadau lles y Toriaid dideimlad. A ydych wedi cynnal unrhyw asesiad o effeithiau'r hyn y mae'r agenda diwygio lles yn ei chael ar wasanaethau fel iechyd meddwl, ac a oes gennych unrhyw syniadau ynghylch sut mae'r pwysau cynyddol yn effeithio ar y rhai sydd eisoes yn rhan o'r system yn aros am driniaeth?

13:40 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I thank Ann Jones for that question. She is absolutely right to point out that the impact of welfare reform and the huge pressures on the budgets of the poorest families in our country have an impact on mental health services too. The Government's own ministerial task and finish group commented specifically on this in its stage 2 report. The Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty has, very recently, specifically raised the impact on mental health services of welfare reform with Lord Freud. I raised it directly with Baroness Randerson on behalf of GPs in Wales, when I last met her, and have, indeed, received a very constructive reply. The third sector in Wales bears the brunt of much of this. Mind has recently published a very useful advice sheet for primary care clinicians in Wales, helping them to provide welfare advice to people who come through their door with a mental health condition directly linked to their poverty.

Diolch i Ann Jones am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Mae'n hollol iawn nodi bod effaith diwygio lles a'r pwysau enfawr ar gyllidebau'r teuluoedd tlotaf yn ein gwlad yn cael effaith ar wasanaethau iechyd meddwl hefyd. Gwnaeth grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen gweinidogol y Llywodraeth ei hun sylwadau ar hyn yn benodol yn ei adroddiad cam 2. Cododd y Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi yn ddiweddar iawn effaith diwygio lles ar wasanaethau iechyd meddwl gyda'r Arglwydd Freud. Codais y mater yn uniongyrchol â'r Farwnes Randerson ar ran meddygon teulu yng Nghymru pan gyfarfûm â hi ddiwethaf, ac rwyf, yn wir, wedi cael ymateb adeiladol iawn. Y trydydd sector yng Nghymru sy'n dioddef llawer o effaith hyn. Cyheoddodd Mind yn ddiweddar daflen cyngor ddefnyddiol iawn i glinigwyr gofal sylfaenol yng Nghymru, er mwyn eu helpu i roi cyngor ar les i bobl sy'n dod drwy eu drysau gyda chyflwr iechyd meddwl sy'n uniongyrchol gysylltiedig â'u tlodi.

13:41 **Alun Ffred Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Diolch, Weinidog, am drefnu cyfarfod ddoe gyda chadeirydd Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Betsi Cadwaladr i drafod y mater hwn; roedd e'n ddefnyddiol iawn. A wnewch chi fy sicrhau y bydd yr adolygiad o'r gwasanaeth gofal iechyd meddwl sy'n digwydd ar hyn o bryd yn arwain at wasanaeth a fydd yn ddiogel i'r cyhoedd, ac y byddwch hefyd yn mabwysiadu cynllun a fydd yn sicrhau y bydd arbenigwyr, yn seicolegwyr ac yn seiciatryddion, dwyieithog ar gael yn y gogledd i gyfarfod ag anghenion y gymuned?

Thank you, Minister, for arranging yesterday's meeting with the chair of the Betsi Cadwaladr University Local Health Board to discuss this matter; it was most useful. Can you assure me that the review of the mental health care service that is taking place currently will lead to a service that will be safe for the public, and that you will also adopt a scheme that will ensure that bilingual specialists, both psychologists and psychiatrists, will be available in north Wales to meet the needs of the community?

13:42 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Diolch yn fawr i Alun Ffred hefyd am ddod i'r cyfarfod ddoe. Roedd e'n ddefnyddiol i mi glywed gan yr Aelod lleol am brofiadau'r bobl sy'n siarad ag ef fel adborth yn ôl i ni. Roedd yn werth chweil, rwy'n siŵr, i godi'r pwynt a wnaeth yn gynharach. Mae'n bwysig dros ben yn y maes iechyd meddwl i bobl allu defnyddio'r iaith y maent yn teimlo'n fwyaf hyderus i'w defnyddio. Rydym yn gwneud yn ddigon da ar lefel y bobl sy'n nyrsio a phethau fel yna, ond ar lefel 'consultants' mae'n anodd eu ffeindio ac mae'n fwy anodd ffeindio pobl sy'n gallu siarad yn ddwyieithog. Er hyn, mae'n bwysig dros ben. Roedd cadeirydd y bwrdd yn cydnabod hynny ddoe. Rydym yn mynd i weithio i wella'r sefyllfa, rwy'n gobeithio.

I thank Alun Ffred for attending yesterday's meeting. It was useful for me to hear from the local Member about the experiences of the people who liaise with him as feedback for us. It was worth while, I am sure, to raise the point that he made earlier. It is extremely important in the mental health field that people are able to use the language that they feel most confident in using. We are doing adequately on the nursing level and so on, but in terms of consultants, it is difficult to find those people and it is more difficult to find bilingual consultants. Despite that, it is extremely important. The chair of the board acknowledged that yesterday. We are working to improve the situation, I hope.

13:43 **Rebecca Evans** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, are you able to provide an update on how the Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2010 is being implemented in north Wales and making a real difference to people with mental ill health?

Weinidog, a allwch roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y modd y mae Mesur Iechyd Meddwl (Cymru) 2010 yn cael ei weithredu yn y gogledd ac yn gwneud gwahaniaeth gwirioneddol i bobl â salwch meddwl?

13:43 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I thank Rebecca Evans for that. The mental health Measure is making a difference right across Wales in relation to mental health services, both in the new services that it provides at primary healthcare level, but also at secondary healthcare level. We have heard already this afternoon about the Hergest unit. Betsi Cadwaladr has already met the target for 90% of all secondary mental health care patients to have a care and treatment plan. We know that there is a new right for people to have that plan reviewed; 1,000 people have used that right since it was inaugurated by this Assembly, and about 30% to 40% of them had the plan changed as a result of exercising that right. All patients in secondary mental health care now have access to independent advocacy services as well. That is making a significant difference in north Wales, as elsewhere.

Diolch i Rebecca Evans am hynny. Mae'r Mesur iechyd meddwl yn gwneud gwahaniaeth ledled Cymru mewn perthynas â gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl, yn y gwasanaethau newydd a ddarperir ar lefel gofal iechyd sylfaenol yn ogystal ag ar lefel gofal iechyd eilaidd. Clywsom eisoes y prynhawn yma am uned Hergest. Mae Betsi Cadwaladr eisoes wedi cyrraedd y targed i sicrhau bod 90% o'r holl gleifion gofal iechyd meddwl eilaidd yn cael cynllun gofal a thriniaeth. Gwyddom fod hawl newydd gan bobl i'r cynllun hwnnw gael ei adolygu; mae 1,000 o bobl wedi arfer yr hawl honno ers iddi gael ei chyflwyno gan y Cynulliad hwn, ac mae cynllun tua 30% i 40% ohonynt wedi cael ei newid o ganlyniad i arfer yr hawl honno. Mae pob claf ym maes gofal iechyd meddwl eilaidd bellach yn gallu cael gafael ar wasanaethau eiriolaeth annibynnol hefyd. Mae hynny'n gwneud gwahaniaeth sylweddol yn y gogledd, yn ogystal ag mewn mannau eraill.

13:44 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Question 3, OAQ(4)0402(HSS), is withdrawn.

Tynnwyd cwestiwn 3, OAQ(4)0402(HSS), yn ôl.

Gofal Canser

Cancer Care

13:44 **Sandy Mewies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

4. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y cynnydd mewn gofal canser yng Nghymru? OAQ(4)0389(HSS)

4. Will the Minister make a statement on progress in cancer care in Wales? OAQ(4)0389(HSS)

13:44 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Good progress continues to be made in cancer care in Wales. Wales has shown the greatest improvement in cancer survival among the four countries of the United Kingdom. Eighty nine per cent of cancer patients who completed the cancer experience survey said that their care was either 'excellent' or 'very good'.

Parheir i wneud cynnydd da ym maes gofal canser yng Nghymru. Cymru sydd wedi dangos y gwelliant mwyaf mewn cyfraddau goroesi canser ymhlith pedair gwlad y Deyrnas Unedig. Dywedodd 89 y cant o gleifion canser a gwblhaodd yr arolwg profiad o ganser bod eu gofal naill ai'n 'ardderchog' neu'n 'dda iawn'.

13:45 **Sandy Mewies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you for that answer, Minister. I think that everyone here should welcome that news. It shows that the aims of the Welsh Government's cancer strategy are beginning to show progress in a number of areas, including the 31-day target for patients. However, we have still to reach the levels achieved in a number of other European countries. May I ask the Minister what more the Welsh Government is doing to focus on prevention, making people aware of the early signs of cancer and, for example, reversing the decline in the take-up of bowel cancer screening?

Diolch am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Credaf y dylai pawb yma groesawu'r newyddion. Dengys fod nodau strategaeth canser Llywodraeth Cymru yn dechrau dangos cynnydd mewn nifer o feysydd, gan gynnwys y targed o 31 diwrnod i gleifion. Fodd bynnag, nid ydym eto wedi cyrraedd y lefelau a gyflawnwyd mewn nifer o wledydd eraill yn Ewrop. Hoffwn ofyn i'r Gweinidog beth arall y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i ganolbwyntio ar atal, gan wneud pobl yn ymwybodol o arwyddion cynnar canser ac, er enghraifft, gwrthdroi'r lleihad yn y niferoedd sy'n manteisio ar wasanaeth sgrinio am ganser y coluddyn?

13:45 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Fideo Video

I thank Sandy Mewies for those additional questions. One of the very important things about the cancer patient survey is that it helps us to identify those places where further progress is still needed. Early identification of cancers is certainly a theme that emerges from that report in relation to particular forms of cancer. Members will be aware that we have recently concluded a new agreement with the General Practitioners Committee Wales so that we will be able to do new things with the GP contract in the next financial year. There will be three new key delivery areas. One of those will be that GPs right across Wales for every case of lung cancer that is detected in Wales in this calendar year will hold, on a cluster basis, an analysis of that case, looking to see whether people presented themselves early enough for treatment, whether their condition was diagnosed early enough, and whether they were then able to get a first appointment at an out-patient clinic within 10 days. So, we will have a new focus on exactly the point that Sandy Mewies was raising about early detection and diagnosis.

Diolch i Sandy Mewies am y cwestiynau ychwanegol hynny. Un o'r pethau pwysig iawn am yr arolwg o gleifion canser yw ei fod yn ein helpu i nodi'r mannau hynny lle mae angen gwneud rhagor o gynnydd o hyd. Mae canfod canserau yn gynnar yn sicr yn thema sy'n codi o'r adroddiad hwnnw mewn perthynas â mathau penodol o ganser. Bydd Aelodau'n ymwybodol ein bod wedi llunio cytundeb newydd â Phwyllgor Meddygon Teulu Cymru yn ddiweddar er mwyn sicrhau y gallwn wneud pethau newydd gyda'r contract meddygon teulu yn y flwyddyn ariannol nesaf. Bydd tri maes cyflawni allweddol newydd. Un o'r rhain fydd sicrhau bod meddygon teulu ledled Cymru yn gwneud dadansoddiad o bob achos o ganser yr ysgyfaint a ganfyddir yng Nghymru yn ystod y flwyddyn galendr hon, ar sail clwstwr, gan ystyried a oedd pobl yn cyflwyno eu hunain yn ddigon cynnar i gael triniaeth, a gawsant ddiagnosis o'u cyflwr yn ddigon cynnar, ac a oeddent wedyn yn gallu cael apwyntiad cyntaf mewn clinig cleifion allanol o fewn 10 diwrnod. Felly, bydd gennym ffocws newydd ar yr union bwynt a gododd Sandy Mewies am ganfod a rhoi diagnosis cynnar.

Of course, surveillance services such as the bowel cancer screening service contribute a very significant extra dimension to all of that. The decline in the number of people using that service in Wales is in common with other parts of the United Kingdom. I know that those people who work in the field have a very active plan for trying to reverse that decline. It is a very important message to offer people; the opportunity is there for them. Those people who take it sometimes have their lives saved by it. We wish that more people would take advantage of that opportunity.

Wrth gwrs, mae gwasanaethau gwyliadwriaeth fel y gwasanaeth sgrinio am ganser y coluddyn yn rhoi dimensiwn ychwanegol sylweddol iawn i hynny oll. Mae'r lleihad yn nifer y bobl sy'n defnyddio'r gwasanaeth hwnnw yng Nghymru yn gyffredin â rhannau eraill o'r Deyrnas Unedig. Gwn fod gan y bobl hynny sy'n gweithio yn y maes gynllun gweithredol iawn i geisio gwrthdroi'r lleihad hwnnw. Mae'n neges bwysig iawn i'w rhoi i bobl; mae'r cyfle ar gael iddynt. Weithiau mae'n achub bywydau'r bobl hynny sy'n manteisio arno. Dymunwn weld mwy o bobl yn achub ar y cyfle hwnnw.

13:47 **Darren Millar** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Fideo Video

Minister, one of the continuing problems in terms of cancer care is access to modern cancer treatment and particularly drugs. Members of the All Wales Medicines Strategy Group have recognised the inequity in access to drugs between England and Wales, and have noted some concerns about the way in which the individual patient funding requests are operating. The Health and Social Care Committee was recently told that there may be an opportunity for Wales patient access schemes to be established. Would you care to elaborate on how those schemes might operate in order that people can get the very best drugs available?

Weinidog, un o'r problemau parhaus ym maes gofal canser yw'r gallu i gael gafael ar driniaeth canser fodern ac yn benodol gyffuriau. Mae aelodau Grŵp Strategaeth Meddyginiaethau Cymru Gyfan wedi cydnabod yr annhegwch o ran y gallu i gael gafael ar gyffuriau rhwng Cymru a Lloegr, ac wedi nodi rhai pryderon am y ffordd y mae'r ceisiadau cyllido cleifion unigol yn gweithredu. Dywedwyd wrth y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol yn ddiweddar y gallai fod cyfle i sefydlu cynlluniau mynediad i gleifion yng Nghymru. A fyddech cystal ag ymhelaethu ar y ffordd y gallai'r cynlluniau hynny weithredu er mwyn sicrhau bod pobl yn gallu cael y cyffuriau gorau sydd ar gael?

13:48 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I thank Darren Millar for that question. I am keen to pursue patient access schemes where that can be achieved on an equitable basis. Further work on that will be carried out as part of the review of the individual patient funding requests system that I announced in October. I thought that Members would like to know that January was a particularly busy month in that regard. A workshop was held for key NHS staff on 9 January, the chief pharmacist has now visited all IPFR panels across Wales, a meeting was held for patient group representatives on 29 January, and the review group itself met in a full sense for the first time on 31 January. It will meet again on 27 February and I look forward to receiving its report in March. So, we are working rapidly and actively on making sure that the review of the IPFR process is carried out in a timely way.

Diolch i Darren Millar am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Rwy'n awyddus i fynd ar drywydd cynlluniau mynediad i gleifion lle y gellir cyflawni hynny mewn modd teg. Caiff rhagor o waith ei wneud o ran hynny fel rhan o'r adolygiad o'r system ceisiadau cyllido cleifion unigol a gyhoeddais ym mis Hydref. Meddyliais y byddai Aelodau'n hoffi gwybod bod mis Ionawr wedi bod yn fis arbennig o brysur yn hynny o beth. Cynhaliwyd gweithdy ar gyfer staff allweddol y GIG ar 9 Ionawr, mae'r prif fferyllydd bellach wedi ymweld â'r holl baneli Ceisiadau Cyllido Cleifion Unigol ledled Cymru, cynhaliwyd cyfarfod ar gyfer cynrychiolwyr grŵp cleifion ar 29 Ionawr, a chyfarfu'r grŵp adolygu ei hun yn yr ystyr lawn am y tro cyntaf ar 31 Ionawr. Bydd yn cyfarfod eto ar 27 Chwefror ac edrychaf ymlaen at dderbyn ei adroddiad ym mis Mawrth. Felly, rydym yn gweithio'n gyflym ac yn weithredol i sicrhau bod yr adolygiad o'r broses Ceisiadau Cyllido Cleifion Unigol yn cael ei wneud mewn ffordd amserol.

13:49 **Bethan Jenkins** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Weinidog, mae'r arolwg o gleifion canser yng Nghymru yn dangos bod amrywiaeth cymharol rhwng y gwahanol fyrddau iechyd yng Nghymru ac yn dangos hefyd bod Ysbyty Singleton yn waeth o ran y gyfradd ar lefel Cymru gyfan. Mae Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Abertawe Bro Morgannwg wedi dweud y bydd yn edrych i mewn i hyn, ynghyd â phethau eraill sydd yn digwydd ar hyn o bryd, ond pa drafodaethau a ydych chi wedi eu cael gyda'r bwrdd i sicrhau bod hyn yn digwydd a bod y cyfraddau yn mynd i wella yn y dyfodol?

Minister, the cancer patient experience survey shows that there is a comparative difference between the various health boards in Wales, and it demonstrates that Singleton Hospital was the worst-performing in terms of the all Wales percentages. Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Local Health Board has stated that it will look into this, along with other issues, but what discussions have you had with it to ensure that this happens and that these rates will improve in the future?

13:49 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Diolch am y cwestiwn. Rwyf wedi siarad eisoes gyda chadeirydd a phrif weithredwr y bwrdd iechyd am y sefyllfa yn Ysbyty Singleton, ac rwyf yn gwybod eu bod nhw wedi siarad eisoes gyda'r bobl sydd yn arwain y gwasanaethau yno.

Thank you for the question. I have already spoken to the chair and chief executive of the local health board about the situation at Singleton Hospital, and I know that they have already spoken to the service leads there.

It is important to put on record the fact that, of those people who received their treatment at Singleton, those who regarded it as 'good', 'very good' or 'excellent' still made up more than 90% of all those people who replied who were users of the service. So, although Singleton is an outlier in the survey, and there are some important questions arising from the survey that clinicians who are in charge of that service are, I know, very keen to address, we should not not put on record the fact that the huge levels of satisfaction reported elsewhere in Wales are also characteristic of those people who use the service in Singleton.

Mae'n bwysig nodi, o'r bobl hynny a gafodd eu triniaeth yn Ysbyty Singleton, bod y rhai a oedd yn ei hystyried yn 'dda', 'da iawn' neu 'ardderchog' yn dal i gyfrif am fwy na 90% o'r holl bobl hynny a atebodd a oedd yn defnyddio'r gwasanaeth. Felly, er bod Ysbyty Singleton yn eithriad yn yr arolwg, a bod rhai cwestiynau pwysig yn codi o'r arolwg y mae clinigwyr sy'n gyfrifol am y gwasanaeth hwnnw, fe wn, yn awyddus iawn i fynd i'r afael â hwy, ni ddylem beidio â nodi bod y lefelau anferth o foddhad a welwyd mewn mannau eraill yng Nghymru hefyd yn nodweddiadol o'r bobl hynny sy'n defnyddio'r gwasanaeth yn Ysbyty Singleton.

Cynllun Cyflawni ar gyfer Canser

Cancer Delivery Plan

13:50 **David Rees** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

5. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am Gynllun Cyflawni ar gyfer Canser Llywodraeth Cymru? OAQ(4)0398(HSS)

5. Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Government's Cancer Delivery Plan? OAQ(4)0398(HSS)

13:50 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

The cancer delivery plan sets out the Welsh Government's intentions for cancer services during the rest of this Assembly. We published our second annual report on 31 January 2014, which shows that good progress continues to be made.

Mae'r cynllun cyflawni ar gyfer canser yn nodi bwriadau'r Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer gwasanaethau canser yn ystod gweddill y Cynulliad hwn. Cyheoddwyd ein hail adroddiad blynyddol ar 31 Ionawr 2014, sy'n dangos bod cynnydd da yn parhau i gael ei wneud.

13:50 **David Rees** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you for that answer, Minister. We have heard from groups such as Prostate Cancer UK, which was here yesterday, that, as you have already identified, many patients receive excellent care while in the hospital environment, but there is some degradation of the service when they go back into the community. Bethan Jenkins has already pointed out the disparity between some of the figures in the response in the survey, which also show that point. In fact, some of the figures are around 50%. These support services are critical to the wellbeing and quality of life that those patients experience beyond the hospital situation. What actions will the Welsh Government take to ensure greater consistency across Wales for those support services?

Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Rydym wedi clywed gan grwpiau fel Prostate Cancer UK, a fu yma ddoe, bod llawer o gleifion, fel y dywedasoch eisoes, yn cael gofal gwych yn yr ysbyty, ond mae'r gwasanaeth yn dirywio rhywfaint pan fyddant yn dychwelyd i'r gymuned. Mae Bethan Jenkins eisoes wedi nodi'r gwahaniaeth rhwng rhai o'r ffigurau yn yr ymateb i'r arolwg, sydd hefyd yn dangos y pwynt hwnnw. Yn wir, mae rhai o'r ffigurau oddeutu 50%. Mae'r gwasanaethau cymorth hyn yn hollbwysig i les ac ansawdd bywyd y cleifion hynny ar ôl iddynt adael yr ysbyty. Pa gamau y bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu cymryd i sicrhau mwy o gysondeb ledled Cymru ar gyfer y gwasanaethau cymorth hynny?

13:51 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

David Rees draws attention to an important finding from the survey. Around 18,000 people every year in Wales are diagnosed with cancer, but death rates from cancer have been falling year on year for the last 15 years. What this means is that more and more cancer patients need to receive their care outside the hospital setting and in the community. The cancer patient experience survey shows that people who feel very confident in the services that they get while the hospital is in charge of their care are anxious about the continuity of that care when the hospital is no longer an active player in the care that they receive. The key worker is absolutely essential in all of this, because that person is the person who navigates the journey that the patient is on. There is more that we need to do to make sure that everybody who has an experience of cancer in Wales gets a key worker, and that is one of the main messages that I take from the survey.

Mae David Rees yn tynnu sylw at ganfyddiad pwysig o'r arolwg. Mae tua 18,000 o bobl bob blwyddyn yng Nghymru yn cael diagnosis o ganser, ond mae cyfraddau marwolaethau o ganser wedi bod yn gostwng o flwyddyn i flwyddyn dros y 15 mlynedd diwethaf. Mae hyn yn golygu bod angen i fwy a mwy o gleifion canser gael gofal y tu allan i'r ysbyty ac yn y gymuned. Mae'r arolwg o brofiad cleifion canser yn dangos bod pobl sy'n teimlo'n hyderus iawn ynglŷn â'r gwasanaethau y maent yn eu cael tra bod yr ysbyty yn gyfrifol am eu gofal yn poeni am barhad y gofal hwnnw pan na fydd yr ysbyty yn chwarae rhan weithredol yn y gofal y maent yn ei gael. Mae'r gweithiwr allweddol yn gwbl hanfodol yn hyn o beth, gan mai'r unigolyn hwnnw sy'n llywio taith y claf. Mae angen inni wneud mwy i sicrhau bod pawb sydd â phrofiad o ganser yng Nghymru yn cael gweithiwr allweddol, a dyna un o brif negeseuon yr arolwg.

13:52 **Andrew R.T. Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid / The Leader of the Opposition

Minister, I have asked you before in written form about how the implementation of selective internal radiation therapy is going on in Wales. In response to a question that I put to the leader of the house, she indicated that it was at its very early stages. I have had representations from clinicians that seem to conflict with that, and which imply that we are nearly there for that type of therapy and treatment to be available in Wales. Are you able to confirm the exact stage that we are at and when that treatment will be available for consultants to use on patients in Wales who present with cancer?

Weinidog, rwyf wedi gofyn ichi o'r blaen yn ysgrifenedig am hynt y broses o roi therapi ymbelydredd mewnol dethol ar waith yng Nghymru. Mewn ymateb i gwestiwn a ofynnais i arweinydd y tŷ, nododd fod y broses honno ar gamau cynnar iawn. Rwyf wedi cael sylwadau gan glinigwyr yr ymddengys eu bod yn gwrthdaro â hynny, ac sy'n awgrymu ein bod yn agosáu at gyflwyno'r math hwnnw o therapi a thriniaeth yng Nghymru. A allwch gadarnhau ble yn union yr ydym arni a phryd y bydd y driniaeth honno ar gael i feddygon ymgynghorol ei defnyddio ar gleifion yng Nghymru sy'n dod atynt â chanser?

13:53 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I will write to Andrew R.T. Davies to make sure that I give him the most accurate information. The general picture, as I recall it, is that we are committed in Wales to being part of the new commissioning through evaluation strategy that the Department of Health in England has embarked on. SIRT therapy is the first in a pipeline of conditions to be negotiated in the future through that approach. It is the closest to being available to patients in England and Wales. When it goes live and the final details are confirmed, I am determined to ensure that Welsh patients will be part of that experiment alongside patients from England. However, I will write to make sure that you have the exact timetable as we understand it.

Byddaf yn ysgrifennu at Andrew R.T. Davies er mwyn sicrhau fy mod yn rhoi'r wybodaeth fwyaf cywir iddo. Y darlun cyffredinol, os cofiaf yn iawn, yw ein bod yn ymrwymedig yng Nghymru i fod yn rhan o'r strategaeth comisiynu drwy werthuso a gyflwynwyd gan yr Adran Iechyd yn Lloegr. Therapi ymbelydredd mewnol dethol yw'r therapi cyntaf mewn cyfres o therapïau i gael eu trafod yn y dyfodol drwy'r dull gweithredu hwnnw. Dyma'r therapi sydd agosaf at fod ar gael i gleifion yng Nghymru a Lloegr. Pan gaiff ei chyflwyno a phan gadarnheir y manylion terfynol, rwy'n benderfynol o sicrhau y bydd cleifion yng Nghymru yn rhan o'r arbrawf hwnnw ochr yn ochr â chleifion o Loegr. Fodd bynnag, byddaf yn ysgrifennu atoch er mwyn sicrhau bod gennych yr union amserlen yn ôl yr hyn â ddeallwn.

13:54 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Perhaps you could put that in the Library, Minister.

Efallai y gallech roi'r amserlen honno yn y Llyfrgell, Weinidog.

13:54 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I can certainly do that.

Gallaf yn sicr wneud hynny.

13:54 **Julie Morgan** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Would the Minister agree that news earlier this week showed that survival rates for cancer of the stomach and the oesophagus have gone up by 20% since services were concentrated in the Heath hospital in my consistuency of Cardiff North? Does he not think that this shows the benefit of bringing the experts together, because, as I think they said, there is always a second opinion available?

A fyddai'r Gweinidog yn cytuno bod newyddion yn gynharach yr wythnos hon yn dangos bod cyfraddau goroesi ar gyfer canser y stumog a'r oesoffagws wedi cynyddu 20% ers crynhoi gwasanaethau yn ysbyty'r Waun yn fy etholaeth yng Ngogledd Caerdydd? Onid yw'n credu bod hyn yn dangos manteision dod â'r arbenigwyr ynghyd, oherwydd, fel y dywedasant fe gredaf, mae ail farn bob amser ar gael?

13:54 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I think that Julie Morgan has got that exactly right. Up until 2010, these services were provided across most hospitals in south-east Wales. Since then, the service has been concentrated in the one location. These are forms of cancer where survival rates in the past have not been good. There have been very extensive gains as a result of concentrating the service in the one location. It really does bear out the argument that we make on the floor of the Assembly and elsewhere week in and week out: for some services, where you really do need a specialist approach, concentrating resources in a centre provides better outcomes for patients than simply trying to do everything locally.

Credaf fod Julie Morgan yn llygad ei lle. Hyd at 2010, darparwyd y gwasanaethau hyn yn y rhan fwyaf o ysbytai yn y de-ddwyrain. Ers hynny, mae'r gwasanaeth wedi'i ganolbwyntio mewn un lleoliad. Mae'r rhain yn fathau o ganser lle nad yw cyfraddau goroesi yn y gorffennol wedi bod yn dda. Bu cynnydd helaeth iawn o ganlyniad i ganolbwyntio'r gwasanaeth mewn un lleoliad. Mae'n wir yn ategu'r achos a gyflwynwn yn y Cynulliad ac mewn mannau eraill o wythnos i wythnos: o ran rhai gwasanaethau, lle mae gwir angen arbenigedd, mae canolbwyntio adnoddau mewn canolfan yn sicrhau canlyniadau gwell i gleifion na cheisio gwneud popeth yn lleol.

Gweithredu Strategol ar gyfer Anhwylderau'r Sbectrwm Awtistig

Autistic Spectrum Disorder Strategic Action Plan

13:55 **Suzy Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

6. A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am Gynllun Gweithredu Strategol ar gyfer Anhwylderau'r Sbectrwm Awtistig Llywodraeth Cymru? OAQ(4)0387(HSS)

6. Will the Minister provide an update on the Welsh Government's Autistic Spectrum Disorder Strategic Action Plan? OAQ(4)0387(HSS)

13:55 **Gwenda Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

Y Dirprwy Weinidog Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol / The Deputy Minister for Social Services

We are refreshing the autistic spectrum disorder strategic action plan, working in partnership with an expert advisory group. Members include people with autism and their families. There will be a public consultation on the refreshed action plan and we look forward to receiving stakeholder's views.

Rydym yn adnewyddu'r cynllun gweithredu strategol ar gyfer anhwylderau'r sbectrwm awtistig, gan weithio mewn partneriaeth â grŵp cynghori arbenigol. Mae'r aelodau'n cynnwys pobl ag awtistiaeth a'u teuluoedd. Bydd ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus ar y cynllun gweithredu diwygiedig ac edrychwn ymlaen at gael barn rhanddeiliaid.

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

13:56 **Suzy Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Thank you. That is a very helpful answer, Deputy Minister. As you know, the ASD national co-ordinator role, which costs taxpayers £100,000 a year at the moment, is positioned within the Welsh Local Government Association and the lead partner in the delivery of most of the local plans is the local authority. It is looking at the moment as if responsibility for both governance and financing of the refreshed strategy will fall squarely within the WLGA as well. Bearing in mind that that gives local authorities a chance to dominate the design and the delivery of any future plans, what monitoring will you be including in the consultation stage to explain how you will make sure that local health boards and the third sector are equal partners in the delivery of the refreshed strategy?

Diolch. Mae hynny'n ateb defnyddiol iawn, Ddirprwy Weinidog. Fel y gwyddoch, mae rôl cydgysylltydd cenedlaethol Anhwylderau'r Sbectrwm Awtistig, sy'n costio £100,000 y flwyddyn i drethdalwyr ar hyn o bryd, wedi'i lleoli o fewn Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru a'r partner arweiniol wrth ddarparu'r rhan fwyaf o'r cynlluniau lleol yw'r awdurdod lleol. Ar hyn o bryd, mae'n debyg mai CLlLC fydd yn gyfrifol am lywodraethu a chyllido'r strategaeth ddiwygiedig hefyd. O gofio bod hynny'n rhoi cyfle i awdurdodau lleol ddominyddu'r broses o gynllunio a chyflawni unrhyw gynlluniau yn y dyfodol, pa waith monitro y byddwch yn ei gynnwys ar y cam ymgynghori i egluro sut y byddwch yn sicrhau bod byrddau iechyd lleol a'r trydydd sector yn bartneriaid cyfartal wrth gyflawni'r strategaeth ddiwygiedig?

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13:56 **Gwenda Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

I am determined that the health boards and the voluntary sector will be partners in the refreshed strategy. Indeed, I met with representatives of Autism Cymru a few days ago. I do believe that the only way that any strategy will work is if there is true partnership between all of the important partners, especially the third sector.

Rwy'n benderfynol o sicrhau y bydd y byrddau iechyd a'r sector gwirfoddol yn bartneriaid yn y strategaeth ddiwygiedig. Yn wir, cyfarfûm â chynrychiolwyr o Awtistiaeth Cymru ychydig ddiwrnodau yn ôl. Credaf mai'r unig ffordd y bydd unrhyw strategaeth yn gweithio yw drwy sicrhau bod partneriaeth wirioneddol rhwng yr holl bartneriaid pwysig, yn enwedig y trydydd sector.

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13:57 **Peter Black** Bywgraffiad Biography

Deputy Minister, one of the issues that I have come across in dealing with constituents is a lack of specialist consultants in Wales in terms of autism, which is causing delays in terms of diagnosis, statementing and accessing support, particularly for children. What do you intend to do to tackle this particular issue, enabling those sufferers of autism to access education and social services much more quickly if such a diagnosis were able to be provided at that level?

Ddirprwy Weinidog, un o'r problemau yr wyf wedi dod ar ei thraws wrth ddelio ag etholwyr yw diffyg meddygon ymgynghorol arbenigol yng Nghymru ym maes awtistiaeth, sy'n achosi oedi o ran diagnosis, paratoi datganiadau a mynediad at gymorth, yn enwedig i blant. Beth rydych yn bwriadu ei wneud i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem benodol hon, gan alluogi'r bobl hynny ag awtistiaeth i gael gafael ar addysg a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol yn gyflymach o lawer pe bai modd rhoi diagnosis o'r fath ar y lefel honno?

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13:57 **Gwenda Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

Thank you for that. We know that the issue of diagnostic waiting times for children in particular is the real concern, and this will be a focus of the refreshed strategy. I have written to health boards seeking an update on waiting times. This information, by the way, will be provided to the Petitions Committee this month. The responses received indicate that many health boards have similarly long waiting times. Where this is the case, the health boards have an action plan in place to address the issues. The refreshed strategy will have, as a priority, diagnostic times and the consultation on this strategy will begin in April.

Diolch ichi am hynny. Gwyddom fod y mater yn ymwneud ag amseroedd aros diagnostig i blant yn bryder gwirioneddol, a bydd y strategaeth ddiwygiedig yn canolbwyntio ar hyn. Rwyf wedi ysgrifennu at fyrddau iechyd yn gofyn am y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am amseroedd aros. Caiff y wybodaeth hon, gyda llaw, ei rhoi i'r Pwyllgor Deisebau y mis hwn. Mae'r ymatebion a gafwyd yn dangos bod gan lawer o fyrddau iechyd amseroedd aros hir tebyg. Lle y bo hyn yn wir, mae gan y byrddau iechyd gynllun gweithredu ar waith i fynd i'r afael â'r materion hyn. Bydd y strategaeth newydd yn nodi amseroedd diagnostig, fel blaenoriaeth, a bydd yr ymgynghoriad ar y strategaeth hon yn dechrau ym mis Ebrill.

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Gwasanaethau Rheoli Poen Cronig

Chronic Pain Management Services

13:58

Jenny Rathbone Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

7. Beth y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i wella gwasanaethau rheoli poen cronig yng Nghymru? OAQ(4)0399(HSS)

7. What is the Welsh Government doing to improve chronic pain management services in Wales? OAQ(4)0399(HSS)

13:58

Mark Drakeford Bywgraffiad Biography

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Pain services are one of the first areas that I have asked NHS Wales to consider as part of a prudent healthcare approach to improved patient experience. Cardiff and Vale University Local Health Board will take the lead in this area. It will hold a clinically-led workshop in March, which will inform our future work.

Mae gwasanaethau poen yn un o'r meysydd cyntaf yr wyf wedi gofyn i GIG Cymru eu hystyried fel rhan o ymagwedd gofal iechyd ddoeth at wella profiad y claf. Bydd Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Caerdydd a'r Fro yn cymryd yr awenau yn y maes hwn. Bydd yn cynnal gweithdy dan arweiniad clinigol ym mis Mawrth, a fydd yn llywio ein gwaith yn y dyfodol.

13:59

Jenny Rathbone Bywgraffiad Biography

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That is very good news, Minister. Pain management is a very complex area, with lots of contributory factors, including people's individual capacity to suffer pain and to manage it. I know that some excellent work is done by psychologists in collaboration with other disciplines. So, I am concerned that the national specialist advisory group on pain only has anaesthetists with voting rights. I wondered whether you can tell us whether this action group that has been set up to look at pain will be properly multidisciplinary, with all perspectives being considered.

Mae hynny'n newyddion da iawn, Weinidog. Mae rheoli poen yn faes cymhleth iawn, gyda llawer o ffactorau cyfrannol, gan gynnwys gallu unigolion i ddioddef poen a'i reoli. Gwn fod rhywfaint o waith rhagorol yn cael ei wneud gan seicolegwyr mewn cydweithrediad â disgyblaethau eraill. Felly, rwy'n pryderu mai dim ond anesthetyddion â hawliau pleidleisio sydd yn y grŵp cynghori arbenigol cenedlaethol ar boen. Tybed a allwch ddweud wrthym a fydd y grŵp gweithredu hwn a sefydlwyd i ystyried poen yn wirioneddol amlddisgyblaethol, ac a fydd yn ystyried yr holl safbwyntiau.

13:59

Mark Drakeford Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

It is very important indeed that we have a thorough multidisciplinary approach to pain management services. They are, as Jenny Rathbone has said, complex in character with many options. I have chosen pain management services as one of the first areas to look at in relation to the prudent healthcare approach because they are already, to an extent, conservative in their approach, starting always with the least intrusive and most proven most-likely-to-work forms of intervention and based on conserving the ability of the individual themselves to take care and control of their condition. When we talk about a multidisciplinary approach, we do not just mean the health service. We mean beyond that, too. It is very good to see lots of people with their Marie Curie daffodils here, but earlier this afternoon, when Jane Hutt launched the daffodil appeal, it was very good to hear the chief executive of Marie Curie confirm new investment in research at Cardiff University, specifically aimed at improving pain management in end-of-life care services.

Mae'n bwysig iawn yn wir ein bod yn mabwysiadu yagwedd amlddisgyblaethol drylwyr at wasanaethau rheoli poen. Fel y dywedodd Jenny Rathbone, maent yn gymhleth eu natur ac yn cynnwys llawer o opsiynau. Rwyf wedi dewis gwasanaethau rheoli poen fel un o'r meysydd cyntaf i'w hystyried mewn perthynas ag ymagwedd gofal iechyd ddoeth am eu bod eisoes yn mabwysiadu ymagwedd geidwadol, i raddau, gan ddechrau bob amser gyda'r ymyriadau lleiaf ymwthiol a mwyaf tebygol o weithio a mwyaf profedig, a chanolbwyntio ar warchod gallu'r unigolyn ei hun i ofalu am ei gyflwr a'i reoli. Pan fyddwn yn sôn am ymagwedd amlddisgyblaethol, nid ydym yn golygu'r gwasanaeth iechyd yn unig. Rydym yn golygu y tu hwnt i hynny, hefyd. Mae'n braf iawn gweld llawer o bobl yn gwisgo cennin Pedr Marie Curie yma, ond yn gynharach y prynhawn yma, pan lansiodd Jane Hutt apêl y cennin pedr, roedd yn braf iawn clywed prif weithredwr Marie Curie yn cadarnhau buddsoddiad newydd mewn ymchwil ym Mhrifysgol Caerdydd, sydd â'r nod penodol o wella dulliau rheoli poen mewn gwasanaethau gofal diwedd oes.

14:01

Mohammad Asghar Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, last May, it was reported that the number of painkiller prescriptions being issued to patients in Wales had risen by 20% compared with the previous five years. The reason given was that specialist services to help people cope with chronic pain were being underfunded, Minister. Sadly, it was. What action are you taking, Minister, to ensure that pain management programmes are properly funded and available across Wales?

Weinidog, fis Mai diwethaf, nodwyd bod nifer y presgripsiynau ar gyfer poenladdwyr a roddir i gleifion yng Nghymru wedi cynyddu 20% o gymharu â'r pum mlynedd flaenorol. Y rheswm a roddwyd, Weinidog, oedd nad oedd gwasanaethau arbenigol i helpu pobl i ymdopi â phoen cronig yn cael digon o gyllid. Yn anffodus, roedd hynny'n wir. Pa gamau yr ydych yn eu cymryd, Weinidog, i sicrhau bod rhaglenni rheoli poen yn cael eu hariannu'n briodol ac ar gael ledled Cymru?

14:01 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Well, the work that will be done through Cardiff and Vale University Local Health Board is one strand in a wider set of actions that we are taking to look at the directions that the health service works to in relation to pain management services. I am very keen that we move away from an overreliance on over-the-counter and prescription drugs to manage pain when we know that there may be other forms of intervention that will have a lasting and longer term effect on people's ability to go on managing pain. This is particularly important in the context that Jenny Rathbone mentioned, where different individuals have different levels of tolerance to pain. We really do need an individualised service in order to be effective.

Wel, mae'r gwaith a fydd yn cael ei wneud drwy Fwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Caerdydd a'r Fro yn rhan o gyfres ehangach o gamau yr ydym yn eu cymryd i ystyried y cyfeiriadau y mae'r gwasanaeth iechyd yn mynd iddynt mewn perthynas â gwasanaethau rheoli poen. Rwy'n awyddus iawn inni symud i ffwrdd oddi wrth orddibyniaeth ar gyffuriau dros y cownter i reoli poen pan wyddom fod mathau eraill o ymyriadau ar gael a fydd yn cael effaith barhaus a thymor hwy ar allu pobl i barhau i reoli eu poen. Mae hyn yn arbennig o bwysig yn y cyd-destun a grybwyllwyd gan Jenny Rathbone, lle mae gan unigolion gwahanol lefelau goddefgarwch gwahanol i boen. Mae gwir angen gwasanaeth i unigolion arnom er mwyn bod yn effeithiol.

14:02 **Lindsay Whittle** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, as you will know, many people who are nearing the end of their lives due to serious illnesses prefer to remain in their homes. What steps are you taking to ensure that all health boards in Wales have well developed community-based pain management programmes?

Weinidog, fel y gwyddoch, mae'n well gan lawer o bobl sy'n agosáu at ddiwedd eu hoes oherwydd salwch difrifol aros yn eu cartrefi. Pa gamau yr ydych yn eu cymryd i sicrhau bod gan bob bwrdd iechyd yng Nghymru raglenni rheoli poen yn y gymuned sydd wedi'i datblygu'n dda?

14:03 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thanks, Lindsay Whittle, for that question. It is exactly the issue that was being rehearsed by the chief executive of Marie Curie earlier this afternoon—the need for improved knowledge and techniques that can be used at the end of life and for those pain management techniques to be provided not simply in the hospice setting but in people's own homes. It is true that the extent to which people choose to die at home varies from health board to health board in Wales. Some of that is cultural and down to expectations people have from their own family's previous experience, but it can be related to the strength of community-based services as well. I want us to be in a position where anybody in Wales is able to choose the place where they themselves would prefer to spend the end of their lives.

Diolch, Lindsay Whittle, am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Dyna'r union fater a godwyd gan brif weithredwr Marie Curie yn gynharach y prynhawn yma—yr angen am wybodaeth a thechnegau gwell y gellir eu defnyddio ar ddiwedd oes ac i'r technegau rheoli poen hynny gael eu darparu nid yn unig mewn hosbisau ond yng nghartrefi pobl eu hunain. Mae'n wir bod y graddau y mae pobl yn dewis marw gartref yn amrywio rhwng byrddau iechyd yng Nghymru. Mae rhywfaint o hynny'n ymwneud â dewisiadau diwylliannol a'r disgwyliadau sydd gan bobl o brofiad blaenorol eu teulu eu hunain, ond gall fod yn gysylltiedig â chryfder gwasanaethau yn y gymuned hefyd. Rwyf am inni fod mewn sefyllfa lle y gall unrhyw un yng Nghymru ddewis ble y byddai'n well ganddo dreulio diwedd ei oes.

Adrannau Damweiniau ac Achosion Brys

Accident and Emergency Departments

14:03 **Llyr Gruffydd** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

8. Pa asesiad y mae'r Gweinidog wedi ei wneud o effaith mentrau i gyfyngu ar nifer y bobl sy'n mynd i adrannau damweiniau ac achosion brys yng Nghymru? OAQ(4)0401(HSS)

8. What assessment has the Minister made of the impact of initiatives aimed at limiting the number of people attending A&E departments in Wales? OAQ(4)0401(HSS)

14:04 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Diolch yn fawr am y cwestiwn. Mae amryw o sefydliadau yn cyfrannu at helpu i leihau'r galw ar yr adrannau damweiniau ac achosion brys. Mae gwaith Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Gwasanaethau Ambiwlans Cymru yn unig yn golygu bod 1,000 yn llai o bobl yr wythnos yn mynd i'r adrannau brys. Mae 50% o'r holl alwadau ambiwlans y mae uwch-ymarferwyr parafeddygol yn delio â nhw yn arwain at driniaeth yn y fan a'r lle, neu yn y cartref.

Thank you very much for that question. A range of organisations contribute to limiting demands on accident and emergency departments in Wales. Actions by the Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust alone now reduce A&E attendance by nearly 1,000 each week and 50% of all ambulance calls attended by advanced practice paramedics result in treatment at the scene or at home.

14:04 **Llyr Gruffydd** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Diolch am yr ateb. Mae'r ystadegau yna yn galonogol iawn, ond dywedwyd wrthym adeg gohirio llawdriniaethau nad oeddynt yn rhai brys yn y gogledd eu bod wedi eu gohirio oherwydd 'unprecedented demand'—dyna'r geiriau a ddefnyddiwyd. Fodd bynnag, fe wnaeth y Prif Weinidog feio'r cynnydd mewn pobl sy'n mynychu 'A&E', ac fe anogodd pobl i beidio â mynd, lle bo hynny'n bosibl. Mae hynny'n peintio darlun gwahanol iawn i'r un rydych chi wedi ei peintio gyda'ch ystadegau. Felly, pa un sy'n gywir?

Thank you for that response. Those statistics are very encouraging, but we were told when non-urgent surgery was delayed in north Wales that it had been delayed because of unprecedented demand—those were the words used. However, the First Minister blamed the increase in the number of people attending A&E, and he encouraged people to avoid going there, where possible. That paints a very different picture to the one that you have painted with your statistics. S0, which is correct?

14:05 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I do not think that there is any contradiction between what I said and what the First Minister said. As I said at the beginning of my answer, there are many different ways in which it is possible to try to reduce pressures on A&E services. I absolutely agree with what the First Minister said; part of that is about getting your message to the Welsh population, but going to an A&E department might not always be the most sensible way of getting the care that is needed. There has been success over this winter in persuading people not to go to major emergency departments when a minor injuries unit visit would be quicker for them and would get them the care that they need. There is no contradiction between persuading people to act in the most sensible way and offering a series of other services, such as that provided by the Welsh ambulance service, which can divert people into other forms of care.

Ni chredaf fod unrhyw wrthddweud rhwng yr hyn a ddywedais innau a'r hyn a ddywedodd y Prif Weinidog. Fel y dywedais ar ddechrau fy ateb, mae llawer o wahanol ffyrdd posibl o geisio lleihau'r pwysau ar wasanaethau damweiniau ac achosion brys. Cytunaf yn llwyr â'r hyn a ddywedodd y Prif Weinidog; mae rhan o hynny'n ymwneud â chyfleu eich neges i boblogaeth Cymru, ond efallai nad mynd i adran damweiniau ac achosion brys fydd y ffordd fwyaf synhwyrol bob amser o gael y gofal sydd ei angen. Cafwyd llwyddiant dros y gaeaf hwn i ddarbwyllo pobl i beidio â mynd i'r prif adrannau achosion brys pan fyddai ymweld ag uned mân anafiadau yn gyflymach ac yn sicrhau'r gofal sydd ei angen arnynt. Nid oes unrhyw wahaniaeth rhwng darbwyllo pobl i ymddwyn yn y ffordd fwyaf synhwyrol a chynnig cyfres o wasanaethau eraill, fel yr hyn a ddarperir gan wasanaeth ambiwlans Cymru, a all gyfeirio pobl at fathau eraill o ofal.

14:06 **Mike Hedges** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, do you agree with me that initiatives such as having a GP out-of-hours service running alongside the A&E department, as you saw at Morriston Hospital when you visited it earlier this year, helps to keep down the number of people accessing A&E? Are there any plans to replicate the Morriston Hospital example, by rolling out similar out-of-hours services to other major hospital A&E departments in Wales?

Weinidog, a ydych yn cytuno â mi bod mentrau fel rhedeg gwasanaeth meddyg teulu y tu allan i oriau ochr yn ochr â'r adran damweiniau ac achosion brys, fel y gwelsoch yn Ysbyty Treforys yn ystod eich ymweliad yno yn gynharach eleni, yn helpu i leihau nifer y bobl sy'n mynd i adrannau damweiniau ac achosion brys? A oes unrhyw gynlluniau i efelychu enghraifft Ysbyty Treforys, drwy gyflwyno gwasanaethau y tu allan i oriau tebyg mewn adrannau damweiniau ac achosion brys mawr eraill yng Nghymru?

14:06 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I very much enjoyed and learnt from my visit to Morriston, where Mike Hedges was also present. We were able to see for ourselves the way in which a very committed group of out-of-hours doctors, co-located with that major emergency service, were able to share advice, so that a primary care clinician who is not always certain of exactly the best thing to do has a consultant on the spot to help them. Also, we saw that, in Morriston Hospital, over 300 patients who come into the emergency department every month are diverted on the spot to the out-of-hours service and they are seen much more quickly and more appropriately. There are increasing examples across Wales of co-location between out-of-hours services and emergency departments. Wherever we are redesigning services, we try to make sure that that is part of the new way in which we will do things in the future.

Mwynheais yn fawr iawn fy ymweliad ag Ysbyty Treforys, lle'r oedd Mike Hedges hefyd yn bresennol, a dysgais lawer ganddo. Cawsom gyfle i weld drosom ein hunain y ffordd y mae grŵp ymroddedig iawn o feddygon y tu allan i oriau, wedi'u cydleoli â'r prif wasanaeth argyfwng, yn gallu rhannu cyngor, fel bod gan glinigwr gofal sylfaenol nad yw bob amser yn siŵr beth yw'r peth gorau i'w wneud feddyg ymgynghorol wrth law i'w helpu. Hefyd, gwelsom fod dros 300 o gleifion sy'n dod i'r adran achosion brys yn Ysbyty Treforys bob mis yn cael eu cyfeirio'n syth at y gwasanaeth y tu allan i oriau a'u bod yn cael eu gweld yn llawer cynt ac yn fwy priodol. Ceir enghreifftiau cynyddol ledled Cymru o gyd-leoli gwasanaethau y tu allan i oriau ac adrannau achosion brys. Lle bynnag yr ydym yn ailgynllunio gwasanaethau, rydym yn ceisio sicrhau bod hynny'n rhan o'r ffordd newydd y byddwn yn gwneud pethau yn y dyfodol.

14:07 **Darren Millar** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, one of the pressures on A&E departments is, of course, as a result of the financial fiasco that is the Welsh NHS. It has imposed record-breaking cuts and two bail-outs this year already, even after we were told at the end of the summer that the £150 million extra would be the last and there would be no more afterwards. However, a further £50 million was announced yesterday, without any information as to the purpose of that resource, or how it was going to be allocated to health boards, or whether those health boards in greatest financial distress would receive the significant part of it. I wonder whether, in response to the questions today, you might be able to provide a little more information than a couple of sentences on a sheet of paper, and do us the courtesy of providing information to Members in all parts of Wales on what the implications of the £50 million are on their own local health boards.

Weinidog, mae un o'r pwysau ar adrannau damweiniau ac achosion brys, wrth gwrs, yn deillio o lanastr ariannol y GIG yng Nghymru. Mae eisoes wedi gwneud toriadau na welwyd eu math o'r blaen ac wedi cael dau becyn achub eleni, hyd yn oed ar ôl inni glywed ar ddiwedd yr haf mai'r £150 miliwn ychwanegol fyddai'r taliad olaf ac na fyddai rhagor o gymorth ariannol ar gael wedi hynny. Fodd bynnag, cyhoeddwyd £50 miliwn arall ddoe, heb unrhyw wybodaeth am ddiben yr adnodd hwnnw, na sut y câi ei ddyrannu i fyrddau iechyd, nac a fyddai'r byrddau iechyd hynny sy'n wynebu'r trallod ariannol mwyaf yn cael y rhan fwyaf sylweddol ohono. Tybed, mewn ymateb i'r cwestiynau heddiw, a allech roi ychydig mwy o wybodaeth nag ychydig frawddegau ar ddalen o bapur, a bod cystal â rhoi gwybodaeth i'r Aelodau ym mhob rhan o Gymru am oblygiadau'r £50 miliwn i'w byrddau iechyd lleol eu hunain.

14:08 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

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If the opposition party spokesperson on health is accusing the Welsh Labour Government of investing £50 million more in health services in Wales, then that is an accusation to which I am very happy indeed to plead guilty. The message that people out there in our health services have is this: here is a Government determined to go on providing for a health service in order to allow it to go on providing exactly the sort of services that people right around the Chamber, through this question period, will be calling for. The bail-out bleat that we are offered by opposition parties really does have no resonance at all among the general public. I say to him this: I hope that his Members in Pembrokeshire will be explaining to their local populations that here is a Government putting £50 million more into health services, so that they can go on enjoying them. I hope that he himself will be in north Wales promoting the fact—[Interruption.]

