Cofnod y Trafodion
The Record of Proceedings
11/12/2013

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

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

13:30

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

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

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

Prynhawn da. Mae Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn eistedd yn awr.

Before we move to the first item, I think that we should congratulate those who won awards last night, but they are not getting any special treatment. [Laughter.] So, we will move on from there.

Cyn inni symud at yr eitem gyntaf, credaf y dylem longyfarch y rhai a enillodd wobrau neithiwr, ond ni fyddant yn cael unrhyw driniaeth arbennig. [Chwerthin.] Felly, symudwn ymlaen o hynny.

Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol a Bwyd

Questions to the Minister for Natural Resources and Food

Glanhau Afonydd

River Clearance

13:30

Aled Roberts [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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

1. A oes gan Lywodraeth Cymru unrhyw fwriad i adolygu polisi Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru ar lanhau afonydd? OAQ(4)0097(NRF)

1. Does the Welsh Government have any intention of reviewing the policy of Natural Resources Wales regarding river clearance? OAQ(4)0097(NRF)

13:30

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

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

Y Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol a Bwyd / The Minister for Natural Resources and Food

Mae Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru'n gweithredu dull sy'n seiliedig ar risg o ddatblygu ei raglen o waith glanhau afonydd. Nid oes unrhyw fwriad i adolygu'r dull hwnnw ar hyn o bryd.

Natural Resources Wales adopts a risk-based approach in developing its programme of river clearance works. There are no plans to review that approach at the moment.

13:30 **Aled Roberts** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Diolch am yr ateb. Byddwch yn ymwybodol bod y polisi wedi newid yn Lloegr yn ddiweddar. Mae llawer o afonydd a nentydd yn y gogledd-ddwyrain sydd yn rhannol yng Nghymru ac yn rhannol yn Lloegr, a dywedir wrth dirfeddianwyr mai cyfrifoldeb Lloegr ydynt. A oes rhyw fath o brotocol rhwng Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru ac Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd yn Lloegr o ran gwneud yn siŵr bod y polisïau ar y ddwy ochr i'r ffin yn ymwneud â'i gilydd?

Thank you for that response. You will be aware that the policy has changed in England recently. There are a number of rivers and brooks in north-east Wales that are partially in Wales and partially in England, and land owners are told that the responsibility lies in England. Is there any protocol between Natural Resources Wales and the Environment Agency in England regarding ensuring that the policies on both sides of the border co-ordinate?

13:31 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Oes, mae cytundebau o ran sut yr ydym yn gweithio, fel dwy weinyddiaeth, gyda'n gilydd. Mae rhai afonydd lle mae hynny'n fwy strwythuredig nag eraill, mae'n amlwg. Fodd bynnag, os oes gennych unrhyw enghraifft o le nad yw'r trefniadau'n gweithio, efallai y byddai'n syniad i chi ysgrifennu ataf ac fe wnaf ymateb i'r cwestiwn hwnnw.

Yes, there are agreements on how we work as two administrations, and how we work together. There are some rivers where that is more structured than for others, obviously. However, if you do have any examples of where those arrangements are not working, perhaps it would be an idea for you to write to me and I will respond to that question.

13:32 **Antoinette Sandbach** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, a Welsh Government survey revealed that 60% of flooding incidents on ordinary water courses were caused by blockages. Your report went on to recommend the long-term management and maintenance of the catchment, including the clearing of debris waste and keeping vegetation short. Given the risk base that you have indicated is the way that NRW approaches it, and given that you have identified that there is that 60% risk of flooding, what are you going to do to ask Natural Resources Wales—because that was when it was the Environment Agency Wales, not Natural Resources Wales—to look again at that approach, to see whether it needs to look at it again, particularly when we have incidents such as Glasdir in Ruthin, for example, where the flooding was caused by blocked culverts?

Weinidog, datgelodd arolwg gan Lywodraeth Cymru i 60% o ddigwyddiadau llifogydd ar gyrsiau dŵr cyffredin gael eu hachosi gan rwystrau. Argymhellodd eich adroddiad y dylid mabwysiadu dull hirdymor o reoli a chynnal a chadw'r dalgylch, gan gynnwys clirio gwastraff malurion a chadw llystyfiant yn fyr. O gofio ichi ddweud bod Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru yn defnyddio dull sy'n seiliedig ar risg, ac o gofio ichi nodi bod y perygl o lifogydd yn 60%, beth yr ydych yn mynd i'w wneud i ofyn i Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru—oherwydd digwyddodd hynny yn ystod cyfnod Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd Cymru, nid Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru—edrych eto ar y dull hwnnw, er mwyn gweld a oes angen iddo ei ailystyried, yn enwedig pan glywn am ddigwyddiadau fel Glasdir yn Rhuthun, er enghraifft, lle y cafodd y llifogydd eu hachosi gan gwlfertau wedi blocio?

13:32 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I think that the area where blockages in the water course were a reason, or part of the reason, for flooding to take place was actually in St Asaph rather than in Ruthin. If you look at the way that NRW has responded to that over the last year or so, you will see that, and if you have walked along the river Elwy—as I have, at that point—you will see that NRW has undertaken a considerable programme of work, and has made a real difference to the way that that water course is managed.

Credaf mai yn Llanelwy, nid Rhuthun, roedd yr ardal lle roedd rhwystrau yn y cwrs dŵr yn rheswm, neu'n rhan o'r rheswm, dros y llifogydd. Os edrychwch ar y ffordd y mae Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru wedi ymateb i hynny dros y flwyddyn neu ddwy ddiwethaf, byddwch yn gweld hynny, ac os ydych wedi cerdded ar hyd afon Elwy—fel yr wyf fi wedi'i wneud, yn y fan honno—gwelwch fod Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru wedi ymgymryd â rhaglen sylweddol o waith, ac wedi gwneud gwahaniaeth go iawn i'r ffordd y caiff y cwrs dŵr hwnnw ei reoli.

13:33 **Alun Ffred Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Mae llawer iawn o waith cynnal a chadw a glanhau afonydd yn cael ei wneud gan glybiau pysgota lleol—am eu rhesymau eu hunain, wrth gwrs—ond mae hynny'n cyfrannu wedyn at hwyluso llif y dŵr. Os bydd y Llywodraeth yn newid ei pholisi ac yn caniatáu i ganŵ-wyr ddefnyddio'r afonydd hyn yn ddilyffethair, a yw'n fwriad hefyd i ddisgwyl iddynt hwy gyfrannu tuag at y gost o gadw'r afonydd hyn mewn cyflwr da?

A great deal of maintenance and river-clearance work is done by local fishing clubs— for their own reasons, of course—but that does contribute in turn to facilitating the water flow. If the Government were to change its policy and were to allow canoeists to use these rivers without any hindrances, is it then an intention to expect them contribute to the cost of keeping these rivers in a decent condition?

13:33 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Mae hynny i gyd yn rhan o bortffolio'r Gweinidog Diwylliant a Chwaraeon.

That is all part of the portfolio of the Minister for Culture and Sport.

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Coedwigaeth Cymru

Welsh Forestry

13:34 **Darren Millar** Bywgraffiad Biography

2. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddyfodol sector coedwigaeth Cymru? OAQ(4)0082(NRF)

2. Will the Minister make a statement on the future of the Welsh forestry sector? OAQ(4)0082(NRF)

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

13:34 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

The statement that I made on 5 November sets out the future direction of the Welsh forestry sector.

Mae'r datganiad a wneuthum ar 5 Tachwedd yn nodi cyfeiriad sector coedwigaeth Cymru yn y dyfodol.

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

13:34 **Darren Millar** Bywgraffiad Biography

Thank you for that response, Minister. You will be aware that forestry is an important industry in my constituency, and there are some very successful commercially run forests, such as the Llandegla forest, for example. What lessons do you think that the commercial sector can teach the public sector in terms of its forestry management, so that we can get a better return for taxpayers' investment in those forests?

Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Byddwch yn ymwybodol bod coedwigaeth yn ddiwydiant pwysig yn fy etholaeth, ac mae rhai coedwigoedd masnachol llwyddiannus iawn, megis coedwig Llandegla, er enghraifft. Yn eich barn chi, pa wersi y gall y sector masnachol eu dysgu i'r sector cyhoeddus o ran rheoli coedwigaeth, fel y gallwn gael gwell enillion ar fuddsoddiad trethdalwyr yn y coedwigoedd hynny?

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

13:34 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

I think that both sectors need to work together, to learn from each other. We have a timber industry in Wales that has been through a difficult period, historically, and we know that prices have been difficult, we could say, in previous years, although they are improving today. One of the roles that I want to see NRW performing—and I think that we have had this debate on different occasions in the past—is to act as an enterprise agency, if you like, working to ensure that we maximise the value of our timber estate and woodlands, and working with commercial operators and business to ensure that it does that. I am confident that NRW does that and that both sectors work well together. I am bringing together a group of people in January to look again at how we can improve support for the timber industry in Wales. I would be very happy to report back on that to Members.

Credaf fod angen i'r ddau sector gydweithio â'i gilydd, er mwyn dysgu oddi wrth ei gilydd. Mae gennym ddiwydiant coed yng Nghymru sydd wedi bod trwy gyfnod anodd, yn hanesyddol, a gwyddom fod prisiau wedi bod yn anodd, a dweud y lleiaf, dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf, er eu bod yn gwella heddiw. Un o'r swyddogaethau yr hoffwn weld Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru yn ei chyflawni—ac rwy'n meddwl inni gael y ddadl hon ar wahanol adegau yn y gorffennol—yw gweithredu fel asiantaeth fenter, fel petai, sy'n gweithio i sicrhau ein bod yn cynyddu gwerth ein hystad coed a'n coetiroedd i'r eithaf, ac yn gweithio gyda gweithredwyr masnachol a busnesau i sicrhau ei bod yn gwneud hynny. Rwy'n hyderus bod Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru yn gwneud hynny a bod y ddau sector yn cydweithio'n dda. Byddaf yn cynnull grŵp o bobl ym mis Ionawr i edrych eto ar sut y gallwn wella'r gefnogaeth a roddir i'r diwydiant coed yng Nghymru. Byddwn yn hapus iawn i adrodd yn ôl ar hynny i'r Aelodau.

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

13:35 **Elin Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

Weinidog, rwyf yn ymwybodol bod rhai ffermwyr yn cael trafferthion i fynd mewn i'r cynllun coedwigaeth o dan Glastir oherwydd y fiwrocratiaeth sy'n gysylltiedig ag ef. A ydych chi'n blês bod cynnydd digonol yn y cynllun plannu coed o dan Glastir ac a wnewch chi'n siŵr bod eich adran yn hwyluso'n llwyddiannus geisiadau ar gyfer y cynllun pwysig hwn?

Minister, I am aware that some farmers are experiencing difficulty in accessing the forestry element of Glastir because of the bureaucracy associated with it. Are you content that adequate progress has been made in the tree planting programme under Glastir and will you ensure that your department successfully facilitates bids for this important scheme?

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

13:36 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Ydw.

Yes.

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

13:36 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I call the Welsh Liberal Democrats' spokesperson, William Powell.

Galwaf ar lefarydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru, William Powell.

13:36 **William Powell** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Forestry professionals in west Wales recently raised concerns with me about the contracting capacity in the sector. They are concerned and frustrated that, in some cases, teams of contractors have been transferred from the important task of felling diseased stock to clear felling, to facilitate some renewable energy projects. I do not know whether you have had this referred to you, Minister, but I would be grateful if you could look into the matter and ensure that there is sufficient capacity to address the important issue of dealing with diseased stock to ensure the future of a vibrant forestry sector in Wales.

Cododd gweithwyr coedwigaeth proffesiynol yn y gorllewin bryderon gyda mi yn ddiweddar ynghylch gallu contractio yn y sector. Maent yn teimlo'n bryderus ac yn rhwystredig bod timau o gontractwyr, mewn rhai achosion, wedi cael eu trosglwyddo o'r dasg bwysig o dorri stoc afiach i dorri coed er mwyn clirio'r tir, fel ffordd o hwyluso rhai prosiectau ynni adnewyddadwy. Nid wyf yn gwybod a yw'r mater hwn wedi cael ei gyfeirio atoch, Weinidog, ond byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallech ymchwilio i'r mater a sicrhau bod digon o adnoddau ar gael i fynd i'r afael â'r mater pwysig o ddelio â stoc afiach er mwyn sicrhau sector coedwigaeth ffyniannus yng Nghymru yn y dyfodol.

13:36 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

There are capacity issues. I will be clear about that in terms of where we are at the moment, because we have a considerable programme of work in terms of felling ahead of us. That is something that NRW is managing at the moment. I have not had any referrals of the type described by the Member made to me at all. I have not been made aware of any of the issues that the Member has referred to. Again, if he has any specific matters that he wishes to raise with me, perhaps he could do that in correspondence.

Mae problemau o ran capasiti. Byddaf yn glir ynglŷn â hynny o ran y sefyllfa ar hyn o bryd, oherwydd mae gennym raglen torri coed sylweddol o'n blaenau. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth y mae Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru yn ei reoli ar hyn o bryd. Nid wyf wedi cael unrhyw atgyfeiriadau o'r math a ddisgrifiwyd gan yr Aelod. Nid wyf wedi cael gwybod am unrhyw un o'r materion y cyfeiriodd yr Aelod atynt. Unwaith eto, os oes ganddo unrhyw faterion penodol yr hoffai eu codi gyda mi, efallai y gall wneud hynny mewn gohebiaeth.

13:37 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

The second question, please.

Yr ail gwestiwn, os gwelwch yn dda.

13:37 **William Powell** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I am grateful for that answer, Minister, and I will endeavour to bring that forward. Staying with the theme of renewable energy and the link with forestry, the Minister will no doubt be aware of the ongoing controversy regarding the mid Wales connection project. One aspect that I have raised with the National Grid is the potential to build in appropriate forestry plantations, potentially as a shielding factor for the substation. Does the Minister agree with me that there is potential in this area to address concerns locally as well as to increase the capacity of forestry in Mid and West Wales?

Rwy'n ddiolchgar am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog, a byddaf yn ceisio gwneud hynny. Gan aros gyda'r thema o ynni adnewyddadwy a'r cysylltiad â choedwigaeth, mae'n siŵr y bydd y Gweinidog yn ymwybodol o'r ddadl barhaus am brosiect cysylltiad y canolbarth. Un agwedd yr wyf wedi'i chodi gyda'r Grid Cenedlaethol yw'r potensial i adeiladu mewn planhigfeydd coedwigaeth priodol, fel ffactor cysgodi ar gyfer yr is-orsaf o bosibl. A yw'r Gweinidog yn cytuno â mi bod potensial yn y maes hwn i ymdrin â phryderon lleol yn ogystal â chynyddu adnoddau coedwigaeth yn y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin?

13:38 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I do not wish to refer to the particular scheme that the Member has described for obvious reasons. In a more general response to the question that you raise, I think that there are opportunities when we are planning all sorts of different infrastructure improvements and infrastructure investments to look at how we can build into that an approach that includes the planting of, perhaps, woodlands or the development, protection and enhancement of other habitats as well. I would hope that when we are making all sorts of investments in infrastructure we look at all of those issues and look towards maximising the impact of those infrastructure investments in wider terms as well. I would agree, perhaps, with the thrust of the question, if not the specific part of it.

Nid wyf am gyfeirio at y cynllun penodol y mae'r Aelod wedi'i ddisgrifio am resymau amlwg. Mewn ymateb mwy cyffredinol i'r cwestiwn yr ydych yn ei godi, pan fyddwn yn cynllunio pob math o welliannau gwahanol i seilwaith a buddsoddiadau seilwaith, credaf fod cyfleoedd i ystyried sut y gallwn fabwysiadu dull sy'n cynnwys plannu coetiroedd, efallai, neu ddatblygu, amddiffyn a gwella cynefinoedd eraill hefyd. Byddwn yn gobeithio, pan rydym yn gwneud pob math o fuddsoddiadau mewn seilwaith, ein bod yn ystyried yr holl faterion hynny ac yn ceisio cynyddu effaith y buddsoddiadau seilwaith hynny mewn termau ehangach hefyd. Byddwn yn cytuno, efallai, â byrdwn y cwestiwn, os nad y rhan benodol ohono.

Tlodi Tanwydd yn Nhorfaen

Fuel Poverty in Torfaen

13:38 **Lynne Neagle** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

3. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am dlodi tanwydd yn Nhorfaen? OAQ(4)0087(NRF)

3. Will the Minister make a statement on fuel poverty in Torfaen? OAQ(4)0087(NRF)

13:38 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

To date, our energy efficiency programme, which includes Nest and Arbed, has improved the energy efficiency of 1,278 homes for households living on a low income in Torfaen. This will reduce the heating costs for those households and reduce the risk of them living in fuel poverty.

Hyd yma, mae ein rhaglen effeithlonrwydd ynni, sy'n cynnwys Nyth ac Arbed, wedi gwella effeithlonrwydd ynni 1,278 o gartrefi ar gyfer aelwydydd sy'n byw ar incwm isel yn Nhorfaen. Bydd hyn yn lleihau costau gwresogi yr aelwydydd hynny ac yn lleihau'r risg y byddant yn byw mewn tlodi tanwydd.

13:39 **Lynne Neagle** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, Consumer Futures Wales's report, published last month, found that nearly a fifth of households in Wales are actively struggling to pay their energy bills, with 86% worried that they would not be able to afford future price rises. Yet, all that we have seen from Westminster in response is a grubby pact with the big six that will not see them lose a penny in profit. Would you agree with me, Minister, that instead of backroom deals with big energy companies, we urgently need the kind of energy price freeze and root-and-branch review of the market that our party has promised to deliver and which the Tories and Lib Dems are so desperate to avoid?

Weinidog, canfu adroddiad Dyfodol Defnyddwyr Cymru, a gyhoeddwyd fis diwethaf, fod bron i un rhan o bump o aelwydydd yng Nghymru yn ei chael hi'n anodd talu eu biliau ynni, gydag 86% yn poeni na fyddent yn gallu fforddio codiadau prisiau yn y dyfodol. Eto i gyd, y cyfan yr ydym wedi'i weld gan San Steffan mewn ymateb i hynny yw cytundeb brwnt â'r chwe chyflenwr mawr sy'n sicrhau na fyddant yn colli ceiniog o elw. A fyddech yn cytuno â mi, Weinidog, yn hytrach na chytundebau ystafell gefn â chwmnïau ynni mawr, bod mawr angen y math o gamau i rewi prisiau ynni a chynnal adolygiad trylwyr o'r farchnad y mae ein plaid wedi addo eu cymryd ac yr oedd y Toriaid a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol mor awyddus i'w hosgoi?

13:39 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Absolutely. I not only agree with the premise behind the question, but, let me say this: the reality is that the UK Government has no idea at all of the impact of fuel poverty on people, and it does not really care either. When we look at what is happening with energy prices at the moment as we begin the winter, we recognise that people in this country will be going to bed cold, who will be ill as a consequence of that, and who will suffer great difficulties as a consequence of the energy price increases that we have seen. I do support, and I think that this Government supports, the approach of Ed Miliband, the leader of the opposition in Westminster, in calling for not only a price freeze, but absolute reform of the way that the market is regulated.

Yn hollol. Cytunaf nid yn unig â chynsail y cwestiwn, ond, gadewch imi ddweud hyn: y gwir amdani yw nad oes gan Lywodraeth y DU unrhyw syniad o gwbl am effaith tlodi tanwydd ar bobl, ac nid yw'n poeni chwaith. Pan edrychwn ar yr hyn sy'n digwydd gyda phrisiau ynni ar hyn o bryd ar ddechrau'r gaeaf, gwelwn y bydd pobl yn y wlad hon a fydd yn mynd i'w gwelyau'n oer, a fydd yn sâl o ganlyniad i hynny, ac a fydd yn dioddef anawsterau mawr o ganlyniad i'r cynnydd yr ydym wedi'i weld mewn prisiau ynni. Rwy'n cefnogi, a chredaf fod y Llywodraeth hon yn cefnogi, ymagwedd Ed Miliband, arweinydd yr wrthblaid yn San Steffan, sy'n galw nid yn unig am rewi prisiau, ond am ddiwygio'r ffordd y caiff y farchnad ei rheoleiddio yn gyfan gwbl.

13:40 **William Graham** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

The Minister will well know that the United Kingdom Government and energy suppliers are very keen that people should take up these grants when they are eligible. What is the Minister doing to publicise them?

Bydd y Gweinidog yn gwybod bod Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig a chyflenwyr ynni yn awyddus iawn i bobl fanteisio ar y grantiau hyn os ydynt yn gymwys. Beth y mae'r Gweinidog yn ei wneud i roi cyhoeddusrwydd iddynt?

13:40 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

The unfortunate part of what the UK Government is proposing is that it will make a difference to people's bills on the basis of removing the imperative and need to invest in energy efficiency and renewables. It is a short-sighted policy being pursued by the UK Government that will have absolutely no impact at all on the energy crisis facing communities up and down Wales.

Yr hyn sy'n anffodus am yr hyn y mae Llywodraeth y DU yn ei gynnig yw y bydd yn gwneud gwahaniaeth i filiau pobl drwy ddileu'r rheidrwydd a'r angen i fuddsoddi mewn effeithlonrwydd ynni ac ynni adnewyddadwy. Mae Llywodraeth y DU yn mynd ar drywydd polisi annoeth na fydd yn cael unrhyw effaith o gwbl ar yr argyfwng ynni sy'n wynebu cymunedau ar hyd a lled Cymru.

In terms of what we are doing to publicise these matters, the Welsh Government has had a very successful energy efficiency programme for some years, which the Member is aware of and, I think, has spoken of in the past. We continue to publicise this by all means necessary, and if the Member has any ideas about how we can improve that, I would be happy to hear from him.

O ran yr hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud i roi cyhoeddusrwydd i'r materion hyn, mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi gweithredu rhaglen effeithlonrwydd ynni lwyddiannus iawn ers rhai blynyddoedd, y mae'r Aelod yn ymwybodol ohoni ac, yr wyf yn credu, wedi siarad amdani yn y gorffennol. Rydym yn parhau i roi cyhoeddusrwydd iddi drwy bob dull angenrheidiol, ac os oes gan yr Aelod unrhyw syniadau ynghylch sut y gallwn wella hynny, byddwn yn falch o glywed ganddo.

Grantiau Effeithlonrwydd Ynni

Energy Efficiency Grants

13:41 **Jocelyn Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

4. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddyfodol grantiau effeithlonrwydd ynni? OAQ(4)0091(NRF)

4. Will the Minister make a statement on the future of energy efficiency grants? OAQ(4)0091(NRF)

13:41 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

We remain committed to our energy efficiency programme in order to tackle fuel poverty, create jobs and help us to meet our carbon reduction targets. The last time the Member asked me a question on this matter was last month, and I gave her an undertaking that I would provide a report on this matter for Members. I will be writing to all Members with that next week.

Rydym yn parhau'n ymrwymedig i'n rhaglen effeithlonrwydd ynni er mwyn mynd i'r afael â thlodi tanwydd, creu swyddi a'n helpu i gyflawni ein targedau lleihau carbon. Y tro diwethaf y gofynnodd yr Aelod gwestiwn imi ar y mater hwn oedd fis diwethaf, a rhoddais addewid y byddwn yn darparu adroddiad ar y mater hwn i Aelodau. Byddaf yn ysgrifennu at yr holl Aelodau yr wythnos nesaf.

13:42 **Jocelyn Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you; I was not going to ask you where the report was, Minister. Last week's autumn statement confirmed the cuts to the energy companies obligation, as eloquently mentioned by Lynne Neagle just now. That was expected to raise about £1 billion a year. What impact, if any, will this cut have on energy efficiency schemes in Wales, and do you expect a decline in such schemes due to this decision?

Diolch ichi; nid oeddwn yn mynd i ofyn ichi am yr adroddiad, Weinidog. Yr wythnos ddiwethaf, cadarnhaodd datganiad yr hydref y toriadau i rwymedigaeth y cwmnïau ynni, fel y mae Lynne Neagle newydd gyfeirio'n huawdl ato. Roedd disgwyl i hynny godi tua £1 biliwn y flwyddyn. Pa effaith, os o gwbl, y caiff y toriad hwn ar gynlluniau effeithlonrwydd ynni yng Nghymru, ac a ydych yn disgwyl gostyngiad mewn cynlluniau o'r fath oherwydd y penderfyniad hwn?

13:42 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

We do not yet know what the full impact of the changes to the energy companies obligation will be in Wales. I will say to the Member—I know that she has had a very real commitment to this matter for some years—that we remain committed to ensuring that Wales can maximise the benefit available to us of any potential ECO investment. The Member is also aware that I made an announcement last month of an additional £70 million to lever in this investment. That investment stands, and we will continue to seek to maximise the benefit for Wales from this scheme.

Ni wyddom eto beth fydd effaith lawn y newidiadau i rwymedigaeth y cwmnïau ynni yng Nghymru. Dywedaf wrth yr Aelod—gwn ei bod wedi dangos ymrwymiad gwirioneddol i'r mater hwn ers rhai blynyddoedd—ein bod yn ymrwymedig o hyd i sicrhau y gall Cymru gael cymaint o fudd â phosibl o unrhyw fuddsoddiad posibl o ran rhwymedigaeth y cwmnïau ynni. Gŵyr yr Aelod hefyd imi gyhoeddi y mis diwethaf y bydd £70 miliwn yn ychwanegol ar gael i ddenu'r buddsoddiad hwn. Mae'r buddsoddiad hwnnw'n parhau, a byddwn yn parhau i geisio sicrhau bod Cymru'n cael cymaint o fudd â phosibl o'r cynllun hwn.

13:43 **Russell George** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

How is the Welsh Government working with energy companies to promote and raise awareness of the energy companies obligation scheme with the Welsh public?

Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn gweithio gyda chwmnïau ynni i hyrwyddo a chodi ymwybyddiaeth o gynllun rhwymedigaeth y cwmnïau ynni ymhlith y cyhoedd yng Nghymru?

13:43 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I have just answered a question on this matter. We have made announcements on the investments that we are making to ensure that we maximise the potential of the ECO scheme, and we are working with businesses and communities up and down Wales to realise that.

Rwyf newydd ateb cwestiwn ar y mater hwn. Rydym wedi gwneud cyhoeddiadau ar y buddsoddiadau yr ydym yn eu gwneud er mwyn sicrhau ein bod yn cynyddu potensial cynllun rhwymedigaeth y cwmnïau ynni i'r eithaf, ac rydym yn gweithio gyda busnesau a chymunedau ledled Cymru i gyflawni hynny.

Bwydydd Lleol

Local Foods

13:43 **Simon Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

5. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am hyrwyddo bwydydd lleol? OAQ(4)0098(NRF)

5. Will the Minister make a statement on promoting local foods? OAQ(4)0098(NRF)

13:43 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Ddydd Llun diwethaf, fel bydd yr Aelod yn ymwybodol, cyhoeddais ddatganiad ysgrifenedig i'r Cynulliad wrth i mi lansio ymgynghoriad eang ar fy nghynllun i'r diwydiant bwyd a diod. Caiff y cynllun ei weithredu mewn partneriaeth â'r diwydiant er mwyn sicrhau bod y gadwyn gyflenwi gyfan yn gweithredu mewn modd mor gynaliadwy, effeithlon a buddiol â phosibl.

Last Monday, as the Member will be aware, I issued a written statement to the Assembly as I launched widespread consultation on my plan for the food and drinks industry. The plan will be delivered in partnership with the industry to ensure that the entire supply chain operates in the most sustainable, efficient and profitable way possible.

13:44 **Simon Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Diolch, Weinidog, am yr ateb ac rydym yn edrych ymlaen at ffrwyth yr ymgynghoriad hwnnw. Rwyf yn gobeithio cael fy mhryd Nadolig mor lleol ag sy'n bosibl—cig, pysgod a llysiau i gyd o siopau lleol yn Aberystwyth a'r farchnad ffermwyr, wrth gwrs. Pa asesiad a ydych chi'n ei wneud ar hyn o bryd o'r ffordd mae'r Llywodraeth yn hyrwyddo bwydydd lleol? Mae gennych wefannau megis Fork2Fork a chynlluniau fel hynny, ond mae pobl yn dal i ddweud wrthyf eu bod yn ei ffeindio'n anodd ffeindio bwyd yn lleol yn saff ac yn gyson, a bod canfod y wybodaeth honno a marchnata hynny dal eisiau eu gwella. A ydych yn cytuno, a beth yw'r camau rydych yn mynd i'w cymryd?

Thank you, Minister, for that response and we look forward to the outcome of that consultation. I personally hope to obtain my Christmas lunch as locally as possible—all meat, fish and vegetables from local shops in Aberystwyth and the farmers' market, of course. What assessment are you making of the way in which the Government promotes local foods? You have websites such as Fork2Fork and schemes of that sort, but people are still telling me that they are finding it difficult to source local foods safely and regularly, and that the ability to find that information and marketing still need to be improved. Would you agree, and what steps are you going to take to improve the situation?

13:44 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Rwyf yn cytuno; mae'n swnio'n debyg ein bod yn cael yr un math o ginio Nadolig. Byddaf i yn gwneud union yr un peth â'ch teulu chi, a byddwn yn annog bob Aelod i wneud yr un peth dros gyfnod y Nadolig.

Yes, I do agree; it sounds as if we are having the same sort of Christmas lunch. I will do exactly the same as your family, and would encourage all Members to do the same over the Christmas period.

Rwy'n cydnabod y broblem, ac rwy'n derbyn ac yn cytuno â'ch dadansoddiad chi o ble'r ydym ar hyn o bryd. Os edrychwch ar y cynllun a lansiais yr wythnos diwethaf, mae elfen ohono sy'n delio â'r union bwynt hwnnw. Mae rhai cwmnïau a busnesau, megis Puffin Produce Cyf yn Sir Benfro, sydd wedi ehangu'r farchnad ar gyfer llysiau o Gymru. Rydym eisiau gweld mwy o hynny a sicrhau bod gan bobl ar draws y wlad fwy o 'access' i fwydydd gwych o Gymru.

I recognise the problem and I accept and agree with your analysis of where we are at present. If you look at the scheme that I launched last week, there is an element of it that deals with exactly that point. There are some companies and businesses, such as Puffin Produce Ltd in Pembrokeshire, which have expanded the market for vegetables from Wales. We want to see more of that and to ensure that people across the country have greater access to excellent foods from Wales.

13:45 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I call the opposition spokesperson, Russell George.

Galwaf ar lefarydd yr wrthblaid, Russell George.

13:45 **Russell George** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you, Minister, for your previous answers. I am sure that you have seen the concerns raised by the Commissioner for Sustainable Futures in the commentary that he produced for the sustainable development annual report that we debated yesterday, regarding a reduction in public procurement of locally produced food for Wales. Given those concerns, could you tell me what the Government's future intentions are for the food and farming sector panel, please?

Diolch ichi, Weinidog, am eich atebion blaenorol. Rwy'n siŵr eich bod wedi gweld y pryderon a godwyd gan y Comisiynydd Dyfodol Cynaliadwy yn y sylwebaeth a luniodd ar gyfer yr adroddiad blynyddol ar ddatblygu cynaliadwy a drafodwyd gennym ddoe, ynghylch gostyngiad yn y bwyd lleol a gaiff ei gaffael yn gyhoeddus yng Nghymru. O ystyried y pryderon hynny, a allech ddweud wrthyf beth yw cynlluniau'r Llywodraeth ar gyfer panel y sector bwyd a ffermio yn y dyfodol, os gwelwch yn dda?

13:46 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

The food and farming sector panel came to an end last summer. It was a panel that was established by my colleague, the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport, and it operated out of her department, not mine. The work of the panel came to an end, reports were made, recommendations were made and the panel then completed its work. That was done, as I say, about six or seven months ago. I will say to the Member that I recognise the point that he has made, and the work of the panel has fed into the food plan that I launched last week.

Daeth panel y sector bwyd a ffermio i ben yr haf diwethaf. Panel oedd hwn a sefydlwyd gan fy nghyd-Aelod, Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth, ac roedd yn gweithredu o'i hadran hi, nid fy adran i. Daeth gwaith y panel i ben, lluniwyd adroddiadau, gwnaed argymhellion ac yna cwblhaodd y panel ei waith. Gwnaed hynny, fel y dywedais, tua chwech neu saith mis yn ôl. Byddwn yn dweud wrth yr Aelod fy mod yn cydnabod ei bwynt, a bod gwaith y panel wedi'i fwydo i mewn i'r cynllun bwyd a lansiais yr wythnos diwethaf.

13:46 **Russell George** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you for your answer, Minster. Given the concerns of the commissioner, I would like to understand a little more about why the panel was wound up. It seems to me—and I think that you will agree—that the panel was doing some very good work. One of the early recommendations regarding local food procurement was that the Government needs to establish a baseline of evidence on the procurement of food and drink in Wales in order to create a target to optimise growth in this particular area. Is that one of the recommendations that has been acted upon?

Diolch ichi am eich ateb, Weinidog. O ystyried pryderon y comisiynydd, hoffwn ddeall ychydig mwy pam y cafodd y panel ei ddirwyn i ben. Mae'n ymddangos imi—a chredaf y byddwch yn cytuno—bod y panel yn gwneud gwaith da iawn. Un o'r argymhellion cynnar ynghylch caffael bwyd lleol oedd bod angen i'r Llywodraeth sefydlu tystiolaeth sylfaenol ar gaffael bwyd a diod yng Nghymru er mwyn creu targed i gynyddu twf yn y maes penodol hwn. A yw hwnnw'n un o'r argymhellion sydd wedi cael ei rhoi ar waith?

13:47 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Yes, it is. The panel was wound up after it completed its work. I assure the Member and other Members that a part of the plan is to create a relationship with the industry as a whole and with food producers across Wales to ensure that any work that this Government does is led by the industry and responds to industry needs. For that reason, we are proposing to establish a Welsh food and drink federation for the first time to ensure that we have that link with the industry and that we are led by the industry in understanding what the needs of the sector are.

Ydy. Cafodd y panel ei ddirwyn i ben ar ôl iddo gwblhau ei waith. Gallaf sicrhau'r Aelod ac Aelodau eraill mai rhan o'r cynllun yw creu perthynas â'r diwydiant yn ei gyfanrwydd a chynhyrchwyr bwyd ledled Cymru er mwyn sicrhau bod unrhyw waith a wneir gan y Llywodraeth hon yn cael ei arwain gan y diwydiant ac yn ymateb i anghenion y diwydiant. Am y rheswm hwnnw, rydym yn cynnig sefydlu ffederasiwn bwyd a diod i Gymru am y tro cyntaf er mwyn sicrhau bod gennym y cysylltiad hwnnw â'r diwydiant a bod y diwydiant yn ein harwain i ddeall beth yw anghenion y sector.

In terms of the other matters raised by the Member, all of those matters are addressed in the food plan that I launched last week. I would invite him and others to contribute to the consultation and, if the Member has any specific issues that he wishes to raise with me, I am happy to address them as well.

O ran y materion eraill a godwyd gan yr Aelod, mae'r holl faterion hynny'n cael sylw yn y cynllun bwyd a lansiais yr wythnos diwethaf. Byddwn yn ei wahodd ef ac eraill i gyfrannu at yr ymgynghoriad ac, os oes gan yr Aelod unrhyw faterion penodol yr hoffai eu codi gyda mi, rwy'n fwy na pharod i ymdrin â hwy hefyd.

Afonydd a Dyfrffyrdd Mewndirol

Rivers and Inland Waterways

13:48 **David Rees** [Bywgraffiad] [Biography]

Senedd.tv [Fideo] [Video]

6. Pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu cymryd i ddiogelu ein hamgylchedd afonydd a dyfrffyrdd mewndirol? OAQ(4)0092(NRF)

6. What action is the Welsh Government taking to protect our river and inland waterway environment? OAQ(4)0092(NRF)

13:48 **Alun Davies** [Bywgraffiad] [Biography]

Senedd.tv [Fideo] [Video]

Natural Resources Wales has the critical role as the competent authority for classifying and monitoring the status of water bodies, and then developing, consulting on and implementing plans to protect and improve them.

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru sydd â'r rôl hanfodol fel yr awdurdod cymwys dros ddosbarthu a monitro statws cyrff dŵr, ac yna ddatblygu cynlluniau, ymgynghori arnynt a'u gweithredu er mwyn eu hamddiffyn a'u gwella.

13:48 **David Rees** [Bywgraffiad] [Biography]

Senedd.tv [Fideo] [Video]

Thank you for that answer, Minister. It is important that these continue to provide a natural habitat for fish to spawn and develop, thus allowing the fish stocks in our rivers to grow. The Green Paper on access to rivers and inland waterways can lead to greater usage for a variety of purposes and, in turn, could lead to huge disturbances during the lifecycle of the fish. What discussions have you had with ministerial colleagues to ensure that the Welsh Government will continue to protect these environments during this important time in the lifecycle of the fish stock?

Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Mae'n bwysig bod y rhain yn parhau i fod yn gynefinoedd naturiol i bysgod silio a datblygu ynddynt, gan ganiatáu i'r stociau pysgod yn ein hafonydd dyfu. Gall y Papur Gwyrdd ar fynediad at afonydd a dyfrffyrdd mewndirol arwain at fwy o ddefnydd ohonynt at amrywiaeth o ddibenion ac, yn ei dro, gallai arwain at aflonyddwch mawr yn ystod cylch oes y pysgod. Pa drafodaethau yr ydych wedi'u cael gyda chyd-Weinidogion er mwyn sicrhau y bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn parhau i amddiffyn yr amgylcheddau hyn yn ystod y cyfnod pwysig hwn yng nghylch oes y stoc pysgod?

13:48 **Alun Davies** [Bywgraffiad] [Biography]

Senedd.tv [Fideo] [Video]

May I say that this reflects on part of a question that was asked earlier? I discuss these matters with my ministerial colleagues on a regular basis. The last opportunity that I had to discuss this matter with the Minister concerned was last week. In terms of where we are going in developing inland fisheries, for example, I will launch, on 5 February, a consultation on the next rural development plan. A part of that will look to examine how we currently support inland fisheries, how that support can be improved, and how we can do it better in the future. One of the issues that I am anxious to ensure that the next RDP addresses is how we can continue to support green economic development in rural Wales.

A gaf fi ddweud bod hyn yn adlewyrchu ar ran o gwestiwn a ofynnwyd yn gynharach? Rwy'n trafod y materion hyn gyda'm cyd-Weinidogion yn rheolaidd. Y tro diwethaf imi gael cyfle i drafod y mater hwn gyda'r Gweinidog dan sylw oedd yr wythnos diwethaf. O ran ein gwaith i ddatblygu pysgodfeydd mewndirol, er enghraifft, ar 5 Chwefror, byddaf yn lansio ymgynghoriad ar y cynllun datblygu gwledig nesaf. Bydd rhan o'r cynllun hwnnw yn edrych ar sut yr ydym yn cefnogi pysgodfeydd mewndirol ar hyn o bryd, sut y gellir gwella'r gefnogaeth honno, a sut y gallwn wneud hynny'n well yn y dyfodol. Un o'r materion yr wyf yn awyddus i sicrhau bod y cynllun datblygu gwledig nesaf yn ei drin yw sut y gallwn barhau i gefnogi datblygiad economaidd gwyrdd yng Nghymru wledig.

13:49 **Nick Ramsay** [Bywgraffiad] [Biography]

Senedd.tv [Fideo] [Video]

Minister, I am sure that you are aware that Glandwr Cymru, the Canal and River Trust in Wales, is currently consulting on its 10-year prospectus, which I have here, 'Beyond the Towpath'. It is seeking views from a wide range of stakeholders. Since I have chaired the cross-party group on waterways, following on from my predecessors, Brian Hancock and Val Lloyd, one of the consistent problems that we have had is that, of course, waterways are not specifically devolved to the Assembly, but many of the economic and tourist impacts are. Can you tell us whether you have fed into, or are intending to feed into, this and how you think that you can best work with Glandwr Cymru over the coming years to ensure that the interests of those who use our waterways are best maintained, even within the non-devolved context of the waterways?

Weinidog, rwy'n siŵr eich bod yn ymwybodol bod Glandwr Cymru, Ymddiriedolaeth Camlesi ac Afonydd Cymru, wrthi'n ymgynghori ar ei phrosbectws 10 mlynedd, sydd gennyf yma, 'Tu Hwnt i'r Llwybr Tynnu'. Mae'n ceisio barn gan ystod eang o randdeiliaid. Ers imi gadeirio'r grŵp trawsbleidiol ar ddyfrffyrdd, yn dilyn fy rhagflaenwyr, Brian Hancock a Val Lloyd, un o'r problemau cyson yr ydym wedi dod ar eu traws, wrth gwrs, yw nad yw dyfrffyrdd wedi'u datganoli yn benodol i'r Cynulliad, yn wahanol i lawer o'r effeithiau economaidd a thwristaidd. A allwch ddweud wrthym pa un a ydych wedi, neu a ydych yn bwriadu, cyfrannu at hyn ac, yn eich barn chi, beth yw'r ffordd orau y gallech weithio gyda Glandwr Cymru dros y blynyddoedd nesaf er mwyn sicrhau bod buddiannau'r rhai sy'n defnyddio ein dyfrffyrdd yn cael eu hamddiffyn yn y ffordd orau, er nad yw dyfrffyrdd wedi'u datganoli?