Os yw llefarydd yr wrthblaid ar iechyd yn cyhuddo Llywodraeth Lafur Cymru o fuddsoddi £50 miliwn ychwanegol mewn gwasanaethau iechyd yng Nghymru, yna mae hwnnw'n gyhuddiad yr wyf yn barod iawn yn wir i bledio'n euog iddo. Y neges i'r bobl hynny yn ein gwasanaethau iechyd yw hyn: dyma Lywodraeth sy'n benderfynol o barhau i ddarparu ar gyfer gwasanaeth iechyd er mwyn ei alluogi i barhau i ddarparu'r union fath o wasanaethau y bydd y bobl yn y Siambr, drwy'r cyfnod cwestiynau hwn, yn galw amdanynt. Nid yw cwynion y gwrthbleidiau ynghylch cymorth ariannol yn taro tant ymhlith y cyhoedd o gwbl. Yr hyn a ddywedaf wrtho yw hyn: Gobeithiaf y bydd Aelodau yn Sir Benfro yn egluro i'w poblogaethau lleol bod gennym Lywodraeth sy'n buddsoddi £50 miliwn ychwanegol mewn gwasanaethau iechyd, er mwyn iddynt barhau i'w mwynhau. Gobeithiaf y bydd yntau yn y gogledd yn hyrwyddo'r ffaith—[Torri ar draws.]

14:09 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Order.

Gorchymyn.

14:09 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

[Continues.]—that there is £50 million more going into services in the Welsh NHS. He asked me what we would be doing; that is what he could be doing to make sure that the message gets across.

[Parhau.]—bod £50 miliwn ychwanegol yn cael ei fuddsoddi yng ngwasanaethau GIG Cymru. Gofynnodd imi beth y byddem yn ei wneud; dyna beth y gallai yntau fod yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod y neges yn cael ei chyfleu.

14:09 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I call on the Welsh Liberal Democrat spokesperson, Kirsty Williams.

Galwaf ar lefarydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru, Kirsty Williams.

14:10 **Kirsty Williams** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Arweinydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru / The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats

Minister, pressure at A&E departments can have a knock-on effect on the performance of other parts of the NHS. Are you satisfied that accident and emergency departments across Wales are able to admit patients in a timely fashion to avoid ambulances holding patients outside?

Weinidog, gall pwysau mewn adrannau damweiniau ac achosion brys effeithio ar berfformiad rhannau eraill o'r GIG. A ydych yn fodlon bod adrannau damweiniau ac achosion brys ledled Cymru yn gallu derbyn cleifion mewn modd amserol er mwyn osgoi achosion lle mae ambiwlansys yn dal cleifion y tu allan?

14:10 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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Kirsty Williams is absolutely right to say that the performance of the emergency department depends upon the performance of the service as a whole, and it often is not the front door that is the problem. It is not the people who are trying to get in who are the problem; the problem is being able to move people further into the hospital when that is necessary. No, I am not satisfied that we have that problem completely solved. Due to the work that was done in preparing for this winter, some parts of the Welsh NHS have made great strides. Delayed transfers of care in the Welsh NHS are at a 10-year low this winter. They are lower than they have ever been since the year 2003. Real progress has been made there. In some hospitals in Cardiff and the Vale, for example, a reduction in length of stay by two days on average over the last summer has been sustained into this winter and has allowed flow from emergency departments into hospitals. However, we are not where we need to be everywhere; more needs to be done and we will continue to do more in preparing for the next winter so that what happens at the front door of the hospital is assisted by what is happening across the whole of the system.

Mae Kirsty Williams yn gwbl gywir i ddweud bod perfformiad yr adran achosion brys yn dibynnu ar berfformiad y gwasanaeth cyfan, ac yn aml nid y drws ffrynt yw'r broblem. Nid y bobl sy'n ceisio dod i mewn yw'r broblem; y gallu i symud pobl ymhellach i mewn i'r ysbyty pan fo angen gwneud hynny yw'r broblem. Na, nid wyf yn fodlon ein bod wedi datrys y broblem honno yn llwyr. Oherwydd y gwaith a wnaed i baratoi ar gyfer y gaeaf hwn, mae rhai rhannau o GIG Cymru wedi cymryd camau breision. Mae nifer yr achosion o oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal yn y GIG yng Nghymru ar eu hisaf ers 10 mlynedd y gaeaf hwn. Maent yn is nag y buont erioed ers 2003. Mae cynnydd gwirioneddol wedi'i wneud yno. Mewn rhai ysbytai yng Nghaerdydd a'r Fro, er enghraifft, llwyddwyd i gynnal y gostyngiad mewn cyfnodau aros o ddeuddydd ar gyfartaledd dros yr haf diwethaf yn ystod y gaeaf hwn ac mae hyn wedi caniatáu llif o adrannau achosion brys i mewn i ysbytai. Fodd bynnag, nid ydym wedi gwneud yr hyn sydd angen inni ei wneud ym mhob man; mae angen gwneud mwy a byddwn yn parhau i wneud mwy er mwyn paratoi ar gyfer y gaeaf nesaf fel bod yr hyn sy'n digwydd wrth ddrws ffrynt yr ysbyty yn cael ei gynorthwyo gan yr hyn sy'n digwydd ar draws y system gyfan.

14:11 **Kirsty Williams** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

Minister, I am sure that staff in our hospitals are trying very hard, but for the period of December at Morriston Hospital, over 223 ambulances waited over an hour for their turnaround, 49 waited between an hour and two hours and 19 waited over three hours to discharge their patients. At the University Hospital of Wales here in Cardiff, 348 ambulances waited over an hour to discharge their patients, 84 between an hour and two hours and 30 patients waited over three hours to be taken into the A&E department. Surely, Minister, you cannot be satisfied with numbers such as those in our two biggest hospitals in south Wales, and the figures are not very much better for north Wales either.

Weinidog, rwy'n siŵr bod staff yn ein hysbytai yn gweithio'n galed iawn, ond yn ystod mis Rhagfyr yn Ysbyty Treforys, bu'n rhaid i dros 223 o ambiwlansys aros dros awr i drosglwyddo eu cleifion, bu'n rhaid i 49 aros rhwng awr a dwy awr a bu'n rhaid i 19 aros dros dair awr i ryddhau eu cleifion. Yn Ysbyty Athrofaol Cymru yng Nghaerdydd, bu'n rhaid i 348 o ambiwlansys aros dros awr i ryddhau eu cleifion, 84 rhwng awr a dwy awr a bu'n rhaid i 30 o gleifion aros dros dair awr i gael eu symud i mewn i'r adran damweiniau ac achosion brys. Does bosib, Weinidog, eich bod yn fodlon ar y niferoedd hynny yn y ddau ysbyty mwyaf yn y de, ac nid yw'r ffigurau'n llawer gwell ar gyfer y gogledd ychwaith.

14:12 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

The Member is absolutely right; I am not satisfied with those figures. Let us recognise that those figures are an improvement from where the service has sometimes been in the past. In the Cardiff case, where the whole department is being remodelled over this winter, the ability to move people through the system has been remarkable, despite those challenges. However, the figures that the Member points to are real; they are not where we need to be. Further work is necessary, and it is going on. I am confident that we will continue to bear down on them, and I am very clear with the service that that is what has to happen.

Mae'r Aelod yn hollol iawn; nid wyf yn fodlon ar y ffigurau hynny. Gadewch inni gydnabod bod y ffigurau hynny yn welliant ar yr hyn a welwyd yn y gwasanaeth ar adegau yn y gorffennol. Yn achos Caerdydd, lle mae'r adran gyfan yn cael ei hailfodelu dros y gaeaf hwn, mae'r gallu i symud pobl drwy'r system wedi bod yn rhyfeddol, er gwaethaf yr heriau hynny. Fodd bynnag, mae'r ffigurau y mae'r Aelod yn cyfeirio atynt yn wir; mae angen eu gostwng ymhellach. Mae angen gwneud rhagor o waith, ac mae'n digwydd. Hyderaf y byddwn yn parhau i'w gostwng, ac rwyf wedi dweud yn glir iawn wrth y gwasanaeth bod yn rhaid i hynny ddigwydd.

Gwasanaethau Gofal Iechyd

Healthcare Services

14:13 **Antoinette Sandbach** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

9. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am fynediad i wasanaethau gofal iechyd yng Nghymru wledig? OAQ(4)0388(HSS)

9. Will the Minister make a statement on access to healthcare services in rural Wales? OAQ(4)0388(HSS)

14:13 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I thank Antoinette Sandbach for that question. Developing access to healthcare services in rural Wales offers substantial opportunities to be at the forefront of developments that will shape the future of the whole national health service.

Diolch i Antoinette Sandbach am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Mae datblygu mynediad at wasanaethau gofal iechyd yng nghefn gwlad Cymru yn cynnig cyfleoedd sylweddol i arwain datblygiadau a fydd yn llunio dyfodol y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol cyfan.

14:13 **Antoinette Sandbach** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I should be encouraged, I think, by that positive vision that you have, Minister, but there are concerns about access to services in rural Wales. In particular, there are areas that you accept have had their numbers of GPs halved. Intolerable levels of pressure are being put on rural services. I know that you have received a letter detailing issues around rural healthcare and, for example, highlighting the case of a 55-mile journey, where a patient was required to attend hospital because no local general practitioner was available. Minister, I know that you have recognised it and on 15 January, you said—

Dylai'r weledigaeth gadarnhaol honno fy nghalonogi, Weinidog, ond mae pryderon ynghylch mynediad at wasanaethau yng nghefn gwlad Cymru. Yn benodol, mae ardaloedd lle rydych yn derbyn bod nifer y meddygon teulu wedi'u haneru. Mae lefelau annioddefol o bwysau yn cael eu rhoi ar wasanaethau gwledig. Gwn eich bod wedi cael llythyr yn manylu ar faterion yn ymwneud â gofal iechyd gwledig ac, er enghraifft, yn nodi achos o daith 55 milltir o hyd, lle bu'n rhaid i glaf fynd i'r ysbyty am nad oedd meddyg teulu lleol ar gael. Weinidog, gwn eich bod wedi cydnabod hynny ac ar 15 Ionawr, dywedasoch—

14:14 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Are you coming to the question?

A ydych yn dod at y cwestiwn?

14:14 **Antoinette Sandbach** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

[Continues]—'the Welsh Government is working to address the supply and retention of GPs.'

[Parhau]—fod Llywodraeth Cymru yn gweithio i fynd i'r afael â'r cyflenwad o feddygon teulu a'r gallu i'w cadw.

I wonder whether you could tell us what action has been taken since then and how you see this new opportunity that you described in your earlier answer.

Tybed a allech ddweud wrthym pa gamau a gymerwyd ers hynny a sut y gwelwch y cyfle newydd hwn a ddisgrifiwyd gennych yn eich ateb cynharach.

14:14 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I thank Antoinette Sandbach for that. What I try to do all the time is to say to our colleagues who work in rural health services in Wales that their challenges really are opportunities. If we are going to attract people to come to work in these services, we have to be positive about the opportunity that working in rural Wales provides to GPs and other people. It really will provide a model for some of the way that the rest of the service will have to be in the future. Part of GP primary care will be to remodel the way that those services are provided. There are a range of people able to contribute to that wider care team. Parts of rural Wales will be where that new way of working will happen first. There are a series of practical actions that we are taking. The chief medical officer is leading them; it involves dealing with problems such as barriers through locum indemnity insurance, and we continue to be actively involved in that work.

Diolch i Antoinette Sandbach am hynny. Yr hyn yr wyf yn ceisio ei wneud drwy'r amser yw dweud wrth staff sy'n gweithio mewn gwasanaethau iechyd gwledig yng Nghymru bod eu heriau mewn gwirionedd yn gyfleoedd. Er mwyn denu pobl i ddod i weithio yn y gwasanaethau hyn, rhaid inni fod yn gadarnhaol am y cyfle y mae gweithio yng nghefn gwlad Cymru yn ei gynnig i feddygon teulu a phobl eraill. Bydd yn wir yn darparu model i ryw raddau o'r ffordd y bydd yn rhaid i weddill y gwasanaeth weithredu yn y dyfodol. Rhan o'r gwaith ym maes gofal sylfaenol meddygon teulu fydd ailfodelu'r ffordd y caiff y gwasanaethau hynny eu darparu. Mae amrywiaeth o bobl sydd â'r gallu i gyfrannu at y tîm gofal ehangach hwnnw. Bydd y ffordd newydd honno o weithio yn digwydd gyntaf mewn rhannau o gefn gwlad Cymru. Mae cyfres o gamau ymarferol yr ydym yn eu cymryd. Mae'r prif swyddog meddygol yn eu harwain; mae'n cynnwys ymdrin â phroblemau fel rhwystrau drwy yswiriant indemniad meddygon locwm, ac rydym yn parhau i chwarae rhan weithredol yn y gwaith hwnnw.

14:15 **Rebecca Evans** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, what further contribution to rural healthcare can we hope to get from the extended-role practitioners, particularly in nursing and pharmacy, and among paramedics?

Weinidog, pa gyfraniad pellach at ofal iechyd gwledig y gallwn obeithio ei gael gan yr ymarferwyr â rolau estynedig, yn enwedig ym maes nyrsio a fferylliaeth, ac ymhlith parafeddygon?

14:15 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I thank Rebecca Evans because that is exactly the point that I was making. In Wales, we have led the way and we continue to lead some UK-level work on extended-role practitioners in nursing, pharmacy, through paramedics and so on. Those extended-role practitioners will be especially important in the rural context, able to provide a wider range of services closer to where people live, and making sure that GPs, who have a fundamentally important role to continue to provide, are able to concentrate their particular skills on those people that only a GP can provide a service for by allowing others to do a wider range of things in the future.

Hoffwn ddiolch i Rebecca Evans oherwydd dyna'r union bwynt yr oeddwn yn ei wneud. Yng Nghymru, rydym wedi arwain y ffordd ac rydym yn parhau i arwain rhywfaint o waith ar lefel y DU mewn perthynas ag ymarferwyr â rolau estynedig ym maes nyrsio, fferylliaeth, drwy barafeddygon ac ati. Bydd yr ymarferwyr hynny â rolau estynedig yn arbennig o bwysig yn y cyd-destun gwledig, a byddant yn gallu darparu ystod ehangach o wasanaethau yn nes at gartrefi pobl, gan sicrhau bod meddygon teulu, sydd â rôl sylfaenol bwysig, yn gallu canolbwyntio eu sgiliau penodol ar y bobl hynny na all ond meddyg teulu ddarparu gwasanaeth ar eu cyfer drwy ganiatáu i eraill wneud ystod ehangach o bethau yn y dyfodol.

14:16 **Simon Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Weinidog, mae gen i achos ar hyn o bryd yn ymwneud â menyw o Dywyn sydd wedi methu cael darpariaeth iechyd meddwl yn Gymraeg yn gyson ers dros bum mlynedd. O bryd i'w gilydd, bu'n rhaid iddi deithio i Langefni neu Wrecsam i gael seiciatrydd Cymraeg ei iaith, ond, bob tro, mae'r gwasanaeth yn diflannu am wahanol resymau. Mae nifer o achosion yn nwylo'r comisiynydd iaith, ond, yn y bôn, mae'r methiant sylfaenol hwn i sicrhau bod gwasanaeth yn yr iaith briodol ar gael wedi gadael y fenyw hon i lawr yn ofnadwy. A wnewch chi sicrhau bod gwell ystyriaeth yn cael ei rhoi i iechyd meddwl yn gyffredinol ac o ran y problemau iaith, yn enwedig mewn ardaloedd gwledig?

Minister, I currently have a case of a woman from Tywyn who has failed to have mental health provision through the medium of Welsh consistently over the past five years. From time to time, she has had to travel to Llangefni or Wrexham to get a Welsh-speaking psychiatrist, but, each time, that service disappears for one reason or another. There are a number of cases with the Welsh language commissioner in relation to this, but, essentially, that basic failure to ensure that a service in the appropriate language has let that woman down terribly. Will you ensure that better consideration is given to mental health generally, but also in terms of the language problem, particularly in rural areas?

14:17 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Fel dywedais yn gynharach wrth Alun Ffred Jones, rwy'n cydnabod pwysigrwydd rhoi gwasanaethau drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg, yn enwedig ym maes iechyd meddwl. Byddaf yn siarad gyda fy Nirprwy Weinidog, sydd yn arwain y gwaith ledled y gwasanaethau iechyd yng Nghymru, ond byddwn hefyd yn gweithio gyda'r comisiynydd. Rwy'n ymwybodol bod y bobl sy'n arwain gwasanaethau iechyd yng ngogledd Cymru am wneud mwy, ac rwy'n hyderus y gallwn wneud mwy er mwyn rhoi mwy o wasanaethau i bobl yn eu mamiaith. Mae'n hollbwysig gwneud hyn ym maes iechyd meddwl.

As I told Alun Ffred Jones earlier, I do recognise the importance of developing services through the medium of the Welsh language, particularly in the field of mental health. I will be speaking to my Deputy Minister, who leads the work across the health services in Wales, but we are also going to work with the commissioner. I am aware that the leaders of health services in north Wales want to do more, and I am confident that we can do more to provide more services to people in their first language. It is crucially important to do so in the field of mental health.

Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi

Questions to the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty

Cynllun Gweithredu ar gyfer Trechu Tlodi

Tackling Poverty Action Plan

14:18 **Angela Burns** Bywgraffiad Biography

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1. A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu pa bwysoliad y mae'n ei roi i bolisïau i fynd i'r afael â thlodi gwledig yn ei Gynllun Gweithredu ar gyfer Trechu Tlodi cyffredinol? OAQ(4)0135(CTP)

1. Will the Minister outline what weighting he gives to policies aimed at tackling rural poverty in his overall Tackling Poverty Action Plan? OAQ(4)0135(CTP)

14:18 **Vaughan Gething** Bywgraffiad Biography Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Y Dirprwy Weinidog Trechu Tlodi / The Deputy Minister for Tackling Poverty

Commitments within the tackling poverty action plan seek to reduce aspects of poverty that can have a bigger impact in rural areas, including, for example, fuel poverty and digital exclusion. The Minister for Natural Resources and Food will launch the rural development plan consultation tomorrow, which will be an important part of this Government's action in taking forward action to tackle rural poverty.

Mae'r ymrwymiadau yn y cynllun gweithredu ar gyfer trechu tlodi yn ceisio lleihau agweddau ar dlodi a all gael effaith fwy mewn ardaloedd gwledig, gan gynnwys, er enghraifft, tlodi tanwydd ac allgáu digidol. Bydd y Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol a Bwyd yn lansio'r ymgynghoriad ar y cynllun datblygu gwledig yfory, a fydd yn rhan bwysig o gamau gweithredu'r Llywodraeth hon i fynd ati i drechu tlodi gwledig.

14:18 **Angela Burns** Bywgraffiad Biography Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you for that answer. You mentioned two key indicators of rural poverty, which is the high cost of fuel and digital exclusion. Things such as the centralisation or services and the withdrawal of services in rural communities are helping to create pockets of poverty, as identified by the Wales rural observatory in its various reports. I just wanted to understand how much you take into account the new creation of areas of poverty because rural poverty is extremely hard to identify.

Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw. Soniasoch am ddau ddangosydd pwysig o dlodi gwledig, sef cost uchel tanwydd ac allgáu digidol. Mae pethau megis canoli gwasanaethau a thynnu gwasanaethau yn ôl mewn cymunedau gwledig yn helpu i greu ardaloedd o dlodi, fel y mae arsyllfa wledig Cymru wedi'i nodi yn ei hadroddiadau amrywiol. Roeddwn yn awyddus i ddeall i ba raddau yr ydych yn ystyried ardaloedd newydd o dlodi a gaiff eu creu oherwydd mae tlodi gwledig yn anodd iawn i'w nodi.

Vaughan Gething Bywgraffiad Biography

The other point that is worth mentioning here, of course, is that the Government is looking again at the Welsh index of multiple deprivation. There is a consultation open at present, and will be open until 27 February. It would be helpful if Members and other organisations got involved in that because it is an objective basis that helps to guide us in how we target our interventions across Wales, both urban and rural.

Y pwynt arall sy'n werth ei nodi yma, wrth gwrs, yw bod y Llywodraeth yn edrych eto ar fynegai amddifadedd lluosog Cymru. Cynhelir ymgynghoriad ar hyn o bryd, a bydd ar agor tan 27 Chwefror. Byddai'n ddefnyddiol pe bai Aelodau a sefydliadau eraill yn cymryd rhan ynddo oherwydd mae'n gosod sail wrthrychol sy'n helpu i lywio'r ffordd y byddwn yn targedu ein hymyriadau ledled Cymru, yn drefol ac yn wledig.

14:19 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I call on the Plaid Cymru spokesperson, Simon Thomas.

Galwaf ar lefarydd Plaid Cymru, Simon Thomas.

14:19 **Simon Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you, Presiding Officer—I am that spokesperson today, due to absence and illness. The end child poverty network 2009 report on rural poverty stated that it was difficult to identify because low-income households are dispersed across large rural geographical areas in isolated homes and villages, and that it remains hidden because one does not get the clusters of deprivation. Since that report was written in 2009, we have seen yet more clustering from Welsh Government: Communities First, Families First and Flying Start are all run through clusters. Do we not now have a situation where rural poverty is being ignored?

Diolch ichi, Lywydd—fi yw'r llefarydd hwnnw heddiw, oherwydd absenoldeb a salwch. Nododd adroddiad y rhwydwaith dileu tlodi plant yn 2009 ar dlodi gwledig ei fod yn anodd ei nodi am fod cartrefi incwm isel wedi'u gwasgaru ar draws ardaloedd daearyddol gwledig eang mewn cartrefi a phentrefi ynysig, a'i fod yn aros yn gudd am na cheir clystyrau o amddifadedd. Ers i'r adroddiad hwnnw gael ei ysgrifennu yn 2009, rydym wedi gweld hyd yn oed fwy o glystyru gan Lywodraeth Cymru: caiff Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf a Dechrau'n Deg i gyd eu rhedeg trwy glystyrau. Onid oes gennym nawr sefyllfa lle mae tlodi gwledig yn cael ei anwybyddu?

14:20 **Vaughan Gething** Bywgraffiad Biography Senedd.tv Fideo Video

No, I would not accept that at all. From the Government's point of view, we have a clear programme to try to prioritise the most effective interventions for the widest range of people. The object of clustering is that geographically focused programmes do exactly that. As well as the rural development plan, and the consultation being launched tomorrow, we are also undertaking a study, as committed to in the tackling poverty action plan, to understand on a much broader basis the particular impacts and aspects of rural poverty. That will help to inform Government action moving forward.

Na, ni fyddwn yn derbyn hynny o gwbl. O safbwynt y Llywodraeth, mae gennym raglen glir i geisio blaenoriaethu'r ymyriadau mwyaf effeithiol ar gyfer yr ystod ehangaf o bobl. Amcan clystyru yw bod rhaglenni â ffocws daearyddol yn gwneud yn union hynny. Yn ogystal â'r cynllun datblygu gwledig, a'r ymgynghoriad sy'n cael ei lansio yfory, rydym hefyd yn cynnal astudiaeth, yn unol â'r ymrwymiad yn y cynllun gweithredu ar gyfer trechu tlodi, er mwyn deall ar sail lawer ehangach yr effeithiau penodol a gaiff tlodi gwledig a'r agweddau penodol arno. Bydd hynny'n helpu i lywio camau gweithredu Llywodraeth yn y dyfodol.

14:20 **Simon Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

You say that, Deputy Minister, and indeed there is reference to both of those things in the action plan. However, there is no specific rural-based anti-poverty programme in that action plan at all, and since everything is driven by urban-based deprivation figures, that means that rural areas are missing out. Some important work has been done in the past—the report on deep rural areas by the previous Government and the Wales observatory. Is it not time to return to some of those reports and look again at ensuring that there are specific, rural-based anti-poverty measures, particularly looking at issues around access to services, transport and fuel costs?

Rydych yn dweud hynny, Ddirprwy Weinidog, ac yn wir mae cyfeiriad at y ddau beth hynny yn y cynllun gweithredu. Fodd bynnag, nid oes unrhyw raglen gwrthdlodi benodol ar gyfer ardaloedd gwledig yn y cynllun gweithredu hwnnw o gwbl, ac am fod popeth yn seiliedig ar ffigurau amddifadedd trefol, mae hynny'n golygu bod ardaloedd gwledig ar eu colled. Mae peth gwaith pwysig wedi cael ei wneud yn y gorffennol—yr adroddiad ar ardaloedd gwledig anghysbell gan y Llywodraeth flaenorol ac arsyllfa Cymru. Onid yw'n bryd dychwelyd at rai o'r adroddiadau hynny ac ystyried eto sicrhau bod mesurau gwrthdlodi gwledig penodol ar waith, gan edrych yn benodol ar faterion yn ymwneud â mynediad at wasanaethau, trafnidiaeth a chostau tanwydd?

14:21 **Vaughan Gething** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

That is exactly the point of having the study—to inform policy development moving forward. When you look at some of the particular issues that you have identified, action is already under way. For example, on digital exclusion, the Communities 2.0 programme has been particularly effective and helpful at creating greater access within rural communities. I just do not accept the premise that this Government is not interested in rural poverty. When you look at the tackling poverty action plan, and at the number of objectives to improve services, our universal services will have an impact in rural Wales as well as urban Wales. I simply do not accept that this Government is abandoning people in rural poverty. That is not the agenda of this Government. I am very happy to be measured against the priorities that we have set out within the tackling poverty action plan to see what this Government has actually done.

Dyna union bwynt yr astudiaeth—i lywio'r gwaith o ddatblygu polisïau yn y dyfodol. Pan edrychwch ar rai o'r materion penodol yr ydych wedi'u nodi, mae camau gweithredu eisoes ar y gweill. Er enghraifft, ar allgáu digidol, mae rhaglen Cymunedau 2.0 wedi bod yn arbennig o effeithiol a defnyddiol wrth greu mwy o fynediad mewn cymunedau gwledig. Nid wyf yn derbyn y rhagosodiad nad oes gan y Llywodraeth hon ddiddordeb mewn tlodi gwledig. Pan edrychwch ar y cynllun gweithredu ar gyfer trechu tlodi a'r amcanion niferus i wella gwasanaethau, bydd ein gwasanaethau cyffredinol yn cael effaith yn y Gymru wledig yn ogystal â'r Gymru drefol. Nid wyf yn derbyn bod y Llywodraeth hon yn troi ei chefn ar bobl mewn tlodi gwledig. Nid dyna agenda y Llywodraeth hon. Rwy'n hapus iawn inni gael ein mesur yn erbyn y blaenoriaethau yr ydym wedi'u nodi yn y cynllun gweithredu ar gyfer trechu tlodi er mwyn gweld beth mae'r Llywodraeth hon wedi'i wneud mewn gwirionedd.

Byw mewn Tlodi

Living in Poverty

14:22 **Lindsay Whittle** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

2. Pa fesurau arbennig y bydd y Gweinidog yn eu cymryd i leihau nifer y menywod yng Nghymru sy'n byw mewn tlodi? OAQ(4)0128(CTP)

2. What special measures will the Minister be taking to reduce the number of women in Wales who are living in poverty? OAQ(4)0128(CTP)

14:22 **Vaughan Gething** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Y Dirprwy Weinidog Trechu Tlodi / The Deputy Minister for Tackling Poverty

The tackling poverty action plan contains a number of commitments to help women into work, and to increase their access to education and training. A combination of programmes—for example, the employment support in integrated children's centres—provide opportunities that primarily benefit women living in poverty. In addition, the early years and childcare plan recognises the economic benefits in improving access to, and availability of, good-quality childcare.

Mae'r cynllun gweithredu ar gyfer trechu tlodi yn cynnwys nifer o ymrwymiadau i helpu menywod i mewn i waith, a chynyddu eu mynediad at addysg a hyfforddiant. Mae cyfuniad o raglenni—er enghraifft, cymorth cyflogaeth mewn canolfannau plant integredig—yn cynnig cyfleoedd sydd o fudd i fenywod sy'n byw mewn tlodi yn bennaf. Yn ogystal, mae cynllun y blynyddoedd cynnar a gofal plant yn cydnabod y manteision economaidd sy'n gysylltiedig â gwella mynediad at ofal plant o ansawdd da a chynyddu argaeledd gofal plant o'r fath.

14:22 **Lindsay Whittle** Bywgraffiad Biography

I thank the Minister for his answer. Since women are indeed the main childcarers in the family, what is the Welsh Government doing to enable young mothers to get access to affordable childcare so that they can even enter the job market? There was a programme on Radio Wales this morning about many mothers paying more for childcare than they pay on the mortgage.

Diolch i'r Gweinidog am ei ateb. Gan mai menywod yw'r prif ofalwyr plant mewn teuluoedd, beth mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i alluogi mamau ifanc i gael gofal plant fforddiadwy fel y gallant hyd yn oed ymuno â'r farchnad swyddi? Roedd rhaglen ar Radio Wales y bore yma yn sôn bod llawer o famau yn talu mwy am ofal plant nag y maent am eu morgais.

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:23 **Vaughan Gething** Bywgraffiad Biography

The cost of childcare is a real issue that affects a wide of range of people right across Wales. I had a number of questions on this very point in scrutiny this morning at the Children, Young People and Education Committee. We are committed, within our early years and childcare plan, to doing what we can to try to improve access to childcare and help to stimulate the market. That is not necessarily going to be easy, because some of the responsibility definitely lies here with us, but a range of actions and factors, in particular around cost, are around the tax and benefit system, so decisions made by the UK Government around tax credits are particularly important in this respect. However, as a Government, we have a very clear commitment to improve access to childcare and to do what we can to ensure that there is an appropriately skilled workforce.

Mae cost gofal plant yn broblem wirioneddol sy'n effeithio ar ystod eang o bobl ledled Cymru. Cefais nifer o gwestiynau ar yr union bwynt hwn yn ystod sesiwn graffu y bore yma gyda'r Pwyllgor Addysg, Plant a Phobl Ifanc. Rydym wedi ymrwymo, yn ein cynllun blynyddoedd cynnar a gofal plant, i wneud yr hyn a allwn i geisio gwella mynediad at ofal plant a helpu i ysgogi'r farchnad. Nid yw hynny o reidrwydd yn mynd i fod yn hawdd, am fod rhywfaint o'r cyfrifoldeb yn bendant yn eiddo inni, ond mae ystod o gamau gweithredu a ffactorau, yn enwedig o ran cost, yn ymwneud â'r system dreth a budd-daliadau, felly mae penderfyniadau Llywodraeth y DU ynghylch treth credydau yn arbennig o bwysig yn hyn o beth. Fodd bynnag, fel Llywodraeth, mae gennym ymrwymiad clir iawn i wella mynediad at ofal plant a gwneud yr hyn a allwn i sicrhau bod gennym weithlu â'r sgiliau priodol.

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:23 **Christine Chapman** Bywgraffiad Biography

Deputy Minister, members of the cross-party group on women in the economy recently heard from Cardiff University's Dr Alison Parkin that women in part-time employment in Wales earn 29% less per hour than women in full-time employment. As women are more likely to be in part-time jobs, this statistic is particularly concerning, and, in particular, women non-graduates earn less than their graduate counterparts. Deputy Minister, what discussions have you had with ministerial colleagues to ensure that women are encouraged and can access further and higher education, and that they are not forced into part-time positions and into in-work poverty as a result?

Ddirprwy Weinidog, clywodd aelodau o'r grŵp trawsbleidiol ar fenywod yn yr economi yn ddiweddar gan Dr Alison Parkin o Brifysgol Caerdydd fod menywod mewn swyddi rhan-amser yng Nghymru yn ennill 29% yn llai yr awr na menywod mewn swyddi amser llawn. Gan fod menywod yn fwy tebygol o fod mewn swyddi rhan-amser, mae'r ystadegyn hwn yn arbennig o bryderus, ac, yn benodol, mae menywod nad ydynt yn raddedigion yn ennill llai na'u cymheiriaid sy'n raddedigion. Ddirprwy Weinidog, pa drafodaethau yr ydych wedi'u cael gyda chyd-Weinidogion i sicrhau bod menywod yn cael eu hannog i gael addysg bellach ac uwch a'u bod yn gallu gwneud hynny, ac nad ydynt yn cael eu gorfodi i mewn i swyddi rhan-amser a thlodi mewn gwaith o ganlyniad i hynny?

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:24 **Vaughan Gething** Bywgraffiad Biography

This is a particularly interesting subject, given my former background, when I used to own a number of equal pay claims. You are right to point out that, as a proportion, there are more women in part-time employment than full time, but the actual numbers of men and women in part-time employment now are roughly even, which is largely because men have been more likely to undertake part-time employment over the last few years. You are right to point out that it is not just that there is a difference between graduates and non-graduates. There is an even bigger difference between female graduates and non-graduates. The difference between men is around £168,000 in earnings, but the difference between a female non-graduate and a female graduate is, on average, £252,000. I regularly discuss matters around access to further and higher education with the Minister for Education and Skills and we regularly have a review and look at what we can do on in-work poverty in Wales.

Mae hwn yn bwnc arbennig o ddiddorol, o ystyried fy nghefndir blaenorol, pan arferwn fod yn berchen ar nifer o hawliadau cyflog cyfartal. Rydych yn gywir i nodi, fel cyfran, bod mwy o fenywod mewn swyddi rhan-amser na swyddi amser llawn, ond mae union niferoedd y dynion a menywod mewn swyddi rhan-amser bellach yn weddol gyfartal, yn bennaf am fod dynion wedi bod yn fwy tebygol o ymgymryd â swyddi rhan-amser dros yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf. Rydych yn gywir i dynnu sylw at fwy na'r gwahaniaeth rhwng graddedigion a rhai nad ydynt yn raddedigion. Mae hyd yn oed fwy o wahaniaeth rhwng menywod sydd wedi graddio a menywod nad ydynt wedi graddio. Y gwahaniaeth o ran enillion rhwng dynion yw tua £168,000, ond mae'r gwahaniaeth rhwng enillion menyw sydd wedi graddio a menyw sydd heb raddio yn £252,000 ar gyfartaledd. Rwy'n trafod materion yn ymwneud â mynediad at addysg bellach ac uwch gyda'r Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau yn rheolaidd ac rydym yn adolygu ac yn ystyried beth y gallwn ei wneud o ran tlodi mewn gwaith yng Nghymru yn rheolaidd.

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14:25 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I call the opposition spokesperson, Mohammad Asghar.

Galwaf ar lefarydd yr wrthblaid, Mohammad Asghar.

14:25 **Mohammad Asghar** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you, madam Presiding Officer. Deputy Minister, employment and education are among the issues identified as having an influence on poverty among women. Gender stereotyping and occupational segregation mean that women are concentrated in a small number of occupations and industries where pay in low and the opportunity for career progression is limited. What discussion has the Deputy Minister had with colleagues about ways to encourage girls to aspire to better-paid and more secure employment to reduce poverty in the long term?

Diolch ichi, madam Lywydd. Ddirprwy Weinidog, mae cyflogaeth ac addysg ymhlith y materion y nodwyd eu bod yn dylanwadu ar dlodi ymhlith menywod. Mae stereoteipio ar sail rhyw a gwahanu galwedigaethol yn golygu bod menywod yn cael eu canoli mewn nifer fach o alwedigaethau a diwydiannau lle mae cyflogau'n isel a'r cyfleoedd i gamu ymlaen mewn gyrfa yn gyfyngedig. Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Dirprwy Weinidog wedi'u cael gyda chyd-Aelodau am ffyrdd o annog merched i anelu at swyddi sy'n talu'n well ac sy'n fwy sicr er mwyn lleihau tlodi yn y tymor hir?

14:26 **Vaughan Gething** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Oddly enough, I am due to meet the chief executive of Chwarae Teg, whom I am sure will raise a number of these issues when I discuss this with her. There is a widespread commitment across Government to try to raise aspiration right across Wales and, in particular, the aspiration of women and girls in terms of employment. In my previous answer to Lindsay Whittle, I highlighted a number of the employment programmes we already have. We are working in partnership with agencies in Wales and UK Government agencies to try to ensure that women are able to access the workplace. There is a real aspiration for women to undertake work that is not simply part-time but which actually matches their talent and ability, which could be full-time and high-paid employment.

Yn rhyfedd ddigon, rwyf wedi trefnu cwrdd â phrif weithredwr Chwarae Teg, a fydd, rwy'n siŵr, yn codi nifer o'r materion hyn pan fyddaf yn trafod hyn gyda hi. Mae ymrwymiad eang ar draws y Llywodraeth i geisio codi dyheadau ledled Cymru ac, yn enwedig, ddyheadau menywod a merched o ran cyflogaeth. Yn fy ateb blaenorol i Lindsay Whittle, tynnais sylw at nifer o'r rhaglenni cyflogaeth sydd gennym eisoes. Rydym yn gweithio mewn partneriaeth ag asiantaethau yng Nghymru ac asiantaethau Llywodraeth y DU i geisio sicrhau y gall menywod ymuno â'r gweithle. Mae dyhead go iawn i fenywod ymgymryd â mwy na dim ond swyddi rhan-amser, ond swyddi sy'n cyd-fynd â'u talent a'u gallu, a allai fod yn swyddi amser llawn sy'n talu'n dda.

14:26 **Mohammad Asghar** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Childcare is vital in assisting women to return to work. The Welsh Government is committed to doubling the number of children benefiting from the Flying Start programme, from 18,000 to 36,000. Could the Deputy Minister advise what progress has been made in achieving this target in Wales?

Mae gofal plant yn hanfodol wrth gynorthwyo menywod i ddychwelyd i'r gwaith. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi ymrwymo i ddyblu nifer y plant sy'n elwa ar raglen Dechrau'n Deg, o 18,000 i 36,000. A allai'r Dirprwy Weinidog roi gwybod pa gynnydd sydd wedi'i wneud o ran cyflawni'r targed hwn yng Nghymru?

14:27 **Vaughan Gething** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I am delighted to confirm that this key Welsh Government commitment, as part of creating a fairer future, is well on course. I remain confident that we will meet our key manifesto pledge to double Flying Start within the term of this Assembly. There is a clear contrast to the Sure Start programme in England where, as a result of a UK Government decisions, it is reducing. Approximately 500 Sure Start centres have closed in England while, in Wales, we are doubling Flying Start.

Mae'n bleser gennyf gadarnhau bod yr ymrwymiad allweddol hwn gan Lywodraeth Cymru, fel rhan o'r gwaith o greu dyfodol tecach, ar y trywydd cywir. Rwy'n dal i fod yn hyderus y byddwn yn cyflawni addewid allweddol ein maniffesto i ddyblu Dechrau'n Deg yn ystod tymor y Cynulliad hwn. Mae cyferbyniad clir â'r rhaglen Sure Start yn Lloegr sydd, o ganlyniad i benderfyniadau Llywodraeth y DU, yn lleihau. Mae tua 500 o ganolfannau Sure Start wedi cau yn Lloegr ond yng Nghymru rydym yn dyblu Dechrau'n Deg.

Polisïau Cynhwysiant Ariannol

Financial Inclusion Policies

14:27 **William Powell** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

3. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am bolisïau cynhwysiant ariannol Llywodraeth Cymru? OAQ(4)0132(CTP)

3. Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Government's financial inclusion policies? OAQ(4)0132(CTP)

14:27 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

Y Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi / The Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Our financial inclusion policies are being implemented in a number of ways. We support credit unions to provide affordable and accessible financial services, and we fund Citizens Advice Cymru to provide advice on benefit take-up. In addition, we work with the Money Advice Service to improve levels of financial capability.

Caiff ein polisïau cynhwysiant ariannol eu rhoi ar waith mewn nifer o ffyrdd. Rydym yn helpu undebau credyd i ddarparu gwasanaethau ariannol fforddiadwy a hygyrch, ac rydym yn ariannu Cyngor ar Bopeth Cymru i roi cyngor ar hawlio budd-daliadau. Yn ogystal, rydym yn gweithio gyda'r Gwasanaeth Cynghori Ariannol i wella lefelau gallu ariannol.

14:28 **William Powell** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I thank the Minister for that response. I strongly agree with him that credit unions play a very important role in financial inclusion in Wales. In that context, Minister, could you outline the Welsh Government's plans in terms of supporting and funding credit unions in the coming financial year? Could you also comment on any intentions that exist to support three-to-five-year funding streams, which would enable credit unions to provide a wider and more reliable range of services to further foster financial inclusion in Wales?

Diolch i'r Gweinidog am yr ymateb hwnnw. Cytunaf yn gryf ag ef fod undebau credyd yn chwarae rôl bwysig iawn mewn cynhwysiant ariannol yng Nghymru. Yn y cyd-destun hwnnw, Weinidog, a allech amlinellu cynlluniau Llywodraeth Cymru i gefnogi ac ariannu undebau credyd yn ystod y flwyddyn ariannol sydd i ddod? A allech hefyd roi sylwadau ar unrhyw fwriadau i gefnogi ffrydiau ariannu tair i bum mlynedd, a fyddai'n galluogi undebau credyd i ddarparu ystod ehangach a mwy dibynadwy o wasanaethau er mwyn meithrin cynhwysiant ariannol yng Nghymru ymhellach?

14:28 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I will shortly announce the nature and level of the funding for credit unions in Wales for the next financial year, but it will take account of the additional £1.2 million that we gave to credit unions this year in order to accelerate the development; in other words, to make them more sustainable and therefore less dependent on financial support from the Welsh Government.

Byddaf yn cyhoeddi natur a lefel y cyllid ar gyfer undebau credyd yng Nghymru am y flwyddyn ariannol nesaf cyn bo hir, ond bydd yn ystyried yr £1.2 miliwn ychwanegol a roesom i undebau credyd eleni er mwyn iddynt ddatblygu'n gyflymach; hynny yw, eu gwneud yn fwy cynaliadwy ac felly'n llai dibynnol ar gymorth ariannol gan Lywodraeth Cymru.

14:29 **Paul Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, I am sure that you will agree with me that it is important that older people have access to financial and advocacy services. However, as has been said earlier, for those living in rural constituencies like Pembrokeshire, these services can be inaccessible to some people who live in particularly isolated communities. We heard from your colleague earlier that you are rural-proofing policies. Can you tell us how the Welsh Government is rural-proofing its specific financial inclusion policy so that people living in rural areas, and particularly older people, have access to these important services?

Weinidog, rwy'n siŵr y byddwch yn cytuno â mi ei bod yn bwysig bod gan bobl hŷn fynediad at wasanaethau ariannol ac eiriolaeth. Fodd bynnag, fel y dywedwyd yn gynharach, i'r rhai sy'n byw mewn etholaethau gwledig fel Sir Benfro, gall y gwasanaethau hyn fod yn anhygyrch i rai pobl sy'n byw mewn cymunedau arbennig o ynysig. Clywsom gan eich cyd-Aelod yn gynharach eich bod yn prawfesur polisïau gwledig. A allwch ddweud wrthym sut mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn prawfesur ei pholisi cynhwysiant ariannol penodol fel bod pobl sy'n byw mewn ardaloedd gwledig, ac yn enwedig bobl hŷn, yn cael mynediad at y gwasanaethau pwysig hyn?

14:29 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

We are working with credit unions to try to make sure that, in terms of their collection points, they are as widespread as possible. That particularly applies to rural areas. We had a very interesting discussion with the Archbishop of Wales, who has offered to look at making church facilities available as collection points, so that we can expand the range of opportunities. Certainly, the Better Advice Better Lives initiative, which is run by Citizens Advice, will be looking at ways and means of helping to get advice to people. That has proved very successful so far.

Rydym yn gweithio gydag undebau credyd i geisio sicrhau, o ran eu mannau casglu, eu bod mor eang â phosibl. Mae hynny'n arbennig o berthnasol i ardaloedd gwledig. Cawsom drafodaeth ddiddorol iawn ag Archesgob Cymru, sydd wedi cynnig ystyried defnyddio cyfleusterau eglwysi fel mannau casglu, fel y gallwn ehangu'r ystod o gyfleoedd. Yn sicr, bydd y fenter Cyngor Da, Bywyd Da, sy'n cael ei rhedeg gan Gyngor ar Bopeth, yn ystyried ffyrdd a dulliau o helpu i sicrhau bod pobl yn cael cymorth. Mae wedi bod yn llwyddiannus iawn hyd yn hyn.

14:30 **Bethan Jenkins** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, before Christmas, you issued a statement about your meeting with payday loan companies. You said that you made very clear your deep concerns about the impact of their members' activities, and the fact that they were not a solution for vulnerable people. Following on from that meeting, what actions are you currently putting in place, as a Government, within the financial inclusion strategies, to make sure that there are clear, viable alternatives for people in vulnerable positions to access finance, and to save?

Weinidog, cyn y Nadolig, gwnaethoch gyhoeddi datganiad am eich cyfarfod â chwmnïau benthyciadau diwrnod cyflog. Dywedasoch eich bod wedi mynegi'n glir eich pryderon dwfn am effaith gweithgareddau eu haelodau, a'r ffaith nad oeddent yn ateb i bobl sy'n agored i niwed. Yn dilyn y cyfarfod hwnnw, pa gamau yr ydych yn eu rhoi ar waith ar hyn o bryd, fel Llywodraeth, o fewn y strategaethau cynhwysiant ariannol, i wneud yn siŵr bod dewisiadau amgen clir ac ymarferol i bobl mewn sefyllfaoedd bregus fel y gallant gael gafael ar gyllid, a chynilo?

14:31 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

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We cannot control the actions of the payday loan companies—that is not within our powers. However, what we are doing is making sure that we fund advice providers—this year it has been just under £1 million—to help prevent people falling into situations where they need loans of that nature, or indeed from even more terrible loan sharks and doorstep lenders.

Ni allwn reoli gweithredoedd y cwmnïau benthyciadau diwrnod cyflog—nid oes gennym y pwerau. Fodd bynnag, rydym yn sicrhau ein bod yn ariannu darparwyr cyngor—ychydig o dan £1 filiwn eleni—er mwyn helpu i atal pobl rhag mynd i sefyllfaoedd lle mae angen benthyciadau o'r math hwnnw arnynt, neu yn wir, fenthyciadau gan fenthycwyr didrwydded a benthycwyr carreg drws sydd hyd yn oed yn waeth.

Trydydd Sector

Third Sector

14:31 **Paul Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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4. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ei flaenoriaethau ar gyfer y trydydd sector yng Nghymru? OAQ(4)0137(CTP)

4. Will the Minister make a statement on his priorities for the third sector in Wales? OAQ(4)0137(CTP)

14:31 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I outlined my priorities for the third sector in my oral statement of 12 November. A revised third sector scheme, which has been co-produced with the sector, was published on 31 January, defining how the Welsh Government will engage with and support the sector to deliver shared priorities, including volunteering and tackling poverty.

Amlinellais fy mlaenoriaethau ar gyfer y trydydd sector yn fy natganiad llafar ar 12 Tachwedd. Cafodd cynllun trydydd sector diwygiedig, a luniwyd ar y cyd â'r sector, ei gyhoeddi ar 31 Ionawr, a oedd yn diffinio sut y bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn ymgysylltu â'r sector ac yn ei helpu i gyflawni cydflaenoriaethau, gan gynnwys gwirfoddoli a threchu tlodi.

14:32 **Paul Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I am grateful to the Minister for that answer. In the code of practice for funding the third sector, to which you have just referred, it is stated that the Welsh Government expects third sector organisations to ensure the economic, efficient, and effective use of public money. While I share your view, can you outline what specific mechanisms you have put in place, as a Government, to monitor value for money from third sector organisations?

Rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog am yr ateb hwnnw. Yn y cod ymarfer ar gyfer ariannu'r trydydd sector, yr ydych newydd gyfeirio ato, nodir bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn disgwyl i sefydliadau yn y trydydd sector sicrhau eu bod yn gwneud defnydd darbodus, effeithlon ac effeithiol o arian cyhoeddus. Er fy mod yn rhannu eich barn, a allwch amlinellu pa systemau penodol yr ydych wedi'u rhoi ar waith, fel Llywodraeth, i fonitro gwerth am arian gan sefydliadau yn y trydydd sector?

14:32 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

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We will be looking at that regularly. As part of our arrangements, in terms of working with the third sector infrastructure, we will have regular reports, in terms of spend, regardless of which Government department the particular third sector organisation is linked with. The third sector forum will work closely with us on this point.

Byddwn yn edrych ar hynny'n rheolaidd. Fel rhan o'n trefniadau, o ran gweithio gyda seilwaith y trydydd sector, byddwn yn cael adroddiadau rheolaidd, o ran gwariant, waeth pa adran o'r Llywodraeth y mae'r sefydliad dan sylw yn y trydydd sector yn gysylltiedig â hi. Bydd fforwm y trydydd sector yn gweithio'n agos gyda ni ar y pwynt hwn.

14:32 **Aled Roberts** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Weinidog, rydych wedi sôn am y datganiad a wnaethoch ddiwedd mis Ionawr. Mae hwnnw'n sôn am gryfhau'r sector gwirfoddol. A ydych wedi cynnal unrhyw drafodaethau gyda'r Gweinidog iechyd, o ystyried bod bwrdd iechyd y gogledd yn digomisiynu nifer o wasanaethau gyda'r sector gwirfoddol ar hyn o bryd?

Minister, you have alluded to the statement that you made at the end of January, which talks of strengthening the voluntary sector. Have you held any discussions with the Minister for health, given that the north Wales health board is decommissioning a number of services with the voluntary sector at present?

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14:33 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for that question. I have not had discussions with the Minister for health on that particular point. However, I will meet with him to see how, between the two of us, we can perhaps improve the situation.

Diolch ichi am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Nid wyf wedi cael trafodaethau â'r Gweinidog iechyd ar y pwynt penodol hwnnw. Fodd bynnag, byddaf yn cyfarfod ag ef i weld sut y gallwn, rhwng y ddau ohonom, wella'r sefyllfa o bosibl.

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Bil Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol

Future Generations Bill

14:33 **William Graham** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

5. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am yr amserlen ar gyfer gweithredu Bil Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol (Cymru)? OAQ(4)0139(CTP)

5. Will the Minister make a statement on the timetable for progressing the Future Generations (Wales) Bill? OAQ(4)0139(CTP)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

14:33 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The Bill is scheduled to be introduced in the summer, and the anticipated date for Royal Assent is 2015. Implementation is planned for 2016, which will allow organisations time to be fully prepared to meet the requirements of the Bill.

Mae disgwyl i'r Bil gael ei gyflwyno yn yr haf, a disgwylir cael Cydsyniad Brenhinol yn 2015. Bwriedir ei roi ar waith yn 2016, a fydd yn rhoi amser i sefydliadau ymbaratoi'n llawn i fodloni gofynion y Bil.

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14:34 **William Graham** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am grateful to the Minister for his answer. Will he outline the impact of the relaunched sustainable development charter upon this Bill?

Rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog am ei ateb. A wnaiff amlinellu effaith y siarter datblygu cynaliadwy a ail-lansiwyd ar y Bil hwn?

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14:34 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The Bill, of course, will place a duty on the public service. The SD charter very much involves the private sector and the third sector. The discussions that I have had with key players who are signatories to the SD charter show that they very much indeed want to work with us in helping to deliver sustainable development, right across Wales.

Bydd y Bil, wrth gwrs, yn gosod dyletswydd ar y gwasanaeth cyhoeddus. Mae'r siarter DC yn cynnwys y sector preifat a'r trydydd sector i raddau helaeth iawn. Mae'r trafodaethau yr wyf wedi'u cael ag unigolion allweddol sydd wedi llofnodi'r siarter DC yn dangos eu bod yn awyddus iawn i weithio gyda ni er mwyn helpu i sicrhau datblygu cynaliadwy, ledled Cymru.

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Benthyca ar Garreg Drws

Doorstep Lending

14:34 **Mike Hedges** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

6. A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu yr hyn y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i fynd i'r afael â benthyca ar garreg drws, yn enwedig mewn cymunedau difreintiedig ledled Cymru? OAQ(4)0127(CTP)

6. Will the Minister outline what the Welsh Government is doing to combat doorstep lending, particularly in deprived communities throughout Wales? OAQ(4)0127(CTP)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

14:34 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

The Welsh Government continues to support credit unions, to improve access to affordable financial products, as an alternative to doorstep lending. We are also supporting advice providers in Wales to help people who are struggling with unmanageable debt, and who need advice on a range of issues.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn parhau i gefnogi undebau credyd, er mwyn gwella mynediad at gynhyrchion ariannol fforddiadwy, fel dewis amgen i fenthyciadau ar garreg y drws. Rydym hefyd yn cefnogi darparwyr cyngor yng Nghymru i helpu pobl sy'n cael trafferth gyda dyledion na ellir eu rheoli, ac sydd angen cyngor ar amrywiaeth o faterion.

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14:35 **Mike Hedges** Bywgraffiad Biography

Thank you for that response, Minister. Will you join me in praising the actions and efforts of the Swansea bay fair credit community group, which is campaigning against high interest lending and associated harassment in the Swansea area? Will you also outline what the Welsh Government is further going to do to try to help support different financial services as a credible alternative to the very high-cost doorstep lenders?

Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. A wnewch chi ymuno â mi i ganmol gwaith ac ymdrechion grŵp cymunedol credyd teg bae Abertawe, sy'n ymgyrchu yn erbyn benthyciadau llog uchel ac aflonyddu cysylltiedig yn ardal Abertawe? A wnewch chi hefyd amlinellu'r hyn y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn mynd i'w wneud i geisio cefnogi gwasanaethau ariannol gwahanol fel dewis amgen credadwy i'r benthycwyr carreg drws sy'n gostus iawn?

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14:35 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

I am well aware of the campaign that you refer to against the increasing presence of doorstep lenders in the Swansea area. I hope that their efforts will succeed and encourage others to speak out and seek advice on debt-related issues. I understand that many of them are members of the Loans and Savings Abertawe Credit Union Ltd and I welcome their efforts. As I said in answer to earlier questions, we will encourage and support advice services throughout Wales to make sure that it is less likely that people fall foul of such lenders.

Rwy'n ymwybodol iawn o'r ymgyrch yr ydych yn cyfeirio ati yn erbyn presenoldeb cynyddol benthycwyr carreg drws yn ardal Abertawe. Rwy'n gobeithio y bydd eu hymdrechion yn llwyddo ac yn annog eraill i godi eu llais a gofyn am gyngor ar faterion sy'n ymwneud â dyled. Deallaf fod llawer ohonynt yn aelodau o Undeb Credyd Benthyciadau a Chynilion Abertawe Cyf a chroesawaf eu hymdrechion. Fel y dywedais wrth ateb cwestiynau cynharach, byddwn yn annog ac yn cefnogi gwasanaethau cynghori ledled Cymru er mwyn sicrhau bod pobl yn llai tebygol o gael eu dal gan y fath fenthycwyr.

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14:36 **Suzy Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

I welcome your first reply to Mike Hedges, but what are you doing to ensure that those people who are tempted to use such services are aware of the money and debt advice that they can receive via the Money Advice Service and debt advice charities? Basic information about how to contact these organisations can often be accessed at the local library.

Croesawaf eich ateb cyntaf i Mike Hedges, ond beth yr ydych yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod y bobl hynny sy'n cael eu temtio i ddefnyddio gwasanaethau o'r fath yn ymwybodol o'r cyngor ar arian a dyled y gallant ei gael trwy'r Gwasanaeth Cynghori Ariannol ac elusennau cyngor ar ddyledion? Mae gwybodaeth syml am sut i gysylltu â'r sefydliadau hyn ar gael yn aml yn y llyfrgell leol.

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14:36 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

We continue to support the financial inclusion initiative led by the Wales Co-operative Centre. It has developed and maintained the Moneymadeclear website and that is part of our package of support to ensure that people have the right advice.

Rydym yn parhau i gefnogi'r fenter cynhwysiant ariannol a arweinir gan Ganolfan Cydweithredol Cymru. Mae wedi datblygu a chynnal gwefan Moneymadeclear ac mae honno'n rhan o'n pecyn o gymorth i sicrhau bod pobl yn cael y cyngor cywir.

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14:36 **Alun Ffred Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

Mae'r cwestiwn yn cyfeirio at gymunedau difreintiedig ledled Cymru, ond y gwir amdani yw bod siopau ffeirio a benthycwyr carreg y drws bellach ym mhob tref o faint yng Nghymru. Oni ddylai'r Llywodraeth ystyried mabwysiadu polisi na ddylai roi cefnogaeth ariannol na grantiau i gwmnïau mawr nad ydynt yn talu cyflog byw, ac na ddylai'r Llywodraeth ganolog na llywodraeth leol gytundebu cwmnïau sy'n defnyddio cytundebau dim oriau?

The question refers to deprived communities throughout Wales, but in reality there are pawn shops and doorstep lenders in every sizeable town in Wales. Should the Government consider a policy of not giving financial support or grant funding to any companies that do not pay a living wage, and that central and local government should not enter into contracts with companies that use zero-hours contracts?

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14:37 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

I have made statements before on the issue of the living wage. The Welsh Government supports the living wage, but it is a voluntary scheme; we cannot force organisations to pay the living wage. I have already made points with regard to zero-hour contracts. We are not supportive of them and we would discourage their use, because, in the main, they are extremely regressive as far as those at the lower end of the pay scale are concerned.

Rwyf wedi gwneud datganiadau o’r blaen ynglŷn â chyflog byw. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cefnogi’r cyflog byw, ond cynllun gwirfoddol ydyw; ni allwn orfodi sefydliadau i dalu’r cyflog byw. Rwyf eisoes wedi gwneud pwyntiau mewn perthynas â chontractau dim oriau. Nid ydym yn eu cefnogi a byddem yn argymell na ddylid eu defnyddio, yn bennaf am eu bod yn gam mawr yn ôl i’r rhai ar ben isaf y raddfa gyflog.

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Undebau Credyd

Credit Unions

14:38 **Mark Isherwood** Bywgraffiad Biography

7. A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu cymorth Llywodraeth Cymru i Undebau Credyd yng Nghymru? OAQ(4)0129(CTP)

7. Will the Minister outline Welsh Government support for Credit Unions in Wales? OAQ(4)0129(CTP)

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14:38 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

I have recently approved more than £1.2 million this financial year to help boost the growth of Welsh credit unions by attracting new members and supporting new projects. Future support for credit unions after this March, as I have said, is currently under consideration.

Yn ddiweddar rwyf wedi cymeradwyo mwy nag £1.2 miliwn y flwyddyn ariannol hon er mwyn helpu i ysgogi twf undebau credyd yng Nghymru trwy ddenu aelodau newydd a chefnogi prosiectau newydd. Fel y dywedais, mae cymorth i undebau credyd yn y dyfodol ar ôl mis Mawrth yn cael ei ystyried ar hyn o bryd.

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14:38 **Mark Isherwood** Bywgraffiad Biography

At the recent annual general meeting of the very impressive North Wales Credit Union Ltd, the Assembly Members present were asked to raise with you their concern over the forecast budget next year, which is for core operational funding, as opposed to the £1.2 million you referred to. It is also concerned about the short time it has to put together the delivery on that. The union states that the core funding from Welsh Government has been £200,000 a year and that the £650,000 across Wales, indicated by the Finance Minister, will represent a 50% cut. It accepts that in the current budgetary environment, it will have to take its share of cuts, but feels that 50% may damage the objectives that it and we all seek.

Yng nghyfarfod cyffredinol blynyddol diweddar Undeb Credyd Gogledd Cymru Cyf, sydd wedi creu cryn argraff, gofynnwyd i Aelodau Cynulliad a oedd yn bresennol godi pryder yr Undeb â chi ynglŷn â’r gyllideb a ragwelir ar gyfer y flwyddyn nesaf, sydd ar gyfer cyllid gweithredol craidd, yn hytrach na’r £1.2 miliwn y cyfeiriasoch ato. Mae hefyd yn pryderu am yr amser byr sydd ganddo i wneud y trefniadau cyflawni ar gyfer hynny. Dywed yr undeb fod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi darparu £200,000 o arian craidd y flwyddyn a bod y £650,000 ledled Cymru, a nodwyd gan y Gweinidog Cyllid, yn golygu toriad o 50%. Mae’n derbyn y bydd yn rhaid iddo dderbyn ei gyfran o doriadau yn yr hinsawdd gyllidebol sydd ohoni, ond mae’n teimlo y gallai 50% effeithio’n andwyol ar yr amcanion y mae ef a phawb arall ohonom yn ceisio eu cyflawni.

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14:39 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

Thank you for that question. I want to fully congratulate the work of the north Wales credit union. It currently has an adult membership of roughly 11,500 members and 1,500 junior savers, so it is doing well indeed. The £1.2 million that you referred to was a one-off payment. It cannot be repeated; our settlement from the UK Government will not allow that. Its focus was to make all credit unions, including the north Wales credit union, far more sustainable so that it needs to rely less on core funding from the Welsh Government. It certainly is very innovative. It is undertaking payroll deduction schemes and that is the sort of way that I hope other credit unions will go as well.

Diolch ichi am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Hoffwn longyfarch undeb credyd gogledd Cymru yn wresog am ei waith. Ar hyn o bryd mae ganddo tua 11,500 o aelodau sy’n oedolion a 1,500 o gynilwyr iau, felly mae’n gwneud yn dda iawn. Taliad un-tro oedd yr £1.2 miliwn y cyfeiriasoch ato. Ni ellir ei ailadrodd; ni fydd ein setliad gan Lywodraeth y DU yn caniatáu hynny. Ei nod oedd gwneud yr holl undebau credyd, gan gynnwys undeb credyd gogledd Cymru, yn llawer mwy cynaliadwy fel eu bod yn dibynnu llai ar arian craidd gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Mae’n sicr yn arloesol iawn. Mae’n ymgymryd â chynlluniau didynnu o’r gyflogres a dyna’r math o beth yr wyf yn gobeithio y bydd undebau credyd eraill yn ei wneud hefyd.

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14:40 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

I call on the Welsh Liberal Democrat spokesperson, Peter Black.

Galwaf ar lefarydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru, Peter Black.

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14:40 **Peter Black** Bywgraffiad Biography

Minister, taking into account the £1.2 million, which you referred to, the Government has made £4.7 million available for phase 2 of the credit union project, of which just under £2 million is European funding. However, just under £1 million of that, around 21.3% of that total, has been given to consultants to manage that project. Is it really acceptable to spend a fifth of the resources on administration and consultancy instead of on front-line help for credit unions and those financially excluded individuals who seek their help?

Weinidog, gan gynnwys yr £1.2 miliwn y cyfeiriasoch ato, mae'r Llywodraeth wedi darparu £4.7 miliwn ar gyfer cam 2 y prosiect undebau credyd, y mae ychydig o dan £2 filiwn ohono yn arian Ewropeaidd. Fodd bynnag, mae ychydig o dan £1 filiwn o hwnnw, tua 21.3% o'r cyfanswm hwnnw, wedi cael ei roi i ymgynghorwyr er mwyn rheoli'r prosiect hwnnw. A yw'n dderbyniol i wario un rhan o bump o'r adnoddau ar waith gweinyddu ac ymgynghori yn hytrach nag ar gymorth rheng flaen i undebau credyd a'r unigolion hynny sydd wedi'u heithrio'n ariannol sy'n mynd atynt am help?

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14:40 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

You are referring to Social Investment Business. The money that has been paid to it was not just to administer the EU scheme that you referred to, but also to provide business support in terms of sustainability and development for the credit union movement. You have to look at the issues far more broadly than that.

Rydych yn cyfeirio at Social Investment Business. Nid dim ond i weinyddu cynllun yr UE y cyfeiriasoch ato y darparwyd yr arian, ond hefyd i ddarparu cymorth busnes o ran cynaliadwyedd a datblygiad y mudiad undebau credyd. Rhaid ichi edrych ar y materion yn llawer ehangach na hynny.

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14:41 **Peter Black** Bywgraffiad Biography

Thank you for that answer, Minister. I accept that it may well be providing business support but it is still a very high gearing effect in terms of one-fifth of the resources going to an organisation that is not providing front-line support for the financially excluded. Could you tell me what key performance indicators are in place for SIB to measure its performance?

Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Rwy'n derbyn y gallai fod yn darparu cymorth busnes, ond mae'n dal i fod yn effaith gerio uchel iawn yn yr ystyr bod un rhan o bump o'r adnoddau yn mynd i sefydliad nad yw'n darparu cymorth rheng flaen i'r rhai sy'n cael eu hallgáu'n ariannol. A allech ddweud wrthyf pa ddangosyddion perfformiad allweddol sydd ar waith i SIB fesur ei berfformiad?

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14:41 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

Officials have met with SIB on a regular basis. We are content with its performance. However, any future support will be looked at very carefully when we consider the provisions for the next financial year.

Mae swyddogion wedi cyfarfod â SIB yn rheolaidd. Rydym yn fodlon ar ei berfformiad. Fodd bynnag, bydd rhaid edrych yn ofalus iawn ar unrhyw gymorth yn y dyfodol pan fyddwn yn ystyried y darpariaethau ar gyfer y flwyddyn ariannol nesaf.

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Datblygu Cynaliadwy

Sustainable Development

14:41 **Simon Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

8. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am sut y mae datblygu cynaliadwy yn ganolog i raglen ddeddfwriaethol Llywodraeth Cymru? OAQ(4)0140(CTP)

8. Will the Minister make a statement on how sustainable development is central to the legislative programme of the Welsh Government? OAQ(4)0140(CTP)

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:42 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

Thank you for that question. Sustainability and ensuring the right long-term development path for Wales is at the heart of our programme for government and the legislative programme. Taken as a whole, the legislative programme will promote economic, social and environmental wellbeing, and enhance people's quality of life in Wales.

Diolch ichi am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Mae cynaliadwyedd a sicrhau'r llwybr datblygu tymor hir cywir i Gymru wrth wraidd ein rhaglen lywodraethu a'r rhaglen ddeddfwriaethol. Bydd y rhaglen ddeddfwriaethol, fel cyfanwaith, yn hybu lles economaidd, cymdeithasol ac amgylcheddol, ac yn gwella ansawdd bywyd pobl yng Nghymru.

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14:42 **Simon Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Pan sefydlwyd y Cynulliad hwn, o dan gyfundrefn wahanol, mae'n wir, dros ddegawd yn ôl, roedd yn cael ei weld yn rhyngwladol fel arloeswr ym maes datblygu cynaliadwy. Rwy'n meddwl ei bod yn hynod bwysig bod y Llywodraeth, sydd yn awr yn gyfrifol yn bennaf am ddeddfu yn y lle hwn, yn parhau â'r arloesedd hwnnw. A wnewch chi, felly, sicrhau bod unrhyw ddiffiniad o ddatblygu cynaliadwy yn y Bil cenedlaethau'r dyfodol sydd yn yr arfaeth yn ddiffiniad sy'n cael ei gydnabod yn rhyngwladol yn ddiffiniad arloesol ac yn un sy'n gosod dyletswydd ar gyrff yng Nghymru mewn ffordd sy'n ddealladwy ac agored i bawb ei ddefnyddio yn y ffordd orau bosibl?

When the Assembly was established, under a different regime, it is true, over a decade ago, it was seen internationally as an innovator in terms of sustainable development. I believe that it is extremely important that the Government, which is now mainly responsible for legislation in this place, should continue with that innovative attitude. Will you, therefore, ensure that any definition of sustainable development in the forthcoming future generations Bill is a definition that is recognised internationally as being innovative, and that places a duty on bodies in Wales in a way that is understood and is open for everyone to use in the best way possible?

14:43 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I thank the Member very much for that question and assure him that the issue of sustainable development will be at the heart of the Bill. That is key to the future generations Bill and, indeed, to the national conversations that are due to be begin next Tuesday. In terms of the actual wording of that definition, we will certainly be taking onboard international standards in that regard. I have already had meetings with UNICEF and we will be following best practice.

Diolch yn fawr i'r Aelod am y cwestiwn hwnnw a gallaf ei sicrhau y bydd datblygu cynaliadwy wrth wraidd y Bil. Mae hynny'n allweddol i Fil cenedlaethau'r dyfodol ac, yn wir, i'r sgyrsiau cenedlaethol sydd ar fin dechrau ddydd Mawrth nesaf. O ran union eiriad y diffiniad hwnnw, byddwn yn sicr yn ystyried y safonau rhyngwladol yn hynny o beth. Rwyf eisoes wedi cael cyfarfodydd ag UNICEF a byddwn yn dilyn arfer gorau.

14:43 **Russell George** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

In relation to the appointment of the proposed commissioner within the legislation, in evidence taken just this morning in the Environment and Sustainability Committee, there was discussion on the strength and independence of the commissioner. Can you, at this stage, indicate whether the appointment will be made by the National Assembly for Wales or by the Welsh Government?

Mewn perthynas â phenodi'r comisiynydd a gynigir yn y ddeddfwriaeth, mewn tystiolaeth a dderbyniwyd dim ond y bore yma yn y Pwyllgor Amgylchedd a Chynaliadwyedd, cafwyd trafodaeth ynglŷn â chryfder ac annibyniaeth y comisiynydd. A allwch chi, ar hyn o bryd, ddweud p'un a gaiff y penodiad ei wneud gan Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru neu gan Lywodraeth Cymru?

14:44 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I have been asked that question before and I will give the same answer: the intention is that the statutory commissioner will be appointed by the Welsh Government.

Rwyf wedi cael y cwestiwn hwnnw o'r blaen a rhoddaf yr un ateb: y bwriad yw y bydd y comisiynydd statudol yn cael ei benodi gan Lywodraeth Cymru.

Mynegai Amddifadedd Lluosog Cymru

Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation

14:44 **Angela Burns** Bywgraffiad Biography

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9. A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu faint o'r Cynllun Gweithredu ar gyfer Trechu Tlodi sy'n seiliedig ar Fynegai Amddifadedd Lluosog Cymru? OAQ(4)0134(CTP)

9. Will the Minister outline how much of the Tackling Poverty Action Plan is based on the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation? OAQ(4)0134(CTP)

14:44 **Vaughan Gething** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

There are specific programmes within the action plan that support our most deprived communities, as identified by Welsh index of multiple deprivation. Communities First rated activity is the most obvious. However, we know that poverty is dispersed throughout Wales, albeit in smaller numbers and concentration than in Community First areas. Our action plan recognises that access to universal services, like education and transport, are also important in tackling poverty and improving outcomes.

Mae rhaglenni penodol o fewn y cynllun gweithredu sy'n helpu ein cymunedau mwyaf difreintiedig, fel y nodwyd ym mynegai amddifadedd lluosog Cymru. Gweithgarwch Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yw'r mwyaf amlwg. Fodd bynnag, gwyddom fod tlodi i'w weld ledled Cymru, er bod y niferoedd a'r crynodiadau yn llai nag mewn ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Mae ein cynllun gweithredu yn cydnabod bod mynediad at wasanaethau cyffredinol, fel addysg a thrafnidiaeth, hefyd yn bwysig er mwyn trechu tlodi a gwella canlyniadau.

14:45 **Angela Burns** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Deputy Minister, one of the factors that make the Wales Rural Observatory report so meaningful is the qualitative research on how the general public views and feels deprivation. What qualitative research will you be running—if you intend to run any—in connection with the current consultation on the Welsh index of multiple deprivation indicators? Having gone through those indicators, some of the language used is very arcane; it is aimed at organisations, and it would be very useful, I am sure that you would agree, to get the general public's view on where deprivation affects it, because it may enrich your thinking on this issue.

Ddirprwy Weinidog, un o'r ffactorau sy'n gwneud adroddiad Arsyllfa Wledig Cymru mor ystyrlon yw'r ymchwil ansoddol ar safbwyntiau'r cyhoedd ar amddifadedd a'u teimladau am amddifadedd. Pa ymchwil ansoddol y byddwch yn ei gwneud—os o gwbl—mewn perthynas â'r ymgynghoriad cyfredol ar fynegai amddifadedd lluosog Cymru? Ar ôl mynd trwy rai o'r dangosyddion hynny, mae rhywfaint o'r iaith a ddefnyddir yn gyfrin iawn; mae wedi hei anelu at sefydliadau, a byddai'n ddefnyddiol iawn, yr wyf yn siŵr y byddech yn cytuno, cael barn y cyhoedd ar sut mae amddifadedd yn effeithio arnynt, oherwydd gallai hynny gyfoethogi eich syniadau ar y mater hwn.

14:45 **Vaughan Gething** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

As I said in answer to earlier questions, we will be undertaking a broad-based study on rural poverty. We will also have some external advice from the tackling poverty external advisory group on issues around rural poverty. As I said, the consultation on the Welsh index of multiple deprivation is still open and available to influence for the next two weeks, to ensure that we have the best information available to us about how to target most effectively our interventions to help tackle poverty.

Fel y dywedais wrth ateb cwestiynau cynharach, byddwn yn cynnal astudiaeth eang ar dlodi gwledig. Byddwn hefyd yn cael rhywfaint o gyngor allanol gan y grŵp cynghori allanol ar drechu tlodi ar faterion yn ymwneud â thlodi gwledig. Fel y dywedais, mae'r ymgynghoriad ar fynegai amddifadedd lluosog Cymru ar agor ac ar gael o hyd i ddylanwadu arno dros y pythefnos nesaf, er mwyn sicrhau ein bod yn cael y wybodaeth orau sydd ar gael am sut i dargedu ein hymyriadau yn y ffordd fwyaf effeithiol er mwyn helpu i drechu tlodi.

14:46 **Alun Ffred Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Mae astudiaethau di-rif wedi bod yn edrych ar dlodi mewn ardaloedd gwledig ac ardaloedd trefol ers dechrau'r Cynulliad. Mae dros hanner y plant sy'n byw mewn tlodi ac yn dioddef amddifadedd yn byw y tu allan i ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Mae cynlluniau ardderchog fel Dechrau'n Deg yn weithredol yn bennaf o fewn ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Pa gynlluniau penodol, felly, sydd ar gyfer cynorthwyo'r teuluoedd a'r plant hynny sy'n byw y tu allan i'r ardaloedd poblog hynny?

Countless studies have looked at poverty in both rural and urban areas since the inception of the Assembly. Over half the children living in poverty and suffering deprivation live outwith Communities First areas. There are excellent schemes such as Flying Start that are specifically within Communities First areas. What schemes are there to assist those families and children who live outwith those highly populated areas?

14:46 **Vaughan Gething** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

In fact, Flying Start is not confined to Communities First areas; for example, in my trip to Aberystwyth later this week, I will be able to visit some Flying Start partnerships in that particular town. When you look at Flying Start, it is around the whole of Wales; it is not simply restricted to Communities First areas. In addition, Families First is not simply restricted to Communities First areas. There is a Families First partnership in every single local authority across Wales. Families are then treated according to need, rather than geographical location, within the Families First programme.

Mewn gwirionedd, nid yw Dechrau'n Deg wedi'i gyfyngu i ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf; er enghraifft, yn ystod fy nhaith i Aberystwyth yn ddiweddarach yr wythnos hon, byddaf yn gallu ymweld â rhai partneriaethau Dechrau'n Deg yn y dref honno. Pan edrychwch ar Dechrau'n Deg, mae'n cwmpasu Cymru gyfan; nid yw wedi'i gyfyngu i ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn unig. Yn ogystal, nid yw Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf wedi'i gyfyngu i ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Mae partneriaeth Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf ym mhob awdurdod lleol unigol ledled Cymru. Yna caiff teuluoedd eu trin yn ôl angen, yn hytrach na lleoliad daearyddol, o dan y rhaglen Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf.

Lleihau Amddifadedd

Reducing Deprivation

14:47 **Antoinette Sandbach** Bywgraffiad Biography

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10. A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn mesur effeithiolrwydd polisïau a fwriedir i leihau amddifadedd mewn ardaloedd gwledig o Gymru? OAQ(4)0130(CTP)

10. Will the Minister outline how the Welsh Government is measuring the effectiveness of policies intended to reduce deprivation in rural areas of Wales? OAQ(4)0130(CTP)

14:47 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

Progress against the targets and milestones in the tackling poverty action plan is being closely monitored, including actions addressing rural poverty. The Deputy Minister will be issuing the first annual report in July.

Mae cynnydd yn erbyn y targedau a'r cerrig milltir yn y cynllun gweithredu ar gyfer trechu tlodi yn cael ei fonitro'n agos, gan gynnwys camau gweithredu i drechu tlodi gwledig. Bydd y Dirprwy Weinidog yn cyhoeddi'r adroddiad blynyddol cyntaf ym mis Gorffennaf.

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14:47 **Antoinette Sandbach** Bywgraffiad Biography

Thank you for that answer, Minister. I have previously raised my concerns about the delay in the release of the Wales Rural Observatory reports; I think that there are five that are awaiting release. I also understand that, in response to a written question, you have confirmed that there was no rural-proofing assessment of your tackling poverty action plan. Without the evidence or the data and that kind of impact assessment in relation to rural communities, how can you measure the effectiveness of your policies aimed at helping people in rural areas? Will you tell us how you are measuring that, when the information is not in the public domain?

Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Rwyf wedi codi fy mhryderon o'r blaen ynglŷn â'r oedi cyn rhyddhau adroddiadau Arsyllfa Wledig Cymru; rwy'n credu bod pump yn aros i gael eu rhyddhau. Deallaf hefyd ichi gadarnhau, mewn ymateb i gwestiwn ysgrifenedig, na chafodd eich cynllun gweithredu ar gyfer trechu tlodi ei brawfesur o safbwynt anghenion cefn gwlad. Heb y dystiolaeth neu'r data na'r math hwnnw o asesiad effaith mewn perthynas â chymunedau gwledig, sut y gallwch fesur effeithiolrwydd eich polisïau sydd wedi'u hanelu at helpu pobl mewn ardaloedd gwledig? A wnewch chi ddweud wrthym sut yr ydych yn mesur hynny, pan nad yw'r wybodaeth ar gael yn gyhoeddus?

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14:48 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

You are quite right; there is no document, as such, that refers to the point that you make. Nevertheless, as has been made clear in earlier responses, rural poverty and deprivation are issues that concern us greatly. In terms of measuring our progress, it is done in two ways. The tackling poverty implementation board is chaired by the Deputy Minister for Tackling Poverty and monitors progress against the targets and milestones in the action plan. As I have said, a report on that will be issued soon. We also have an external advisory group that acts as a critical friend to the Welsh Government, advising us on the impact of the action plan right across Wales. As has already been said, a study is about to be commenced looking at the issues of rural poverty and deprivation, which will help us to guide our future policies.

Rydych yn llygad eich lle; nid oes unrhyw ddogfen, fel y cyfryw, sy'n cyfeirio at y pwynt yr ydych yn ei wneud. Serch hynny, fel yr eglurwyd yn yr ymatebion cynharach, mae tlodi ac amddifadedd gwledig yn faterion sy'n peri pryder mawr inni. O ran mesur ein cynnydd, gwneir hynny mewn dwy ffordd. Caiff y bwrdd gweithredu trechu tlodi ei gadeirio gan y Dirprwy Weinidog Trechu Tlodi ac mae'n monitro cynnydd yn erbyn y targedau a'r cerrig milltir yn y cynllun gweithredu. Fel y dywedais, caiff adroddiad ar hynny ei gyhoeddi cyn bo hir. Mae gennym hefyd grŵp cynghori allanol sy'n gweithredu fel cyfaill beirniadol i Lywodraeth Cymru, gan ein cynghori ar effaith y cynllun gweithredu ledled Cymru. Fel y dywedwyd eisoes, mae astudiaeth ar fin cychwyn yn edrych ar dlodi ac amddifadedd gwledig, a fydd yn ein helpu i lywio ein polisïau yn y dyfodol.

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14:49 **Llyr Gruffydd** Bywgraffiad Biography

Mae ymchwil gan Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree wedi dangos bod cartrefi gwledig, ar gyfartaledd, yn costio tua 10% i 20% yn fwy i fyw ynddynt; hynny yw, mae costau byw, dylwn i ddweud, cartrefi gwledig tua 10% i 20% yn uwch na chostau byw cartrefi mewn ardaloedd trefol. Mae angen i berson sengl sy'n byw mewn pentref, ar gyfartaledd, ennill 50% yn fwy na'r isafswm cyflog. Rydym yn gwybod, wrth gwrs, bod achosion o gyflogau isel yn fwy cyffredin mewn ardaloedd gwledig. O ystyried yr heriau penodol sydd yn wynebu cefn gwlad Cymru, onid ydych yn meddwl bod angen rhaglenni a datrysiadau penodol ar gyfer taclo tlodi yng nghefn gwlad, yn hytrach na dibynnu—fel y clywsom mewn ateb cynharach—ar raglenni mwy generig?

Research by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation has demonstrated that rural homes, on average, cost around 10% to 20% more to live in; that is to say that living costs in rural homes are 10% to 20% higher than living costs in urban areas. A single person living in a village, on average, needs to earn 50% more than the minimum wage. We know, of course, that incidences of low wages are more common in rural areas. Given the specific challenges facing rural areas of Wales, do you not believe that there is a need for specific programmes and solutions to tackle poverty in rural areas, rather than depending—as we heard in an earlier answer—on more generic programmes?

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14:50 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

Thank you for that question. Yes, I acknowledge the extra cost that could be involved. I would point out that there are steps in place to assist with that, such as the Arbed and Nest schemes to improve fuel efficiency and thereby reduce costs. These issues will undoubtedly be highlighted in the study that I referred to, which we are about to commission, and that will inform our future policies.

Diolch ichi am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Ydw, rwy'n cydnabod y gost ychwanegol a allai godi. Byddwn yn nodi bod camau ar waith i helpu gyda hynny, fel cynlluniau Arbed a Nyth i wella effeithlonrwydd tanwydd a thrwy hynny leihau costau. Caiff y materion hyn eu hamlygu yn sicr yn yr astudiaeth y cyfeiriais ati, yr ydym ar fin ei chomisiynu, ac a fydd yn llywio ein polisïau yn y dyfodol.

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14:50 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Question 11, OAQ(4)0141(CTP), and question 12, OAQ(4)0136(CTP), are withdrawn.

Mae cwestiwn 11, OAQ(4)0141(CTP), a chwestiwn 12, OAQ(4)0136(CTP), wedi cael eu tynnu'n ôl.

Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf

Families First

14:51 **Andrew R.T. Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

13. A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu sut y mae Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf yn mynd rhagddo mewn perthynas â'i dargedau? OAQ(4)0131(CTP)

13. Will the Minister outline how Families First is progressing in relation to its targets? OAQ(4)0131(CTP)

14:51 **Vaughan Gething** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you for the question and good afternoon. Families First is progressing well and embedding a team around the family approach in every local authority area. Local authorities are now commissioning family services in a more strategic manner to meet local identified need and, where appropriate, these are impacting on the four Families First outcomes.

Diolch am y cwestiwn a phrynhawn da. Mae Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf yn datblygu'n dda ac yn ymsefydlu dull o weithio fel tîm gyda theuluoedd yn ardal pob awdurdod lleol. Mae awdurdodau lleol bellach yn comisiynu gwasanaethau i deuluoedd mewn modd mwy strategol er mwyn diwallu anghenion a nodwyd yn lleol a, lle y bo'n briodol, mae'r rhain yn effeithio ar bedwar canlyniad Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf.

14:51 **Andrew R.T. Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you, Deputy Minister, for that answer. Families First is now into the second year of a three-year programme. While I appreciate that you recently published a report into the programme's first year, you were unable to assess or evaluate the impact of the programme. What feedback has the Deputy Minister received regarding the perception of the design of Families First and how it has been implemented to date, especially as such a large part of it is local-government led with 22 different local authorities?

Diolch ichi, Ddirprwy Weinidog, am yr ateb hwnnw. Mae rhaglen Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf bellach wedi dechrau ar ei hail flwyddyn allan o dair. Rwy'n sylweddoli ichi gyhoeddi adroddiad yn ddiweddar ar flwyddyn gyntaf y rhaglen, ond ni wnaethoch asesu na gwerthuso effaith y rhaglen. Pa adborth y mae'r Dirprwy Weinidog wedi'i gael ynglŷn â'r safbwyntiau ar gynllun Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf a sut y mae wedi cael ei roi ar waith hyd yn hyn, yn enwedig gan fod rhan mor sylweddol ohono yn cael ei harwain gan lywodraeth leol sydd â 22 o awdurdodau lleol gwahanol?

14:51 **Vaughan Gething** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Yes, we have had broadly positive feedback about the way that Families First has been implemented. In particular, we are delighted that every single local authority—regardless of its leadership—recognises the team around the family approach that it introduces. Over 1,500 families have already been supported by Families First since its inception. The second annual report will be published later this year and the evaluation team, in ensuring when it is published, will be able to give more information about the outcome at this point in time. This is a fairly new programme.

Ydym, rydym wedi cael adborth cadarnhaol ar y cyfan am y ffordd y mae Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf wedi cael ei roi ar waith. Yn benodol, rydym yn hynod falch bod pob awdurdod lleol—waeth pwy sy'n ei arwain—yn cydnabod y dull o weithio fel tîm gyda theuluoedd y mae'n ei gyflwyno. Mae dros 1,500 o deuluoedd eisoes wedi cael cymorth gan Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf ers ei sefydlu. Caiff yr ail adroddiad blynyddol ei gyhoeddi yn ddiweddarach eleni a bydd y tîm gwerthuso, wrth sicrhau y caiff ei gyhoeddi, yn gallu rhoi mwy o wybodaeth am y canlyniad ar hyn o bryd. Mae hon yn rhaglen weddol newydd.

Cydlyniant Cymunedol

Community Cohesion

14:52 **Mohammad Asghar** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14. A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y polisïau ar gyfer cydlyniant cymunedol y mae'n bwriadu eu cyflawni yn 2014? OAQ(4)0126(CTP)

14. Will the Minister provide an update on the policies for community cohesion he intends to deliver in 2014? OAQ(4)0126(CTP)

14:52 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you for that question. I was pleased to announce recently a further two years' funding for the community cohesion co-ordinators across Wales. We will publish an updated work programme and delivery plan for the community cohesion strategy in the spring of this year. The framework for tackling hate crime and incidents is scheduled for publication in May of this year.

Diolch ichi am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Roeddwn yn falch o gyhoeddi yn ddiweddar ddwy flynedd arall o arian ar gyfer cydgysylltwyr cydlyniant cymunedol ledled Cymru. Byddwn yn cyhoeddi rhaglen waith a chynllun cyflawni wedi'u diweddaru ar gyfer y strategaeth cydlyniant cymunedol yn ystod y gwanwyn eleni. Mae disgwyl i'r fframwaith ar gyfer mynd i'r afael â throseddau a digwyddiadau casineb gael ei gyhoeddi ym mis Mai eleni.

14:53 **Mohammad Asghar** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you very much for that comprehensive answer, Minister. A recent poll carried out by BBC Radio 1 found that more than a quarter of 18 to 24-year-olds in Britain do not trust Muslims. Muslims in the United Kingdom come from all corners of the world. It is not a matter of race, gender or colour; it is a matter of faith. Does the Minister share my concern regarding the findings of this poll? Will he agree to look at ways of reducing suspicion of Muslims among young people in order to promote greater community cohesion? As more than 50% of Muslims were born in this country, there should be no segregation among them.

Diolch yn fawr iawn am yr ateb cynhwysfawr hwnnw, Weinidog. Mae arolwg diweddar a gynhaliwyd gan BBC Radio 1 wedi canfod bod mwy na chwarter o bobl rhwng 18 a 24 oed ym Mhrydain yn ddrwgdybus o Fwslimiaid. Daw Mwslimiaid yn y Deyrnas Unedig o bob cwr o'r byd. Nid mater o hil, rhyw neu liw ydyw; ond mater o ffydd. A yw'r Gweinidog yn rhannu fy mhryder ynglŷn â chanfyddiadau'r arolwg hwn? A wnaiff gytuno i edrych ar ffyrdd o leihau amheuaeth ynghylch Mwslimiaid ymhlith pobl ifanc er mwyn hyrwyddo mwy o gydlyniant cymunedol? Gan fod mwy na 50% o Fwslimiaid wedi'u geni yn y wlad hon, ni ddylid eu trin yn wahanol.

14:53 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you very much for that question. I certainly share the sentiments that you have outlined. That is the whole purpose of the community cohesion programme—to help destroy distrust and to build better relationships. That is why issues of the tackling hate crime framework are so important. We also work with the UK Government's Prevent programme that is looking to build better relationships with community leaders to help avoid the impact of extremist views.

Diolch yn fawr iawn am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Yn sicr, rhannaf y teimladau yr ydych wedi'u hamlinellu. Dyna yw holl bwrpas y rhaglen cydlyniant cymunedol—helpu i ddinistrio drwgdybiaeth a meithrin cydberthnasau gwell. Dyna pam mae materion y fframwaith ar gyfer mynd i'r afael â throseddau casineb mor bwysig. Rydym hefyd yn gweithio gyda rhaglen Atal Llywodraeth y DU sy'n ceisio meithrin cydberthnasau gwell gydag arweinwyr cymunedol er mwyn helpu i osgoi effaith safbwyntiau eithafol.

Rhwydwaith Cyngor ar Bopeth

Citizens Advice Network

14:54 **Russell George** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

15. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cynorthwyo'r rhwydwaith Cyngor ar Bopeth ym Mhowys? OAQ(4)0138(CTP)

15. Will the Minister make a statement on how the Welsh Government supports the Citizens Advice bureau network in Powys? OAQ(4)0138(CTP)

14:54 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

In addition to the £2.2 million annual funding for the Better Advice Better Lives service delivered by Citizens Advice, I have agreed around £1 million this year to support front-line advice services all over Wales. A large proportion of this has gone to the CAB, including £14,500 to Powys CAB.

Yn ychwanegol at yr arian blynyddol o £2.2 miliwn i'r gwasanaeth Cyngor Da, Bywyd Da sy'n cael ei redeg gan Gyngor ar Bopeth, rwyf wedi cymeradwyo tua £1 filiwn eleni i helpu gwasanaethau cyngor rheng flaen ledled Cymru. Mae cyfran fawr o'r arian hwn wedi mynd i Gyngor ar Bopeth, gan gynnwys £14,500 i Gyngor ar Bopeth Powys.

14:55 **Russell George** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Thank you for your answer, Minister. I listened to what the First Minister said yesterday on this issue, but he did not address why Powys was one of only three authorities in Wales not to receive Communities First funding during the last financial year. In other authorities, some of this programme funding has been given to the CAB service to provide services such as benefits advice. Can the Minister detail why Powys did not qualify?

Diolch ichi am eich ateb, Weinidog. Gwrandewais ar yr hyn a ddywedodd y Prif Weinidog ddoe ar y mater hwn, ond nid eglurodd pam mai Powys oedd un o dri awdurdod yn unig yng Nghymru na chafodd arian Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn ystod y flwyddyn ariannol ddiwethaf. Mewn awdurdodau eraill, mae rhywfaint o arian y rhaglen hon wedi cael ei roi i wasanaeth Cyngor ar Bopeth er mwyn darparu gwasanaethau fel cyngor ar fudd-daliadau. A all y Gweinidog roi manylion pam nad oedd Powys yn gymwys?

14:55 **Jeff Cuthbert** Bywgraffiad Biography

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The particular funding stream that you referred to is being provided to 36 of the 52 Communities First cluster areas, and it is true that Powys is not one of those. However, the real problem for Powys is that Powys County Council has cut its funding completely, and it is quite possible that you may be in a position to help lobby for change.

Mae’r ffrwd ariannu benodol y cyfeiriasoch ati yn cael ei darparu i 36 o’r 52 o ardaloedd clwstwr Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, ac mae’n wir nad yw Powys yn un o’r rhain. Fodd bynnag, y broblem wirioneddol ym Mhowys yw bod Cyngor Sir Powys wedi torri ei gyllid yn gyfan gwbl, ac mae’n ddigon posibl y gallech chi fod mewn sefyllfa i helpu i lobïo am newid.

14:55 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Thank you, Minister.

Diolch, Weinidog.

14:55

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Datganiad gan y Llywydd

Statement by the Presiding Officer

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

Before we move to the next debate, I have some information to give to the Assembly. The former workers’ claim against the Ford Motor Company, referred to in the motion, will be heard in the High Court in November this year. Accordingly, the sub judice rule, set out in Standing Order 13.15, applies to the debate. While this does not prevent the discussion of issues related to a matter of public importance, Members should take care in the remarks that they make, and must refrain from saying anything that could be seen as attempting to influence the court case so as not to give rise to any risk of prejudice.

Cyn inni symud at y ddadl nesaf, mae gen i rywfaint o wybodaeth i’w rhoi i’r Cynulliad. Gwrandewir ar hawliad y cyn-weithwyr yn erbyn Cwmni Moduron Ford, y cyfeirir ato yn y cynnig, yn yr Uchel Lys ym mis Tachwedd eleni. Yn unol â hynny, mae’r rheol sub judice, a nodir yn Rheol Sefydlog 13.15, yn gymwys i’r ddadl. Er nad yw hyn yn ein hatal rhag trafod materion o bwys cyhoeddus, dylai Aelodau fod yn ofalus wrth wneud sylwadau, a rhaid iddynt ymatal rhag dweud unrhyw beth y gellid ei ystyried yn ymgais i ddylanwadu ar yr achos llys er mwyn osgoi unrhyw berygl o ragfarn.

Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd (David Melding) i’r Gadair am 14:56.

The Deputy Presiding Officer (David Melding) took the Chair at 14:56.

Dadl gan Aelodau Unigol o dan Reol Sefydlog 11.21(iv): Visteon

Debate by Individual Members under Standing Order 11.21(iv): Visteon

Detholwyd y gwelliant canlynol: gwelliant 1 yn enw Lesley Griffiths.

The following amendment has been selected: amendment 1 in the name of Lesley Griffiths.

Cynnig NDM5423 Bethan Jenkins

Motion NDM5423 Bethan Jenkins

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Yn nodi:

1. Notes:

a) yr effaith andwyol y mae colli eu pensiynau wedi’i chael ar dros 700 o gyn-weithwyr Visteon sy’n byw yn ardal Abertawe a’r cyffiniau;

a) the adverse impact upon over 700 former Visteon workers living in Swansea and surrounding areas caused by the loss of their pensions;

b) yr effaith ddilynol y mae colli pensiynau gweithwyr Visteon wedi'i chael ar economi Abertawe a'r cyffiniau;

b) the knock-on effect to the economy of Swansea and surrounding areas caused by the loss of those Visteon pensions;

c) y bydd pum mlynedd wedi mynd heibio ar 2 Ebrill eleni ers cau Visteon fel cwmni, a bod gorymdaith fawr yn cael ei threfnu yn San Steffan; a

c) that this year, on April the 2nd, marks the fifth anniversary of the closure of Visteon as a company and that a mass demonstration is being organised at Westminster; and

d) bod eleni'n flwyddyn bwysig i'r ymgyrch, o ystyried y bydd achos llys Unite the Union yn erbyn Ford yn cael ei gynnal yn yr Uchel Lys yn Llundain ddiwedd 2014.

d) that this year is an important year for the campaign, given that the court case that Unite the Union are taking against Ford will take place at the end of 2014 at the High Court in London.

2. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i ymchwilio i effaith colli eu pensiynau ar weithwyr Visteon ac ar economi'r ardal lle maent yn byw.

2. Calls on the Welsh Government to hold an inquiry into the impact of the loss of pensions to both the Visteon workers and the economy of the area in which they live.

14:57

Bethan Jenkins Bywgraffiad Biography

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I move the motion.

Cynigiaf y cynnig.

I am grateful to the Presiding Officer and the Deputy Presiding Officer for allowing this debate, and I am mindful of the advice that has been issued. I am also grateful to Assembly Members from across all parties who supported this motion, and I am particularly glad today to see some of the thousands of men and women across the UK whose lives have been so terribly affected by this crisis here in the public gallery from Swansea and as far afield as Basildon and Enfield.

Rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r Llywydd a'r Dirprwy Lywydd am ganiatáu'r ddadl hon, ac rwy'n ystyriol o'r cyngor sydd wedi cael ei roi. Rwy'n ddiolchgar hefyd i Aelodau Cynulliad o bob plaid a gefnogodd y cynnig hwn, ac rwy'n arbennig o falch o weld rhai o'r miloedd o ddynion a menywod o bob rhan o'r DU y mae'r argyfwng hwn wedi effeithio'n ofnadwy arnynt yma heddiw yn yr oriel gyhoeddus o Abertawe ac mor bell i ffwrdd â Basildon ac Enfield.

Of those 2,600 former Visteon workers who have lost their pensions, the highest number— 733, over a quarter—are from south Wales, with almost all of them living in and around Swansea where the Visteon factory—and Ford before it, because these workers were Ford employees—was situated on Fabian Way.

O'r 2,600 o gyn-weithwyr Visteon sydd wedi colli eu pensiynau, mae'r nifer uchaf—733, dros chwarter—yn dod o dde Cymru, gyda bron pob un ohonynt yn byw yn Abertawe neu'r cyffiniau lle roedd ffatri Visteon—Ford cynt, oherwydd cyflogeion Ford oedd y gweithwyr hyn—wedi'i lleoli ar Ffordd Fabian.

So, who are these people? There is no such thing as a typical Visteon pensioner. Some of them are Cockneys and some of them are Jacks. Some swept the factory floors, others ran engineering divisions. Married, divorced, grandkids and no children, each and every single one of these men and women are individuals; individuals like your neighbours and your friends, the people you meet in your community.

Felly, pwy yw'r bobl hyn? Nid oes y fath beth â phensiynwr Visteon cyffredin. Mae rhai ohonynt yn Gocnis ac mae rhai ohonynt yn Jacs. Bu rhai ohonynt yn ysgubo lloriau'r ffatri, bu eraill yn rhedeg isadrannau peirianneg. Pobl briod, pobl wedi ysgaru, pobl ag wyrion ac wyresau a phobl heb blant, mae pob un o'r dynion a'r menywod hyn yn unigolion; unigolion fel eich cymdogion a'ch ffrindiau, y bobl yr ydych yn cwrdd â hwy yn eich cymuned.

There are two things that unite them: they worked hard all their lives in the belief that they would one day get to enjoy the fruits of their labour. Then, one day, out of the blue some five years ago, they woke up to find out it had all gone, that all they had been living for was a lie. Betrayed, duped—call it what you will—it had been all for nothing.

Mae dau beth yn eu huno: buont yn gweithio'n galed ar hyd eu hoes gan gredu y byddent un diwrnod yn cael mwynhau ffrwyth eu llafur. Yna, un diwrnod, yn hollol annisgwyl ryw bum mlynedd yn ôl, dyma hwy'n dihuno a darganfod bod y cyfan wedi mynd, bod y cyfan yr oeddent wedi dyheu amdano yn gelwydd. Wedi'u bradychu, wedi'u twyllo—beth bynnag y byddwch yn ei alw—ofer fu'r cyfan.

You will often hear a Visteon worker say that a pension is wages deferred, and they are completely right. However, this crisis–and it is a crisis–goes further than that. It is not just those men and women; it is their neighbours, their friends and their communities that could be affected. As an Assembly, here to represent those Visteon workers and the communities in which they live, I believe that it is our duty–our profound duty—to examine that impact, to ascertain just how much money has been snatched out of the local economy, and what lessons we can learn for the future.

Byddwch yn aml yn clywed gweithiwr Visteon yn dweud mai cyflogau gohiriedig yw pensiwn, ac mae hynny'n gwbl gywir. Fodd bynnag, mae'r argyfwng hwn—ac argyfwng ydyw—yn mynd ymhellach na hynny. Nid oes a wnelo hyn â'r dynion a'r menywod hynny yn unig; gallai effeithio ar eu cymdogion, eu ffrindiau a'u cymunedau. Fel Cynulliad, yma i gynrychioli'r gweithwyr Visteon hynny a'r cymunedau lle maent yn byw, credaf fod dyletswydd arnom—dyletswydd fawr—i archwilio'r effaith honno, er mwyn gweld yn union faint o arian sydd wedi cael ei gipio o'r economi leol, a pha wersi y gallwn eu dysgu ar gyfer y dyfodol.

This Assembly may not have the legislative levers to set right what is wrong. Sadly, we do not have the competency over pensions. However, we are responsible for the health and wellbeing of the people of Wales, and the prospect of people at the end of their working lives worrying endlessly as to how they will survive and enjoy that well-earned retirement is something that every Member of this Assembly should be concerned about.

Efallai na fydd gan y Cynulliad hwn y pwerau deddfwriaethol i unioni'r mater. Yn anffodus, nid oes gennym gymhwysedd dros bensiynau. Fodd bynnag, rydym yn gyfrifol am iechyd a lles pobl Cymru, ac mae'r posibilrwydd y bydd pobl ar ddiwedd eu bywyd gwaith yn poeni eu henaid ynghylch sut y byddant yn ymdopi ac yn mwynhau'r ymddeoliad hwnnw y maent yn ei haeddu yn rhywbeth y dylai pob Aelod o'r Cynulliad hwn bryderu amdano.

It is difficult to know exactly how many Visteon pensioners have sadly died in the past five years, but we think that it could be as many as 50. We cannot say for certain that they died as a consequence of losing their pensions. At the same time, it cannot be ruled out that it was definitely a contributing factor, all of which adds weight to my argument here today that we can and should do more. We do not have all the powers over our economy, but the Assembly and the Welsh Government have a powerful voice. We can say clearly and strongly, with the use of our economic argument, that we do not accept this happening here in Wales.

Mae'n anodd gwybod yn union faint o bensiynwyr Visteon sydd wedi marw, gwaetha'r modd, yn y pum mlynedd diwethaf, ond credwn y gallai fod cynifer â 50. Ni allwn ddweud yn bendant iddynt farw o ganlyniad i golli eu pensiynau. Ar yr un pryd, ni ellir diystyru'r ffaith ei fod yn sicr yn ffactor cyfrannol, ac mae'r cyfan yn atgyfnerthu fy nadl yma heddiw y gallwn ac y dylem wneud mwy. Nid oes gennym yr holl bwerau dros ein heconomi, ond mae gan y Cynulliad a Llywodraeth Cymru lais pwerus. Gallwn ddweud yn glir ac yn groch, gan ddefnyddio ein dadl economaidd, nad ydym yn derbyn bod hyn yn digwydd yma yng Nghymru.

Let us talk about Swansea. It has a population of around 240,000 people, average weekly earnings of £436, and mean house prices of around £149,000. There are around one and a half private sector jobs to every public sector post and more business closures than start-ups. According to the Centre for Cities' city outlook for 2013, while Swansea was less affected in the first half of the recession, its performance from 2009 to 2012 was far weaker than that of other cities across the UK that were traced in this research. In fact, Swansea suffered one of the greatest falls in economic performance of those 64 cities. It is interesting that Swansea's performance began to fall in 2009, because that was the year that the Visteon pensioners discovered that the pension fund that they had assiduously paid into for so many years had vanished.

Gadewch inni sôn am Abertawe. Mae gan Abertawe boblogaeth o tua 240,000 o bobl, enillion wythnosol cyfartalog o £436, a phrisiau tai cymedrig o tua £149,000. Mae tua un a hanner o swyddi yn y sector preifat i bob swydd yn y sector cyhoeddus ac mae mwy o fusnesau sy'n cau na busnesau newydd. Yn ôl rhagolygon y ddinas gan y Ganolfan ar gyfer Dinasoedd ar gyfer 2013, er bod hanner cyntaf y dirwasgiad wedi cael llai o effaith yn Abertawe, mae ei pherfformiad yn ystod 2009-2012 dipyn yn wannach na dinasoedd eraill ledled y DU a gafodd eu holrhain yn y gwaith ymchwil hwn. Yn wir, Abertawe a welodd un o'r gostyngiadau mwyaf mewn perfformiad economaidd ymhlith y 64 dinas hynny. Mae'n ddiddorol i berfformiad Abertawe ddechrau gostwng yn 2009, oherwydd yn y flwyddyn honno y darganfu pensiynwyr Visteon fod y gronfa bensiwn yr oeddent wedi talu i mewn iddi yn selog dros gymaint o flynyddoedd wedi diflannu.

If we use the UK Government's figures from 2012, which take into account those who have entered the pension protection fund—which works on a sliding scale of compensatory payments, capped at a certain level—and add to them those people still working and who stand to lose a sizeable chunk when they retire, it adds up to a loss of £1.4 million to the region.

Os defnyddiwn ffigurau Llywodraeth y DU o 2012, sy'n ystyried y rhai sydd wedi ymuno â'r gronfa diogelu pensiynau—sy'n gweithio ar raddfa symudol o daliadau digolledu, wedi'u capio ar lefel benodol—ac ychwanegu atynt y bobl hynny sy'n dal i weithio ac sy'n wynebu'r posibilrwydd o golli swm sylweddol pan fyddant yn ymddeol, mae'n gwneud cyfanswm o £1.4 miliwn y bydd y rhanbarth yn ei golli.