13:50 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Many of the points raised by the Member are within the portfolio responsibilities of other Ministers. May I say, in response to his question, that one of the key matters that I wish to address in terms of taking forward the whole issue of water-based recreation and investment in water-based economic development programmes in the future is to meet the demands of the water framework directive to improve water quality, watercourses and water bodies in Wales? I hope that that will lead to greater economic benefits for people, as well as improving the habitats and biodiversity of Wales.

Mae llawer o'r pwyntiau a godwyd gan yr Aelod yn perthyn i gyfrifoldebau portffolio Gweinidogion eraill. A gaf fi ddweud, mewn ymateb i'w gwestiwn, mai un o'r prif faterion yr hoffwn roi sylw iddo wrth ymdrin â'r mater cyffredinol o hamdden dŵr a buddsoddi mewn rhaglenni datblygu economaidd seiliedig ar ddŵr yn y dyfodol, yw bodloni gofynion y gyfarwyddeb fframwaith dŵr i wella ansawdd dŵr, cyrsiau dŵr a chyrff dŵr yng Nghymru? Gobeithio y bydd hynny'n arwain at fwy o fanteision economaidd i bobl, yn ogystal â gwella cynefinoedd a bioamrywiaeth Cymru.

13:51 **Elin Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Fel mae eraill wedi sôn y prynhawn yma, rydych yn ymwybodol, rwy'n siŵr, o'r rôl bwysig iawn mae cymdeithasau pysgota yn ei chwarae yn hyrwyddo'r amgylchedd a'r economi o gwmpas yr afonydd maen nhw'n gyfrifol amdanynt. Mae nifer ohonynt yn wrthwynebus iawn ac yn amheus iawn o unrhyw newidiadau i fynediad at afonydd. Efallai y liciech chi esbonio hyd yn oed yn fwy beth yw rhai o'r consýrnau yr ydych chi yn eu hamlinellu o fewn y Llywodraeth—y consýrnau sydd gennych chi—ynglŷn â diogelu'r cyfraniad pwysig mae'r cymdeithasau pysgota hynny yn ei wneud i amgylchedd ac economi'r afon.

As others have already mentioned this afternoon, you will be aware, I am sure, of the very important role that fishing associations play in promoting the environment and the economy around the rivers for which they are responsible. Many of them are very opposed to and very suspicious of any changes to access to rivers. Perhaps you could explain to us in more detail what are some of the concerns that you are outlining in Government—the concerns that you have—in terms of safeguarding the important contribution those fishing associations make to the environment and the economy of rivers.

13:51 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Mae'r Aelod yn gwbl ymwybodol bod hyn yn fater i bortffolio Gweinidog arall, ond gwnaf i drio rhoi rhywfaint o ateb iddi yn y ffordd orau y gallaf. A gaf i ddweud hyn? Rwyf yn gweld pysgota fel rhywbeth sy'n gallu ychwanegu at economi lleol, iechyd pobl, a datblygu a diogelu cynefinoedd yr afonydd gwahanol. Pan ddof i gyhoeddi'r cynllun datblygu gwledig nesaf, bydd pysgota yn chwarae rhan bwysig ynddo. Rwyf wedi trafod, yn ystod yr wythnos diwethaf, gyda'r Gweinidog arall sut yr ydym yn gwneud hynny. Rwy'n hapus iawn gyda'r trafodaethau rydym ni wedi eu cael ac nid wyf yn rhannu rhai o'r pryderon rwy'n gwybod eich bod chi ac Aelodau eraill wedi eu clywed.

The Member is fully aware that this is a matter for the portfolio of another Minister, but I will try to give some sort of response in the best way that I can. May I say this? I see fishing as something that can add to the local economy, people's health, and the development and safeguarding of the habitats of the various rivers. When I come to announce the next rural development plan, fishing will play a very important part in it. I have discussed, over the last week, with the other Minister how we go about that. I am very happy with the discussions that we have had and I do not share some of the concerns that I know that you and other Members have heard about.

Cadwraeth Natur

Nature Conservation

13:52 **Rebecca Evans** Bywgraffiad Biography

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7. Pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu cymryd ynghylch cadwraeth natur? OAQ(4)0095(NRF)

7. What action is the Welsh Government taking with regards to nature conservation? OAQ(4)0095(NRF)

13:52 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Our work to implement the action plan for pollinators, the development of our nature recovery plan, the £1.5 million for the resilient ecosystem fund and the £6 million nature fund aim to halt decline in biodiversity and restore degraded habitats by improving the resilience of our ecosystems while supporting multiple benefits to society.

Nod ein gwaith i weithredu'r cynllun gweithredu ar gyfer pryfed peillio, datblygu ein cynllun adfer natur, yr £1.5 miliwn ar gyfer y gronfa ecosystemau gwydn a'r gronfa natur o £6 miliwn yw atal dirywiad bioamrywiaeth ac adfer cynefinoedd sydd wedi dirywio drwy wella gwydnwch ein hecosystemau gan gyflwyno llawer o fuddiannau i'r gymdeithas ar yr un pryd.

13:53 **Rebecca Evans** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Thank you, Minister. I recently visited the stunning Three Rivers Futurescape in Carmarthenshire with RSPB Cymru, where we discussed the importance of community engagement with the fantastic natural resources on our doorstep. We talked about the importance of creating a sense of ownership to inspire people to get involved with conservation. How are you working with colleagues right across Government to actively promote nature conservation, for example through education, tourism, health initiatives, or by supporting the local economy?

Diolch ichi, Weinidog. Ymwelais yn ddiweddar â phrosiect anhygoel Tirwedd y Dyfodol - Y Tair Afon yn Sir Gaerfyrddin gyda RSPB Cymru, lle gwnaethom drafod pwysigrwydd ymgysylltiad cymunedol â'r adnoddau naturiol gwych sydd ar garreg ein drws. Gwnaethom siarad am bwysigrwydd creu ymdeimlad o berchenogaeth er mwyn ysbrydoli pobl i gymryd rhan mewn cadwraeth. Sut yr ydych yn gweithio gyda chyd-Aelodau ar draws y Llywodraeth er mwyn hyrwyddo cadwraeth natur, er enghraifft, trwy fentrau addysg, twristiaeth, iechyd, neu drwy gefnogi'r economi leol?

13:53 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Like the Member for Mid and West Wales, I have also had the pleasure of a number of visits with RSPB Cymru recently. I visited Vyrnwy estate with the RSPB about two months ago and what struck me there was the enormous potential value from sustainable land management. That is one of the reasons why we continue to invest in the payment for ecosystem services research, and I hope that the work that we are doing with NRW with the environment Bill and with the new rural development plan will all contribute to exactly the ambition that has been outlined by the Member to ensure that there is no contradiction between enhancing and protecting biodiversity and sustaining a successful economy.

Fel yr Aelod dros y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin, rwyf finnau hefyd wedi cael y pleser o fynd ar nifer o ymweliadau gydag RSPB Cymru yn ddiweddar. Ymwelais â stad Efyrnwy gyda'r RSPB tua deufis yn ôl a'r hyn wnaeth fy nharo oedd y gwerth enfawr posibl sy'n gysylltiedig â rheoli tir yn gynaliadwy. Dyna un o'r rhesymau pam yr ydym yn parhau i fuddsoddi yn y taliadau ar gyfer ymchwil i wasanaethau ecosystemau, ac rwy'n gobeithio y bydd y gwaith yr ydym yn ei wneud gyda Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru gyda Bil yr amgylchedd a chyda'r cynllun datblygu gwledig newydd i gyd yn cyfrannu at yr union uchelgais a amlinellwyd gan yr Aelod er mwyn sicrhau nad oes unrhyw groestynnu rhwng gwella ac amddiffyn bioamrywiaeth a chynnal economi lwyddiannus.

13:54 **Suzy Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Minister, I do not know whether you have had a chance to visit Kenfig National Nature Reserve in my region. It is a special area of conservation and for the last 700 years has become home to thousands of species of plants and animals, including the rare fen orchid, for which the site is internationally famous. The land is owned by trustees, but is managed by Bridgend County Borough Council with help from Natural Resources Wales. Are you worried that the serious cuts to the budgets of local authorities will undermine their ability to look after natural heritage of national importance?

Weinidog, nid wyf yn gwybod a ydych wedi cael cyfle i ymweld â Gwarchodfa Natur Genedlaethol Cynffig yn fy rhanbarth. Mae'n ardal gadwraeth arbennig a thros y 700 mlynedd diwethaf mae wedi dod yn gartref i filoedd o rywogaethau o blanhigion ac anifeiliaid, gan gynnwys tegeirian y fign galchog, sy'n brin ac sydd wedi dod ag enwogrwydd rhyngwladol i'r safle. Mae'r tir yn eiddo i ymddiriedolwyr, ond caiff ei reoli gan Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr gyda chymorth Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru. A ydych yn poeni y bydd y toriadau difrifol i gyllidebau awdurdodau lleol yn tanseilio eu gallu i ofalu am dreftadaeth naturiol o bwysigrwydd cenedlaethol?

13:55 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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No.

Nac ydw.

13:55 **Rhun ap Iorwerth** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Weinidog, byddech yn ymwybodol iawn o'r gwaith da sydd wedi cael ei wneud i adfer y wiwer goch yn Ynys Môn, ond pa gynlluniau sydd gennych i sicrhau yn y dyfodol bod digon o adnoddau ar gael i barhau â'r gwaith hwnnw ar yr ynys, ond hefyd i fuddsoddi mewn prosiectau ar y tir mawr er mwyn atal y wiwer lwyd rhag dod yn ôl?

Minister, you will be very aware of the good work that has been done to restore the red squirrel population on Anglesey, but what plans do you have to ensure that, in future, there are adequate resources available to continue that work on the island, but also to invest in projects on the mainland in order to prevent the grey squirrel from returning?

13:55 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Rwy'n ymwybodol o'r prosiect yn sir Fôn, ac rwyf hefyd yn ymwybodol o lwyddiant y prosiect, ac yn ymfalchïo yn ei lwyddiant. Rwy'n credu bod gennym lot fawr i ddysgu o'r prosiect. Nid wyf wedi dod ar draws y pryderon yr ydych wedi eu disgrifio'r prynhawn yma. Pe bai problem, byddwn yn hapus iawn i drafod hynny ac i ymweld â chi yn sir Fôn i drafod y sefyllfa ymhellach. Fodd bynnag, a gaf ddweud hyn? Mae ymchwil yn cael ei wneud ar hyn o bryd i edrych ar y 'diseases' ar y wiwer goch sydd yn bodoli. Byddaf yn edrych ar sut yr ydym yn gallu sicrhau bod yr ymchwil i sicrhau dyfodol y wiwer goch yn parhau i'r dyfodol.

I am aware of the project on Anglesey, but I am also aware and proud of the success of the project. I think we have a lot to learn from that particular project. I have not come across the concerns that you have described this afternoon. If there were a problem, I would be very happy to discuss that, and to visit you in Anglesey to discuss the situation further. However, may I say this? Research is being undertaken at present to look at the diseases that affect red squirrels. I will be looking at how we can ensure that the research to secure the future of the red squirrel will continue into the future.

Cynllun Gweithredu Drafft Bwyd a Diod Cymru

Wales Food and Drink Draft Action Plan

13:56 **Yr Arglwydd / Lord Elis-Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

8. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad pellach ar y Cynllun Gweithredu Drafft Bwyd a Diod Cymru a gyhoeddodd yn y Ffair Aeaf? OAQ(4)0099(NRF)

8. Will the Minister make a further statement on the Wales Food and Drink Draft Action Plan he announced at the Winter Fair? OAQ(4)0099(NRF)

13:56 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Fel rwyf wedi ei ddweud yn gynharach y prynhawn yma, ddydd Llun diwethaf, cyhoeddais ddatganiad ysgrifenedig i'r Cynulliad wrth i mi lansio ymgynghoriad eang ar fy nghynllun i'r diwydiant bwyd a diod.

As I have already said this afternoon, last Monday, I issued a written statement to the Assembly as I launched widespread consultation on my plan for the food and drinks industry.

13:56 **Yr Arglwydd / Lord Elis-Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Diolch yn fawr, Weinidog. Mae'r cynllun a gyhoeddoch—ac roeddwn yn falch o fod yn bresennol yn y lansiad—yn olynydd teilwng i 'Bwyd i Gymru, Bwyd o Gymru' a arweinwyd gan y cyn Weinidog Elin Jones, â chyfraniad arbennig gan fy nghyfaill Dr Haydn Edwards i'r gwaith hwn dros gyfnod o flynyddoedd. Fodd bynnag, sut y mae'r Gweinidog yn mynd i sicrhau bod yr holl fusnesau sydd yn weithredol yn y sector hwn yn mynd i allu ateb yn adeiladol i'w strategaeth? Rydym yn sôn dros 23,000 o fusnesau corfforedig yn y gadwyn fwyd, ac o leiaf 14,000 ohonynt o fewn y sector bwyd-amaeth.

Thank you, Minister. The plan that you announced—and I was pleased to be there for the launch—is a worthy successor to 'Food for Wales, Food from Wales', which was led by the former Minister, Elin Jones, with a particular contribution from my colleague and friend, Dr Haydn Edwards, to this work over the years. However, how will the Minister ensure that all of the businesses that are active in this sector will be able to respond constructively to his strategy? We are talking about more than 23,000 corporate businesses in the food chain, and at least 14,000 of those within the agri-food sector.

13:57 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Gwnes i drefnu 18 mis yn ôl erbyn hyn uwch-gynhadledd, fel y mae'n cael ei ddisgrifio, gyda'r sector bwyd a busnesau a chwmnïau ar draws Cymru. Gwnaethom gynnal hynny yn y gerddi botaneg yn Llanarthne. Roedd hynny'n ddigwyddiad llwyddiannus iawn, ac roeddwn yn falch eich bod wedi gallu ymuno â ni ar gyfer lansiad y cynllun yn Llanelwedd yr wythnos diwethaf. Roedd y cynllun wedi ei geni, os liciwch, yn y gerddi botaneg 18 mis yn ôl, a'r ffordd yr ydym wedi ei ddatblygu wedi ei seilio ar y diwydiant ac anghenion y diwydiant. Byddaf yn trefnu cyfres o gyfarfodydd ar draws Cymru i sicrhau bod y diwydiant a busnesau gwahanol yn gallu cyfrannu yn uniongyrchol i'r ymgynghoriad. Byddaf hefyd yn sicrhau ein bod yn parhau i drafod â busnesau eu hunain, a dyna pam rydym eisiau sefydlu'r ffederasiwn newydd.

Around 18 months ago I organised a summit, as it is described, with the food sector and with businesses and companies across Wales. We held that at the botanic gardens in Llanarthne. It was a very successful event, and I was pleased that you were able to join us for the launch of the plan in Llanelwedd last week. The plan was born, if you like, in the botanic gardens 18 months ago, and the way we have developed it has been based on the industry and the needs of the industry. I will be arranging a series of meetings across Wales to ensure that the industry and various businesses are able to contribute directly to the consultation. I will also be ensuring that we continue to discuss with businesses themselves, which is why we want to establish the new federation.

13:58 **Antoinette Sandbach** Bywgraffiad Biography

The latest Beaufort research that is available to us shows that there was a 14% fall in Welsh consumers buying Welsh products in north Wales and the Valleys. Also, there was a decline in the UK as a whole of UK producers buying Welsh products. The main reason that they gave for not buying Welsh products is because half of those in the rest of the UK did not know of, and had never seen, any Welsh food or drink products. In your food summit that you referred to in the previous answer, what did your producers identify to you as the barriers to selling their products in the rest of the UK?

Mae'r ymchwil ddiweddaraf sydd ar gael inni gan Beaufort yn dangos y bu gostyngiad o 14% yn nifer y defnyddwyr sy'n prynu cynnyrch o Gymru yn y gogledd a'r Cymoedd. Hefyd, bu dirywiad yn y DU yn ei chyfanrwydd o ran nifer y cynhyrchwyr yn y DU sy'n prynu cynnyrch o Gymru. Y prif reswm a roddwyd ganddynt am beidio â phrynu cynhyrchion o Gymru oedd nad oedd hanner y rhai yng ngweddill y DU yn gwybod am unrhyw gynnyrch bwyd neu ddiod o Gymru nac erioed wedi'u gweld. Yn eich uwch-gynhadledd fwyd y cyfeiriasoch ati yn yr ateb blaenorol, beth ddywedodd eich cynhyrchwyr oedd y rhwystrau i werthu eu cynnyrch yng ngweddill y DU?

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13:59 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Actually, if you look at the sales numbers, you will see that Wales is one of the best-performing countries within the European food retail market. We saw a 6% growth in food and drink sales last year from the sector as a whole. In terms of what the producers told us at that summit, they told us that they needed access to finance in the same way as any business would require access to finance, support and marketing. However, they also told us that they wanted to see greater support in terms of developing exports, which is why we have developed with the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport a comprehensive series of trade missions, which support food producers. I visited a trade mission in Germany last month and I will be visiting the United States and Canada in January.

Mewn gwirionedd, os edrychwch ar y ffigurau gwerthiant, fe welwch mai Cymru yw un o'r gwledydd sy'n perfformio orau ym marchnad manwerthu bwyd Ewrop. Gwelsom dwf o 6% mewn gwerthiant bwyd a diod y llynedd yn y sector yn ei gyfanrwydd. O ran yr hyn a ddywedodd y cynhyrchwyr wrthym yn yr uwch-gynhadledd, gwnaethant ddweud wrthym fod angen iddynt gael mynediad at gyllid yn yr un ffordd ag y byddai angen i unrhyw fusnes arall gael mynediad at gyllid, cymorth a marchnata. Fodd bynnag, dywedasant wrthym hefyd eu bod am weld mwy o gymorth o ran datblygu allforion, a dyna pam yr ydym wedi datblygu gyda Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth gyfres gynhwysfawr o deithiau masnach, sy'n cefnogi cynhyrchwyr bwyd. Ymwelais â thaith fasnach yn yr Almaen y mis diwethaf a byddaf yn ymweld â'r Unol Daleithiau a Chanada ym mis Ionawr.

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Rheoli Adnoddau Naturiol

Natural Resources Management

14:00 **Eluned Parrott** Bywgraffiad Biography

9. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am bwysigrwydd rheoli adnoddau naturiol yn gyfrifol yng Nghymru? OAQ(4)0094(NRF)

9. Will the Minister make a statement on the importance of responsible natural resources management in Wales? OAQ(4)0094(NRF)

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14:00 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

The sustainable management of Wales's natural resources is critical to the future success of our economy, the wellbeing of our communities and the quality of our environment. I laid that out recently in my statement 'Shaping a more Prosperous and Resilient Future'.

Mae rheoli adnoddau naturiol Cymru mewn ffordd gynaliadwy yn hanfodol i lwyddiant ein heconomi yn y dyfodol, lles ein cymunedau ac ansawdd ein hamgylchedd. Nodais hynny yn ddiweddar yn fy natganiad 'Creu Dyfodol Cadarnach a Mwy Ffyniannus'.

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14:00 **Eluned Parrott** Bywgraffiad Biography

Minister, I am sure that you will agree that one of our most important duties in this regard is our stewardship of the marine environment. Further to the launch of the marine strategy, could you tell us what discussions you have had with Natural Resources Wales to ensure that the marine environment is properly protected and reflected in its corporate plan?

Weinidog, rwy'n siŵr y byddwch yn cytuno mai un o'n dyletswyddau pwysicaf yn hyn o beth yw ein stiwardiaeth o'r amgylchedd morol. Yn dilyn lansiad y strategaeth forol, a allech ddweud wrthym pa drafodaethau yr ydych wedi'u cael gyda Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru er mwyn sicrhau bod yr amgylchedd morol yn cael ei amddiffyn a'i adlewyrchu'n briodol yn ei gynllun corfforaethol?

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14:00 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I do not think that I have had any recent conversations with NRW since the publication of that report on this matter in the last month or so. I will say to the Member that, since taking on this portfolio in March, I have tried to ensure that we have a far more comprehensive marine strategy and marine responsibility within Government than we have had in the past. Members will be aware that I have brought together all of the different areas of marine policy in a single division within the Welsh Government. That has increased our ability to respond to these matters. I have also produced the first integrated strategic marine plan in Wales since the establishment of this place and devolved Government. Therefore, I hope that we are moving in the right direction. I have said to Members here in the Chamber and in committee that we have a great deal of distance to travel, but I am confident that we are moving with sufficient pace to meet our ambitions.

Nid wyf yn meddwl fy mod wedi cael unrhyw sgyrsiau diweddar gyda Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru ers cyhoeddi'r adroddiad hwnnw ar y mater hwn yn ystod y mis diwethaf. Dywedaf wrth yr Aelod, ers derbyn y portffolio hwn ym mis Mawrth, fy mod wedi ceisio sicrhau bod gennym strategaeth forol a chyfrifoldeb morol llawer mwy cynhwysfawr o fewn y Llywodraeth nag a welwyd yn y gorffennol. Bydd yr Aelodau'n ymwybodol imi ddwyn ynghyd pob un o feysydd gwahanol y polisi morol mewn un isadran o fewn Llywodraeth Cymru. Mae hynny wedi cynyddu ein gallu i ymateb i'r materion hyn. Rwyf hefyd wedi llunio'r cynllun morol strategol integredig cyntaf yng Nghymru ers sefydlu'r lle hwn a Llywodraeth ddatganoledig. Felly, rwy'n gobeithio ein bod yn symud i'r cyfeiriad cywir. Rwyf wedi dweud wrth Aelodau yma yn y Siambr ac yn y pwyllgor bod gennym lawer iawn o waith i'w wneud, ond rwy'n hyderus ein bod yn symud yn ddigon cyflym i gyflawni ein huchelgeisiau.

14:01 **Russell George** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I was interested to hear your comments during yesterday's debate on the Water Bill LCM, regarding the Government's future plans to secure competence of water and sewerage within the national boundary. Could you tell me what discussions you have had in that regard with the UK Government and the water industry, and what you see as the current barriers to achieving that aim in the long term?

Roedd yn ddiddorol clywed eich sylwadau yn ystod y ddadl ddoe ar gynnig cydsyniad deddfwriaethol y Bil Dŵr, ynghylch cynlluniau'r Llywodraeth yn y dyfodol i sicrhau cymhwysedd o ran dŵr a charthffosiaeth o fewn y ffin genedlaethol. A allech ddweud wrthyf pa drafodaethau yr ydych wedi'u cael yn y cyswllt hwnnw â Llywodraeth y DU a'r diwydiant dŵr, a beth yw'r rhwystrau presennol, yn eich barn chi, i gyrraedd y nod hwnnw yn y tymor hir?

14:02 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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The current barrier is probably the Wales Office, if I am completely honest with you. In terms of where we are, I have had very fruitful conversations with Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and with DEFRA Ministers. I have had very good and positive conversations with a number of ministerial colleagues in the UK Government and with the water industry. There is a great deal of support for the policy that the Welsh Government has outlined, in terms of receiving full legislative competence for water and sewerage policies in Wales. That is what the people of Wales want to see.

Y rhwystr ar hyn o bryd, mae'n debyg, yw Swyddfa Cymru, i fod yn gwbl onest gyda chi. O ran y sefyllfa ar hyn o bryd, rwyf wedi cael sgyrsiau defnyddiol iawn gyda Gweinidogion Adran yr Amgylchedd, Bwyd a Materion Gwledig a DEFRA. Rwyf wedi cael sgyrsiau cadarnhaol a da iawn gyda nifer o gyd-Weinidogion yn Llywodraeth y DU a chyda'r diwydiant dŵr. Mae llawer iawn o gefnogaeth i'r polisi y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'i amlinellu, o ran cael cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol llawn ar gyfer polisïau dŵr a charthffosiaeth yng Nghymru. Dyna y mae pobl Cymru am ei weld.

14:02 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I call on the Plaid Cymru spokesperson, Llyr Gruffydd.

Galwaf ar lefarydd Plaid Cymru, Llyr Gruffydd.

14:02 **Llyr Gruffydd** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Minister, could you please explain to me the relationship between the planning Bill's proposed national development framework, the regional strategic development plans and the local development plans, and your environment Bill's proposed national natural resource plan and the area-based natural resource management plans?

Weinidog, a allech egluro imi os gwelwch yn dda y berthynas rhwng fframwaith datblygu cenedlaethol arfaethedig y Bil cynllunio, y cynlluniau datblygu strategol rhanbarthol a'r cynlluniau datblygu lleol, a chynllun adnoddau naturiol cenedlaethol arfaethedig eich Bil yr amgylchedd a'r cynlluniau rheoli adnoddau naturiol yn seiliedig ar ardal?

14:03 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

That is a very short and sharp question. [Laughter.] I am currently consulting—and the Member is aware that I have published a White Paper—on the matter of the environment Bill. That consultation closes in the middle of January. I will be very happy to enter a discussion with the Member on these matters when I am in a position to make firm proposals.

Mae hwnnw'n gwestiwn byr a sydyn iawn. [Chwerthin.] Rwyf wrthi'n ymgynghori—ac mae'r Aelod yn ymwybodol fy mod wedi cyhoeddi Papur Gwyn—ar fater Bil yr amgylchedd. Daw'r ymgynghoriad hwnnw i ben ganol mis Ionawr. Byddaf yn fwy na pharod i drafod y materion hyn gyda'r Aelod pan fyddaf mewn sefyllfa i wneud cynigion cadarn.

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14:03 **Llyr Gruffydd** Bywgraffiad Biography

Thank you, although maybe I would have expected that you could have given us more of an idea than leaving it to the consultation, because these are your proposals. What I am getting at is this: where there might be conflict between these proposed plans, which would have precedence?

Diolch ichi, er efallai y byddwn wedi disgwyl y gallech fod wedi rhoi mwy o syniad inni na'i adael i'r ymgynghoriad, gan mai eich cynigion chi yw'r rhain. Yr hyn yr wyf yn ceisio'i ddarganfod yw hyn: lle y gallai fod gwrthdaro rhwng y cynlluniau arfaethedig hyn, pa un fyddai'n cael blaenoriaeth?

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14:03 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Clearly, the plans need to dovetail and work together. We have been very clear as a Government that we are putting forward a number of different pieces of legislation, as a suite of legislation, to change the way in which we manage matters in Wales. I hesitate to be too specific. I can understand the Member wishing to tempt me in this way, but it would be unfair to start speculating on the results of the consultation before it is complete.

Yn amlwg, mae angen i'r cynlluniau blethu a gweithio gyda'i gilydd. Rydym wedi bod yn glir iawn fel Llywodraeth ein bod yn cyflwyno nifer o wahanol ddarnau o ddeddfwriaeth, fel cyfres o ddeddfwriaeth, er mwyn newid y ffordd yr ydym yn rheoli materion yng Nghymru. Nid wyf am fod yn rhy benodol. Gallaf ddeall yr hoffai'r Aelod fy nhemtio yn y modd hwn, ond byddai'n annheg dechrau dyfalu ar ganlyniadau'r ymgynghoriad cyn iddo gael ei gwblhau.

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Blaenoriaethau

Priorities

14:04 **Mohammad Asghar** Bywgraffiad Biography

10. A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu ei flaenoriaethau ar gyfer prosiectau ynni adnewyddadwy ar gyfer gweddill tymor y Cynulliad hwn? OAQ(4)0081(NRF)

10. Will the Minister outline his priorities for renewable energy projects for the remainder of this Assembly term? OAQ(4)0081(NRF)

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:04 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

In October, I published an autumn statement that outlines my priorities across my portfolio for the remainder of the Government.

Ym mis Hydref, cyhoeddais ddatganiad yr hydref sy'n amlinellu fy mlaenoriaethau ar draws fy mhortffolio ar gyfer gweddill tymor y Llywodraeth.

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:04 **Mohammad Asghar** Bywgraffiad Biography

Thank you for the reply, Minister. According to leading economists, the proposed tidal lagoon in Swansea bay could generate £300 million to be spent in Wales and supply enough electricity to power 107,000 homes in the country. What is the Minister doing to support projects such as this, which harness tidal power as a renewable source of renewable energy in this country?

Diolch ichi am yr ateb, Weinidog. Yn ôl economegwyr blaenllaw, gallai'r morlyn llanw arfaethedig ym mae Abertawe gynhyrchu £300 miliwn i'w wario yng Nghymru a chyflenwi digon o drydan i bweru 107,000 o gartrefi yn y wlad. Beth y mae'r Gweinidog yn ei wneud i gefnogi prosiectau fel hyn, sy'n harneisio ynni'r llanw fel ffynhonnell adnewyddadwy o ynni adnewyddadwy yn y wlad hon?

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:05 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

I am rarely speechless in this place. I am sorry that the Member sought to demote me in my office. However, in taking forward our programme for renewables, Members will be aware that the First Minister launched 'Energy Wales: A Low Carbon Transition' last year, which sets out exactly what we will do as a Government to realise the tremendous opportunity that the Member has described that, to some extent, we have in Wales in respect of energy generation.

Prin iawn yr wyf yn fud yn y lle hwn. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf i'r Aelod geisio israddio fy swydd. Fodd bynnag, wrth fwrw ymlaen â'n rhaglen ar ynni adnewyddadwy, bydd Aelodau'n ymwybodol i'r Prif Weinidog lansio 'Ynni Cymru: Newid Carbon Isel' y llynedd, sy'n nodi'n union yr hyn y byddwn yn ei wneud fel Llywodraeth i achub ar y cyfle gwych y mae'r Aelod wedi'i ddisgrifio sydd gennym, i ryw raddau, yng Nghymru o ran cynhyrchu ynni.

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14:05 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

That was you being speechless, was it, Minister? [Laughter.]

Ai dyna sut rydych pan rydych yn fud Weinidog? [Chwerthin.]

14:05 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

It was.

Ie.

14:05 **Bethan Jenkins** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Weinidog, mae Plaid Cymru wedi dangos ymrwymiadau clir i ynni adnewyddadwy, ac mae hynny'n cynnwys ynni gwynt. Mae'n rhaid inni fod yn rhesymegol am y pethau hyn ac am sut y gallant helpu ein cymunedau. Er hynny, mae nifer o bobl wedi gofyn i mi yn ardal Castell-nedd Port Talbot, lle mae cynlluniau ar gyfer prosiect ynni gwynt yn ardal Rhos a Gelli-nudd, a oes astudiaethau wedi cael eu gwneud ar sut y mae hynny'n effeithio ar dwristiaeth, yn enwedig ar un cwmni lleol sy'n rhoi bythynnod lleol ar rent. Nid yw'r cwmni hwnnw yn erbyn ynni gwynt o gwbl, ond mae am wybod yn iawn sut y bydd hyn yn effeithio ar y busnes yn lleol.

Minister, Plaid Cymru has demonstrated clear commitments to renewable energy, and that includes wind energy. We have to be logical about these things and about how they can assist our communities. However, a number of people have asked me in the Neath Port Talbot area, where there are plans for a wind energy project in the Rhos and Gelli-nudd area, whether any studies have been carried out as to how this will impact upon tourism, particularly on one local company that rents out holiday cottages. That company is not opposed to wind energy at all, but it wants to know how this will affect the business locally.

14:06 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Fel Aelodau, rwy'n credu bod pob un ohonom yn cefnogi'r egwyddor o ynni gwynt ac ynni o'r 'technologies' adnewyddadwy. Nid wyf am drafod prosiectau penodol, fel y gall yr Aelod dderbyn, ond credaf fod potensial mawr i sicrhau ein bod yn gweld mwy o brosiectau'n cael eu datblygu. Mae hyn yn rhywbeth yr wyf am ei weld yn digwydd fel rhan o'r cynllun gwledig newydd. Rwyf am adeiladu ar lwyddiant Ynni'r Fro fel rhaglen y Llywodraeth i sicrhau bod cymunedau reit ar draws Cymru'n gallu elwa ar ddatblygiadau felly.

As Members, I think that we all support the principle of wind energy and energy from renewable technologies. I do not want to discuss specific projects, as the Member will understand, but I believe that there is a great potential to ensure that we see more projects being developed. This is something that I want to see happening as part of the new rural plan. I want to build on the success of Ynni'r Fro as a Government programme to ensure that communities right across Wales are able to benefit from such developments.

Diwydiant Bwyd a Diod Cymru

Welsh Food and Drink Industry

14:07 **Nick Ramsay** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

11. A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu cynlluniau Llywodraeth Cymru i gynorthwyo diwydiant bwyd a diod Cymru? OAQ(4)0085(NRF)

11. Will the Minister outline Welsh Government plans to support the Welsh food and drink industry? OAQ(4)0085(NRF)

14:07 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Like the Member himself, I have enjoyed many happy days at the Abergavenny Food Festival in the Member's own constituency. I know that the Member is very supportive of the support that the Welsh Government gives to the Abergavenny Food Festival, and I know that the Member there has also been very supportive himself in all his different guises in doing all he can to support the Welsh food and drink industry.

Fel yr Aelod ei hun, rwyf wedi mwynhau sawl diwrnod hapus yng Ngŵyl Fwyd y Fenni yn etholaeth yr Aelod ei hun. Gwn fod yr Aelod yn gefnogol iawn o'r cymorth y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei roi i Ŵyl Fwyd y Fenni, a gwn fod yr Aelod hefyd wedi bod yn gefnogol iawn ei hun yn ei ffyrdd amrywiol wrth wneud popeth o fewn ei allu i gefnogi'r diwydiant bwyd a diod yng Nghymru.

14:07 **Nick Ramsay** Bywgraffiad Biography

I do indeed do my best, Minister. I think that your first visit as a Minister was to a vineyard in my constituency, which you kindly involve me in as well. They are still working very hard there to maintain standards. You actually comprehensively answered this question in answer to Antoinette Sandbach earlier. You have mentioned the Abergavenny Food Festival; Antoinette Sandbach asked you about exports of food, but there is of course a huge opportunity for food tourism across Wales. How are you working with the Minister for economy to develop Wales and tourism as a Welsh food brand destination, so that festivals such as the Abergavenny Food Festival and others do as well as they possibly can, now and in the future?

Rwy'n gwneud fy ngorau, Weinidog. Credaf i chi fynd ar eich ymweliad cyntaf fel Gweinidog i winllan yn fy etholaeth, a buoch yn ddigon caredig i'm cynnwys innau hefyd. Maent yn dal i weithio'n galed iawn yno i gynnal safonau. Gwnaethoch roi ateb cynhwysfawr i'r cwestiwn hwn mewn gwirionedd wrth ateb Antoinette Sandbach yn gynharach. Rydych wedi sôn am Ŵyl Fwyd y Fenni; gofynnodd Antoinette Sandbach ichi am allforion bwyd, ond wrth gwrs mae cyfle enfawr i dwristiaeth bwyd ledled Cymru. Sut yr ydych yn gweithio gyda Gweinidog yr economi i ddatblygu Cymru a thwristiaeth fel cyrchfan brand bwyd Cymreig, fel bod gwyliau fel Gŵyl Fwyd y Fenni ac eraill yn gwneud cystal ag sy'n bosibl nawr ac yn y dyfodol?

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:08 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

I am working very well with the Minister concerned on that programme. Yes, my first ministerial visit was to a vineyard in Monmouthshire, to celebrate Welsh Wine Week, just after my appointment. We have now taken that forward with a strategy to support the whole industry in Wales, and we have supported and developed a Welsh wine trail and a number of different activities to sustain and support tourism and to ensure that the economic impact of those vineyards across Wales is enhanced and supported. The Member is absolutely right in what he says; we do need to support, whether it is food festivals or the creation of a food culture in Wales that will enhance and sustain the tourism offer, but also for ourselves as Welsh people to be able to enjoy Welsh food and drink. I would invite the Member to take a look at the food plan that I published last week, and I hope that he will find that his questions are answered in that plan.

Rwy'n gweithio'n dda iawn gyda'r Gweinidog sy'n ymwneud â'r rhaglen honno. Do, ar fy ymweliad cyntaf fel gweinidog, ymwelais â gwinllan yn Sir Fynwy, er mwyn dathlu Wythnos Gwin Cymru, yn union ar ôl cael fy mhenodi. Rydym bellach wedi adeiladu ar hynny gyda strategaeth i gefnogi'r diwydiant cyfan yng Nghymru, ac rydym wedi cefnogi a datblygu llwybr gwin Cymru a nifer o wahanol weithgareddau i gynnal a chefnogi twristiaeth a sicrhau bod effaith economaidd y gwinllannoedd hynny ledled Cymru yn cael ei hatgyfnerthu a'i chefnogi. Mae'r Aelod yn llygad ei le; mae angen inni roi cefnogaeth, boed hynny o ran gwyliau bwyd neu greu diwylliant bwyd yng Nghymru a fydd yn gwella a chynnal y cynnig twristiaeth, ond hefyd i'n galluogi ni ein hunain fel Cymry i fwynhau bwyd a diod o Gymru. Byddwn yn gwahodd yr Aelod i gymryd golwg ar y cynllun bwyd a gyhoeddais yr wythnos diwethaf, a gobeithio y bydd yn gweld bod y cynllun hwnnw yn ateb ei gwestiynau.

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Prosiectau Ynni Adnewyddadwy

Renewable Energy Projects

14:09 **Julie Morgan** Bywgraffiad Biography

12. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gymorth Llywodraeth Cymru i brosiectau ynni adnewyddadwy? OAQ(4)0096(NRF)

12. Will the Minister make a statement on Welsh Government support for renewable energy projects? OAQ(4)0096(NRF)

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:09 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

The Energy Wales programme has been established to prioritise support for energy projects that maximise benefits to Wales. In the new year, we will publish a programmes delivery plan that will build on our ambition to take full advantage of a transition to a low-carbon economy.

Mae rhaglen Ynni Cymru wedi cael ei sefydlu er mwyn blaenoriaethu cymorth ar gyfer prosiectau ynni sy'n dod â manteision i Gymru. Yn y flwyddyn newydd, byddwn yn cyhoeddi cynllun cyflawni rhaglenni a fydd yn adeiladu ar ein huchelgais i fanteisio'n llawn ar newid i economi carbon-isel.

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14:09 **Julie Morgan** Bywgraffiad Biography

I thank the Minister for that response. Following the UK Government's announcement of cuts to onshore renewable energy subsidies, there is concern that smaller, community-owned wind and solar projects may no longer be viable. What more can the Welsh Government do to ensure that these smaller schemes, which often recycle profits back into the local communities, are not disproportionately impacted by this decision?

Diolch i'r Gweinidog am yr ateb hwnnw. Yn dilyn cyhoeddiad Llywodraeth y DU o doriadau i gymorthdaliadau ynni adnewyddadwy ar y tir, mae pryder efallai na fydd prosiectau solar a gwynt llai, sy'n eiddo i'r gymuned yn hyfyw mwyach. Beth arall y gall Llywodraeth Cymru ei wneud i sicrhau nad yw'r penderfyniad hwn yn cael effaith anghymesur ar y cynlluniau llai hyn, sy'n aml yn ailgylchu elw yn ôl yn y cymunedau lleol?

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14:10 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I think that many of us have been disappointed by the actions of the United Kingdom Government in not supporting the development of renewable energy projects in a way that perhaps its literature suggests it wants to. I tried to say in response to a question from Bethan Jenkins that the Welsh Government wants to seek to ensure that we do have a viable financial package and a viable package of support available to communities that wish to support and develop local renewable schemes, wherever they happen to be in Wales. We currently have the Ynni'r Fro scheme, which has been very successful in what it has been able to do, and I will certainly be looking at how we can develop that into the new round of European funding and the new rural development plan. I would like us to be able to continue to develop, and we will continue to develop, ensuring that communities, wherever they happen to be in Wales, will have support from this Government in developing renewable options.

Credaf fod llawer ohonom wedi cael ein siomi gan weithredoedd Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig nad yw wedi cefnogi datblygiad prosiectau ynni adnewyddadwy yn y ffordd y mae ei llenyddiaeth, efallai, yn awgrymu yr hoffai ei wneud. Ceisiais ddweud mewn ymateb i gwestiwn gan Bethan Jenkins fod Llywodraeth Cymru yn awyddus i geisio sicrhau bod gennym becyn ariannol hyfyw a phecyn hyfyw o gymorth i gymunedau sy'n dymuno cefnogi a datblygu cynlluniau adnewyddadwy lleol, ble bynnag y bônt yng Nghymru. Ar hyn o bryd mae gennym gynllun Ynni'r Fro, sydd wedi bod yn llwyddiannus iawn yn yr hyn y mae wedi gallu'i wneud, a byddaf yn sicr yn edrych ar sut y gallwn ddatblygu hynny yn y cylch newydd o gyllid Ewropeaidd a'r cynllun datblygu gwledig newydd. Hoffwn inni allu parhau i ddatblygu, a byddwn yn parhau i ddatblygu, gan sicrhau y bydd cymunedau, ble bynnag y bônt yng Nghymru, yn cael cymorth gan y Llywodraeth hon i ddatblygu opsiynau adnewyddadwy.

14:11 **Angela Burns** Bywgraffiad Biography

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In response to previous questioners, you have talked about the community benefit in renewable energy. However, the Commissioner for Sustainable Futures is on record as saying, not very long ago, that Wales was not yet a go-to location for green business. What more do you think the Welsh Government should do to encourage that?

Mewn ymateb i holwyr blaenorol, rydych wedi sôn am fudd cymunedol ynni adnewyddadwy. Fodd bynnag, dywedodd y Comisiynydd Dyfodol Cynaliadwy yn gyhoeddus, yn gymharol ddiweddar, nad oedd Cymru eto yn lleoliad naturiol ar gyfer busnes gwyrdd. Yn eich barn chi, beth arall ddylai Llywodraeth Cymru ei wneud i annog hynny?

14:11 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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One of the initiatives that I think we discussed during the last questions session was the steering group that has been established by me and the Minister for the Economy, Science and Transport to promote green growth and to support the development of the green economy. That group of people has started work, and I think that it is doing a very good job in ensuring that we do provide the support that is necessary to ensure that Wales is the go-to location for people who wish to develop businesses or business support in that sector.

Un o'r mentrau yr wyf yn meddwl inni eu trafod yn ystod y sesiwn gwestiynau ddiwethaf oedd y grŵp llywio a sefydlwyd gennyf i a Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth er mwyn hyrwyddo twf gwyrdd a helpu i ddatblygu'r economi werdd. Mae'r grŵp hwnnw o bobl wedi dechrau gweithio, a chredaf ei fod yn gwneud gwaith da iawn wrth sicrhau ein bod yn darparu'r cymorth sydd ei angen i sicrhau mai Cymru yw'r lleoliad naturiol i bobl sydd am ddatblygu busnesau neu gymorth busnes yn y sector hwnnw.

14:12 **Peter Black** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Minister, Wales has a large number of alternative energy projects, including many wind turbines, but of course in terms of actually manufacturing those machines, with the exception of a small plant in the south-east of Wales, we do not have anything—we import everything associated with that. What is the Government doing to try to reverse that trend so as to ensure that if we are going to have the renewable projects that we need, we are actually manufacturing them as well?

Weinidog, mae gan Gymru nifer fawr o brosiectau ynni amgen, gan gynnwys llawer o dyrbinau gwynt, ond wrth gwrs o ran gweithgynhyrchu'r peiriannau hynny, ac eithrio safle bach yn y de-ddwyrain, nid oes gennym ddim byd—rydym yn mewnforio popeth sy'n gysylltiedig â hynny. Beth y mae'r Llywodraeth yn ei wneud i geisio gwrthdroi'r duedd honno er mwyn sicrhau, os ydym yn mynd i gael y prosiectau adnewyddadwy sydd eu hangen arnom, ein bod yn eu gweithgynhyrchu hefyd?

14:12 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Many of those issues raised by the Member are of course matters for the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport, and she is in her place and will have heard the question.

Mae llawer o'r materion hynny a godwyd gan yr Aelod, wrth gwrs, yn faterion i Weinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth, sydd yn bresennol ac a fydd wedi clywed y cwestiwn.

Mynd i'r Afael â Thlodi Tanwydd

Tackling Fuel Poverty

14:12 **Mike Hedges** Bywgraffiad Biography

13. Pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi eu cynllunio i fynd i'r afael â thlodi tanwydd yn ystod cyfnod y Nadolig? OAQ(4)0084(NRF)

13. What action does the Welsh Government have planned to tackle fuel poverty during the Christmas period? OAQ(4)0084(NRF)

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:12 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Over Christmas we will continue to support households in fuel poverty by providing free advice and support to people worried about their fuel bills. We will be installing free energy improvements in low-income homes and in the most disadvantaged areas through our energy efficiency programmes.

Dros y Nadolig byddwn yn parhau i gynorthwyo aelwydydd mewn tlodi tanwydd drwy ddarparu cyngor a chymorth am ddim i bobl sy'n poeni am eu biliau tanwydd. Byddwn yn gosod gwelliannau ynni am ddim mewn cartrefi incwm isel ac yn yr ardaloedd mwyaf difreintiedig drwy ein rhaglenni effeithlonrwydd ynni.

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14:13 **Mike Hedges** Bywgraffiad Biography

I thank the Minister for that response. As the cost of living continues to rise, many of my constituents face fuel poverty. Does the Minister agree with me that there is a desperate need for a fuel price freeze now?

Diolch Weinidog am yr ateb hwnnw. Wrth i gostau byw barhau i gynyddu, mae llawer o fy etholwyr yn wynebu tlodi tanwydd. A yw'r Gweinidog yn cytuno â mi fod mawr angen rhewi prisiau tanwydd yn awr?

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14:13 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Yes, I do. I represent one of the highest constituencies in Wales in Blaenau Gwent, and I know from speaking to people in my advice surgeries of the impact that rising energy bills are having on families and households in that constituency, but in all parts of Wales as well. I think that the UK Government has shown an extraordinary lack of ambition in its approach to tackling fuel poverty, and I think it has shown a carelessness and almost a callousness in terms of its approach to people who are suffering and facing fuel poverty. This Government is committed to supporting the concept of a fuel price freeze, committed to supporting reform of the energy market, and is committed to supporting people dealing with and addressing issues of fuel poverty.

Ydw, rwy'n cytuno. Rwy'n cynrychioli un o'r etholaethau uchaf yng Nghymru ym Mlaenau Gwent ac rwy'n ymwybodol, o siarad â phobl yn fy nghymorthfeydd cyngor, o'r effaith y caiff biliau ynni cynyddol ar deuluoedd ac aelwydydd yn yr etholaeth honno, ond ym mhob rhan o Gymru hefyd. Credaf fod Llywodraeth y DU wedi dangos diffyg uchelgais anhygoel o ran ei dull o fynd i'r afael â thlodi tanwydd, a chredaf ei bod wedi dangos esgeulustod a diffyg tosturi bron o ran ei hymagwedd at bobl sy'n dioddef ac yn wynebu tlodi tanwydd. Mae'r Llywodraeth hon wedi ymrwymo i gefnogi'r cysyniad o rewi prisiau tanwydd, wedi ymrwymo i gefnogi camau i ddiwygio'r farchnad ynni, ac wedi ymrwymo i helpu pobl sy'n delio ac yn mynd i'r afael â phroblemau tlodi tanwydd.

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:14 **Byron Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Minister, can I ask how important issues such as the Green Deal and collective switching are being addressed by you within the wider tackling poverty agenda? Can I suggest that there is a need for greater individual focus on these schemes, rather than mashing it all together within a broad strategy? I would welcome your position on the matter.

Weinidog, a gaf fi ofyn sut yr ydych yn ymdrin â materion pwysig megis y Fargen Werdd a newid ar y cyd fel rhan o'r agenda ehangach i fynd i'r afael â thlodi? A allaf awgrymu bod angen mwy o ffocws unigol ar y cynlluniau hyn, yn hytrach na chymysgu'r cyfan â'i gilydd o fewn strategaeth gyffredinol? Byddwn yn croesawu eich safbwynt ar y mater.

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:14 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

If the Member believes that our approach is one that he feels will not achieve our ambitions, then that is clearly a matter for him. I will say to him now that we do support the Cyd Cymru project, which is looking at managing collective switchover, for example, in areas of south Wales. We have supported consistently over a number of years opportunities for people to ensure that they are able to access energy, both at a reasonable cost, but also to ensure that homes are energy efficient, which meets our ambitions to defeat fuel poverty as well as our ambitions on climate change.

Os yw'r Aelod yn teimlo na fydd ein dull gweithredu yn cyflawni ein huchelgeisiau, yna mater iddo ef yn amlwg yw hynny. Byddaf yn dweud wrtho yn awr ein bod yn cefnogi prosiect Cyd Cymru, sy'n edrych ar reoli newid ar y cyd, er enghraifft, mewn ardaloedd yn y de. Dros nifer o flynyddoedd, rydym wedi cefnogi'n gyson gyfleoedd i bobl sicrhau y gallant gael ynni, am gost resymol, ond hefyd sicrhau bod cartrefi yn defnyddio ynni'n effeithlon, sy'n bodloni ein huchelgeisiau i drechu tlodi tanwydd yn ogystal â'n uchelgeisiau o ran newid yn yr hinsawdd.

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Datblygu Ecosystem

Ecosystem Development

14:15 **Julie James** Bywgraffiad Biography

14. Beth yw blaenoriaethau'r Gweinidog ar gyfer datblygu ecosystem ym mae Abertawe? OAQ(4)0090(NRF)

14. What are the Minister's priorities for ecosystem development in Swansea bay? OAQ(4)0090(NRF)

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:15 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

My recent high-level statement, 'Shaping a more Prosperous and Resilient Future', confirms my priorities of green growth, enhancing resilience and diversity, tackling poverty and using resources efficiently. Those priorities will inform ecosystem development in Swansea bay to ensure the future prosperity of the local community and environment.

Mae fy natganiad lefel uchel diweddar, 'Creu Dyfodol Cadarnach a Mwy Ffyniannus', yn cadarnhau fy mlaenoriaethau, sef twf gwyrdd, gwella gwydnwch ac amrywiaeth, mynd i'r afael â thlodi a defnyddio adnoddau'n effeithlon. Bydd y blaenoriaethau hynny yn llywio camau i ddatblygu ecosystemau ym mae Abertawe er mwyn sicrhau ffyniant y gymuned a'r amgylchedd lleol yn y dyfodol.

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14:15 **Julie James** Bywgraffiad Biography

Thank you for that, Minister. As you know, I very much welcome the Welsh Government's innovative and far-sighted approach to ecosystems development and the financial contribution that they make to infrastructure development. What account does the Minister take of ecosystems, and are their value in projects, such as the Canal and Rivers Trust's ambition to improve Swansea canal, taken into account?

Diolch ichi am hynny, Weinidog. Fel y gwyddoch, croesawaf yn fawr ddull arloesol a phellweledol Llywodraeth Cymru o ddatblygu ecosystemau a'r cyfraniad ariannol a wnânt i ddatblygu seilwaith. Pa ystyriaeth y mae'r Gweinidog yn ei rhoi i ecosystemau, ac a ystyrir eu gwerth mewn prosiectau, megis uchelgais yr Ymddiriedolaeth Camlesi ac Afonydd i wella camlas Abertawe?

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14:16 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

I agree with the approach taken by the Member. We aim to deliver all major programmes and projects in accordance with sustainable development principles and best practice, in terms of developing a business case and in ensuring delivery of different projects. I hope that the Member will agree that by ensuring sustainable development is at the heart of all of our decision taking and decision making, we will ensure that not only the project she refers to, but all projects and investments undertaken and supported by Welsh Government, meet those ambitions.

Cytunaf ag ymagwedd yr Aelod. Ein nod yw cyflawni'r holl raglenni a phrosiectau mawr yn unol ag egwyddorion ac arfer gorau datblygu cynaliadwy, o ran datblygu achos busnes a gweithredu gwahanol brosiectau. Gobeithio y bydd yr Aelod yn cytuno, trwy sicrhau bod datblygu cynaliadwy wrth wraidd yr holl benderfyniadau a wnawn, y byddwn yn sicrhau nid yn unig bod y prosiect y mae hi'n cyfeirio ato, ond pob prosiect a buddsoddiad a gaiff eu gweithredu a'u cefnogi gan Lywodraeth Cymru, yn cyflawni'r uchelgeisiau hynny.

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14:16 **Suzy Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

There is considerable support for the idea of a tidal lagoon in Swansea bay, matched only by the considerable concern about the unrelated practice of sand dredging and its effect on Gower beaches and their ecosystems. Your Government has shown a commitment to the marine environment, so can you say how you expect Natural Resources Wales to advise the tidal lagoon project on mitigating any potential damage that its plans might have on the ecology of the bay and thereby maintaining its chances of moving forward?

Mae cefnogaeth sylweddol i'r syniad o forlyn llanw ym mae Abertawe, a efelychir yn unig gan y pryder sylweddol am yr arfer digyswllt o garthu tywod a'i effaith ar draethau Gŵyr a'u hecosystemau. Mae eich Llywodraeth wedi dangos ymrwymiad i'r amgylchedd morol, felly a allwch ddweud sut yr ydych yn disgwyl i Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru gynghori prosiect y morlyn llanw ar liniaru unrhyw niwed posibl y gallai ei gynlluniau ei chael ar ecoleg y bae a thrwy hynny ddiogelu ei siawns o fynd ymlaen?

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14:17 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

I do not think that it would be right for me to second guess the views of Natural Resources Wales on this matter. I will say, and I emphasise that this is a general point not linked to any individual project, that the waters around Wales offer a tremendous source of predictable, reliable and renewable power. The proposed project for Swansea bay is an interesting opportunity for Wales, and the Welsh Government is keen to work alongside all energy developers to ensure that we can maximise the economic potential for Wales. If any application is made, then an application for consent will need to be made to the planning inspectorate and to Natural Resources Wales. All of those will be subject to full consultation.

Ni chredaf y byddai'n iawn imi ddyfalu safbwyntiau Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru ar y mater hwn. Byddaf yn dweud, a phwysleisiaf mai pwynt cyffredinol yw hwn nad yw'n ymwneud ag unrhyw brosiect unigol, fod y dyfroedd o amgylch Cymru yn ffynhonnell aruthrol o bŵer adnewyddadwy, rhagweladwy a dibynadwy. Mae'r prosiect arfaethedig ar gyfer bae Abertawe yn gyfle diddorol i Gymru, ac mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn awyddus i weithio ochr yn ochr â'r holl ddatblygwyr ynni i sicrhau y gallwn gynyddu'r potensial economaidd i Gymru. Os gwneir unrhyw gais, yna bydd angen gwneud cais am ganiatâd i'r arolygiaeth gynllunio a Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru. Bydd pob un o'r rheini yn destun ymgynghoriad llawn.

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Coetiroedd

Woodlands

14:17 **Mohammad Asghar** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

15. Beth y mae'r Gweinidog yn ei wneud i gynorthwyo coetiroedd Llywodraeth Cymru? OAQ(4)0083(NRF)

15. What is the Minister doing to support Welsh Government woodlands? OAQ(4)0083(NRF)

14:17 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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My statement on 5 November described the actions I am taking to support Welsh Government woodlands.

Disgrifiodd fy natganiad ar 5 Tachwedd y camau yr wyf yn eu cymryd i gefnogi coetiroedd Llywodraeth Cymru.

14:18 **Mohammad Asghar** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Minister, a recent visitor experience survey found that 89% of visitors rated Welsh Government woodlands as either very good or excellent. Each year, approximately four million visits are made to woodlands, providing a welcome boost to local economies. What is the Minister doing to promote the benefits of visiting woodlands in Wales and elsewhere?

Weinidog, canfu arolwg diweddar o brofiad ymwelwyr fod 89% o ymwelwyr wedi dweud bod coetiroedd Llywodraeth Cymru naill ai'n dda iawn neu'n ardderchog. Bob blwyddyn, mae coetiroedd yn cael tua pedair miliwn o ymweliadau, gan roi hwb gwerthfawr i economïau lleol. Beth y mae'r Gweinidog yn ei wneud i hyrwyddo manteision ymweld â choetiroedd yng Nghymru ac mewn mannau eraill?

14:18 **Alun Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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The Welsh Government's strategy for trees and forestry, 'Woodlands for Wales', is a long-term vision of how we want to see woodlands developing in Wales for the next 50 years. On behalf of the Welsh Government, NRW manages the public forest estate, and I am very happy with the plans that NRW has.

Mae strategaeth Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer coed a choedwigaeth, 'Coetiroedd i Gymru', yn weledigaeth hirdymor sy'n dangos sut yr hoffem weld coetiroedd yn datblygu yng Nghymru dros y 50 mlynedd nesaf. Ar ran Llywodraeth Cymru, mae Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru yn rheoli'r ystad coedwigoedd cyhoeddus, ac rwy'n hapus iawn â chynlluniau Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru.

Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio

Questions to the Minister for Housing and Regeneration

Cartrefi Newydd

New Homes

14:18 **Christine Chapman** Bywgraffiad Biography

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1. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am sut y mae cydraddoldeb yn cael ei ystyried o ran cynllunio a datblygu cartrefi newydd? OAQ(4)0331(HR)

1. Will the Minister make a statement on how equality is considered in the planning and development of new homes? OAQ(4)0331(HR)

14:19 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

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

I thank the Member for her question. The promotion of equality of opportunity is an important element of achieving sustainable development, which is the overarching principle of national planning policy.

Diolch i'r Aelod am ei chwestiwn. Mae hyrwyddo cyfle cyfartal yn elfen bwysig o ddatblygu cynaliadwy, sef egwyddor gyffredinol polisi cynllunio cenedlaethol.

14:19 **Christine Chapman** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I welcome the recently published housing Bill. I specifically welcome the provisions within the Bill for increasing housing supply and updating current housing stock in line with the Welsh housing quality standard. Do you agree, Minister, that ensuring that homes are fit for purpose is vital if we are to avoid having empty houses in the future? What consideration has been given to issuing a specific equality TAN in this respect?

Croesawaf y Bil tai a gyhoeddwyd yn ddiweddar. Croesawaf yn benodol y darpariaethau yn y Bil ar gyfer darparu mwy o dai a diweddaru'r stoc tai bresennol yn unol â safon ansawdd tai Cymru. A ydych yn cytuno, Weinidog, fod sicrhau bod cartrefi yn addas at y diben yn hanfodol er mwyn osgoi tai gwag yn y dyfodol? Pa ystyriaeth a roddwyd i gyhoeddi TAN penodol ar gydraddoldeb yn hyn o beth?

14:19 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

I thank the Member for a very important question. Our commitment to achieving good quality housing remains as strong as ever. However, this is best achieved through other legislative routes, such as the provision the Member refers to, regarding the housing Bill. I do not believe that the new TAN would add further to the Welsh Government's commitment and ambition for better-quality homes, particularly around the equality agenda in housing supply in Wales.

Diolch i'r Aelod am gwestiwn pwysig iawn. Erys ein hymrwymiad i sicrhau tai o ansawdd da mor gryf ag erioed. Fodd bynnag, y ffordd orau o gyflawni hyn yw drwy lwybrau deddfwriaethol eraill, megis y ddarpariaeth y cyfeiriodd yr Aelod ati, ynghylch y Bil tai. Ni chredaf y byddai'r TAN newydd yn ychwanegu ymhellach at ymrwymiad ac uchelgais Llywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau cartrefi o ansawdd gwell, yn enwedig mewn perthynas â'r agenda cydraddoldeb ym maes cyflenwi tai yng Nghymru.

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14:20 **Mohammad Asghar** Bywgraffiad Biography

Wales faces a serious challenge in housing an expanding elderly population. The problem of providing high-quality specialised housing for the elderly is exacerbated by the need to build in locations that provide ready access to transport links and shops. What is the Welsh Government doing to ensure that the needs of the elderly are addressed in the planning and development of new homes in Wales?

Mae Cymru'n wynebu her ddifrifol o ran rhoi cartref i boblogaeth oedrannus sy'n ehangu. Mae'r angen i adeiladu mewn lleoliadau sy'n darparu mynediad parod i gysylltiadau cludiant a siopau yn dwysáu'r broblem yn ymwneud â darparu tai arbenigol o ansawdd uchel i'r henoed. Beth mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod anghenion yr henoed yn cael eu diwallu wrth gynllunio a datblygu cartrefi newydd yng Nghymru?

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14:20 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

There is enough guidance to local authorities on community planning, transport links and community building with regard to the LDP process that local authorities already undertake. I would be surprised if authorities choose to ignore that guidance.

Mae digon o ganllawiau ar gael i awdurdodau lleol ar gynllunio cymunedol, cysylltiadau cludiant ac adeiladu cymunedol o ran y broses CDLl y mae awdurdodau lleol eisoes yn ymgymryd â hi. Byddwn yn synnu pe bai awdurdodau'n dewis anwybyddu'r canllawiau hynny.

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14:20 **Lindsay Whittle** Bywgraffiad Biography

Minister, in the interests of the spirit of Christmas, and to be fair to the Government, you cannot be accused of not taking equalities seriously in terms of planning and development. As we all know—and in the interests of me having a good present from you [Laughter.]—every development has to have impact assessments and equality assessments, and every LDP has to have affordable housing allocations. I would be very interested to know, Minister, in the upcoming housing Bill, whether you are considering any plans to place a statutory obligation on new developments to consider accessibility for disabled people and, indeed, older people, as Mohammad Asghar has just asked. We already have an older population on average as compared with the rest of Britain, so would it not save money in the long term to mandate that at least a certain proportion of new housing is to be accessed by the disabled and our older generation?

Weinidog, yn unol ag ysbryd y Nadolig, ac i fod yn deg â'r Llywodraeth, ni ellir eich cyhuddo o beidio â chymryd cydraddoldeb o ddifrif mewn perthynas â chynllunio a datblygu. Fel y gwyddom—ac er mwyn sicrhau y caf anrheg dda gennych [Chwerthin.] —mae'n rhaid i bob datblygiad fod yn destun asesiadau o'r effaith ar gydraddoldeb, ac mae'n rhaid i bob CDLl gynnwys dyraniadau tai fforddiadwy. Byddai'n ddiddorol iawn gwybod, Weinidog, yn y Mesur tai arfaethedig, a ydych yn ystyried unrhyw gynlluniau i osod dyletswydd statudol ar ddatblygiadau newydd i ystyried hygyrchedd i bobl anabl ac, yn wir, bobl hŷn, fel y gofynnodd Mohammad Asghar. Mae gennym eisoes boblogaeth hŷn ar gyfartaledd o gymharu â gweddill Prydain, felly oni fyddai'n arbed arian yn yr hirdymor i fynnu bod o leiaf gyfran benodol o dai newydd yn cael ei defnyddio gan bobl anabl a'n cenhedlaeth hŷn?

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14:21 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

I am very grateful for the Member's question, and I recognise his involvement in equality, too—particularly the shoes that he was wearing yesterday—in the spirit of Christmas. The question that the Member raised is a really important one in terms of making sure that equality is taken very seriously throughout the whole raft of Government responsibility. It is something that we consider within the housing portfolio, and I will give further consideration during the passage of the Housing (Wales) Bill that starts in committee tomorrow.

Rwy'n ddiolchgar iawn am gwestiwn yr Aelod, a chydnabyddaf ei gyfraniad at gydraddoldeb, hefyd—yn enwedig y rôl a chwaraeodd ddoe—yn ysbryd y Nadolig. Mae'r cwestiwn a godwyd gan yr Aelod yn un wirioneddol bwysig o ran sicrhau bod cydraddoldeb yn cael ei gymryd o ddifrif iawn ym mhob un o gyfrifoldebau'r Llywodraeth. Mae'n rhywbeth yr ydym yn ei ystyried o fewn y portffolio tai, a byddaf yn rhoi ystyriaeth bellach iddo yn ystod y broses o basio Bil Tai (Cymru) a fydd yn dechrau yn y pwyllgor yfory.

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Tai Fforddiadwy

Affordable Housing

14:22 **Keith Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

2. Pa gefnogaeth y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei roi i awdurdodau lleol i adeiladu mwy o dai fforddiadwy? OAQ(4)0338(HR)

2. What support does the Welsh Government give to local authorities to build more affordable housing? OAQ(4)0338(HR)

14:22 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I thank the Member for his question. I want to see how I can support all relevant organisations to contribute more to the delivery of affordable housing, including local authorities, and I have specifically asked the housing supply task force that I set up to consider this.

Diolch i'r Aelod am ei gwestiwn. Hoffwn weld sut y gallaf gefnogi'r holl sefydliadau perthnasol i gyfrannu mwy at y gwaith o ddarparu tai fforddiadwy, gan gynnwys awdurdodau lleol, ac rwyf wedi gofyn yn benodol i'r tasglu cyflenwi tai a sefydlwyd gennyf ystyried hyn.

14:22 **Keith Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Diolch. Weinidog, rwy'n croesawu'r gwaith yr ydych chi wedi ei wneud ynghylch cartrefi fforddiadwy yn y Bil tai a rhaglen Cymorth i Brynu. Mae'r Llywodraeth hefyd yn rhoi grant tai cymdeithasol i gymdeithasau tai er mwyn creu mwy o dai fforddiadwy i'w rhentu neu eu prynu ac, yn y rownd ddiweddaraf, yn darparu amrywiaeth o fodelau a fydd yn ymateb i anghenion. Mae rhai wedi codi cwestiwn gyda fi yn lleol am ba un a fyddai'n bosibl i ystyried gallu awdurdodau lleol i wneud cais am y grantiau hyn—ar ffurf ddewisol, wrth gwrs—fel y gallant wella eu stoc dai yn lleol.

Minister, I welcome the work that you have done on affordable homes in the housing Bill and the Help to Buy programme. The Government has also given a social housing grant to housing associations in order to build more affordable homes for rent or purchase. In the latest round, they have provided a number of models that will respond to people's needs. An issue has been raised with me locally as to whether it would be possible to consider the capacity of local authorities to make bids for those grants—on a voluntary basis, of course—so that they can improve their local housing stock.

14:23 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I have made no decision as yet on future programming in terms of funding for organisations, but I have asked the taskforce to look at innovation and new opportunities. I will receive its report shortly, and I will make a formal response in the new year.

Nid wyf wedi gwneud unrhyw benderfyniad eto ynghylch ariannu sefydliadau yn y dyfodol, ond rwyf wedi gofyn i'r tasglu ystyried arloesi a chyfleoedd newydd. Caf ei adroddiad yn fuan, a byddaf yn cyflwyno ymateb ffurfiol yn y flwyddyn newydd.

14:23 **Mark Isherwood** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

As you know, although half of the local authorities in Wales have transferred their housing stock, they all retain a strategic housing responsibility. How will you ensure that, in maximising the supply of quality homes for affordable and social rent, local authorities seek the best way of doing that, whether or not that means that the property remains or becomes council owned?

Fel y gwyddoch, er bod hanner yr awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru wedi trosglwyddo eu stoc tai, mae gan bob un ohonynt gyfrifoldeb strategol am dai o hyd. Sut y byddwch yn sicrhau, wrth ddarparu cymaint o gartrefi o ansawdd â phosibl fel tai fforddiadwy a thai cymdeithasol ar rent, fod awdurdodau lleol yn chwilio am y ffordd orau o wneud hynny, p'un a yw hynny'n golygu bod safleoedd yn parhau i fod yn eiddo i'r cyngor neu'n dod yn eiddo iddo?

14:24 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

As I have indicated to Keith Davies, it is really important for me to establish a holistic view of housing supply with all networks, including the private-public sector relationship. I look to see how local authorities are responding to that, and the taskforce will have information from local authorities for me to consider in the new year.

Fel y dywedais wrth Keith Davies, mae'n bwysig iawn fy mod yn ystyried y cyflenwad o dai ym mhob rhwydwaith mewn modd cyfannol, gan gynnwys y gydberthynas rhwng y sector preifat a'r sector cyhoeddus. Byddaf yn ystyried sut mae awdurdodau lleol yn ymateb i hynny, a bydd gan y tasglu wybodaeth oddi wrth awdurdodau lleol imi ei hystyried yn y flwyddyn newydd.

14:24 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I call on the Plaid Cymru spokesperson, Jocelyn Davies.

Galwaf ar lefarydd Plaid Cymru, Jocelyn Davies.

14:24 **Jocelyn Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Thank you, Presiding Officer. Minister, I have obtained figures detailing social housing waiting lists for 19 of the 22 local authorities. On a per capita basis, Carmarthenshire had by far the highest number of people waiting, especially in the 'up to five years' bracket. Can you shed any light on why this might be and what particular circumstances exist in Carmarthenshire when compared with other rural authorities?

Diolch ichi, Lywydd. Weinidog, rwyf wedi cael ffigurau yn manylu ar restrau aros am dai cymdeithasol ar gyfer 19 o'r 22 o awdurdodau lleol. Fesul pen, Sir Gaerfyrddin oedd â'r nifer uchaf o bobl yn aros o bell ffordd, yn enwedig yn y categori 'hyd at bum mlynedd'. A allwch daflu unrhyw oleuni ar y rheswm dros hyn a pha amgylchiadau arbennig sy'n bodoli yn Sir Gaerfyrddin o gymharu ag awdurdodau gwledig eraill?

14:25 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

As the Member is aware, there are 22 authorities across Wales that act very differently in terms of supply and need, and the way in which demand for housing is attributed is for local determination within an authority's planning assumptions. Of course, I will look very closely at that. However, there are some local authorities with rural communities that are already starting to build council-owned properties, which is very encouraging.

Fel y mae'r Aelod yn ymwybodol, mae 22 o awdurdodau ledled Cymru sy'n gweithredu'n wahanol iawn o ran cyflenwad ac angen, a chaiff y ffordd y priodolir y galw am dai ei benderfynu'n lleol o fewn rhagdybiaethau cynllunio awdurdod. Wrth gwrs, byddaf yn ystyried hynny'n ofalus iawn. Fodd bynnag, mae rhai awdurdodau lleol â chymunedau gwledig sydd eisoes yn dechrau adeiladu tai sy'n eiddo i'r cyngor, ac mae hynny'n galonogol iawn.

14:25 **Jocelyn Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Of course, it is recognised that the adoption of a common waiting list enhances choice for people and does sometimes bring down waiting times. Many local authorities have yet to adopt a common waiting list with the other housing suppliers in their area. What are you doing to encourage the use of common waiting lists?

Wrth gwrs, cydnabyddir bod mabwysiadu rhestr aros gyffredin yn gwella dewis i bobl ac weithiau'n lleihau amseroedd aros. Nid yw llawer o awdurdodau lleol wedi mabwysiadu rhestr aros gyffredin gyda'r cyflenwyr tai eraill yn eu hardal eto. Beth ydych yn ei wneud i annog y defnydd o restrau aros cyffredin?

14:25 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I would certainly encourage that approach for local authorities and registered social landlords. Once again, as I have said, after six months in post, I believe that we have come a long way in terms of opening up opportunities to find solutions to welfare reform and other challenges that we face in Wales regarding housing allocation. I hope that the task force, whose report I am eagerly awaiting, will have some solutions to the issues that the Member has raised with me today.

Byddwn yn sicr yn annog y dull gweithredu hwnnw ar gyfer awdurdodau lleol a landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig. Unwaith eto, fel y dywedais, ar ôl chwe mis yn y swydd, credaf ein bod wedi gwneud llawer i ganfod ffyrdd o fynd i'r afael â diwygio lles a heriau eraill a wynebwn yng Nghymru o ran dyrannu tai. Gobeithiaf y bydd gan y tasglu, yr wyf yn aros yn eiddgar am ei adroddiad, rai atebion i'r materion a godwyd gan yr Aelod heddiw.

14:26 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I call on the Welsh Liberal Democrats' spokesperson, Peter Black.

Galwaf ar lefarydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru, Peter Black.

14:26 **Peter Black** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Thank you, Presiding Officer. Minister, we very much welcome the provisions in the Housing (Wales) Bill in relation to the housing revenue account and the effective opt-out of the money being paid back to Westminster for that. I would like to ask for an update on the discussions between the Welsh Government and the Treasury about securing an earlier opt-out so that local government can access that money before the Bill becomes law.

Diolch ichi, Lywydd. Weinidog, croesawn ddarpariaethau Bil Tai (Cymru) yn fawr mewn perthynas â'r cyfrif refeniw tai ac i bob pwrpas, y dewis o beidio â thalu'r arian yn ôl i San Steffan. Hoffwn ofyn am y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y trafodaethau rhwng Llywodraeth Cymru a'r Trysorlys ynglŷn â sicrhau bod hyn yn digwydd yn gynharach fel bod Llywodraeth leol yn gallu cael gafael ar yr arian hwnnw cyn i'r Bil ddod yn gyfraith.

14:26 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

The exit from the HRAS is the subject of discussion between the Treasury and the Welsh Government. Partly, this will be dealt with by the Wales Bill, which I believe will be published shortly. If that fails to address the issues relating to exit from the HRAS, then we will seek from the Treasury a voluntary exit, and I am hopeful that that will be successful.

Mae'r cynnig i adael system Cymhorthdal y Cyfrif Refeniw Tai yn destun trafodaeth rhwng y Trysorlys a Llywodraeth Cymru. Ymdrinnir yn rhannol â hyn gan Fil Cymru, yr wyf ar ddeall y caiff ei gyhoeddi'n fuan. Os na fydd hynny'n mynd i'r afael â'r materion yn ymwneud ag ymadael â system Cymhorthdal y Cyfrif Refeniw Tai, yna byddwn yn gofyn i'r Trysorlys am ganiatád i adael yn wirfoddol, a gobeithiaf y bydd hynny'n llwyddiannus.

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14:27 **Peter Black** Bywgraffiad Biography

Thank you for that answer, Minister. In terms of local councils, what discussions has the Welsh Government had with the 11 councils that still retain housing stock about the way in which they can best utilise the extra resource that will become available to them in order to make provision for more affordable homes?

Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. O ran cynghorau lleol, pa drafodaethau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'u cael gyda'r 11 o gynghorau sy'n dal i gadw stoc tai ynghylch y ffordd orau o wneud y defnydd gorau o'r adnoddau ychwanegol a fydd ar gael iddynt er mwyn darparu rhagor o gartrefi fforddiadwy?

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14:27 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

Significant discussions have taken place with the 11 authorities that the Member refers to in order to assess their need basis and the capping levels that they will have to work within.

Cafwyd trafodaethau sylweddol â'r 11 o awdurdodau y cyfeiriodd yr Aelod atynt er mwyn asesu eu hanghenion a'r lefelau capio y bydd yn rhaid iddynt gydymffurfio â hwy.

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Sector Tai Rhent Preifat

Private Rented Housing Sector

14:27 **Julie James** Bywgraffiad Biography

3. Pa gynlluniau sydd gan y Gweinidog ar gyfer y sector tai rhent preifat yn Abertawe? OAQ(4)0330(HR)

3. What plans does the Minister have for the private rented housing sector in Swansea? OAQ(4)0330(HR)

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:27 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

I thank the Member for Swansea West for her question. I have no specific plans for the private rented sector in Swansea. However, the proposals I have set out in the Housing (Wales) Bill for a mandatory registration and licensing scheme for landlords and letting agents will raise standards in the private rented sector across Wales.

Diolch i'r Aelod dros Orllewin Abertawe am ei chwestiwn. Nid oes gennyf unrhyw gynlluniau penodol ar gyfer y sector rhentu preifat yn Abertawe. Fodd bynnag, bydd y cynigion a nodwyd gennyf ym Mil Tai (Cymru) ar gyfer cynllun cofrestru a thrwyddedu gorfodol i landlordiaid ac asiantau gosod yn codi safonau yn y sector rhentu preifat ledled Cymru.

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14:28 **Julie James** Bywgraffiad Biography

Thank you for that, Minister. I very much welcome the Housing (Wales) Bill and the progress that has been made in terms of letting agencies, and so on. However, Minister, it will be of no surprise to you that I have a particular concern about houses in multiple occupation in Swansea, and those occupied by students in particular. Although we very much welcome the presence of the university in our city, we have up to 90% density of HMOs in many streets and wards in Swansea as a result of the spread of student accommodation. Minister, this has resulted in unsustainable communities, which I know you do not wish to see in our cities. Therefore, Minister, what message can I take back to those who are struggling in communities that are becoming unsustainable as a result of the spread of these HMOs?

Diolch ichi am hynny, Weinidog. Croesawaf Fil Tai (Cymru) a'r cynnydd a wnaed mewn perthynas ag asiantaethau gosod ac ati yn fawr. Fodd bynnag, Weinidog, ni fydd yn syndod ichi glywed o gwbl fod gennyf bryder penodol ynghylch cartrefi amlfeddiannaeth yn Abertawe, a'r rhai a feddiannir gan fyfyrwyr yn benodol. Er ein bod yn croesawu presenoldeb y brifysgol yn ein dinas yn fawr, tai amlfeddiannaeth yw hyd at 90% o'r tai mewn llawer o strydoedd a wardiau yn Abertawe o ganlyniad i ledaeniad llety myfyrwyr. Weinidog, mae hyn wedi arwain at gymunedau anghynaliadwy, a gwn nad ydych am weld hynny yn ein dinasoedd. Felly, Weinidog, pa neges y gallaf ei rhoi i'r rhai sy'n brwydro mewn cymunedau sy'n dod yn anghynaliadwy o ganlyniad i ledaeniad y tai amlfeddiannaeth hyn?

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14:28 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

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This is quite a complex area in terms of whether this relates to planning or just the licensing of HMOs. I am grateful to the Member for the meetings that I have had with her, Mick Antoniw and Jenny Rathbone in terms of these issues and, on receipt of their concerns, I intend to ask for a commission to be set up and to report to me in the next financial year in order to have a strategic view of this very issue.

Mae hwn yn faes eithaf cymhleth o ran penderfynu a yw hyn yn ymwneud â chynllunio neu â thrwyddedu tai amlfeddiannaeth yn unig. Rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r Aelod am y cyfarfodydd yr wyf wedi'u cael â Mick Antoniw, Jenny Rathbone a hithau o ran y materion hyn ac, ar ôl clywed eu pryderon, bwriadaf ofyn i gomisiwn gael ei sefydlu ac iddo gyflwyno adroddiad imi yn y flwyddyn ariannol nesaf er mwyn ystyried yr union fater hwn mewn modd strategol.

14:29 **Suzy Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I presume, Minister, that one of the things that you are not planning to do is to lobby to overturn the private sector bedroom tax that Labour introduced in 2008. However, will you speak constructively, please, with the many private landlords in Swansea who have bought larger properties with a view to letting them to students, some of whom now find it difficult to let? I have to declare an interest as I live in a ward with a high number of these properties, but it is clear to me that a neighbourhood would be better balanced if just some of these buildings were converted into affordable one and two-bedroomed homes for longer term occupation.

Tybiaf, Weinidog, nad ydych yn bwriadu lobïo er mwyn gwrthdroi'r dreth ystafell wely yn y sector preifat a gyflwynwyd gan y blaid Lafur yn 2008. Fodd bynnag, a wnewch chi siarad mewn modd adeiladol, os gwelwch yn dda, â'r llu o landlordiaid preifat yn Abertawe sydd wedi prynu adeiladau mwy gyda'r bwriad o'u gosod i fyfyrwyr, y mae rhai ohonynt bellach yn ei chael hi'n anodd eu gosod? Rhaid imi ddatgan buddiant gan fy mod yn byw mewn ward â nifer fawr o'r adeiladau hyn, ond mae'n amlwg imi y gellid sicrhau cymdogaeth fwy cytbwys pe bai ond rhai o'r adeiladau hyn yn cael eu troi'n gartrefi un a dwy ystafell wely fforddiadwy ar gyfer meddiannaeth tymor hwy.

14:29 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Perhaps I can help the Member—who is the one to watch in terms of the awards that took place last night—to present some of the facts that she presented in her questions more accurately. She mentions that Labour introduced the bedroom tax. Actually, we did not introduce this bedroom tax, where you penalise people who are living in their homes now, which will lead to evictions from properties in Wales. We are seeing that already. The fact of the matter is that we are doing everything that we can to mitigate what is happening, in terms of the Welsh Government's ability to help. The UK Government should step up to the mark, and abolish this bedroom tax. It is a terrible tax, which is making people lose their homes, at the Christmas period.

Efallai y gallaf helpu'r Aelod—sef yr un i'w gwylio o ran y gwobrau a gyflwynwyd neithiwr—i gyflwyno rhai o'r ffeithiau a nododd yn ei chwestiynau yn fwy cywir. Dywed mai'r blaid Lafur a gyflwynodd y dreth ystafell wely. Mewn gwirionedd, ni wnaethom gyflwyno'r dreth ystafell wely hon, lle rydych yn cosbi pobl sy'n byw yn eu cartrefi nawr, a fydd yn arwain at bobl yn cael eu troi allan o eiddo yng Nghymru. Rydym eisoes yn gweld hynny. Y gwir amdani yw ein bod yn gwneud popeth posibl i liniaru'r hyn sy'n digwydd, o ran gallu Llywodraeth Cymru i helpu. Dylai Llywodraeth y DU gamu i'r adwy a dileu'r dreth ystafell wely hon. Mae'n dreth ofnadwy, sy'n golygu bod pobl yn colli eu cartrefi, ar adeg y Nadolig.

14:30 **Bethan Jenkins** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I also hope that the bedroom tax will be abolished, Minister.

Gobeithiaf y caiff y dreth ystafell wely ei diddymu, Weinidog.

I could not hear exactly what you said earlier about licensing. My question is to do with houses in multiple occupation. My office has been doing work with regard to small houses. According to research that we have carried out, many larger houses have licences, but some smaller properties do not. We then have difficulties with problem tenants, which constituents come to tell us about. Are you aware of this, and will you be taking action on this, with regard to the commission that you are telling us about today?

Ni allwn glywed yn union yr hyn a ddywedasoch yn gynharach am drwyddedu. Mae fy nghwestiwn yn ymwneud â thai amlfeddiannaeth. Mae fy swyddfa wedi bod yn gwneud gwaith mewn perthynas â thai bach. Yn ôl ymchwil a gynhaliwyd gennym, mae gan lawer o dai mwy o faint drwyddedau, ond nid oes gan rai adeiladau llai. Yna, rydym yn wynebu anawsterau o ran tenantiaid problemus, y mae etholwyr yn cysylltu â ni i ddweud wrthym amdanynt. A ydych yn ymwybodol o hyn, ac a fyddwch yn gweithredu ar hyn, o ran y comisiwn yr ydych yn dweud wrthym amdano heddiw?