15:01 **Mike Hedges** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Do you not agree that Ford, when it was there, was a very high payer relative to other industrial combines in the Swansea area, which pushed up wages everywhere, because people had to compete with Ford, and that, since Ford and then Visteon ceased to be there, it has had a detrimental effect on wages in total in the industrial sector?

Onid ydych yn cytuno bod Ford, pan oedd yn weithredol yno, yn talu cyflogau da iawn o gymharu â busnesau diwydiannol eraill yn ardal Abertawe, a pharodd hynny i gyflogau fod yn uwch ym mhob man, gan fod yn rhaid i bobl gystadlu â Ford, ac ers i Ford a Visteon adael, ei fod wedi cael effaith andwyol ar gyflogau yn gyffredinol yn y sector diwydiannol?

15:02 **Bethan Jenkins** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Yes, I would agree with that entirely.

Byddwn yn cytuno â hynny yn llwyr.

Going back to the £1.4 million loss to the region, I do not think that you would say that it is much compared to bank bailouts. However, just as £1 put into the economy creates more spending, it stands to reason that £1 taken out takes that additional value with it too. We know we have 700 Swansea pensioners who are some £1.4 million the poorer. We know that we have a city suffering falling economic performance. We have no indication when it will halt. So, let me ask the Assembly this: given these facts, are we really prepared to leave things as they are? Are we content to trust to fate and hope that things will just improve without carrying out a relatively low-cost inquiry into the true impact of the Visteon pension crisis?

Gan fynd yn ôl at y golled o £1.4 miliwn i'r rhanbarth, ni chredaf y byddech yn dweud ei fod yn swm mawr o'i gymharu â'r cymorth a roddwyd i'r banciau. Fodd bynnag, yn union fel y bydd £1 a gaiff ei gwario yn yr economi yn creu mwy o wariant, mae'n dilyn bod £1 nad yw ar gael i'w gwario yn dileu'r gwerth ychwanegol hwnw. Gwyddom fod 700 o bensiynwyr yn Abertawe wedi colli £1.4 miliwn. Gwyddom fod perfformiad economaidd y ddinas yn dirywio. Nid oes gennym unrhyw syniad pryd y bydd yn gwella. Felly, gadewch imi ofyn i'r Cynulliad hwn: o gofio'r ffeithiau hyn, a ydym wir yn barod i adael pethau fel ag y maent? A ydym yn fodlon ymddiried mewn rhagluniaeth a gobeithio y bydd pethau'n gwella ohonynt eu hunain heb gynnal ymchwiliad cymharol rad i wir effaith argyfwng pensiynau Visteon?

It is not disputed that many Visteon employees worked for Ford for as much as 30 to 40 years, and for Visteon for as little as a few months. The pensioners say that that makes this Ford's responsibility. This is disputed by Ford, which says that the current situation is 'unfortunate'. It says that the pension fund was fully funded at the time Visteon was spun out of Ford. The pensioners, in turn, dispute that.

Nid oes dadl bod llawer o weithwyr Visteon wedi gweithio i Ford am gyhyd â 30 i 40 mlynedd, ac i Visteon am gyn lleied ag ychydig fisoedd. Dywed y pensiynwyr fod hyn yn golygu mai Ford sy'n gyfrifol. Mae Ford yn herio hyn, gan ddweud bod y sefyllfa bresennol yn 'anffodus'. Dywed fod y gronfa bensiwn wedi'i hariannu'n llawn pan grëwyd cwmni deillio Visteon o Ford. Mae'r pensiynwyr, yn eu tro, yn anghytuno â hynny.

The matter will be heard in court at the end of this year, as the Presiding Officer has already told us, so we will leave that to one side. What I and other members of the cross-party group in support of Visteon pensioners have called on Ford to explain is its moral responsibility to its former workers. Here, I believe, Ford is somewhat hoisted by its own petard. We wrote to William Clay Ford, the company's president and last surviving grandchild of Henry Ford, to question him on this matter, as he has spoken extensively about this 'family of Ford'. We would like to know what he meant by that and we are still waiting to hear his answers.

Gwrandewir ar y mater yn y llys ar ddiwedd y flwyddyn, fel y dywedodd y Llywydd wrthym eisoes, felly rhoddwn hynny o'r neilltu. Yr hyn yr wyf fi ac aelodau eraill o'r grŵp trawsbleidiol o blaid pensiynwyr Visteon wedi galw ar Ford i'w wneud yw esbonio ei gyfrifoldeb moesol i'w gyn-weithwyr. Yn hyn o beth, credaf fod Ford wedi cael ei ddal yn ei fagl ei hun i ryw raddau. Ysgrifennwyd at William Clay Ford, llywydd y cwmni ac ŵyr olaf Henry Ford sy'n dal yn fyw, i'w holi ar y mater hwn, gan ei fod wedi sôn cryn dipyn am 'y teulu Ford' hwn. Hoffem wybod beth roedd yn ei olygu wrth hynny ac rydym yn dal i aros i glywed ei atebion.

I have worked with the Visteon pensioners for five years now. There are few finer, upstanding, conscientious and lovely groups of people, who simply do not deserve to be living through such unfairness. It is an unfairness that makes my every fibre hum with anger. However, it is a measure of these men and women that they frequently tell me that they fight not for themselves. They fight so that nobody else has to go through what they are going through—having to fight and fight to get what they rightfully deserve. So, let us honour their commitment in supporting them in any way possible, by taking steps to ensure that this does not happen to Wales, to the economy, or to its people again. They do not want to have to tell any other group that they have to protest in their pension years, instead of enjoying their lives and the fruits of their labour. I urge Members to support the motion in its entirety, and not to support the amendment, which would remove the call on the Welsh Government to conduct an inquiry into this particular issue and the economic effects for the area. I believe that the motion is strong as it stands. I believe that the men in the audience here who are former Visteon pensioners deserve to have answers. They deserve our unflinching support, especially this year, now that we have the court case. I wish them all the best for the future and I will be with them all the way.

Rwyf wedi gweithio gyda phensiynwyr Visteon ers pum mlynedd bellach. Pobl hyfryd, urddasol a chydwybodol ydynt, nad ydynt yn haeddu byw drwy annhegwch o'r fath. Mae'n annhegwch sy'n fy llenwi â dicter. Fodd bynnag, er clod y dynion a'r menywod hyn maent yn aml yn dweud wrthyf nad ydynt yn ymladd drostynt eu hunain. Maent yn ymladd fel na fydd yn rhaid i neb arall fynd drwy'r hyn y maent yn mynd drwyddo—gorfod brwydro a brwydro i gael yr hyn sy'n ddyledus iddynt. Felly, gadewch inni barchu eu hymrwymiad drwy eu cefnogi mewn unrhyw ffordd bosibl, drwy gymryd camau i sicrhau nad yw hyn yn digwydd i Gymru, i'r economi, nac i'w phobl byth eto. Nid ydynt am orfod dweud wrth unrhyw grŵp arall bod yn rhaid iddynt brotestio yn ystod blynyddoedd eu pensiwn, yn hytrach na mwynhau eu bywydau a ffrwyth eu llafur. Anogaf yr Aelodau i gefnogi'r cynnig yn ei gyfanrwydd, a pheidio â chefnogi'r gwelliant, a fyddai'n cael gwared ar yr alwad ar Lywodraeth Cymru i gynnal ymchwiliad i'r mater arbennig hwn a'r effeithiau economaidd i'r ardal. Credaf fod y cynnig yn gryf fel y mae. Credaf fod y dynion yn y gynulleidfa yma sy'n gyn-bensiynwyr Visteon yn haeddu cael atebion. Maent yn haeddu ein cefnogaeth ddiysgog, yn enwedig eleni, gan fod achos llys ar ddigwydd. Dymunaf y gorau iddynt ar gyfer y dyfodol a byddaf gyda hwy bob cam o'r ffordd.

15:05

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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I have selected the amendment to the motion and I call the Minister for the Economy, Science and Transport, Edwina Hart, to move amendment 1 tabled in the name of Lesley Griffiths.

Rwyf wedi dethol y gwelliant i'r cynnig a galwaf ar Weinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth, Edwina Hart, i gynnig gwelliant 1 a gyflwynwyd yn enw Lesley Griffiths.

Gwelliant 1—Lesley Griffiths

Amendment 1—Lesley Griffiths

Dileu pwynt 2.

Delete point 2.

15:05

Edwina Hart Bywgraffiad Biography

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Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth / The Minister for Economy, Science and Transport

I move amendment 1.

Cynigiaf welliant 1.

15:05

David Rees Bywgraffiad Biography

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I am pleased to have the opportunity to take part in this debate as the Visteon plant here in Wales is actually located in my constituency and many former employees are my constituents. Ford came to my locality in 1964 and located on a site on the edge of Swansea that was previously occupied by the Prestcold refrigerator plant. It covered an area of 2 million sq ft. It spent £20 million, quite a large amount of money in the 1960s, developing and expanding the plant to make it one of the largest and most modern car component factories in the whole of Europe in its day. It grew rapidly from 2,000 employees in 1968 to 6,500 just over a decade later. Ford was therefore a major contributor to the region's economy, drawing its workforce not just from Swansea but a wide area, encompassing neighbouring towns across the whole of south-west Wales, including my own town of Port Talbot. I include this bit of history to remind us of why this debate has come to the National Assembly: it did have, and still does have, an economic impact on the region.

Rwy'n falch o gael y cyfle i gymryd rhan yn y ddadl hon gan fod ffatri Visteon yma yng Nghymru wedi ei lleoli yn fy etholaeth a dweud y gwir ac mae llawer o gyn-weithwyr yn etholwyr imi. Daeth Ford i'm hardal leol yn 1964 gan leoli ei hun ar safle ar gyrion Abertawe lle bu ffatri oergelloedd Prestcold gynt. Roedd yn ymestyn dros ardal o 2 filiwn o droedfeddi sgwâr. Gwariodd £20 miliwn, swm eithaf mawr o arian yn y 1960au, gan ddatblygu ac ehangu'r ffatri a'i throi'n un o'r ffatrïoedd cydrannau ceir mwyaf a mwyaf modern drwy Ewrop gyfan ar y pryd. Tyfodd yn gyflym o 2,000 o weithwyr yn 1968 i 6,500 ychydig dros ddegawd yn ddiweddarach. Felly, bu Ford yn cyfrannu'n helaeth at economi'r rhanbarth, ac roedd ei weithlu yn dod nid yn unig o Abertawe ond ardal eang, a oedd yn cwmpasu trefi cyfagos ledled de-orllewin Cymru, gan gynnwys fy nhref fy hun, sef Port Talbot. Rwy'n adrodd yr ychydig hanes hwn i'n hatgoffa pam bod y ddadl hon wedi dod i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol: cafodd effaith economaidd ar y rhanbarth ac mae'n dal i gael effaith.

I recognise that this issue is one in which the Westminster Government has a clear responsibility in relation to the lost pensions of workers. However, here in Wales, we see the impact of lost income on our local communities and economies. The chair of the Assembly's cross-party group in support of Visteon pensioners, Bethan Jenkins, has clearly outlined the campaign for justice for Visteon UK pensioners. At this point, I too wish to place on record my thanks to the Visteon pensioners action group and the trade unions for their continuous campaigning over many years and for not allowing this issue to disappear into the ether as I am sure some would have wished. I also recognise that legal action is under way and, as such, this will limit any contribution made today. As stated, the case for justice for former Visteon and Ford pensioners has already been outlined, so I do not intend to repeat those arguments. The anger and frustration over what is basically an issue of decency and morality was obvious in Bethan's contribution, and I am sure it will come out in the contributions of other speakers today. What I would like to do is emphasise the duty of care in the context of corporate social responsibility that the Ford Motor Company needs to discharge to its former employees and their families. Now, I have no doubt that Ford UK is an essential element of the worldwide Ford family, and 'family' is how it is described by its owners. However, 'family' is probably not the word that Visteon pensioners would associate with their former employers any longer, and that is a shame.

Rwy'n cydnabod bod y mater hwn yn un lle mae gan Lywodraeth San Steffan gyfrifoldeb clir mewn perthynas â phensiynau gweithwyr a gollwyd. Fodd bynnag, yma yng Nghymru, gwelwn effaith yr incwm a gollwyd ar ein cymunedau a'n heconomïau lleol. Mae cadeirydd grŵp trawsbleidiol y Cynulliad o blaid pensiynwyr Visteon, Bethan Jenkins, wedi amlinellu'n glir yr ymgyrch dros gyfiawnder i bensiynwyr Visteon UK. Ar y pwynt hwn, hoffwn innau hefyd ddiolch i grŵp gweithredu pensiynwyr Visteon a'r undebau llafur am eu hymgyrchu di-baid dros flynyddoedd lawer ac am beidio â gadael i'r mater hwn fynd i ebargofiant fel y byddai rhai wedi dymuno, mae'n siŵr gennyf. Rwyf hefyd yn cydnabod bod achos cyfreithiol ar fin digwydd ac, fel y cyfryw, bydd hyn yn cyfyngu ar unrhyw gyfraniad a wneir heddiw. Fel y dywedwyd, mae'r achos dros gyfiawnder i gyn-bensiynwyr Visteon a Ford wedi'i amlinellu eisoes, felly ni fwriadaf nodi'r dadleuon hynny eto. Roedd y dicter a'r rhwystredigaeth ynghylch yr hyn sydd, yn y bôn, yn fater o wedduster a moesoldeb yn amlwg yng nghyfraniad Bethan, ac rwy'n siŵr y daw i'r amlwg yng nghyfraniadau siaradwyr eraill heddiw. Yr hyn yr hoffwn ei wneud yw pwysleisio'r ddyletswydd gofal yng nghyd-destun cyfrifoldeb cymdeithasol corfforaethol y mae angen i Gwmni Moduron Ford ei chyflawni dros ei gyn-gyflogeion a'u teuluoedd. Yn awr, nid oes gennyf unrhyw amheuaeth nad yw Ford UK yn elfen hanfodol o'r teulu Ford ledled y byd, ac fel 'teulu' y mae'n cael ei ddisgrifio gan ei berchnogion. Fodd bynnag, nid 'teulu' yw'r gair y byddai pensiynwyr Visteon yn ei ddefnyddio yng nghyd-destun eu cyn-gyflogwyr mwyach yn ôl pob tebyg, ac mae hynny'n drueni.

I do not wish to use this contribution to knock a global company that provides valuable jobs, expertise and innovation here in Wales. In fact, many of my constituents work in Ford's Bridgend factory and often speak highly of the support they receive from Ford. They actually look forward to the benefits they will have when they retire, which is what we want to see given to this group of pensioners, and that is why we need to express our views on Ford's actions in relation to this particular case and support these calls. In preparing this contribution, I reflected on the many messages I have received from constituents. One is very poignant and highlights another aspect that we cannot ignore. Bethan Jenkins actually touched on this when she mentioned the fact that maybe 50 former pensioners are no longer with us. This message stated that, after the closure of the factory, many pensioners who had lost their pension had passed away, placing additional burdens on their families, with their incomes further reduced, and that some widows needed to find employment to secure a living income. Is this what we are prepared to accept as a society—that retired widows go back to work to make ends meet? The answer, I hope, is an emphatic 'no', and today we can articulate those concerns on their behalf and on behalf of all former Visteon workers in Wales.

Nid wyf yn dymuno defnyddio'r cyfraniad hwn i ladd ar gwmni byd-eang sy'n darparu swyddi gwerthfawr, arbenigedd ac arloesedd yma yng Nghymru. Yn wir, mae llawer o'm hetholwyr yn gweithio yn ffatri Ford ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr ac maent yn aml yn canmol y gefnogaeth a gânt gan Ford. Maent yn edrych ymlaen at y buddiannau a gânt pan fyddant yn ymddeol mewn gwirionedd, sef yr hyn yr ydym am ei weld yn cael ei roi i'r grŵp hwn o bensiynwyr, a dyna pam mae angen inni fynegi ein barn ar weithredoedd Ford mewn perthynas â'r achos penodol hwn a chefnogi'r galwadau hynny. Wrth baratoi'r cyfraniad hwn, myfyriais ar y negeseuon lu a gefais gan etholwyr. Mae un yn deimladwy iawn ac yn tynnu sylw at agwedd arall na allwn ei hanwybyddu. Lledgyfeiriodd Bethan Jenkins at hyn mewn gwirionedd pan soniodd am y ffaith bod 50 o gyn-bensiynwyr o bosibl wedi marw bellach. Nododd y neges hon fod llawer o bensiynwyr a oedd wedi colli eu pensiwn ar ôl i'r ffatri gau, wedi marw gan roi beichiau ychwanegol ar eu teuluoedd, gyda'u hincwm yn gostwng ymhellach, a bod angen i rai gweddwon ddod o hyd i swyddi er mwyn sicrhau incwm byw. A yw hyn yn rhywbeth yr ydym yn barod i'w dderbyn fel cymdeithas—gweddwon wedi ymddeol yn gorfod dychwelyd i weithio er mwyn cael dau ben llinyn ynghyd? Yr ateb, gobeithio, yn bendant yw 'na', a heddiw gallwn fynegi'r pryderon hynny ar eu rhan ac ar ran holl gyn-weithwyr Visteon yng Nghymru.

Before I finish, I wish to pay tribute to Westminster colleagues from my region. We know the efforts they have been making. My own MP, Dr Hywel Francis, Geraint Davies MP, Peter Hain MP, Martin Caton MP and Siân James MP have all taken up the cause in Westminster along with others in their all-party group as well. I started by saying that Westminster has a clear role in this and, as such, I will be supporting amendment 1 as I believe that the competence and responsibility lies with the UK Government and we cannot let it off the hook. To conclude, I ask Ford to honour and discharge its duty of care to all Ford and Visteon pensioners in Wales and throughout the wider United Kingdom by giving them their full pension rights. I urge them to do this so as to ensure that former employees receive what is theirs, as is their right, without causing further hardship to them and their families. I think that this issue can be simply expressed like this: people trusted Ford and now they want to see that trust honoured by their so-called family.

Cyn imi orffen, hoffwn dalu teyrnged i gyd-Aelodau yn San Steffan o'm rhanbarth. Rydym yn ymwybodol o'u hymdrechion. Mae fy AS fy hun, Dr Hywel Francis, Geraint Davies AS, Peter Hain AS, Martin Caton AS a Siân James AS i gyd wedi codi'r achos yn San Steffan ynghyd ag eraill yn eu grŵp hollbleidiol hefyd. Dechreuais drwy ddweud bod gan San Steffan rôl amlwg yn hyn ac, fel y cyfryw, byddaf yn cefnogi gwelliant 1 gan fy mod yn credu mai gan Lywodraeth y DU y mae'r cymhwysedd a'r cyfrifoldeb mewn gwirionedd ac ni allwn adael iddi ei osgoi. I gloi, gofynnaf i Ford gyflawni ei ddyletswydd gofal i bob un o bensiynwr Ford a Visteon yng Nghymru a ledled y Deyrnas Unedig drwy roi eu hawliau pensiwn llawn iddynt. Rwy'n ei annog i wneud hyn er mwyn sicrhau bod cyn-weithwyr yn derbyn yr hyn sy'n ddyledus iddynt, yn unol â'u hawliau, heb achosi caledi pellach iddynt hwy a'u teuluoedd. Credaf y gall y mater hwn gael ei fynegi'n syml fel hyn: roedd pobl wedi ymddiried yn Ford ac yn awr maent am weld eu teulu fel y'i gelwir yn parchu'r ymddiriedaeth honno.

15:10

Peter Black Bywgraffiad Biography

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May I start by welcoming, as Bethan and David have, the Visteon pensioners to the Chamber today? They have been fighting for nearly five years now for the rights that they feel—and I agree with them—are due to them as a result of what happened to them when they transferred their pensions across to Visteon. They have had very strong cross-party support in this Chamber, and, as David Rees outlined, they have had strong support in Westminster as well. I hope that, when the case comes before the court later this year, they will also have a positive result then.

A gaf ddechrau drwy groesawu, fel Bethan a David, bensiynwyr Visteon i'r Siambr heddiw? Maent wedi bod yn ymladd ers bron pum mlynedd bellach dros yr hawliau y maent yn teimlo—a chytunaf â hwy—sy'n ddyledus iddynt o ganlyniad i'r hyn a ddigwyddodd iddynt pan wnaethant drosglwyddo eu pensiynau i Visteon. Maent wedi cael cefnogaeth drawsbleidiol gref iawn yn y Siambr hon, ac, fel y nododd David Rees, maent wedi cael cefnogaeth gref yn San Steffan hefyd. Gobeithio, pan ddaw'r achos gerbron y llys yn ddiweddarach eleni, y byddant hefyd yn cael canlyniad cadarnhaol wedyn.

I am very much aware, Deputy Presiding Officer, of the ruling, and I shall do my best to be very clear. I just wanted to say that, in March this year, we will have reached the fifth anniversary of Visteon workers losing their pensions. In 2009, the pensions regulator, sponsored by the Department for Work and Pensions, investigated the circumstances leading up to Visteon UK's insolvency and the position of its parent company, Visteon Corporation. It concluded that it should not take any action. Back in 2009, I wrote to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, Yvette Cooper, detailing my concerns. They were that the company pension scheme had been eroded due to the sharp practices of Visteon management, and that, when Ford created Visteon, the agreement stated that all Ford employees would have a mirror agreement to those who continued in a Ford plant. That included pay, pensions and all other benefits. Within a few months of the letter that I sent, Visteon and its attendant pension scheme—although not the management pensions—went into administration.

Rwy'n ymwybodol iawn, Ddirprwy Lywydd, o'r dyfarniad, a byddaf yn gwneud fy ngorau i fod yn glir iawn. Y cyfan yr oeddwn am ei ddweud yw, ym mis Mawrth eleni, y bydd pum mlynedd wedi mynd heibio ers i weithwyr Visteon golli eu pensiynau. Yn 2009, ymchwiliodd y rheoleiddiwr pensiynau, a noddir gan yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau, i'r amgylchiadau a arweiniodd at ansolfedd Visteon UK a sefyllfa ei riant gwmni, Visteon Corporation. Daeth i'r casgliad na ddylid cymryd unrhyw gamau. Yn ôl yn 2009, ysgrifennais at yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Waith a Phensiynau, Yvette Cooper, yn nodi fy mhryderon, sef bod cynllun pensiwn y cwmni wedi mynd yn llai oherwydd ymddygiad amheus rheolwyr Visteon, a, phan grëwyd Visteon gan Ford, i'r cytundeb nodi y byddai holl weithwyr Ford yn cael yr un cytundeb â'r rhai a barhaodd i weithio yn un o ffatrïoedd Ford. Roedd hynny'n cynnwys cyflogau, pensiynau a phob budd-daliad arall. O fewn ychydig fisoedd ar ôl imi anfon y llythyr, aeth Visteon a'i gynllun pensiwn—ond nid pensiynau'r rheolwyr—i ddwylo'r gweinyddwyr.

As a result of that, Ford and Visteon pensioners lost a minimum of 10% of their pensions. Many lost a lot more than that, particularly those who had taken early retirement on enhanced pensions. Despite the fact that the pension regulator stepped in to support that pension, those payments were not recoverable as a result of that. Given that Ford and Visteon continue to operate around the world and that the company that purchased the Visteon plant, Linamar, are all connected with regard to shareholders and the management team, et cetera, I wanted to know how the Government then could allow 3,000 working people to be short-changed in that way. That still applies today.

O ganlyniad i hynny, collodd pensiynwyr Ford a Visteon o leiaf 10% o'u pensiynau. Mae llawer wedi colli llawer mwy na hynny, yn enwedig y rhai a oedd wedi ymddeol yn gynnar ar bensiynau uwch. Er i'r rheoleiddiwr pensiynau ddangos ei gefnogaeth i'r pensiwn hwnnw, nid oedd modd adennill y taliadau hynny o ganlyniad i hynny. O ystyried bod Ford a Visteon yn parhau i weithredu ledled y byd a bod y cwmni a brynodd ffatri Visteon, Linamar, i gyd yn gysylltiedig â'i gilydd o ran cyfranddalwyr a'r tîm rheoli, ac ati, roeddwn am wybod sut y gallai'r Llywodraeth wedyn ganiatáu i 3,000 o bobl weithiol golli arian yn y modd hwnnw. Mae hynny'n dal yn berthnasol heddiw.

There is an early day motion in the House of Commons that calls on the Government to use the power and influence at its disposal to help ensure that Ford recognises its obligations and accepts, voluntarily, its duty of care to former Visteon UK pensioners. I know that the Visteon pensioners have met the Minister of State for Pensions and I have been told by his office that he has a meeting with Ford next month at which he will raise those concerns again with that company.

Mae cynnig cynnar-yn-y-dydd yn Nhŷ'r Cyffredin yn galw ar y Llywodraeth i ddefnyddio'r pŵer a'r dylanwad sydd ganddi i helpu i sicrhau bod Ford yn cydnabod ei rwymedigaethau ac yn derbyn, yn wirfoddol, ei ddyletswydd gofal i gyn-bensiynwyr Visteon UK. Gwn fod pensiynwyr Visteon wedi cyfarfod â'r Gweinidog Gwladol dros Bensiynau ac rwyf wedi cael gwybod gan ei swyddfa y bydd yn cyfarfod â Ford fis nesaf lle bydd yn codi'r pryderon hynny eto gyda'r cwmni hwnnw.

It seems to me, Deputy Presiding Officer, that the impact on individuals, on communities and on the economy, as outlined by Bethan Jenkins, is quite profound. Bethan put forward a figure of £1.4 million; it could be more than that, and then the multiplier effect applies. That is one of the reasons why I think that the amendment is misplaced. We are not asking the Welsh Government to hold an inquiry into Visteon, we are not asking it to hold an inquiry into Ford, and we are not asking it to hold an inquiry into the circumstances in which this came about, which would impinge upon the court case. What we are saying is that the Welsh Government has a responsibility for the Welsh economy and we think that the Welsh Government should take account of the impact of this particular decision, and what has happened to those pensioners, and carry out an inquiry into its impact on the local economy, so that we fully understand the consequences of these pensioners losing their pensions, or a large part of their pensions, and so that we fully understand what is happening as a result of that in the areas around the Visteon plants in south Wales.

Ymddengys i mi, Ddirprwy Lywydd, fod yr effaith ar unigolion, ar gymunedau ac ar yr economi, fel yr amlinellodd Bethan Jenkins, yn go ddifrifol. Cynigiodd Bethan ffigur o £1.4 miliwn; gallai fod yn fwy na hynny, ac yna mae'r effaith lluosydd yn berthnasol. Dyna un o'r rhesymau pam y credaf fod y gwelliant yn anghywir. Nid ydym yn gofyn i Lywodraeth Cymru gynnal ymchwiliad i Visteon, nid ydym yn gofyn iddo gynnal ymchwiliad i Ford, ac nid ydym yn gofyn iddo gynnal ymchwiliad i'r amgylchiadau a arweiniodd at hyn, a fyddai'n amharu ar yr achos llys. Yr hyn yr ydym yn ei ddweud yw bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn gyfrifol am economi Cymru, a chredwn y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru ystyried effaith y penderfyniad penodol hwn, a'r hyn sydd wedi digwydd i'r pensiynwyr hynny, a chynnal ymchwiliad i'w effaith ar yr economi leol, er mwyn inni ddeall yn llawn y goblygiadau am fod y pensiynwyr hyn wedi colli eu pensiynau, neu gyfran fawr o'u pensiynau, ac er mwyn inni ddeall yr hyn sy'n digwydd o ganlyniad i hynny yn yr ardaloedd o amgylch ffatrïoedd Visteon yn y de.

It seems to me, Minister, that that is a perfectly reasonable request and I hope that you are able to accept it. I understand that you have your own legal advice, but it seems to me that that does not impinge upon the court case and is a reasonable request and one that I think could be adhered to by the Welsh Government.

Ymddengys i mi, Weinidog, fod hynny'n gais cwbl resymol a gobeithio eich bod yn gallu ei dderbyn. Sylweddolaf eich bod yn cael eich cyngor cyfreithiol eich hun, ond ymddengys imi nad yw hynny'n amharu ar yr achos llys a'i fod yn gais rhesymol ac yn un y gallai Llywodraeth Cymru ei dderbyn, fe gredaf.

Deputy Presiding Officer, in concluding, it seems to me that the Visteon pensioners have suffered a grave injustice and this needs to be put right. I hope that this debate, along with what is going on in Westminster and elsewhere, will eventually ensure that they are able to receive the money to which they are entitled.

Ddirprwy Lywydd, wrth gloi, mae'n ymddangos i mi bod pensiynwyr Visteon wedi cael cam mawr ac mae angen unioni hyn. Gobeithio y bydd y ddadl hon, ynghyd â'r hyn sy'n digwydd yn San Steffan ac mewn mannau eraill, yn y pen draw yn sicrhau eu bod yn gallu cael yr arian y mae ganddynt hawl iddo.

15:14 **Lindsay Whittle** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I would like to first thank my colleague Bethan Jenkins for bringing this debate to the Chamber today. It is an extremely important debate. I would also like to thank other politicians for their assistance to these workers as well.

Hoffwn ddiolch yn gyntaf i'm cyd-Aelod Bethan Jenkins am gyflwyno'r ddadl hon yn y Siambr heddiw. Mae'n ddadl eithriadol o bwysig. Hoffwn hefyd ddiolch i wleidyddion eraill am eu cymorth i'r gweithwyr hyn hefyd.

This is not just important for the families of the Visteon pensioners, but it is important for us, as an Assembly, to recognise the plight and the anxieties that these families have experienced over many years since the closure of the Visteon plant. I would hope that everyone in this Assembly and others outside would appreciate how painful and frightening it would be to work for any employer for so many years in a stable, skilled profession and to build your nest egg for retirement and then to have that money snatched away. The difficulties faced by these families are a regular occurrence, and we have witnessed them all too often here in Wales. I hope to touch upon what that means to ordinary people in my contribution today.

Mae hyn nid yn unig yn bwysig i deuluoedd pensiynwyr Visteon, ond mae'n bwysig i ni, fel Cynulliad, gydnabod sefyllfa'r teuluoedd hyn a'u pryderon dros flynyddoedd lawer ers i ffatri Visteon gau. Gobeithio y byddai pawb yn y Cynulliad hwn ac eraill y tu allan iddo yn gwerthfawrogi pa mor boenus a dychrynllyd fyddai sefyllfa lle rydych yn gweithio i unrhyw gyflogwr am gynifer o flynyddoedd mewn proffesiwn sefydlog a medrus a chynilo tuag at ymddeol ac yna'n gweld yr arian yn cael ei gipio oddi wrthych. Mae'r anawsterau a wynebir gan y teuluoedd hyn yn digwydd yn rheolaidd, ac rydym wedi eu gweld yn rhy aml yma yng Nghymru. Rwy'n gobeithio sôn am yr hyn y mae'n ei olygu i bobl gyffredin yn fy nghyfraniad heddiw.

There is no doubt that the impact on the Visteon workers and their families has been considerable. We have heard the statistics: millions of pounds gone from the pensions of 2,600 people, 28% of them here—700 people, I believe—in Wales. Millions of pounds, therefore, gone from our economy; millions of pounds gone from families to enable them to live a stable and secure retirement and to enjoy the evening of their lives. Gone, just gone. It is not acceptable. It is something that we would not allow for any Assembly Member or politician and it is, therefore, not acceptable for these ordinary workers as well. The impact upon the health and wellbeing of these families since 2009 has been considerable, and I agree with Bethan Jenkins that this is something that does deserve an inquiry, and I urge Members to vote against the amendment from Lesley Griffiths and in favour of the motion as a whole.

Nid oes amheuaeth nad yw'r effaith ar weithwyr Visteon a'u teuluoedd wedi bod yn sylweddol. Rydym wedi clywed yr ystadegau: miliynau o bunnoedd wedi mynd o bensiynau 2,600 o bobl, 28% ohonynt yma—700 o bobl, fe gredaf—yng Nghymru. Felly, mae miliynau o bunnoedd wedi mynd o'n heconomi; miliynau o bunnoedd wedi mynd o incwm teuluoedd i'w galluogi i gael ymddeoliad sefydlog a diogel a mwynhau hwyrddydd eu bywyd. Wedi mynd, wedi mynd yn llwyr. Nid yw'n dderbyniol. Mae'n rhywbeth na fyddem yn ei ganiatáu ar gyfer unrhyw Aelod Cynulliad na gwleidydd ac felly nid yw'n dderbyniol i'r gweithwyr cyffredin hyn ychwaith. Bu'r effaith ar iechyd a lles y teuluoedd hyn ers 2009 yn sylweddol, a chytunaf â Bethan Jenkins fod hyn yn rhywbeth sy'n haeddu cael ei ystyried mewn ymchwiliad, a hoffwn annog yr Aelodau i bleidleisio yn erbyn y gwelliant gan Lesley Griffiths ac o blaid y cynnig yn ei gyfanrwydd.

We know that there are deep and pernicious results to deindustrialisation and job losses. In Wales, we have not got out of that cycle fully and the great recession has moved us backwards to the 1970s. In communities affected by job losses and loss of industries, we know for a fact that along with them come the social effects of poverty, and they can be witnessed in many different ways. It is something that we are familiar with. Indeed, I was unemployed for seven months in 1980. It is a terrible time in your life. There are family breakdowns as tens of thousands find their financial future uncertain, challenging or, indeed, outright impossible. Areas around the world with recent economic history similar to Wales have found evidence of this. In Michigan, a study has found a clear link between redundancy and family breakdown during job losses. We know that the health effects accompanying redundancies, in communities already burdened by economic problems, are profound and long term. There are increased health problems, significantly in Glasgow—I canvassed in the Glasgow East by-election, where life expectancy was 58 years for that community, which had been devastated by job losses. I was older than the average person's life expectancy. It frightens you to death.

Gwyddom fod goblygiadau dwfn a niweidiol i ddad-ddiwydiannu a cholli swyddi. Yng Nghymru, nid ydym wedi llwyr ddianc o'r cylch hwnnw ac mae'r dirwasgiad mawr wedi ein symud yn ôl i'r 1970au. Mewn cymunedau yr effeithiwyd arnynt drwy golli swyddi a cholli diwydiannau, gwyddom am ffaith y gwelir effeithiau cymdeithasol tlodi ochr yn ochr â hynny, a gallant gael eu gweld mewn sawl ffordd wahanol.Mae'n rhywbeth yr ydym yn gyfarwydd ag ef. Yn wir, roeddwn yn ddi-waith am saith mis yn 1980. Mae'n amser ofnadwy yn eich bywyd. Mae teuluoedd yn chwalu wrth i ddegau o filoedd weld bod eu dyfodol ariannol yn ansicr, yn heriol neu, yn wir, yn llwyr amhosibl. Mae ardaloedd ledled y byd sydd â hanes economaidd diweddar tebyg i Gymru wedi gweld tystiolaeth o hyn. Yn Michigan, canfu astudiaeth gysylltiad clir rhwng diswyddo a theuluoedd yn chwalu yn ystod cyfnodau pan oedd swyddi yn cael eu colli. Gwyddom fod yr effeithiau ar iechyd sy'n deillio o ddiswyddiadau, mewn cymunedau sydd eisoes yn ysgwyddo baich problemau economaidd, yn rhai dwys a hirdymor. Ceir mwy o broblemau iechyd, yn enwedig yn Glasgow–bûm yn canfasio yn isetholiad Dwyrain Glasgow, lle mae disgwyliad oes y gymuned honno, a oedd wedi cael ergyd drom iawn yn sgil colli swyddi, yn 58 oed. Roeddwn yn hŷn na disgwyliad oes person arferol. Mae'n codi ofn arnoch.

That is what is happening here in Wales. For some Visteon workers, the effects of redundancy and the loss of their pensions are not just academic studies or economic history, they are daily reminders of what has happened to them. Some former Visteon workers, we have heard, will never get an answer, one way or another, as to what has happened, as they have had to wait, sadly, too long and are not here. That cannot be right.

Dyna beth sy'n digwydd yma yng Nghymru. I rai gweithwyr Visteon, nid astudiaethau academaidd na hanes economaidd yw effeithiau diswyddo a cholli eu pensiynau, cânt eu hatgoffa'n ddyddiol o'r hyn sydd wedi digwydd iddynt. Ni fydd rhai o gyn-weithwyr Visteon, fel y clywsom, byth yn cael ateb, un ffordd neu'r llall, ynghylch yr hyn sydd wedi digwydd, gan eu bod wedi gorfod aros, yn anffodus, yn rhy hir ac nid ydynt yma. Ni all hynny fod yn iawn.

The reason that I mentioned past experiences and the relationship between our experiences of deindustrialisation is that while the case of Visteon workers is unique, it does deserve our special attention. There is, obviously, a court case regarding Visteon being heard at the High Court at this time. It is not about assigning blame; it would not be proper, we are warned, to do so at this time, although it is very tempting indeed, I have to say. However, this is about us. This is about us as an Assembly doing what is right by our most vulnerable people. It is about showing the proper concern for ordinary, hard-working people that we in Wales have a great tradition of, and we should be seeking to extend that tradition further today by giving the Visteon workers the proper consideration that they deserve by finding out exactly what impact the loss of their livelihoods and pensions has had on them. These people are ordinary workers. They put their televisions on every day, they hear about fat cats in the City, bankers, and chief executives in Wales getting hundreds of thousands of pounds, millions of pounds in some cases. They must wonder, 'Well, what's happened to us? Who is fighting for us?' They need to know—this is not in my region, I come from south-east Wales, but they need to know that there are politicians across Wales in all parties who do care. They must wonder, 'Who cares for us?' We care in this Assembly. I fully support Bethan Jenkins here today.

Y rheswm imi sôn am brofiadau blaenorol a'r berthynas rhwng ein profiadau o ddad-ddiwydiannu yw, er bod achos gweithwyr Visteon yn unigryw, ei fod yn haeddu ein sylw arbennig. Wrth gwrs gwrandewir ar achos llys ynghylch Visteon yn yr Uchel Lys ar hyn o bryd. Nid yw'n golygu rhoi bai; cawn ein rhybuddio na fyddai'n briodol gwneud hynny ar hyn o bryd, er ei bod yn demtasiwn mawr yn wir, rhaid imi ddweud. Fodd bynnag, mae hyn yn ymwneud â ni. Mae hyn yn ymwneud â ni fel Cynulliad yn gwneud yr hyn sy'n iawn dros ein pobl fwyaf agored i niwed. Mae'n ymwneud â dangos ein bod yn poeni ynghylch y bobl gyffredin sy'n gweithio'n galed sy'n rhan o draddodiad gwych gennym yng Nghymru, a dylem fod yn ceisio ymestyn y traddodiad ymhellach heddiw gan roi'r ystyriaeth briodol y maent yn ei haeddu drwy ddarganfod pa effaith yn union y mae colli eu bywoliaeth a phensiynau wedi ei chael ar weithwyr Visteon. Gweithwyr cyffredin yw'r bobl hyn. Maent yn troi'r teledu ymlaen bob dydd, maent yn clywed am bobl ariannog yn Llundain, bancwyr, a phrif weithredwyr yng Nghymru yn cael cannoedd o filoedd o bunnoedd, miliynau o bunnoedd mewn rhai achosion. Rhaid eu bod yn meddwl, 'Wel, beth sydd wedi digwydd i ni? Pwy sy'n brwydro drosom ni? Mae angen iddynt wybod—nid yw hyn yn digwydd yn fy rhanbarth i, rwy'n dod o dde-ddwyrain Cymru, ond mae angen iddynt wybod bod gwleidyddion ledled Cymru ym mhob plaid yn poeni. Rhaid eu bod yn meddwl, 'Pwy sy'n poeni amdanom ni?' Rydym yn poeni yn y Cynulliad hwn. Cefnogaf Bethan Jenkins yma heddiw.

15:19

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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I call the Minister, Edwina Hart.

Galwaf ar y Gweinidog, Edwina Hart,.

15:19 **Edwina Hart** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth / The Minister for Economy, Science and Transport

The former workers' claims against the Ford Motor Company referred to in the motion, as we are aware, will be heard in the High Court in November this year. Accordingly, the sub judice rule is in place for the debate, and I am very mindful of the advice given by the Presiding Officer prior to the commencement of the debate, as are other Members across the Chamber. I need to be careful about what I can say here today. The last thing that we would want is for the comments to create a risk of prejudice to any court proceedings. However, it is clearly regrettable that many individuals have been left without access to their pensions when people have worked hard and the pension benefits are not forthcoming. As Lindsay Whittle indicated, it is a regrettable situation regardless of why it has happened. For example, we are also aware of the position regarding the former ASW workers who conducted a long-running campaign to restore their pensions. The position of the workers in today's debate is also of great public importance, which is why we are discussing it, regardless of the rights and wrongs, which are clearly a matter for legal proceedings, and are therefore subject to the sub judice rule. We can all recognise the personal impact of pension losses on individuals and the economic impact on the local economy. That has been put eloquently by Members today in their contributions.

Gwrandewir ar achos y cyn-weithwyr yn erbyn Cwmni Moduron Ford y cyfeirir ato yn y cynnig, fel y gwyddom, yn yr Uchel Lys ym mis Tachwedd eleni. Yn unol â hynny, mae'r rheol sub judice ar waith ar gyfer y ddadl, ac rwy'n ymwybodol iawn o'r cyngor a roddwyd gan y Llywydd cyn cychwyn y ddadl, fel y mae Aelodau eraill ym mhob rhan o'r Siambr. Mae angen imi fod yn ofalus ynglŷn â'r hyn y gallaf ei ddweud yma heddiw. Y peth olaf y byddem am ei weld yw bod sylwadau yn creu risg o ragfarnu unrhyw achos llys. Fodd bynnag, mae'n amlwg yn anffodus bod llawer o unigolion wedi colli eu pensiynau a hwythau wedi gweithio'n galed ac wedi colli eu buddiannau pensiwn. Fel y nododd Lindsay Whittle, mae'n sefyllfa anffodus waeth beth fo'r rheswm. Er enghraifft, rydym hefyd yn ymwybodol o'r sefyllfa o ran cyn-weithwyr ASW a gynhaliodd ymgyrch hir i adfer eu pensiynau. Mae sefyllfa'r gweithwyr yn y ddadl heddiw hefyd o bwys mawr i'r cyhoedd, a dyna pam rydym yn ei drafod, waeth pwy sydd ar fai, sydd yn amlwg yn fater ar gyfer achos cyfreithiol, ac felly'n ddarostyngedig i'r rheol sub judice. Gall pob un ohonom gydnabod effaith bersonol colli pensiwn ar unigolion a'r effaith economaidd ar yr economi leol. Mae hynny wedi cael ei fynegi'n huawdl gan Aelodau heddiw yn eu cyfraniadau.

My priority as the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport is to encourage jobs and growth in the local economy. When there are job losses such as this, we have to look at the interventions that the Government can make. Through a city regions approach to developing the economy, we hope to increase the prosperity of the whole region, bringing together local authorities, the private sector and higher education. If you look at the current situation, you will see that we are supporting the Swansea University innovation campus—a major infrastructure project, which will significantly enable the university to work with and support business and inward investment. We are in discussions with the university on how to best maximise the Sêr Cymru programme in the region and we hope to have exciting announcements on that. In addition, the Swansea business improvement district, as one of the largest in the UK, is undertaking a number of innovative schemes, including the city centre loyalty card and subsidised car parking. These are wide investments and projects that we are supporting to help create jobs. We are also supporting funds such as the Wales economic growth fund, and a range of other access-to-finance initiatives.

Fy mlaenoriaeth fel Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth yw annog swyddi a thwf yn yr economi leol. Pan fydd swyddi'n cael eu colli fel hyn, rhaid inni edrych ar yr ymyriadau y gall y Llywodraeth eu gwneud. Drwy roi dinas-ranbarthau ar waith er mwyn datblygu'r economi, rydym yn gobeithio cynyddu ffyniant y rhanbarth cyfan, gan ddwyn ynghyd awdurdodau lleol, y sector preifat, ac addysg uwch. Os edrychwch ar y sefyllfa bresennol, fe welwch ein bod yn cefnogi campws arloesedd Prifysgol Abertawe—prosiect seilwaith mawr, a fydd yn cynnig cyfle sylweddol i'r brifysgol weithio gyda busnesau a mewnfuddsoddwyr a'u cefnogi. Rydym yn cynnal trafodaethau gyda'r brifysgol ynghylch sut i fanteisio i'r eithaf ar raglen Sêr Cymru yn y rhanbarth ac rydym yn gobeithio gwneud cyhoeddiadau cyffrous am hynny. Yn ogystal, mae ardal gwella busnes Abertawe, fel un o'r rhai mwyaf yn y DU, yn ymgymryd â nifer o gynlluniau arloesol, gan gynnwys cerdyn teyrngarwch canol y ddinas a pharcio ceir â chymhorthdal. Mae'r rhain yn fuddsoddiadau ac yn brosiectau eang yr ydym yn eu cefnogi i helpu i greu swyddi. Rydym hefyd yn cefnogi cronfeydd megis cronfa twf economaidd Cymru, ac ystod o fentrau eraill sy'n rhoi mynediad i gyllid.

I could go on a long time listing further ways in which we are supporting jobs and growth, and not necessarily bring this debate forward in any way today. However, I know that Members will appreciate the points that I have made about how we are trying to assist the local economy.

Gallwn dreulio cryn amser yn rhestru ffyrdd eraill yr ydym yn cefnogi swyddi a thwf, heb o reidrwydd ddatblygu'r ddadl hon mewn unrhyw ffordd heddiw. Fodd bynnag, gwn y bydd yr Aelodau'n deall y pwyntiau yr wyf wedi'u gwneud ynghylch sut rydym yn ceisio cynorthwyo'r economi leol.

While I can understand all of the words that have been expressed today—and I know the views of my colleagues on my own benches, and the support that they will unfailingly give to Visteon pensioners—I am not, following legal advice, able to support point 2 of the motion, as the appropriateness of an inquiry taking place while legal proceedings are ongoing has been questioned. However, I hope that in my response today I have recognised the difficulties that the adverse impact that the loss of pension has caused to former employees and the local economy.

Er y gallaf ddeall yr holl eiriau a fynegwyd heddiw—a gwn beth yw barn fy nghyd-Aelodau ar fy meinciau fy hun, a'u cefnogaeth ddisyfl i bensiynwyr Visteon ar ôl cael cyngor cyfreithiol, ni allaf gefnogi pwynt 2 o'r cynnig, gan fod amheuaeth ynglŷn â phriodoldeb cynnal ymchwiliad tra bod achos cyfreithiol yn parhau. Fodd bynnag, gobeithio yn fy ymateb heddiw fy mod wedi cydnabod yr anawsterau a achoswyd gan effaith andwyol colli pensiynau i gyn-weithwyr a'r economi leol.

15:22 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I call on Suzy Davies to reply to the debate.

Galwaf ar Suzy Davies i ymateb i'r ddadl.

15:22 **Suzy Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I thank all Members who have taken part in this debate today. It is an unusual debate in some ways, but one that has allowed us to consider at length questions that do not often come before the Chamber. Members have always felt able to discuss, usually in a historical context, often with great passion, the economic consequences to an area of the loss of former nationalised industries, which have been major employers. When we do raise concerns about the loss of jobs when a local private employer makes a decision, as we did with Avana Bakeries on Tuesday, that tends to be by way of an emergency question or a short statement. So, I hope that Members have found it helpful to be able to talk about the economic impact for a particular area that has relied heavily on one industry, albeit in the private sector, when that industry is lost.

Hoffwn ddiolch i'r holl Aelodau sydd wedi cymryd rhan yn y ddadl hon heddiw. Mae'n ddadl anarferol mewn rhai ffyrdd, ond yn un sydd wedi rhoi cyfle inni ystyried yn faith gwestiynau nad ydynt yn dod gerbron y Siambr yn aml. Mae Aelodau bob amser wedi teimlo y gallent drafod, fel arfer mewn cyd-destun hanesyddol, yn aml gydag angerdd mawr, y canlyniadau economaidd i ardal pan gollir yr hen ddiwydiannau gwladol, a fu'n gyflogwyr mawr. Pan godwn bryderon ynglŷn â cholli swyddi pan fydd cyflogwr preifat lleol yn gwneud penderfyniad, fel y gwnaethom yn achos Avana Bakeries ddydd Mawrth, mae hynny'n tueddu i fod ar ffurf cwestiwn brys neu ddatganiad byr. Felly, gobeithio ei bod wedi bod yn ddefnyddiol i'r Aelodau gael cyfle i sôn am yr effaith economaidd i ardal benodol sydd wedi dibynnu'n drwm ar un diwydiant, ond yn y sector preifat, pan gollir y diwydiant hwnnw.

It is a consideration for the Welsh Government how it reviews and approaches domestic and inward investment in Wales. Recently in the Chamber, the Minister for enterprise and First Minister drew our attention to the importance of anchor companies. Those companies are very welcome. We heard from David Rees what such companies can do for an area. However, should they go for any reason, they take down the supply chain as well, which can leave a hole that is difficult to fill, especially if those particular companies have been better-paying employers. That is essentially what Members have spoken about today. The argument made by Bethan Jenkins was that that hole becomes more difficult to fill when those who lose their jobs or have retired on occupational pensions are left with a reduced ability to contribute to the local economy and also suffer from that fear for their own future, which Lindsay Whittle spoke of. That is not so much the case in terms of the Visteon pensioners, in terms of the loss of demand for their skills, I would say, but it is the case in terms of the loss of spending power that they anticipated having, which is devastating for them and is bad for the local economy.

Llywodraeth Cymru sy'n penderfynu sut mae'n adolygu ac yn ymdrin â buddsoddi mewnwladol a mewnfuddsoddi yng Nghymru. Yn ddiweddar yn y Siambr, tynnodd y Gweinidog menter a'r Prif Weinidog ein sylw at bwysigrwydd cwmnïau angori. Mae'r cwmnïau hynny i'w croesawu'n fawr. Clywsom gan David Rees am yr hyn y gall cwmnïau o'r fath ei wneud dros ardal. Fodd bynnag, pe baent yn mynd am unrhyw reswm, maent yn chwalu'r gadwyn gyflenwi hefyd a all adael twll sy'n anodd ei llenwi, yn enwedig os yw'r cwmnïau penodol hynny wedi bod yn talu cyflogau uwch. Dyna, yn ei hanfod, yw'r hyn y mae'r Aelodau wedi sôn amdano heddiw. Y ddadl a wnaed gan Bethan Jenkins oedd bod y twll yn dod yn anos ei lenwi pan fydd gallu'r rhai sy'n colli eu swyddi neu wedi ymddeol ar bensiynau galwedigaethol i gyfrannu at yr economi leol yn mynd yn llai a phan fyddant hefyd yn ofni ynglŷn â'u dyfodol eu hunain, fel y nododd Lindsay Whittle. Nid yw hynny mor wir yn achos pensiynwyr Visteon, o ran colli'r galw am eu sgiliau, ddywedwn i, ond mae'n wir o ran colli'r grym gwario yr oeddent wedi rhagweld y byddai ganddynt, sy'n beth andwyol iddynt hwy a'r economi leol.

Those adverse consequences on individual pensioners have been well described by Bethan Jenkins here today, and she is right: these people are individuals. No-one is more alive to how decisions can affect individuals than those of us here in the Chamber. Regardless of our political differences, I think that we all bring a common respect for morality when we make our decisions here in the Chamber.

Mae'r canlyniadau andwyol hynny ar bensiynwyr unigol wedi cael eu disgrifio'n dda gan Bethan Jenkins yma heddiw, ac mae'n llygad ei lle: unigolion yw'r bobl hyn. Nid oes neb yn fwy effro i'r ffordd y gall penderfyniadau effeithio ar unigolion na'r rheini ohonom yma yn y Siambr. Beth bynnag fo'n gwahaniaethau gwleidyddol, credaf ein bod i gyd yn arddel parch cyffredin tuag at foesoldeb pan fyddwn yn gwneud ein penderfyniadau yma yn y Siambr.

I hope that others will join me in paying tribute, actually, to Bethan. You have worked really hard on this in the last five years, and I know that it means an awful lot to the ladies and gentlemen up in the gallery, whose fight goes on and on.

Gobeithio y bydd eraill yn ymuno â mi i dalu teyrnged, yn wir, i Bethan. Rydych wedi gweithio'n galed iawn ar hyn yn y pum mlynedd diwethaf, a gwn fod hynny'n golygu llawer iawn i'r gwŷr a'r gwragedd yn yr oriel, y mae eu brwydr yn parhau.