14:31 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I thank the Member for her question. I assume that she means HMOs and licensing. I agree with her—there are issues around that, and it is something that I will ask the commission to consider, in terms of the detailed report that I will be seeking, regarding how HMOs are licensed, and where they are placed in communities. We are looking to create social cohesion within communities, and that is not helped where a community, out of university season, is just empty. That is not helpful in terms of growing a successful community, and I will consider that issue.

Diolch i'r Aelod am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Tybiaf ei bod yn golygu tai amlfeddiannaeth a thrwyddedu. Cytunaf â hi—mae materion yn ymwneud â hynny, ac mae'n rhywbeth y byddaf yn gofyn i'r comisiwn ei ystyried, o ran yr adroddiad manwl y byddaf yn gofyn amdano, ynghylch y modd y caiff tai amlfeddiannaeth eu trwyddedu, a'u lleoliad mewn cymunedau. Rydym yn awyddus i sicrhau cydlyniant cymdeithasol o fewn cymunedau, ac nid yw'r ffaith bod cymuned, y tu allan i dymor y brifysgol, yn wag yn helpu hynny. Nid yw hynny'n ddefnyddiol o ran datblygu cymuned lwyddiannus, a byddaf yn ystyried y mater hwnnw.

Codi Tai

House Building

14:31 **Kirsty Williams** Bywgraffiad Biography

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

4. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am godi tai ym Mrycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed? OAQ(4)0336(HR)

4. Will the Minister make a statement on house building in Brecon and Radnorshire? OAQ(4)0336(HR)

14:31 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I thank the Member for her question. The housing market seems to be showing signs of improvement. I would expect to see our Help to Buy scheme support more improvements in Wales.

Diolch i'r Aelod am ei chwestiwn. Ymddengys fod y farchnad dai yn dangos arwyddion o welliant. Byddwn yn disgwyl gweld ein cynllun Help i Brynu yn cefnogi mwy o welliannau yng Nghymru.

14:32 **Kirsty Williams** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, there is a real lack of affordable housing in many communities in Brecon and Radnorshire, yet development is never not controversial. However, local residents would often feel better about development if they could be assured that section 106 agreements, and letting policies, ensured that new social housing did indeed go to local people, with strong connections to the community. What advice can you give to county councils, and to housing associations, to ensure that there are strong section 106 agreements and letting policies to ensure that those people in a local community who have lived there all their life, and who have children in school there, and who work in the community, are allocated those new houses?

Weinidog, mae diffyg gwirioneddol mewn perthynas â thai fforddiadwy mewn nifer o gymunedau ym Mrycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed, ond mae gwaith datblygu bob amser yn ddadleuol. Fodd bynnag, byddai trigolion lleol yn aml yn teimlo'n well am ddatblygu pe bai modd rhoi sicrwydd iddynt fod cytundebau adran 106, a pholisïau gosod, yn sicrhau bod tai cymdeithasol newydd yn wir yn cael eu dyrannu i bobl leol, gyda chysylltiadau cryf â'r gymuned. Pa gyngor y gallwch ei roi i gynghorau sir, ac i gymdeithasau tai, er mwyn sicrhau bod cytundebau adran 106 a pholisïau gosod cadarn ar waith i sicrhau bod y tai newydd hynny yn cael eu dyrannu i'r bobl hynny mewn cymuned leol sydd wedi byw yno gydol eu hoes, sydd â phlant yn yr ysgol yno, ac sy'n gweithio yn y gymuned.

14:32 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

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The 106 agreement is one tool in the box. I recently visited a rural housing enabler scheme in Monmouthshire, where there is some great work going on, working in partnership with local authorities, and where there is a lot of community involvement in terms of developing that opportunity. I hope that, in the next financial year, we are able to continue the relationship with local authorities, to give rural housing enablers more opportunity to develop the very opportunities that the Member herself—as well as many other Members across the Chamber today—recognises.

Un adnodd yw cytundeb 106. Ymwelais â chynllun galluogi tai gwledig yn Sir Fynwy yn ddiweddar, lle mae rhywfaint o waith gwych yn mynd rhagddo, mewn partneriaeth ag awdurdodau lleol, a lle mae'r gymuned yn cael ei chynnwys wrth ddatblygu'r cyfle hwnnw. Gobeithiaf, yn y flwyddyn ariannol nesaf, y gallwn barhau â'r gydberthynas ag awdurdodau lleol, er mwyn rhoi mwy o gyfle i swyddogion galluogi tai gwledig ddatblygu'r union gyfleoedd y mae'r Aelod ei hun—yn ogystal â llawer o Aelodau eraill ar draws y Siambr heddiw—yn eu cydnabod.

14:33 **Rebecca Evans** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, the harsh effects of the bedroom tax on rural communities are well known. Across Powys, 4,307 households are affected by the bedroom tax, but only 62 one-bedroomed properties are available for people to downsize to. Therefore, what action can the Welsh Government take to encourage the building of smaller properties—or the conversion of larger properties—so that we have more of a mix of properties available to meet people's varying needs, and to prevent the break-up of communities, in Powys and across the rest of rural Wales?

Weinidog, mae effeithiau llym y dreth ystafell wely ar gymunedau gwledig yn hysbys. Ym Mhowys, mae'r dreth ystafell wely yn effeithio ar 4,307 o gartrefi, ond dim ond 62 o eiddo un ystafell wely sydd ar gael i bobl sy'n ceisio symud i eiddo llai. Felly, pa gamau y gall Llywodraeth Cymru eu cymryd i annog gwaith i adeiladu eiddo llai—neu drawsnewid eiddo mwy—fel bod gennym fwy o gymysgedd o eiddo i ddiwallu anghenion amrywiol pobl, ac i atal cymunedau rhag chwalu, ym Mhowys ac ar draws gweddill cefn gwlad Cymru?

14:33 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I thank the Member for her question. We know that the principle behind the bedroom tax just does not work—it is displacing people to accommodation that just is not there. We know for a fact that, if we were to apply the consequences of the bedroom tax on people, it would take the Welsh Government around £1 billion to offset the cost, in terms of the supply of new properties. However, we have started, with our £20 million additional funding this year for the building of one and two-bedroomed properties, as well as making that investment for smaller properties across all communities in Wales.

Diolch i'r Aelod am ei chwestiwn. Gwyddom nad yw'r egwyddor sy'n sail i'r dreth ystafell wely yn gweithio—mae'n gorfodi pobl i symud i lety nad yw'n bodoli. Gwyddom fel ffaith, pe byddem yn cymhwyso canlyniadau'r dreth ystafell wely at bobl, y byddai'n rhaid i Lywodraeth Cymru wario tua £1 biliwn i wrthbwyso'r gost o gyflenwi eiddo newydd. Fodd bynnag, rydym wedi dechrau, gyda'n £20 miliwn o gyllid ychwanegol eleni ar gyfer adeiladu eiddo un a dwy ystafell wely, yn ogystal â gwneud y buddsoddiad hwnnw ar gyfer eiddo llai ym mhob cymuned yng Nghymru.

14:34 **Mark Isherwood** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

In the quarter to August, new home registrations in England were up 16%, but down a further 24% in Wales. In the context of Kirsty Williams's original question, we know that your predecessor had commissioned some work on section 106 agreements, to try to reconcile the need to maximise the occupancy cascades, which prioritise local people, with the needs of mortgage lenders to protect in law the assets against which they lend. Will you update us on the recommendations of that work and how that is impacting on Welsh Government delivery?

Yn y chwarter hyd at fis Awst, gwelwyd cynnydd o 16% yn nifer y cartrefi newydd a gofrestrwyd yn Lloegr, ond gwelwyd y nifer honno'n gostwng 24% ymhellach yng Nghymru. Yng nghyd-destun cwestiwn gwreiddiol Kirsty Williams, gwyddom fod eich rhagflaenydd wedi comisiynu rhywfaint o waith ar gytundebau adran 106, er mwyn ceisio cysoni'r angen i fanteisio i'r eithaf ar y rhaeadrau meddiannaeth, sy'n rhoi blaenoriaeth i bobl leol, gyda'r angen i fenthycwyr morgeisi ddiogelu mewn cyfraith yr asedau y maent yn benthyca yn eu herbyn. A fyddech cystal â rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf inni am argymhellion y gwaith hwnnw a'r effaith y mae'n ei chael ar Lywodraeth Cymru?

14:35 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

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House building in Wales is showing signs of recovery. Unlike the Member, I will not be talking Wales down. We are seeing growth in Wales because we are giving developers the opportunity to develop here with the Welsh Government as a partner. I do not accept the Member's negative comments regarding house building in Wales. It is a typical response from the Conservative group. We have many things to be positive about, including the Help to Buy Wales scheme, which is already seeing great registration records from developers in Wales.

Mae'r diwydiant adeiladu tai yng Nghymru yn dangos arwyddion o adferiad. Yn wahanol i'r Aelod, ni fyddaf yn lladd ar Gymru. Rydym yn gweld twf yng Nghymru am ein bod yn rhoi'r cyfle i ddatblygwyr ddatblygu yma mewn partneriaeth â Llywodraeth Cymru. Ni dderbyniaf sylwadau negyddol yr Aelod ynghylch adeiladu tai yng Nghymru. Mae'n ymateb nodweddiadol gan y grŵp Ceidwadol. Mae gennym lawer o bethau i fod yn gadarnhaol yn eu cylch, gan gynnwys cynllun Help i Brynu Cymru, sydd eisoes yn sicrhau cofnodion cofrestru gwych gan ddatblygwyr yng Nghymru.

14:35 **Simon Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

Minister, the people of Builth Wells were disappointed to see their hospital disappear, but good news is on the way that this could now be a site for affordable homes, which would provide homes that are certainly needed in Brecon and Radnor. To my mind, this is the kind of development that could benefit from provisions in the housing Bill for an extra council tax on empty properties and recycling that money back into affordable homes. However, I understand that you cannot insist that that takes place. Are there further measures that you can take so that, if local authorities do have extra council tax on empty properties, that money can then properly be used for affordable homes in their areas?

Weinidog, roedd pobl Llanfair-ym-Muallt yn siomedig i weld eu hysbyty yn diflannu, ond y newyddion da yw y gallai'r safle hwn bellach gael ei ddefnyddio i adeiladu tai fforddiadwy, a fyddai'n darparu cartrefi y mae angen dybryd amdanynt ym Mrycheiniog a Maesyfed. Yn fy marn i, dyma'r math o ddatblygiad a allai elwa ar ddarpariaethau yn y Bil tai ar gyfer treth gyngor ychwanegol ar eiddo gwag ac ailgylchu'r arian hwnnw ym maes cartrefi fforddiadwy. Fodd bynnag, deallaf na allwch fynnu bod hynny'n digwydd. A oes mesurau pellach y gallwch eu cymryd er mwyn sicrhau, os bydd awdurdodau lleol yn codi treth gyngor ychwanegol ar eiddo gwag, y gellir wedyn ddefnyddio'r arian hwnnw'n briodol ar gyfer cartrefi fforddiadwy yn eu hardaloedd?

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14:36 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

There is a financial issue around ring-fencing that funding specifically for housing, but reinvesting the additionality back into schemes is certainly something that local authorities could consider. While I recognise that the Member raises the principle of a building development, I cannot comment on the building application, as the Member will know.

Mae mater ariannol ynghylch neilltuo'r arian hwnnw yn benodol ar gyfer tai, ond mae ail-fuddsoddi'r ychwanegedd mewn cynlluniau yn sicr yn rhywbeth y gallai awdurdodau lleol ei ystyried. Er y cydnabyddaf fod yr Aelod yn codi egwyddor datblygiad adeiladu, ni allaf wneud sylw ar y cais adeiladu, fel y gŵyr yr Aelod.

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Tai Cymunedol Cydfuddiannol

Community Housing Mutuals

14:36 **Leighton Andrews** Bywgraffiad Biography

5. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am swyddogaeth adfywio Cwmnïau Tai Cymunedol Cydfuddiannol? OAQ(4)0332(HR)

5. Will the Minister make a statement on the regeneration role of Community Housing Mutuals? OAQ(4)0332(HR)

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14:36 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

I thank the Member for Rhondda for his question. Housing providers in Wales have a regeneration role and a responsibility. Increasing the supply and standards of housing contributes to the wellbeing of all our communities and individuals in the areas that we represent.

Diolch i'r Aelod dros y Rhondda am ei gwestiwn. Mae gan ddarparwyr tai yng Nghymru rôl a chyfrifoldeb adfywio. Mae cynyddu'r cyflenwad o dai a chodi eu safonau yn cyfrannu at les ein holl gymunedau ac unigolion yn yr ardaloedd a gynrychiolir gennym.

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14:37 **Leighton Andrews** Bywgraffiad Biography

The creation of community housing mutuals is a made-in-Wales policy that is delivering for our communities, not only in terms of housing provision but also in terms of local employment opportunities, the creation of social enterprises, support for financial inclusion projects and so on. Will the Minister look at how we can further develop that role, building on the success so far of organsiations such as RCT Homes?

Mae creu tai cymunedol cydfuddiannol yn bolisi a luniwyd yng Nghymru sy'n cyflawni ar gyfer ein cymunedau, nid yn unig o ran darparu tai ond hefyd o ran cyfleoedd cyflogaeth lleol, creu mentrau cymdeithasol, cymorth ar gyfer prosiectau cynhwysiant ariannol ac ati. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ystyried sut y gallwn ddatblygu'r rôl honno ymhellach, gan adeiladu ar lwyddiant sefydliadau fel Cartrefi RCT hyd yma?

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14:37 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

I welcome the comments from the Member. The directly elected Member for Rhondda always raises important issues for his constituency in this Chamber. I am happy to endorse the work of RCT Homes and all the other registered social landlords in Wales that are playing a key role in regeneration in the communities, particularly the poorest communities, that we represent.

Croesawaf sylwadau'r Aelod. Mae'r Aelod dros y Rhondda a etholwyd yn uniongyrchol bob amser yn codi materion pwysig ar ran ei etholaeth yn y Siambr hon. Rwy'n barod i gymeradwyo gwaith Cartrefi RCT a'r holl landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig eraill yng Nghymru sy'n chwarae rhan allweddol yn y gwaith o adfywio cymunedau, yn enwedig y cymunedau tlotaf, a gynrychiolir gennym.

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14:37 **Mark Isherwood** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Of course, the first community housing mutual was delivered in Knowsley village in 1981 under the Heseltine initiative. However, in Wales, we are still waiting to hear good news about how this can be maximised. What consideration will you as the Minister give to enabling tenants in council areas where they have voted against stock transfer to consider voting for having a community housing mutual within their own community?

Wrth gwrs, cyflwynwyd y cynllun tai cymunedol cydfuddiannol cyntaf ym mhentref Knowsley yn 1981 o dan fenter Heseltine. Fodd bynnag, yng Nghymru, rydym yn dal i aros am newyddion da o ran y modd y gellir manteisio i'r eithaf ar hyn. Pa ystyriaeth y byddwch chi fel y Gweinidog yn ei rhoi i alluogi tenantiaid mewn ardaloedd cyngor lle maent wedi pleidleisio yn erbyn trosglwyddo stoc i ystyried pleidleisio o blaid cynllun tai cymunedol cydfuddiannol o fewn eu cymuned eu hunain?

14:38 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

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We are having great success in housing in Wales. We have full compliance and business plans in place for all of our authorities in terms of the Welsh housing quality standard. That is our commitment to making sure that we have good-quality homes for the future. It is up to local authorities and RSLs to come forward with projects that will help develop new opportunities for increasing the supply—an issue that the Member and many other Members here have raised with me today.

Rydym wedi gweld llwyddiant mawr ym maes tai yng Nghymru. Mae gennym gynlluniau cydymffurfio a busnes llawn ar waith ar gyfer pob un o'n hawdurdodau o ran safon ansawdd tai Cymru. Dyna yw ein hymrwymiad i sicrhau bod gennym dai o ansawdd da ar gyfer y dyfodol. Mater i awdurdodau lleol a landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig yw cyflwyno prosiectau a fydd yn helpu i ddatblygu cyfleoedd newydd ar gyfer cynyddu'r cyflenwad—mater y mae'r Aelod a llawer o Aelodau eraill yma wedi'i godi gyda mi heddiw.

Bil Cynllunio (Cymru) Drafft

Draft Planning (Wales) Bill

14:38 **Yr Arglwydd / Lord Elis-Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

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6. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ei ymgynghoriad ar y Bil Cynllunio (Cymru) drafft? OAQ(4)0337(HR)

6. Will the Minister make a statement on his consultation on the draft Planning (Wales) Bill? OAQ(4)0337(HR)

14:38 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I thank the Member for his question. The draft Planning (Wales) Bill and the 'Positive Planning' consultation paper's proposals to reform the planning system were published last week.

Diolch i'r Aelod am ei gwestiwn. Cyhoeddwyd Bil Cynllunio drafft (Cymru) a chynigion papur ymgynghori 'Cynllunio Cadarnhaol' i ddiwygio'r system gynllunio yr wythnos diwethaf.

14:39 **Yr Arglwydd / Lord Elis-Thomas** Bywgraffiad Biography

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A gaf i ddymuno'n dda i'r Gweinidog ar ei antur fawr i ddiwygio deddfwriaeth gynllunio yng Nghymru? Mae hyn yn rhywbeth sydd wedi achosi gofid mawr i mi, fel un sy'n byw mewn parc cenedlaethol, ac i'm hetholwyr ers blynyddoedd. A gaf i annog y Gweinidog i fynd ymlaen hefyd gyda chynhyrchu cymaint ag y bo modd o'r agweddau ar is-ddeddfwriaeth a rheoliadau sy'n berthnasol i'r hyn a gyhoeddwyd yn y Bil drafft, fel y gall etholwyr, datblygwyr a phawb sydd â diddordeb ddeall yn union beth yw goblygiadau'r hyn a gynigir? Rwy'n cytuno nad oes modd gosod popeth fel hyn ar wyneb Bil, ond dewch inni gael hynny o wybodaeth ag y bo modd, yn enwedig i'n pwyllgor ni.

May I wish the Minister well in his big adventure in reforming planning legislation in Wales? This is something that has caused huge concern to me, as one who lives in a national park, and my constituents over many years. May I encourage the Minister to also proceed with producing as many pieces of subordinate legislation and regulations as possible relevant to what has been published in the draft Bill, so that constituents, developers and all interested parties can understand exactly the implications of what is proposed? I agree that not everything can be put on the face of a Bill, but let us get as much information as possible, especially for our committee.

14:39 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

I certainly will do my utmost to help the Member, the people he represents and the wider community to engage with the planning process. We are holding two consultation events—one in north Wales and one in south Wales—in January. This is part of the engagement process. The 'Positive Planning' consultation element still gives people time to frame the way in which the Bill will shape up for the future. It is certainly something that I will take on board and I will encourage my department to ensure that we have as much information as possible to be scrutinised by committee.

Byddaf yn sicr yn gwneud fy ngorau glas i helpu'r Aelod, y bobl y mae'n eu cynrychioli a'r gymuned ehangach i ymgysylltu â'r broses gynllunio. Byddwn yn cynnal dau ddigwyddiad ymgynghori—un yn y gogledd ac un yn y de—ym mis Ionawr. Mae hyn yn rhan o'r broses ymgysylltu. Mae elfen ymgynghori 'Cynllunio Cadarnhaol' yn parhau i lywio'r modd y caiff y Bil ei ddatblygu yn y dyfodol. Mae'n sicr yn rhywbeth y byddaf yn ei ystyried a byddaf yn annog fy adran i sicrhau bod gennym gymaint o wybodaeth â phosibl i'r pwyllgor graffu arni.

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14:40 **Antoinette Sandbach** Bywgraffiad Biography

Minister, the indicator dashboard provided with the consultation documents shows a good comparison of the current performance and the situation of each local authority, but only seven of the 22 local authorities in Wales are recorded as having sufficient housing supply land for the next five years. Regardless of the changes to the planning system, this will surely act as a barrier to development. How does the draft planning Bill address that shortfall, because it does not seem to feature in it?

Weinidog, mae'r dangosfwrdd dangosyddion a ddarparwyd gyda'r dogfennau ymgynghori yn dangos cymhariaeth dda o ran lefelau perfformiad presennol a sefyllfa pob awdurdod lleol, ond dengys cofnodion mai dim ond saith o'r 22 o awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru sydd â digon o dir i gyflenwi tai ar gyfer y pum mlynedd nesaf. Ni waeth beth fo'r newidiadau i'r system gynllunio, bydd hyn yn sicr yn atal gwaith datblygu. Sut mae'r Bil cynllunio drafft yn mynd i'r afael â'r diffyg hwnnw, oherwydd nid ymddengys ei fod yn codi ynddo?

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14:41 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

The planning Bill is about a structural approach to the way that planning is delivered. The policy element of planning is still within Planning Policy Wales, technical advice notes and guidance. I have been very clear with all 25 planning authorities, which is far too many; the consultation document will give me more advice on what that structure may look like for the future. However, I have been telling them very clearly that I expect a minimum of a five-year land supply. I have written recently to planning authorities, and I expect them to ensure that they work proactively to supply that for the future.

Mae a wnelo'r Bil cynllunio â dull strwythurol o gynllunio. Erys elfen bolisi cynllunio yn rhan o Bolisi Cynllunio Cymru, nodiadau cyngor technegol a chanllawiau. Rwyf wedi nodi pethau'n glir iawn wrth bob un o'r 25 o awdurdodau cynllunio, sy'n ormod o lawer; bydd y ddogfen ymgynghori yn rhoi mwy o gyngor ar ffurf y strwythur hwnnw yn y dyfodol. Fodd bynnag, rwyf wedi nodi'r glir iawn fy mod yn disgwyl digon o dir i gyflenwi tai am bum mlynedd o leiaf. Ysgrifennais at awdurdodau cynllunio yn ddiweddar, a disgwyliaf iddynt sicrhau eu bod yn gweithio'n rhagweithiol i gyflenwi hynny ar gyfer y dyfodol.

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14:41 **Aled Roberts** Bywgraffiad Biography

Weinidog, mae'r ymgynghoriad yn dweud bod nodiadau cyngor technegol yn amlwg yn y gyfundrefn newydd yn yr un modd. A allwch chi ddweud wrthym pryd y bydd y canllawiau o dan nodyn cyngor technegol 20 ar gael, achos mae hyn yn creu cryn bryder o ran yr amod?

Minister, the consultation states that technical advice notes are similarly prominent in the new system. Can you tell us when guidance under TAN 20 will be available, because that is the cause of some concern in terms of the condition?

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14:42 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

TAN 20 is available, and the Member is aware that I am working with interested parties on putting guidance alongside that, to make sure that that is brought forward. I will write to the Member with the dates when we expect that to be brought forward in the near future.

Mae TAN 20 ar gael, ac mae'r Aelod yn ymwybodol fy mod yn gweithio gyda phartïon â buddiant i roi canllawiau ar waith ochr yn ochr â hynny, er mwyn sicrhau bod hynny'n digwydd. Byddaf yn ysgrifennu at yr Aelod gyda'r dyddiadau y disgwyliwn i'r canllawiau hynny gael eu cyflwyno yn y dyfodol agos.

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Ansawdd Tai

Quality of Housing

14:42 **Darren Millar** Bywgraffiad Biography

7. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ansawdd tai yng ngogledd Cymru? OAQ(4)0326(HR)

7. Will the Minister make a statement on the quality of housing in north Wales? OAQ(4)0326(HR)

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:42 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

Improving the quality of homes in all areas of Wales is crucial. The Welsh housing quality standard, the Houses into Homes programme and the measures in the housing Bill covering the private rented sector are examples of the Government's commitment to doing this.

Mae gwella ansawdd cartrefi ym mhob rhan o Gymru yn hanfodol. Mae safon ansawdd tai Cymru, rhaglen Troi Tai'n Gartrefi a'r mesurau yn y Bil tai sy'n cwmpasu'r sector rhentu preifat yn enghreifftiau o ymrwymiad y Llywodraeth i wneud hyn.

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14:42 **Darren Millar** Bywgraffiad Biography

Thank you for that response, Minister. You will be aware that the Public Accounts Committee raised some concerns about the need for independent evaluation of the Welsh housing quality standard where registered social landlords have deemed themselves to have met it. Minister, in recent correspondence with the committee, the Welsh Government indicated via your officials that, although you were intending to take that forward, you have now decided not to do so. Can you give us an indication as to whether you intend to roll out independent evaluation among registered social landlords, to ensure that the people of Wales can have confidence in the quality of the housing stock within the registered social landlord sector? Will you congratulate Cartrefi Conwy, which operates in my constituency, for being one of the few registered social landlords that has had its housing stock independently evaluated and deemed to have met the standard?

Diolch am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Byddwch yn ymwybodol bod y Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus wedi codi rhai pryderon ynghylch yr angen am werthusiad annibynnol o safon ansawdd tai Cymru lle mae landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig yn ystyried eu bod wedi cyrraedd y safon honno. Weinidog, mewn gohebiaeth ddiweddar â'r pwyllgor, nododd Llywodraeth Cymru drwy eich swyddogion, er eich bod yn bwriadu mynd ar drywydd hynny, eich bod bellach wedi penderfynu peidio â gwneud hynny. A allwch roi syniad inni a ydych yn bwriadu cyflwyno gwerthusiad annibynnol ymhlith landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig, er mwyn meithrin hyder pobl Cymru yn ansawdd y stoc tai yn y sector landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig? A wnewch chi longyfarch Cartrefi Conwy, sy'n gweithredu yn fy etholaeth, ar fod yn un o'r ychydig landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig sydd wedi cynnal gwerthusiad annibynnol o'i stoc tai ac yr ystyrir ei bod wedi cyrraedd y safon?

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14:43 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

WHQS is very robust in its approach to delivery, and the business plans are very clear about the outcomes expected with regard to that. I pay tribute to Cartrefi Conwy on those aspects of delivery, which is always important to me. I celebrate the fact that all authorities across Wales now have a positive business plan to achieve WHQS. I will make sure that my regulation team considers that, to ensure that the assessment within the regulations is also evidenced by WHQS.

Mae SATC yn gadarn iawn o ran ei hymagwedd at gyflawni, ac mae'r cynlluniau busnes yn nodi'n glir iawn y canlyniadau a ddisgwylir o ran hynny. Talaf deyrnged i Gartrefi Conwy am yr agweddau hynny ar gyflawni, sydd bob amser yn bwysig imi. Dathlaf y ffaith bod gan bob awdurdod ledled Cymru bellach gynllun busnes cadarnhaol er mwyn cyflawni SATC. Byddaf yn sicrhau bod fy nhîm rheoleiddio yn ystyried hynny, er mwyn sicrhau y caiff asesiadau o fewn y rheoliadau hefyd eu dangos gan SATC.

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14:44 **Llyr Gruffydd** Bywgraffiad Biography

Un ffordd o wella ansawdd tŷ yw gwella ei effeithlonrwydd ynni, ac mae rhaglenni fel Arbed yn gwneud cyfraniad pwysig tuag at y nod hwnnw. Beth mae eich adran yn ei wneud i ddenu adnoddau ychwanegol ar gyfer cyfrannu tuag at y gwaith o wella effeithlonrwydd ynni?

One way of improving housing quality is to improve energy efficiency, and programmes such as Arbed are making an important contribution in that regard. What is your department doing to attract additional resources to contribute towards the work of improving energy efficiency?

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14:44 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

The quality and standard of homes are important to us, and making sure that we balance that with economy and vibrancy in the market too. I have an assessment currently under way around quality standards in housing to see whether we are chasing the right targets and for what reason. When that reports back to me, I will be happy to report back to Members, through the Chamber, on the results of the quality standards assessment.

Mae ansawdd a safon cartrefi yn bwysig inni, yn ogystal â sicrhau ein bod yn cydbwyso hynny â'r economi a bywiogrwydd yn y farchnad. Mae gennyf asesiad yn mynd rhagddo ar hyn o bryd ynghylch safonau ansawdd ym maes tai er mwyn gweld a ydym yn mynd ar drywydd y targedau cywir ac am ba reswm. Pan gyflwynir adroddiad imi ar hynny, byddaf yn barod i adrodd yn ôl i Aelodau, drwy'r Siambr, ar ganlyniadau'r asesiad o safonau ansawdd.

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Adfywio yng Ngorllewin Cymru

Regeneration in West Wales

14:45 **Paul Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) — Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

8. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am adfywio yng ngorllewin Cymru? OAQ(4)0328(HR)

8. Will the Minister make a statement on regeneration in west Wales? OAQ(4)0328(HR)

14:45 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) — Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

Our investment continues in both the western Valleys and Aberystwyth regeneration areas, with a range of activities being implemented within their respective programmes. We are supporting each local authority across Wales to bring forward their regeneration priorities.

Rydym yn parhau i fuddsoddi yng Nghymoedd y gorllewin ac ardaloedd adfywio Aberystwyth, gydag amrywiaeth o weithgareddau yn cael eu rhoi ar waith o fewn eu priod raglenni. Cefnogwn bob awdurdod lleol ledled Cymru i gyflawni ei flaenoriaethau adfywio.

14:45 **Paul Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) — Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

Minister, as you will be aware, I have been heavily involved in a local campaign to regenerate Fishguard town centre. Indeed, a petition calling for investment to be made in a town centre improvement scheme for Fishguard, including pedestrian and traffic management, is currently being considered by the Assembly's Petitions Committee. Minister, I know that you have been involved in this issue as well. Could you tell us what discussions you have had with Pembrokeshire County Council in relation to this specific regeneration campaign?

Weinidog, fel y gwyddoch, rwyf wedi ymwneud yn helaeth ag ymgyrch leol i adfywio canol tref Abergwaun. Yn wir, mae Pwyllgor Deisebau'r Cynulliad wrthi'n ystyried deiseb yn galw am fuddsoddiad mewn cynllun gwella canol tref ar gyfer Abergwaun, gan gynnwys rheoli cerddwyr a thraffig. Weinidog, gwn eich bod wedi ymwneud â'r mater hwn hefyd. A allech ddweud wrthym pa drafodaethau rydych wedi'u cael gyda Chyngor Sir Penfro mewn perthynas â'r ymgyrch adfywio benodol hon?

14:45 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) — Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

I have not had any discussions recently with Pembrokeshire council. However, let me very generous at Christmas: I am more than happy to have a meeting with the Member if he wishes to have a further discussion with me. I will also be very fair with the Member in saying that if he can convince his Government in the UK to release the £1.7 billion that it has taken away from the Welsh economy, I will look very favourably at supporting Pembrokeshire and its bid with its local regeneration programme.

Nid wyf wedi cael unrhyw drafodaethau yn ddiweddar gyda Chyngor Sir Penfro. Fodd bynnag, gadewch imi fod yn hael iawn dros y Nadolig: rwy'n fwy na pharod i gyfarfod â'r Aelod os yw'n dymuno cael trafodaeth bellach â mi. Byddaf hefyd yn deg iawn â'r Aelod drwy ddweud, os gall argyhoeddi ei Lywodraeth yn y DU i ryddhau'r £1.7 biliwn y mae wedi'i dynnu'n ôl oddi wrth economi Cymru, y byddaf yn edrych yn ffafriol iawn ar gefnogi Cyngor Sir Penfro a'i gais gyda'i raglen adfywio lleol.

Cynllun Cyllid ar gyfer Benthyca Llywodraeth y DU

UK Government's Funding for Lending Scheme

14:46 **Jenny Rathbone** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) — Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

9. Pa effaith y bydd y newidiadau i gynllun Cyllid ar gyfer Benthyca Llywodraeth y DU yn ei chael ar ddatblygu rhagor o dai yng Nghymru? OAQ(4)0329(HR)

9. What impact will the changes to the UK Government's Funding for Lending scheme have on the development of more housing in Wales? OAQ(4)0329(HR)

14:46 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) — Senedd.tv [Fideo](#) [Video](#)

I thank the Member for Cardiff Central for her question. It will be very difficult to measure the impact of the changes announced to the funding for lending scheme because the mortgage market is affected by numerous factors, so, it is very difficult for us to assess that as a UK scheme.

Diolch i'r Aelod dros Ganol Caerdydd am ei chwestiwn. Bydd yn anodd iawn mesur effaith y newidiadau a gyhoeddwyd i'r cynllun cyllid ar gyfer benthyca gan fod nifer o ffactorau yn effeithio ar y farchnad morgeisi, felly, mae'n anodd iawn inni asesu hynny fel cynllun ar gyfer y DU.

14:46 **Jenny Rathbone** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

While I support the Bank of England's change of policy for dealing with the over-heated housing market in south-east England, obviously, the situation in Wales is quite different. We know that there is a huge backlog of demand for housing. What possibility is there for ensuring that councils can use their asset bases where they have housing, such as the 13,000 homes in Cardiff, to borrow money from commercial organisations, because they would then have that secure asset base and a guaranteed income from the rent from homes, if they were to be built?

Er fy mod yn cefnogi'r newid ym mholisi Banc Lloegr ar gyfer delio â'r farchnad dai sydd wedi gordwymo'n economaidd yn ne-ddwyrain Lloegr, yn amlwg, mae'r sefyllfa yng Nghymru yn gwbl wahanol. Gwyddom fod ôl-groniad enfawr o alw am dai. Beth yw'r posibilrwydd y gall cynghorau ddefnyddio eu sylfaen asedau lle mae ganddynt dai, megis y 13,000 o gartrefi yng Nghaerdydd, i fenthyca arian gan sefydliadau masnachol, oherwydd byddai ganddynt wedyn y sylfaen asedau ddiogel honno ac incwm gwarantedig o'r rhent o gartrefi, pe byddent yn cael eu hadeiladu?

14:47 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

These are really important questions that the Member raises. It is something that I will be working on with the Minister for Finance to make sure that we can get the best innovation in the delivery of new homes in Wales. It is something that we have already started work on, but in terms of the scheme that the Member raises today, as I mentioned earlier, it is quite difficult to understand at this stage what the implications will be for Wales. However, when local authorities exit housing revenue accounts, there are opportunities for them to do things differently and an ability to develop new properties for their communities.

Mae'r rhain yn gwestiynau pwysig iawn gan yr Aelod. Mae'n rhywbeth y byddaf yn gweithio arno gyda'r Gweinidog Cyllid er mwyn sicrhau y gallwn arloesi cymaint â phosibl wrth ddarparu cartrefi newydd yng Nghymru. Mae'n rhywbeth yr ydym eisoes wedi dechrau gweithio arno, ond o ran y cynllun y mae'r Aelod yn cyfeirio ato heddiw, fel y soniais yn gynharach, mae'n eithaf anodd deall ar hyn o bryd beth fydd y goblygiadau i Gymru. Fodd bynnag, pan fydd awdurdodau lleol yn gadael y system cyfrifon refeniw tai, bydd cyfleoedd iddynt wneud pethau'n wahanol a datblygu eiddo newydd ar gyfer eu cymunedau.

14:48 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I call the opposition spokesperson, Mark Isherwood.

Galwaf ar lefarydd yr wrthblaid, Mark Isherwood.

14:48 **Mark Isherwood** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

What discussions have you had with mortgage lenders in Wales regarding the withdrawal of the funding for lending scheme, where the Council of Mortgage Lenders said that mortgage lenders are well-equipped to meet their funding needs without it, as wholesale funding market conditions have improved and retail deposits are robust?

Pa drafodaethau rydych wedi'u cael gyda benthycwyr morgeisi yng Nghymru ynghylch diddymu'r cynllun cyllid ar gyfer benthyca, lle y dywedodd Cyngor y Benthycwyr Morgeisi fod gan fenthycwyr morgeisi ddigon o adnoddau i ddiwallu eu hanghenion ariannu hebddo, gan fod amodau'r farchnad cyllid cyfanwerthu wedi gwella ac adneuon manwerthu yn gadarn?

14:48 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I have had none.

Nid wyf wedi cael unrhyw drafodaethau.

14:48 **Mark Isherwood** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

That is clearly a matter of concern, as mortgage lenders are key to home purchase for the majority of people, and to funding house building, and the private and social rented sectors. Therefore, how do you respond to the views in the Council of Mortgage Lenders' report yesterday that it does not believe that the UK is in for a house price boom, as a consequence of measures being taken, and that the market will be able to absorb the stimulus actions taken?

Mae hynny'n amlwg yn fater o bryder, gan fod benthycwyr morgeisi yn allweddol er mwyn i'r rhan fwyaf o bobl brynu cartref, ac i ariannu'r gwaith o adeiladu tai, a'r sectorau rhentu preifat a chymdeithasol. Felly, beth yw eich ymateb i'r sylwadau yn adroddiad Cyngor y Benthycwyr Morgeisi ddoe nad yw'n credu y bydd ymchwydd mewn prisiau tai yn y DU, o ganlyniad i gamau sy'n cael eu cymryd, ac y bydd y farchnad yn gallu amsugno'r camau ysgogi a gymerwyd?

14:49 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I do not think that there is too much cause for concern, Presiding Officer, because the Member asked me if I had had any conversations with mortgage lenders. I have not had any, but my department has.

Ni chredaf fod angen pryderu llawer, Lywydd, oherwydd gofynnodd yr Aelod imi a oeddwn wedi cael unrhyw sgyrsiau gyda benthycwyr morgeisi. Nid wyf wedi cael unrhyw sgyrsiau, ond mae fy adran wedi gwneud hynny.

14:49 **Alun Ffred Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Mae sicrhau rhagor o dai yn flaenoriaeth i'ch Llywodraeth chi fel i lywodraethau eraill. A ydych chi'n barod i ystyried rhoi hawl i lywodraeth leol godi trethi uwch ar ail gartrefi er mwyn iddynt ailfuddsoddi'r arian hwnnw mewn tai newydd neu mewn cynlluniau eraill i helpu prynwyr tro cyntaf?

Securing more housing is a priority for your Government as for other governments. Are you willing to consider giving the right to local government to raise higher taxes on second homes so that they can reinvest that funding in new housing or in other schemes to help first-time buyers?

14:49 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I am aware of the Member's interest in this matter. Following the consultation process that we undertook earlier this year, I am considering the outcome of that and I will make a statement at the appropriate time.

Rwy'n ymwybodol o ddiddordeb yr Aelod yn y mater hwn. Yn dilyn y broses ymgynghori a gynhaliwyd gennym yn gynharach eleni, rwy'n ystyried canlyniad hwnnw a byddaf yn gwneud datganiad pan fydd hynny'n briodol.

Grantiau Cyfleusterau i'r Anabl ac Addasiadau Ffisegol

Disabled Facilities and Physical Adaptation Grants

14:49 **Julie Morgan** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

10. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gyllideb Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer Grantiau Cyfleusterau i'r Anabl ac Addasiadau Ffisegol? OAQ(4)0334(HR)

10. Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Government budget for Disabled Facilities and Physical Adaptation Grants? OAQ(4)0334(HR)

14:50 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

DFGs, which are funded out of unhypothecated local authority general capital funding, and physical adaptations grants, which are demand-led and funded out of the social housing grant, both play an important role in helping people to live independently in their own homes.

Mae Grantiau Cyfleusterau i'r Anabl, a ariennir drwy gyllid cyfalaf cyffredinol heb ei neilltuo awdurdodau lleol, a grantiau addasiadau ffisegol, sy'n seiliedig ar alw ac a ariennir drwy'r grant tai cymdeithasol, yn chwarae rhan bwysig wrth helpu pobl i fyw'n annibynnol yn eu cartrefi eu hunain.

14:50 **Julie Morgan** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I thank the Minister for that response. Could the Minister confirm whether any assessment will be made of the amount of grant funding spent on adapting properties for disabled people where residents may subsequently be deemed to be under-occupying and have to move to smaller properties due to the UK Government benefit changes, as, of course, disgracefully, disabled people are not exempt from the bedroom tax?

Diolch i'r Gweinidog am yr ymateb hwnnw. A allai'r Gweinidog gadarnhau a gaiff unrhyw asesiad ei gynnal ynghylch faint o gyllid grant sy'n cael ei wario ar waith i addasu eiddo ar gyfer pobl anabl lle yr ystyrir wedyn fod trigolion yn tanfeddiannu a lle mae'n rhaid iddynt symud i eiddo llai oherwydd newidiadau i system budd-daliadau Llywodraeth y DU, gan nad yw pobl anabl, wrth gwrs, yn warthus ddigon, wedi'u heithrio o'r dreth ystafell wely?

14:50 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I thank the Member for her important question. No such assessment has been made at a national level to date; however, the strong contention is that people who have had their homes substantially adapted should be exempt from the bedroom tax altogether. It just does not make sense to move people out of a property and then to make a re-adaptation to that property. It is nonsense and UK Government, I hope, will take heed of that response.

Diolch i'r Aelod am ei chwestiwn pwysig. Ni chynhaliwyd unrhyw asesiad o'r fath ar lefel genedlaethol hyd yma; fodd bynnag, y ddadl gref yw y dylai pobl y mae eu cartrefi wedi cael eu haddasu'n sylweddol gael eu heithrio o'r dreth ystafell wely yn gyfan gwbl. Nid yw'n gwneud synnwyr i symud pobl allan o eiddo ac ail-addasu'r eiddo hwnnw wedyn. Mae'n nonsens llwyr, a gobeithiaf y bydd Llywodraeth y DU yn gwrando ar yr ymateb hwnnw.