Minister, the specific impact on the local economy, while clearly felt, is more difficult to measure without a formal inquiry. Nor can we measure the effect of situations like this on the health and wellbeing of the people who have been involved in job loss and pension loss. A formal inquiry is something that the Welsh Government should consider holding, for its own sake as well as for the Visteon pensioners. It is not helpful, Minister, if you leave everything to Westminster to try to deal with, because I think a formal inquiry—[Interruption.]

Weinidog, mae'r effaith benodol ar yr economi leol, er bod yr effaith honno'n amlwg, yn fwy anodd ei mesur heb ymchwiliad ffurfiol. Ni allwn ychwaith fesur effaith sefyllfaoedd fel hyn ar iechyd a lles y bobl y mae colli swyddi a cholli pensiwn wedi effeithio arnynt. Mae ymchwiliad ffurfiol yn rhywbeth y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru ystyried ei gynnal, er ei fwyn ei hun, a hefyd er mwyn pensiynwyr Visteon. Nid yw'n beth buddiol, Weinidog, os gadewch bopeth i San Steffan geisio ymdrin ag ef oherwydd credaf fod ymchwiliad ffurfiol—[Torri ar draws.]

15:26

Edwina Hart Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Will you take an intervention?

A wnewch chi dderbyn ymyriad?

15:26

Suzy Davies Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Yes, by all means.

Gwnaf, ar bob cyfrif.

15:26

Edwina Hart Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I do not recall saying in my contribution that I was leaving matters to Westminster.

Nid wyf yn cofio dweud yn fy nghyfraniad fy mod yn gadael materion i San Steffan.

15:26

Suzy Davies Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Absolutely, Minister; I did not suggest that you were. It was just a point that David Rees raised.

Yn union, Weinidog; nid oeddwn yn awgrymu eich bod yn gwneud hynny. Pwynt a godwyd gan David Rees ydoedd.

I think that Peter Black is right to say that there is a point for the Welsh Government conducting its own inquiry, because it will help inform your strategic approach to the Welsh economy, and, in particular, it will help you hypothesise how you would support the parts of Wales that depend directly or indirectly on a major employer, should something happen to that major employer. With the right aftercare, of course, I think that we all believe that major employers can thrive and offer Wales a great deal. Indeed, Wales has a great deal to offer any ambitious and ethical business.

Credaf fod Peter Black yn llygad ei le i ddweud bod diben i Lywodraeth Cymru gynnal ei ymchwiliad ei hun, gan y bydd yn helpu i lywio'ch ymagwedd strategol tuag at economi Cymru, ac, yn benodol, bydd yn eich helpu i ddamcaniaethu sut y byddech yn cefnogi'r rhannau o Gymru sy'n dibynnu'n uniongyrchol neu'n anuniongyrchol ar gyflogwr mawr, pe bai rhywbeth yn digwydd i'r cyflogwr mawr hwnnw. Gyda'r ôl-ofal cywir, wrth gwrs, credaf fod pawb yn credu y gall cyflogwyr mawr ffynnu a chynnig cryn dipyn i Gymru. Yn wir, mae gan Gymru lawer iawn i'w gynnig i unrhyw fusnes uchelgeisiol a moesegol.

15:26

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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The proposal is to agree the motion without amendment. Does any Member object? There is objection, so I defer all voting under this item to voting time.

Y cynnig yw y dylid derbyn y cynnig heb ei ddiwygio. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Oes, felly gohiriaf yr holl bleidleisio o dan yr eitem hon tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

Gohiriwyd y pleidleisio tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

Voting deferred until voting time.

15:27

Adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cyllid ar Ardaloedd Menter

The Finance Committee's Report on Enterprise Zones

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

I call on the Chair of the Finance Committee, Jocelyn Davies, to move the motion.

Galwaf ar Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Cyllid, Jocelyn Davies, i gynnig y cynnig.

Cynnig NDM5429 Jocelyn Davies

Motion NDM5429 Jocelyn Davies

Mae Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

The National Assembly for Wales:

Yn nodi adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cyllid ar ei ymchwiliad i Ardaloedd Menter, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 17 Rhagfyr 2013.

Notes the report of the Finance Committee on its inquiry into Enterprise Zones, which was laid in the Table Office on 17 December 2013.

15:27

Jocelyn Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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I move the motion.

Cynigiaf y cynnig.

The Finance Committee conducted an inquiry to try to establish whether enterprise zones are working, and what results they are delivering. During the course of the inquiry we wrote to the chair of each of the seven zones, and undertook a visit to the Haven enterprise zone, led by Nick Bourne. Individual Members also visited zones local to them.

Cynhaliodd y Pwyllgor Cyllid ymchwiliad er mwyn canfod a yw ardaloedd menter yn gweithio, a'u canlyniadau. Yn ystod yr ymchwiliad, ysgrifennwyd at gadeirydd pob un o'r saith ardal, a chynhaliwyd ymweliad ag ardal fenter Dyfrffordd y Ddau Gleddau, dan arweiniad Nick Bourne. Ymwelodd Aelodau unigol ag ardaloedd a oedd yn lleol iddynt hwy hefyd.

What was most apparent to us as a committee was the lack of detail surrounding enterprise zones. It seemed that they had been slow to start, and it was difficult to assess whether they were working. We found all seven boards had objectives, but we were not sure what they were. We found that boards had to bid for investment, but we did not know exactly what they bid for. We also found that they were expected to deliver results, but we were not sure how success would be measured.

Y peth amlycaf i ni fel pwyllgor oedd y diffyg manylion ynghylch ardaloedd menter. Yn ôl pob golwg, roeddent wedi bod yn araf i ddechrau, ac roedd yn anodd asesu a oeddent yn gweithio. Canfuwyd bod gan bob un o'r saith bwrdd amcanion, ond nid oeddem yn siŵr beth oeddent. Canfuwyd bod yn rhaid i fyrddau wneud cais am fuddsoddiad, ond nid oeddem yn gwybod yn union beth roeddent yn gwneud cais amdano. Canfuwyd hefyd fod disgwyl iddynt gyflawni canlyniadau, ond nid oeddem yn siŵr sut y câi llwyddiant ei fesur.

We concluded that enterprise zones are surrounded by this air of mystery. Perhaps that is a bit of an advantage on occasion, Minister. It was clear that strategic plans existed, but they were not published. We heard evidence that there was a lack of budgetary accountability. There was a marked difference between enterprise zones in securing business rate relief, but it was clear to the committee that, where boards worked well with local authorities, as in the case of the Haven, to systematically target companies that might benefit, there was a great take-up of this incentive, which led to significant capital investments in those companies. We also found that there had been very few successful applications for enhanced capital allowances, despite it being clear that they are a powerful tool available to enterprise zones.

Daethom i'r casgliad bod rhyw ddirgelwch o ran yr ardaloedd menter. Efallai fod hynny'n dipyn o fantais ar adegau, Weinidog. Roedd yn amlwg bod cynlluniau strategol yn bodoli, ond nid oeddent wedi'u cyhoeddi. Clywsom dystiolaeth bod diffyg atebolrwydd cyllidebol. Roedd gwahaniaeth mawr rhwng ardaloedd menter o ran sicrhau rhyddhad ardrethi busnes, ond roedd yn amlwg i'r pwyllgor, lle roedd byrddau'n gweithio'n dda gydag awdurdodau lleol, fel yn achos Dyfrffordd y Ddau Gleddau, i dargedu cwmnïau a allai elwa ar hyn mewn ffordd systematig, fod nifer fawr wedi manteisio ar y cymhelliant hwn, a arweiniodd at fuddsoddiadau cyfalaf sylweddol yn y cwmnïau hynny. Canfuwyd hefyd mai prin iawn fu'r ceisiadau llwyddiannus am lwfansau cyfalaf uwch, er ei bod yn amlwg eu bod yn adnodd pwerus sydd ar gael i ardaloedd menter.

As a committee, we looked at the resources invested in the zones. The Welsh Government had previously allocated £125 million for enterprise zones over five years, but because we do not know the exact scale of resources requested by the enterprise zones, it was impossible to gauge whether the quantum of Welsh Government resources is sufficient. Based on our findings, we made five recommendations for this report, and we are pleased to note that the Government has supported all of the recommendations.

Fel pwyllgor, ystyriwyd yr adnoddau a fuddsoddwyd yn yr ardaloedd. Roedd Llywodraeth Cymru wedi dyrannu £125 miliwn yn flaenorol ar gyfer ardaloedd menter dros bum mlynedd, ond am nad ydym yn gwybod faint yn union o adnoddau y gofynnodd yr ardaloedd menter amdanynt, roedd yn amhosibl mesur a yw adnoddau Llywodraeth Cymru yn ddigonol. Yn seiliedig ar ein canfyddiadau, gwnaethom bum argymelliad ar gyfer yr adroddiad hwn, ac rydym yn falch o nodi bod y Llywodraeth wedi cefnogi pob un o'r argymhellion.

They are, first, the publishing of more information. While the committee understood perfectly that some information is commercially sensitive, we recommend that the Minister considers what information could be publicly available. Secondly, improved accountability arrangements would ensure value for money if enterprise zones are ever to hold their own budgets in the future. The third recommendation is ensuring that all businesses are informed about the business rate relief that is available to them within the zone. The fourth recommendation is giving consideration of whether and where enhanced capital allowances could be beneficial. The last recommendation is the publication of performance indicators.

Yr argymhellion yw: yn gyntaf, cyhoeddi rhagor o wybodaeth. Er i'r pwyllgor ddeall yn iawn fod rhywfaint o'r wybodaeth yn sensitif yn fasnachol, rydym yn argymell bod y Gweinidog yn ystyried pa wybodaeth a allai fod ar gael yn gyhoeddus. Yn ail, byddai trefniadau atebolrwydd gwell yn sicrhau gwerth am arian pe bai ardaloedd menter byth yn cynnal eu cyllidebau eu hunain yn y dyfodol. Y trydydd argymhelliad yw sicrhau bod pob busnes yn cael ei hysbysu am y rhyddhad ardrethi busnes sydd ar gael iddo o fewn yr ardal. Y pedwerydd argymhelliad yw ystyried a allai lwfansau cyfalaf uwch fod yn fuddiol ac ymhle y byddent yn fuddiol. Yr argymhelliad olaf yw cyhoeddi dangosyddion perfformiad.

Therefore, on behalf of the committee, I would like to thank all of those who gave evidence to the inquiry; as always, the contributions help us to reach the conclusions and the recommendations in our report. I would also like to thank the Members, as well as everyone who supported us in our work on this report, especially those from within the zones who gave up their valuable time. We are pleased that the Government has accepted the committee's recommendations, and, of course, we intend to review the outcomes at some time in the future. Thank you.

Felly, ar ran y pwyllgor, hoffwn ddiolch i bawb a roddodd dystiolaeth i'r ymchwiliad; fel bob amser, mae'r cyfraniadau yn ein helpu i ddod i'r casgliadau a'r argymhellion yn ein hadroddiad. Hoffwn hefyd ddiolch i'r Aelodau, yn ogystal â phawb a'n cefnogodd yn ein gwaith ar yr adroddiad hwn, yn enwedig y rhai o fewn yr ardaloedd a roddodd o'u hamser gwerthfawr. Rydym yn falch bod y Llywodraeth wedi derbyn argymhellion y pwyllgor, ac, wrth gwrs, rydym yn bwriadu adolygu'r canlyniadau ryw bryd adeg yn y dyfodol. Diolch.

15:30

Paul Davies Bywgraffiad Biography

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I am delighted to take part in this debate this afternoon. May I, as usual, thank the Chair of the committee for her leadership on this issue, and may I also thank the clerk and her team for their efforts throughout this inquiry?

Rwy'n falch o gymryd rhan yn y ddadl hon y prynhawn yma. A gaf fi, yn ôl yr arfer, ddiolch i Gadeirydd y pwyllgor am ei harweinyddiaeth ar y mater hwn, ac a gaf i hefyd ddiolch i'r clerc a'i thîm am eu hymdrechion drwy gydol yr ymchwiliad hwn?

I believe that the committee's report on this issue is succinct and gets straight to the point. However, I wish to focus my comments this afternoon specifically on recommendations 2 and 3, which examine enterprise zone budgets and value for money, and business rate relief.

Credaf fod adroddiad y pwyllgor ar y mater hwn yn gryno ac yn mynd yn syth at wraidd y mater. Fodd bynnag, yn fy sylwadau y prynhawn yma hoffwn ganolbwyntio yn benodol ar argymhellion 2 a 3, sy'n archwilio cyllidebau ardaloedd menter a gwerth am arian, a rhyddhad ardrethi busnes.

Before I get to those points, it is worth noting from the evidence sessions that were taken, and the visits that the committee made, that there is some good work going on in some of our enterprise zones. For example, from its visit to the Haven Waterway enterprise zone, the committee learned that the board had very good interaction with the Welsh Government, and that, in this particular case, the board found the Welsh Government to be responsive and supportive. I very much hope that this relationship is reciprocated across all enterprise zones in Wales.

Cyn imi drafod y pwyntiau hynny, mae'n werth nodi o'r sesiynau tystiolaeth, a'r ymweliadau a wnaeth y pwyllgor, fod rhywfaint o waith da yn mynd rhagddo mewn rhai o'n hardaloedd menter. Er enghraifft, yn dilyn ei ymweliad ag ardal fenter Dyfrffyrdd y Ddau Gleddau, cafodd y pwyllgor wybod bod y bwrdd wedi rhyngweithio'n dda â Llywodraeth Cymru, a bod Llywodraeth Cymru, yn yr achos penodol hwn, wedi bod yn ymatebol ac yn gefnogol ym marn y bwrdd. Rwy'n gobeithio'n fawr fod cydberthynas debyg ym mhob ardal fenter yng Nghymru.

However, the committee also learned that scrutinising the zones was somewhat difficult, as the Chair has just alluded to. Nick Bourne, the chair of the Haven Waterway enterprise zone, told us that:

Fodd bynnag, cafodd y pwyllgor wybod hefyd fod craffu ar yr ardaloedd braidd yn anodd, fel y mae'r Cadeirydd newydd ei grybwyll. Dywedodd Nick Bourne, cadeirydd ardal fenter Dyfrffyrdd y Ddau Gleddau wrthym:

'there is no budget because we do not hold a budget; we just give advice to the Minister after consulting with our partners and with the private sector expertise that we have on the board.'

nid oes cyllideb oherwydd nid oes gennym gyllideb; y cyfan a wnawn yw rhoi cyngor i'r Gweinidog ar ôl ymgynghori â'n partneriaid a chyda'r arbenigwyr o'r sector preifat sy'n gweithio gyda ni.

Therefore, understandably, it is difficult for zones to be able to fully develop their plans without knowing the information in terms of the resources that they have available to them from the Welsh Government. Indeed, the written evidence that the committee received from Ebbw Vale enterprise zone states that:

Felly, yn ddealladwy, mae'n anodd i ardaloedd allu datblygu eu cynlluniau yn llawn heb wybod y wybodaeth o ran yr adnoddau sydd ar gael iddynt gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Yn wir, mae'r dystiolaeth ysgrifenedig a gafodd y pwyllgor gan ardal fenter Glynebwy yn nodi:

'the terms and conditions of the board members are such that there is no direct visibility of the Welsh Government budgets. However the board will be aware of significant revenue and capital projects that are planned that provide an indication of the financial resource available.'

mae telerau ac amodau aelodau'r bwrdd yn golygu nad oes gweledededd uniongyrchol o ran cyllidebau Llywodraeth Cymru. Fodd bynnag, bydd y bwrdd yn ymwybodol o brosiectau refeniw a chyfalaf sylweddol sydd ar y gweill sy'n rhoi syniad o'r adnoddau ariannol sydd ar gael.

Given these circumstances, it is hard to establish exactly how the enterprise zones' strategic plans are actually developed. Given that enterprise zones' budgets are unknown, it is even more difficult to establish whether or not they are delivering value for money. This is something that I raised with the Minister for Finance only last month, when I asked her what financial arrangements are in place to monitor the outputs that have been achieved by enterprise zones in Wales, to ensure that they are ultimately providing value for money. The Minister responded by saying that it was a matter for those who are leading the enterprise zones locally, and that they should be transparent in terms of the expectations that the Welsh Government has for value for money. However, I fail to see how enterprise zone boards are supposed to prioritise, develop plans, and advise the Government without knowing the specific level of funding that the Welsh Government is making available. Determining value for money for the taxpayer, and securing specific outcomes from enterprise zones, are essential in monitoring and evaluating their performance.

O ystyried yr amgylchiadau hyn, mae'n anodd cadarnhau sut yn union y caiff cynlluniau strategol yr ardaloedd menter eu datblygu mewn gwirionedd. O gofio nad yw cyllidebau ardaloedd menter yn hysbys, mae hyd yn oed yn anos cadarnhau pa un a ydynt yn sicrhau gwerth am arian ai peidio. Mae hyn yn rhywbeth a godais gyda'r Gweinidog Cyllid dim ond y mis diwethaf, pan ofynnais iddi pa drefniadau ariannol sydd ar waith i fonitro'r hyn a gyflawnwyd gan ardaloedd menter yng Nghymru, er mwyn sicrhau eu bod yn rhoi gwerth am arian yn y pen draw. Ymatebodd y Gweinidog drwy ddweud mai mater i'r rhai sy'n arwain yr ardaloedd menter yn lleol yw hyn, a dylent fod yn dryloyw o ran y disgwyliadau sydd gan Lywodraeth Cymru o ran gwerth am arian. Fodd bynnag, ni allaf weld sut y mae disgwyl i fyrddau ardaloedd menter flaenoriaethu, datblygu cynlluniau a chynghori'r Llywodraeth heb wybod pa lefel o gyllid y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei rhoi. Mae pennu gwerth am arian i'r trethdalwr, a sicrhau canlyniadau penodol gan ardaloedd menter, yn hanfodol er mwyn monitro a gwerthuso eu perfformiad.

During the evidence session with the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport, I was pleased to hear the Minister say that she would look at some of the governance issues around them—how they should be established, and what we need to do with them. I therefore look forward to hearing more from the Minister about the governance and monitoring arrangements for enterprise zones in due course.

Yn ystod y sesiwn dystiolaeth gyda Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth, roeddwn yn falch o glywed y Gweinidog yn dweud y byddai'n edrych ar rai o'r materion llywodraethu sy'n gysylltiedig â hwy—sut y dylid eu sefydlu, a'r hyn sydd angen inni ei wneud gyda hwy. Felly, edrychaf ymlaen at glywed mwy gan y Gweinidog am y trefniadau llywodraethu a monitro ar gyfer ardaloedd menter maes o law.

The committee also looked at the range of incentives and sources of support that are offered to businesses in the enterprise zones. Throughout the course of the inquiry, it became evident that the most important attraction to businesses was the rate relief benefit. Currently, of course, businesses can apply for support of up to £55,000 a year until 2015-16. I am pleased to say that the Haven Waterway enterprise zone was the most successful enterprise zone in the first round. I believe that this was down to the board's strong working relationship with the local authority, which proactively encouraged businesses to apply for support.

Edrychodd y pwyllgor hefyd ar yr amrywiaeth o gymhellion a ffynonellau cymorth a gynigir i fusnesau yn yr ardaloedd menter. Trwy gydol yr ymchwiliad, daeth yn amlwg mai'r atyniad pwysicaf i fusnesau oedd rhyddhad ardrethi. Ar hyn o bryd, wrth gwrs, gall busnesau wneud cais am gymorth o hyd at £55,000 y flwyddyn tan 2015-16. Rwy'n falch o ddweud mai ardal fenter Dyfrffordd y Ddau Gleddau oedd yr ardal fenter fwyaf llwyddiannus yn y cylch cyntaf. Credaf mai'r gydberthynas waith gadarn rhwng y bwrdd a'r awdurdod lleol oedd yn gyfrifol am hyn, a oedd yn annog busnesau yn rhagweithiol i wneud cais am gymorth.

However, that best practice was not seen across all the zones in Wales, and the Minister has, of course, acknowledged this, adding that the main influence on that was the short timescale that they had for the first round and that they have learned the lessons from that. It is absolutely essential that the Welsh Government ensures that all zones across Wales have strong links with local authorities and that there is a culture of encouraging businesses to take up the incentives that are on offer. Clearly, more needs to be done to market the different business rates and support available, and I look forward to hearing from the Minister in her response to this debate how the Welsh Government will address this in the future.

Fodd bynnag, ni welwyd yr arfer gorau hwnnw ym mhob ardal yng Nghymru, ac mae'r Gweinidog, wrth gwrs, wedi cydnabod hyn, gan ychwanegu mai'r prif ddylanwad ar hynny oedd yr amserlen fer oedd ganddynt ar gyfer y cylch cyntaf a'u bod wedi dysgu'r gwersi o hynny. Mae'n hollol hanfodol bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn sicrhau bod gan bob ardal ledled Cymru gysylltiadau cryf ag awdurdodau lleol a bod diwylliant o annog busnesau i dderbyn y cymhellion a gynigir. Yn amlwg, mae angen gwneud mwy i farchnata'r ardrethi busnes gwahanol a'r cymorth sydd ar gael, ac edrychaf ymlaen at glywed gan y Gweinidog yn ei hymateb i'r ddadl hon sut y bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn mynd i'r afael â hyn yn y dyfodol.

In closing, Deputy Presiding Officer, while there are examples of some good work being done in enterprise zones across Wales, there is also room for substantial improvement. I look forward to hearing more about the development of enterprise zones across Wales, and I hope that the Minister will now take on board the committee's recommendations, notably around governance and value for money.

Wrth gloi, Ddirprwy Lywydd, er bod enghreifftiau o waith da yn cael ei wneud mewn ardaloedd menter ledled Cymru, mae cryn le i wella hefyd. Edrychaf ymlaen at glywed mwy am ddatblygiad ardaloedd menter ar draws Cymru, a gobeithio y bydd y Gweiniodg yn awr yn ystyried argymhellion y pwyllgor, yn enwedig ynghylch llywodraethu a gwerth am arian.

15:35

Mike Hedges Bywgraffiad Biography

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I join everybody else in thanking the Chair and the other people who helped us during our investigation. As I have said on several occasions, it appears that roughly every 20 years, issues get revisited. The failure of enterprise zones in the 1980s, both in Britain and in the United States of America, have meant that enterprise zones have needed to wait 30 years to come back into fashion. In Swansea, the term 'enterprise zone' is used interchangeably with out-of-town shopping areas. As the Minister is well aware, people often talk in Swansea about going to the enterprise zone, and what they mean is that they are going to an out-of-town shopping area. In fact, the term has tended to spread now to areas that are not part of the old enterprise zone but are relatively close to it.

Hoffwn ymuno â phawb arall i ddiolch i'r Cadeirydd a'r bobl eraill a'n helpodd yn ystod ein hymchwiliad. Fel rwyf wedi dweud sawl gwaith, ymddengys bod materion yn cael eu hailystyried oddeutu bob 20 mlynedd. Mae methiant ardaloedd menter yn y 1980au, ym Mhrydain ac yn Unol Daleithiau America, wedi golygu bod ardaloedd menter wedi gorfod aros 30 mlynedd er mwyn dod yn boblogaidd unwaith eto. Yn Abertawe, caiff y term 'ardal fenter' ei ddefnyddio i olygu ardaloedd siopa ar gyrion y dref. Fel y gŵyr y Gweinidog, mae pobl Abertawe yn aml yn sôn am fynd i'r ardal fenter, a'r hyn a olygant yw mynd i ardal siopa ar gyrion y dref. Yn wir, mae'r term bellach wedi tueddu i ledaenu i ardaloedd nad ydynt yn rhan o'r hen ardal fenter ond sy'n gymharol agos ati.

Swansea has the largest enterprise zone in Britain, but much of that is retail, including the sale of food, cars and almost any other thing you could hope to buy. So, we need to learn the lessons of the 1980s. In the 1980s, a number of enterprise zones were created throughout Britain, and these included zones in Wales in the lower Swansea valley in my constituency, and in Delyn and Milford Haven. Based upon the principle, as I said earlier, that old ideas are recycled, when those who were involved the first time around have changed jobs or retired, enterprise zones have returned. The challenge is to make them work this time because they certainly did not work in Swansea last time in terms of generating employment.

Mae gan Abertawe yr ardal fenter fwyaf ym Mhrydain, ond manwerthu yw llawer o hynny, gan gynnwys gwerthu bwyd, ceir a bron popeth arall y gallech obeithio ei brynu. Felly, mae angen inni ddysgu'r gwersi o'r 1980au. Yn y 1980au, crëwyd nifer o ardaloedd menter ledled Prydain, ac roedd y rhain yn cynnwys ardaloedd yng Nghymru yng Nghwm Tawe isaf yn fy etholaeth i, ac yn Nelyn ac Aberdaugleddau. Yn seiliedig ar yr egwyddor, fel y dywedais yn gynharach, fod hen syniadau yn cael eu hailgylchu, pan fydd y rhai a oedd yn gysylltiedig â hynny y tro cyntaf wedi newid swyddi neu wedi ymddeol, mae ardaloedd menter wedi dychwelyd. Yr her yw gwneud iddynt weithio y tro hwn oherwydd yn sicr ni fuont yn llwyddiant yn Abertawe y tro diwethaf o ran creu cyflogaeth.

The purpose of enterprise zones when they first came in was to stimulate private sector economic activity, creating employment in areas of relatively high economic inactivity. This was through tax incentives, 100% tax allowance for capital expenditure on industrial and commercial buildings, and exemption from paying business rates for 10 years from the date of the building being occupied. That was very popular among retailers. Developers and investors also benefited from a simplified town planning regime where planning permission was not required for new developments provided they complied with the published planning regime for the zone. Some minor benefits included exemptions from training board levies, and expedited custom facilities were also available.

Diben ardaloedd menter, pan gawsant eu cyflwyno y tro cyntaf, oedd ysgogi gweithgarwch economaidd yn y sector preifat, gan greu cyflogaeth mewn ardaloedd o anweithgarwch economaidd cymharol uchel. Gwnaed hyn drwy gymhellion treth, lwfans treth o 100% ar gyfer gwariant cyfalaf ar adeiladau diwydiannol a masnachol, ac eithriad rhag talu ardrethi busnes am 10 mlynedd o ddyddiad meddiannu'r adeilad. Roedd hynny'n boblogaidd iawn ymysg manwerthwyr. Cafodd datblygwyr a buddsoddwyr hefyd fudd o gyfundrefn cynllunio tref symlach lle nad oedd angen caniatâd cynllunio ar gyfer datblygiadau newydd ar yr amod eu bod yn cydymffurfio â'r gyfundrefn gynllunio a gyhoeddwyd ar gyfer yr ardal. Roedd rhai mân fanteision yn cynnwys eithriadau rhag ardollau'r bwrdd hyfforddi, ac roedd cyfleusterau tollau hwylus ar gael hefyd.

Initially, retail was excluded from enterprise zones because they were going to be industrial and generate employment. What actually happened—and Swansea is a classic examples—was that retail became a significant part of the enterprise zones. As I said earlier, the term 'enterprise zone' in Swansea means out-of-town retail park. In fact, if you look up Swansea enterprise zone in Wikipedia, it says:

Ar y dechrau, cafodd manwerthu ei eithrio rhag ardaloedd menter am mai eu bwriad oedd bod yn ddiwydiannol a chreu cyflogaeth. Yr hyn a ddigwyddodd mewn gwirionedd —ac mae Abertawe yn enghraifft berffaith—oedd bod manwerthu wedi dod yn rhan sylweddol o'r ardaloedd menter. Fel y dywedais yn gynharach, mae'r term 'ardal fenter' yn Abertawe yn golygu parc manwerthu ar gyrion y dref. Yn wir, os edrychwch am wybodaeth am ardal fenter Abertawe yn Wikipedia, mae'n dweud:

'The regeneration attracted many light industries, offices and in particular retail outlets to Swansea'.

Gwnaeth yr ardal adfywio ddenu llawer o ddiwydiannau ysgafn, swyddfeydd ac yn enwedig safleoedd manwerthu i Abertawe.

In a report in early 2011 from the Centre for Cities think tank and the not-for-profit organisation The Work Foundation, both said that the concept of enterprise zones and parks was outdated. Andrew Sissons, who wrote The Work Foundation report, said that most of the areas that had such zones are still struggling today—Middlesbrough, Speke, Hartlepool and Swansea. Most of the jobs created in enterprise zones are displaced from other areas, often very close. It has been further identified that evidence from previous enterprise zones suggests that 80% of the jobs they created are taken from other places; that enterprise zones do very little to promote lasting economic prosperity; and that most enterprise zones create a short-term boom followed by a long-term reversal back into depression. Enterprise zones are hugely expensive. Evidence from the 1980s suggests that enterprise zones cost approximately £23,000 for every new job they created.

Mewn adroddiad ar ddechrau 2011 gan felin drafod Centre for Cities a'r sefydliad nid er elw The Work Foundation, dywedodd y ddau fod cysyniad ardaloedd menter a pharciau menter yn hen ffasiwn. Dywedodd Andrew Sissons, a ysgrifennodd adroddiad The Work Foundation, fod y rhan fwyaf o'r ardaloedd a oedd yn cynnwys ardaloedd menter o'r fath yn dal i wynebu anawsterau heddiw—Middlesbrough, Speke, Hartlepool ac Abertawe. Caiff y rhan fwyaf o'r swyddi a grëir mewn ardaloedd menter eu dadleoli o ardaloedd eraill, yn aml ardaloedd agos iawn. Nodwyd hefyd fod tystiolaeth gan ardaloedd menter blaenorol yn awgrymu nad yw 80% o'r swyddi a grëir yn gwneud fawr ddim i hyrwyddo ffyniant economaidd parhaol; ac mai hwb byrdymor a grëir gan ardaloedd menter, gan ddychwelyd wedyn i gyfnod hirdymor o ddirwasgiad. Mae ardaloedd menter yn eithriadol o ddrud. Awgryma tystiolaeth o'r 1980au fod ardaloedd menter wedi costio tua £23,000 am bob swydd newydd a grëwyd.

According to a 1987 evaluation by the Department of the Environment, only 13,000 of the 63,000 jobs created in enterprise zones were new jobs, with the remainder displaced from within the area. The relatively small size of the enterprise zones meant that, in many cases, enterprise zones displaced jobs from within the same town or city. In 1999, a study by Potter and Moore suggested that around 25% of new jobs in enterprise zones were displaced from very close to where they were being moved to. This type of local displacement destabilises local economies, leaves some areas bereft of any employment, and which used to have it, and involved artificially enticing businesses into less competitive areas leaving some industrial parks not in the zone with empty units and some almost empty. Enterprise zones were also created in the USA, but a report released by the Public Policy Institute of California in 2009 regarding the enterprise zone programme, the state's largest economic development effort, concluded that it failed to achieve its key goal of increasing jobs.

Yn ôl gwerthusiad 1987 gan Adran yr Amgylchedd, dim ond 13,000 o'r 63,000 o swyddi a grëwyd mewn ardaloedd menter oedd yn swyddi newydd, gyda'r gweddill yn cael eu dadleoli o fewn yr ardal. Roedd maint cymharol fach ardaloedd menter yn golygu, mewn llawer o achosion, fod ardaloedd menter wedi dadleoli swyddi o'r un dref neu ddinas. Yn 1999, awgrymodd astudiaeth gan Potter a Moore fod tua 25% o swyddi newydd mewn ardaloedd menter yn cael eu dadleoli o fan agos i'r ardal yr oeddent yn cael eu symud iddi. Mae'r math hwn o ddadleoli lleol yn ansefydlogi economïau lleol, yn gadael ardaloedd a arferai fod â llawer o swyddi yn brin o gyflogaeth, ac yn golygu bod busnesau wedi cael eu denu'n artiffisial i ardaloedd llai cystadleuol gan adael rhai parciau diwydiannol nad ydynt yn yr ardal fenter ag unedau gwag a rhai bron yn wag. Crëwyd ardaloedd menter hefyd yn UDA, ond daeth adroddiad a gyhoeddwyd gan Sefydliad Polisi Cyhoeddus Califfornia yn 2009 ar y rhaglen ardaloedd menter, sef ymdrech datblygu economaidd fwyaf y dalaith, i'r casgliad ei bod wedi methu â chyflawni ei nod allweddol o gynyddu nifer y swyddi.

The second interim report on enterprise zones by the department of the environment in 1995 identified that, in general, a significant proportion of rate relief available to tenants of property in enterprise zones had been absorbed into the rental payments—so, cut the rates, up the rent. It was further assumed that capital allowances would be shared. In fact, capital allowances went in name to the owners. Clustering does not appear to have worked either. The challenge to the Minister is to make sure that the mistakes of the 1980s are not repeated and these new enterprise zones work for the benefit of the people of Wales.

Nododd yr ail adroddiad interim ar ardaloedd menter gan adran yr amgylchedd yn 1995, yn gyffredinol, fod cyfran sylweddol o'r rhyddhad ardrethi sydd ar gael i denantiaid eiddo mewn ardaloedd menter wedi cael ei chynnwys mewn taliadau rhent—felly, torrwch yr ardrethi, a chynyddu a wna'r rhent. Tybiwyd hefyd y byddai lwfansau cyfalaf yn cael eu rhannu. Yn wir, aeth lwfansau cyfalaf mewn enw i'r perchnogion. Nid yw clystyru wedi gweithio ychwaith yn ôl pob golwg. Yr her i'r Gweinidog yw sicrhau nad yw camgymeriadau'r 1980au yn cael eu hadiladrodd, a bod yr ardaloedd menter newydd hyn yn gweithio er budd pobl Cymru.

15:41 **Peter Black** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Had Mike Hedges been in Government in the 1980s, we would never have had any enterprise zones, and that some of the jobs that were created would not have happened. Like Mike, I was very active in Swansea at the time of establishing the Swansea enterprise zone. I was a member of the then Swansea City Council, which, of course, administered the enterprise zone on behalf of the city and the wider area. There was a specific enterprise zone committee in place that dealt with all the planning decisions and allocated land for offices and other purposes. As a result, the council kept a very tight rein on what went on in the enterprise zone. As Mike has pointed out, one of the problems was that the council specifically said to the UK Government, 'We do not want retail on that zone' and the UK Government refused to agree with that. As a result, a large number of retail units were built there, which was against the council's policy and what it wanted to do at that time.

Pe bai Mike Hedges wedi bod yn y Llywodraeth yn y 1980au, ni fyddem byth wedi cael unrhyw ardaloedd menter, ac ni fyddai rhai o'r swyddi a grëwyd wedi digwydd. Fel Mike, roeddwn yn weithgar iawn yn Abertawe ar adeg sefydlu'r ardal fenter yn Abertawe. Roeddwn yn aelod o Gyngor Dinas Abertawe, a weinyddodd, wrth gwrs, yr ardal fenter ar ran y ddinas a'r ardal ehangach. Roedd pwyllgor ardal fenter penodol ar waith a oedd yn delio â'r holl benderfyniadau cynllunio ac a oedd yn dyrannu tir ar gyfer swyddfeydd a dibenion eraill. O ganlyniad, cadwodd y cyngor olwg barcud ar yr hyn a oedd yn digwydd yn yr ardal fenter. Fel y soniodd Mike, un o'r problemau oedd i'r cyngor ddweud yn benodol wrth Lywodraeth y DU, 'Nid ydym am gael unrhyw safleoedd manwerthu yn yr ardal honno' a gwrthododd Llywodraeth y DU gytuno â hynny. O ganlyniad, adeiladwyd nifer fawr o unedau manwerthu yno, a aeth yn groes i bolisi'r cyngor a'r hyn yr oedd am ei wneud ar yr adeg honno.

Nonetheless, I think that some good things came out of that enterprise zone. It was, of course, built on the fact that Swansea council owned virtually the whole zone, if not large tracts of the zone. So, the council was able to control, through the leasehold interest, the rents that were payable and who had those leases. It was not, obviously, able to resist the retail but there were low rents as a result of that and, of course, the zone was rate free for a significant period of time. Despite Mike's pessimism, there were some genuine new jobs created there. I worked for the Land Registry at the time—which relocated, no it did not relocate—which sited a second office on the enterprise zone and expanded quite considerably. When I left that office in 1999, I think that it must have employed 500 people in the zone. Of course, the Land Registry has since contracted and is now under threat of privatisation, but that is a different story altogether. However, significant new jobs were created in that zone. The inland revenue, I think, created new jobs there, and Welsh Water, of course, built offices there as well. So, there were significant office developments in that zone. There are still today a number of other businesses there. I think Capgemini UK is based there, or it certainly was when I was involved with Swansea council's IT contract, but that was many years ago. There is a large number of private companies there as well. The seeds that were planted by the Government in the 1980s are still bearing fruit in terms of what is coming out as jobs and prosperity. Of course, I note that the benefits that originally came with that zone are no longer there, namely the low rents and the rate-free aspect. However, we have a business zone that is slowly expanding and not contracting at the rate that you would expect it to.

Serch hynny, credaf i rai pethau da ddeillio o'r ardal fenter honno. Fe'i hadeiladwyd, wrth gwrs, ar y sail mai cyngor Abertawe a oedd yn berchen bron yn gyfan gwbl ar yr ardal gyfan, os nad rhannau mawr o'r ardal. Felly, roedd y cyngor yn gallu rheoli, drwy'r buddiant lesddaliadol, y rhenti a oedd yn daladwy a phwy oedd yn cael y lesddaliadau hynny. Yn amlwg, nid oedd yn gallu gwrthod yr unedau manwerthu ond roedd rhenti isel o ganlyniad i hynny ac, wrth gwrs, bu'r ardal yn ddi-ardreth am gyfnod sylweddol o amser. Er gwaethaf pesimistiaeth Mike, crëwyd rhai swyddi newydd gwirioneddol yno. Roeddwn yn gweithio i'r Gofrestrfa Tir ar y pryd—a adleolodd, na ni wnaeth adleoli—a leolodd ail swyddfa yn yr ardal fenter ac a ehangodd yn eithaf sylweddol. Pan adewais y swydd honno yn 1999, roedd yn cyflogi, fe gredaf, tua 500 o bobl yn yr ardal. Wrth gwrs, ers hynny mae'r Gofrestrfa Tir wedi lleihau a bellach mae'n wynebu'r bygythiad o gael ei phreifateiddio, ond stori hollol wahanol yw honno. Fodd bynnag, crëwyd swyddi newydd yn yr ardal honno. Crëodd Cyllid y Wlad swyddi newydd yno, ac adeiladodd Dŵr Cymru, wrth gwrs, swyddfeydd yno hefyd. Felly, bu datblygiadau sylweddol yn yr ardal honno o ran swyddfeydd. Mae nifer o fusnesau yno hyd heddiw. Credaf fod Capgemini UK wedi'i leoli yno, neu yn sicr roedd yno pan oeddwn yn gysylltiedig â chontract TG cyngor Abertawe, ond roedd hynny flynyddoedd lawer yn ôl. Mae nifer fawr o gwmnïau preifat yno hefyd. Mae'r hadau a blannwyd gan y Llywodraeth yn y 1980au yn dal i ddwyn ffrwyth o ran swyddi a ffyniant. Wrth gwrs, nodaf nad yw'r buddiannau a ddaeth yn wreiddiol gyda'r ardal fenter honno yno mwyach, sef y rhenti isel a'r elfen ddi-ardreth. Fodd bynnag, mae gennym ardal fusnes sy'n ehangu'n araf yn hytrach na chrebachu ar y gyfradd y byddech yn disgwyl iddi wneud.

This report on enterprise zones is quite a significant one, because what it shows is that the approach to enterprise zones today is quite different to that back in the 1980s. The approach is far more low key today that it was then. They are not so much based around land ownership. Although the benefits in terms of rates are important, the capital allowances available to companies are not being taken up, or are very rarely taken up, simply because you have to come in with a new development to do so. That seems to be quite limited.

Mae'r adroddiad hwn ar ardaloedd menter yn un eithaf pwysig, oherwydd yr hyn y mae'n ei ddangos yw bod y dull o weithredu ardaloedd menter heddiw yn dra gwahanol i'r hyn ydoedd yn y 1980au. Mae'r dull yn llawer mwy cynnil heddiw nag yr oedd bryd hynny. Nid ydynt mor seiliedig ar berchenogaeth tir. Er bod y buddiannau o ran ardrethi yn bwysig, nid yw cwmnïau yn manteisio ar y lwfansau cyfalaf sydd ar gael, neu anaml iawn y manteisir arnynt, yn syml am fod yn rhaid ichi gyflwyno datblygiad newydd er mwyn gwneud hynny. Ymddengys fod hynny'n eithaf cyfyngedig.

The committee highlighted a number of issues. I am pleased that the Minister has accepted all the recommendations. There were issues about information being made available so that we could properly scrutinise the performance of the zones. There were also issues around the budgets and how those zones could develop in future. As I said when we talked about the Swansea enterprise zone, quite significant sums of money were available and being administered by the council. When we went to visit Pembrokeshire, we discovered that Pembrokeshire County Council is very much involved in the management of that zone. The close partnership that it has with the zone management is very much valued and is showing benefits. The zone management is very active, going around all the businesses in the zone area to sell the benefits of enterprise zone siting to them for their business. We spoke to a number of businesses in Pembroke Dock enterprise zone that explained to us what they were doing with the extra money they were saving as a result of rates. You could see evidence of those businesses reinvesting that money into their businesses.

Amlygodd y pwyllgor nifer o faterion. Rwy'n falch bod y Gweinidog wedi derbyn yr holl argymhellion. Roedd problemau ynghylch sicrhau bod gwybodaeth ar gael fel y gallem graffu'n briodol ar berfformiad yr ardaloedd. Roedd problemau hefyd o ran y cyllidebau a sut y gellid datblygu'r ardaloedd hynny yn y dyfodol. Fel y dywedais, pan drafodwyd ardal fenter Abertawe, roedd symiau tra sylweddol o arian ar gael ac yn cael eu gweinyddu gan y cyngor. Pan aethom i ymweld â Sir Benfro, canfuwyd bod Cyngor Sir Penfro yn chwarae rhan fawr yn y gwaith o reoli'r ardal honno. Mae'r bartneriaeth agos rhyngddo â rheolwyr yr ardal yn cael ei gwerthfawrogi'n fawr ac mae manteision yn deillio ohoni. Mae rheolwyr yr ardal yn weithredol iawn, yn mynd o amgylch pob un o'r busnesau yn yr ardal i werthu manteision lleoliad ardal fenter iddynt ar gyfer eu busnes. Gwnaethom siarad â nifer o fusnesau yn ardal fenter Doc Penfro a esboniodd inni yr hyn y maent yn ei wneud gyda'r arian ychwanegol yr oeddent yn ei arbed o ganlyniad i ardrethi. Gallech weld tystiolaeth bod y busnesau hynny yn ailfuddsoddi'r arian hwnnw yn eu busnesau.

In conclusion, the enterprise zone project that we are embarking on today is beneficial and helpful, but it is still in its early days. We need to do a lot more work to develop it and reap that potential.

I gloi, mae'r prosiect ardaloedd menter yr ydym yn dechrau ymgymryd ag ef heddiw yn fuddiol ac yn ddefnyddiol, ond megis dechrau y mae'r gwaith. Mae angen inni wneud llawer mwy o waith i'w ddatblygu ac elwa ar y potensial hwnnw.

15:46

Edwina Hart Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth / The Minister for Economy, Science and Transport

I thank the Chair of the Finance Committee and its members for the work on this report. I am not sure that it is necessarily mysterious or that there is a veil hanging over it, but your report has done some good in bringing issues to the fore for discussion. It raises important matters for consideration. That is why I have accepted all the recommendations in my formal response to the report.

Hoffwn ddiolch i Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Cyllid a'i aelodau am y gwaith ar yr adroddiad hwn. Nid wyf yn siŵr ei fod o reidrwydd yn ddirgel nac ychwaith ei fod dan gochl, ond mae eich adroddiad wedi gwneud rhywfaint o waith da o ran cyflwyno materion i'w trafod. Mae'n codi materion pwysig i'w hystyried. Dyna pam rwyf wedi derbyn pob un o'r argymhellion yn fy ymateb ffurfiol i'r adroddiad hwnnw.

I am pleased that we have already addressed some of the committee's recommendations, but we have more to do. For example, we published an update document summarising non-commercially sensitive information on the strategic plans of each zone. In addition, performance indicators were published last December—a move the report envisaged as a key step forward. In terms of raising awareness of rates incentives, the second year of the business rates scheme, which Paul Davies alluded to, included a co-ordinated marketing drive with press coverage and mailings to all the businesses in the zones.

Rwy'n falch ein bod eisoes wedi mynd i'r afael â rhai o argymhellion y pwyllgor, ond mae rhagor gennym i'w wneud. Er enghraifft, gwnaethom gyhoeddi dogfen a oedd yn crynhoi'r wybodaeth anfasnachol sensitif ddiweddaraf am gynlluniau strategol pob ardal. Yn ogystal, cyhoeddwyd dangosyddion perfformiad fis Rhagfyr diwethaf¾cam a ragwelodd yr adroddiad fel cam allweddol ymlaen. O ran codi ymwybyddiaeth o gymhellion ardrethi, roedd ail flwyddyn y cynllun ardrethi busnes, fel y crybwyllwyd gan Paul Davies, yn cynnwys ymgyrch farchnata gydgysylltiedig gyda sylw yn y wasg a deunydd yn cael ei bostio i bob busnes yn yr ardaloedd menter.

While there is limited opportunity to extend sites' eligibility for enhanced capital allowances, I will give consideration to whether there is scope for additional areas, noting, however, the potential cost implications, and, of course, there would have to be a discussion with HM Treasury.

Er bod cyfle cyfyngedig i estyn cymhwysedd safleoedd ar gyfer lwfansau cyfalaf uwch, byddaf yn ystyried y posibilrwydd o greu ardaloedd ychwanegol, gan nodi, fodd bynnag, y goblygiadau cost posibl, ac, wrth gwrs, byddai'n rhaid cael trafodaeth gyda Thrysorlys EM.

Finally, should the remit of enterprise zones change, full consideration will be given to accountability arrangements. At present, the enterprises zones are led by the private sector. They do not hold their own budgets and are of an advisory nature, but they are evolving and developing and I will certainly be returning to their role and structure. The boards are private-sector led, so I have advice directly from the business community. I do not tend to second guess the advice that I get from the private sector, because it is important that I utilise the skills of the private sector to ensure that we have the right direction of travel in the development of the zones.

Yn olaf, os bydd cylch gwaith ardaloedd menter yn newid, rhoddir ystyriaeth lawn i drefniadau atebolrwydd. Ar hyn o bryd, arweinir yr ardaloedd menter gan y sector preifat. Nid ydynt yn dal eu cyllidebau eu hunain ac maent o natur gynghorol, ond maent yn esblygu ac yn datblygu a byddaf yn sicr yn dychwelyd at eu rôl a'u strwythur. Arweinir y byrddau gan y sector preifat, felly caf gyngor yn uniongyrchol gan y gymuned fusnes. Nid wyf am geisio dyfalu pa gyngor a gaf gan y sector preifat, oherwydd mae'n bwysig fy mod yn defnyddio sgiliau'r sector preifat er mwyn sicrhau ein bod yn mynd i'r cyfeiriad cywir o ran datblygu'r ardaloedd.

As the Finance Committee report identifies, we do not want to see the experience of previous enterprise zones, which led to dead weight and displacement. Mike Hedges went into some detail about the issues with Swansea, as did Peter Black. I confirm that I too once worked in the enterprise zone in a commercial development, and some of those jobs still exist in that enterprise zone.

Fel y noda adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cyllid, nid ydym am weld profiad yr ardaloedd menter blaenorol, a arweiniodd at faich mawr a dadleoli. Manylodd Mike Hedges ar rai o broblemau Abertawe, fel y gwnaeth Peter Black. Cadarnhaf i finnau hefyd weithio unwaith yn yr ardal fenter mewn datblygiad masnachol, ac mae rhai o'r swyddi hynny yn dal i fodoli yn yr ardal fenter honno.

I see the creation of new jobs and the safeguarding of existing employment as key. Individual enterprise zone boards have different approaches about how best to do that. For some, the best approach is improving infrastructure to encourage businesses to relocate. For others, it can be securing a significant tenant as an anchor to attract others. The best approach depends on the existing business base, the sectorial mix and the development stage of the zone. As the committee's report recognises, there are different zones pursuing different strategies from different starting positions. That is an important point about the starting positions of the zones, because their progress will also be different. The committee acknowledges that there are successes on the ground already.

Yn fy marn i, mae creu swyddi newydd a diogelu cyflogaeth bresennol yn allweddol. Mae gan fyrddau ardaloedd menter unigol ddulliau gweithredu gwahanol o ran y ffordd orau o wneud hynny. I rai, y dull gweithredu gorau yw gwella seilwaith er mwyn annog busnesau i ail-leoli. I eraill, gall olygu sicrhau tenant sylweddol fel angor i ddenu eraill. Mae'r dull gweithredu gorau yn dibynnu ar y sylfaen fusnes bresennol, y cymysgedd sectoraidd a cham datblygu'r ardal. Fel y cydnabu adroddiad y pwyllgor, mae gwahanol ardaloedd yn mynd ar drywydd strategaethau gwahanol o fannau cychwyn gwahanol. Mae hynny'n bwynt pwysig ynghylch mannau cychwyn yr ardaloedd, oherwydd bydd eu cynnydd hefyd yn wahanol. Cydnabu'r pwyllgor fod llwyddiannau ar lawr gwlad eisoes.

The Ebbw Vale enterprise zone is making steady progress. That includes work to develop site infrastructure, securing electricity power supply to development sites and improving access to the zone. I am encouraged to hear that there are steady inquires, as a result of that ongoing work, to the zone.

Mae ardal fenter Glynebwy yn gwneud cynnydd cyson. Mae hynny'n cynnwys gweithio i ddatblygu seilwaith y safle, sicrhau cyflenwad o bŵer trydan i safleoedd datblygu a gwella mynediad i'r ardal. Mae'n galonogol clywed bod ymholiadau cyson ynghylch yr ardal, o ganlyniad i'r gwaith hwnnw sy'n mynd rhagddo.

Deeside is very different again. It is well advanced and has utilised its substantial existing business base to good effect. Our incentives are supporting businesses to invest and expand within the zone, including major anchor companies such as Airbus, and SMEs such as Westbridge Furniture Designs, which has plans to expand its workforce and create more than 150 new jobs.

Mae Glannau Dyfrdwy yn wahanol iawn eto. Mae'r ardal hon yn mynd rhagddi'n dda ac mae wedi defnyddio ei sylfaen fusnes bresennol sylweddol yn effeithiol. Mae ein cymhellion yn cefnogi busnesau i fuddsoddi ac ehangu o fewn yr ardal, gan gynnwys cwmnïau angori mawr fel Airbus, a busnesau bach a chanolig megis Westbridge Furniture Designs, sy'n bwriadu ehangu ei weithlu a chreu mwy na 150 o swyddi newydd.

The success of the Ynys Môn enterprise zone is closely tied to the nuclear development, which, of course, is not devolved but is of huge importance for the zone and the island as a whole. Nevertheless, we are making good progress in bringing new jobs to the zone; for example, in Anglesey and Deeside, we only have to look at Boparan's £50 million, I think, of investment from the private sector. In Anglesey, this has resulted in the creation of 310 jobs, with an additional 330 jobs safeguarded.

Mae llwyddiant ardal fenter Ynys Môn yn gysylltiedig iawn â'r datblygiad niwclear, nad yw, wrth gwrs, yn ddatganoledig ond sydd o bwys mawr i'r ardal a'r ynys yn gyffredinol. Serch hynny, rydym yn gwneud cynnydd da o ran dod â swyddi newydd i'r ardal, er enghraifft, ar Ynys Môn ac yng Nglannau Dyfrdwy, rhaid ond ystyried £50 miliwn Boparan, fe gredaf, o fuddsoddiad gan y sector preifat. Ar Ynys Môn, mae hyn wedi arwain at greu 310 o swyddi, gyda 330 o swyddi ychwanegol wedi'u diogelu.

The Snowdonia enterprise zone is in a similar position, where the progress of the Trawsfynydd site is tied to the timetable for nuclear decommissioning. However, strategic options assessments and a master plan are already helping to set foundations for future long-term investment. Given this progress, it was disappointing to see misplaced criticism of the progress at Snowdonia in the press recently. The chair of the enterprise zone has raised with me on a number of occasions issues about the relevance of short-term indicators for the zone. He stressed that the board is still concluding its planning stage, and its overarching aim is the creation of job opportunities and economic growth. However, this is a medium and long-term aspiration, rather than something that it can undertake for the short term.

Mae ardal fenter Eryri mewn sefyllfa debyg, lle mae hynt safle Trawsfynydd yn gysylltiedig â'r amserlen ar gyfer datgomisiynu niwclear. Fodd bynnag, mae asesiadau o opsiynau strategol a phrif gynllun eisoes yn helpu i osod sylfeini ar gyfer buddsoddiad hirdymor yn y dyfodol. O gofio'r cynnydd hwn, roedd yn siomedig gweld beirniadaeth ar gam o'r cynnydd yn Eryri yn y wasg yn ddiweddar. Mae cadeirydd yr ardal fenter wedi codi materion ynghylch perthnasedd dangosyddion byrdymor ar gyfer yr ardal gyda mi ar sawl achlysur. Pwysleisiodd fod y bwrdd yn dal i gwblhau ei gam cynllunio, a'i nod cyffredinol yw creu cyfleoedd am swyddi a thwf economaidd. Fodd bynnag, dyhead tymor canolig a hirdymor yw hwn, yn hytrach na rhywbeth y gellir ei gyflawni yn y byrdymor.

In the Haven Waterway enterprise zone, we have seen some very good developments, and I think that that has been acknowledged today. We have already received 30 inquiries for the main Waterston and Blackbridge sites, which are now on the market. These obviously remain commercially sensitive, but we are confident of entering more detailed negotiations in the coming months.

Yn ardal fenter Dyfrffordd y Ddau Gleddau, rydym wedi gweld rhai datblygiadau da iawn, a chredaf i hynny gael ei gydnabod heddiw. Rydym eisoes wedi derbyn 30 ymholiad ar gyfer safleoedd Waterston a Blackbridge, sydd bellach ar y farchnad. Erys y rhain yn sensitif yn fasnachol yn amlwg, ond rydym yn hyderus y byddwn yn cael cyd-drafodaethau manylach yn y misoedd i ddod.

St Athan-Cardiff Airport enterprise zone has been successful in attracting quality companies like eCube Solutions and Cardiff Aviation. There continues to be strong interest in the zone. A contract providing over 40 new aviation jobs is about to be signed, along with a further contract with an engineering company for 70 new jobs. Following ongoing discussions with the Ministry of Defence, the development of a contract to facilitate the opening of the airfield remains on course to obtain seven-day operation by April.

Mae ardal fenter Sain Tathan Maes Awyr Caerdydd wedi bod yn llwyddiannus o ran denu cwmnïau o safon fel eCube Solutions a Cardiff Aviation. Mae diddordeb mawr yn yr ardal o hyd. Mae contract a fydd yn darparu dros 40 o swyddi hedfan newydd ar fin cael ei lofnodi, ynghyd â chontract arall gyda chwmni peirianneg am 70 o swyddi newydd. Yn dilyn trafodaethau sy'n parhau â'r Weinyddiaeth Amddiffyn, mae'r gwaith o ddatblygu contract i hwyluso'r broses o agor y maes awyr yn parhau i fynd rhagddo er mwyn bod ar waith saith diwrnod yr wythnos erbyn mis Ebrill.

The Central Cardiff enterprise zone is helping to cement Cardiff's position as an attractive location for financial investment and a preferred location for contact and shared-services centres. I know that, here in the capital city, the chair is very keen that there is suitable office accommodation to attract key tenants. The view of the chair of the enterprise zone is that a significant new or relocating company could be the stimulus for other businesses to locate to form clusters of businesses, suppliers and associated institutions, increasing the attractiveness of the zone locally, nationally and internationally.

Mae ardal fenter Canol Caerdydd yn helpu i gadarnhau safle Caerdydd fel lleoliad deniadol ar gyfer buddsoddiad ariannol a lleoliad dewisol ar gyfer canolfannau cyswllt a gwasanaethau a rennir. Gwn fod y cadeirydd, yma yn y brifddinas, yn awyddus iawn i sicrhau bod swyddfeydd addas ar gael i ddenu tenantiaid allweddol. Barn cadeirydd yr ardal fenter yw y gallai cwmni newydd sylweddol neu gwmni sy'n ail-leoli ysgogi busnesau eraill i leoli er mwyn ffurfio clystyrau o fusnesau, cyflenwyr a sefydliadau cysyltiedig, gan gynyddu atyniad yr ardal yn lleol, yn genedlaethol ac yn rhyngwladol.

Finally, I thank the Finance Committee for its report. As the committee acknowledges, enterprise zones are not a quick fix, and I am very pleased that the committee looked in such detail at this issue. They are about creating sustainable jobs and growth for the longer term. Working with private sector boards, I intend to continue to support the enterprise zones to deliver jobs, growth and wealth to Wales. I look forward to seeing the further committee review of the ongoing work that I am doing on enterprise zones, and I would be more than happy, Deputy Presiding Officer, to update Members in the Chamber in the summer term on what actions I have taken to implement fully the recommendations in the Finance Committee's report.

Yn olaf, hoffwn ddiolch i'r Pwyllgor Cyllid am ei adroddiad. Fel y cydnabu'r pwyllgor, nid ateb cyflym yw ardaloedd menter, ac rwy'n falch iawn bod y pwyllgor wedi ystyried hyn yn fanwl iawn. Maent a wnelo â chreu swyddi cynaliadwy a thwf ar gyfer y tymor hwy. Gan weithio gyda byrddau'r sector preifat, bwriadaf barhau i helpu'r ardaloedd menter i greu swyddi, twf a chyfoeth i Gymru. Edrychaf ymlaen at weld adolygiad pellach y pwyllgor o'r gwaith yr wyf yn parhau i'w wneud ar ardaloedd menter, a byddwn yn fwy na pharod, Ddirprwy Lywydd, i roi'r newyddion diweddaraf i Aelodau yn y Siambr yn ystod tymor yr haf am ba gamau gweithredu yr wyf wedi'u cymryd i weithredu'n llawn yr argymhellion yn adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cyllid.

15:53

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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I call on the Chair of the Finance Committee to reply, Jocelyn Davies.

Galwaf ar Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Cyllid i ymateb, Jocelyn Davies.

15:53

Jocelyn Davies Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Of course, many Members have called for enterprise zones to be set up in their areas, and I know that I have asked the Minister, in the past, to consider Newport. So, enterprise-zone status is sought after, and we would fully expect them all to be different, depending on where they are; otherwise, they would not suit their own locality.

Wrth gwrs, mae nifer o Aelodau wedi galw am sefydlu ardaloedd menter yn eu hardaloedd, a gwn fy mod wedi gofyn i'r Gweinidog, yn y gorffennol, ystyried Casnewydd. Felly, mae statws ardal fenter yn rhywbeth a chwenychir, a byddem yn llawn ddisgwyl i bob un ohonynt fod yn wahanol, yn dibynnu ar ble y maent; neu fel arall ni fyddent yn addas i'w hardal eu hunain.

We must acknowledge that this is a policy in its very early stages. We must not be overly concerned that it is not quite yet fully cooked. We saw companies during our inquiry, long established and highly regarded in their areas, that were also able, through having enterprise-zone status, to make substantial investments, employing more people and making their businesses more sustainable. The certainty that being within the zone gave them made their investment decisions much easier.

Rhaid inni gydnabod bod hwn yn bolisi ar gam cynnar iawn. Ni ddylem ofidio'n ormodol nad yw'n hollol barod eto. Gwelsom gwmnïau yn ystod ein hymchwiliad, rhai hirsefydledig ac uchel eu parch yn eu hardaloedd, a oedd, am fod ganddynt statws ardal fenter, yn gallu gwneud buddsoddiadau sylweddol, gan gyflogi mwy o bobl a gwneud eu busnesau yn fwy cynaliadwy. Roedd y sicrwydd o fod yn yr ardal fenter yn gwneud eu penderfyniadau buddsoddi gymaint yn haws.

So, it is not only current jobs that were protected but new posts created, and there was confidence in their future prospects. Paul Davies was keen to look at this policy area, and I concur with his view that transparency could be improved as the zones develop. I am pleased that governance arrangements will be given consideration. We must remember that the board members, of course, are giving their time, generally, for free. However, we were told that there are no shortages at the moment of people prepared to come forward and contribute their expertise. We need to encourage that.

Felly, nid swyddi presennol yn unig a oedd yn cael eu diogelu, ond roedd swyddi newydd yn cael eu creu, ac roeddent yn ffyddiog ynglŷn â'u rhagolygon ar gyfer y dyfodol. Roedd Paul Davies yn awyddus i edrych ar y maes polisi hwn, a chytunaf ag ef y gellid gwella tryloywder wrth i'r ardaloedd ddatblygu. Rwy'n falch y rhoddir ystyriaeth i drefniadau llywodraethu. Rhaid inni gofio bod aelodau byrddau, wrth gwrs, yn rhoi o'u hamser, yn gyffredinol, am ddim. Fodd bynnag, dywedwyd wrthym nad oes prinder pobl ar hyn o bryd sy'n barod i gyfrannu eu harbenigedd. Mae angen inni annog hynny.

Daeth y Llywydd i'r Gadair am 15:54.

The Presiding Officer took the Chair at 15:54.

Jocelyn Davies Bywgraffiad Biography

Mike Hedges, of course, has significant experience and, I have to say, expertise in enterprise zones. I think that it is his favourite topic. If ever he were on 'Mastermind', I think that, apart from the housing revenue account subsidy system, enterprise zones would be his area. He was keen to ensure that the mistakes that he had seen for himself in the past are not repeated. He submitted evidence to us in his own right. We were fairly certain that the Welsh Government fully intended to avoid those failures and has already taken steps to prevent some of the drawbacks that Mike Hedges set out in his contribution this afternoon.

Mae gan Mike Hedges, wrth gwrs, gryn brofiad a, rhaid imi ddweud, arbenigedd ym maes ardaloedd menter. Credaf mai dyma yw ei hoff bwnc. Pe bai'n cystadlu rywbryd ar 'Mastermind', fe gredaf, ar wahân i system cymhorthdal y cyfrif refeniw tai, mai ardaloedd menter fyddai ei faes. Roedd yn awyddus i sicrhau na fyddai'r camgymeriadau a welodd drosto'i hun yn y gorffennol yn cael eu hailadrodd. Cyflwynodd dystiolaeth inni yn ei rinwedd ei hun. Rydym yn eithaf sicr bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn bwriadu osgoi'r methiannau hynny yn gyfan gwbl ac eisoes mae wedi cymryd camau i atal rhai o'r anfanteision a nodwyd gan Mike Hedges yn ei gyfraniad y prynhawn yma.

Peter Black told us that he could recall the previous enterprise zone round, created in the 1980s. He laid out for us some of the problems that occurred then and, of course, told us some of the positives—including the valuable jobs that were created. If we get it right this time, the potential could be significant. I agreed with Peter on his point on the importance of engagement with local authorities within the zones. It was important in the zone that we visited. We saw the benefits of that collaboration.

Dywedodd Peter Black wrthym y gallai gofio cylch blaenorol yr ardaloedd menter, a grëwyd yn y 1980au. Nododd rai o'r problemau a ddigwyddodd bryd hynny ac, wrth gwrs, dywedodd wrthym am rai o'r pethau cadarnhaol¾gan gynnwys y swyddi gwerthfawr a grëwyd. Os gwnawn bethau'n iawn y tro yma, gallai'r potensial fod yn sylweddol. Cytunaf â Peter ynghylch ei bwynt ar bwysigwrydd ymgysylltu ag awdurdodau lleol o fewn yr ardaloedd. Roedd yn bwysig yn yr ardal yr ymwelwyd â hi. Gwelsom fuddiannau'r cydweithio hwnnw.

We are pleased that the Minister has laid out the progress on the recommendations. She has also offered this afternoon to come back with a further progress report on governance, accountability, performance indicators and delivery. She reminded us that enterprise zones must not be too formulaic.

Rydym yn falch bod y Gweinidog wedi nodi'r cynnydd ar yr argymhellion. Mae hefyd, y prynhawn yma, wedi cynnig dychwelyd a rhoi adroddiad cynnydd pellach ar lywodraethu, atebolrwydd, dangosyddion perfformiad a chyflawni. Fe'n hatgoffwyd ganddi na ddylai'r ardaloedd menter fod yn rhy gaeth i fformiwla yn benodol.

As I mentioned earlier, I hope that our contribution is helpful to the development of this policy. We look forward to returning to this at some point. I hope that we will find that the list of mistakes—if there are any—will not be nearly as long as those from the 1980s and that the success list will be impressive. I am sure, Minister, that you will continue to have calls for enterprise zones to be set up in other parts of Wales. Thank you.

Fel y soniais yn gynharach, gobeithio bod ein cyfraniad yn helpu i ddatblygu'r polisi hwn. Edrychwn ymlaen at ddychwelyd at hyn ryw bryd. Gobeithio na fydd y rhestr o gamgymeriadau¾os oes rhai¾mor hir â'r rhestr yn y 1980au ac y bydd y rhestr o lwyddiannau yn drawiadol. Rwy'n siŵr, Weinidog, y byddwch yn parhau i gael galwadau am i ardaloedd menter gael eu sefydlu mewn rhannau eraill o Gymru. Diolch ichi.

15:57

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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The proposal is to note the report of the Finance Committee. Does any Member object? There are no objections, therefore the motion is agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Y cynnig yw nodi adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cyllid. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Nid oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad, felly, derbynnir y cynnig yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.

Derbyniwyd y cynnig yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.

Motion agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Dadl y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig: Cyflenwad Tai

Welsh Conservatives Debate: Housing Supply

Detholwyd y gwelliannau canlynol: gwelliant 1 yn enw Elin Jones, a gwelliant 2 yn enw Aled Roberts.

The following amendments have been selected: amendment 1 in the name of Elin Jones, and amendment 2 in the name of Aled Roberts.

Cynnig NDM5430 William Graham

Motion NDM5430 William Graham

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i gyflawni rhaglen frys i fynd i'r afael â'r argyfwng parhaus o ran cyflenwad tai yng Nghymru.

Calls on the Welsh Government to deliver an urgent programme to tackle the continuing housing supply crisis in Wales.

15:57

Mark Isherwood Bywgraffiad Biography

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I move the motion.

Cynigiaf y cynnig.

We call on the Welsh Government to deliver an urgent programme to tackle the continuing housing supply crisis in Wales. The Plaid Cymru amendment downplays the scale of the crisis, but we can support the Liberal Democrat amendment.

Rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i ddarparu rhaglen frys i fynd i'r afael â'r argyfwng parhaus o ran cyflenwad tai yng Nghymru. Mae gwelliant Plaid Cymru yn bychanu maint yr argyfwng, ond gallwn gefnogi gwelliant y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol.

The term 'housing supply crisis' was coined by the Welsh housing sector a decade ago. When Sue Essex launched her 2008 report on affordable housing in Wales, she said that

Bathwyd y term 'argyfwng o ran cyflenwad tai' gan sector tai Cymru ddegawd yn ôl. Pan lansiodd Sue Essex ei hadroddiad yn 2008 ar dai fforddiadwy yng Nghymru, dywedodd

'the current crisis serves to remind us that the bedrock of affordable housing in sustainable communities is essential to the wellbeing of Wales and its people'.

bod yr argyfwng presennol yn ein hatgoffa bod sylfaen o dai fforddiadwy mewn cymunedau cynaliadwy yn hanfodol i les Cymru a'i phobl.

At the start of the credit crunch, the Homes for All Cymru report, 'Blueprint for Action', said that there is a crisis in Wales. There are simply not enough decent homes at a cost people can afford, to meet demand, and it is getting worse.

Ar ddechrau'r wasgfa gredyd, nododd adroddiad Cartrefi i Bawb Cymru, 'Blueprint for Action', fod argyfwng yng Nghymru. Y gwir yw nad oes digon o dai boddhaol am bris y gall pobl ei fforddio, er mwyn y galw, ac mae'n mynd yn waeth.

In the April 2012 Assembly Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee report into the provision of affordable housing in Wales, the housing association sector states that the housing crisis is 'with us now'.

Yn adroddiad Pwyllgor Cymunedau Cydraddoldeb a Llywodraeth Leol y Cynulliad ym mis Ebrill 2012 ar ddarparu tai fforddiadwy yng Nghymru, noda'r sector cymdeithasau tai fod yr argyfwng tai 'gyda ni yn awr'.

The 2013 Country Land and Business Association Report, 'Tackling the Housing Crisis in Wales', states that

Noda adroddiad Cymdeithas Tir a Busnesau Cefn Gwlad 2013, 'Tackling the Housing Crisis in Wales' fod,

'we need more homes for rural economy workers to keep communities in the countryside viable. More retirement homes are needed so that older people can pass on farm holdings to a younger generation…and new homes are also needed for first-time buyers and for owner-occupiers wanting to downsize'.

'angen mwy o gartrefi i weithwyr yr economi gwledig er mwyn cadw cymunedau yng nghefn gwlad yn hyfyw. Mae angen mwy o gartrefi ymddeol fel y gall pobl hŷn drosglwyddo daliadau fferm i genhedlaeth iau ... ac mae angen cartrefi newydd hefyd ar gyfer prynwyr tro cyntaf ac ar gyfer perchen-feddianwyr sydd am symud i dŷ llai.

As the 2012 'UK Housing Review' stated, however, it was the Welsh Government itself that gave housing lower priority in its overall budgets, so that by 2009-10 it had by far the lowest proportional level of housing expenditure of any of the four UK countries.

Fel y noda 'UK Housing Review' 2012, fodd bynnag, Llywodraeth Cymru ei hun oedd wedi rhoi blaenoriaeth is i dai yn ei chyllidebau cyffredinol, nes bod ganddi'r lefel gyfrannol isaf o wariant tai o blith pedair gwlad y DU erbyn 2009-10.

In its 'Housing Strategy for England', the UK Government recognised that a housing market that fails to deliver homes that people need has serious consequences for social mobility, for jobs and for growth. It announced a package of reforms to try to get the housing market moving again.

Yn ei 'Housing Strategy for England', cydnabu Llywodraeth y DU fod marchnad dai sy'n methu â darparu cartrefi sydd eu hangen ar bobl yn arwain at oblygiadau difrifol o ran symudedd cymdeithasol, swyddi a thwf. Cyhoeddodd becyn o ddiwygiadau i geisio cael symud yn y farchnad dai unwaith eto.

As CLA Cymru states in its 'Tackling the Housing Crisis in Wales, report:

Fel y noda CLA Cymru yn ei hadroddiad 'Tackling the Housing Crisis in Wales':

'The Coalition has put forward initiatives that seek to give finance to stimulate new supply and Gross Domestic Product (GDP), whilst the Welsh Government has focused on condition and standards in new-build and existing stock'.

Mae'r Llywodraeth glymblaid wedi cyflwyno mentrau sy'n ceisio rhoi cyllid i ysgogi cyflenwad newydd a Chynnyrch Mewnwladol Crynswth (CMC), tra bod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi canolbwyntio ar amodau a safonau mewn stoc tai newydd a'r stoc bresennol.

At a time of a housing supply crisis, we must not compromise conditions and standards, but neither must they become a barrier to housing more people.

Ar adeg argyfwng o ran cyflenwad tai, rhaid inni beidio â pheryglu amodau a safonau, ond ni ddylent ychwaith fod yn rhwystr i ddarparu tai ar gyfer mwy o bobl.

CLA Cymru has stated that the introduction in the housing Bill of a mandatory landlord scheme would jeopardise the supply of much-needed private rented homes. The Residential Landlords Association said that with local authority environmental health departments being cut, and the sector cracking under the weight of over 100 laws and almost 400 regulations, the problem is not the lack of powers, but a lack of willingness and financial ability for local authorities to enforce the powers that they already have.

Mae CLA Cymru wedi nodi y byddai cyflwyno cynllun landlord gorfodol yn y Bil yn peryglu'r cyflenwad o dai rhentu preifat mawr ei angen. Dywedodd Cymdeithas y Landlordiaid Preswyl, gydag adrannau iechyd yr amgylchedd awdurdodau lleol yn cael eu cwtogi, a'r sector yn gwegian o dan bwysau dros 100 o ddeddfau a bron 400 o reoliadau, nad diffyg pwerau yw'r broblem, ond amharodrwydd a diffyg gallu ariannol awdurdodau lleol i orfodi'r pwerau sydd ganddynt eisoes.

Although the Assembly's Communities and Culture Committee report published in 2011, 'Making the most of the Private Rented Sector in Wales' recommended that the Welsh Government should actively seek to promote a positive public image of the private rented sector as a tenure of choice in Wales, and although the Welsh Government is now seeking to house homeless people in the private rented sector, the National Landlords Association told me in December that they were being kept in the box, when a true social venture partnership between the public, private and third sectors was needed, delivering what it described as property with a people wraparound. As it said, if you need to deliver quality homes that people can afford to rent, including one and two-bedroomed properties, find ways to deliver them.

Er i adroddiad Pwyllgor Cymunedau a Diwylliant y Cynulliad a gyhoeddwyd yn 2011, 'Gwneud y mwyaf o'r Sector Rhentu Preifat yng Nghymru' argymell y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru fynd ati i geisio hyrwyddo delwedd gyhoeddus gadarnhaol o'r sector rhentu preifat fel daliadaeth o ddewis yng Nghymru , ac er bod Llywodraeth Cymru bellach yn ceisio cartrefu pobl ddigartref yn y sector rhentu preifat, dywedodd Cymdeithas Genedlaethol y Landlordiaid wrthyf ym mis Rhagfyr eu bod yn cael eu cadw ar wahân, er bod angen partneriaeth menter gymdeithasol wirioneddol rhwng y sector cyhoeddus, y sector preifat a'r trydydd sector, gan gyflawni'r hyn y mae'n ei ddisgrifio fel eiddo sy'n cofleidio pobl. Fel y dywedodd, os oes angen ichi ddarparu cartrefi o safon y gall pobl fforddio eu rhentu, gan gynnwys eiddo un a dwy ystafell wely, dylech ddod o hyd i ffyrdd o'u darparu.

However, the Welsh Government's housing Bill focuses more on measures dealing with symptoms of the crisis than its causes. As CLA Cymru states, co-operative housing is the only tool identified to extend housing supply. National house building figures released two weeks ago show that although new home registrations in the UK rose by 28% in 2013 to 133,670—the highest number since 2007—Wales was the only part of the UK to see a fall in the number of new homes being registered last year.

Fodd bynnag, mae Bil tai Llywodraeth Cymru yn canolbwyntio mwy ar fesurau sy'n ymdrin â symptomau'r argyfwng na'i achosion. Fel y noda CLA Cymru, tai cydweithredol yw'r unig adnodd a nodwyd i ymestyn y cyflenwad tai. Dengys ffigurau ar gyfer adeiladau tai cenedlaethol a gyhoeddwyd bythefnos yn ôl, er i nifer y cartref newydd a gofrestrwyd yn y DU gynyddu 28% yn 2013 i 133,670—y nifer uchaf ers 2007—Cymru oedd yr unig ran o'r DU i weld lleihad yn nifer y cartrefi newydd a gofrestrwyd y llynedd.

As the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors Wales states, every £1 spent in the construction industry contributes £2.84 to economic activity. On the back of UK Government delivery of a strengthened economy, the roll out of Help to Buy Cymru, thanks to the UK Government's ring-fencing of capital investment for this scheme, after years of homebuyers in England and Scotland receiving help denied to those in Wales, and building regulations delayed until 2016 to fit the political election calendar, RICS Wales has reported that surveyors expect heavier workloads this year and that Wales is once again playing catch up from bottom position. RICS Cymru has reported that a shortage of skills could threaten the recovery.

Fel y noda Sefydliad Brenhinol Syrfewyr Siartredig Cymru, bydd pob £1 a werir yn y diwydiant adeiladu yn cyfrannu £2.84 i weithgarwch economaidd. Ar sail economi gryfach a gyflawnwyd gan Lywodraeth y DU, y broses o gyflwyno Cymorth i Brynu Cymru, diolch i benderfyniad Llywodraeth y DU i neilltuo buddsoddiad cyfalaf ar gyfer y cynllun hwn, ar ôl blynyddoedd pan oedd prynwyr tai yn Lloegr a'r Alban yn cael cymorth nas rhoddwyd i'r rhai yng Nghymru, a rheoliadau adeiladu a ohiriwyd tan 2016 oherwydd etholiadau gwleidyddol, mae RICS Cymru wedi nodi bod syrfewyr yn disgwyl llwythi gwaith trymach eleni a bod Cymru unwaith eto yn ceisio dal i fyny o'r safle gwaelod. Mae RICS Cymru wedi nodi y gallai prinder sgiliau beryglu'r adferiad.

In England and Wales, house building fell to its lowest level since the 1920s under Labour. You can smile, Minister, but these are all verifiable facts. Under the last UK Labour Government, waiting lists in England nearly doubled as social housing was cut by 421,000. In Labour-run Wales, the number of new social homes in Wales was cut by 71% as waiting lists and overcrowding ballooned. An estimated 90,000 households are stuck on waiting lists. Right to buy sales boomed in the 1990s, but the number of social housing units in Wales increased, although by 2011 they had fallen by 29,000 under Welsh Labour.

Yng Nghymru a Lloegr, gostyngodd gweithgarwch adeiladu tai i'w lefel isaf ers y 1920au o dan Lafur. Gallwch wenu, Weinidog, ond mae'r rhain yn ffeithiau gwiriadwy. O dan Lywodraeth Lafur ddiwethaf y DU, gwnaeth rhestrau aros yn Lloegr bron â dyblu wrth i dai cymdeithasol gael eu cwtogi 421,000. Yng Nghymru o dan Lafur, torrwyd nifer y cartrefi cymdeithasol newydd yng Nghymru 71% wrth i restrau aros a gorlenwi gynyddu'n sydyn. Mae tua 90,000 o aelwydydd ar restrau aros. Bu cynnydd mawr yn nifer y gwerthiannau hawl i brynu yn y 1990au, ond cynyddodd nifer yr unedau tai cymdeithasol yng Nghymru, er eu bod, erbyn 2011 wedi gostwng 29,000 o dan Lafur Cymru.

I received an e-mail yesterday from 'the Welsh housing industry'. They did not want to be named individually, because they still, they said, have to work with this Welsh Government. What a damning indictment of how this Welsh Government governs and views real partnership that they have to put that to me through a third party. They told me that,

Cefais e-bost ddoe gan 'y diwydiant tai yng Nghymru'. Nid oeddent am gael eu henwi'n unigol, oherwydd bod yn rhaid iddynt, meddent hwy, weithio gyda Llywodraeth Cymru o hyd. Am feirniadaeth ddamniol o'r ffordd y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn llywodraethu ac yn ystyried gwir bartneriaeth bod yn rhaid iddynt gyfleu hynny imi drwy drydydd parti. Maent yn dweud wrthyf,

'the issue remains that it is very difficult to turn proposals into live sites. It is good that Welsh Government has finally given buyers some support, but the fact that it can take two to three years or more to actually get to the point where we have a product to offer is seriously hindering the industry and the wider economy.'

erys y broblem o hyd ei bod yn anodd iawn troi cynigion yn safleoedd byw. Mae'n beth da bod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi rhoi rhywfaint o gymorth i brynwyr o'r diwedd, ond mae'r ffaith y gall gymryd dwy neu dair blynedd neu fwy i gyrraedd y man lle mae gennym gynnyrch i'w gynnig yn wir yn llesteirio'r diwydiant a'r economi ehangach.

They concluded that,

Maent yn dod i'r casgliad,

'there is way too much regulation and that the industry is increasingly faced with people in the public sector on the ground who cause unnecessary delays.'

bod llawer gormod o reoleiddio a bod y diwydiant yn wynebu'n gynyddol bobl yn y sector cyhoeddus ar lawr gwlad sy'n achosi oedi diangen.

That was yesterday. The Welsh Government's 2014 'Evaluation of the Rural Housing Enablers (RHE) in Wales' report found that rural housing enablers had helped to deliver just 186 affordable homes since 2004—in 10 years—with a further 240 in the pipeline, but no timescales for this provided. The report found that the role of rural housing enabler is still seen as essential to delivering rural affordable housing, but that there has been a change in activity away from raising community awareness of rural housing need to measuring it. We must deliver a network of rural housing enablers across Wales and empower them to identify and meet housing need at local affordable prices; not hundreds, but thousands. As in England, open-market housing on rural exception sites should be allowed to cross-subsidise affordable housing and a build for rent scheme should be introduced to stimulate new private rented housing supply. Further, rent Act tenancies need to be included in Welsh Government tenancy reform proposals, to tackle unfairness and prioritise local affordable housing need over succession rights.

Ddoe y digwyddodd hynny. Canfu adroddiad 'Gwerthusiad o Swyddogion Galluogi Tai Gwledig (RHE) yng Nghymru' Llywodraeth Cymru yn 2014 mai dim ond 186 o gartrefi fforddiadwy yr oedd swyddogion galluogi tai gwledig wedi helpu i'w cyflwyno ers 2004—mewn 10 mlynedd—gyda 240 arall yn yr arfaeth, ond ni nodwyd unrhyw derfynau amser ar gyfer hyn. Canfu'r adroddiad fod rôl y swyddog galluogi tai gwledig yn dal i gael ei hystyried yn hanfodol er mwyn darparu tai fforddiadwy gwledig, ond bod newid mewn gweithgaredd wedi bod o godi ymwybyddiaeth y gymuned o'r angen am dai gwledig i'w fesur. Rhaid inni ddarparu rhwydwaith o swyddogion galluogi tai gwledig ledled Cymru a'u grymuso i nodi a diwallu anghenion tai am brisiau fforddiadwy lleol, nid cannoedd, ond miloedd. Fel yn Lloegr, dylid caniatáu i dai sydd i'w gwerthu ar y farchnad agored ar safleoedd eithriedig gwledig groes-gymorthdalu tai fforddiadwy a dylid cyflwyno cynllun adeiladu i rentu er mwyn ysgogi cyflenwad tai rhentu preifat newydd. At hynny, mae angen i denantiaethau'r Ddeddf Rhenti gael eu cynnwys yng nghynigion Llywodraeth Cymru i ddiwygio tenantiaethau, er mwyn mynd i'r afael ag annhegwch a blaenoriaethu'r angen am dai fforddiadwy yn lleol dros hawliau olyniaeth.

Our freedom of information requests confirm that there are 32,000 empty homes across Wales and that the Welsh Government has been undercounting this by 10,000. We need to recognise that it costs the owner money to leave a home empty. Effective empty homes strategies should seek to work with owners, developing services to help them to overcome the hurdles that they face. Yes, we welcome the Houses into Homes scheme, but we need to embrace the good practice in parts of Wales across the whole of Wales. In order to meet the aspirations of existing tenants, to help tackle social housing waiting lists and to maximise the number of households homed, right-to-buy sales need to be rejuvenated, with the sale proceeds ring-fenced to fund new social housing. If we do not, the status quo will not deliver a single extra home.

Mae ein ceisiadau rhyddid gwybodaeth yn cadarnhau bod 32,000 o gartrefi gwag ledled Cymru a bod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi bod yn tangyfrif hyn o 10,000. Mae angen inni gydnabod ei bod yn costio arian i berchennog adael cartref yn wag. Dylai strategaethau cartrefi gwag effeithiol geisio gweithio gyda pherchnogion, datblygu gwasanaethau er mwyn eu helpu i oresgyn y rhwystrau sy'n eu hwynebu. Rydym yn croesawu cynllun Troi Tai'n Gartrefi, ond mae angen inni dderbyn arfer da mewn rhannau o Gymru ym mhob rhan o Gymru. Er mwyn bodloni dyheadau tenantiaid presennol, helpu i fynd i'r afael â rhestrau aros tai cymdeithasol a sicrhau bod cynifer o aelwydydd â phosibl yn cael eu cartrefi, mae angen adfywio gwerthiannau o dan yr hawl i brynu a neilltuo'r elw i ariannu tai cymdeithasol newydd. Os na wnawn hynny, ni fydd y sefyllfa bresennol yn darparu'r un cartref ychwanegol.

Welsh Conservative plans to abolish stamp duty on the sale of properties valued up to £250,000 would help homebuyers and stimulate home building. We welcome the exit from the housing revenue account scheme, delivered by a Conservative-led UK Government, with Wales again playing catch-up with England. However, the borrowing cap agreed between the Welsh Government and HM Treasury for local authorities to enable this is not even enough to fund achievement of the Welsh housing quality standard by the stock retention local authorities. So, let us not delude ourselves that this is going to fund a new generation of council houses.

Byddai bwriad y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig i diddymu'r dreth stamp ar werthu eiddo gwerth hyd at £250,000 yn helpu prynwyr ac yn ysgogi gwaith adeiladu cartrefi. Rydym yn croesawu'r penderfyniad i adael y cynllun cyfrif refeniw tai, a sicrhawyd gan Lywodraeth y DU o dan arweiniad y Ceidwadwyr, gyda Chymru unwaith eto yn ceisio dal i fyny â Lloegr. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'r cap benthyca y cytunwyd arno rhwng Llywodraeth Cymru a Thrysorlys EM ar gyfer awdurdodau lleol i alluogi hyn hyd yn oed yn ddigon i ariannu'r awdurdodau lleol sydd wedi cadw stoc dai i gyflawni safon ansawdd tai Cymru. Felly, ni ddylem dwyllo ein hunain y bydd hyn yn ariannu cenhedlaeth newydd o dai cyngor.

For over a decade, the Welsh Government ignored calls for urgent action to deliver a whole-market solution to the post-devolution housing supply crisis, even delaying the announcement of any funding for one or two-bedroomed homes until months after housing benefit reforms, which they were warned about years beforehand, came into effect. The housing supply crisis in Wales has developed over 15 years of a Labour-led Welsh Government, not 10 months of housing benefit changes. Wales needs a long-term housing recovery programme, beginning with the establishment of a Welsh housing commission drawn from all areas of the housing sector, to develop evidence-based ideas and then co-design with Welsh Government an overall housing strategy that can be delivered together.

Ers dros ddegawd, anwybyddodd Llywodraeth Cymru alwadau am weithredu ar frys i gynnig ateb marchnad gyfan i'r argyfwng o ran cyflenwad tai ar ôl datganoli, gan hyd yn oed ohirio cyhoeddi unrhyw arian am gartrefi un neu ddwy ystafell wely tan fisoedd ar ôl i'r diwygiadau i'r budd-dal tai, y cawsant eu rhybuddio yn eu cylch flynyddoedd yn gynt, ddod i rym. Mae'r argyfwng o ran cyflenwad tai yng Nghymru wedi datblygu dros 15 mlynedd o Lywodraeth Cymru o dan arweiniad Llafur, nid 10 mis o newidiadau i'r budd-dal tai. Mae angen rhaglen adfer tai hirdymor ar Gymru, gan ddechrau gyda sefydlu comisiwn tai i Gymru a ddaw o bob maes o'r sector tai, er mwyn datblygu syniadau yn seiliedig ar dystiolaeth ac yna gyd-gynllunio gyda Llywodraeth Cymru strategaeth dai gyffredinol y gellir ei darparu gyda'i gilydd.

16:07 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I have selected two amendments to the motion and I call on Jocelyn Davies to move amendment 1, which is tabled in the name of Elin Jones.

Rwyf wedi dethol dau welliant i'r cynnig a galwaf ar Jocelyn Davies i gynnig gwelliant 1, a gyflwynwyd yn enw Elin Jones.

Gwelliant 1—Elin Jones

Amendment 1—Elin Jones

Dileu popeth ar ôl 'gyflawni' a rhoi yn ei le, 'rhaglen gynhwysfawr a chynaliadwy i fynd i'r afael â'r prinder tai fforddiadwy ar gyfer pob math o ddaliadaeth'.

Delete all after 'deliver' and replace with 'a comprehensive and sustainable programme to tackle the affordable housing shortage across all tenures.'

16:07 **Jocelyn Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I move amendment 1.

Cynigiaf welliant 1.

House price inflation in all parts of the UK, especially the south-east of England, has made getting onto the property ladder difficult for first-time buyers. The average age of the first-time buyer now stands at 37. While the deposit required just a few years ago was sufficiently low to enable some to take a big mortgage, the financial crash has made mortgages difficult for those without very significant savings—deposits in the region of £20,000 are now often required. Also, when first-time buyers manage to secure a mortgage, they can be in an extremely vulnerable situation for the first few years if that mortgage is very large.

Mae chwyddiant ym mhrisiau tai ym mhob rhan o'r DU, yn enwedig de-ddwyrain Lloegr, wedi ei gwneud yn anodd i brynwyr tro cyntaf brynu eu heiddo cyntaf. Mae oedran cyfartalog prynwyr tro cyntaf bellach yn 37 oed. Er bod y blaendal yr oedd ei angen ond ychydig flynyddoedd yn ôl yn ddigon isel i alluogi rhai i drefnu morgais mawr, mae'r argyfwng ariannol wedi gwneud morgeisi yn anodd i'r rhai heb gynilion sylweddol iawn—mae angen blaendal o tua £20,000 yn aml erbyn hyn. Hefyd, pan fydd prynwyr tro cyntaf yn llwyddo i gael morgais, gallant fod mewn sefyllfa hynod fregus am yr ychydig flynyddoedd cyntaf os yw'r morgais yn fawr iawn.

The housing bubble can be traced back to policies pursued by UK Governments of both persuasions. There was the deregulation of the mortgage markets, the elimination of the availability of a social housing alternative, house price inflation, historically low interest rates and a favourable tax regime. This made buy to let an extremely profitable investment, which reinforced the upward pressure on house prices, with new-build homes being snapped up by the buy-to-let investors. That is why our amendment calls for a sustainable solution across all tenures, rather than urgent action, which can have undesirable long-term consequences.

Gellir olrhain y swigen tai yn ôl i bolisïau gan Lywodraethau Llafur a Cheidwadol y DU. Cafwyd dadreoleiddio'r marchnadoedd morgais, dileu argaeledd tai cymdeithasol amgen, chwyddiant ym mhrisiau tai, cyfraddau llog isel yn hanesyddol a threfn dreth ffafriol. O'r herwydd aeth prynu i osod yn fuddsoddiad proffidiol iawn, a oedd yn atgyfnerthu'r pwysau cynyddol ar brisiau tai, gyda chartrefi newydd yn cael eu prynu gan y buddsoddwyr prynu i osod. Dyna pam mae ein gwelliant yn galw am ateb cynaliadwy i bob deiliadaeth, yn hytrach na gweithredu ar frys, a all arwain at ganlyniadau hirdymor annymunol.

There are currently concerns that the English Help to Buy scheme is stimulating another housing boom. As a policy, it is aimed at reducing the required deposit needed by first-time buyers. Is this sustainable? Chris Giles of the 'Financial Times' focuses on what he calls the Help to Buy scheme's main policy error, by quoting Mervyn King's despair that there is no place in the long run for a scheme of this kind, as it undermines what should be a competitive mortgage market. He goes on to explain that some say that the scheme will increase demand and simply raise the price of property, which of course benefits current owners rather than buyers. The expectation of rising prices might generate an irrational stampede, again pushing up prices above those justified by the subsidy. That, of course, raises the prospect of a crash and the negative equity nightmare that we have seen before. John Plender, another 'Financial Times' commentator, argues that the Help to Buy scheme encourages borrowing and that addressing a problem of excessive debt by encouraging people to take on more debt, he says, borders on lunacy and that there is a possibility that those who use the Help to Buy scheme will be set up for crucifixion, he says, when interest rates rise to normal levels.

Cyfyd pryderon ar hyn o bryd fod y Cynllun Help i Brynu yn Lloegr yn ysgogi cynnydd arall ym mhrisiau tai. Fel polisi, mae wedi ei anelu at leihau'r blaendal sydd ei angen ar brynwyr tro cyntaf. A yw hyn yn gynaliadwy? Mae Chris Giles o'r 'Financial Times' yn canolbwyntio ar yr hyn y mae'n ei alw'n brif gamgymeriad polisi cynllun Cymorth i Brynu, drwy ddyfynnu gofid Mervyn King nad oes unrhyw le i gynllun o'r fath yn yr hirdymor, gan ei fod yn tanseilio'r hyn a ddylai fod yn farchnad morgeisi gystadleuol. Mae'n mynd ymlaen i esbonio bod rhai yn dweud y bydd y cynllun yn cynyddu'r galw ac yn codi prisiau eiddo, sydd wrth gwrs o fudd i'r rhai sydd eisoes yn berchen ar eiddo yn hytrach na phrynwyr. Efallai y bydd y disgwyliad o brisiau cynyddol yn arwain at ruthr afresymol, gan beri unwaith eto i brisiau fynd yn uwch na'r rhai a gyfiawnhawyd gan y cymhorthdal. Mae hynny, wrth gwrs, yn codi'r posibilrwydd o gwymp sydyn mewn prisiau a hunllef ecwiti negyddol a welsom o'r blaen. Mae John Plender, sylwebydd arall ar y 'Financial Times', yn dadlau bod cynllun Help i Brynu yn annog benthyca a bod mynd i'r afael â phroblem dyled ormodol drwy annog pobl i fynd i fwy o ddyled yn ffolineb llwyr, meddai, a bod posibilrwydd y bydd y rhai sy'n defnyddio cynllun Help i Brynu yn wynebu cyfyngder mawr, meddai, pan fydd cyfraddau llog yn codi i'w lefelau arferol.

These commentators are warning us that we must be ultra-careful when Governments intervene in the housing market in a major way, and I hope that the Minister will pay careful attention to that. Of course, another tenure that I am interested in with regard to affordability is social housing, and I am concerned about the impact that welfare reform is having on the ability of current tenants to pay their rents. The moral case against the bedroom tax, of course, is obvious. The financial case is also extremely strong. Evicted tenants are regarded as unintentionally homeless and qualify for support. Some will have priority need and will be rehoused again in social housing. Those evictions and the eviction process are expensive and, of course, the cost is met by the public purse. Our freedom of information request found that, across Wales, local authorities estimated the cost to be between £3,000 and £7,000 per eviction. Wales and West Housing estimates that the cost of adaptations to the new homes for the disabled who have to move is in the region of £15 million, with £25 million already having been spent on the properties they will have to leave. And, of course, those properties may not be suitable for the future tenants. So, the cost of implementation to the public purse far, far outweighs the savings.

Mae'r sylwebyddion hyn yn ein rhybuddio bod yn rhaid inni fod yn ofalus iawn pan fydd Llywodraethau yn ymyrryd yn y farchnad dai ar raddfa fawr, a gobeithio y bydd y Gweinidog yn rhoi sylw gofalus i hynny. Wrth gwrs, math arall o ddeiliadaeth y mae gennyf ddiddordeb ynddo mewn perthynas â fforddiadwyedd yw tai cymdeithasol, ac rwy'n pryderu am effaith y diwygiadau lles ar allu tenantiaid presennol i dalu eu rhenti. Mae'r achos moesol yn erbyn y dreth ystafell wely, wrth gwrs, yn amlwg. Mae'r achos ariannol hefyd yn eithriadol o gryf. Mae tenantiaid sydd wedi cael eu dadfeddiannu yn cael eu hystyried yn ddigartref yn anfwriadol ac yn gymwys i gael cymorth. Bydd rhai ag angen â blaenoriaeth ac yn cael eu hailgartrefu eto mewn tai cymdeithasol. Mae dadfeddiannu pobl a'r broses ddadfeddiannu yn gostus ac, wrth gwrs, o bwrs y wlad y daw'r gost honno. Yn ôl ein cais rhyddid gwybodaeth, ledled Cymru, amcangyfrifodd awdurdodau lleol ei bod yn costio rhwng £3,000 a £7,000 fesul achos o ddadfeddiannu. Mae Tai Wales and West yn amcangyfrif y bydd addasiadau i gartrefi newydd ar gyfer pobl anabl sy'n gorfod symud yn costio tua £15 miliwn, gyda £25 miliwn eisoes wedi cael ei wario ar y cartrefi y bydd yn rhaid iddynt eu gadael. Ac, wrth gwrs, efallai na fydd y cartrefi hynny yn addas i denantiaid yn y dyfodol. Felly, mae'r gost i bwrs y wlad o weithredu hyn yn llawer mwy na'r arbedion.

I would conclude that risking another bubble in order to provide guarantees for those purchasing properties valued up to £600,000, regardless of their family size, while making social housing unaffordable for the disabled is having your priorities way wrong. Perhaps you are right, Mark, that there is a housing crisis, but I can tell you now, it is your party that is causing it.

Byddwn yn dod i'r casgliad bod achosi perygl o swigen arall er mwyn darparu gwarantau i'r sawl sy'n prynu eiddo gwerthfawr hyd at £600,000, waeth beth fo maint eu teulu, tra'n sicrhau bod tai cymdeithasol yn anfforddiadwy i bobl anabl yn flaenoriaeth anghywir. Efallai eich bod yn iawn, Mark, fod argyfwng tai, ond gallaf ddweud wrthych yn awr, mai eich plaid chi sy'n ei achosi.

16:13

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I call on Peter Black to move the amendment tabled in the name of Aled Roberts.

Galwaf ar Peter Black i gynnig y gwelliant a gyflwynwyd yn enw Aled Roberts.

Gwelliant 2—Aled Roberts

Amendment 2—Aled Roberts

Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

Yn gresynu at y ffaith bod diffyg mynediad at dir sydd ar gael, mynediad at gyllid ac oedi yn y system gynllunio, yn creu rhwystrau rhag adeiladu tai yng Nghymru, ac yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i adolygu ffyrdd o roi hwb i'r cyflenwad tai.

Add as new point at end of motion:

Regrets that lack of access to available land, access to finance and delays within the planning system are providing barriers to house building in Wales and calls on the Welsh Government to review ways of stimulating housing supply.

16:13

Peter Black Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I move amendment 2.

Cynigiaf welliant 2.

In moving amendment 2 in the name of Aled Roberts, I outline one of the reasons for tabling this amendment, namely that we felt that, although Mark Isherwood's motion had effectively identified the problem of supply, he had not put forward any solutions as to what he would do to sort that out in the text of the motion. What we have tried to do with amendment 2 is set out some of the barriers that we have identified during our own surveys of house builders to the building of homes in Wales that can be dealt with by Government and local government, some of which were, of course, examined by the Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee when it did its inquiry into barriers to home building in Wales.

Wrth gynnig gwelliant 2 yn enw Aled Roberts, amlinellaf un o'r rhesymau dros gyflwyno'r gwelliant hwn, sef ein bod yn teimlo, er i gynnig Mark Isherwood nodi problem cyflenwad i bob diben, nad oedd wedi cynnig unrhyw atebion o ran yr hyn y byddai'n ei wneud i ddatrys hynny yn nhestun y cynnig. Yr hyn yr ydym wedi ceisio'i wneud gyda gwelliant 2 yw nodi rhai o'r rhwystrau a nodwyd gennym yn ystod ein harolygon ein hunain o adeiladwyr tai i adeiladu cartrefi yng Nghymru y gall y Llywodraeth a llywodraeth leol ymdrin â hwy, y cafodd rhai ohonynt, wrth gwrs, eu harchwilio gan y Pwyllgor Cymunedau, Cydraddoldeb a Llywodraeth Leol pan gynhaliodd ei ymchwiliad i rwystrau i adeiladu cartrefi yng Nghymru.

The Welsh Government, in our view, should be attacking these barriers as a matter of priority. We will also be supporting Plaid Cymru's amendment as we support the aim of delivering a sustainable housing programme to benefit the population as a whole.

Dylai Llywodraeth Cymru, yn ein barn ni, fod yn ymosod ar y rhwystrau hyn fel mater o flaenoriaeth. Byddwn hefyd yn cefnogi gwelliant Plaid Cymru gan ein bod yn cefnogi'r nod o gyflwyno rhaglen tai gynaliadwy er budd y boblogaeth gyfan.

In terms of home building in Wales, since 2007-08, it has approximately halved from its high of 10,000 homes per year to about 5,000 in 2008-09. Since then, home building has flat lined, with 5,291 homes being built in 2012-13. Since the start of the financial crisis, while other areas of the economy have improved, home building in Wales has been stagnant, causing pressure on the existing housing stock and driving up prices and rents. Home building is still 50% below pre-recession levels. Not having enough homes restricts labour market mobility, raises business costs and exacerbates inequality, all of which constrain economic growth. According to the Welsh Government's own projections, 14,000 homes a year are needed while completion rates stand at around 5,500. With demand outstripping supply, house prices are higher—although the relationship is not as straightforward as a straightforward demand and supply curve—and waiting lists for social housing are longer. The homelessness rate in Wales currently stands at 7.7 per 10,000 people.

O ran adeiladu cartrefi yng Nghymru, ers 2007-08, mae wedi haneru fwy neu lai o'i lefel uchaf o 10,000 o gartrefi y flwyddyn i tua 5,000 yn 2008-09. Ers hynny, ni fu fawr ddim cynnydd, gyda 5,291 o gartrefi yn cael eu hadeiladu yn 2012-13. Ers dechrau'r argyfwng ariannol, tra bod meysydd eraill o'r economi wedi gwella, ni fu unrhyw welliant mewn gweithgarwch adeiladu cartrefi yng Nghymru, gan achosi pwysau ar y stoc dai bresennol a chodi prisiau a rhenti. Mae gweithgarwch adeiladu cartrefi yn dal i fod 50% yn is na'r lefelau cyn y dirwasgiad. Mae prinder cartrefi yn cyfyngu ar symudedd y farchnad lafur, yn codi costau busnes ac yn gwaethygu anghydraddoldeb, y mae pob un ohonynt yn cyfyngu ar dwf economaidd. Yn ôl amcanestyniadau Llywodraeth Cymru ei hun, mae angen 14,000 o gartrefi y flwyddyn ond tua 5,500 sy'n cael eu cwblhau. Gyda'r galw yn fwy na'r cyflenwad, mae prisiau tai yn uwch—er nad yw'r berthynas mor syml â chromlin galw a chyflenwad syml—ac mae rhestrau aros ar gyfer tai cymdeithasol yn hwy. Y gyfradd ddigartrefedd yng Nghymru ar hyn o bryd yw 7.7 fesul 10,000 o bobl.

The Welsh Liberal Democrats last year carried out a survey of homebuilders in Wales to ask them what they felt were the main barriers to investing in Wales. We have to distinguish here between the big volume homebuilders, such as Persimmon and Taylor Woodrow, et cetera, and the small local builders, with whom I have had a number of meetings in my own region, and who have particular problems in being able to meet requirements that the larger builders do not necessarily have. When we asked builders what they needed to do and what their priorities would be in terms of improving supply, 29% of those responding said that reducing red tape and regulations were a priority. I have to say that that is very difficult to pin down, in fact. I think that a large number were referring to part L of building regulations, but I am pleasantly content with the way in which the Minister has gone about this and compromised on that particular issue.

Cynhaliodd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru arolwg o adeiladwyr tai yng Nghymru y llynedd er mwyn gofyn iddynt beth oedd y prif rwystrau i fuddsoddi yng Nghymru, yn eu barn hwy. O ran hyn rhaid inni wahaniaethu rhwng yr adeiladwyr tai ar raddfa fawr, megis Persimmon a Taylor Woodrow, ac ati, a'r adeiladwyr lleol bach, yr wyf wedi cael nifer o gyfarfodydd â hwy yn fy rhanbarth i, ac sy'n cael problemau penodol o ran gallu bodloni gofynion nad yw'r adeiladwyr mawr yn eu hwynebu o reidrwydd. Pan ofynnwyd i'r adeiladwyr beth roedd angen ei wneud a beth fyddai eu blaenoriaethau o ran gwella cyflenwad, dywedodd 29% o'r rhai a ymatebodd fod lleihau biwrocratiaeth a rheoliadau yn flaenoriaeth. Rhaid imi ddweud bod hynny'n anodd iawn ei nodi'n fanwl, mewn gwirionedd. Credaf fod nifer fawr yn cyfeirio at ran L o'r rheoliadau adeiladu, ond rwyf wedi cael fy siomi ar yr ochr orau gyda'r ffordd y mae'r Gweinidog wedi ymdrin â hyn ac wedi cyfaddawdu ar y mater penodol hwnnw.

Some 23.2% wanted the planning process to be simplified. That was an issue that the committee raised with the Minister as part of the inquiry. I think that the Minister responded to that, but was hoping to look at the planning Bill as a means of dealing with a number of issues. It is not just about planning; I have met with builders in my own region who also have problems with the capacity of sewers, so they are not able to build in areas where there is a huge demand for their product.