14:51 **Paul Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, last year, the Commissioner for Older People in Wales released a statement regarding the fact that there was a very significant variation across Wales in the length of time that people are waiting for aids and adaptations delivered through disabled facilities grants. Can you tell us what steps the Welsh Government is taking to address this particular issue, to ensure that all local authorities are delivering these very important adaptations in a timely manner?

Weinidog, rhyddhaodd Comisiynydd Pobl Hŷn Cymru ddatganiad y llynedd ynglŷn â'r ffaith bod amrywiad sylweddol iawn ledled Cymru o ran faint o amser y mae pobl yn aros am gymhorthion ac addasiadau a ddarperir drwy grantiau cyfleusterau i'r anabl. A allwch ddweud wrthym pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu cymryd i fynd i'r afael â'r mater penodol hwn, er mwyn sicrhau bod pob awdurdod lleol yn darparu'r addasiadau pwysig iawn hyn mewn modd amserol?

14:51 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I agree with the older persons' commissioner; it is not good enough that we have variability in the system. I am undertaking a review of all the adaptation processes that are taking place in terms of, potentially, having a different type of scheme for delivery, so that there is consistency across Wales in delivery.

Cytunaf â'r comisiynydd pobl hŷn; nid yw'n ddigon da bod gennym amrywiad yn y system. Rwy'n cynnal adolygiad o'r holl brosesau addasu sy'n mynd rhagddynt gyda'r nod, o bosibl, o gyflwyno math gwahanol o gynllun cyflawni, er mwyn sicrhau cysondeb ledled Cymru.

14:52 **Rhun ap Iorwerth** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Picking up precisely on the question that we heard earlier from the Member for Cardiff North, will the Minister conduct and publish a comparative study and rigorous financial assessment of the costs and benefits of implementing a no-evictions-due-to-bedroom-tax policy, and the costs and benefits of the spend-money-on-evicting-and-rehousing policy that has become the default position because of the bedroom tax in relation to disabled people in particular?

Gan gyfeirio at y cwestiwn a glywsom yn gynharach gan yr Aelod dros Ogledd Caerdydd, a fydd y Gweinidog yn cynnal ac yn cyhoeddi astudiaeth gymharol ac asesiad ariannol trylwyr o gostau a manteision gweithredu polisi dim troi allan o ganlyniad i'r dreth ystafell wely, a chostau a manteision y polisi gwario arian ar droi allan ac ailgartrefu, sydd wedi dod yn sefyllfa ddiofyn oherwydd y dreth ystafell wely mewn perthynas â phobl anabl yn benodol?

14:52 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

It does concern me. I know that the Member and his party are keen to promote a non-eviction policy and I do, in principle, share their view, but the issue is around the ability to manage that process in terms of finances and where the risk is carried. There is work that is being considered by my department, but what I would encourage all local authorities and RSLs to do is to make sure that there is full engagement with individuals who are at risk of losing their property in ensuring that there is a support mechanism for them in that process. It is interesting to know that the Member does have a view on a non-eviction policy that is very similar to that of the Scottish National Party in Scotland. However, the SNP, only a week or so ago, refused a petition on the issue of the non-eviction policy in Scotland and, therefore, the Member may wish to reflect upon the process and how that would actually work in practice.

Mae'n peri pryder imi. Gwn fod yr Aelod a'i blaid yn awyddus i hyrwyddo polisi dim troi allan a rhannaf, mewn egwyddor, y farn honno, ond mae'r mater yn ymwneud â'r gallu i reoli'r broses o ran cyllid a risg. Mae gwaith yn cael ei ystyried gan fy adran, ond yr hyn y byddwn yn annog pob awdurdod lleol a Landlord Cymdeithasol Cofrestredig i'w wneud yw sicrhau eu bod yn ymgysylltu'n llawn ag unigolion sy'n wynebu risg o golli eu heiddo drwy sicrhau bod cymorth ar gael iddynt yn y broses honno. Mae'n ddiddorol gwybod bod gan yr Aelod farn ar bolisi dim troi allan sy'n debyg iawn i farn Plaid Genedlaethol yr Alban. Fodd bynnag, gwrthododd yr SNP, dim ond rhyw wythnos yn ôl, ddeiseb ynghylch y polisi dim troi allan yn yr Alban ac, felly, efallai y bydd yr aelod yn dymuno myfyrio ar y broses a'r modd y byddai hynny mewn gwirionedd yn gweithio yn ymarferol.

Papur Gwyn ar 'Rentu Cartrefi'

'Renting Homes' White Paper

14:53 **Joyce Watson** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

11. A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y Papur Gwyn ar Rentu Cartrefi? OAQ(4)0335(HR)

11. Will the Minister provide an update on the Renting Homes White Paper? OAQ(4)0335(HR)

14:53 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

The 'Renting Homes' White Paper that I published in May set out our proposals for tenancy reform. Last week, I published a summary of the consultation responses, which show strong support for the proposals.

Mae'r Papur Gwyn 'Rhentu Cartrefi' a gyhoeddais ym mis Mai yn nodi ein cynigion ar gyfer diwygio tenantiaethau. Yr wythnos diwethaf, cyhoeddais grynodeb o'r ymatebion i'r ymgynghoriad, sy'n dangos cefnogaeth gref i'r cynigion.

14:53 **Joyce Watson** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Thank you for that update, Minister. I was particularly encouraged by your recent statement on how the Bill will help landlords to take decisive action in cases of domestic abuse. More often than not, we see innocent women and children forced to flee their homes while the perpetrator stays put. Therefore, enabling landlords to evict abusers will redress that injustice, but they will need plenty of help and support, not least from the police, to enforce those sanctions. Will you ensure, Minister, if that proposal goes forward, that landlords organisations and police forces, as well as local authorities, will work together to make sure that those crucial proposals are workable?

Diolch am y diweddariad hwnnw, Weinidog. Cefais fy nghalonogi'n arbennig gan eich datganiad diweddar ar y modd y bydd y Bil yn helpu landlordiaid i gymryd camau pendant mewn achosion o gam-drin domestig. Yn amlach na pheidio, gwelwn fenywod a phlant diniwed yn cael eu gorfodi i ffoi o'u cartrefi tra bod y troseddwr yn aros yno. Felly, bydd galluogi landlordiaid i droi camdrinwyr allan yn unioni'r anghyfiawnder hwnnw, ond bydd angen digon o help a chymorth arnynt, yn anad dim gan yr heddlu, i orfodi'r sancsiynau hynny. A wnewch chi sicrhau, Weinidog, os bydd y cynnig hwnnw'n mynd rhagddo, y bydd sefydliadau landlordiaid a heddluoedd, yn ogystal ag awdurdodau lleol, yn gweithio gyda'i gilydd i sicrhau bod y cynigion hollbwysigl hynny'n ymarferol?

14:54 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I thank the Member for her question. Let me be very clear: I will do everything that I can within my department to ensure that we stop this crime of anti-social behaviour and domestic abuse within the home. It is something that I am hugely committed to. I have a conference that I will be holding an 13 February, in the new year, when we will be bringing the police and the public and private sectors together to see what we can do in terms of training opportunities, to work together to stop this crime. I welcome and thank the Member for her continued support.

Diolch i'r Aelod am ei chwestiwn. Gadewch imi fod yn glir iawn: byddaf yn gwneud popeth posibl yn fy adran i sicrhau ein bod yn atal y drosedd hon o ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol a cham-drin domestig yn y cartref. Mae'n rhywbeth yr wyf yn hynod ymrwymedig iddo. Byddaf yn cynnal cynhadledd ar 13 Chwefror, yn y flwyddyn newydd, pan fyddwn yn dod â'r sector cyhoeddus a'r sector preifat ynghyd i weld beth y gallwn ei wneud o ran cyfleoedd hyfforddi, er mwyn gweithio gyda'n gilydd i atal y drosedd hon. Croesawaf a diolchaf i'r Aelod am ei chefnogaeth barhaus.

14:55 **Nick Ramsay** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Minister, I ask you for some further clarification on the recent 'Renting Homes' White Paper. During your recent statement on that White Paper, my colleague Mark Isherwood asked you about the cost of introducing tenure change in Wales. I think that you said that you did not recognise the £45 million that Mark Isherwood spoke about. Do you have an estimate for the cost of introducing tenure change, and, if not, when will you have one?

Weinidog, gofynnaf ichi am rywfaint o eglurhad pellach ar y Papur Gwyn diweddar, 'Rhentu Cartrefi'. Yn ystod eich datganiad diweddar ar y Papur Gwyn hwnnw, gofynnodd fy nghyd-Aelod ichi am gost cyflwyno newid deiliadaeth yng Nghymru. Credaf ichi ddweud nad oeddech yn cydnabod y £45 miliwn y soniodd Mark Isherwood amdano. A oes gennych amcangyfrif o gost cyflwyno newid deiliadaeth, ac, os nad oes, pryd rydych yn disgwyl y bydd gennych un?

14:55 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I seem to recall the exchange in the Chamber a few weeks ago, to which the Member relates. This is the response to the White Paper consultation. When we develop the Bill, there will be full financial modelling that we will take forward with the Bill. As I said, I do not recognise the figure that the Member has raised previously, but I am more than happy to consider that number if the Member would wish to write to me with more detail.

Cofiaf y drafodaeth yn y Siambr ychydig wythnosau yn ôl y mae'r Aelod yn cyfeirio ati. Dyma'r ymateb i'r ymgynghoriad ar y Papur Gwyn. Pan fyddwn yn datblygu'r Bil, byddwn yn mynd ar drywydd gwaith modelu ariannol llawn gyda'r Bil. Fel y dywedais, nid wyf yn gwybod am y ffigur y cyfeiriodd yr Aelod ato yn flaenorol, ond rwy'n fwy na pharod i ystyried y ffigur hwnnw pe bai'r Aelod yn dymuno ysgrifennu ataf gyda rhagor o fanylion.

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

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Question 12, OAQ(4)0333(HR), has been withdrawn.

Tynnwyd cwestiwn 12, OAQ(4)0333(AD), yn ôl.

Swyddogion Galluogi Tai Gwledig

Rural Housing Enablers

14:56 **William Powell** Bywgraffiad Biography

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13. Beth yw asesiad y Gweinidog o'r cyfraniad a wneir gan Swyddogion Galluogi Tai Gwledig i fynd i'r afael ag anghenion tai yng Nghanolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru? OAQ(4)0327(HR)

13. What is the Minister's assessment of the contribution made by Rural Housing Enablers to addressing housing need in Mid and West Wales? OAQ(4)0327(HR)

14:56 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

Rural housing enabler projects have assisted in providing around 200 affordable homes across rural Wales, including in communities in Mid and West Wales, which the Member represents.

Mae prosiectau swyddogion galluogi tai gwledig wedi helpu i ddarparu tua 200 o dai fforddiadwy ledled cefn gwlad Cymru, gan gynnwys cymunedau yn ardal Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru, y mae'r Aelod yn ei chynrychioli.

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14:56 **William Powell** Bywgraffiad Biography

I thank the Minister very much for his response. I have recently learned that some local authorities and national parks across Mid and West Wales have dispensed with the services of their rural housing enabler, or indeed plan to do so as a result of budgetary constraints. Does the Minister agree that this could well prove to be a false economy, particularly in the context of disappointing housing delivery in our rural heartlands? What can the Welsh Government do to help to address this important issue?

Diolch yn fawr i'r Gweinidog am ei ymateb. Dysgais yn ddiweddar fod rhai awdurdodau lleol a pharciau cenedlaethol ledled Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru wedi hepgor gwasanaethau eu swyddog galluogi tai gwledig, neu eu bod yn wir yn bwriadu gwneud hynny o ganlyniad i gyfyngiadau cyllidebol. A yw'r Gweinidog yn cytuno nad yw hyn yn ddarbodus, yn enwedig yng nghyd-destun cyfraddau darparu tai siomedig yn ein cadarnleoedd gwledig? Beth y gall Llywodraeth Cymru ei wneud i helpu i fynd i'r afael â'r mater pwysig hwn?

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14:56 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

I share the Member's concern regarding the withdrawal of funding—a match funding process—for rural housing enabler teams across some areas of Wales. I will give the Member my commitment that I will continue to offer match funding for next year, subject to authorities coming in to match fund with me. I would encourage the Member to have a discussion with the local authority that he is concerned about in order to achieve that positive step forward.

Rhannaf bryder yr Aelod ynghylch tynnu arian yn ôl—proses arian cyfatebol—ar gyfer timau swyddogion galluogi tai gwledig mewn rhai ardaloedd o Gymru. Rhoddaf fy ymrwymiad i'r Aelod y byddaf yn parhau i gynnig arian cyfatebol ar gyfer y flwyddyn nesaf, ar yr amod bod awdurdodau lleol yn gwneud hynny hefyd. Byddwn yn annog yr Aelod i drafod gyda'r awdurdod lleol y mae'n pryderu amdano er mwyn cymryd y cam cadarnhaol hwnnw.

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14:57 **Angela Burns** Bywgraffiad Biography

I just wanted to reinforce the comments made by William Powell because I have used rural housing enablers in both Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire to help people. Some of the people in those rural environments are quite disadvantaged, some of them do live in poverty and are not able to access or wade their way through the county council and social services help books, and I would urge the Minister to do absolutely everything within his power to ensure that we retain this incredibly vital service.

Hoffwn atgyfnerthu'r sylwadau a wnaed gan William Powell gan fy mod wedi defnyddio swyddogion galluogi tai gwledig yn Sir Benfro a Sir Gaerfyrddin i helpu pobl. Mae rhai o'r bobl yn yr amgylcheddau gwledig hynny yn wynebu cryn anfantais, mae rhai ohonynt yn byw mewn tlodi ac nid ydynt yn gallu cael gafael ar gymorthlyfrau'r cyngor sir a'r gwasanaethau cymdeithasol na'u darllen, a byddwn yn annog y Gweinidog i wneud popeth posibl i sicrhau ein bod yn cynnal y gwasanaeth hynod hanfodol hwn.

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14:57 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

In the spirit of Christmas—and I know that this is my last question today and this year—I wholeheartedly agree with the Member opposite.

Yn ysbryd y Nadolig—a gwn mai hwn fydd fy nghwestiwn olaf heddiw ac eleni—cytunaf yn llwyr â'r Aelod gyferbyn.

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14:58 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

This is totally confusing me. I call Ann Jones to ask question 14.

Mae hyn yn ddryslyd iawn. Galwaf ar Ann Jones i ofyn cwestiwn 14.

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Bil Tai (Cymru)

Housing (Wales) Bill

14:58 **Ann Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

14. A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y Bil Tai (Cymru)? OAQ(4)0339(HR)

14. Will the Minister provide an update on the Housing (Wales) Bill? OAQ(4)0339(HR)

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

14:58 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I thank the member for the Vale of Clwyd. I apologise, Presiding Officer, I thought that was the final question. I certainly would not want to interrupt Ann Jones—

Diolch i'r aelod dros Ddyffryn Clwyd. Ymddiheuraf, Lywydd, roeddwn yn credu mai hwnnw oedd y cwestiwn olaf. Yn sicr, ni fyddwn am dorri ar draws Ann Jones—

14:58 **Ann Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

No, no.

Na, na.

14:58 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I introduced the Housing (Wales) Bill on 18 November. The Bill is currently at Stage 1 of the scrutiny process, and I will be giving evidence to the Communities, Equality and Local Government committee tomorrow.

Cyflwynais Fil Tai (Cymru) ar 18 Tachwedd. Mae'r Bil ar hyn o bryd ar Gam 1 o'r broses graffu, a byddaf yn cyflwyno tystiolaeth i'r Pwyllgor Cymunedau, Cydraddoldeb a Llywodraeth Leol yfory.

14:58 **Ann Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Thank you very much for that, Minister. Currently, the poor and bad landlords that operate across Wales make the lives of their tenants unbearable, and I can testify to quite a few within my own area. The Welsh Affairs Select Committee once said that Rachmanism is still very much alive and kicking in the west end of Rhyl. That is why I think that the compulsory landlord registration scheme is vital. It was pleasing to see that the National Union of Students also praised the housing Bill, saying that this scheme will raise standards in the sector and really improve conditions for students at all institutions across Wales. We welcome that, but are there any other groups, Minister, that you believe will benefit substantially from this groundbreaking and sector-leading Bill that you are now leading?

Diolch yn fawr iawn am hynny, Weinidog. Ar hyn o bryd, mae'r landlordiaid gwael a drwg sy'n gweithredu ledled Cymru yn gwneud bywydau eu tenantiaid yn annioddefol, a gallaf dystio i rai achosion yn fy ardal fy hun. Dywedodd y Pwyllgor Dethol ar Faterion Cymreig unwaith fod Rachmaniaeth yn fyw ac yn iach o hyd ym mhen gorllewinol y Rhyl. Dyna pam y credaf fod y cynllun cofrestru landlordiaid gorfodol yn hanfodol. Roedd yn braf gweld bod Undeb Cenedlaethol y Myfyrwyr hefyd yn canmol y Bil, gan ddweud y bydd y cynllun hwn yn codi safonau yn y sector ac yn wir yn gwella amodau i fyfyrwyr ym mhob sefydliad ledled Cymru. Croesawn hynny, ond a oes unrhyw grwpiau eraill, Weinidog, y credwch y byddant yn elwa'n sylweddol ar y Bil arloesol a blaenllaw hwn yr ydych bellach yn ei arwain.

14:59 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

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First, I thank the Member for her support for the Bill and the proposals around private rented sector landlords. I keep a close eye on statements of opinions that are tabled in the Assembly and I note that the Member has registered one on this very issue.

Yn gyntaf, hoffwn ddiolch i'r Aelod am ei chefnogaeth i'r Bil a'r cynigion ynghylch landlordiaid yn y sector rhentu preifat. Cadwaf lygad barcud ar ddatganiadau barn a gyflwynir yn y Cynulliad a nodaf fod yr Aelod wedi cofrestru un ar yr union fater hwn.

I place on record my support for National Union of Students Wales, and also Shelter Cymru, in their support for the Bill. This is a really important element of the Bill, where we are protecting vulnerable individuals in communities where unscrupulous landlords operate. They operate in Wales and across the whole of the UK, and this is something that we must, together, take reasonable steps to prevent from happening in order to protect individuals who are placed in this position in terms of their tenancy agreements with landlords across Wales.

Nodaf fy nghefnogaeth i Undeb Cenedlaethol Myfyrwyr Cymru, a hefyd Shelter Cymru, am gefnogi'r Bil. Mae hon yn elfen bwysig iawn o'r Bil, lle rydym yn amddiffyn unigolion sy'n agored i niwed mewn cymunedau lle mae landlordiaid diegwyddor yn gweithredu. Maent yn gweithredu yng Nghymru a ledled y DU gyfan, ac mae hyn yn rhywbeth y mae'n rhaid inni, gyda'n gilydd, gymryd camau rhesymol i'w atal rhag digwydd er mwyn amddiffyn unigolion sy'n cael eu rhoi yn y sefyllfa hon o ran eu cytundebau tenantiaeth gyda landlordiaid ledled Cymru.

15:00 **Antoinette Sandbach** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, the Help to Buy Wales scheme, due to be made available from 2 January, says that people are only eligible if they are buying new-build homes. This will have an adverse impact in rural areas, where there is much less new-build housing available. You mention, in relation to the purpose of the Housing (Wales) Bill in the explanatory memorandum, that existing homes are as important as new homes and that you aim to ensure that people have access to a decent affordable home. Will you look at extending the scheme in rural areas to allow it to encompass the purchase of non-new-build homes?

Weinidog, mae cynllun Help i Brynu Cymru, y bwriedir ei gyflwyno ar 2 Ionawr, yn nodi mai dim ond os ydynt yn prynu cartrefi newydd y mae pobl yn gymwys. Caiff hyn effaith andwyol mewn ardaloedd gwledig, lle mae nifer sylweddol lai o dai newydd ar gael. Gwnaethoch grybwyll, mewn perthynas â diben Bil Tai (Cymru) yn y memorandwm esboniadol, fod cartrefi sy'n bodoli eisoes yr un mor bwysig â chartrefi newydd a'ch bod yn anelu at sicrhau bod pobl yn gallu cael gafael ar gartrefi fforddiadwy o safon. A wnewch chi ystyried ymestyn y cynllun mewn ardaloedd gwledig fel ei fod yn cwmpasu'r rhai nad ydynt yn prynu cartrefi newydd?

15:01 **Carl Sargeant** Bywgraffiad Biography

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The Help to Buy scheme is a collaboration, involving work with developers, mortgage lenders and the Welsh Government. We believe that it certainly will be successful on the launch date for individuals who wish to register to be supported by Help to Buy on 2 January. We already have investors and developers registering for that. It is something that I will give further consideration to, but the scheme is not up and running fully yet, and I will have to give that further consideration in the near future.

Cynllun cydweithredol rhwng datblygwyr, benthycwyr morgeisi a Llywodraeth Cymru yw Help i Brynu. Credwn y bydd yn sicr yn llwyddiannus pan gaiff ei lansio i unigolion sy'n dymuno cofrestru am gymorth gan Help i Brynu ar 2 Ionawr. Mae gennym eisoes fuddsoddwyr a datblygwyr yn cofrestru ar ei gyfer. Mae'n rhywbeth y byddaf yn rhoi ystyriaeth bellach iddo, ond nid yw'r cynllun ar waith yn llawn eto, a bydd yn rhaid imi roi ystyriaeth bellach i hynny yn y dyfodol agos.

15:01 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

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That was your last question. Thank you, Minister.

Dyna oedd eich cwestiwn olaf. Diolch ichi, Weinidog.

15:01

Cwestiwn Brys: Marwolaethau Diangen

Urgent Question: Avoidable Deaths

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Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

I have agreed to accept an urgent question under Standing Order 12.66. I call on Kirsty Williams to ask the urgent question.

Rwyf wedi cytuno i dderbyn cwestiwn brys o dan Reol Sefydlog 12.66. Galwaf ar Kirsty Williams i ofyn y cwestiwn brys.

15:01 **Kirsty Williams** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Yn dilyn diarddel ymgynghorydd o Ysbyty Athrofaol Cymru, a wnaiff y Gweinidog Iechyd ddatganiad am farwolaethau diangen yn y GIG? EAQ(4)0364(HSS)

Following the suspension of a consultant from the University Hospital of Wales, will the Health Minister make a statement on avoidable deaths in the NHS? EAQ(4)0364(HSS)

15:01 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

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

I thank the Member for that question. Any avoidable death in the NHS is a matter for profound regret and a cause of deep distress to families. All organisations must have robust clinical governance systems in place, routinely to audit patient outcomes and to take immediate action if concerns emerge. The suspension of a consultant at the University Hospital of Wales was the result of such a process.

Diolch i'r Aelod am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Mae unrhyw farwolaeth ddiangen yn y GIG yn fater o edifeirwch dwys ac yn achosi gofid aruthrol i deuluoedd. Rhaid sicrhau bod systemau llywodraethu clinigol cadarn ar waith gan bob sefydliad, fel mater o drefn i archwilio canlyniadau cleifion ac er mwyn cymryd camau ar unwaith os daw pryderon i'r amlwg. Cafodd ymgynghorydd o Ysbyty Athrofaol Cymru ei ddiarddel o ganlyniad i broses o'r fath.

15:02 **Kirsty Williams** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I thank the Minister for his answer. Minister, you are right: it is clear that mortality data and audit were key to these particular cases being identified by the university health board. However, by your Government's own admission, we have experienced difficulties with backlogs in clinical coding and the accuracy of mortality data in the Welsh NHS. Could you assure us that these cases were not affected by the backlog of clinical coding at this particular health board? Could you assure this Chamber that the health board has now dealt with its backlog in clinical coding and is working with robust risk-adjusted mortality index data across all specialities? Could you update this Chamber on the work of the group that you set up under the deputy chief medical officer to ensure that, across Wales, all health boards have accurate and robust clinical data to monitor the work of individual medics to ensure that all avoidable deaths are avoided?

Diolch i'r Gweinidog am ei ateb. Weinidog, rydych yn iawn: roedd data marwolaethau a threfniadau archwilio yn allweddol o ran gallu bwrdd iechyd y brifysgol i nodi'r achosion penodol hyn. Fodd bynnag, yn ôl cyfaddefiad eich Llywodraeth, bu anawsterau o ran ôl-groniadau codio clinigol a chywirdeb data marwolaethau yn y GIG yng Nghymru. A allech ein sicrhau na chafodd yr ôl-groniadau codio clinigol hynny eu heffeithio yn y bwrdd iechyd penodol hwn ar yr achosion hyn? A allech sicrhau'r Siambr hon bod y bwrdd iechyd bellach wedi ymdrin â'i ôl-groniad o ran codio clinigol a'i fod yn gweithio gyda data mynegai marwolaethau cadarn wedi'u haddasu yn ôl risg ymhob arbenigedd? A allech roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i'r Siambr hon am waith y grŵp a sefydlwyd gennych o dan y dirprwy brif swyddog meddygol i sicrhau bod gan bob bwrdd iechyd, ledled Cymru, ddata clinigol cywir a chadarn i fonitro gwaith meddygon er mwyn sicrhau y caiff pob marwolaeth ddiangen ei hosgoi?

15:03 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

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May I give the Member an assurance at the beginning that RAMI data played no part at all in the identification of this particular surgeon's actions? It was entirely as the result of routine clinical audit within the LHB itself that these difficulties came to light. However, the Member is absolutely right that, since we first published mortality data back in March, work has been going on at Cardiff and Vale University Local Health Board to make sure that it is able to improve its clinical coding position. A twin-track approach has been adopted. It is aimed at improving the timeliness of coding new activity, while clearing backlogs across the last financial year. The latest position, which is to June this year, shows that the LHB is at 92.3% completeness against a 95% target of monitoring timeliness. The LHB continues to employ additional CHKS-accredited staff in order to make sure that its clinical backlog is cleared. How do we know whether the data are accurate? Well, case note reviews are a key way of making sure that RAMI data can be validated. Members may remember that, back in March, I undertook that a case note review of every death in hospital would occur in Wales, and that is now taking place. Dr Grant Robinson continues to lead work across Wales to make sure that that is standardised. Dr Robinson is part of the group that the deputy chief medical officer has drawn together in order to work on a new and more comprehensive set of data across the whole of Wales, which will give us a new degree of reliability in the way that we collect and then publish mortality data. I am grateful to Members of other parties, and health spokespeople in particular, who have taken an interest in the work of that group and have met Dr Jones recently to share with him some ideas about how that work can be accelerated and taken further.

Hoffwn sicrhau'r Aelod ar y dechrau nad oedd gan ddata RAMI unrhyw ran i'w chwarae wrth nodi gweithredoedd y llawfeddyg penodol hwn. Daeth yr anawsterau hyn i'r amlwg o ganlyniad i waith archwilio clinigol rheolaidd o fewn y BILl ei hun. Fodd bynnag, mae'r Aelod yn gwbl gywir bod gwaith wedi bod yn mynd rhagddo ym Mwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Caerdydd a'r Fro, ers inni gyhoeddi data marwolaethau gyntaf yn ôl ym mis Mawrth, i sicrhau y gall wella ei sefyllfa codio clinigol. Mabwysiadwyd dull gweithredu deuol wedi'i anelu at wella amseroldeb y drefn o godio gweithgarwch newydd, gan glirio ôl-groniadau yn deillio o'r flwyddyn ariannol ddiwethaf ar yr un pryd. Dengys y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf, sef hyd at fis Mehefin eleni, fod y BILl wedi cyflawni 92.3% yn erbyn targed o 95% ar gyfer monitro amseroldeb. Mae'r BILl yn parhau i ddefnyddio staff ychwanegol wedi'u hachredu gan CHKS er mwyn sicrhau y caiff yr ôl-groniad clinigol hwn ei glirio. Sut y gwyddom pa un a yw'r data yn gywir? Wel, mae adolygiadau o nodiadau achos yn ffordd allweddol o sicrhau y gellir dilysu data RAMI. Efallai y bydd yr Aelodau yn cofio, nôl ym mis Mawrth, imi ymrwymo i sicrhau y byddai nodiadau achos pob marwolaeth yn yr ysbyty yn cael eu hadolygu yng Nghymru, ac mae hynny bellach ar waith. Mae Dr Grant Robinson yn parhau i arwain gwaith ledled Cymru i sicrhau y caiff hynny ei safoni. Mae Dr Robinson yn rhan o'r grŵp a sefydlwyd gan y dirprwy brif swyddog meddygol i weithio ar set ddata newydd a mwy cynhwysfawr ledled Cymru gyfan, a fydd yn rhoi mwy o ddibynadwyedd inni yn y ffordd y caiff data marwolaethau eu casglu a'u cyhoeddi. Rwy'n ddiolchgar i Aelodau'r pleidiau eraill, ac i'r llefarwyr iechyd yn arbennig, sydd wedi cymryd diddordeb yng ngwaith y grŵp hwnnw ac wedi cyfarfod â Dr Jones yn ddiweddar i rannu syniadau gydag ef o ran sut y gellir cyflymu'r gwaith hwnnw a'i ddatblygu ymhellach.

15:05 **Julie Morgan** Bywgraffiad Biography

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As the local Member for UHW and Heath hospital in Cardiff North, I am obviously very concerned about these issues and have the deepest sympathy for the families involved. I believe that the Minister has confirmed that the problems were identified as a result of systems that were already in place, and the University Hospital of Wales itself asked the college of liver surgeons in to investigate.

Fel yr Aelod lleol ar gyfer Ysbyty Athrofaol Cymru ac Ysbyty'r Mynydd Bychan yng Ngogledd Caerdydd, rwy'n amlwg yn pryderu'n fawr am y materion hyn ac yn cydymdeimlo'n ddwys â'r teuluoedd dan sylw. Credaf fod y Gweinidog wedi cadarnhau bod y problemau wedi'u nodi o ganlyniad i systemau a oedd eisoes ar waith, ac mae Ysbyty Athrofaol Cymru ei hun wedi gofyn i goleg llawfeddygon yr afu ymchwilio i'r mater.

I have spoken personally today to Graham Shortland, the medical director of the University Hospital of Wales, and he has assured me that he believes that the current service is safe and would reassure patients who are to have complex liver surgery at the University Hospital of Wales. I would also ask the Minister to confirm that the families and patients who have been affected will have the utmost support that can be given to them at this very difficult time.

Rwyf wedi siarad yn bersonol heddiw â Graham Shortland, cyfarwyddwr meddygol Ysbyty Athrofaol Cymru, ac mae wedi fy sicrhau bod y gwasanaeth presennol yn ddiogel, yn ei farn ef, ac y byddai'n tawelu meddyliau cleifion sy'n aros i gael llawdriniaeth gymhleth ar yr afu yn Ysbyty Athrofaol Cymru. Hoffwn ofyn hefyd i'r Gweinidog gadarnhau y bydd y teuluoedd a'r cleifion yr effeithiwyd arnynt yn cael cymaint o gefnogaeth â phosibl yn ystod y cyfnod anodd iawn hwn.

15:06

Mark Drakeford Bywgraffiad Biography

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I thank the member for Cardiff North for that question. I can confirm exactly what she said: these incidents came to light as the result of the internal clinical auditing process of the local health board itself. By October 2012, there were concerns arising from those audit data, and the individual surgeon was restricted in the practice that he was able to carry out thereafter while the data were further investigated. By January of this year, it was confirmed that there were causes for concern within those clinical data, and the individual was suspended and referred to the General Medical Council, and Leicester NHS Foundation Trust, where he had previously worked, together with the Department of Health and the Care Quality Commission, was informed of our concerns. The Royal College of Surgeons was invited in to carry out an independent audit of the cases that had given rise to concern, and it audited in detail 31 cases. It reported on 10 of those, eight of which involved deaths that it said were potentially avoidable. Since that time, the local health board has aimed to contact all the families involved. Not all families have wished to take up the LHB's offer of further engagement, though six families that have taken up that offer have been afforded independent advocacy through the local community health council and have met the clinical and nursing directors of the LHB. The LHB continues to discharge its duty of care to them at this very difficult time.

Diolch i'r aelod dros Ogledd Caerdydd am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Gallaf gadarnhau yn union beth a ddywedodd: daeth y digwyddiadau hyn i'r amlwg o ganlyniad i broses archwilio clinigol fewnol y bwrdd iechyd lleol ei hun. Erbyn mis Hydref 2012, roedd pryderon yn deillio o ddata'r archwiliadau hynny, a chyfyngwyd y llawfeddyg unigol i'r arferion roedd yn gallu eu cyflawni wedi hynny wrth iddynt ymchwilio ymhellach i'r data. Erbyn mis Ionawr eleni, cadarnhawyd bod achosion a oedd yn peri pryder o fewn y data clinigol hynny, a gwaharddwyd yr unigolyn dros dro ac atgyfeiriwyd yr achos i'r Cyngor Meddygol Cyffredinol, ac hysbyswyd Ymddiriedolaeth Sylfaen GIG Caerlŷr, lle y gweithiodd yn flaenorol, a'r Adran Iechyd a'r Comisiwn Ansawdd Gofal, am ein pryderon. Gwahoddwyd Coleg Brenhinol y Llawfeddygon i gynnal archwiliad annibynnol o'r achosion a oedd yn peri pryder, ac archwiliodd 31 o achosion yn fanwl. Cyflwynodd adroddiad ar 10 o'r achosion hynny, yr oedd y claf wedi marw, a hynny o bosibl yn ddiangen yn ei farn ef, mewn wyth ohonynt. Ers hynny, mae'r bwrdd iechyd lleol wedi ceisio cysylltu â'r holl deuluoedd dan sylw. Nid oedd pob un o'r teuluoedd yn awyddus i dderbyn cynnig y BILl o drafodaeth bellach, er bod chwe theulu a dderbyniodd y cynnig hwnnw wedi cael gwasanaeth eiriolaeth annibynnol drwy'r cyngor iechyd cymuned lleol ac wedi cyfarfod â chyfarwyddwyr clinigol a chyfarwyddwyr nyrsio'r BILl. Mae'r BILl yn parhau i gyflawni ei ddyletswydd gofal iddynt yn ystod y cyfnod anodd iawn hwn.

15:08

Darren Millar Bywgraffiad Biography

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Thank you, Minister, for answering this question today. There is no doubt that whenever there is news of avoidable deaths, it causes significant concern in patient communities, whether that is in north Wales or in south Wales, as we have seen with C. difficile in north Wales and, unfortunately, regrettably, with this information coming to light today. Minister, will you consider the calls of the Royal College of Surgeons, which undertook this piece of work in south Wales, to instigate an independent review of all Welsh hospitals, given that patient confidence has been knocked in recent months as a result of some of the reports that have been published about the health service in different parts of the country, and will you use this as an opportunity to rethink your previous position on this and whether an independent review might be appropriate?

Diolch, Weinidog, am ateb y cwestiwn hwn heddiw. Nid oes unrhyw amheuaeth bod unrhyw newyddion am farwolaethau y gellid eu hosgoi yn peri pryder sylweddol o fewn cymunedau cleifion, boed hynny yn y Gogledd neu yn y De, fel y gwelsom gyda C. difficile yn y Gogledd, ac yn anffodus, gyda'r wybodaeth hon a ddaeth i law heddiw. Weinidog, a wnewch chi ystyried ceisiadau Coleg Brenhinol y Llawfeddygon, a gynhaliodd y darn hwn o waith yn y De, i sefydlu adolygiad annibynnol o bob ysbyty yng Nghymru, o ystyried yr ergyd i hyder cleifion yn ystod y misoedd diwethaf o ganlyniad i rai o'r adroddiadau a gyhoeddwyd am y gwasanaeth iechyd mewn gwahanol rannau o'r wlad, ac a achubwch ar y cyfle hwn i ailystyried eich safbwynt blaenorol ar y mater hwn a pha un a fyddai adolygiad annibynnol yn briodol?

On the subject of avoidable deaths, Minister, you will know that there has been some confusion about some of the remarks that you have made about emergency services in north Wales today. I wonder whether you might want to take the opportunity to set the record straight in respect of that matter today also.

O ran marwolaethau y gellid eu hosgoi, Weinidog, fe wyddoch y bu rhywfaint o ddryswch ynglŷn â rhai o'r sylwadau a wnaed gennych am y gwasanaethau brys yn y Gogledd heddiw. Tybed a hoffech achub ar y cyfle i egluro'r sefyllfa o ran y mater hwnnw hefyd heddiw.

15:09 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Can we just stick to the matter in hand?

A allwn gadw at y mater dan sylw?

15:09 **Darren Millar** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

It is about the avoidable deaths question.

Mae'n ymwneud â marwolaethau diangen.

15:09 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you, Presiding Officer. I have answered Darren Millar's first question many times now on the floor of this Assembly. The events at Cardiff, very sad and difficult as they are, actually I think point in exactly the opposite direction to the one that he suggests, because here was a matter that came to light without any form of external review; it was the routine actions of the LHB brought these things to light, and, when the LHB saw those things for itself and conducted an internal review, it had an independent review of what went on through the Royal College of Surgeons itself. The royal college certainly is not linking what went on here with any more general call for independent review of the Welsh NHS.

Diolch, Lywydd. Rwyf wedi ateb cwestiwn cyntaf Darren Millar sawl gwaith erbyn hyn ar lawr y Cynulliad hwn. Mae'r digwyddiadau yng Nghaerdydd, er eu bod yn drist ac yn anodd iawn, mewn gwirionedd, yn ein tywys i gyfeiriad hollol wahanol i'r cyfeiriad a awgrymir ganddo, gan fod y mater wedi dod i'r amlwg heb unrhyw fath o adolygiad allanol; gweithdrefnau rheolaidd y BILl a dynnodd sylw at y materion hyn, a, phan welodd y BILl y materion hynny drosto'i hun a chynnal adolygiad mewnol, cafodd adolygiad annibynnol o'r hyn a ddigwyddodd drwy Goleg Brenhinol y Llawfeddygon ei hun. Yn sicr, nid yw'r coleg brenhinol yn cysylltu'r hyn a ddigwyddodd yma ag unrhyw gais mwy cyffredinol am adolygiad annibynnol o'r GIG yng Nghymru.

15:10 **Elin Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Minister, in your media response today you have said that systems are in place in Wales to provide early warning signals when things go wrong, and you have described some of those processes to us this afternoon. Can you clarify for us who is responsible for hearing those early warning signals? I urge it to be you, and your department, as well as local health boards, and that you and your officials collect, collate and monitor data closely so that those early warning signals can be heard in Government as well as in local health boards. In addition, can I urge you to consider setting up a whistleblowing phone line within the Welsh Government so that members of staff in the NHS can report any poor performance that they find by their colleagues in our hospitals or in the NHS in Wales? No-one knows better where poor performance lies in our wards or in our theatres than the staff who work alongside those colleagues.

Weinidog, yn eich ymateb i'r cyfryngau heddiw, gwnaethoch ddatgan bod systemau ar waith yng Nghymru i ddarparu rhybuddion cynnar pan aiff pethau o le, a gwnaethoch ddisgrifio rhai o'r prosesau hynny inni y prynhawn yma. A allwch egluro wrthym pwy sy'n gyfrifol am glywed y rhybuddion cynnar hyn? Gobeithio'n wir mai chi, a'ch adran, sy'n gyfrifol, yn ogystal â'r byrddau iechyd lleol, a'ch bod chi a'ch swyddogion yn casglu, yn coladu ac yn monitro data yn ofalus er mwyn i'r rhybuddion cynnar hynny gael eu clywed gan y Llywodraeth yn ogystal â'r byrddau iechyd lleol. Yn ogystal, hoffwn erfyn arnoch i ystyried sefydlu llinell ffôn ar gyfer chwythu'r chwiban o fewn Llywodraeth Cymru er mwyn i aelodau o staff y GIG allu rhoi gwybod am unrhyw berfformiad gwael ymhlith eu cydweithwyr yn ein hysbytai neu yn y GIG yng Nghymru? Nid oes neb mewn sefyllfa well i wybod am berfformiad gwael ar ein wardiau neu yn ein theatrau na'r staff sy'n gweithio ochr yn ochr â'r cydweithwyr hynny.

15:11 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I thank the Member for those questions. I can give her an assurance that, where these incidents happen, they are indeed reported directly to Welsh Government. On 25 January this year Cardiff and Vale University Local Health Board notified Welsh Government of a serious incident as it related to the practice of a liver surgeon employed by that health board, so it reported directly to Welsh Government at the point at which it invited the Royal College of Surgeons to carry out its independent review. There is a protocol within Welsh Government that, if a serious incident is formally reported in that way, there is a time period within which a senior official of the Welsh Government has to respond to that local health board and make sure that Ministers are advised as appropriate.