Roedd tua 23.2% am i'r broses gynllunio gael ei symleiddio. Roedd hwnnw'n fater a gododd y pwyllgor gyda'r Gweinidog fel rhan o'r ymchwiliad. Credaf i'r Gweinidog ymateb i hynny, ond roedd yn gobeithio edrych ar y Bil cynllunio fel modd i ymdrin â nifer o faterion. Nid yw'n ymwneud â materion cynllunio yn unig; rwyf wedi cyfarfod ag adeiladwyr yn fy rhanbarth fy hun sydd hefyd yn cael problemau gyda chynhwysedd carthffosydd, felly nid ydynt yn gallu adeiladu mewn ardaloedd lle mae galw mawr am eu cynnyrch.

Some 19.8% wanted financial support for buyers, and 14% wanted an increase in the land available for development. Respondents also suggested that the Welsh Government should reduce planning delays, that the relationship between builders and local authorities should be improved, that there should be more support for smaller homebuilders over larger firms, and that we need more co-operation between Welsh Government and local authorities. Finally, they said that administration and planning costs can blight many potential sites in terms of viability. A lot of this applies to the smaller builders, who find that these large overhead costs hit them in particular.

Roedd tua 19.8% am gael cymorth ariannol i brynwyr, ac roedd 14% am weld cynnydd yn y tir sydd ar gael i'w ddatblygu. Awgrymodd ymatebwyr hefyd y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru leihau'r oedi ym maes cynllunio, y dylid gwella'r berthynas rhwng adeiladwyr ac awdurdodau lleol, y dylai fod mwy o gefnogaeth i adeiladwyr tai llai o faint yn hytrach na chwmnïau mwy o faint, a bod angen mwy o gydweithio rhwng Llywodraeth Cymru ac awdurdodau lleol. Yn olaf, dywedwyd y gall costau gweinyddu a chynllunio atal llawer o safleoedd posibl rhag bod yn hyfyw. Mae llawer o hyn yn berthnasol i'r adeiladwyr bach, y mae'r gorbenion mawr hyn yn effeithio arnynt yn arbennig.

Obviously, I welcome the fact that the help to buy scheme has now been introduced in Wales. I think that it is a better scheme than that introduced in England in that regard and I think it will have a much better effect at that. Nevertheless, we do face a situation in which the supply of houses is a problem. I do not think that you can legislate for people to build more homes. You have to create the economic situation, you have to remove barriers, and perhaps provide incentives. We certainly need to find a way out of this rut and I hope that, as part of the measures that the Minister is bringing forward in terms of the planning Bill, some of the measures in the housing Bill—although not all of them, obviously—will have an impact. However, we certainly do need to look at improving the economy of Wales, so that homebuilders feel once more that they have the confidence to invest here, to build more housing and to reach the sorts of rates that we need to reach if we are to meet the demand for housing in Wales.

Yn amlwg, croesawaf y ffaith bod y cynllun cymorth i brynu wedi cael ei gyflwyno yng Nghymru bellach. Credaf ei fod yn gynllun gwell na'r hyn a gyflwynwyd yn Lloegr yn hynny o beth a chredaf y bydd yn cael effaith lawer gwell o ran hynny. Serch hynny, rydym yn wynebu sefyllfa lle mae'r cyflenwad tai yn broblem. Ni chredaf y gallwch ddeddfu i bobl adeiladu mwy o gartrefi. Rhaid ichi greu'r sefyllfa economaidd, rhaid ichi gael gwared ar y rhwystrau, ac efallai roi cymhellion. Yn sicr, mae angen inni ddod o hyd i ffordd allan o'r twll hwn a gobeithio, fel rhan o'r mesurau y mae'r Gweinidog yn eu cyflwyno o ran y Bil cynllunio, y bydd rhai o'r mesurau yn y Bil tai—er nad pob un ohonynt, yn amlwg—yn cael effaith. Fodd bynnag, yn sicr mae angen inni edrych ar wella economi Cymru, fel bod adeiladwyr tai yn teimlo unwaith eto bod ganddynt yr hyder i fuddsoddi yma, adeiladu mwy o dai a chyrraedd y math o gyfraddau y mae angen inni eu cyrraedd os ydym am ateb y galw am dai yng Nghymru.

16:18 **Paul Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Rwy'n falch o gael y cyfle i gymryd rhan yn y ddadl hon y prynhawn yma. Byddaf yn canolbwyntio fy sylwadau ar dreth stamp, a'r cynigion yr ydym ni, fel Ceidwadwyr Cymreig, wedi eu cyhoeddi'n ddiweddar.

I am pleased to have the opportunity to participate in today's debate. I will be concentrating my comments on stamp duty and the proposals that we as Welsh Conservatives have published recently.

Fel y bydd Aelodau eisoes yn ymwybodol, yr wythnos diwethaf, gwnaethom yn hollol glir y byddwn yn diddymu'r dreth stamp ar werthu eiddo hyd at £250,000 pe baent yn cael y cyfle i'w wneud hynny. Wrth gwrs, mae'r pwerau i amrywio lefelau treth stamp yn mynd i gael eu trosglwyddo i Gymru yn y Bil Cymru yn y dyfodol agos, ac mae hwn wedi ei groesawu gan bob plaid wleidyddol yng Nghymru ac, yn wir, yn San Steffan. Rwy'n falch o ddweud mai ni yw'r blaid gyntaf i nodi'r hyn y byddem yn ei wneud â'r pwerau trethi newydd hyn. Rydym yn awyddus i ddefnyddio'r arfau hyn i dyfu economi Cymru.

As Members will already be aware, last week we made it quite clear that we would get rid of stamp duty on property worth up to £250,000 were we to have the opportunity to do so. Of course, the powers to vary stamp duty will be passed over to Wales in the Wales Bill in the near future, and that has been welcomed by all political parties in Wales and, indeed, in Westminster. I am pleased to say that ours is the first political party to note what we would do with these new taxation powers. We are keen to use these instruments to grow the Welsh economy.

Rydym i gyd yn gwybod roedd 13,000 o dai rhwng £125,000 a £250,000 wedi eu gwerthu y llynedd. Ar hyn o bryd, mae tâl o 1% yn cael ei godi ar werthu tai rhwng £125,000 a £250,000. Mae hyn yn gallu ychwanegu cymaint â £2,500 at y pris o brynu tŷ. I'r rhai nad oes ganddynt lawer o arbedion y tu ôl iddynt, gall hyn ryddhau swm sylweddol o arian iddynt fynd ymlaen a phrynu eu heiddo eu hunain. O'n safbwynt ni, byddai dileu'r dreth stamp yn helpu creu Cymru sy'n genedl o berchnogion cartrefi a lle treth isel.

We all know that 13,000 houses worth between £125,000 and £250,000 were sold last year. At present, a charge of 1% is raised on the sale of houses worth between £125,000 and £250,000. This can add as much as £2,500 to the cost of buying a house. For those who do not have a lot of savings, this could release a substantial amount of money for them to go on to buy their own property. From our point of view, getting rid of stamp duty would help Wales to become a country of homeowners and of low tax.

Mae Aelodau yn ymwybodol bod prisiau tai, unwaith eto, yn cynyddu rhywfaint, a gall costau fel hyn atal pobl rhag prynu tŷ yn y lle cyntaf. Mae'r freuddwyd o fod yn berchen ar eich eiddo eich hun wedi dod yn fwy o realiti gyda'r cynnydd mewn cynlluniau rhannu ecwiti, er enghraifft. Gall treth stamp fod yn bwysau ychwanegol sy'n gwthio'r freuddwyd yn bellach i ffwrdd. Os ydyw pobl yn gorfod talu 10% o flaendal, gall treth stamp fod yn gyfraniad sylweddol ychwanegol at eu costau. Felly, rydym ni, ar ochr hon y Siambr, yn credu bod treth stamp yn dreth atchweliadol sy'n codi tâl ar deuluoedd sydd eisiau bod yn berchen ar eu cartrefi eu hunain. Yn syml, mae prynu tŷ yn un o'r pethau drutaf y gallwch ei wneud yn ystod eich bywyd a bydd rhoi arian yn ôl ym mhocedi pobl yn rhywbeth rwy'n siŵr y bydd pobl yn ei groesawu.

Members will be aware that housing prices are, once again, increasing somewhat, and such costs could prevent people from buying their own houses in the first place. The dream of owning your own property has become much more of a reality with the increase in shared equity schemes, for example. Stamp duty could be an additional pressure that pushes that dream further away. If people have to pay a 10% deposit, stamp duty could be a substantial additional contribution to their costs. So, we on this side of the Chamber feel that stamp duty is a regressive tax, charging families who want to own their own homes. Simply put, buying a house is one of the most expensive things that you can do in your life, and putting money back in people's pockets would, I am sure, be something that people would welcome.

Yn wir, mae ein cynigion ni wedi derbyn croeso cynnes gan rai cymdeithasau adeiladu yng Nghymru. Er enghraifft, dywedodd prif weithredwr Cymdeithas Dai Sir Fynwy, Andrew Lewis:

Indeed, our proposals have been warmly welcomed by some building societies in Wales. For example, Andrew Lewis, the chief executive of Monmouthshire Building Society said:

Mae Cymdeithas Dai Sir Fynwy yn falch o weld bod y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig wedi agor trafodaeth o amgylch y mater o dreth stamp.

'Monmouthshire Building Society is pleased to see that the Welsh Conservatives have opened up debate around the issue of stamp duty.

Aeth ymlaen i ddweud:

He went on to say:

Fel cymdeithas adeiladu ranbarthol, rydym yn awyddus i helpu prynwyr tro cyntaf i gyflawni eu breuddwyd o berchnogi cartref, ac mae unrhyw symudiad i helpu'r freuddwyd hon i ddod yn realiti yn cael ei groesawu gennym ni.

'As a regional building society, we are keen to help first time buyers achieve their dream of home ownership, and any move to help this dream become a reality is welcomed by us.

Ers peth amser bellach, fel diwydiant rydym wedi dadlau bod angen diwygio treth stamp a gallai'r cynnig hwn fod yn gam cyntaf yn y broses honno.

'For some time now, as an industry we have argued that stamp duty needs to be reformed and this proposal could be the first step in that process.'

Mae Graeme Yorston, prif weithredwr y grŵp yng Nghymdeithas Adeiladu'r Principality, hefyd wedi dweud bod

Graeme Yorston, group chief executive at Principality Building Society, also said that

unrhyw beth sy'n cael y farchnad dai i symud yn newyddion da, yn enwedig ar gyfer prynwyr tro cyntaf sydd angen cymorth ychwanegol.

'anything that gets the housing market moving is good news, particularly for first-time buyers that need extra support.'

Mae adroddiadau wedi awgrymu y gallai lleihau treth stamp o ryw 1% sicrhau cynnydd yn y farchnad dai o ryw 20%. Os gallwn ni gael y farchnad dai i symud unwaith eto, yna'n sicr mae hyn yn mynd i fod yn beth positif iawn.

Reports have suggested that reducing stamp duty by 1% could increase activity in the housing market by some 20%. If we can get the housing market moving once again, then certainly that is going to be a very positive development.

Ddoe, yn ystod y ddadl ar Fil drafft Cymru, condemniodd y Prif Weinidog ein cynigion fel rhywbeth oedd yn rhy syml. Mae'n rhaid i mi ddweud ei fod ychydig yn annheg fod y Prif Weinidog yn condemnio ein cynigion ni pan nad yw ef yn dweud wrthym ni beth yw ei gynlluniau ef a'i Lywodraeth ynglŷn â threth stamp. Fodd bynnag, byddai ein cynnig ni yn galluogi pobl i fod yn glir ynghylch faint yn ychwanegol y byddai ganddynt yn eu pocedi i roi tuag at welliannau cartref neu at eu costau byw cyffredinol. Rwy'n credu y byddai ein cynigion ni yn taro nodyn positif iawn gyda phobl Cymru. Yn ychwanegol i ddadreoleiddio'r farchnad adeiladu tai, ac ar y cyd â'r cynlluniau gwahanol i brynu tŷ sydd ar gael, byddai ein polisi treth stamp ni yn sicr o helpu'r farchnad dai ymhellach ac yn helpu i droi'r freuddwyd o berchnogi cartref yn realiti.

Yesterday, during the debate on the draft Wales Bill, the First Minister condemned our proposals as something that was too simple. I must say that it is a little unfair of the First Minister to condemn our proposals when he has not told us what his and his Government's proposals are on stamp duty. However, our proposal would enable people to be clear as to how much in addition they would have in their pockets to spend on home improvements or general living costs. I think that our proposals would strike a very positive note with the people of Wales. In addition to deregulating the housing market, and in addition to the various house purchasing schemes available, our stamp duty policy would certainly assist the housing market further and would help in turning the dream of home ownership into reality.

Os oes amser, Lywydd, fe ildiaf i i'r Aelod dros y Rhondda.

If there is time, Presiding Officer, I will give way to the Member for Rhondda.

16:23

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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You have five seconds.

Mae gennych bum eiliad.

16:23

Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I will ask you the question that I asked your leader yesterday: if you move as you propose on stamp duty, there will be a reduction, of course, of income in Wales, so how are you going to find that reduction in stamp duty?

Byddaf yn gofyn ichi y cwestiwn a ofynnais ddoe i'ch arweinydd: os byddwch yn gweithredu yn ôl eich cynnig ar y dreth stamp, bydd lleihad, wrth gwrs, mewn incwm yng Nghymru, felly sut y bwriadwch wneud iawn am y gostyngiad hwnnw yn y dreth stamp?

16:23

Paul Davies Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

We have made it absolutely clear that this particular policy would cost around £20 million and that we would actually re-prioritise the housing budget. Given that the housing budget is just over £500 million, this is clearly possible. However, I am not going to take any lectures from the Member and his party. If the Welsh Government can find £52 million, just like that, to buy an airport, then our policy is more credible by the minute.

Rydym wedi dweud yn hollol glir y byddai'r polisi penodol hwn yn costio oddeutu £20 miliwn ac y byddem yn ail-flaenoriaethu'r gyllideb tai mewn gwirionedd. O ystyried bod y gyllideb tai ychydig dros £500 miliwn, mae'n amlwg bod hyn yn bosibl. Fodd bynnag, ni fwriadaf dderbyn pregeth gan yr Aelod a'i blaid. Os gall Llywodraeth Cymru ddod o hyd i £52 miliwn, ar fympwy, i brynu maes awyr, yna mae ein polisi yn fwy na chredadwy.

Felly, wrth gloi, Lywydd, rydym ni ar ochr hon y Siambr am anfon neges glir bod Cymru'n genedl uchelgeisiol lle nad yw cael troed ar yr ysgol prynu tŷ allan o gyrraedd a lle gall trethi isel wobrwyo pobl sydd yn gweithio yn galed.

Therefore, in concluding, Presiding Officer, we on this side of the Chamber want to send a clear message that Wales is an ambitious nation, where getting a foot on the housing ladder is not out of reach and where low taxes can reward people who work hard.

16:24 **Sandy Mewies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I am actually very pleased that the Welsh Government's Housing Bill looks strategically at tackling homelessness by means of such things as improving tenant rights in the private rented sector and providing opportunities for local authorities to work collaboratively. The Welsh Government has come up with many schemes, such as the empty houses into homes scheme, that are successful and work for small building firms rather than the large ones. I do not deny for a moment that we need to help people to buy new homes, because it does stimulate the market, but I could not agree with Jocelyn Davies more. To let someone borrow £600,000, regardless to buy a home, which could be buy to let, is an absolute nonsense. I am so glad—

A dweud y gwir, rwy'n falch iawn bod Bil Tai Llywodraeth Cymru yn edrych yn strategol ar fynd i'r afael â digartrefedd drwy gyfrwng pethau megis gwella hawliau tenantiaid yn y sector rhentu preifat a chynnig cyfleoedd i awdurdodau lleol gydweithio. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cyflwyno llawer o gynlluniau, megis cynllun troi tai gwag yn gartrefi, sy'n llwyddiannus ac yn gweithio i gwmnïau adeiladu bach yn hytrach na'r rhai mawr. Nid wyf yn gwadu am eiliad nad oes angen inni helpu pobl i brynu cartrefi newydd, oherwydd ei fod yn ysgogi'r farchnad, ond cytunaf â Jocelyn Davies yn llwyr. Mae gadael i rywun fenthyca £600,000 sut bynnag i brynu cartref, y gellid ei brynu i'w osod, yn nonsens llwyr. Rwyf mor falch hefyd—

16:25 **Antoinette Sandbach** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Will you take an intervention?

A wnewch chi dderbyn ymyriad?

16:25 **Sandy Mewies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

No, I have just started. I am so glad that the Welsh Government has looked at this sensibly, because, as Jocelyn Davies has said, it has to be sustainable.

Na, newydd ddechrau yr wyf. Rwyf mor falch bod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi edrych ar hyn yn synhwyrol, oherwydd, fel y dywedodd Jocelyn Davies, rhaid iddo fod yn gynaliadwy.

She also referred to the bedroom tax. Again, I agree with her that, rather than being part of the cure, the Conservative party is definitely one of the great parts of the cause of the housing crisis that is facing not just England but Wales. Some of you might remember that, in November, I called the bedroom tax 'stupid'—stupid because it did not work economically, but it was also immoral. One of the things that I raised there was that you would have people who had had large amounts of money spent on their homes to adapt them because they needed them to be adapted. They were finding themselves unable to pay and they would have to move out. They could do that, but they would move to another property that would then have to be adapted. So, not only would there be a reduction in housing benefit, but more money would have to be taken out to pay for further adaptations. I have evidence of a couple to whom this has happened, and I am sure that anyone here could produce such evidence today. I also have evidence of where organisations such as Communities First are now having to pick up the problems that are related to the Westminster Government's welfare reforms, and the impacts that it is having on the health and wellbeing of people. What sort of Government in the UK could produce a policy that is so harmful to so many people in so many ways? The Conservative Government is proving that it has done it before and that it can do it again. I have said in the past that the Tory vision for housing is a blurred vision. Actually, I was wrong. It is at best blinkered, but, at worst, it is an example of a mistake and a spiteful ideology.

Cyfeiriodd hefyd at y dreth ystafell wely. Unwaith eto, cytunaf â hi fod y blaid Geidwadol, yn hytrach na chynnig ateb, yn sicr yn bennaf cyfrifol am achosi'r argyfwng tai sydd nid yn unig yn wynebu Lloegr ond Cymru hefyd. Efallai y bydd rhai ohonoch yn cofio, ym mis Tachwedd, imi alw'r dreth ystafell wely yn dwp—twp am nad oedd yn gweithio'n economaidd, ond ei bod yn anfoesol hefyd. Un o'r pethau a godais oedd y byddai pobl yr oedd symiau mawr o arian wedi cael eu gwario ar eu cartrefi i'w haddasu am fod angen iddynt gael eu haddasu. Roeddent yn eu cael eu hunain mewn sefyllfa lle nad oeddent yn gallu talu ac yn gorfod symud. Gallent wneud hynny, ond byddent yn symud i eiddo arall y byddai'n rhaid ei addasu wedyn. Felly, nid yn unig y byddai gostyngiad mewn budd-dal tai, ond byddai'n rhaid gwario mwy o arian i dalu am addasiadau pellach. Mae gennyf dystiolaeth am bâr y mae hyn wedi digwydd iddynt, ac rwy'n siŵr y gallai unrhyw un yma gynnig tystiolaeth o'r fath heddiw. Mae gennyf dystiolaeth hefyd ynghylch lle mae'n rhaid i sefydliadau fel Cymunedau yn Gyntaf bellach ymdrin â phroblemau sy'n gysylltiedig â diwygiadau lles Llywodraeth San Steffan, a'r effeithiau y maent yn eu cael ar iechyd a lles pobl. Pa fath o Lywodraeth yn y DU a allai lunio polisi sydd mor niweidiol i gynifer o bobl mewn cymaint o ffyrdd? Mae'r Llywodraeth Geidwadol yn profi ei bod wedi gwneud hyn o'r blaen ac y gall wneud hynny eto. Rwyf wedi dweud yn y gorffennol bod gweledigaeth y Toriaid ar gyfer tai yn un annelwig. A dweud y gwir, roeddwn wedi cyfeiliorni. Ar y gorau mae'n gibddall, ond, ar y gwaethaf, mae'n enghraifft o gamgymeriad ac ideoleg sbeitlyd.

16:27 **Antoinette Sandbach** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I am very happy to explain the reality of the situation, because Sandy Mewies seems to live in a bit of a bubble. What has happened is that, in England, 150,000 affordable homes have been delivered since the coalition Government came into power. Do you know what the figure is in Wales? It is 2,500 over the same period. I was staggered when Mark Isherwood, in his opening remarks, said that only 200 houses have been built as a result of the rural housing enablers since 2004—in 10 years. That is a shameful record. I would like to remind the Member for Delyn that, actually, the bedroom tax was introduced by Labour in the private sector, where housing benefit—[Interruption.] It was where people were living in the private sector because they were on waiting lists. They cannot get homes because they are on waiting lists and they have to rent. That was introduced by a Labour Government. [Interruption.] It is true.

Rwy'n barod iawn i esbonio'r sefyllfa fel y mae, oherwydd ymddengys bod Sandy Mewies yn byw mewn byd afreal. Yr hyn sydd wedi digwydd, yn Lloegr, yw bod 150,000 o gartrefi fforddiadwy wedi cael eu darparu ers i'r Llywodraeth glymblaid ddod i rym. A wyddoch beth yw'r ffigur yng Nghymru? Y ffigur yw 2,500 dros yr un cyfnod. Cefais fy syfrdanu pan ddywedodd Mark Isherwood, yn ei sylwadau agoriadol, mai dim ond 200 o dai sydd wedi cael eu hadeiladu o ganlyniad i'r swyddogion galluogi tai gwledig ers 2004—mewn 10 mlynedd. Mae hynny'n record gywilyddus. Hoffwn atgoffa'r Aelod dros Ddelyn i'r dreth ystafell wely gael ei chyflwyno gan y Blaid Lafur yn y sector preifat a dweud y gwir, lle mae budd-dal tai [Torri ar draws.] Lle roedd pobl yn byw yn y sector preifat am eu bod ar restrau aros. Ni allant gael cartrefi am eu bod ar restrau aros a rhaid iddynt rentu. Cyflwynwyd hynny gan Lywodraeth Lafur. [Torri ar draws.] Mae'n wir.

In relation to adaptations, I understand the point that Ms Mewies is making, but, on the other hand, there is no reason why houses cannot be matched with people who require homes with adaptations. Let us look at what the position really is. There are 90,000 people on the housing waiting list in Wales. Many of them are families who are living in overcrowded accommodation. They need the homes to move into. It is for that reason that these measures have been taken. Also, 80% of housing benefit claimants in Wales are not affected by the spare room subsidy.

O ran addasiadau, deallaf y pwynt y mae Ms Mewies yn ei wneud, ond, ar y llaw arall, nid oes rheswm pam na all tai gael eu paru â phobl y mae angen cartrefi ag addasiadau arnynt. Gadewch inni edrych ar y sefyllfa fel y mae. Mae 90,000 o bobl ar y rhestr aros am dai yng Nghymru. Mae llawer ohonynt yn deuluoedd sy'n byw mewn llety gorlawn. Mae angen y cartrefi arnynt i symud iddynt. Am y rheswm hwnnw y cymerwyd y camau hyn. Hefyd, nid yw'r cymhorthdal ystafell sbâr yn effeithio ar 80% o hawlwyr budd-dal tai yng Nghymru.

In relation to Peter Black's contribution, I agree that it is vital that the barriers to building are identified. One of those key barriers is the planning system. I do not think that any debate on housing would be complete without looking at the planning system. I am aware that the Minister is bringing forward a planning Bill, but if you look again at TAN 6, which was a measure designed to encourage a sustainable supply of housing in the rural economy, you will see that the delivery in relation to TAN 6 has been extremely poor, and local authorities are not applying the criteria that are listed in that technical advice note. You can see that from the extremely small number of approvals that have been made under the TAN 6 criteria.

O ran cyfraniad Peter Black, cytunaf ei bod yn hanfodol bod y rhwystrau i adeiladu yn cael eu nodi. Un o'r rhwystrau allweddol hynny yw'r system gynllunio. Yn fy marn i, ni fyddai unrhyw ddadl ar dai yn gyflawn heb edrych ar y system gynllunio. Rwy'n ymwybodol bod y Gweinidog yn cyflwyno Bil cynllunio, ond os edrychwch eto ar TAN 6, a oedd yn fesur a gynlluniwyd i annog cyflenwad cynaliadwy o dai yn yr economi wledig, byddwch yn gweld bod y broses gyflawni mewn perthynas â TAN 6 wedi bod yn hynod wael, ac nid yw awdurdodau lleol yn cymhwyso'r meini prawf sy'n cael eu rhestru yn y nodyn cyngor technegol. Gallwch weld hynny yn ôl y nifer fach iawn o gymeradwyaethau sydd wedi cael eu gwneud o dan feini prawf TAN 6.

Permitted development would allow small-scale development in the more rural areas and, Minister, it is a shame that Help to Buy Cymru is only available for those who live in urban areas, where there are large designations of housing. On new housing, in rural areas there tends to be far less new housing available. It is a policy that directly encourages migration from rural areas into the more heavily populated coastal areas, and that destroys linguistic communities and local communities. Minister, that decision is wrong, and I would urge you to look at it again, because it undermines the rural fabric. We need to encourage an increase in housing. More and more red tape being applied—in particular mandatory landlord registration—is going to continue to act as a deterrent. The figures speak for themselves. The reason why people are not building in Wales is because it is not an environment where they feel they want to invest. Your figures show it. You need to look at the housing supply for all of Wales, and not just for those areas along the coastal regions and in the cities.

Byddai datblygu a ganiateir yn caniatáu datblygiadau ar raddfa fach yn yr ardaloedd mwy gwledig a, Weinidog, mae'n drueni bod Cymorth i Brynu Cymru ond ar gael i'r rhai sy'n byw mewn ardaloedd trefol, lle mae dynodiadau mawr o dai. O ran tai newydd, mewn ardaloedd gwledig, tueddir i lawer llai o dai newydd fod ar gael. Mae'n bolisi sy'n annog ymfudo o ardaloedd gwledig i'r ardaloedd arfordirol mwy poblog yn uniongyrchol, ac sy'n dinistrio cymunedau ieithyddol a chymunedau lleol. Weinidog, mae'r penderfyniad hwnnw'n anghywir, a hoffwn eich annog i edrych arno eto, am ei fod yn tanseilio gwead cefn gwlad. Mae angen inni annog cynnydd mewn tai. Bydd y fiwrocratiaeth gynyddol sy'n cael ei chymhwyso—yn enwedig y gofyniad i landlordiaid gofrestru—yn parhau i fod yn rhwystr. Mae'r ffigurau yn siarad drostynt eu hunain. Y rheswm pam nad yw pobl yn adeiladu yng Nghymru yw nad yw'n amgylchedd lle maent yn teimlo eu bod am fuddsoddi. Mae eich ffigurau yn dangos hynny. Mae angen ichi edrych ar y cyflenwad tai i Gymru gyfan, yn hytrach na'r ardaloedd hynny ar hyd y rhanbarthau arfordirol ac yn y dinasoedd yn unig.

16:32

Suzy Davies Bywgraffiad Biography

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Housing debates tend to concentrate, quite rightly, on the building of new homes, and this is where the opportunities for strategic construction and planned jobs growth lie after all. Every good-quality, appropriately sized and affordable new home that fills a housing need can mean stability, responsibility and, hopefully, opportunity for those taking up residence. Unfortunately, we are behind the curve in Wales, as we have heard from Mark Isherwood, but in the rush to talk about new build, we must not overlook the construction opportunities afforded by a more concerted approach to empty properties.

Mae dadleuon ynglŷn â thai yn tueddu i ganolbwyntio ar adeiladu cartrefi newydd, a hynny'n gwbl briodol, a dyma lle mae'r cyfleoedd ar gyfer adeiladu strategol a thwf swyddi cynlluniedig wedi'r cyfan. Gall pob cartref newydd o safon dda a maint priodol sy'n fforddiadwy ac yn diwallu angen am dŷ olygu sefydlogrwydd, cyfrifoldeb a, gobeithio, gyfle i'r rhai sy'n mynd i fyw ynddo. Yn anffodus, rydym ar ei hôl hi yng Nghymru, fel y clywsom gan Mark Isherwood, ond wrth brysuro i sôn am adeiladu cartrefi newydd, rhaid inni beidio ag anwybyddu'r cyfleoedd adeiladu a gynigir drwy wneud mwy o ymdrech i ymdrin ag eiddo gwag.

As Peter Black said, not every builder is a large-scale developer, and there are hundreds of quality small building businesses in Wales, working with local electricians and plumbers, whose core work lies in the maintenance and conversion of existing buildings. Many of those will have acquired specialist skills working with older properties, and they will be very conscious that they rely on their local reputation to secure work.

Fel y dywedodd Peter Black, nid yw pob adeiladwr yn ddatblygwr ar raddfa fawr, ac mae cannoedd o fusnesau adeiladu bach o safon yng Nghymru, sy'n gweithio gyda thrydanwyr a phlymwyr lleol, y mae eu gwaith craidd yn ymwneud â gwaith cynnal a chadw ac addasu adeiladau sydd eisoes yn bodoli. Bydd llawer o'r rheini wedi dysgu sgiliau arbenigol o ran gweithio gydag eiddo hŷn, a byddant yn ymwybodol iawn eu bod yn dibynnu ar eu henw da lleol i sicrhau gwaith.

Those small businesses occupy a not insignificant place in their local economy. Even in the downturn, when construction slumped, you would find small building firms ticking over with small maintenance and improvement contracts, keeping local supply chains going, too. I hope you will understand, Minister, why I, too, have a problem with the limitations on Help to Buy Cymru. By restricting it to new builds and Government-approved builders, you not only restrict the opportunities for new buyers, but introduce into the market a prejudice against empty homes and small local businesses. It is a particularly unfair prejudice, as it was not the small local builders who enjoyed the false profits of Gordon Brown's emperor's new-build-to-buy-to-let property boom, any more than it was they who caused the crash. So, I hope that when you promise us 5,000 empty properties back in use by 2016, Minister, you remember the small local builder, and not make it impossible for him or her to compete for this restoration and conversion work.

Mae i'r busnesau bach hynny le nid ansylweddol yn eu heconomi leol. Hyd yn oed yn ystod y dirywiad, pan fu lleihad mewn gweithgarwch adeiladu, byddech yn dod o hyd i gwmnïau adeiladu bach yn cadw i fynd gyda chontractau cynnal a chadw a gwelliannau bach, gan gadw cadwyni cyflenwi lleol i fynd, hefyd. Gobeithio y byddwch yn deall, Weinidog, pam rwyf innau hefyd, yn anfodlon ar gyfyngiadau Cymorth i Brynu Cymru. Drwy ei gyfyngu i gartrefi newydd ac adeiladwyr a gymeradwyir gan y Llywodraeth, rydych nid yn unig yn cyfyngu ar y cyfleoedd i brynwyr newydd, ond yn dod â rhagfarn yn erbyn cartrefi gwag a busnesau bach lleol i'r farchnad. Mae'n rhagfarn arbennig o annheg, oherwydd nid yr adeiladwyr bach lleol a oedd wedi cael elw ffug cyfnod ffyniannus ffuantus Gordon Brown o ran adeiladu cartrefi newydd i rentu ac nid hwy ychwaith a achosodd yr argyfwng ariannol. Felly, gobeithio, pan fyddwch yn addo inni y byddwch yn adfer 5,000 o eiddo gwag erbyn 2016, Weinidog, byddwch yn cofio'r adeiladwr lleol bach, a pheidio â'i gwneud yn amhosibl iddo ef neu iddi hi gystadlu am y gwaith adfer ac addasu hwn.

You will know from previous contributions by Mark Isherwood that the Welsh Conservatives are not bowled over by your ambitions for bringing empty houses back into use. Five thousand properties out of a total of 23,000, or 32,000, or 34,000—who knows how many empty properties there are—is not that ambitious. The Welsh Government does not know, particularly, as numbers are collated centrally. Local authorities do not release those figures regularly. You would think, for example, that Ynys Môn might take more of an interest in recycling its 1,000 or so existing empty houses before joining forces with Gwynedd to build 8,000 new ones, particularly as almost 12,000 empty properties nationally are in rural areas.

Fe wyddoch o gyfraniadau blaenorol Mark Isherwood nad yw'r Ceidwadwyr Cymreig yn meddwl rhyw lawer o'ch uchelgais o ran adfer tai gwag. Nid yw 5,000 o eiddo o gyfanswm o 23,000, neu 32,000, neu 34,000—pwy a ŵyr faint o eiddo gwag, sydd—yn uchelgeisiol iawn. Nid yw Llywodraeth Cymru yn gwybod, yn enwedig am fod y ffigurau yn cael eu casglu'n ganolog. Nid yw awdurdodau lleol yn cyhoeddi'r ffigurau hynny yn rheolaidd. Byddech yn meddwl, er enghraifft, y byddai Ynys Môn yn cymryd mwy o ddiddordeb mewn ailgylchu ei 1,000 o dai gwag fwy neu lai sydd ganddo ar hyn o bryd cyn ymuno â Gwynedd i adeiladu 8,000 o dai newydd, yn enwedig gan fod bron 12,000 o eiddo gwag yn genedlaethol mewn ardaloedd gwledig.

Too many empty properties in one place can give rise to social problems, just as much as too few homes being available. Mark Isherwood is right when he urges us to look at housing supply in the round. Only last week, Julie James raised a question with you about houses in multiple occupation. I do not know about other Members, but my first post-university accommodation was a house in multiple occupation. It was the ideal solution for me, as a single person moving back to Swansea for my first permanent, albeit low-paid, job.

Gall gormod o eiddo gwag mewn un lle arwain at broblemau cymdeithasol, yn union fel y gall rhy ychydig o gartrefi. Mae Mark Isherwood yn llygad ei le pan fydd yn ein hannog i edrych ar y cyflenwad tai yn gyffredinol. Dim ond yr wythnos diwethaf, cododd Julie James gwestiwn gyda chi am dai amlfeddiannaeth. Ni wn am Aelodau eraill, ond tŷ amlfeddiannaeth oedd fy llety cyntaf ar ôl gadael y brifysgol. Roedd yn ateb delfrydol imi, fel person sengl a oedd am symud yn ôl i Abertawe ar gyfer fy swydd barhaol gyntaf, ond un â chyflog isel.

However, my ward now is awash with HMOs and a noticeable number of them are unoccupied or not occupied for long. Members might be excited to know that the house next door to mine has, in the last three years, housed some very loud students and a cannabis factory, but is now, at last, home to a mother and her four children. It is a stable home, and that is really what we are talking about in this debate.

Fodd bynnag, mae fy ward yn llawn tai amlfeddiannaeth bellach ac mae'n amlwg bod nifer ohonynt yn wag neu'n wag am gyfnod hir. Efallai y bydd Aelodau yn ymddiddori mewn clywed bod y tŷ drws nesaf imi, yn ystod y tair blynedd diwethaf, wedi bod yn gartref i rai myfyrwyr swnllyd iawn ac yn ffatri ganabis, ond mae bellach, o'r diwedd, yn gartref i fam a'i phedwar o blant. Mae'n gartref sefydlog, a dyna bwnc y ddadl hon mewn gwirionedd.

Labour's buy-to-let explosion of a decade ago meant the appearance, in the private sector, of many new, overpriced properties, many of them with the elusive two bedrooms, but they are in the wrong place and the wrong price bracket to effectively meet Wales's need for homes. So, there has to be merit in you, Minister, working with increasingly desperate and disinterested HMO landlords to convert their larger properties into longer term lets, providing stable rent income and work for local builders.

Roedd y cynnydd sydyn o dan Lafur mewn eiddo prynu i osod ddegawd yn ôl yn golygu bod llawer o eiddo newydd, drudfawr wedi ymddangos yn y sector preifat, yr oedd gan lawer ohonynt y ddwy ystafell wely a chwenychir cymaint, ond maent yn y lle anghywir ac am y pris anghywir i ddiwallu anghenion Cymru am gartrefi i bob pwrpas. Felly, rhaid bod gwerth ichi, Weinidog, weithio gyda landlordiaid tai amlfeddiannaeth sy'n gynyddol yn colli gobaith ac yn colli diddordeb er mwyn troi eu heiddo mwy yn fflatiau gosod yn y tymor hwy gan ddarparu incwm rhent sefydlog a gwaith i adeiladwyr lleol.

Finally, I will finish on empty social housing. Again, we are not sure how many of these properties are empty or why, but we all have corners of our constituencies or regions where those seeking homes will be reluctant to go. Sometimes, the answer to that lies in the vision of local people, rather than a Government Minister, but we favour a mixed approach, with money going to registered social landlords to buy empty homes and bring them back into use.

Yn olaf, hoffwn orffen drwy sôn am dai cymdeithasol gwag. Unwaith eto, nid ydym yn siŵr faint o'r tai hyn sy'n wag na pham, ond mae gennym i gyd gorneli yn ein hetholaethau neu ein rhanbarthau lle bydd y rhai sy'n ceisio cartrefi yn amharod i fynd. Weithiau, mae'r ateb i hynny i'w gael yng ngweledigaeth pobl leol, yn hytrach na chan Weinidog yn y Llywodraeth, ond rydym o blaid dull gweithredu cymysg, gydag arian yn mynd i landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig i brynu cartrefi gwag a'u hadfer unwaith eto.

Community groups should also be included. Members from South Wales Central will remember the inspiring work of what is now Valleys Kids and its transformation of four houses in Penyrenglyn. The abandoned, no-go Libanus estate was rescued from demolition and people began to want to be housed there. I do not know what the estate is like today, but it was shown at the time that empty homes need not lead to empty communities, as long as local leadership complements national strategy.

Dylai grwpiau cymunedol gael eu cynnwys hefyd. Bydd aelodau o Ganol De Cymru yn cofio gwaith ysbrydoledig y grŵp a elwir yn Plant y Cymoedd erbyn hyn a'r ffordd iddo drawsnewid pedwar tŷ ym Mhen-yr-englyn. Cafodd ystad Libanus nad oedd neb am fyw ynddi ei hachub rhag cael ei dymchwel a dechreuodd pobl ddewis cael eu cartrefu yno. Ni wn sut le yw'r ystad heddiw, ond dangoswyd ar y pryd nad oes angen i gartrefi gwag arwain at gymunedau gwag, cyn belled â bod arweinyddiaeth leol yn ategu strategaeth genedlaethol.

16:37 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I call on the Minister for Housing and Regeneration, Carl Sargeant, to speak on behalf of the Government.

Galwaf ar y Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio, Carl Sargeant, i siarad ar ran y Llywodraeth.

16:37 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Y Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio / The Minister for Housing and Regeneration

I was looking forward to this debate today for the opportunity to discuss the Welsh Government's housing vision. I thought it would be taken seriously, but then Mark Isherwood opened the Welsh Conservatives' debate by portraying fantastic myths about housing and housing need in Wales. This is a Member who made his living from the building industry and then came to Wales, where it is so bad. However, he is still here and he wants to stand for Parliament in the next election. Well, if it is so bad in Wales, maybe it is a good place for the Member to go. I see Wales as a good place to live and a good place to invest. We are seeing many places delivering on that.

Roeddwn yn edrych ymlaen at y ddadl hon heddiw er mwyn cael cyfle i drafod gweledigaeth tai Llywodraeth Cymru. Roeddwn i'n meddwl y câi ei chymryd o ddifrif, ond yna agorodd Mark Isherwood ddadl y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig drwy weu mythau gwych am dai ac anghenion tai yng Nghymru. Mae hwn yn Aelod a gafodd fywoliaeth o'r diwydiant adeiladu ac yna daeth i Gymru, lle mae mor wael. Fodd bynnag, mae'n dal i fod yma ac mae am sefyll fel ymgeisydd seneddol yn yr etholiad nesaf. Wel, os yw mor wael yng Nghymru, efallai ei bod yn lle da i'r Aelod fynd iddo. Ystyriaf Gymru yn lle da i fyw ac yn lle da i fuddsoddi ynddi. Rydym yn gweld llawer o leoedd yn cyflawni o ran hynny.

The fact that we need to build more homes for people does not need to be debate, as far as I am concerned. Increasing housing supply has been my priority since taking on the housing and regeneration portfolio. Let me gently remind Members opposite of some of the positive actions that we have taken. The Welsh Government has invested in housing. It is a priority in our Wales infrastructure investment plan, and since the publication of that plan, more than £600 million additional investment has been made into the housing and regeneration portfolio.

Nid oes angen i'r ffaith bod angen inni adeiladu mwy o gartrefi fod yn destun dadl, o'm rhan i. Mae cynyddu'r cyflenwad tai wedi bod yn flaenoriaeth gennyf ers ymgymryd â'r portffolio tai ac adfywio. Gadewch imi atgoffa'r Aelodau gyferbyn yn garedig am rai o'r camau cadarnhaol yr ydym wedi'u cymryd. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi buddsoddi mewn tai. Mae'n flaenoriaeth yn ein cynllun buddsoddi yn seilwaith Cymru, ac ers cyhoeddi'r cynllun hwnnw, mae dros £600 miliwn o fuddsoddiad ychwanegol wedi cael ei wneud yn y portffolio tai ac adfywio.

A large part of the social housing grant programme still supports those who need more support, through social rented housing. Yesterday's supplementary budget saw a £5 million additional allocation for the programme—that was not given a single mention by the opposition bench. In addition, we are investing £40 million to provide smaller properties for people affected by the terrible bedroom tax, which Sandy Mewies referenced. Last year, we launched the housing finance grant—a historic and innovative programme to fund housing, which means an additional 1,000 new affordable homes over the next two years.

Mae rhan fawr o'r rhaglen grant tai cymdeithasol yn dal i gefnogi'r rhai y mae angen mwy o gymorth arnynt, drwy dai rhentu cymdeithasol. Yn y gyllideb atodol ddoe dyrannwyd swm ychwanegol o £5 miliwn ar gyfer y rhaglen—na soniwyd amdani o gwbl gan fainc y wrthblaid. Hefyd, rydym yn buddsoddi £40 miliwn i ddarparu tai llai o faint ar gyfer pobl yr effeithir arnynt gan y dreth ystafell wely ofnadwy, y cyfeiriod Sandy Mewies ati. Y llynedd, lansiwyd y grant cyllid tai—rhaglen hanesyddol ac arloesol i ariannu tai, sy'n golygu 1,000 o gartrefi fforddiadwy newydd ychwanegol dros y ddwy flynedd nesaf.

I recently launched the Help to Buy Cymru scheme. I thank Peter Black for his positive comments on the shared equity scheme. This £170 million scheme will support the construction of around 5,000 new homes across Wales. It will stimulate jobs and growth and build affordable homes for people across Wales. Again, the opposition party failed to address that today. We are already seeing the benefits of the Help to Buy scheme in Wales. Builders tell me that there is restored confidence in the market. In the first two months, over 200 applications have been made for the shared equity scheme; 80% of those have come from first-time buyers, and we have already seen the first completions in both urban and rural settings across Wales. We have ensured that the scheme works for small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as the volume of house builders, by making changes to the way that simple payments are made and by having a single operator for the scheme.

Yn ddiweddar, lansiais gynllun Cymorth i Brynu Cymru. Hoffwn ddiolch i Peter Black am ei sylwadau cadarnhaol am y cynllun ecwiti a rennir. Bydd y cynllun hwn gwerth £170 miliwn yn helpu i adeiladu tua 5,000 o gartrefi newydd ledled Cymru. Bydd yn ysgogi swyddi a thwf ac yn adeiladu cartrefi fforddiadwy i bobl ledled Cymru. Unwaith eto, methodd yr wrthblaid â sôn am hynny heddiw. Rydym eisoes yn gweld buddiannau'r cynllun Cymorth i Brynu yng Nghymru. Mae adeiladwyr yn dweud wrthyf bod hyder wed cael ei adfer yn y farchnad. Yn ystod y ddeufis cyntaf, mae dros 200 o geisiadau wedi cael eu gwneud o dan y cynllun ecwiti a rennir; daeth 80% o'r rheiny gan brynwyr tro cyntaf, ac rydym eisoes wedi gweld y cytundebau cyntaf yn cael eu cwblhau mewn lleoliadau trefol a gwledig ledled Cymru. Rydym wedi sicrhau bod y cynllun yn gweithio ar gyfer busnesau bach a chanolig, yn ogystal â'r adeiladwyr tai mawr, drwy newid y ffordd y mae taliadau syml yn cael eu gwneud a thrwy benodi un gweithredwr ar gyfer y cynllun.

Members made reference to anonymous builders that are sending e-mails to individuals saying that there are still problems. Please, tell them to come to speak to me, as opposed to you, because, actually, I really want to do something about this. However, I cannot do anything if they do not tell me what the problem is. I would rather that than having you trying to shout at me across the Chamber.

Cyfeiriodd yr Aelodau at adeiladwyr dienw yn anfon negeseuon e-bost at unigolion yn dweud bod problemau o hyd. Da chi, dywedwch wrthynt am ddod i siarad â mi, yn hytrach na chi, oherwydd, y gwir yw fy mod yn awyddus iawn i wneud rhywbeth am hyn. Fodd bynnag, ni allaf wneud dim os nad ydynt yn dweud wrthyf beth yw'r broblem. Byddai'n well gennyf hynny yn hytrach na'ch cael chi'n ceisio gweiddi arnaf o ochr arall y Siambr.

One of the aims of the Help to Buy shared equity scheme is to stimulate the building of new homes, so the scheme is not available for the purchasing of existing homes. The Help to Buy mortgage guarantee scheme is available to support such purchases.

Un o amcanion cynllun Cymorth i Brynu ecwiti a rennir yw ysgogi adeiladu cartrefi newydd, felly nid yw'r cynllun ar gael i brynu cartrefi sy'n bodoli eisoes. Mae cynllun gwarant morgais Cymorth i Brynu ar gael er mwyn helpu wneud pryniadau o'r fath.

I have taken action on building regulations and fire safety, which is giving breathing space to the home building industry but keeps our aims on track in terms of energy efficiency that gives the highest protection from fire to occupants. Last week, I published updated guidance on how economic developments should be considered in the planning system, through the publication of technical advice note 23. My planning reform proposals are currently out for consultation. My aim is to streamline the planning system, with decisions taken at the appropriate level. This was acknowledged by some Members in relation to the new planning Bill that is coming through the Assembly in the coming months.

Rwyf wedi cymryd camau gweithredu ar reoliadau adeiladu a diogelwch tân, sy'n rhoi seibiant i'r diwydiant adeiladu cartrefi ond sy'n golygu bod ein hamcanion o ran effeithlonrwydd ynni sy'n rhoi'r diogelwch mwyaf rhag tân i breswylwyr yn parhau ar y trywydd iawn. Yr wythnos diwethaf, cyhoeddais ganllawiau wedi'u diweddaru ynglŷn â sut y dylid ystyried datblygiadau economaidd yn y system gynllunio, drwy gyhoeddi nodyn cyngor technegol 23. Cynhelir ymgynghoriad ar fy nghynigion ar gyfer diwygio'r system gynllunio ar hyn o bryd. Fy nod yw symleiddio'r system gynllunio, gyda phenderfyniadau yn cael eu gwneud ar y lefel briodol. Cydnabuwyd hyn gan rai Aelodau mewn perthynas â'r Bil cynllunio newydd a fydd yn cael ei gyflwyno yn y Cynulliad yn ystod y misoedd nesaf.

The Housing (Wales) Bill that I have introduced has a role to play in increasing supplies, supporting the development of co-operative housing and enabling local authorities to become self-financing. I have already had conversations with Cardiff and Anglesey about the ambitious plans to build council properties, and I welcome those plans. It is a shame, again, that the Members opposite just seem to focus on the private rented sector when we are protecting people, as opposed to just having activity surrounding those people. The PRS system is an important part of the Housing (Wales) Bill in terms of protection.

Bydd y Bil Tai (Cymru) yr wyf wedi'i gyflwyno yn chwarae rôl i gynyddu cyflenwadau, helpu i ddatblygu tai cydweithredol a galluogi awdurdodau lleol i ddechrau bod yn hunangyllidol. Rwyf wedi cael sgyrsiau eisoes gyda Chaerdydd ac Ynys Môn am y cynlluniau uchelgeisiol i adeiladu tai cyngor, a chroesawaf y cynlluniau hynny. Mae'n drueni, unwaith eto, bod yr Aelodau gyferbyn ond yn canolbwyntio ar y sector rhentu preifat i bob golwg a ninnau'n diogelu pobl, yn hytrach nag ymgymryd â gweithgaredd ynglŷn â'r bobl hynny. Mae'r sector rhentu preifat yn rhan bwysig o'r Bil Tai (Cymru) o ran diogelu.

The housing supply taskforce has now reported, and the deliberations have provided me with plenty of food for thought. I am considering those recommendations and will respond in due course. In the first two years of this administration, more than 4,500 new affordable homes have been delivered, against our target of 7,500. I have made it clear that I want to do more. I am talking to the housing sector about how we can do this together to deliver more, and I will make a further announcement in the statement on 4 March.

Mae'r tasglu cyflenwad tai wedi cyflwyno ei adroddiad erbyn hyn, ac mae'r trafodaethau wedi rhoi digon imi gnoi cil drosto. Rwy'n ystyried yr argymhellion hynny a byddaf yn ymateb maes o law. Yn ystod dwy flynedd gyntaf y weinyddiaeth hon, mae mwy na 4,500 o gartrefi fforddiadwy newydd wedi cael eu darparu, yn erbyn ein targed o 7,500. Rwyf wedi ei gwneud yn glir fy mod am wneud mwy. Rwy'n siarad â'r sector tai ynghylch sut y gallwn wneud hyn gyda'n gilydd er mwyn darparu mwy, a gwnaf gyhoeddiad arall yn y datganiad ar 4 Mawrth.

Antoinette Sandbach a gododd—

Antoinette Sandbach rose—

16:42

Carl Sargeant Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I will give way in a second.

Ildiaf mewn eiliad.

It is clear that the Government is taking a whole-market approach. We are continuing to support social housing, we are innovating to deliver more intermediate housing and we are working to support market housing through a number of measures. I will give way to the Member.

Mae'n amlwg bod y Llywodraeth yn mabwysiadu ymagwedd marchnad gyfan. Rydym yn parhau i gefnogi tai cymdeithasol, rydym yn arloesi er mwyn darparu mwy o dai canolraddol ac rydym yn gweithio i gefnogi tai sydd i'w gwerthu ar y farchnad drwy nifer o fesurau. Ildiaf i'r Aelod.

16:43

Antoinette Sandbach Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I am very grateful to the Minister for giving way. One of the solutions to obtaining more affordable housing is to allow cross-subsidy with open-market housing. Will that be one of the factors that you will be looking at?

Rwy'n ddiolchgar iawn i'r Gweinidog am ildio. Un o'r atebion i sicrhau mwy o dai fforddiadwy yw caniatáu croes-gymhorthdalu â thai sydd i'w gwerthu ar y farchnad agored. A fydd hynny'n un o'r ffactorau y byddwch yn ei ystyried?

16:43

Carl Sargeant Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

We already make investment in and work with the market. The issue for me is to make recommendations—. The recommendations of the taskforce will be responded to in the fullness of time.

Rydym eisoes yn buddsoddi yn y farchnad ac yn gweithio gyda hi. Y mater i mi yw gwneud argymhellion—. Ceir ymateb i argymhellion y tasglu gyda threigl amser.

However, given that Mark Isherwood was quite keen to demonstrate what they are doing in the UK, I thought that I might just put some facts behind those issues this afternoon, if I may, Presiding Officer.

Fodd bynnag, o ystyried bod Mark Isherwood yn eithaf awyddus i ddangos yr hyn y maent yn ei wneud yn y DU, roeddwn yn meddwl y dylwn nodi rhai ffeithiau ynglŷn â'r materion hynny y prynhawn yma, os caf, Lywydd.

The UK Government has all but abandoned the concept of social housing. The UK Government's affordable housing programme means 80% of the market level is the affordable housing target. This is distinctively unaffordable for many, meaning that they are more reliant on benefits. So, this is increasing the housing costs in terms of benefits—that is a fact. This is not the approach that we intend to take. We will continue to invest in our social housing.