Diolch i'r Aelod am y cwestiynau hynny. Gallaf roi sicrwydd iddi, pan fo'r digwyddiadau hyn yn digwydd, bod Llywodraeth Cymru, wrth gwrs, yn cael gwybod yn uniongyrchol amdanynt. Ar 25 Ionawr eleni, rhoddodd Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Caerdydd a'r Fro wybod i Lywodraeth Cymru am ddigwyddiad difrifol gan ei fod yn ymwneud ag arfer llawfeddyg yr afu a gyflogwyd gan y bwrdd iechyd hwnnw, felly rhoddodd wybod yn uniongyrchol i Lywodraeth Cymru pan wahoddodd Coleg Brenhinol y Llawfeddygon i gynnal ei adolygiad annibynnol. Mae gan Lywodraeth Cymru brotocol sy'n nodi os caiff wybod yn ffurfiol am ddigwyddiad yn y fath fodd, bod terfyn amser y mae'n rhaid i un o uwch swyddogion Llywodraeth Cymru ymateb i'r bwrdd iechyd lleol hwnnw o'i fewn, a sicrhau y caiff Gweinidogion eu hysbysu fel y bo'n briodol.

I will think further on the second point that the Member makes about a whistleblowing helpline. There is a whistleblowing helpline available to all NHS staff, run independently of the Welsh NHS by Mencap. It is not extensively used, and reports from staff suggest that whistleblowing in that way is not necessarily the most useable way for them to raise their concerns. Cardiff itself, which has a very innovative way of making sure that any member of staff who has a concern is able to raise that concern in a safe way without feeling that there is any risk to them or their career, certainly argues that its processes are easier for staff to use than a remote helpline. However, I will consider further what the Member has said on that point.

Rhoddaf ystyriaeth bellach i'r ail bwynt a wna'r Aelod am linell gymorth ar gyfer chwythu'r chwiban. Mae llinell gymorth chwythu'r chwiban ar gael i holl staff y GIG, a gaiff ei rhedeg yn annibynnol ar GIG Cymru gan Mencap. Ni chaiff ei defnyddio'n helaeth, ac mae adborth gan staff yn awgrymu nad chwythu'r chwiban yn y fath fodd o reidrwydd yw'r ffordd fwyaf defnyddiol iddynt godi eu pryderon. Yn sicr, mae Caerdydd ei hun, sydd â ffordd arloesol iawn o sicrhau y gall unrhyw aelod o staff sydd â phryder godi'r pryder hwnnw mewn ffordd ddiogel heb deimlo bod unrhyw berygl iddynt hwy na'u gyrfa, yn dadlau bod ei phrosesau yn haws i staff eu defnyddio na llinell gymorth annibynnol. Fodd bynnag, rhoddaf ystyriaeth bellach i sylwadau'r Aelod mewn perthynas â'r pwynt hwnnw.

15:13

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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Finally, and very briefly, Antoinette Sandbach.

Yn olaf, ac yn gryno iawn, Antoinette Sandbach.

15:13

Antoinette Sandbach Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you, Presiding Officer. Minister, you are aware, and you have already pointed out, that it was the internal review process that picked up this matter in Cardiff and the Vale. However, in the Betsi Cadwaladr University Local Health Board there are 25 outstanding never events that have not been investigated from 2012-13, and 12 further never events awaiting investigation reported as from March 2013, with an additional backlog of 319 complaints that have not been concluded yet. If that internal auditing process is not in place then the kind of vulnerabilities that exist within the system mean that these matters cannot be picked up. Therefore, in that context, where there are clear problems in one of the biggest health boards in Wales, I would reiterate the request for an independent review, particularly where it is known to Government that that internal process is not being carried out effectively.

Diolch, Lywydd. Weinidog, rydych yn ymwybodol, ac rydych eisoes wedi dweud, mai proses adolygu fewnol a dynnodd sylw at y mater hwn yng Nghaerdydd a'r Fro. Fodd bynnag, ym Mwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Betsi Cadwaladr, mae 25 o ddigwyddiadau yn weddill nad ymchwiliwyd iddynt o 2012-13, ac mae 12 o ddigwyddiadau eraill yn aros am ymchwiliad a gofnodwyd ers mis Mawrth 2013, gydag ôl-groniad ychwanegol o 319 o gwynion na lwyddwyd i'w datrys eto. Os nad yw'r broses archwilio fewnol honno ar waith, yna mae'r math o broblemau sy'n bodoli o fewn y system yn golygu na ellir nodi'r materion hyn. Felly, yn y cyd-destun hwnnw, lle ceir problemau amlwg yn un o'r byrddau iechyd mwyaf yng Nghymru, hoffwn ail-bwysleisio'r cais am adolygiad annibynnol, yn enwedig lle mae'n hysbys i'r Llywodraeth nad yw'r broses fewnol honno yn cael ei chynnal yn effeithiol.

15:14

Mark Drakeford Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I said in my original answer that all organisations must have robust clinical governance systems in place of the sort that we saw operating in Cardiff. I heard what the Member said on the floor of the Assembly yesterday in relation to Betsi Cadwaladr University Local Health Board, and I am grateful to the Member for the subsequent information that she passed to me, and I am happy to repeat on the floor of the Assembly what I said to her yesterday, which is that I will pursue the points that she has made with me and make sure that she receives a reply to them.

Dywedais yn fy ateb gwreiddiol fod yn rhaid sicrhau bod gan bob sefydliad systemau llywodraethu clinigol cadarn ar waith o'r math a welsom ar waith yng Nghaerdydd. Clywais yr hyn a ddywedodd yr Aelod ar lawr y Cynulliad ddoe o ran Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Betsi Cadwaladr, ac rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r Aelod am y wybodaeth ddilynol a roddodd imi, ac rwy'n fwy na pharod i ailadrodd ar lawr y Cynulliad yr hyn a ddywedais wrthi ddoe, sef y byddaf yn ystyried y pwyntiau a gyflwynodd imi ac yn sicrhau y caiff ymateb iddynt.

15:15

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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Thank you for that detailed response, Minister.

Diolch am yr ymateb manwl hwnnw, Weinidog.

15:15

Datganiad gan y Llywydd

Statement by the Presiding Officer

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Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

Before we move to the next item, it is my pleasure to announce the results of the legislative ballot held today. I am pleased to announce that Kirsty Williams may seek the Assembly's agreement to introduce a Member proposed minimum nurse staffing levels Bill.

Cyn inni symud at yr eitem nesaf, mae'n bleser gennyf gyhoeddi canlyniadau'r bleidlais ddeddfwriaethol a gynhaliwyd heddiw. Mae'n bleser gennyf gyhoeddi y gall Kirsty Williams ofyn i'r Cynulliad cytuno i gyflwyno Bil arfaethedig Aelod ar lefelau staffio gofynnol ar gyfer nyrsys.

Dadl y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig: Y Celfyddydau

Detholwyd y gwelliannau canlynol: gwelliannau 1 a 2 yn enw Elin Jones, a gwelliannau 3 a 4 yn enw Aled Roberts.

Welsh Conservatives Debate: The Arts

The following amendments have been selected: amendments 1 and 2 in the name of Elin Jones, and amendments 3 and 4 in the name of Aled Roberts.

Cynnig NDM5385 William Graham

Motion NDM5385 William Graham

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Yn gresynu at fethiant Llywodraeth Cymru i gynnal dadl ar y celfyddydau yn ystod y Cynulliad hwn.

1. Regrets the Welsh Government's failure to hold a debate on the arts during this Assembly.

2. Yn nodi:

2. Notes:

a) pwysigrwydd cynhenid y celfyddydau a diwylliant i hunaniaeth Cymru a lles personol ei dinasyddion;

a) the intrinsic importance of the arts and culture to the identity of Wales and the personal well-being of its citizens;

b) adroddiad Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru 'Adroddiad annibynnol ar gyfer Llywodraeth Cymru ar y Celfyddydau mewn Addysg yn Ysgolion Cymru' ar rôl y celfyddydau o ran datblygu llythrennedd a rhifedd; a

b) the Arts Council Wales report 'An independent report for the Welsh Government into Arts in Education in the Schools of Wales' on the role of the arts in developing literacy and numeracy; and

c) bod ymchwil VisitBritain yn nodi bod mwy o ymwelwyr tramor yn mynd i'r theatr, sioeau cerdd, opera neu fale, nag i ddigwyddiad chwaraeon byw, pan fyddant yn ymweld â Phrydain.

c) that VisitBritain research identifies that more overseas visitors go to the theatre, musicals, the opera or ballet, than to a live sporting event, when visiting in Britain.

3. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i esbonio sut y caiff cyllid ar gyfer y celfyddydau ei ddiogelu o fewn y cyllidebau addysg a llywodraeth leol.

3. Calls on Welsh Government to explain how funding for the arts will be protected within the education and local government budgets.

15:15

Suzy Davies Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I move the motion.

Cynigiaf y cynnig.

I thank in advance all of the Members taking part in this debate today. We intend to support the first three amendments. Amendment 3 in particular chimes very nicely with our campaign for items important to Welsh heritage being brought here on long loan. We are reluctant to support amendment 4, not because we do not appreciate its intention, but because the terms 'smaller festivals and up-and-coming artists' are too open. Moreover, it errs on the side of being perhaps a little overprescriptive. By all means, seek particular policy objectives, Minister, but do not tell the Arts Council of Wales how to achieve those objectives.

Diolchaf ymlaen llaw i bob Aelod am gymryd rhan yn y ddadl hon heddiw. Rydym yn bwriadu cefnogi'r tri gwelliant cyntaf. Mae gwelliant 3 yn enwedig yn cyd-fynd yn dda â'n hymgyrch i ddod ag eitemau sy'n bwysig i etifeddiaeth Cymru yma ar fenthyciad hir. Rydym yn amharod i gefnogi gwelliant 4, oherwydd er ein bod yn gwerthfawrogi ei fwriad, mae'r termau 'gwyliau llai ac artistiaid addawol' yn rhy agored. Ar ben hynny, mae'n ymylu ar fod ychydig yn rhy rhagnodol. Ar bob cyfrif, ceisiwch amcanion polisi penodol, Weinidog, ond peidiwch â dweud wrth Gyngor Celfyddydau Cymru sut i gyflawni'r amcanion hynny.

The Welsh Government's programme for government identifies arts and culture as one of its tools for tackling poverty. It has therefore been disappointing that the Government has not chosen to bring forward a debate on the arts itself, as we note in point 1 of the motion. I have asked during the business statement for such a debate and I remember that my Plaid colleagues have done the same. It is right that we note that disappointment, because tackling poverty is a flagship policy area with two Cabinet members devoted to it.

Mae rhaglen lywodraethu Llywodraeth Cymru yn nodi'r celfyddydau a diwylliant fel un o'i dulliau ar gyfer mynd i'r afael â thlodi. Felly, mae'n siomedig nad yw'r Llywodraeth wedi dewis cyflwyno dadl ar y celfyddydau ei hun, fel y nodwn ym mhwynt 1 y cynnig. Rwyf wedi gofyn yn ystod y datganiad busnes am ddadl o'r fath a chofiaf i'm cyd-Aelodau Plaid wneud yr un peth. Mae'n briodol ein bod yn nodi'r siom honno, oherwydd mae mynd i'r afael â thlodi yn faes polisi blaenllaw gyda dau aelod Cabinet wedi'u neilltuo iddo.

We would have welcomed the appropriate Minister or Deputy Minister to come to give an account of delivery via the arts measured against policy aims. From what I can see, the evidence relating to wider participation, which is the central requirement of recent remit letters to the arts council, is very mixed. Some types of participation are up, including the response to Welsh language offers, others are down. Even though offers are up in schools, participation is down; the reverse of what is happening for young people outside the school setting.

Byddem wedi croesawu'r Gweinidog priodol neu'r Dirprwy Weinidog i ddod i roi cyfrif o'r ddarpariaeth drwy gyfrwng y celfyddydau wedi'i mesur yn erbyn yr amcanion polisi. O'r hyn a welaf, mae'r dystiolaeth sy'n gysylltiedig â chyfranogiad ehangach, sef gofyniad canolog llythyrau cylch gwaith diweddar i gyngor y celfyddydau, yn gymysg iawn. Mae rhai mathau o gyfranogiad yn cynyddu, gan gynnwys yr ymateb i gynigion sy'n ymwneud â'r iaith Gymraeg, ond mae eraill yn lleihau. Er bod cynnydd yn nifer y cynigion mewn ysgolion, mae lleihad mewn cyfranogaeth; y gwrthwyneb i'r hyn sy'n digwydd i bobl ifanc y tu allan i'r ysgol.

Young people from more affluent backgrounds still outpace those from poorer backgrounds by some margin. Young people in remoter areas still struggle to participate at all. The recommendations of the Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee task and finish report, which we have also not debated, sought to help you with that, but, again, we have not heard from the Government about the delivery against those recommendations. As the UK Government has now appointed someone to examine how culture can reduce poverty, I would really like this Assembly to be able to see that the Welsh Government is not just ahead of the game in strategy but successful in the work that it has funded.

Mae nifer y bobl ifanc o gefndiroedd mwy cefnog dipyn yn uwch o hyd na'r rhai o gefndiroedd tlotach. Mae pobl ifanc mewn ardaloedd mwy anghysbell yn parhau i frwydro i gymryd rhan. Ceisiodd argymhellion adroddiad gorchwyl a gorffen y Pwyllgor Cymunedau, Cydraddoldeb a Llywodraeth Leol, yr ydym ni hefyd heb ei drafod, eich helpu gyda hynny, ond, unwaith eto, nid ydym wedi clywed gan y Llywodraeth ynghylch y ddarpariaeth o ran yr argymhellion hynny. Gan fod Llywodraeth y DU bellach wedi penodi rhywun i archwilio sut y gall diwylliant leihau tlodi, hoffwn i'r Cynulliad hwn weld bod Llywodraeth Cymru nid yn unig ar y blaen o ran strategaeth ond yn llwyddiannus yn y gwaith y mae wedi'i ariannu.

Minister, the narrative to the draft budget claims that your portfolio contributes

Weinidog, mae'r naratif i'r gyllideb ddrafft yn honni bod eich portffolio yn cyfrannu

'towards improving the health and educational outcomes of children, young people and families living in poverty'.

tuag at wella iechyd a chanlyniadau addysgol plant, pobl ifanc a theuluoedd sy'n byw mewn tlodi.

Yet, these are the people identified in the impact assessment as feeling most the effect of the 3.9% revenue budget cuts to the Arts Council of Wales.

Eto i gyd, dyma'r bobl a nodir yn yr asesiad effaith fel y rhai a deimlodd effaith y 3.9% o doriadau'r gyllideb refeniw i Gyngor Celfyddydau Cymru fwyaf.

Local authority budgets have also taken some very challenging cuts, with more on the horizon. The effect on local arts budgets varies dramatically, from the well-publicised hatchet job by Cardiff Council to others actually spending more. The Arts Council of Wales's 'Wales Local Authority Arts Investment and Partnerships Survey 2012/13'—a title designed to leap off the shelves at Waterstones, if there ever was one—confirms that all but one responding authorities believed that their arts budgets will decrease in coming years. They are right. Arts Development UK calculates that the arts budget for Welsh local authorities will fall by an average of 11.3% in coming years, which is higher than for any other part of the UK.

Mae cyllidebau awdurdodau lleol hefyd wedi gweld rhai toriadau heriol iawn, gyda mwy ar y gorwel. Mae'r effaith ar gyllidebau celfyddydol lleol yn amrywio'n ddramatig, o ymosodiad ffyrnig Cyngor Caerdydd a gafodd gryn gyhoeddusrwydd i eraill yn gwario mwy mewn gwirionedd. Mae'r 'Wales Local Authority Arts Investment and Partnerships Survey 2012/13'—teitl a gynlluniwyd i neidio oddi ar y silffoedd yn Waterstones, os bu un erioed—yn cadarnhau bod pob un namyn un awdurdod a ymatebodd yn credu y bydd eu cyllidebau celfyddydol yn gostwng yn ystod y blynyddoedd i ddod. Maent yn gywir. Mae Arts Development UK yn amcangyfrif y bydd y gyllideb gelfyddydol ar gyfer awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru yn gostwng 11.3% ar gyfartaledd yn y blynyddoedd nesaf, sy'n uwch nag ar gyfer unrhyw ran arall o'r DU.

The same report confirms some very interesting information about income generation. The authorities that responded had generated £13 million of revenue: £12.5 million in earned income—ticket sales, merchandise and so forth—and a small balance through the arts council, lottery funding, charitable grants and sponsorship. That is £13 million against a revenue spend of £21.5 million. Although the comparators are not directly compatible, this translates to a spend of £8 to £9 per head in Wales over the next couple of years, rather than the unhappy £3 per head in the rest of the UK.

Mae'r un adroddiad yn cadarnhau rhywfaint o wybodaeth ddiddorol iawn am gynhyrchu incwm. Mae'r awdurdodau a ymatebodd wedi cynhyrchu £13 miliwn o refeniw: enillwyd £12.5 miliwn mewn incwm a enillwyd—gwerthiannau tocynnau, nwyddau ac yn y blaen—a balans bach drwy gyngor y celfyddydau, arian y loteri, grantiau elusennol a nawdd. Mae hynny'n £13 miliwn yn erbyn gwariant refeniw o £21.5 miliwn. Er nad yw'r cymaryddion yn uniongyrchol gydnaws, mae hyn yn cyfateb i wariant o £8 i £9 y pen yng Nghymru dros y ddwy flynedd nesaf, yn hytrach na'r £3 anhapus y pen yng ngweddill y DU.

That is something, perhaps, we should be proud of, but look at it this way—local authorities are spending not far off twice as much as they earn on arts provision. The survey is clear that most local authorities are not successful at raising the balance through sponsorship, income or getting it from independent funds, which is

Mae hynny'n rhywbeth, efallai, y dylem fod yn falch ohono, ond edrychwch arno fel hyn—mae awdurdodau lleol yn gwario bron ddwywaith cymaint ag y maent yn ei ennill ar ddarparu'r celfyddydau. Mae'r arolwg yn glir nad yw'r rhan fwyaf o awdurdodau lleol yn llwyddo i godi'r balans drwy nawdd, incwm na'i gael o gronfeydd ariannol annibynnol, sydd

'probably due to the nature of being part of a local authority.'

yn ôl pob tebyg, oherwydd ei fod, wrth natur, yn rhan o awdurdod lleol.

There is a general impression, is there not, that functionaries are perhaps not the most mercurial and creative creatures when it comes to finding money, particularly from the private sector?

Oni chredir yn gyffredinol, nad swyddogion efallai yw'r creaduriaid mwyaf bywiog a chreadigol pan ddaw yn fater o ddod o hyd i arian, yn enwedig gan y sector preifat?

It is not difficult to conclude that councils at some point soon will look at those figures and say that they can only afford to spend per head something nearer the UK average. That will be a cliff-edge moment for local authority arts spending, particularly for council-run arts venues, including my old alma mater, the Swansea Grand Theatre, which is in my region. Perhaps I had better declare an interest for this particular part of the contribution.

Nid yw'n anodd dod i'r casgliad y bydd cynghorau ar ryw adeg yn edrych ar y ffigurau hynny ac yn dweud y gallant ond fforddio gwario y pen rywbeth yn nes at gyfartaledd y DU. Bydd hynny'n eiliad dyngedfennol i wariant awdurdodau lleol ar y celfyddydau, yn enwedig i leoliadau celfyddydol a gaiff eu rhedeg gan y cyngor, gan gynnwys fy hen alma mater i, Theatr y Grand Abertawe, sydd yn fy rhanbarth. Efallai y dylwn ddatgan buddiant ar gyfer y rhan benodol hon o'r cyfraniad.

Minister, that threat is in the near distance, yet your Government puts great faith in the arts as an instrument of social justice. That is why we pose the question in point 3 of the motion.

Weinidog, mae'r bygythiad hwnnw yn agosáu, ac eto mae eich Llywodraeth yn ymddiried yn fawr yn y celfyddydau fel dull o gyfiawnder cymdeithasol. Dyna pam rydym yn gofyn y cwestiwn ym mhwynt 3 o'r cynnig.

We include the education budget as well as the local government budget in that question for various reasons, but the arts council's review of the arts in education, referred to in point 2 of the motion, is as good a place as any for this debate. Minister, I appreciate that the Government has not yet responded to the review, nevertheless you expect the arts council to play a leading role in implementing its recommendations with key actions included within a compact between itself and the Department for Education and Skills. That is due to be in place by the end of this month. Without a steer on which recommendations are acceptable to you, Minister, it is going to be pretty difficult to achieve that, I think, is it not? In view of the delay, will you confirm when you will be responding to the review and whether you will be issuing a statement in Plenary, or even tabling a debate yourself? Might I say—in case you were thinking about it—that issuing a statement during recess will not go down very well with Members?

Rydym yn cynnwys y gyllideb addysg yn ogystal â'r gyllideb llywodraeth leol yn y cwestiwn hwnnw am wahanol resymau, ond mae adolygiad cyngor y celfyddydau o'r celfyddydau mewn addysg, y cyfeirir ato ym mhwynt 2 o'r cynnig, gystal lle ag unrhyw un ar gyfer y ddadl hon. Weinidog, sylweddolaf nad yw'r Llywodraeth wedi ymateb i'r adolygiad hyd yn hyn, serch hynny rydych yn disgwyl i gyngor y celfyddydau chwarae rhan flaenllaw o ran gweithredu ei argymhellion gyda chamau gweithredu allweddol a gynhwysir o fewn compact rhyngddo ei hun a'r Adran Addysg a Sgiliau. Mae disgwyl i hynny fod ar waith erbyn diwedd y mis hwn. Heb arweiniad ar ba argymhellion sy'n dderbyniol ichi, Weinidog, oni chredwch y bydd yn eithaf anodd cyflawni hynny? O ystyried yr oedi, a wnewch chi gadarnhau pryd y byddwch yn ymateb i'r adolygiad ac a fyddwch yn cyhoeddi datganiad yn y Cyfarfod Llawn, neu hyd yn oed yn cyflwyno dadl eich hun? Mentraf ddweud—rhag ofn eich bod yn meddwl am y peth—na fydd cyhoeddi datganiad yn ystod y toriad yn boblogaidd gydag Aelodau?

I hope that others will take this opportunity to talk about the report during the debate, but I would like to draw out a general observation from a number of recommendations. That observation is on the place of creative thinking and creative learning. The Programme for International Student Assessment results demonstrate pretty starkly that while our kids may be learning loads of stuff, they are not particularly adept at applying that stuff to everyday life. I attended an entrepreneurship symposium in Swansea a couple of weeks ago, hosted by the University of Wales Trinity Saint David—Byron Davies and David Rees were there as well—and we heard that creative thinking skills among US students had fallen by 20% in the last 20 years. We also heard from a representative from the United Nations that developing countries have bought heavily into creative thinking as a way of growing their population of entrepreneurs. Young people from those countries will be competing with young people from Wales in the global race.

Gobeithio y bydd eraill yn achub ar y cyfle hwn i siarad am yr adroddiad yn ystod y ddadl, ond hoffwn wneud sylw cyffredinol ar nifer o argymhellion. Mae'r sylw hwnnw yn ymwneud â lle meddwl yn greadigol a dysgu yn greadigol. Mae canlyniadau'r Rhaglen Ryngwladol Asesu Myfyrwyr yn dangos yn weddol glir nad yw ein plant ni, er eu bod yn dysgu llawer o bethau efallai, yn arbennig o fedrus wrth gymhwyso'r hyn a ddysgir at fywyd bob dydd. Bûm mewn symposiwm entrepreneuriaeth yn Abertawe ychydig wythnosau yn ôl, a gynhaliwyd gan Brifysgol Cymru y Drindod Dewi Sant—roedd Byron Davies a David Rees yno hefyd—a chlywsom fod sgiliau meddwl yn greadigol ymhlith myfyrwyr yn yr UD wedi lleihau 20% dros yr 20 mlynedd diwethaf. Clywsom hefyd gan gynrychiolydd o'r Cenhedloedd Unedig fod gwledydd sy'n datblygu wedi buddsoddi llawer ym maes meddwl yn greadigol fel ffordd o gynyddu eu poblogaeth o entrepreneuriaid. Bydd pobl ifanc o'r gwledydd hynny yn cystadlu â phobl ifanc o Gymru yn y ras fyd-eang.

Creative thinking was also a core concept of the Swansea bay city of culture bid and I was very pleased to see that the bid was honoured in the political awards last night. The bid argued that if people are able to harness their undoubted creativity into a way of thinking confidently about how we live, into a new mindset, then we become more capable of meeting challenges locally as well as nationally. Those are big challenges, such as poverty, educational attainment, aspiration and wellbeing. However, it is like any other skill—you have to practice to build it up.

Roedd meddwl yn greadigol hefyd yn gysyniad craidd yng nghais dinas Abertawe fel dinas diwylliant ac roeddwn yn falch iawn o weld y cais hwnnw yn cael ei anrhydeddu yn y gwobrau gwleidyddol neithiwr. Dadleuodd y cais, pe bai pobl yn gallu sianelu eu creadigrwydd diamheuol i ffordd newydd o feddwl yn hyderus am y modd rydym yn byw, i feddylfryd newydd, yna y byddem yn fwy abl i ateb yr heriau yn lleol ac yn genedlaethol. Mae'r rhain yn heriau mawr, megis tlodi, cyrhaeddiad addysgol, dyheadau a lles. Fodd bynnag, mae fel unrhyw sgil arall—mae'n rhaid ichi ymarfer er mwyn ei meithrin.

Today's education is tomorrow's economy—we cannot be the last nation to grasp this. In a direct way, I heard from the Scala Cinema in Prestatyn that, from its experience over the last four years, there are still training gaps that are barriers to our young people having access to a rapidly changing digital job market, and that is despite the welcome growth in our creative industries. Indirectly, how we think, whether as individual citizens or Government strategists, is going to have a much wider bearing on the shape of our future. The arts, artistic endeavour and artistic excellence are valuable in themselves for us as creators, participators and even as passive consumers, but in this one respect, as an active part of a shift towards a nation of creative thinkers, the arts have a serious role in changing the fortunes of Wales.

Addysg heddiw yw economi yfory—rhaid sicrhau nad ni yw'r wlad olaf i ddeall hyn. Mewn ffordd uniongyrchol, clywais oddi wrth Sinema Scala ym Mhrestatyn, yn seiliedig ar ei phrofiad dros y pedair blynedd ddiwethaf, fod bylchau hyfforddiant o hyd sy'n rhwystro ein pobl ifanc rhag manteisio ar farchnad swyddi ddigidol sy'n newid yn gyflym, ac mae hynny er gwaethaf y twf i'w groesawu yn ein diwydiannau creadigol. Yn anuniongyrchol, mae'r ffordd rydym yn meddwl, boed fel dinasyddion unigol neu strategwyr y Llywodraeth, yn mynd i gael effaith fwy o lawer ar ffurf ein dyfodol. Mae'r celfyddydau, ymdrechion artistig a rhagoriaeth artistig yn werthfawr ynddynt eu hunain inni fel creawdwyr, cyfranogwyr a defnyddwyr goddefol hyd yn oed, ond yn hyn o beth, fel rhan weithredol o symud tuag at wlad o feddylwyr creadigol, mae gan y celfyddydau rôl ddifrifol yn y gwaith o newid ffawd Cymru.

15:23

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

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I have selected the four amendments to the motion and I call on Bethan Jenkins to move amendments 1 and 2, tabled in the name of Elin Jones.

Rwyf wedi dethol y pedwar gwelliant i'r cynnig a galwaf ar Bethan Jenkins i gynnig gwelliannau 1 a 2, a gyflwynwyd yn enw Elin Jones.

Gwelliant 1—Elin Jones

Amendment 1—Elin Jones

Cynnwys is-bwynt 2b) newydd ac ailrifo yn unol â hynny:

Insert as new sub-point 2b) and renumber accordingly:

pwysigrwydd y Celfyddydau wrth hybu defnydd o'r Gymraeg;

the importance of the Arts in promoting the use of the Welsh language;

Gwelliant 2—Elin Jones

Amendment 2—Elin Jones

Cynnwys is-bwynt 2c) newydd ac ailrifo yn unol â hynny:

bod adroddiad Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru yn argymell y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru archwilio dewisiadau cyllido gyda'r nod o sicrhau bod yna ddarpariaeth gyfartal ar gael i bobl ifanc ym mhob math o gelf, a bod pobl ifanc eithriadol o dalentog yn gallu dilyn a meithrin eu talent;

Insert as new sub-point 2c) and renumber accordingly:

that the Arts Council of Wales report recommends that the Welsh Government should explore funding options aimed at ensuring that equitable provision is available to young people in all art forms, and that exceptionally talented young people are able to pursue and develop their talent;

15:24

Bethan Jenkins Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I move amendments 1 and 2.

Cynigiaf welliannau 1 a 2.

Plaid will also be supporting amendments 3 and 4, tabled in the name of Aled Roberts. Amendment 3 complements the issues of access to the arts that I will be talking about in my contribution. Similarly, amendment 4, which would, among other things, allow smaller festivals and events to grow, should increase the opportunity for wider recognition and, consequentially, greater visitor spend, which would benefit the economy as well as artists and festivals.

Bydd Plaid hefyd yn cefnogi gwelliannau 3 a 4, a gyflwynwyd yn enw Aled Roberts. Mae gwelliant 3 yn ategu'r materion ynghylch mynediad i'r celfyddydau y byddaf yn sôn amdanynt yn fy nghyfraniad. Yn yr un modd, dylai gwelliant 4, a fyddai, ymhlith pethau eraill, yn caniatáu i wyliau a digwyddiadau llai dyfu, gynyddu'r cyfle am gydnabyddiaeth ehangach ac, yn sgil hynny, mwy o wariant gan ymwelwyr, y byddai'r economi yn elwa arno yn ogystal ag artistiaid a gwyliau.

Mae gwelliant 1, yn enw Elin Jones, yn dilyn y pwyntiau yr oeddwn yn eu gwneud yr wythnos diwethaf yn y ddadl am S4C. Nid oes llawer o ffyrdd gwell o ennyn diddordeb pobl yn yr iaith Gymraeg na thrwy eu diddanu. Os yw S4C yn gallu denu cynulleidfaoedd di-Gymraeg a mwy o bobl ifanc trwy ei rhaglenni, ac ysbrydoli'r bobl hynny i ddysgu'r iaith, yna, wrth reswm, byddai'r un peth yn wir am ein theatrau a'n lleoliadau celfyddydol eraill hefyd. Po fwyaf y gallwn gael ysgolion a'r celfyddydau i fabwysiadu'r iaith a gweithio gyda'i gilydd, y mwyaf yw'r siawns y bydd plant yn ein hysgolion yn parhau i siarad yr iaith trwy gydol eu hoes o ganlyniad i gael y profiad hynny trwy'r celfyddydau.

Amendment 1, in the name of Elin Jones, follows on from the points that I made last week in the debate on S4C. There are not many better ways of getting people interested in the Welsh language than through entertaining them. If S4C can attract non-Welsh-speaking audiences and more young people through its programming, and inspire those people to learn the language, then it stands to reason that the same would be true of our theatres and our other arts venues as well. The more we can encourage schools and the arts to adopt the language and work together, the greater the chance that children in our schools will continue to use the language throughout their lives as a result of having that experience through the arts.

On amendment 2, the programme for government, the Welsh Government promises, through the Arts Council of Wales, to develop a vibrant and high-quality arts sector that is accessible to all communities in Wales. However, I find it hard to understand how it can be sustained when the Arts Council of Wales will see a 3.1% funding reduction in the coming financial year. In written evidence to the Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee, the Minister for Culture and Sport stated that

O ran gwelliant 2, y rhaglen lywodraethu, mae Llywodraeth Cymru, trwy Gyngor Celfyddydau Cymru, yn addo datblygu sector celfyddydol bywiog ac o ansawdd uchel sy'n hygyrch i bob cymuned yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, rwy'n ei chael hi'n anodd deall sut y gellir ei gynnal pan fydd Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru yn gweld gostyngiad o 3.1% yn ei gyllid yn y flwyddyn ariannol nesaf. Mewn tystiolaeth ysgrifenedig i'r Pwyllgor Cymunedau, Cydraddoldeb a Llywodraeth Leol, dywedodd y Gweinidog Diwylliant a Chwaraeon

'The budget reduction for the Arts Council of Wales for 2014-15 has been limited to 3.1% to reflect the work which they will be undertaking in implementing Dai Smith's Review of arts in education and the role of the arts in tackling poverty.'

Cyfyngwyd y gostyngiad yn y gyllideb i Gyngor Celfyddydau Cymru ar gyfer 2014-15 i 3.1% er mwyn adlewyrchu'r gwaith y byddant yn ymgymryd ag ef wrth weithredu Adolygiad Dai Smith o'r celfyddydau mewn addysg a rôl y celfyddydau wrth fynd i'r afael â thlodi.

My amendment, which states that the Welsh Government should explore funding options aimed at ensuring that equitable provision is available to young people in all artforms, and that exceptionally talented young people are able to pursue and develop their talent, comes straight from the recommendations made in Professor Dai Smith's report into the arts in education. I have referenced this particular quote because quite a lot of people out there in our communities are coming to me and saying that cuts are being made to peripatetic teaching in our schools and that there is now a charge for parents whose children use this service. This has meant that many fewer students, especially in Valleys communities, are able to take part in activities, such as taking up an instrument or joining an orchestra—opportunities that I and many others here were afforded free of charge in our schools. That meant that we were then able to take part in national music activities, which has framed the way in which we have developed as individuals and provided opportunities to travel the world because we played in such orchestras.

Daw fy ngwelliant, sy'n datgan y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru ystyried opsiynau ariannu wedi'u hanelu at sicrhau bod darpariaeth deg ar gael i bobl ifanc ym mhob ffurf ar gelfyddyd, a bod pobl ifanc eithriadol o dalentog yn gallu dilyn a datblygu eu doniau, yn syth o'r argymhellion a wnaed yn adroddiad yr Athro Dai Smith ar y celfyddydau mewn addysg. Rwyf wedi cyfeirio at y dyfyniad penodol hwn gan fod llawer o bobl allan yn ein cymunedau yn dod ataf ac yn dweud bod toriadau yn cael eu gwneud i addysg beripatetig yn ein hysgolion ac y codir tâl bellach ar rieni'r plant sy'n defnyddio'r gwasanaeth hwn. Mae hyn wedi golygu bod llawer llai o fyfyrwyr, yn enwedig mewn cymunedau yn y Cymoedd, yn gallu cymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau, megis dysgu chwarae offeryn neu ymuno â cherddorfa—cyfleoedd a gefais i a llawer o rai eraill am ddim yn ein hysgolion. Roedd hynny'n golygu ein bod wedyn yn gallu cymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau cerdd cenedlaethol, sydd wedi llunio'r ffordd yr ydym wedi datblygu fel unigolion ac wedi rhoi cyfleoedd i deithio'r byd gan ein bod yn chwarae mewn cerddorfeydd o'r fath.

This runs contrary to Professor Smith's recommendation and it is also contrary to what the Minister has pledged. This is a shame, because the report cites a study that demonstrated a strong and reliable association between music instruction and standardised measures of reading ability. The report states that

Mae hyn yn mynd yn groes i argymhelliad yr Athro Smith a hefyd yn mynd yn groes i'r hyn y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'i addo. Mae hyn yn drueni, gan fod yr adroddiad yn nodi astudiaeth a ddangosodd gysylltiad cryf a dibynadwy rhwng dysgu cerddoriaeth a mesurau safonol o allu darllen. Mae'r adroddiad yn nodi

'This is of particular significance as these are key priorities for the education agenda in Wales.'

Mae hyn yn arbennig o arwyddocaol gan fod y rhain yn flaenoriaethau allweddol ar gyfer yr agenda addysg yng Nghymru.

I spoke last week about the economic contribution that S4C and, by extension, the Welsh language makes to Wales, and I believe that it is worth making that point here once again. The arts employ 30,000 people in Wales and contribute £500 million towards the economy. We need to secure a future generation that can run our artistic institutions and, in turn, create the young artists of the future. Young people from every social background need to be given the opportunity to take part in the arts and to develop their talents. Cuts to the arts are like cuts to libraries—they are easy to do because the negative impact is hard to measure. However, we should remember that the opera houses and the theatres stayed open during the blitz and, in this time of austerity, people need their spirits to be lifted. They need to believe that tomorrow will be better, they need to believe that they can be inspired by the arts in Wales and that they can achieve their own goals through taking part in the arts. If we continue to cut in this area, then we will see fewer and fewer people taking part in such activities and I believe that Welsh society will be poorer for that.

Bûm yn siarad yr wythnos diwethaf am y cyfraniad economaidd y mae S4C a, thrwy estyniad, yr iaith Gymraeg yn ei wneud i Gymru, a chredaf ei bod yn werth gwneud y pwynt hwnnw unwaith eto. Mae'r celfyddydau yn cyflogi 30,000 o bobl yng Nghymru ac yn cyfrannu £500 miliwn i'r economi. Mae angen inni sicrhau cenhedlaeth y dyfodol a all redeg ein sefydliadau celfyddydol ac, yn eu tro, greu artistiaid ifanc y dyfodol. Mae angen rhoi pob cyfle i bobl ifanc o bob cenfdir cymdeithasol gymryd rhan yn y celfyddydau a datblygu eu doniau. Mae toriadau i'r celfyddydau yn debyg i doriadau i lyfrgelloedd—maent yn hawdd eu gwneud gan fod yr effaith negyddol yn anodd i'w mesur. Fodd bynnag, dylem gofio i'r tai opera a'r theatrau aros ar agor yn ystod y rhyfel ac, yn y cyfnod hwn o galedi, mae angen codi ysbryd pobl. Mae angen iddynt gredu y bydd yfory yn well, mae angen iddynt gredu y gallant gael eu hysbrydoli gan y celfyddydau yng Nghymru ac y gallant gyflawni eu nodau eu hunain drwy gymryd rhan yn y celfyddydau. Os byddwn yn parhau i dorri yn y maes hwn, yna gwelwn lai a llai o bobl yn cymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau o'r fath, ac rwy'n credu y bydd cymdeithas yng Nghymru yn dlotach am hynny.

15:28

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

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I call on Peter Black to move amendments 3 and 4, which are tabled in the name of Aled Roberts.

Galwaf ar Peter Black i gynnig gwelliannau 3 a 4, a gyflwynir yn enw Aled Roberts.

Gwelliant 3—Aled Roberts

Amendment 3—Aled Roberts

Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

Add as new point at end of motion:

Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i weithio gydag amgueddfeydd, orielau a chasgliadau eraill o gelf a threftadaeth yng Nghymru er mwyn sicrhau y gall cyfleusterau eraill yng Nghymru gael benthyg eitemau nad ydynt yn cael eu harddangos.

Calls on the Welsh Government to work with museums, galleries and other collections of art and heritage in Wales to ensure that items which are not on display can be loaned to other facilities in Wales.

Gwelliant 4—Aled Roberts

Amendment 4—Aled Roberts

Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

Add as new point at end of motion:

Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i roi cyfeiriad strategol i'r Cyngor Celfyddydau fuddsoddi mewn gwyliau llai ac artistiaid, cerddorion ac ysgrifenwyr addawol, a sicrhau bod digwyddiadau celfyddydol a diwylliannol yn symud tuag at gynlluniau busnes cynaliadwy.

Calls on the Welsh Government to give strategic direction to the Arts Council to invest in smaller festivals and up-and-coming artists, musicians and writers and ensure that arts and cultural events move towards sustainable business plans.

15:28

Peter Black Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv
Fideo Video

I move amendments 3 and 4.

Cynigiaf welliannau 3 a 4.

I thank the Conservative group for bringing this debate to the Chamber today. Suzy Davies has brought a new perspective to that group, given that it did not even mention the arts in its manifesto in 2011, and we are now having a debate that is long overdue in the Chamber.

Hoffwn ddiolch i'r grŵp Ceidwadol am gyflwyno'r ddadl hon i'r Siambr heddiw. Mae Suzy Davies wedi rhoi persbectif newydd i'r grŵp hwnnw, o ystyried na wnaeth hyd yn oed sôn am y celfyddydau yn ei faniffesto yn 2011, ac rydym bellach yn cael dadl hirddisgwyliedig yn y Siambr.

We will be supporting the motion and the Plaid Cymru amendments, which are very much in line with our own thinking. As Bethan Jenkins has referred to, we are a part of the review that this motion makes direct reference to.

Byddwn yn cefnogi'r cynnig a gwelliannau Plaid Cymru, sydd yn unol â'n meddylfryd ein hunain. Fel y soniodd Bethan Jenkins, rydym yn rhan o'r adolygiad y mae'r cynnig hwn yn cyfeirio'n uniongyrchol ato.

It is disappointing that there has not yet been a response from the Minister to the arts council's report, despite its having been launched in September. It would surely have been helpful to have some feedback on this before the Minister for Culture and Sport asked in October for a further review into how many more people in disadvantaged areas could be helped to access and take part in the arts, culture and historic environment.

Mae'n siomedig na chafwyd ymateb gan y Gweinidog i adroddiad cyngor y celfyddydau eto, er iddo gael ei lansio ym mis Medi. Oni fyddai wedi bod yn ddefnyddiol cael rhywfaint o adborth ar hyn cyn i'r Gweinidog Diwylliant a Chwaraeon ofyn ym mis Hydref am adolygiad pellach i'r modd y gellid helpu mwy o bobl mewn ardaloedd difreintiedig i fanteisio ar yr amgylchedd celfyddydol, diwylliannol a hanesyddol a chymryd rhan ynddo.

The value of the arts in relation to economic development is unquestioned, as well as being key to establishing cultural identity; it is very important in terms of education as well. Along with sport, the arts have a key role to play in cultivating self-confidence among our young people in schools, and through community enterprise. The arts can be the key to engaging some of our less able and more difficult students, encouraging team work, and developing a whole range of skills, from language development to technical competencies.

Mae gwerth y celfyddydau mewn perthynas â datblygu economaidd yn ddi-gwestiwn, yn ogystal â bod yn allweddol i sefydlu hunaniaeth ddiwylliannol; mae'n bwysig iawn hefyd o ran addysg. Ynghyd â chwaraeon, mae gan y celfyddydau rôl allweddol i'w chwarae o ran meithrin hunan-hyder ymysg ein pobl ifanc mewn ysgolion, a thrwy fentrau cymunedol. Gall y celfyddydau fod yn allweddol i ymgysylltu â rhai o'n myfyrwyr llai galluog a mwy anodd, gan annog gwaith tîm, a datblygu ystod eang o sgiliau, o ddatblygiad iaith i gymwyseddau technegol.

The report mentions one of the schools in my region—Hafod Primary School—which makes great use of art and music to help give added value to the education of its pupils. This is a school where 54% of pupils do not have English as their first language, 36% of pupils are entitled to free school meals, and 18% have special educational needs. However, the creative use of art is making a real difference to the experience of pupils, and the fact that they are happy at school and want to learn can only help overall achievement.

Mae'r adroddiad yn sôn am un o'r ysgolion yn fy rhanbarth—Ysgol Gynradd Hafod—sy'n gwneud defnydd mawr o gelf a cherddoriaeth er mwyn helpu i roi gwerth ychwanegol i addysg ei disgyblion. Mae hon yn ysgol lle nad yw 54% o'r ddisgyblion yn siarad Saesneg fel eu hiaith gyntaf, mae gan 36% o'r disgyblion yr hawl i brydau ysgol am ddim, ac mae gan 18% ohonynt anghenion addysgol arbennig. Fodd bynnag, mae'r defnydd creadigol o gelf yn gwneud gwahaniaeth gwirioneddol i brofiad y disgyblion, ac mae'r ffaith eu bod yn hapus yn yr ysgol ac yn awyddus i ddysgu ond yn helpu o ran cyflawniad cyffredinol.

Therefore, I think that we need to do everything that we can to encourage greater engagement across Wales. Of course, the chief obstacle, which I think has been identified by Bethan Jenkins, as well as by the motion itself, is funding. That will always be an issue, specifically with the additional pressures that are falling on local government at present. The arts are a non-statutory provision, and are difficult to protect—they are easy to cut, as Bethan Jenkins has said. I think that we need to make it clear to local authorities, and to others who have control of the purse strings, the value that the arts bring to the general culture, as well as to the quality of life of people in the area that is represented.

Felly, credaf fod angen inni wneud popeth o fewn ein gallu i annog mwy o ymgysylltu ledled Cymru. Wrth gwrs, y prif rwystr, a nodwyd gan Bethan Jenkins, fe gredaf, a chan y cynnig ei hun hefyd, yw cyllid. Bydd hynny'n broblem bob tro, yn enwedig gyda'r pwysau ychwanegol sydd ar lywodraeth leol ar hyn o bryd. Mae'r celfyddydau yn ddarpariaeth anstatudol, ac yn anodd i'w diogelu—maent yn hawdd i'w torri, fel y dywedodd Bethan Jenkins. Credaf fod angen inni gyfleu'n glir i awdurdodau lleol, ac i eraill sy'n rheoli cyllidebau, y gwerth y mae'r celfyddydau yn ei roi i ddiwylliant cyffredinol, yn ogystal ag ansawdd bywyd y bobl yn yr ardal a gynrychiolir.

The report holds up the E3+ provision in Rhondda Cynon Taf as an excellent example of good practice. However, there is then the issue of transport, which is highlighted as a key to its success, and which is likely to be withdrawn by the Labour administration as part of its budget cuts. Therefore, even though the arts provision is there, there are other cuts that impact on it. Therefore, I think that we need to use our money as wisely as possible, and to best effect, and we need to do it in smarter ways, working with third sector groups and private enterprises.

Mae'r adroddiad yn cyfeirio at y ddarpariaeth E3+ yn Rhondda Cynon Taf fel enghraifft ardderchog o arfer da. Fodd bynnag, ceir wedyn y broblem o ran trafnidiaeth, y tynnwyd sylw ati fel rhywbeth sy'n allweddol i'w llwyddiant, ac sy'n debygol o gael ei thynnu'n ôl gan y weinyddiaeth Lafur fel rhan o doriadau'r gyllideb. Felly, er bod y ddarpariaeth gelfyddydol yno, mae toriadau eraill yn effeithio arni. Felly, credaf fod angen inni ddefnyddio ein harian mewn ffordd mor ddoeth â phosibl, ac yn y ffordd orau, ac mae angen inni wneud hynny mewn ffyrdd callach, gan weithio gyda grwpiau trydydd sector a mentrau preifat.

However, it is not only funding that is the problem, of course. The report states that many schools do not embrace the idea of using arts to their full extent, and that, in many cases, there is a lack of engagement among teachers with contemporary art. However, the pressure that is being put on schools to meet ever-more stringent targets, puts pressures on teachers, which cause a part of that problem. I think that we need to ensure that the teachers, and the schools themselves, have the space in which to work and to make use of the art in a creative way in order to engage their pupils.

Fodd bynnag, nid dim ond arian yw'r broblem, wrth gwrs. Noda'r adroddiad nad yw llawer o ysgolion yn manteisio ar y syniad o ddefnyddio celfyddydau i'r eithaf ac mewn llawer o achosion, bod diffyg ymwneud ymhlith athrawon â chelfyddyd gyfoes. Fodd bynnag, mae'r pwysau a roddir ar ysgolion i gyrraedd targedau hyd yn oed yn fwy llym, yn rhoi pwysau ar athrawon, sy'n achosi rhan o'r broblem honno. Credaf fod angen inni sicrhau bod gan yr athrawon, a'r ysgolion eu hunain, y gofod i weithio ynddo a defnyddio'r celfyddydau mewn ffordd greadigol er mwyn ennyn diddordeb eu disgyblion.

I have some quick comments on the Welsh Liberal Democrat amendments. Amendment 3 suggests that there should be more co-operation between museums and galleries across Wales, so that, rather than gathering dust in storerooms, items are loaned out, thus enabling a wider audience to appreciate them. Accessibility is a problem that prevents many people, especially in rural and in more disadvantaged communities, from enjoying the same access to arts and cultural events as those in urban or in more affluent areas. I think that we need to use our imagination much more in terms of ensuring that the art that we have gets out into the community so that people can enjoy it.

Mae gennyf rai sylwadau cyflym ar welliannau Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru. Awgryma gwelliant 3 y dylid cael mwy o gydweithio rhwng amgueddfeydd ac orielau ar draws Cymru, fel y gellir sicrhau bod eitemau, yn hytrach na chasglu llwch mewn storfeydd, yn cael eu rhoi ar fenthyg, gan alluogi cynulleidfa ehangach i'w gwerthfawrogi. Mae hygyrchedd yn broblem sy'n atal llawer o bobl, yn enwedig mewn cymunedau gwledig a mwy difreintiedig, rhag mwynhau'r un mynediad i gelfyddyd a digwyddiadau celfyddydol â'r rhai mewn ardaloedd trefol neu fwy cyfoethog. Credaf fod angen inni ddefnyddio ein dychymyg yn fwy o lawer o ran sicrhau bod y gelfyddyd sydd gennym yn mynd allan i'r gymuned fel y gall pobl ei mwynhau.

Amendment 4 similarly seeks to ensure that cultural events are brought closer to the people, by recommending that there is more investment in smaller festivals around the country. We would like to see more backing for home-grown talent, and an appreciation for what they can offer, in terms of our cultural identity. The key issue of course is that, while we would be looking to kick-start projects either via Government funding, or via other sources, such as the National Lottery, those events cannot be so niche that they do not appeal to the public more generally. Sustainability is key, and events must be able to become self-financing after an appropriate period, if that is possible.

Mae Gwelliant 4 yn yr un modd yn ceisio sicrhau bod digwyddiadau diwylliannol yn cael eu dwyn yn agosach at y bobl, drwy argymell bod mwy o fuddsoddi mewn gwyliau llai o gwmpas y wlad. Byddem yn hoffi gweld mwy o gefnogaeth i dalentau'r wlad, a gwerthfawrogiad o'r hyn y gallant ei gynnig, o ran ein hunaniaeth ddiwylliannol. Y mater allweddol wrth gwrs yw hyn, er y byddem yn disgwyl rhoi hwb i brosiectau naill ai trwy arian gan y Llywodraeth, neu drwy ffynonellau eraill, megis y Loteri Genedlaethol, ni all y digwyddiadau hynny fod mor arbenigol fel nad ydynt yn apelio at y cyhoedd yn fwy cyffredinol. Mae cynaliadwyedd yn allweddol, ac mae'n rhaid i ddigwyddiadau allu hunan-ariannu ar ôl cyfnod priodol, os yw hynny'n bosibl.

I think that the Welsh Government is certainly doing a lot in terms of the arts, but a lot more can be done. I think that we need to start with the Government's response to this report, and then take it from there in terms of what more we can do to encourage schools and communities to make the best use of that medium, to enhance their own status.

Credaf fod Llywodraeth Cymru yn sicr yn gwneud llawer o ran y celfyddydau, ond gall llawer mwy gael ei wneud. Credaf fod angen inni ddechrau gydag ymateb y Llywodraeth i'r adroddiad hwn, a datblygu o'r fan honno o ran beth yn fwy y gallwn ei wneud i annog ysgolion a chymunedau i wneud y defnydd gorau o'r cyfrwng hwnnw, er mwyn gwella eu statws eu hunain.

15:34

Antoinette Sandbach Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I am delighted that Suzy Davies has tabled this motion for debate. I probably have a greater opportunity to appreciate at least some of the benefits of the arts, given that my husband is an artist. I refer people to my entry on the Members' register of interests.

Rwy'n falch iawn bod Suzy Davies wedi cyflwyno'r cynnig hwn i'w drafod. Mae'n debyg bod gennyf fwy o gyfle i werthfawrogi o leiaf rywfaint o fuddiannau'r celfyddydau, o gofio bod fy ngŵr yn arlunydd. Cyfeiriaf bobl at fy nghofnod ar gofrestr buddiannau'r Aelodau.

However, being a parent means that I have also had the fantastic opportunity of seeing the benefits that the Urdd has brought in embedding arts into schools in Wales. It is one of the unique institutions of Wales, and one which brings the huge benefits of the arts straight into every part of Wales. It encompasses art not only as in drawing, but music, dancing and storytelling. The confidence and the participation opportunities that it gives those children is one of Wales's real strengths. Professor Smith, chair of the Arts Council of Wales, said,

Fodd bynnag, mae bod yn rhiant yn golygu fy mod hefyd wedi cael y cyfle gwych i weld y buddiannau y mae'r Urdd wedi eu cyflwyno wrth ymgorffori'r celfyddydau mewn ysgolion yng Nghymru. Mae'n un o sefydliadau unigryw Cymru, ac yn un sy'n dod â buddiannau enfawr y celfyddydau yn syth i mewn i bob rhan o Gymru. Mae'n cynnwys celf, nid yn unig fel arlunio, ond cerddoriaeth, dawnsio ac adrodd straeon. Mae'r hyder a'r cyfleoedd i gyfranogi a rydd i'r plant hynny yn un o gryderau gwirioneddol Cymru. Dywedodd yr Athro Smith, cadeirydd Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru,

'Teaching in and through the arts, far from detracting from literacy and numeracy, should be seen as an enabler to drive up standards in those academic priorities. The value of the arts therefore needs to be reiterated within schools and, importantly, schools need to be supported in taking up and delivering more imaginative approaches to cross-curricular creative activity.'

Yn hytrach na thynnu oddi ar lythrennedd a rhifedd, dylai addysgu yn y celfyddydau a thrwy'r celfyddydau, gael ei ystyried yn ffactor sy'n ein galluogi i godi safonau yn y blaenoriaethau academaidd hynny. Felly mae angen ailadrodd gwerth y celfyddydau mewn ysgolion ac, yn bwysicach, mae angen cefnogi ysgolion i fabwysiadu a darparu dulliau mwy creadigol o gyflawni gweithgareddau creadigol traws-gwricwlaidd.

I think that the Urdd is one of the really shining good examples of where those opportunities lie. Of course, that is an organisation that is embedded in rural areas as well as the more urban areas of Wales. We are extremely fortunate in north Wales, because we have a chain of what I would call 'cultural pearls', which allow the arts to run as a theme throughout north Wales. We have Ruthin craft centre, which has three galleries, six artists' studios and holds regular education and residency workshops so that people living and working in north Wales, and schoolchildren more importantly, in the local area can benefit from the activities carried out there. Oriel Ynys Môn holds up to eight exhibitions throughout the year. Of course, we have Venue Cymru and Clwyd Theatr Cymru in Mold, as well as the Oriel Mostyn Gallery in Llandudno. Those are, as it where, the traditional—or not so traditional—examples of theatre and dance but, digitally, we have Theatr Colwyn and the Scala cinema, which have enabled more modern forms of art and digital film technology to reach out to local communities. In particular, the Scala cinema is a not-for-profit company. It is run as a charity and is excellent at promoting community and educational activities.

Credaf fod yr Urdd yn un o'r enghreifftiau gwirioneddol dda hynny o'r cyfleoedd sydd ar gael. Wrth gwrs, mae hwnnw'n sefydliad sydd wedi ymsefydlu mewn ardaloedd gwledig yn ogystal ag ardaloedd mwy trefol Cymru. Rydym yn ffodus iawn yn y gogledd, gan fod gennym gadwyn o'r hyn y byddwn yn ei alw yn 'berlau diwylliannol' sy'n caniatáu i'r celfyddydau redeg fel thema ledled y gogledd. Mae gan ganolfan grefftau Rhuthun dair oriel, chwe stiwdio artistiaid ac mae'n cynnal gweithdai addysg a phreswyl rheolaidd fel bod pobl sy'n byw ac yn gweithio yn y gogledd, a phlant ysgol yn hollbwysig, yn yr ardal leol yn gallu cael budd o'r gweithgareddau a wneir yno. Mae Oriel Ynys Môn yn cynnal hyd at wyth arddangosfa drwy gydol y flwyddyn. Wrth gwrs, mae gennym Venue Cymru a Clwyd Theatr Cymru yn yr Wyddgrug, yn ogystal ag Oriel Mostyn yn Llandudno. Dyna'r enghreifftiau traddodiadol, fel petai—neu ddim mor draddodiadol—o theatr a dawns ond, yn ddigidol, mae gennym Theatr Colwyn a sinema Scala, lle mae cyfle wedi bod i gyflwyno ffurfiau mwy modern ar gelfyddyd a thechnoleg ffilm ddigidol i gyrraedd cymunedau lleol. Yn benodol, mae sinema Scala yn gwmni dielw. Caiff ei rhedeg fel elusen ac mae'n gwneud gwaith gwych o ran hyrwyddo gweithgareddau cymunedol ac addysgol.

I think there is a massive opportunity for Wales in terms of arts and tourism. I know that Bethan Jenkins made this point. It is clear that there is a real opportunity to extend the cultural uniqueness and that arts heritage that we have in Wales into tourism. Given areas like north Wales that have this wonderful chain of cultural galleries and theatres that people can visit, the most should be made to tie that up in the tourism strategy. For example, in September every year, Helfa Gelf, which is an art trail, runs across north Wales. All the councils, with the exception of Anglesey, open up their artists' studios. I know that Anglesey has an earlier event in August. They all open up their artists' studios. It is a wonderful way to go around Wales and draw people into Wales in what is traditionally seen as, perhaps, a low season in terms of tourism in north Wales. Therefore, I would urge you, Minister, to work with your colleague Edwina Hart, to make sure that Visit Wales embeds the arts into its tourism strategy, particularly because it has shown that there is a far greater local spend when people come in for cultural and arts visits than when they come in for sporting visits.

Rwy'n credu bod cyfle enfawr i Gymru o ran y celfyddydau a thwristiaeth. Gwn fod Bethan Jenkins wedi gwneud y pwynt hwn. Mae'n amlwg bod cyfle gwirioneddol i ymestyn y natur ddiwylliannol unigryw hon a'r etifeddiaeth gelfyddydol sydd gennym yng Nghymru i faes twristiaeth. O ystyried ardaloedd fel y gogledd sydd â'r gadwyn wych hon o orielau diwylliannol a theatrau y gall pobl ymweld â hwy, dylid gwneud popeth posibl i gysylltu hynny â'r strategaeth dwristiaeth. Er enghraifft, ym mis Medi bob blwyddyn, cynhelir Helfa Gelf, sef llwybr celfyddydol, ar draws y gogledd. Mae'r holl gynghorau, ac eithrio Ynys Môn, yn agor eu stiwdios artistiaid. Gwn fod gan Ynys Môn ddigwyddiad cynharach ym mis Awst. Maent i gyd yn agor eu stiwdios artistiaid. Mae'n ffordd wych o fynd o amgylch Cymru a denu pobl i Gymru yn yr hyn a ystyrir yn draddodiadol, efallai, yn dymor tawel o ran twristiaeth yn y gogledd. Felly, byddwn yn eich annog, Weinidog, i weithio gyda'ch cyd-Weinidog Edwina Hart, i sicrhau bod Croeso Cymru yn ymgorffori'r celfyddydau yn ei strategaeth dwristiaeth, yn enwedig gan ei fod wedi dangos bod llawer mwy o wariant yn lleol pan ddaw pobl i mewn i'r wlad ar gyfer ymweliadau diwylliannol a chelfyddydol na phan ddônt iddi ar gyfer digwyddiadau chwaraeon.

15:38

Nick Ramsay Bywgraffiad Biography

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Will you give way?

A wnewch chi ildio?

15:38

Antoinette Sandbach Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Yes, carry on.

Iawn, ewch ymlaen.

15:38

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I was just going to say that our time was up, therefore it will have to be a very quick contribution.

Roeddwn ar fin dweud bod ein hamser ar ben, felly bydd yn rhaid iddo fod yn gyfraniad cyflym iawn.

15:39 **Nick Ramsay** Bywgraffiad Biography

Would you also support my ongoing campaign to have far better signage for arts and tourist attractions in Wales? That is in much need of an overhaul.

A fyddech hefyd yn cefnogi fy ymgyrch barhaus i sicrhau arwyddion gwell o lawer ar gyfer yr atyniadau celfyddydol a'r rhai i dwristiaid yng Nghymru? Mae gwir angen ailwampio hynny.

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15:39 **Antoinette Sandbach** Bywgraffiad Biography

I certainly would. I think it is a wonderful example of how the arts is one of those cross-cutting areas that can affect the economy and improve education, but, more importantly and for its own sake, it culturally enriches our lives.

Byddwn, yn sicr. Rwy'n credu ei fod yn enghraifft wych o sut y mae'r celfyddydau yn un o'r meysydd trawsbynciol hynny a all effeithio ar yr economi a gwella addysg, ond, yn bwysicach ac er ei fwyn ei hun, mae'n cyfoethogi ein bywydau mewn modd diwylliannol.

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15:39 **Julie Morgan** Bywgraffiad Biography

I am pleased to speak in this debate. Although the motion starts off in a negative way, I welcome the opportunity to discuss the importance of the arts to Wales in this debate. The arts are important in every aspect of life and they have huge benefits, and, as Alice Walker, the African-American author of 'The Colour Purple' suggested when she said,

Rwy'n falch o siarad yn y ddadl hon. Er bod y cynnig yn cychwyn mewn ffordd negyddol, croesawaf y cyfle i drafod pwysigrwydd y celfyddydau i Gymru yn y ddadl hon. Mae'r celfyddydau yn bwysig ym mhob agwedd ar fywyd ac mae manteision enfawr yn gysylltiedig â hwy ac, fel yr awgrymodd Alice Walker, awdur Affricanaidd-Americanaidd 'The Colour Purple' pan ddywedodd,

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'If art doesn't make us better, then what on earth is it for?'

Os nad yw celfyddyd yn gwneud inni deimlo'n well, yna beth ar y ddaear yw ei diben?

I think that that is a very profound comment, because the power that art has to enrich our lives and to tackle difficult issues is very important. The benefits are huge for the individual and for society.

Credaf fod hynny'n sylw dwys iawn, oherwydd mae'r pŵer sydd gan gelfyddyd i gyfoethogi ein bywydau ac i fynd i'r afael â materion anodd yn bwysig iawn. Mae'r manteision yn enfawr i'r unigolyn ac i gymdeithas.

I was reminded of this a couple of weeks ago when I presented prizes for the award-winning poetry and prose in Cardiff Women's Aid's creative writing competition. This is a powerful collection and, as Morgan Fackrell, the chief executive of Cardiff Women's Aid, says in the foreword to the book of poetry and prose from the competition,

Cefais fy atgoffa o hyn ychydig wythnosau yn ôl pan gyflwynais wobrau ar gyfer y farddoniaeth a'r rhyddiaith orau yng nghystadleuaeth ysgrifennu creadigol Cymorth i Fenywod Caerdydd. Mae hwn yn gasgliad pwerus ac, fel y dywed Morgan Fackrell, prif weithredwr Cymorth i Fenywod Caerdydd, yn y rhagair i'r llyfr o farddoniaeth a rhyddiaith o'r gystadleuaeth,

'Be prepared to have your understanding of violence against women challenged, confirmed, re-affirmed, increased and to gain new understanding of how it manifests and what it feels like to experience or witness'.

Byddwch yn barod i rywun herio eich dealltwriaeth o drais yn erbyn menywod, ei chadarnhau, ei hailddatgan, ei chynyddu a meithrin dealltwriaeth newydd o'r modd y mae'n amlygu ei hun a sut deimlad ydyw i brofi'r trais neu fod yn dyst iddo.

The arts are able to help us tackle difficult and very personal issues, which is difficult to do in other ways. For the writers featured in this book, I am sure that the writing process itself was healing and life affirming. I know that the readers of the book will see themselves reflected in its words or will learn something that they did not previously know, because if you are subject to domestic abuse, you will feel less alone as you read about the experience of others, and, if you have not experienced domestic abuse, you will understand more. In this way, the arts can make us feel less isolated and lonely, and can enlighten us, because they speak about the things that are the same between us, but also about our differences.

Mae'r celfyddydau yn gallu ein helpu i fynd i'r afael â materion anodd a phersonol iawn, sy'n anodd i'w wneud mewn ffyrdd eraill. Ar gyfer yr awduron sy'n ymddangos yn y llyfr hwn, rwy'n siŵr bod y broses ysgrifennu ei hun yn iachâu ac yn cadarnhau bywyd. Gwn y bydd darllenwyr y llyfr yn gweld adlewyrchiad o'u hunain yn ei eiriau neu y byddant yn dysgu rhywbeth nad oedd ganddynt o'r blaen, oherwydd os ydych yn destun cam-drin domestig, byddwch yn teimlo'n llai unig wrth ichi ddarllen am brofiadau eraill, ac, os nad ydych wedi profi cam-drin domestig, byddwch yn deall mwy. Yn y ffordd hon, gall y celfyddydau ein gwneud yn llai ynysig ac unig, a gall ein goleuo, oherwydd maent yn sôn am y pethau sydd yr un peth rhyngom, ond hefyd am ein gwahaniaethau.

Last week, I attended an event organised by Jocelyn Davies in the Pierhead about the sexualisation of children and young people, where children used drama and poetry to talk about the huge pressures on them to conform to sexualised images at a very early age, such as the pressure to have boyfriends or girlfriends when they are very young. They portrayed this very powerfully through poetry and drama. It would have been difficult for them to have done it if they just had to speak about it; in fact, I do not think that they would have been able to. This is a very powerful and important area of the arts, which links to the areas of policy that we develop through this Assembly, because we are going to develop a domestic violence Bill. The arts are a way of getting through to people about what the ideas are.

Yr wythnos diwethaf, mynychais ddigwyddiad a drefnwyd gan Jocelyn Davies yn y Lanfa am rywioli plant a phobl ifanc, lle y defnyddiodd plant ddrama a barddoniaeth i siarad am y pwysau enfawr sydd arnynt i gydymffurfio â delweddau rhywiol o oedran cynnar iawn, megis y pwysau i gael cariadon pan fyddant yn ifanc iawn. Portreadwyd hyn yn bwerus iawn ganddynt drwy gyfrwng barddoniaeth a drama. Byddai wedi bod yn anodd iddynt wneud hynny pe baent ond wedi cael siarad amdano; yn wir, nid wyf yn credu y byddent wedi gallu gwneud hynny. Mae hwn yn faes pwerus a phwysig o'r celfyddydau, sy'n cysylltu â'r meysydd polisi yr ydym yn eu datblygu drwy'r Cynulliad hwn, am ein bod yn mynd i ddatblygu Bil trais domestig. Mae'r celfyddydau yn ffordd o gysylltu â phobl i drafod beth yw'r syniadau.

Daeth Sandy Mewies i'r Gadair am 15:43.

Sandy Mewies took the Chair at 15:43.

Julie Morgan Bywgraffiad Biography

I agree with Plaid Cymru's amendment 1 about the importance of the arts in promoting the use of the Welsh language. The arts are so important in school, and previous speakers have already addressed that issue quite strongly. I went last week to Birchgrove Primary School—an English-medium school—where they performed the nativity play through the medium of Welsh. We saw tiny little children acting through the medium of Welsh, and I was very impressed because it was very difficult to do and they did it magnificently. The arts do help the medium of Welsh.

Cytunaf â gwelliant 1 Plaid Cymru ynghylch pwysigrwydd y celfyddydau o ran hybu'r defnydd o'r Gymraeg. Mae'r celfyddydau mor bwysig yn yr ysgol, ac mae siaradwyr blaenorol eisoes wedi mynd i'r afael â'r mater hwnnw yn eithaf cryf. Yr wythnos diwethaf euthum i Ysgol Gynradd Birchgrove—ysgol cyfrwng Saesneg—lle y perfformiwyd drama'r geni drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg. Gwelsom blant bach yn gweithredu drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg, a chreodd argraff fawr arnaf oherwydd roedd yn anodd iawn ei wneud a gwnaethant hynny'n wych. Mae'r celfyddydau yn helpu'r Gymraeg.

There is also lots of other wonderful work that organisations do in schools, such as the Shakespeare Schools Festival, a venture that started in Pembrokeshire and now works in hundreds of schools across the UK. We welcome the success of organisations such as National Theatre Wales, which won such high praise for its production of 'The Passion' in Port Talbot, and presses such as Seren Books, which currently has a pop-up shop in Castle Arcade in Cardiff. One of the important things about the arts and books is that they appear in places where everybody is, and become a normal and important part of our lives. I can think of a huge range of arts organisations and events, big and small, such as Chapter Arts Centre's Artes Mundi, which is supported by this Government. There is also Trac, Theatr Iolo, Literature Wales, Sherman Cymru, and so on. So, I welcome this debate, and I feel that the arts are a very powerful medium for putting forward our policy issues and for discussing issues that are very difficult to discuss in any other way.

Gwneir llawer iawn o waith gwych arall gan sefydliadau hefyd mewn ysgolion, megis Gŵyl Ysgolion Shakespeare, menter a ddechreuodd yn Sir Benfro ac sydd bellach ar waith mewn cannoedd o ysgolion ledled y DU. Croesawn lwyddiant sefydliadau megis National Theatre Wales, a enillodd y fath glod uchel am ei chynhyrchiad o 'The Passion' ym Mhort Talbot, a gweisg fel Seren Books, sydd â siop dros dro ar hyn o bryd yn Arcêd y Castell yng Nghaerdydd. Un o'r pethau pwysig am y celfyddydau a llyfrau yw eu bod yn ymddangos mewn mannau lle mae pawb yn rhan arferol a phwysig o'n bywydau ac yn dod yn rhan arferol a phwysig o'n bywydau. Gallaf feddwl am amrywiaeth eang o sefydliadau celfyddydol a digwyddiadau, mawr a bach, megis Artes Mundi Canolfan Gelfyddydau Chapter, a gefnogir gan y Llywodraeth hon. Ceir hefyd Trac, Theatr Iolo, Llenyddiaeth Cymru, Sherman Cymru, ac yn y blaen. Felly, croesawaf y ddadl hon, a theimlaf fod y celfyddydau yn gyfrwng pwerus iawn ar gyfer cyflwyno ein materion polisi ac i drafod materion sy'n anodd iawn eu trafod mewn unrhyw ffordd arall.

15:44

Angela Burns Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I am delighted to be able to speak in this debate. I would like to start, Minister, by saying that bread feeds the body, but flowers feed also the soul. That is attributed to the Quran, to Confucius, to Buddha and, indeed, to a great many other teachings. I think that that it is an allegory for what it is that we need as human beings. I know that Julie Morgan made the comment that we started our motion in a negative way, because we do regret the lack of debate, but that is because we want to ensure that art is not seen as an 'also ran', but is a fundamental part of who we are as a nation and who we are as individuals.

Rwy'n falch iawn o allu siarad yn y ddadl hon. Hoffwn ddechrau, Weinidog, drwy ddweud bod bara'n bwydo'r corff, ond mae blodau yn bwydo'r enaid hefyd. Priodolir hynny i'r Cŵran, i Confucius, i Bwdha ac, yn wir, i lawer iawn o fathau eraill o ddysgeidiaeth. Credaf fod hynny'n alegori am yr hyn sydd ei angen arnom fel bodau dynol. Gwn i Julie Morgan wneud y sylw ein bod wedi dechrau ein cynnig mewn ffordd negyddol, oherwydd mae'n drueni na chafwyd dadl, ond mae hynny am ein bod am sicrhau nad ystyrir celfyddyd fel 'rhedwr arall', ond ei bod yn rhan hanfodol o bwy ydym fel cenedl a phwy ydym fel unigolion.

I was going to talk about the arts in education report, but other people here have done that so much better than I would have done. Therefore, I want to concentrate on one tiny bit of our motion that could get lost very easily, which is the intrinsic importance of the arts and culture to the identity of Wales and to the personal wellbeing of its citizens. I would like to dwell for a few minutes and ask Members to remember that art does not have to do something. It does not have to solve problems, to give us a route through, or do anything, sometimes, except bring immense joy to the beholder or the partaker. Sometimes, in all of the dialogue about arts and what it can do for the economy, education and all of these other important things, we sometimes forget that part of the job of art is simply to uplift the soul, or, as Pablo Picasso said,

Roeddwn yn mynd i siarad am y celfyddydau yn yr adroddiad addysg, ond mae pobl eraill yma wedi gwneud hynny gymaint yn well nag y byddwn i wedi ei wneud. Felly, rwyf am ganolbwyntio ar un darn bach o'n cynnig a allai fynd ar goll yn hawdd iawn, sef pwysigrwydd cynhenid y celfyddydau a diwylliant i hunaniaeth Cymru ac i les personol ei dinasyddion. Hoffwn oedi am ychydig funudau a gofyn i'r Aelodau gofio nad oes rhaid i gelfyddyd wneud rhywbeth. Nid oes rhaid iddi ddatrys problemau, na rhoi llwybr drwodd inni, na gwneud unrhyw beth, weithiau, heblaw am ddod â llawenydd mawr i'r gwyliwr neu'r cyfranogwr. Weithiau, mewn unrhyw ddeialog am y celfyddydau a'r hyn y gall ei wneud i'r economi, addysg a phob un o'r pethau pwysig eraill hyn, rydym yn anghofio weithiau mai rhan o waith celfyddyd yw dyrchafu'r enaid, neu fel y dywedodd Pablo Picasso ,

'to wash away from the soul the dust of everyday life'.

golchi llwch bywyd beunyddiol i ffwrdd o'r enaid.

I want to tell Members why I think that it all just feeds gradually in. I took my children to the museum in Cardiff, and downstairs, for those of you who might not have been there, there is a section where you can touch dinosaur poo and bones and all these things that small children find terribly exciting, and they touched a narwhal tusk. It was amazing. The museum attendant said, 'It is a unicorn; this has come from the unicorn of the sea', and that was it, they were off. Immediately, they started to talk about how bones could grow a unicorn tusk that long. We then went into skeletons, then bones, then cells and it was one after the other; it all flowed through. It was effortless, it was joyful, and they were excited. Above all, that trip was about 18 months ago but they remember it to this very day.

Rwyf am ddweud wrth Aelodau pam y credaf fod y cyfan yn raddol yn bwydo i mewn. Euthum â'm plant i'r amgueddfa yng Nghaerdydd, ac ar yr islawr, i'r rheini ohonoch nad ydych efallai wedi bod yno, mae adran lle y gallwch gyffwrdd â baw ac esgyrn y deinosoriaid a'r holl bethau hyn sy'n gyffrous iawn i blant bach, a gwnaethant gyffwrdd â dant môr-ungorn. Roedd yn anhygoel. Dywedodd cynorthwyydd yr amgueddfa, 'Ungorn ydyw; mae hwn wedi dod o ungorn y môr', a dyna ddechrau arni. Ar unwaith, dechreuasant siarad am sut y gallai esgyrn dyfu dant ungorn mor hir. Yna trafodwyd ysgerbydau, yna esgyrn, yna celloedd ac roedd un peth ar ôl y llall; gwnaeth y cyfan lifo drwodd. Roedd yn ddiymdrech, yn bleser ac roeddent yn llawn cyffro. Yn anad dim, roedd y diwrnod hwnnw tua 18 mis yn ôl ond maent yn ei gofio hyd heddiw.

I think that if we can somehow enable art, in all of its ways, to flow through the veins of Wales, it will touch the lives of a great many people. We have seen so many times on the television how very marginalised older people get together with a small group. We have seen the singing choirmaster and the things that he does with small groups of people. It is about feeling a part of something and believing that, no matter how lonely, grim or painful your existence might be, you can look outside of yourself and look to another place.

Credaf, os gallwn rywffordd sicrhau bod celfyddyd, yn ei holl ffyrdd, yn gallu llifo drwy wythiennau Cymru, y bydd yn cyffwrdd â bywydau llawer iawn o bobl. Rydym wedi gweld cymaint o weithiau ar y teledu sut mae pobl hŷn ar yr ymylon yn dod at ei gilydd gyda grŵp bach. Rydym wedi gweld y côr-feistr sy'n canu a'r pethau y mae'n ei wneud gyda grwpiau bach o bobl. Mae a wnelo â theimlo'n rhan o rywbeth a chredu, ni waeth pa mor unig, annymunol neu boenus yw eich bodolaeth, y gallwch edrych y tu allan i chi'ch hun ac edrych ar rywle arall.

I would like to spend a minute particularly talking about art therapy. It is something that gets sidelined; no-one ever talks about it much. However, art therapy is something that has the most amazing ability to transform the lives of people. It is practiced in prisons, with people with mental health issues, with children who have real difficulty with their behaviour and in palliative care situations, and it is a route out of a very difficult situation.

Hoffwn dreulio munud yn siarad yn benodol am therapi celf. Mae'n rhywbeth sy'n cael ei wthio i'r cyrion; nid oes neb byth yn siarad llawer am y peth. Fodd bynnag, mae therapi celf yn rhywbeth sydd â'r gallu mwyaf anhygoel i drawsnewid bywydau pobl. Caiff ei arfer mewn carchardai, gyda phobl sydd â phroblemau iechyd meddwl, gyda phlant sy'n cael anhawster go iawn gyda'u hymddygiad ac mewn sefyllfaoedd gofal lliniarol, ac mae'n ffordd allan o sefyllfa anodd iawn.

Therefore, Minister, I would like to ask you to look at art in a much more holistic form, and look at it, as I said earlier, as spreading through the veins of Wales; not simply being used to transform education, or to transform and help to engage the economy, but the whole bit about building the cultural depository of our citizenship here. That will help our maturity as a race. It ought to develop all of us, no matter who we are. We must remember that we all come to art at different times in our lives. I have never ever been able to love opera; I have fallen asleep in some of the smartest operas going, but ballet really strikes my soul. I love sculpture, but pottery leaves me cold. Every single person will have a very different view about art, what it does and how it speaks to them. It is about ensuring that we open up and let it flow through the veins of the country, so that it can reach everybody in a way that means something to them.

Felly, Weinidog, hoffwn ofyn ichi i edrych ar gelf mewn ffordd lawer mwy cyfannol, ac edrych arni, fel y dywedais yn gynharach, fel rhywbeth sy'n llifo drwy wythiennau Cymru; nad yw'n cael ei defnyddio yn syml i drawsnewid addysg, neu i drawsnewid a helpu i ymgysylltu â'r economi, ond ei bod hefyd yn ymwneud â mater cyfan creu storfa ddiwylliannol o'n dinasyddiaeth yma. Bydd hynny yn ein helpu i aeddfedu fel hil. Dylai ddatblygu pob un ohonom, ni waeth pwy ydym. Rhaid inni gofio y daw pob un ohonom ar draws celfyddyd ar adegau gwahanol yn ein bywydau. Nid wyf erioed wedi gallu hoffi opera; rwyf wedi syrthio i gysgu mewn rhai o'r operâu gorau, ond mae bale yn treiddio drwy fy enaid. Rwy'n hoff iawn o gerfluniaeth, ond nid yw crochenwaith yn fy nghyffroi. Bydd gan bob unigolyn farn wahanol iawn am gelfyddyd, beth a wna a sut y mae'n siarad â hwy. Mae a wnelo â sicrhau ein bod yn fodlon agor ein henaid a gadael iddo lifo drwy wythiennau'r wlad, fel y gall gyrraedd pawb mewn ffordd sy'n golygu rhywbeth iddynt.

15:50

Mohammad Asghar Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

It is a great pleasure for me to contribute to this debate on the importance of the arts and culture in Wales. We all know that culture plays a fundamental role in our society. It is a surprise, therefore, that the Welsh Government has not seen fit to hold a single debate on the arts during the current Assembly term. Our arts and culture define what it means to be Welsh. They have the capacity to educate us, to entertain us and to enrich our society.

Mae'n bleser mawr gennyf gyfrannu at y ddadl hon ar bwysigrwydd y celfyddydau a diwylliant yng Nghymru. Gwyddom i gyd fod diwylliant yn chwarae rhan sylfaenol yn ein cymdeithas. Mae'n syndod, felly, nad yw Llywodraeth Cymru wedi gweld yn dda i gynnal dadl unigol ar y celfyddydau yn ystod tymor cyfredol y Cynulliad. Mae ein celfyddydau a'n diwylliant yn diffinio'r hyn y mae'n ei olygu i fod yn Gymro neu'n Gymraes. Mae ganddynt y gallu i'n haddysgu, i'n difyrru ac i gyfoethogi ein cymdeithas.

However, the benefits of arts and culture are not intangible. They also have the potential to deliver genuine economic benefits. It is a fact that arts and culture encourage tourists to visit Wales. Recent research reveals that 40% of tourists to the United Kingdom gave as the primary reason for their visit our arts and culture. They generate billions of pounds in increased business for hotels, shops and restaurants, as well as providing direct funding for the arts and culture through ticket sales and entrance fees.

Fodd bynnag, nid yw manteision y celfyddydau a diwylliant yn anweladwy. Mae ganddynt hefyd y potensial i sicrhau manteision economaidd go iawn. Mae'n ffaith bod y celfyddydau a diwylliant yn annog twristiaid i ymweld â Chymru. Mae ymchwil ddiweddar yn dangos i 40% o dwristiaid a ddaeth i'r Deyrnas Unedig nodi iddynt ddod yma yn bennaf oherwydd ein celfyddydau a'n diwylliant. Maent yn cynhyrchu biliynau o bunnoedd mewn mwy o fusnes i westai, siopau a bwytai, yn ogystal â darparu cyllid uniongyrchol i'r celfyddydau a diwylliant drwy werthiant tocynnau a ffioedd mynediad.

Tourism is a vital part of our economy. Tourism contributes over £3 billion to Welsh GDP and supports 114,000 jobs in Wales, whether it is through our historic sites, such as our castles, our world heritage sites, our historic churches, our beautiful landscapes in north Wales and south Wales alike—Snowdonia and the Brecon Beacons are wonderful areas for people to visit, not only from the UK, but across the channel from Europe. We can transform our economy. Our famous festivals, such as the National Eisteddfod, the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod and the Hay-on-Wye literary festival also contribute great cultural treasures for Wales. They all make a significant contribution to the economy as well as to our own cultural identity.

Mae twristiaeth yn rhan hanfodol o'n heconomi. Mae twristiaeth yn cyfrannu dros £3 biliwn i CMC Cymru ac yn cefnogi 114,000 o swyddi yng Nghymru, boed hynny drwy ein safleoedd hanesyddol, megis ein cestyll, ein safleoedd treftadaeth y byd, ein heglwysi hanesyddol, ein tirweddau prydferth yn y gogledd a'r de fel ei gilydd—mae Eryri a Bannau Brycheiniog yn ardaloedd gwych i bobl ymweld â hwy, nid yn unig o'r DU, ond ar draws y sianel o Ewrop. Gallwn drawsnewid ein heconomi. mae ein gwyliau enwog, megis yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol, Eisteddfod Gerddorol Ryngwladol Llangollen a gŵyl lenyddiaeth y Gelli Gandryll hefyd yn cyfrannu trysorau diwylliannol enfawr i Gymru. Maent oll yn gwneud cyfraniad sylweddol i'r economi ac i'n hunaniaeth ddiwylliannol ein hunain.