Mae Llywodraeth y DU fwy neu lai wedi cefnu ar y cysyniad o dai cymdeithasol. Mae rhaglen tai fforddiadwy Llywodraeth y DU yn golygu mai 80% o lefel y farchnad yw'r targed tai fforddiadwy. Mae hyn yn hynod anfforddiadwy i lawer, sy'n golygu eu bod yn fwy dibynnol ar fudd-daliadau. Felly, mae hyn yn cynyddu costau tai o ran budd-daliadau—mae hynny'n ffaith. Nid felly y bwriadwn weithredu. Byddwn yn parhau i fuddsoddi yn ein tai cymdeithasol.

Let me just point you in another direction mentioned by the Members opposite—the right-to-buy scheme. Proposals to increase the right-to-buy discounts are, I believe, ill-conceived and simply do not stack up. Yet again, the UK Government promised that a new council house or flat would replace every one that is sold to a tenant. The reality is that the UK Government's own figures show one replacement property for every seven sold; you just do not get the maths. We wish to protect social housing assets, not to reduce them. Therefore, let us be clear that we have no intention of changing the way that the current right-to-buy scheme operates in Wales.

Gadewch imi eich tywys i gyfeiriad arall a grybwyllwyd gan yr Aelodau gyferbyn—sef cynllun hawl i brynu. Mae'r cynigion i gynyddu gostyngiadau hawl i brynu, yn gyfeiliornus, yn fy marn i, ac nid ydynt yn dal dŵr. Unwaith eto, addawodd Llywodraeth y DU y byddai tŷ neu fflat cyngor newydd yn cymryd lle pob un sy'n cael ei werthu i denant. Y gwir amdani yw bod ffigurau Llywodraeth y DU ei hun yn dangos un eiddo newydd am bob saith a werthwyd; nid ydych yn deall y ffigurau. Rydym am ddiogelu asedau tai cymdeithasol, yn hytrach na'u lleihau. Felly, gadewch inni fod yn glir nad oes unrhyw fwriad gennym i newid y ffordd y mae'r cynllun hawl i brynu presennol yn gweithredu yng Nghymru.

The recently announced Conservative policy to abolish stamp duty on residential properties worth £250,000 would lead to around £25 million per year in revenue funding, based on the current housing market. It is likely to be considerably more when the housing market picks up. I was really interested that Paul Davies coughed today in terms of telling us where the money would come from: the money will come from social housing grants. Do you know what that means for the people of Wales? That means that 500 fewer homes will be built in Wales, or it actually means that 10,000 fewer people in Wales will be supported by the Supporting People programme. You may not like to hear this, but these are the facts.

Byddai polisi'r Ceidwadwyr a gyhoeddwyd yn ddiweddar i ddiddymu'r dreth stamp ar eiddo preswyl gwerth £250,000 yn arwain at tua £25 miliwn y flwyddyn mewn cyllid refeniw, yn seiliedig ar y farchnad dai ar hyn o bryd. Mae'n debygol o fod yn llawer mwy pan fydd y farchnad dai yn gwella. Roedd diddordeb mawr gennyf fod Paul Davies wedi datgelu'r cyfan heddiw o ran dweud wrthym o ble y byddai'r arian yn dod: bydd yr arian yn dod o grantiau tai cymdeithasol. A wyddoch beth mae hynny'n ei olygu i bobl Cymru? Mae hynny'n golygu y bydd 500 yn llai o gartrefi yn cael eu hadeiladu yng Nghymru, neu'n golygu y bydd 10,000 yn llai o bobl yng Nghymru yn cael eu cefnogi o dan raglen Cefnogi Pobl. Efallai nad ydych yn hoffi clywed hyn, ond dyma'r ffeithiau.

16:45

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

Your time is up, Minister.

Mae eich amser ar ben, Weinidog.

16:45

Carl Sargeant [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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The Conservatives cannot have it both ways. They call for an increased supply at the national level, and then say on the local level, 'Not around here'. They touched upon welfare reform and on one and two-bedroomed properties not being available. Let me just remind the Members of the numbers-one and two bedroomed properties—

Ni all y Ceidwadwyr ei chael hi bob ffordd. Maent yn galw am gynnydd yn y cyflenwad ar lefel genedlaethol, ac wedyn yn dweud 'Ddim fan hyn' yn lleol. Cyfeiriwyd at ddiwygiadau lles ganddynt a'r ffaith nad oes eiddo un ystafell wely na dwy ystafell wely ar gael. Gadewch imi atgoffa'r Aelodau o'r ffigurau—eiddo un a dwy ystafell wely —

16:45

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

Your time is up, Minister. Please conclude.

Mae eich amser ar ben, Weinidog. Gorffennwch os gwelwch yn dda.

16:45

Carl Sargeant [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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I will, thank you, Presiding Officer. One and two-bedroomed properties cost £2 billion to the Welsh economy. This document here is like the 'Dandy', but it would be, coming from Bully Beef and his company. [Laughter.]

Gwnaf, diolch ichi, Lywydd. Mae eiddo un a dwy ystafell wely yn costio £2 biliwn i economi Cymru. Mae'r ddogfen hon yn debyg i'r 'Dandy', ond nid yw'n syndod, a hithau'n eiddo i Bully Beef a'i gwmni. [Chwerthin.]

16:46

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

I call on Andrew R.T. Davies to reply to the debate.

Galwaf ar Andrew RT Davies i ymateb i'r ddadl.

16:46 **Andrew R.T. Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Thank you, Presiding Officer. I have to say that the Minister is like Humpty-Dumpty who has fallen off the wall, because he clearly does not have a clue what he is talking about. He spent the first minute berating Mark Isherwood in a personal context instead of attacking the real issues. In Mark Isherwood, you have someone who has a real grasp of the subject that he is talking about. He clearly highlighted the issues that are facing the Welsh housing market. I think that the figures are very stark, when you look at new home registrations. Last year in Wales, they were down by 32% and, in England, they were up by 34%. Across the UK, they rose by 28%. Wales is the only place where the market has gone backwards regrettably, Minister. Yet you chose not to address that point whatsoever.

Diolch ichi, Lywydd. Rhaid imi ddweud bod y Gweinidog yn ymdebygu i Humpty Dumpty sydd wedi syrthio oddi ar y wal, oherwydd mae'n amlwg nad oes ganddo unrhyw syniad am beth y mae'n sôn. Treuliodd y funud gyntaf yn difrïo Mark Isherwood mewn cyd-destun personol yn hytrach nag ymdrin â'r materion go iawn. Mae Mark Isherwood, yn rhywun sydd â gafael go iawn ar y pwnc y mae'n sôn amdano. Nododd yn glir y problemau sy'n wynebu marchnad dai Cymru. Credaf fod y ffigurau'n ddu iawn, pan edrychwch ar nifer y cartrefi newydd sy'n cael eu cofrestru. Y llynedd yng Nghymru, cafwyd gostyngiad o 32% ac, yn Lloegr, cafwyd cynnydd o 34%. Ledled y DU, cafwyd cynnydd o 28%. Cymru yw'r unig fan lle mae'r farchnad wedi mynd tuag yn ôl yn anffodus, Weinidog. Ond rydych yn dewis peidio â mynd i'r afael â'r pwynt hwnnw o gwbl.

All you did, Minister, was berate the policy that we brought forward last week. I can understand that, because that is politics, but, ultimately, we are about enabling people to get onto the property ladder and keeping their money in their pockets. What would you do? All you have done is prevaricate for year upon year. It took you longer to bring a homebuyers scheme forward than it did in other parts of the United Kingdom. Instead of knowing your job and delivering, you are just sitting there thinking that you can get by without doing anything. That is not good enough for the people of Wales, because there is pent-up demand in the housing market and we need more houses, not fewer houses. We need direction from the Government in particular around the planning policy, given that Members across this Chamber have identified where the bottlenecks are.

Y cyfan a wnaethoch chi, Weinidog, oedd lladd ar y polisi a gyhoeddwyd gennym yr wythnos diwethaf. Gallaf ddeall hynny, oherwydd dyna natur gwleidyddiaeth, ond, yn y pen draw, ein nod yw galluogi pobl i gael troed ar yr ysgol eiddo a chadw eu harian yn eu pocedi. Beth y byddech yn ei wneud? Y cyfan yr ydych wedi ei wneud yw osgoi gweithredu flwyddyn ar ôl blwyddyn. Cymerwyd mwy o amser i gyflwyno cynllun i brynwyr gennych nag mewn rhannau eraill o'r Deyrnas Unedig. Yn hytrach na gwybod eich pethau a chyflawni, yn syml, rydych yn eistedd yno yn meddwl y gallwch wneud dim byd. Nid yw hynny'n ddigon da i bobl Cymru, oherwydd mae galw cronedig yn y farchnad dai ac mae angen mwy o dai, nid llai o dai. Mae angen cyfeiriad gan y Llywodraeth yn arbennig ynghylch y polisi cynllunio, o gofio bod Aelodau ym mhob rhan o'r Siambr hon wedi nodi lle mae'r cyfyngiadau.

Peter Black touched on this issue. He said that when many developers try to join up the chain in terms of the guidance to local authorities and the way that local authorities deal with some of the issues that developers have, it ends up strangling a lot of the developments because of the bureaucracy at that level. I appreciate that, as a Government, you are going to be bringing forward a new planning Bill. It is about time that that planning Bill and that planning process came forward. I look forward to that happening in the summer so that we can get some up-to-date planning guidance out there that will enable developments to go ahead.

Cyfeiriodd Peter Black at y mater hwn. Dywedodd, pan fydd llawer o ddatblygwyr yn ceisio gwneud synnwyr o'r cyfan o ran y canllawiau i awdurdodau lleol a'r ffordd y mae awdurdodau lleol yn ymdrin â rhai o'r problemau a wynebir gan ddatblygwyr, yn y diwedd ei fod yn rhoi terfyn ar lawer o'r datblygiadau oherwydd y fiwrocratiaeth ar y lefel honno. Sylweddolaf, fel Llywodraeth, eich bod yn bwriadu cyflwyno Bil cynllunio newydd. Mae'n hen bryd i'r Bil cynllunio a'r broses gynllunio honno gael eu cyflwyno. Edrychaf ymlaen at weld hynny'n digwydd yn yr haf fel y gallwn gael rhywfaint o ganllawiau cynllunio cyfoes a fydd yn fodd i ddatblygiadau fynd rhagddynt.

Jocelyn Davies touched on how the average age of first-time buyers today is 37. That is not untypical for the rest of the United Kingdom, but it is not a figure that we should be content with in Wales. She also touched on the fact that the average deposit for a first-time buyer is £20,000. There is greater flexibility, I would suggest, in the mortgage market thankfully, with the return of 95% mortgages. I do not accept your point about a housing bubble; there are different constraints now to stop a housing bubble from developing. The Bank of England has a greater regulatory role in that aspect. I think that, for all the fingers that were burned in the last housing crash, we will not have that situation in the immediate future. I think that we need to acknowledge the new regulatory environment in which many of the building societies and banks operate.

Soniodd Jocelyn Davies am y ffaith mai 37 yw oedran cyfartalog prynwyr tro cyntaf heddiw. Nid yw hynny'n annodweddiadol yng ngweddill y Deyrnas Unedig, ond nid yw'n ffigur y dylem fod yn fodlon arno yng Nghymru. Soniodd hefyd am y ffaith mai £20,000 yw'r blaendal cyfartalog ar gyfer prynwr tro cyntaf. Ceir mwy o hyblygrwydd, ddywedwn i, yn y farchnad morgeisi diolch byth, ar ôl i forgeisi o 95% gael eu cynnig eto. Nid wyf yn derbyn eich pwynt ynglŷn â chynnydd sydyn ym mhrisiau tai; ceir gwahanol gyfyngiadau erbyn hyn i atal hynny rhag datblygu. Mae gan Fanc Lloegr fwy o rôl reoleiddio o ran hynny. Credaf, er i lawer o bobl losgi eu bysedd y tro diwethaf y gostyngodd prisiau tai yn sydyn, na fyddwn yn gweld y sefyllfa honno yn y dyfodol agos. Credaf fod angen inni gydnabod yr amgylchedd rheoleiddio newydd y mae llawer o'r cymdeithasau adeiladu a'r banciau yn gweithredu ynddo.

Sandy Mewies touched on the empty homes point. It is a critical part of any strategy. The strategy that we brought forward last November touched on this very point. Our concern with the Welsh Government is that it does not even know how many empty homes there are out there. You do not collect the data centrally. With our information gathering under FOI requests, we have found that in excess of 30,000 empty homes exist across the whole of Wales. If you do not know how many are out there, how can you have a coherent strategy to bring those properties back into use? While 5,000 properties by the middle of 2016 is a good start, given the size of the problem, we would have hoped for greater ambition from the Welsh Government in this particular field.

Cyfeiriodd Sandy Mewies at y pwynt ynglŷn â chartrefi gwag. Mae'n rhan hanfodol o unrhyw strategaeth. Cyfeiriodd y strategaeth a gyflwynwyd gennym fis Tachwedd diwethaf at yr union bwynt hwn. Ein pryder o ran Llywodraeth Cymru yw nad yw hyd yn oed yn gwybod faint o gartrefi gwag, sydd ar gael. Nid ydych yn casglu'r data yn ganolog. Drwy gasglu gwybodaeth o dan geisiadau Rhyddid Gwybodaeth, rydym wedi canfod bod dros 30,000 o gartrefi gwag yng Nghymru gyfan. Os nad ydych yn gwybod faint sydd, sut y gallwch lunio strategaeth gydlynol i adfer y cartrefi hynny? Er bod 5,000 o dai erbyn canol 2016 yn ddechrau da, o ystyried maint y broblem, byddem wedi gobeithio gweld mwy o uchelgais gan Lywodraeth Cymru yn y maes penodol hwn.

Antoinette Sandbach touched on the number of social houses that have been built by the coalition Government since its inception in 2010—150,000 builds as opposed to the Welsh Government's 2,500. In particular, there has been a lack of ambition and delivery on TAN 6. I give credit to the former Minister in the previous Government, Elin Jones, who is in her place, who brought forward this important addition to the planning framework. Regrettably, the current Minister seems totally detached from the need to develop a coherent planning strategy in rural areas to meet that pent-up demand. Regrettably, I do not think that we will see any imagination from this Minister.

Soniodd Antoinette Sandbach am nifer y tai cymdeithasol sydd wedi cael eu hadeiladu gan y Llywodraeth glymblaid ers iddi ddod i rym yn 2010—150,000 o'u cymharu â 2,500 gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Yn benodol, bu diffyg uchelgais a chyflawni o ran TAN 6. Rhoddaf glod i'r cyn-Weinidog yn y Llywodraeth flaenorol, Elin Jones, sydd yn ei sedd, a gyflwynodd yr ychwanegiad pwysig hwn i'r fframwaith cynllunio. Yn anffodus, ymddengys nad oes gan y Gweinidog presennol unrhyw ddiddordeb yn yr angen i ddatblygu strategaeth gynllunio gydlynol mewn ardaloedd gwledig er mwyn ateb y galw cronedig. Yn anffodus, ni chredaf y gwelwn unrhyw ddychymyg gan y Gweinidog hwn.

Suzy Davies touched on the supply chain and, in particular, that if you have a vibrant housing market, how you create jobs and a growing economy. Ultimately, there are lots of skills dependent on us having a vibrant building trade so that small, medium and large builders benefit.

Soniodd Suzy Davies am y gadwyn gyflenwi ac, yn benodol, os oes gennych farchnad dai fywiog, sut rydych yn creu swyddi ac economi sy'n tyfu. Yn y pen draw, mae llawer o sgiliau yn dibynnu ar gael diwydiant adeiladu bywiog er mwyn i adeiladwyr bach, canolig a mawr elwa.

This motion today is what it is on the paper. It calls on the Welsh Government to bring forward a programme to tackle the continuing housing supply crisis that we find. From the Minister's response today, it does not look as though he has much in his arsenal. So, I recommend that he makes sure that he takes on board the document that we brought forward in November of last year, along with the comments that my finance spokesperson made about stamp duty. That would make a massive difference when that power is transferred here. However, regrettably, I think that we are just going to see a continuation of the same old lazy Labour approach to housing, and that is inaction.

Mae'r cynnig heddiw wedi'i grisialu ar y papur. Mae'n galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i gyflwyno rhaglen i fynd i'r afael â'r argyfwng a wynebwn o hyd o ran y cyflenwad tai. O ymateb y Gweinidog heddiw, nid ymddengys fel pe bai ganddo ryw lawer o arfau i'r frwydr. Felly, hoffwn argymell ei fod yn sicrhau ei fod yn ystyried y ddogfen a gyflwynwyd gennym fis Tachwedd diwethaf, ynghyd â'r sylwadau gan fy llefarydd cyllid ynghylch y dreth stamp. Byddai hynny'n gwneud gwahaniaeth mawr pan fydd y pŵer hwnnw yn cael ei drosglwyddo yma. Fodd bynnag, yn anffodus, credaf y byddwn yn gweld yr un hen ddiogi o hyd gan Lafur o ran tai, sef dim gweithredu.

16:51

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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The proposal is to agree the motion without amendment. Does any Member object? There is objection, therefore I defer all voting until voting time.

Y cynnig yw y dylid derbyn y cynnig heb ei ddiwygio. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Oes, felly gohiriaf yr holl bleidleisio tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

It has been agreed that voting time will take place after the Conservative debate and before the short debate, so I propose to move directly to the vote unless there are any objections? I see that there are no objections.

Cytunwyd y bydd y cyfnod pleidleisio yn digwydd ar ôl dadl y Ceidwadwyr a chyn y ddadl fer, felly cynigiaf ein bod yn symud yn uniongyrchol i'r bleidlais oni bai bod unrhyw wrthwynebiad? Gwelaf nad oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad.

Cyfnod Pleidleisio

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar gynnig NDM5423

Derbyniwyd y cynnig: O blaid 23, Yn erbyn 4, Ymatal 14.

Voting Time

Result of the vote on motion NDM5423

Motion agreed: For 23, Against 4, Abstain 14.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar gynnig NDM5430

Result of the vote on motion NDM5430

Derbyniwyd y cynnig: O blaid 33, Yn erbyn 11, Ymatal 0.

Motion agreed: For 33, Against 11, Abstain 0.

16:53

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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We now move to the short debate. Will anyone wishing to leave the Chamber do so quietly and quickly?

Symudwn yn awr at y ddadl fer. A fydd unrhyw un sy'n dymuno gadael y Siambr cystal â gwneud hynny'n dawel ac yn gyflym?

16:54

Dadl Fer: Rheoli Diwygio Lles

Short Debate: Managing Welfare Reform

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Peter Black Bywgraffiad Biography

I have been asked by Jocelyn Davies, Bethan Jenkins and Mark Isherwood to allocate a minute of my time to intervene in this debate, which I am happy to do.

Mae Jocelyn Davies, Bethan Jenkins a Mark Isherwood wedi gofyn imi neilltuo munud o'm hamser i ymyrryd yn y ddadl hon, ac rwy'n hapus i wneud hynny.

This debate is not about welfare reform, which, in general terms, has had cross-party support in Westminster, nor is it specifically about discussing changes to housing benefit relating to the under-occupancy charge for spare rooms. My position on that remains the same, which is that disabled adults should be exempt from that change and that it should apply only to others as and when they take up new tenancies.

Nid yw'r ddadl hon yn ymwneud â diwygio lles, sydd, yn gyffredinol, wedi cael cefnogaeth drawsbleidiol yn San Steffan, ac nid yw ychwaith yn ymwneud yn benodol â thrafod newidiadau i fudd-dal tai sy'n ymwneud â'r tâl tanfeddiannu ar gyfer ystafelloedd sbâr. Mae fy safbwynt ar hynny yn ddigyfnewid, sef y dylid eithrio oedolion anabl o'r newid hwnnw ac mai dim ond pan fyddant yn ymgymryd â thenantiaethau newydd y dylent fod yn gymwys i eraill.

That is how the changes brought in by the last Government in 2008 operated for private tenants, and there should be similar arrangements for the public sector. I have made representations to this effect to the UK Government and, in fact, I am still engaged in that correspondence.

Dyna sut roedd y newidiadau a gyflwynwyd gan y Llywodraeth ddiwethaf yn 2008 yn gweithredu ar gyfer tenantiaid preifat, a dylai trefniadau tebyg fod ar waith ar gyfer y sector cyhoeddus. Rwyf wedi gwneud sylwadau i'r perwyl hwn i Lywodraeth y DU ac, a dweud y gwir, rwy'n parhau i ohebu ar hynny.

This debate is about what we can affect here in Wales to try to make the system that has been foisted on us work better and more equitably. The basis of this debate is the monitoring report issued by the Welsh Government recently for the period from April 2013 to September 2013. That report contained a number of interesting conclusions, in particular that the rate of private sector tenants in receipt of local housing allowance per 1,000 people across the 22 local authorities varied between 15 persons per 1,000 in Monmouthshire and 47 persons per 1,000 in Denbighshire. These figures have stayed broadly the same across all four of the periods monitored by the Welsh Government, indicating that the predicted exodus from public to private sector renting as a result of changes to housing benefit has not largely occurred.

Mae a wnelo'r ddadl hon â'r hyn y gallwn ei gyflawni yma yng Nghymru er mwyn ceisio sicrhau bod y system a wthiwyd arnom yn gweithio'n well ac yn fwy cyfartal. Sail y ddadl hon yw'r adroddiad monitro a gyhoeddwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru yn ddiweddar ar gyfer y cyfnod rhwng mis Ebrill 2013 a mis Medi 2013. Roedd yr adroddiad hwnnw'n cynnwys nifer o gasgliadau diddorol, yn enwedig y ffaith bod cyfradd y tenantiaid yn y sector preifat sy'n cael lwfans tai lleol fesul 1,000 o bobl ar draws y 22 awdurdod lleol yn amrywio rhwng 15 o bobl fesul 1,000 yn Sir Fynwy a 47 o bobl fesul 1,000 yn Sir Ddinbych. Mae'r ffigurau hyn wedi aros fwy neu lai yr un peth ar draws pob un o'r pedwar cyfnod a gaiff eu monitro gan Lywodraeth Cymru, sy'n awgrymu nad yw'r newid mawr a ragwelwyd i rentu cartref yn y sector preifat yn lle'r sector cyhoeddus o ganlyniad i newidiadau i'r budd-dal tai wedi digwydd i raddau helaeth.

The most disturbing aspect of the report, however, relates to the way that discretionary housing benefit is managed by local councils. These funds are demand led and are clawed back if they are not spent at the end of the financial year. The UK Government has significantly increased the amount of money available under this fund to enable some flexibility to be applied locally in mitigating the removal of the spare-room subsidy for those most adversely affected. My concern is that many local councils are holding back the money that they should be using to support tenants through these welfare benefit changes and are putting in place unreasonable barriers to special payments to help with rent.

Mae agwedd fwyaf annifyr yr adroddiad, fodd bynnag, yn ymwneud â'r ffordd y rheolir budd-dal tai dewisol gan gynghorau lleol. Caiff yr arian hwn ei arwain gan y galw a chaiff ei adfachu os nad yw wedi'i wario ar ddiwedd y flwyddyn ariannol. Mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi cynyddu'n sylweddol y swm o arian sydd ar gael o dan y gronfa hon fel y gellir cymhwyso rhywfaint o hyblygrwydd yn lleol wrth leddfu'r broses o ddileu'r cymhorthdal ystafell sbâr i'r rhai yr effeithir yn fwyaf andwyol arnynt. Fy mhryder i yw bod llawer o gynghorau lleol yn dal yn ôl yr arian y dylent fod yn ei ddefnyddio i gefnogi tenantiaid drwy'r newidiadau hyn mewn budd-daliadau lles a'u bod yn creu rhwystrau afresymol i daliadau arbennig i'w helpu gyda'r rhent.

The Welsh Government's monitoring report shows that, halfway through the financial year, only three out of 22 local authorities had spent more than half of their annual discretionary housing payment budget. This is despite the many stories that we have heard of severe hardship from tenants. I know from my own casework that this is the case and that many tenants are not aware of their ability to claim discretionary housing payments because their availability is not properly publicised or, more commonly, because tenants do not understand the system. More seriously, when genuine applications are made, tenants have to jump through hoops to bring them to a successful conclusion.

Dengys adroddiad monitro Llywodraeth Cymru mai dim ond tri allan o 22 awdurdod lleol, hanner ffordd drwy'r flwyddyn ariannol, oedd wedi gwario mwy na hanner eu cyllideb taliadau tai yn ôl disgresiwn flynyddol. Mae hyn er gwaethaf y straeon niferus a glywsom am galedi difrifol gan denantiaid. Gwn o'm hachos fy hun mai felly y mae ac nad oes llawer o denantiaid yn ymwybodol o'u gallu i hawlio taliadau tai yn ôl disgresiwn gan nad yw eu hargaeledd yn cael y cyhoeddusrwydd priodol neu, yn fwy cyffredin, am nad yw tenantiaid yn deall y system. Yn fwy difrifol, pan wneir ceisiadau gwirioneddol, rhaid i denantiaid weithio'n galed iawn er mwyn eu cwblhau'n llwyddiannus.

My biggest concern, and one that reflects my own experience as an elected representative, and my own research, is that the report finds that the vast majority of Welsh councils treat disability living allowance as income, even though it is paid on the basis of independent assessments and should be used to cover additional costs associated with disability. Many councils also treat child benefit as income for these purposes. The Department for Work and Pensions disregards both disability living allowance and child benefit for means-tested benefits, and my understanding is that it expects councils to do the same for discretionary housing payments, though getting it to issue statutory guidance to that effect is a gargantuan effort that has so far not got anywhere.

Fy mhryder pennaf, ac un sy'n adlewyrchu fy mhrofiad fy hun fel cynrychiolydd etholedig, a'm hymchwil fy hun, yw bod yr adroddiad yn canfod bod y mwyafrif llethol o gynghorau Cymru yn trin lwfans byw i'r anabl fel incwm, er y caiff ei dalu ar sail asesiadau annibynnol a dylai gael ei ddefnyddio i dalu costau ychwanegol sy'n gysylltiedig ag anabledd. Mae llawer o gynghorau hefyd yn trin budd-dal plant fel incwm at y dibenion hyn. Mae'r Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau yn diystyru lwfans byw i'r anabl a budd-dal plant ar gyfer budd-daliadau prawf modd, ac yn ôl yr hyn a ddeallaf mae'n disgwyl i gynghorau wneud yr un peth ar gyfer taliadau tai yn ôl disgresiwn, er bod ceisio cael yr Adran i gyhoeddi canllawiau statudol i'r perwyl hwnnw yn ymdrech enfawr nad yw wedi arwain at ddim hyd yn hyn.

We have seen recent publicity from Wales and West Housing Association that moving disabled tenants out of adapted properties could cost the public purse £40 million. The whole purpose of discretionary housing payments is to prevent that from happening. The Welsh Government's report states that, when asked about the number of successful discretionary housing payment applications made by people whose homes have been adapted, as well as those who receive disability living allowance, of 22 responses, only Powys was able to provide a specific figure, with all of the seven that it had received being successful. Neath Port Talbot and Gwynedd reported that all claimants had been successful, though they did not have figures, while in Denbighshire and Merthyr the success rates were 70% and 20% respectively. The report goes on to say that the majority of local authorities responding state that the main reasons for discretionary housing payment refusal are income exceeding expenditure or the inability of the claimant to prove that they cannot afford to pay the shortfall themselves. However, given that the local authorities were unable to identify those claimants who had adaptations in their homes, it is assumed that these are general reasons for refusal across all groups.

Gwelsom gyhoeddusrwydd yn ddiweddar gan Gymdeithas Tai Wales and West y gallai symud tenantiaid anabl allan o eiddo wedi'i addasu gostio £40 miliwn i bwrs y wlad. Holl bwrpas taliadau tai yn ôl disgresiwn yw atal hynny rhag digwydd. Noda adroddiad Llywodraeth Cymru, pan ofynnwyd am nifer y ceisiadau llwyddiannus am daliadau tai yn ôl disgresiwn a wnaed gan bobl y mae eu cartrefi wedi cael eu haddasu, yn ogystal â'r rhai sy'n cael lwfans byw i'r anabl, o blith 22 o ymatebion, mai dim ond Powys oedd yn gallu rhoi ffigur penodol, gan nodi bod pob un o'r saith yr oedd wedi'u derbyn wedi bod yn llwyddiannus. Dywedodd Castell-nedd Port Talbot a Gwynedd fod pob hawliwr wedi bod yn llwyddiannus, er nad oedd ganddynt ffigurau, a'r cyfraddau llwyddiant yn Sir Ddinbych a Merthyr oedd 70% i'r naill ac 20% i'r llall. Mae'r adroddiad yn mynd yn ei flaen i ddweud bod y rhan fwyaf o'r awdurdodau lleol a ymatebodd yn nodi mai'r prif resymau dros wrthod taliadau tai yn ôl disgresiwn yw bod incwm yn fwy na gwariant neu oherwydd anallu'r hawlydd i brofi na all fforddio talu'r diffyg ei hun. Fodd bynnag, o gofio nad oedd yr awdurdodau lleol yn gallu nodi'r hawlwyr hynny oedd wedi cael addasiadau yn eu cartrefi, tybir mai rhesymau cyffredinol yw'r rhain dros wrthod ar draws pob grŵp.

In a huge number of cases, the reason why a claimant's income is considered to be too much is precisely because disabled living allowance is treated as a source of remuneration, rather than an essential payment to help the recipient cope with their disability. Money that should be spent on enhancing mobility, physiotherapy and additional disability-related expenditure is instead going on rent. It is correct that, fundamentally, that is because the benefit system has been changed in the first place, but that does not excuse the overcautious and, in my view, discriminatory use of public funds by local councils, put in place to mitigate that problem. Councils should be using this money to help disabled applicants and not to erect barriers.

Mewn nifer enfawr o achosion, y rheswm pam yr ystyrir bod incwm hawlydd yn ormod yw am fod lwfans byw i'r anabl yn cael ei drin fel ffynhonnell o daliad cydnabyddiaeth, yn hytrach na thaliad hanfodol i helpu'r derbynnydd i ymdopi â'i anabledd. Mae arian a ddylai gael ei wario ar wella symudedd, ffisiotherapi a gwariant ychwanegol sy'n gysylltiedig ag anabledd yn cael ei wario ar rent yn lle hynny. Yn y bôn, mae'n gywir dweud bod hynny am fod y system budd-daliadau wedi cael ei newid yn y lle cyntaf, ond nid yw hynny'n esgusodi'r defnydd rhy ofalus ac, yn fy marn i, wahaniaethol o arian cyhoeddus gan gynghorau lleol, a roddwyd ar waith i liniaru'r broblem honno. Dylai cynghorau fod yn defnyddio'r arian hwn i helpu ymgeiswyr anabl a pheidio â chodi rhwystrau.

The Welsh Government report says that, when asked how they considered disability living allowance when considering discretionary housing payment claims, only Caerphilly out of the 22 local authorities reported disregarding DLA. Powys, Pembrokeshire and Flintshire disregard the DLA mobility element, while Pembrokeshire additionally disregards the difference between the middle and higher rates of the care component. The Vale of Glamorgan noted disregarding DLA mobility when the claimant had a Motability car. The report goes on to say:

Dywed adroddiad Llywodraeth Cymru, pan ofynnwyd sut yr oeddent yn ystyried lwfans byw i'r anabl wrth ystyried hawliadau am daliadau tai yn ôl disgresiwn, mai dim ond Caerffili o blith y 22 awdurdod lleol a nododd ei fod yn diystyru lwfans byw i'r anabl. Roedd Powys, Sir Benfro a Sir y Fflint yn diystyru elfen symudedd y Lwfans Byw i'r Anabl, tra roedd Sir Benfro hefyd yn diystyru'r gwahaniaeth rhwng cyfraddau canol ac uwch yr elfen gofal. Nododd Bro Morgannwg ei fod yn diystyru symudedd Lwfans Byw i'r Anabl os oedd gan yr hawlydd gar Motability. Mae'r adroddiad yn mynd yn ei flaen i ddweud:

'All local authorities who responded reported that they consider all disability-related expenditure as necessary, and the majority also said that claimants were encouraged to identify disability-related costs in their application.'

Nododd pob awdurdod lleol a ymatebodd eu bod yn ystyried yr holl wariant sy'n gysylltiedig ag anabledd fel rhywbeth angenrheidiol, a dywedodd y rhan fwyaf hefyd bod hawlwyr yn cael eu hannog i nodi costau sy'n gysylltiedig ag anabledd yn eu cais.

That raises the question: why are local councils carrying out their own assessment of the needs of disabled applicants when it has already been done once by ATOS and the DWP and the award given to the applicant already reflects their needs? This additional assessment is unnecessary rationing of much needed resources and it is penalising people with a disability struggling to deal with housing benefit changes. What is worse is that it is not applied consistently across Wales, while the Welsh Government, which understandably takes an interest in welfare reform and its consequences, is apparently accepting this approach without question. I have no doubt that the Minister will respond to that in due course.

Cyfyd hynny'r cwestiwn: pam fod cynghorau lleol yn cynnal eu hasesiad eu hunain o anghenion ymgeiswyr anabl os yw hyn eisoes wedi ei wneud unwaith gan ATOS a'r Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau a bod y dyfarniad a roddir i'r ymgeisydd eisoes yn adlewyrchu ei anghenion? Mae'r asesiad ychwanegol hwn yn cwtogi'n ddiangen ar adnoddau sydd eu hangen yn fawr ac yn cosbi pobl ag anabledd sy'n cael trafferth i ddelio â newidiadau mewn budd-dal tai. Beth sy'n waeth na hyn yw nad yw'n cael ei gymhwyso'n gyson ledled Cymru, tra bod Llywodraeth Cymru, sydd, yn ddealladwy, yn ymddiddori mewn diwygio lles a'i ganlyniadau, yn derbyn y dull gweithredu hwn yn ddigwestiwn yn ôl pob tebyg. Nid oes gennyf unrhyw amheuaeth y bydd y Gweinidog yn ymateb i hynny maes o law.

In conclusion, it appears that local authorities are saving their discretionary housing payments for a rainy day, but for tenants making applications the storm has already happened and they need the money now. Without this support, tenants will be making choices between heating and food, getting into arrears or using payday loan companies to make ends meet. It is worrying that so few local authorities know how many applications are from disabled tenants. It is also deeply troubling that, in one local authority, only 20% of disabled applicants have been successful. I am disappointed that 21 of the 22 local authorities consider disability living allowance to be part of a person's income when even the Department for Work and Pensions disregards these payments. It is my view that the Welsh Government needs to work with councils to overcome these barriers to people getting the help and financial assistance they are entitled to. The last thing we want is for this money to be sent back to the Treasury in April because councils have not been able to spend it where it is needed. I hope that the Minister can use his response to this debate to signal that he is prepared to do that.

I gloi, mae'n ymddangos bod awdurdodau lleol yn cadw eu taliadau tai yn ôl disgresiwn ar gyfer diwrnod glawiog, ond i denantiaid sy'n gwneud ceisiadau mae'r storm eisoes wedi digwydd ac mae angen yr arian arnynt yn awr. Heb y gefnogaeth hon, bydd tenantiaid yn gwneud dewisiadau rhwng gwres a bwyd, mynd i ôl-ddyledion neu ddefnyddio cwmnïau benthyciadau diwrnod cyflog i gael dau ben llinyn ynghyd. Mae'n destun pryder bod cyn lleied o awdurdodau lleol yn gwybod faint o geisiadau a gânt gan denantiaid anabl. Mae hefyd yn ofid mawr mai dim ond 20% o ymgeiswyr anabl fu'n llwyddiannus mewn un awdurdod lleol. Rwy'n siomedig fod 21 allan o'r 22 awdurdod lleol yn ystyried bod lwfans byw i'r anabl yn rhan o incwm y person pan fo hyd yn oed yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau yn diystyru'r taliadau hyn. Yn fy marn i mae angen i Lywodraeth Cymru weithio gyda chynghorau i oresgyn y rhwystrau hyn i bobl gael yr help a'r cymorth ariannol y mae ganddynt hawl iddynt. Y peth olaf yr ydym ei eisiau yw i'r arian hwn gael ei anfon yn ôl i'r Trysorlys ym mis Ebrill am nad yw cynghorau wedi gallu ei wario lle mae ei angen. Gobeithio y gall y Gweinidog ddefnyddio ei ymateb i'r ddadl hon er mwyn dangos ei fod yn barod i wneud hynny.

17:02

Jocelyn Davies Bywgraffiad Biography

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Of course, the discretionary housing payment is very welcome relief from the impact of this terrible policy, which has a punitive effect on those it applies to—two thirds of them are disabled and, according to the news today, if every one of them had some discretionary housing payment, it would equate to about £2 a week, and most are getting nothing. The allocation is arbitrary and time-limited. Of course, the UK Government could allow local authorities to exempt significantly adapted properties, and then much of this would not happen.

Wrth gwrs, mae'r taliad tai yn ôl disgresiwn yn gymorth mawr iawn i leddfu effaith y polisi ofnadwy hwn, sy'n cael effaith gosbol ar y rhai y mae'n gymwys iddynt—mae dwy ran o dair ohonynt yn anabl ac yn ôl y newyddion heddiw, hyd yn oed pe bai pob un ohonynt yn cael rhywfaint o daliad tai yn ôl disgresiwn, byddai'n cyfateb i tua £2 yr wythnos, ac mae'r rhan fwyaf ohonynt yn cael dim o gwbl. Mae'r dyraniad yn fympwyol ac yn gyfyngedig o ran amser. Wrth gwrs, gallai Llywodraeth y DU alluogi awdurdodau lleol i eithrio pob eiddo sydd wedi'i addasu'n sylweddol, ac wedyn ni fyddai llawer o hyn yn digwydd.

This tax, I think, costs more to collect than it raises, and the accumulated savings go to the UK Government while the costs, of course, fall on the tenants and local authorities. I think that this is one of the worst policies of the coalition Government, and the discretionary housing payment cannot mitigate its damage.

Mae'r dreth hon, fe gredaf, yn costio mwy i'w chasglu na'r swm y mae'n ei godi, ac mae'r arbedion cronedig yn mynd i Lywodraeth y DU a'r tenantiaid ac awdurdodau lleol, wrth gwrs, sy'n gorfod talu'r costau. Credaf mai hwn yw un o bolisïau gwaethaf y Llywodraeth glymblaid hon ac ni all y taliadau tai yn ôl disgresiwn leddfu'r niwed a wna.

17:03

Bethan Jenkins Bywgraffiad Biography

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I just want to reiterate what has been said by Peter Black and Jocelyn Davies. Whereas many councils have been seeking to roll out DHP, many housing associations have not been overly effective in getting the message across. Community Housing Cymru and the Welsh Local Government Association have a vital part to play in emphasising tenants' rights here, including the right to appeal for an exemption, as has been mentioned. An exempt tenant is one less cost to the local authority, social landlords and Welsh Government. The recent Bolton ruling is binding on local authorities, and this could mean that up to 7,720 Welsh tenants could be exempt if their extra room is not a bedroom. Minister, I would like you to give us a guarantee here today that not a penny of this money will return to Westminster while tenants continue to suffer here in Wales.

Hoffwn ategu'r hyn a ddywedwyd gan Peter Black a Jocelyn Davies. Tra bod llawer o gynghorau wedi bod yn ceisio cyflwyno Taliadau Tai yn ôl Disgresiwn, nid yw llawer o gymdeithasau tai wedi bod yn effeithiol iawn o ran cyfleu'r neges. Mae gan Cartrefi Cymunedol Cymru a Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru ran hollbwysig i'w chwarae i bwysleisio hawliau tenantiaid yma, gan gynnwys yr hawl i apelio am eithriad, fel y soniwyd. Mae tenant eithriedig yn un gost yn llai i'r awdurdod lleol, landlordiaid cymdeithasol a Llywodraeth Cymru. Mae dyfarniad diweddar Bolton yn gyfrwymol ar awdurdodau lleol, a gallai hyn olygu bod hyd at 7,720 o denantiaid Cymru wedi'u heithrio os nad yw eu hystafell ychwanegol yn ystafell wely. Weinidog, hoffwn ichi roi sicrwydd inni yma heddiw na chaiff ceiniog o'r arian hwn ei hanfon yn ôl i San Steffan tra bod tenantiaid yn parhau i ddioddef yma yng Nghymru.

17:04 **Mark Isherwood** Bywgraffiad Biography

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When Labour introduced what they now call the bedroom tax in the private sector in April 2008, the then UK Government said:

Pan gyflwynodd Llafur yr hyn a elwir bellach yn dreth ystafell wely yn y sector preifat ym mis Ebrill 2008, dywedodd Llywodraeth y DU ar y pryd:

‘The new system comprises a flat-rate benefit according to household size and location and a presumption of direct payment of the benefit to the claimant.’

Mae’r system newydd yn cynnwys budd-dal cyfradd safonol yn ôl maint y cartref a’i leoliad a rhagdybiaeth o dalu’r budd-dal yn uniongyrchol i’r hawlydd.

The UK Government has standardised that across the sector under universal credit. Guidance was first issued in March 2011 and then in July 2012 to every local authority and, of course, to Welsh Government as well. However, it appears that they ignored that guidance, which said, among other things, that disabled people in adapted accommodation or who were reliant on a local support network should be prioritised for discretionary housing payments, starting two years before the changes came into effect. Local authorities knew that. Some housing associations had face-to-face meetings with up to 95% of their tenants before that, but many local authorities did not even write to their tenants until the December or January beforehand. Of course, the most vulnerable did not understand what the letters were about and ended up being clobbered.

Mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi safoni hynny ar draws y sector o dan gredyd cynhwysol. Cyhoeddwyd canllawiau am y tro cyntaf ym mis Mawrth 2011 ac yna ym mis Gorffennaf 2012 i bob awdurdod lleol ac, wrth gwrs, i Lywodraeth Cymru hefyd. Fodd bynnag, ymddengys iddynt anwybyddu’r canllawiau hynny, a ddywedodd, ymhlith pethau eraill, y dylai pobl anabl mewn llety wedi’i addasu neu a oedd yn ddibynnol ar rwydwaith cymorth lleol gael eu blaenoriaethau o ran taliadau tai yn ôl disgresiwn, gan ddechrau ddwy flynedd cyn i’r newidiadau ddod i rym. Roedd awdurdodau lleol yn gwybod hynny. Cafodd rhai cymdeithasau tai gyfarfodydd wyneb yn wyneb gyda hyd at 95% o’u tenantiaid cyn hynny, ond ni wnaeth llawer o awdurdodau lleol hyd yn oed ysgrifennu at eu tenantiaid tan y mis Rhagfyr neu’r mis Ionawr cyn hynny. Wrth gwrs, nid oedd y rhai mwyaf agored i niwed yn deall beth oedd arwyddocâd y llythyrau a chawsant eu cosbi yn y pen draw.

Therefore, all of those exempt groups—the elderly, foster carers, carers, disabled people, severely disabled children, the armed forces and bereaved families—were, in some cases, clobbered, and too many disabled people were clobbered because local authorities did not exercise the discretionary powers handed to them by central Government to assess eligibility, according to the priority groups identified in the guidance.

Felly, cafodd pob un o’r grwpiau eithriedig hynny—pobl oedrannus, gofalwyr maeth, gofalwyr, pobl anabl, plant ag anabledd difrifol, y lluoedd arfog a theuluoedd mewn profedigaeth—mewn rhai achosion, eu cosbi, a chafodd gormod o bobl anabl eu cosbi am nad oedd awdurdodau lleol yn ymarfer y pwerau dewisol yr oedd Llywodraeth ganolog wedi’u rhoi iddynt i asesu cymhwysedd, yn ôl y grwpiau â blaenoriaeth a nodwyd yn y canllawiau.

17:06 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Y Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio / The Minister for Housing and Regeneration

I thank Peter Black for bringing this short debate to the Chamber today. I have lots of detailed notes that might have been useful for this debate, but probably not now that I have read them through again, following contributions made by Members this afternoon.

Diolch i Peter Black am gyflwyno’r ddadl fer hon yn y Siambr heddiw. Mae gennyf lawer o nodiadau manwl a allai fod wedi bod yn ddefnyddiol ar gyfer y ddadl hon, ond nad ydynt mwyach yn ddefnyddiol ar ôl imi ddarllen drwyddynt eto, yn dilyn cyfraniadau a wnaed gan Aelodau y prynhawn yma.

I am pleased to have the opportunity to outline the process of discretionary housing payments. As Members have alluded to, they are not a devolved function and they are the responsibility of the Department for Work and Pensions. However, I recognise some of the concerns that Members have raised today. Local authorities are responsible for the administration of that process and they are used to help address the shortfall in people’s finances. If used appropriately, they can tackle the underlying problems that I will say a little more about in my contribution.

Rwy’n falch o gael y cyfle i amlinellu’r broses o ran taliadau tai yn ôl disgresiwn. Fel y crybwyllodd yr Aelodau, nid swyddogaeth ddatganoledig ydynt, a chyfrifoldeb yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau ydynt. Fodd bynnag, rwy’n cydnabod rhai o’r pryderon a godwyd gan Aelodau heddiw. Awdurdodau lleol sy’n gyfrifol am weinyddu’r broses honno ac fe’u defnyddir i helpu i fynd i’r afael â’r diffyg o ran cyllid pobl. O’u defnyddio’n briodol, gallant fynd i’r afael â’r problemau sylfaenol y soniaf ychydig yn fwy amdanynt yn fy nghyfraniad.

Local authorities are able to match the discretionary payments fund by a maximum of two and a half times the allocation by the DWP. However, you will not be surprised to hear that, with the pressures upon local authorities' finances, this rarely happens. I share the concerns of Members about how the allocations take place and the variability across Wales in terms of that. While the lever of cash is generated by the UK, I think that it is something that we are able to influence. I have written to Lord Freud asking him about some of the statistics that are collected around that, because I think that they are flawed, too. They tell us about the significant number of local authorities that have not spent half of their budgets at this point, but they do not tell us about the funds that have been applied for and have not been granted.

O ran taliadau yn ôl disgresiwn, gall awdurdodau lleol dalu ddwy waith a hanner yn fwy na dyraniad yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau. Fodd bynnag, ni fyddwch yn synnu i glywed, gyda'r pwysau ar gyllid awdurdodau lleol, mai anaml y digwydd hyn. Rhannaf bryderon Aelodau am y ffordd y trefnir y dyraniadau a'r amrywioldeb ledled Cymru o ran hynny. Er y cynhyrchir yr arian gan y DU, credaf ei fod yn rhywbeth y gallwn ddylanwadu arno. Rwyf wedi ysgrifennu at yr Arglwydd Freud yn gofyn iddo am rai o'r ystadegau a gesglir ar hynny, oherwydd credaf eu bod yn wallus hefyd. Maent yn sôn wrthym am y nifer sylweddol o awdurdodau lleol nad ydynt wedi gwario hanner eu cyllidebau ar hyn o bryd, ond nid ydynt yn sôn wrthym am yr arian y gwnaed cais amdano ac nas rhoddwyd.

We need to understand the complete picture, so that we are able to attribute the funds to the right places for the right reasons. Peter raises an important point about the process of people going through an assessment at one point, and being reassessed again for the same thing at a different point. That process seems to be a false economy. Therefore, I am more than happy to arrange for a meeting to take place with Peter, in my ministerial office, to share some thoughts on the issues that have been raised today.

Mae angen inni ddeall y darlun cyflawn, fel y gallwn briodoli'r arian i'r mannau cywir am y rhesymau cywir. Cyfyd Peter bwynt pwysig am y broses o bobl yn mynd drwy asesiad ar un adeg, ac yn cael eu hailasesu unwaith eto ar gyfer yr un peth ar adeg wahanol. Ymddengys mai economi ffug yw'r broses honno. Felly, rwyf yn fwy na pharod i drefnu i gyfarfod gael ei gynnal gyda Peter, yn fy swyddfa weinidogaethol, i drafod ei farn ar y materion a godwyd heddiw.

May I say that while it is a non-devolved process, only last week, we made an allocation of £1.3 million for this financial year, in terms of additionality to the DHP? Fundamentally, it is about making sure that that money goes through the door and gets out to the people who actually need it, as Bethan Jenkins said, and rightly so—the process of making sure that the cash gets through the door. The last thing that I want to see is money going back to the UK Treasury when people have been identified as in need of it in Wales today.

A gaf fi ddweud, er ei bod yn broses heb ei datganoli, dim ond yr wythnos diwethaf, dyrannwyd £1.3 miliwn gennym ar gyfer y flwyddyn ariannol hon, o ran ychwanegedd i'r Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau. Yn y bôn, mae a wnelo â sicrhau bod yr arian hwnnw'n mynd drwy'r drws ac yn mynd allan at y bobl sydd ei angen mewn gwirionedd, fel y dywedodd Bethan Jenkins, a hynny'n briodol—y broses o sicrhau bod yr arian yn mynd drwy'r drws. Y peth olaf yr wyf am ei weld yw arian yn mynd yn ôl i Drysorlys y DU pan fydd pobl wedi cael eu nodi fel rhai sydd ei angen yng Nghymru heddiw.

What we need to do is get a better understanding of the consequences of how the scheme operates through a non-devolved function. I am already working with local authorities to see how we can shape a better scheme that is consistent across Wales. Part of the £1.3 million additionality was about making sure that we change some practices. I think that Cardiff Council has quite a good practice in terms of the delivery of DHP. We are looking at how it is done. My concern about DHP is that it is not a means to an end; you get DHP for a short period of time, but if you do not change your practice at the end of that period, you are still evicted, or you lose your property. What we are trying to do is encourage the way that we shape support mechanisms, so that we change and support people going through that process, when DHP will support them to get to the other end, which is more appropriate. Cardiff Council has a good model of doing that and we are looking at how we can shape that across the 22 authorities.

Yr hyn sydd angen inni ei wneud yw cael gwell dealltwriaeth o ganlyniadau'r modd y mae'r cynllun yn gweithredu drwy swyddogaeth annatganoledig. Rwyf eisoes yn gweithio gydag awdurdodau lleol i weld sut y gallwn lunio cynllun gwell sy'n gyson ar draws Cymru. Rhan o'r ychwanegedd o £1.3 miliwn oedd sicrhau ein bod yn newid rhai arferion. Credaf fod gan Gyngor Caerdydd arfer eithaf da o ran cyflawni taliadau tai yn ôl disgresiwn. Rydym yn edrych ar y modd y gwneir hyn. Fy mhryder ynghylch taliadau tai yn ôl disgresiwn yw nad ydynt yn fodd o gyrraedd y nod; gallwch eu cael am gyfnod byr o amser, ond os na newidiwch eich arfer ar ddiwedd y cyfnod hwnnw, cewch eich troi allan o hyd, neu rydych yn colli eich eiddo. Yr hyn rydym yn ceisio ei wneud yw annog y ffordd rydym yn llunio dulliau cymorth, fel ein bod yn newid ac yn cefnogi pobl sy'n mynd drwy'r broses honno, pan fydd taliadau tai yn ôl disgresiwn yn eu helpu i gyrraedd y pen arall, sy'n fwy priodol. Mae gan Gyngor Caerdydd fodel da o wneud hynny ac rydym yn edrych i weld sut y gallwn roi hynny ar waith ym mhob un o'r 22 o awdurdodau.

It has been a helpful debate today, Presiding Officer, just to understand where Members' thoughts lie in terms of DHP. As I have said, I have written to Lord Freud, and I continue to ask for greater clarity and greater consistency for local authorities, and it is something that I will continue to work with Lesley Griffiths and Members in this Chamber on in terms of how we can shape a better system, albeit that it is a non-devolved function delivered in an area that is devolved to Welsh Government and local government here in Wales.

Mae wedi bod yn ddadl ddefnyddiol heddiw, Lywydd, dim ond i ddeall beth yw barn Aelodau am daliadau tai yn ôl disgresiwn. Fel y dywedais, rwyf wedi ysgrifennu at yr Arglwydd Freud, ac rwy'n parhau i ofyn am fwy o eglurder a chysondeb i awdurdodau lleol, ac mae'n rhywbeth y byddaf yn parhau i weithio gyda Lesley Griffiths ac Aelodau yn y Siambr hon arno er mwyn gweld sut y gallwn lunio system well, er ei bod yn swyddogaeth annatganoledig a gyflwynir mewn maes sydd wedi ei ddatganoli i Lywodraeth Cymru a llywodraeth leol yma yng Nghymru.

17:10 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Thank you. That brings today's proceedings to a close.

Diolch. Daw hynny â thrafodion heddiw i ben.

Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 17:10.

The meeting ended at 17:10.