That is why we are all disappointed that Swansea bay did not win the competition to become the UK's Capital of Culture in 2017, with all the benefits that that event could bring to Wales. I am sure that the Minister must have given his full support for that bid, but we need to know the reason why that did not happen, and that should not ever happen again for Wales.

Dyna pam yr ydym i gyd yn siomedig nad enillodd Abertawe y gystadleuaeth i fod yn Brifddinas Diwylliant y DU yn 2017, gyda'r holl fuddiannau y gallai'r digwyddiad hwnnw eu sicrhau i Gymru. Rwy'n siŵr bod y Gweinidog wedi cefnogi'r cais hwnnw yn llawn, ond mae angen inni wybod pam na ddigwyddodd hynny, ac na ddylai hynny byth ddigwydd eto i Gymru.

I am concerned that the Welsh Government's strategy for tourism, which was launched in June this year, is too vague and lacks the direction needed to maximise the potential for tourism in Wales. I urge the Welsh Government to look again at its strategy to ensure that we do not miss out on the jobs, growth and regeneration that tourism can bring to Wales.

Pryderaf fod strategaeth Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer twristiaeth, a lansiwyd ym mis Mehefin eleni, yn rhy amwys ac nad yw'n cynnwys y cyfeiriad sydd ei angen i wneud y gorau o'r potensial ar gyfer twristiaeth yng Nghymru. Hoffwn annog Llywodraeth Cymru i edrych eto ar ei strategaeth er mwyn sicrhau y cawn y swyddi, y twf a'r adfywio y gall twristiaeth eu cynnig i Gymru.

I would also ask the Welsh Government to look at ways of increasing the number of people in Wales who participate in enjoying our arts and culture. Much of Wales is rural and lack of transport can be a major barrier to accessing and participating in our great arts and culture sites spread all over Wales. Another barrier is cost. I welcome the fact that many attractions are free to the public, but ticket prices can be a significant obstacle to those living in our deprived communities accessing arts and culture in Wales.

Byddwn hefyd yn gofyn i Lywodraeth Cymru edrych ar ffyrdd o gynyddu nifer y bobl yng Nghymru sy'n cymryd rhan yn ein celfyddydau a'n diwylliant ac yn mwynhau gwneud hynny. Mae rhannau helaeth o Gymru yn wledig a gall diffyg trafnidiaeth fod yn rhwystr mawr rhag manteisio ar ein safleoedd celfyddydol a diwylliannol mawr ledled Cymru a chymryd rhan ynddynt. Rhwystr arall yw cost. Croesawaf y ffaith bod llawer o atyniadau ar gael am ddim i'r cyhoedd, ond gall prisiau tocynnau rwystro'n sylweddol y rheini sy'n byw yn ein cymunedau difreintiedig rhag manteisio ar y celfyddydau a diwylliant yng Nghymru.

We recognise the vital role played by the Arts Council of Wales in funding and developing the arts, but the state should not and must not be the sole source of funding. Sponsorship from the private business sector can and must support the arts, and Welsh Government needs to work with the Arts Council of Wales to seek and identify sources of funding. Our culture and business are not mutually exclusive. They are, in fact, two sides of the same coin. I call on the Welsh Government to ensure that the arts are at the centre of its programme to build a strong and vibrant economy. When a child is born, Minister, that child has a talent for some sort of art; it is the job of the family, the school and the state to take the best potential out of the body. I can assure you that there is no shortage of people like Richard Burton, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Dylan Thomas and people like them. There are lots of them. They only need the big and proper support from the state, the family, the school and society to bring out their full potential and to make the great culture of this country, so that we can put our name abroad.

Cydnabyddwn y rôl hanfodol a chwaraeir gan Gyngor Celfyddydau Cymru yn y gwaith o ariannu a datblygu'r celfyddydau, ond ni ddylai'r wladwriaeth weithredu fel yr unig ffynhonnell o gyllid a rhaid sicrhau na fydd hynny'n digwydd. Rhaid i nawdd gan y sector busnes preifat gefnogi'r celfyddydau a rhaid sicrhau ei bod yn gwneud hynny, ac mae angen i Lywodraeth Cymru geisio a nodi ffynonellau cyllid. Nid yw ein diwylliant na'n busnesau yn annibynnol ar ei gilydd. Mewn gwirionedd, mae cysylltiad agos rhyngddynt. Galwaf ar Lywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau bod y celfyddydau wrth wraidd ei rhaglen i greu economi gref a bywiog. Pan enir plentyn, Weinidog, mae gan y plentyn hwnnw dalent ar gyfer rhyw fath o gelfyddyd; gwaith y teulu, yr ysgol a'r wladwriaeth yw sicrhau potensial gorau'r unigolyn. Gallaf eich sicrhau nad oes prinder pobl fel Richard Burton, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Dylan Thomas a phobl debyg. Mae llawer ohonynt. Y cyfan sydd ei angen arnynt yw cefnogaeth fawr a phriodol y wladwriaeth, y teulu, yr ysgol a chymdeithas i wireddu eu potensial llawn a gwneud y cyfraniad mawr i'r wlad hon, fel y gall ein henw ddod yn gyfarwydd i bobl dramor.

15:55 **John Griffiths** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Y Gweinidog Diwylliant a Chwaraeon / The Minister for Culture and Sport

I begin by thanking Members very much for their contributions to the debate. It is good to hear how much Members understand, appreciate and value the arts and what they bring to Wales. That cross-party support for arts and culture is encouraging for me, as Minister, as it is for everyone in the arts sector in Wales.

Dechreuaf drwy ddiolch i'r Aelodau yn fawr iawn am eu cyfraniadau i'r ddadl. Mae'n dda clywed cymaint y mae Aelodau yn deall ac yn gwerthfawrogi'r celfyddydau a'r hyn a gynigiant i Gymru. Mae'r gefnogaeth drawsbleidiol honno i'r celfyddydau a diwylliant yn galonogol i mi, fel Gweinidog, fel y mae i bawb yn y sector celfyddydau yng Nghymru.

I begin by referring to the amendments. First, the Welsh Government supports amendment 1 and recognises the central importance of the arts in promoting the Welsh language, not least through the work of the eisteddfodau and our many Welsh-medium singers, writers, poets and community arts organisations.

Dechreuaf drwy gyfeirio at y gwelliannau. Yn gyntaf, mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cefnogi gwelliant 1 ac yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd canolog y celfyddydau wrth hyrwyddo'r Gymraeg, yn bennaf drwy waith yr eisteddfodau a'n cantorion, awduron, beirdd a sefydliadau celfyddydau cymunedol cyfrwng Cymraeg niferus.

We oppose amendment 2 on the grounds that it is technically deficient, unfortunately, because it repeats an inaccuracy within the original motion. Professor Dai Smith's report is not an Arts Council of Wales report; it was commissioned by Welsh Government as an independent report. The Minister for Education and Skills and I will respond to it in the near future.

We support amendment 3, which is consistent with our programme for government and our aim to widen access to our museums, libraries and heritage sites. We also support amendment 4, on the basis that the arts council's operational plan covers those points.

Welsh Government very much values the arts, and we are focused on delivery, notably on the programme for government commitment to maintain a strong, vibrant and sustainable arts sector. As we have heard from others today, the arts have intrinsic value and they are important to Welsh Government strategy and policy across departments. They are important to the quality of life, tackling poverty, economic growth and jobs, education and health. We have important work completed and in train, in terms of Dai Smith's report, and indeed Kay Andrews's report, which is very much on the subject of joining up our arts and culture offer to tackle poverty in Wales.

That importance is also reflected in our budget settlement to the Arts Council of Wales. Despite the unprecedented cuts by the UK Government, we are committed to the arts in Wales, and this has resulted in many achievements since devolution. I will mention a number of those: rising rates of participation and attendance, which go across the social classes; creation of new national companies; support for community-based arts organisations; and the creation of new high-quality arts venues across our country.

Arts and culture are central to what it means to be Welsh. A huge variety of cultural events take place every year. We have high levels of attendance and participation, which engenders enormous pride across our country. The Welsh Government, of course, funds many of the home events that are so important to maintaining and enhancing this identity. These include the National and Urdd Eisteddfodau, Hay festival, Brecon Jazz, Llangollen, Wakestock and Artes Mundi. Internationally, last year, to promote a positive image of Wales overseas, we were represented internationally at the Vienna Biennale and at the Lorient inter-celtic festival. We hosted the World Music Expo and we are just beginning the Dylan Thomas festival, which includes a range of overseas activities as well as events in Wales.

Gwrthwynebwn welliant 2 ar y sail ei fod yn dechnegol ddiffygiol, yn anffodus, oherwydd ei fod yn ailadrodd anghywirdeb o fewn y cynnig gwreiddiol. Nid adroddiad gan Gyngor Celfyddydau Cymru yw adroddiad yr Athro Dai Smith; fe'i comisiynwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru fel adroddiad annibynnol. Bydd y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau a minnau yn ymateb iddo yn y dyfodol agos.

Rydym yn cefnogi gwelliant 3, sy'n gyson â'n rhaglen lywodraethu a'n nod o ehangu mynediad i'n hamgueddfeydd, llyfrgelloedd a safleoedd treftadaeth. Rydym hefyd yn cefnogi gwelliant 4, ar y sail bod cynllun gweithredol cyngor y celfyddydau yn cwmpasu'r pwyntiau hynny.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn gwerthfawrogi'r celfyddydau yn fawr, ac rydym yn canolbwyntio ar gyflawni, yn enwedig o ran ymrwymiad y rhaglen lywodraethu i gynnal sector celfyddydol cryf, bywiog a chynaliadwy. Fel y clywsom gan eraill heddiw, mae gan y celfyddydau werth cynhenid ac maent yn bwysig i strategaeth a pholisi Llywodraeth Cymru ym mhob adran. Maent yn bwysig i ansawdd bywyd, mynd i'r afael â thlodi, twf economaidd a swyddi, addysg ac iechyd. Mae gwaith pwysig wedi'i gwblhau gennym a gwaith yn mynd rhagddo, o ran adroddiad Dai Smith, ac yn wir adroddiad Kay Andrews, sy'n sôn llawer am gydgysylltu ein cynnig o ran y celfyddydau a diwylliant i fynd i'r afael â thlodi yng Nghymru.

Adlewyrchir y pwysigrwydd hwnnw hefyd yn setliad y gyllideb i Gyngor Celfyddydau Cymru. Er gwaethaf y toriadau digynsail gan Lywodraeth y DU, rydym wedi ymrwymo i'r celfyddydau yng Nghymru, ac mae hyn wedi arwain at lawer o lwyddiannau ers datganoli. Soniaf am nifer o'r rheini: cyfraddau cynyddol cyfranogiad a phresenoldeb, ar draws y dosbarthiadau cymdeithasol; creu cwmnïau cenedlaethol newydd; cymorth ar gyfer sefydliadau celfyddydol yn y gymuned; a chreu lleoliadau celfyddydol o ansawdd uchel newydd ledled ein gwlad.

Mae'r celfyddydau a diwylliant yn ganolog i'r hyn y mae'n ei olygu i fod yn Gymro neu'n Gymraes. Cynhelir amrywiaeth enfawr o ddigwyddiadau diwylliannol bob blwyddyn. Mae gennym lefelau uchel o bresenoldeb a chyfranogiad, sy'n ennyn balchder enfawr ar draws ein gwlad. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru, wrth gwrs, yn ariannu llawer o'r digwyddiadau cartref sydd mor bwysig i gynnal a gwella'r hunaniaeth hon. Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol ac Eisteddfod yr Urdd, Gŵyl y Gelli, Jazz Aberhonddu, Llangollen, Wakestock ac Artes Mundi. Yn rhyngwladol, y llynedd, i hyrwyddo delwedd gadarnhaol o Gymru dramor, cawsom ein cynrychioli yn rhyngwladol yn y Biennale Fienna ac yng ngŵyl ryng-geltaidd Lorient. Gwnaethom gynnal y World Music Expo ac rydym ar fin cychwyn gŵyl Dylan Thomas, sy'n cynnwys amrywiaeth o weithgareddau tramor yn ogystal â digwyddiadau yng Nghymru.

As for arts in education, we know that we have this important report by Dai Smith. As I said, we will be responding to that shortly. It provides an excellent summary of international research into the compelling case for arts and creativity in education, as well as a wealth of good practice information. We recognise the value of engaging with the arts sector to help young people to develop their literacy and numeracy skills, and we will set out our commitment to collaboration between the arts and education sectors in our formal response.

O ran y celfyddydau mewn addysg, gwyddom fod gennym yr adroddiad pwysig hwn gan Dai Smith. Fel y dywedais, byddwn yn ymateb i hwnnw cyn bo hir. Mae'n rhoi crynodeb ardderchog o ymchwil ryngwladol i'r achos cryf dros y celfyddydau a chreadigrwydd mewn addysg, yn ogystal â chyfoeth o wybodaeth am arfer da. Rydym yn cydnabod gwerth ymgysylltu â sector y celfyddydau er mwyn helpu pobl ifanc i ddatblygu eu sgiliau llythrennedd a rhifedd, a byddwn yn nodi ein hymrwymiad i gydweithio rhwng y sector celfyddydol a'r sector addysg yn ein hymateb ffurfiol.

The Welsh Government's current consultation on proposed changes to the school curriculum is highly relevant to this work. It includes a proposal for wider skills to be statutory elements, and these include creativity and innovation as skills to be taught across all subject disciplines. The next phase of the curriculum and assessment review will look at ways in which better links between schools and external bodies can best be achieved.

Mae ymgynghoriad cyfredol Llywodraeth Cymru ar newidiadau arfaethedig i gwricwlwm yr ysgol yn berthnasol iawn i'r gwaith hwn. Mae'n cynnwys cynnig i sgiliau ehangach fod yn elfennau statudol, ac mae'r rhain yn cynnwys creadigrwydd ac arloesedd fel sgiliau i'w haddysgu ym mhob disgyblaeth pwnc. Bydd y cam nesaf o'r cwricwlwm a'r adolygiadau asesu yn edrych ar y ffordd orau o gyflawni gwell cysylltiadau rhwng ysgolion a chyrff allanol.

With regard to overseas visitors, it is important that we have a balanced portfolio of major sporting and cultural events that support economic growth and raise our international profile and reputation. That is why I work very closely with the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport. We work together to attract major sporting and cultural events to Wales and to develop cultural tourism on a year-round basis. Where possible, we align our investments with priority business sectors, including tourism and the creative industries. We also have our cultural tourism action plan, aiming to increase the number of visitors to Wales who visit cultural and heritage events and attractions, and to enable them to experience Welsh culture. Key elements include developing music tourism, capitalising on the hosting of WOMEX, and developing an arts programme for our Cadw sites.

O ran ymwelwyr tramor, mae'n bwysig bod gennym bortffolio cytbwys o ddigwyddiadau chwaraeon a diwylliannol mawr sy'n cefnogi twf economaidd ac yn codi ein proffil rhyngwladol a'n henw da. Dyna pam rwy'n gweithio'n agos iawn gyda Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth. Rydym yn gweithio gyda'n gilydd i ddenu digwyddiadau chwaraeon a diwylliannol mawr i Gymru ac i ddatblygu twristiaeth ddiwylliannol drwy gydol y flwyddyn. Lle y bo'n bosibl, rydym yn cysoni ein buddsoddiadau â sectorau busnes blaenoriaethol, gan gynnwys twristiaeth a'r diwydiannau creadigol. Mae gennym hefyd ein cynllun gweithredu twristiaeth ddiwylliannol, sydd â'r nod o gynyddu nifer yr ymwelwyr sy'n dod i Gymru ac sy'n ymweld â digwyddiadau ac atyniadau diwylliannol a threftadaeth, a'u galluogi i brofi diwylliant Cymru. Mae elfennau allweddol yn cynnwys datblygu twristiaeth cerddoriaeth, gan fanteisio ar y ffaith ein bod wedi cynnal WOMEX, a datblygu rhaglen gelfyddydol ar gyfer ein safleoedd Cadw.

Funding is extremely important, and education and local government budgets are significant. We are committed to protecting spending on schools in Wales, and our commitments extend to front-line spending in our schools. This is reflected in the settlement for local government. This should help engagement with the arts, and Dai Smith's report very much focuses on that engagement. We all know that local government support is very important. In the current climate, it is inevitable that local authorities will be looking at all services for potential savings as they consider their budgets for next year. I want to see arts funding being as strong as possible. Referring back to cross-party support for the arts and the valuing of their benefit, which we have heard about today, I very much hope that, on a cross-party basis, we will see that valuing reflected in decisions by our local authorities. As a Welsh Government, we are monitoring local authority arts budgets very closely. We are encouraging authorities to consider the long-term impact before cutting or withdrawing any arts services or facilities.

Mae cyllid yn hynod bwysig, ac mae cyllidebau addysg a llywodraeth leol yn sylweddol. Rydym wedi ymrwymo i ddiogelu gwariant ar ysgolion yng Nghymru, ac mae ein hymrwymiadau yn ymestyn i wariant rheng flaen yn ein hysgolion. Adlewyrchir hyn yn y setliad ar gyfer llywodraeth leol. Dylai hyn helpu i ymgysylltu â'r celfyddydau, ac mae adroddiad Dai Smith yn canolbwyntio llawer ar yr ymgysylltiad hwnnw. Gŵyr pob un ohonom fod cymorth llywodraeth leol yn bwysig iawn. Yn yr hinsawdd bresennol, mae'n anochel y bydd awdurdodau lleol yn edrych ar yr holl wasanaethau ar gyfer arbedion posibl wrth iddynt ystyried eu cyllidebau ar gyfer y flwyddyn nesaf. Rwyf am sicrhau bod yr arian sydd ar gael i'r celfyddydau mor gadarn â phosibl. Gan gyfeirio'n ôl at y gefnogaeth drawsbleidiol i'r celfyddydau a gwerthfawrogiad o'u budd, y clywsom sôn amdano heddiw, rwy'n gobeithio'n fawr y gwelwn, ar sail drawsbleidiol, y gwerthfawrogiad hwnnw yn cael ei adlewyrchu mewn penderfyniadau gan ein hawdurdodau lleol. Fel Llywodraeth Cymru, rydym yn monitro cyllidebau celfyddydol awdurdodau lleol yn agos iawn. Rydym yn annog awdurdodau i ystyried yr effaith hirdymor cyn torri ar unrhyw wasanaethau neu gyfleusterau celfyddydol neu eu tynnu'n ôl.

In conclusion, it is very important that best practice and alternatives to cuts are thoroughly explained, explored and examined as we take these matters forward with our local government partners. I am working very closely with the Welsh Local Government Association and, of course, the Welsh Government and the WLGA are always eager to support local authorities to ensure that they find these cross-cutting benefits for the arts in taking forward their future service delivery, and that we look at alternatives that will deliver for communities and Wales as a whole.

I gloi, mae'n bwysig iawn bod arfer gorau a dewisiadau amgen i doriadau yn cael eu hegluro, eu harchwilio a'u hystyried yn drylwyr wrth inni ddatblygu'r materion hyn gyda'n partneriaid mewn llywodraeth leol. Rwy'n gweithio'n agos iawn gyda Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru ac, wrth gwrs, mae Llywodraeth Cymru a CLlLC bob amser yn awyddus i gefnogi awdurdodau lleol er mwyn sicrhau eu bod yn dod o hyd i'r buddiannau trawsbynciol hyn ar gyfer y celfyddydau wrth ddatblygu gwasanaethau yn y dyfodol, a'n bod yn ystyried dewisiadau amgen a fydd yn cyflawni ar gyfer cymunedau a Chymru yn gyffredinol.

16:03

Sandy Mewies Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you, Minister. I call on Nick Ramsay to reply to the debate.

Diolch ichi, Weinidog. Galwaf ar Nick Ramsay i ymateb i'r ddadl.

16:03

Nick Ramsay Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Gosh. How do you draw all the strands together of this very wide-ranging, very thoughtful and, at times, philosophical debate? I will do my best.

O diar. Sut ydych yn tynnu holl elfennau'r ddadl eang iawn ei chwmpas, myfyriol iawn ac, ar adegau, athronyddol hon ynghyd? Gwnaf fy ngorau.

What this debate has shown is that all AMs are agreed about the importance of culture to all aspects of Welsh life. Those aspects should not be underestimated. Whether it be the economy, health, education or even transport, which I mentioned earlier, all of those are no longer to be seen in the silos that they once were. Art and culture are, in many ways, the links between them, and they are certainly links that can bring educational, economic and wellbeing dividends. I will go through the plethora of contributions that we had and pick out some of the points that were made.

Yr hyn y mae'r ddadl hon wedi ei ddangos yw bod pob Aelod Cynulliad yn gytûn ynghylch pwysigrwydd diwylliant i bob agwedd ar fywyd Cymru. Ni ddylid diystyru'r agweddau hynny. Boed yn economi, iechyd, addysg neu hyd yn oed drafnidiaeth, a grybwyllais yn gynharach, nid ystyrir y rheini mwyach yn bethau annibynnol ar ei gilydd fel y'u hystyrid ar un adeg. Celfyddydau a diwylliant, mewn sawl ffordd, yw'r cysylltiadau rhyngddynt, ac yn sicr maent yn gysylltiadau a all roi buddiannau addysgol, economaidd a lles. Af drwy'r llu o gyfraniadau a gawsom a chyfeirio at rai o'r pwyntiau a wnaed.

In opening, Suzy Davies lamented the lack of a Government debate on the arts, and how this seems to be in conflict with the Government's stated aim of wanting to use the arts and culture to combat poverty. It was nice to hear from the Minister today. All that we would say, Minister, is that perhaps we could hear from you a little bit more, and perhaps the Welsh Government could explain in a little more detail how your policies are trying to achieve that aim of combating poverty. The Welsh Government needs to get ahead of the game. Suzy spoke about the pressures on local government budgets, which we also heard about from the Minister, and the knock-on effects on the arts. She also mentioned creative thinking and the need to shift to a nation of creative thinkers.

Yn ei hagoriad, soniodd Suzy Davies am ddiffyg dadl ar y celfyddydau ar ran y Llywodraeth, a sut y mae hyn, yn ôl pob golwg, yn gwrthdaro â nod datganedig y Llywodraeth o fod eisiau defnyddio'r celfyddydau a diwylliant i frwydro yn erbyn tlodi. Roedd yn braf clywed gan y Gweinidog heddiw. Y cyfan y byddem yn ei ddweud, Weinidog, yw y gallem efallai glywed gennych ychydig yn fwy, ac efallai y gallai Llywodraeth Cymru egluro ychydig yn fanylach sut y mae eich polisïau yn ceisio cyflawni'r nod hwnnw o frwydro yn erbyn tlodi. Mae angen i Lywodraeth Cymru fod gam ar y blaen. Soniodd Suzy am y pwysau ar gyllidebau llywodraeth leol, y clywsom amdano hefyd gan y Gweinidog, a'r sgil-effeithiau ar y celfyddydau. Soniodd hefyd am feddwl yn greadigol a'r angen i newid i genedl o feddylwyr creadigol.

Bethan Jenkins, you spoke of entertainment as being an important tool in helping people to learn, and you spoke about the Welsh language. You also drew attention to the 3.1% cut to the Arts Council of Wales's budget and the fact that fewer pupils in the Valleys are able to participate in orchestras and other hobbies, compared with the past. I know that you have played in an orchestra in the past, and we hope that younger people today will have the same sort of opportunities that you and other Assembly Members have benefited from.

Bethan Jenkins, bu ichi sôn am adloniant fel offeryn pwysig o ran helpu pobl i ddysgu, a bu ichi sôn am yr iaith Gymraeg. Tynnwyd sylw gennych hefyd at y toriad o 3.1% yng nghyllideb Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru a'r ffaith bod llai o ddisgyblion yn y Cymoedd yn gallu cymryd rhan mewn cerddorfeydd a hobïau eraill, o gymharu â'r gorffennol. Gwn eich bod wedi chwarae mewn cerddorfa yn y gorffennol, ac rydym yn gobeithio y bydd pobl iau heddiw yn cael yr un math o gyfleoedd yr ydych chi ac Aelodau Cynulliad eraill wedi manteisio arnynt.

Peter Black, you echoed Bethan Jenkins's comments and emphasised the links between the arts and economic development. You spoke about the co-operation between museums and galleries across Wales. I would expand that, Peter, and talk about the importance of co-operation with galleries and museums across the UK as well, taking the example of the Red Lady of Paviland, which is currently kept at Oxford University. It would perhaps be nice to see—I was going to say 'her', but, of course, those who know about the Red Lady of Paviland know that, actually, the skeleton is that of a man from 30,000 years ago, which was a very interesting period of Welsh history, of hunting and gathering, before other aspects of culture developed. It would perhaps be nice to see him exhibited in Wales a little bit more.

Peter Black, bu ichi ategu sylwadau Bethan Jenkins a phwysleisio'r cysylltiadau rhwng y celfyddydau a datblygu economaidd. Bu ichi sôn am y cydweithrediad rhwng amgueddfeydd ac orielau ledled Cymru. Byddwn yn ehangu ar hynny, Peter, a sôn am bwysigrwydd cydweithredu ag orielau ac amgueddfeydd ledled y DU hefyd, gan ddilyn esiampl Arglwyddes Goch Pen-y-fai, a gedwir ym Mhrifysgol Rhydychen ar hyn o bryd. Byddai'n braf efallai—roeddwn ar fin dweud 'ei gweld hi', ond wrth gwrs, mae'r rheini sy'n gwybod am Arglwyddes Goch Pen-y-fai yn gwybod, mewn gwirionedd, mai ysgerbwd dyn ydyw o 30,000 o flynyddoedd yn ôl, a oedd yn gyfnod diddorol iawn yn hanes Cymru, o hela a chasglu, cyn i agweddau eraill ar ddiwylliant ddatblygu. Byddai'n braf efallai iddo gael ei arddangos yng Nghymru ychydig yn fwy.

Antoinette Sandbach, you praised the Urdd and spoke of the confidence that participation in the arts gives to children. You tied in with Suzy Davies's observation that arts and education cannot be seen in isolation. You spoke about examples in your own area, such as Theatr Colwyn and the gems of north Wales. We also have many other gems across Wales in the form of our castles. I think that there are more castles per square mile in Wales than anywhere else in the world—there are 600 castles in Wales. As I mentioned in my question to you, I think that we need to advertise that fact better. Perhaps the Minister could talk to the Minister for economy about the road signage situation; I think that it is time for an overhaul of the way in which we market Wales on our roads.

Bu ichi ganmol yr Urdd Antoinette Sandbach, a sôn am yr hyder y mae cymryd rhan yn y celfyddydau yn ei roi i blant. Gwnaethoch gysylltiad â sylw Suzy Davies na ellir ystyried y celfyddydau ac addysg ar eu pen eu hunain. Bu ichi sôn am enghreifftiau yn eich ardal chi, megis Theatr Colwyn a pherlau'r gogledd. Mae gennym lawer o berlau eraill ledled Cymru ar ffurf ein cestyll. Credaf fod mwy o gestyll fesul milltir sgwâr yng Nghymru nag mewn unrhyw le arall yn y byd—mae 600 o gestyll yng Nghymru. Fel y soniais yn fy nghwestiwn ichi, credaf fod angen inni hysbysebu'r ffaith honno yn well. Efallai y gallai'r Gweinidog siarad â Gweinidog yr economi am y sefyllfa o ran arwyddion ffordd; credaf ei bod yn bryd inni ailystyried y ffordd yr ydym yn marchnata Cymru ar ein ffyrdd.

Julie Morgan, yours was a very philosophical contribution on what is art for. You did speak about how it can be used to broach difficult subjects and issues. I know that you have a passion for issues around domestic violence, and you are quite right to say that art can be used to get people to talk about things such as domestic violence in a way that they otherwise never would. We know how art is used with victims of child abuse, who find it difficult to communicate with adults about these issues in the way that we might talk to each other. Art can be used to draw out problems that they might not otherwise want to talk about. Angela Burns spoke about art therapy and the link between arts and wellbeing not being underestimated.

Julie Morgan, roedd eich cyfraniad chi yn un athronyddol iawn ar ddiben celfyddyd. Bu ichi sôn am sut y gellir ei defnyddio i drafod pynciau a materion anodd. Gwn eich bod yn teimlo'n angerddol ynghylch materion sy'n ymwneud â thrais domestig, ac rydych yn llygad eich lle i ddweud y gellir defnyddio celfyddyd i gael pobl i siarad am bethau fel trais domestig mewn modd na fyddent byth yn ei wneud fel arall. Gwyddom sut y caiff celfyddyd ei defnyddio gyda dioddefwyr cam-drin plant, sy'n ei chael hi'n anodd cyfathrebu ag oedolion am y materion hyn yn y ffordd y gallem ni efallai siarad â'n gilydd. Gellir defnyddio celfyddyd i dynnu sylw at broblemau na fyddent fel arall eisiau siarad amdanynt efallai. Soniodd Angela Burns am therapi celf ac am sicrhau na chaiff y cysylltiad rhwng y celfyddydau a lles ei ddiystyru.

Moving on to the economic situation, which I am particularly interested in, Oscar, you spoke about the 40% of tourists who come to the UK to see the arts and the huge contribution that culture makes to developing the economy. You mentioned the keywords of jobs, growth and regeneration. They are certainly extremely important and I think that, too often, we see culture in isolation from the effect on the economy. We should certainly focus on the employment opportunities. I was going to say 'the Arts Council of Wales report', but in light of the Minister's comments, I will change that and say 'the report that dealt with issues of interest to the Arts Council of Wales, published in September'. That report calls on the Welsh Government and Careers Wales to work in partnership to support a stronger focus on providing more balanced careers advice to young people, to highlight opportunities and pathways in the arts and creative industries sector. I would like to hear more, as I say, from the Minister, certainly in the new year, about how he intends to build on some of the comments that have been made in that report, because there are all sorts of economic implications.

Gan symud ymlaen at y sefyllfa economaidd, y mae gennyf ddiddordeb penodol ynddo, Oscar, bu ichi sôn am y 40% o dwristiaid sy'n dod i'r DU i weld y celfyddydau a'r cyfraniad enfawr a wna diwylliant at ddatblygu'r economi. Bu ichi sôn am y geiriau allweddol swyddi, twf ac adfywio. Yn sicr, maent yn hynod bwysig a chredaf, yn rhy aml, nad ydym yn ystyried diwylliant wrth ystyried yr effaith ar yr economi. Yn sicr, dylem ganolbwyntio ar y cyfleoedd am gyflogaeth. Roeddwn ar fin dweud 'adroddiad Cyngor y Celfyddydau', ond yng ngoleuni sylwadau'r Gweinidog, newidiaf hynny a dweud 'yr adroddiad a ymdriniodd â materion sydd o ddiddordeb i Gyngor Celfyddydau Cymru, a gyhoeddwyd ym mis Medi'. Mae'r adroddiad hwnnw yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru a Gyrfa Cymru i weithio mewn partneriaeth i gefnogi ffocws cryfach ar ddarparu cyngor gyrfaol mwy cytbwys i bobl ifanc, i dynnu sylw at y cyfleoedd a'r llwybrau tuag at y celfyddydau a'r sector diwydiannau creadigol. Hoffwn glywed mwy, fel y dywedaf, gan y Gweinidog, yn sicr yn y flwyddyn newydd, ynghylch sut y mae'n bwriadu adeiladu ar rai o'r sylwadau a wnaed yn yr adrodddiad hwnnw, oherwydd mae pob math o oblygiadau economaidd.

Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 16:09.

The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 16:09.

Nick Ramsay [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, as I said, we would like to hear from you a bit more on these issues, but you echoed all the comments made by other AMs about the cross-cutting nature of the arts. That has been something that this debate has tried to draw out. You are quite right that there is cross-party support for any initiatives that you might bring forward to try to put art more centrally in the Government agenda. I am always reticent to say that it should be central to your thinking, because, too often in debates, it is easy for us to call for everything to be central to the Welsh Government's thinking. I appreciate that not everything can be a priority all the time, but in this area, a little bit more focus from the Welsh Government would certainly be welcomed by us, and it would help our economic situation.

Weinidog, fel y dywedais, hoffem glywed mwy am y materion hyn gennych, ond bu ichi ategu'r holl sylwadau a wnaed gan ACau eraill am natur drawsbynciol y celfyddydau. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth y mae'r ddadl hon wedi ceisio ei gyfleu. Rydych yn llygad eich lle i ddweud bod cefnogaeth drawsbleidiol i unrhyw fentrau y byddwch efallai yn eu cyflwyno i sicrhau bod celfyddyd yn rhan fwy canolog o agenda'r Llywodraeth. Rwyf bob amser yn amharod i ddweud y dylai fod yn ganolog i'ch meddylfryd, oherwydd, yn rhy aml mewn dadleuon, mae'n hawdd inni alw am i bopeth fod yn ganolog i feddylfryd Llywodraeth Cymru. Gwerthfawrogaf na all popeth fod yn flaenoriaeth drwy'r amser, ond yn y maes hwn, byddai ychydig yn fwy o ffocws gan Lywodraeth Cymru yn sicr yn cael ei groesawu gennym, a byddai'n helpu ein sefyllfa economaidd.

I would like to finish by re-emphasising the importance of the arts and culture to Wales. It is not just about developing our knowledge of our past or expanding our cultural horizons; it is a vital component of the Welsh economy that does not always get the credit that it deserves. We saw the impact that the cultural Olympiad had last year, which I do not think has been mentioned by previous speakers. That was an extremely important event, which tied in to the Olympics and had a large economic benefit. I suggest that we build upon that success. I hope that the UK Government will make moves to do that, but perhaps the Minister here could bring forward our own Welsh initiatives to try to build on the cultural successes that we have had in Wales in the past.

Hoffwn orffen drwy ail-bwysleisio pwysigrwydd y celfyddydau a diwylliant i Gymru. Mae a wnelo nid yn unig â datblygu ein gwybodaeth am y gorffenol neu ehangu ein gorwelion diwylliannol; mae'n elfen hanfodol o economi Cymru nad yw'n cael y clod y mae'n ei haeddu bob amser. Gwelsom yr effaith a gafodd yr Olympiad diwylliannol y llynedd, nad yw siaradwyr blaenorol wedi ei grybwyll, fe gredaf. Roedd hwnnw'n ddigwyddiad hynod bwysig, a oedd yn cysylltu â'r Gemau Olympaidd ac a oedd yn sicrhau budd economaidd mawr. Awgrymaf ein bod yn adeiladu ar y llwyddiant hwnnw. Gobeithio y bydd Llywodraeth y DU yn cymryd camau i wneud hynny, ond efallai y gallai'r Gweinidog yma gyflwyno ein mentrau Cymreig ein hunain i geisio adeiladu ar y llwyddiannau diwylliannol yr ydym wedi eu cael yng Nghymru yn y gorffennol.

The motion is about asking the Welsh Government to take every opportunity to focus on this sector to ensure that Wales continues to grow culturally, economically and in every way possible to improve the wellbeing of everyone living in Wales.

Mae a wnelo'r cynnig â gofyn i Lywodraeth Cymru fanteisio ar bob cyfle i ganolbwyntio ar y sector hwn i sicrhau bod Cymru yn parhau i dyfu yn ddiwylliannol, yn economaidd ac ym mhob ffordd bosibl i wella lles pawb sy'n byw yng Nghymru.

16:10 **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, therefore I defer all voting under this item until voting time.

Y cynnig yw cytuno ar y cynnig heb ei ddiwygio. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Mae gwrthwynebiad, 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.

Dadl Plaid Cymru: Costau Byw

Plaid Cymru Debate: The Cost of Living

Detholwyd y gwelliannau canlynol: gwelliannau 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 ac 11 yn enw Aled Roberts, a gwelliannau 2, 4, 6, 8 a 10 yn enw William Graham. Os derbynnir gwelliant 8, bydd gwelliant 9 yn cael ei ddad-dethol. Os derbynnir gwelliant 10, bydd gwelliant 11 yn cael ei ddad-dethol.

The following amendments have been selected: amendments 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11 in the name of Aled Roberts, and amendments 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 in the name of William Graham. If amendment 8 is agreed, amendment 9 will be de-selected. If amendment 10 is agreed, amendment 11 will be de-selected.

Cynnig NDM5386 Elin Jones

Motion NDM5386 Elin Jones

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Yn nodi'r cynnydd diweddar mewn prisiau ynni ac yn gresynu at yr effaith y bydd hyn yn ei chael ar bob aelwyd yng Nghymru, yn enwedig y rhai sy'n dlawd o ran tanwydd na allant fanteisio ar fargeinion ynni tanwydd deuol ffafriol.

2. Yn gresynu bod y defnydd o fanciau bwyd wedi bron â threblu dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, gyda mwyafrif y rhai sy'n troi at fanciau bwyd yn deuluoedd oedran gweithio, rhai oherwydd cyflog isel.

3. Yn nodi bod adroddiad diweddar Cartrefi Cymunedol Cymru ar effaith y dreth ystafell wely wedi canfod y disgwylir i ôl-ddyledion yn sgîl y dreth ystafell wely fod dros £2 filiwn erbyn mis Ebrill nesaf.

4. Yn nodi bod dros 41,000 yn fwy o bobl o hyd yn ddi-waith nawr nag a oedd cyn i'r argyfwng economaidd ddechrau.

5. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i adolygu a diwygio ei strategaeth yn erbyn tlodi yng ngoleuni'r argyfwng cynyddol a wynebir gan bobl yn sgîl caledi, newidiadau i fudd-daliadau a chynnydd yng nghostau byw.

1. Notes the recent rises in energy prices and regrets the impact that this will have on all households in Wales, especially the fuel poor and those who cannot access preferential dual fuel energy deals.

2. Regrets that food bank use has almost tripled over the past year, with the majority of those turning to food banks being working age families, some because of low paid employment.

3. Notes that the recent Community Housing Cymru report on the impact of the bedroom tax found that arrears as a result of the bedroom tax are predicted to be over £2 million by next April.

4. Notes that there are still over 41,000 more people unemployed now than before the economic crisis began.

5. Calls on the Welsh Government to review and revise its anti-poverty strategy in light of the growing crisis faced by people as a result of austerity, changes to benefits and rises in the cost of living.

16:11 **Leanne Wood** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Arweinydd Plaid Cymru / The Leader of Plaid Cymru

I move the motion.

Cynigiaf y cynnig.

This is the final Plaid Cymru debate before Christmas. Sadly, there are many people across Wales who will not be having a happy Christmas this year. It is a season that can put extra pressures on those families for whom every day is a struggle. As I said yesterday during the tributes to Nelson Mandela, poverty, like apartheid and slavery, is man-made. Poverty is not inevitable—it can be undone.

Hon fydd dadl olaf Plaid Cymru cyn y Nadolig. Yn anffodus, mae llawer o bobl ledled Cymru na fyddant yn cael Nadolig llawen eleni. Mae’n dymor a all roi pwysau ychwanegol ar y teuluoedd hynny y mae pob dydd yn frwydr iddynt. Fel y dywedais ddoe yn ystod y teyrngedau i Nelson Mandela, gwaith dyn yw tlodi, fel apartheid a chaethwasiaeth. Nid yw tlodi yn anochel—gellir ei ddadwneud.

The Plaid Cymru motion for discussion today looks at the question of poverty and its impact on people in Wales. We are calling on the Welsh Government to adopt policies that will better protect and support families and individuals against the consequences of the UK Government's policies. We want to see an anti-poverty plan, addressing spiralling household costs, the rising costs of food and fuel, the bedroom tax, unemployment and underemployment. We know that for many older people in particular, the winter can be a very dangerous time. That is why Plaid Cymru has consistently called for a living pension for all, starting with those who are 80 plus—those who are most likely to be in fuel poverty.

Mae cynnig Plaid Cymru ar gyfer y ddadl heddiw yn edrych ar gwestiwn tlodi a'i effaith ar bobl yng Nghymru. Rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i fabwysiadu polisïau a fydd yn amddiffyn ac yn cefnogi teuluoedd ac unigolion rhag canlyniadau polisïau Llywodraeth y DU yn well. Rydym am weld cynllun yn erbyn tlodi, sy'n mynd i'r afael â chostau cynyddol aelwydydd, costau cynyddol bwyd a thanwydd, treth ystafell wely, diweithdra a thangyflogaeth. Gwyddom y gall y gaeaf fod yn adeg beryglus iawn i lawer o bobl hŷn, yn arbennig. Dyna pam mae Plaid Cymru wedi galw'n gyson am bensiwn byw i bawb, gan ddechrau gyda'r rhai sydd dros 80 oed—y rhai sydd fwyaf tebygol o fod mewn tlodi tanwydd.

We have also argued that those who qualify for winter fuel allowance off-grid should receive their money in the summer, so that they can buy fuel when it is cheaper and not when prices rise during the autumn and winter. In the last five years, energy prices have risen substantially, by far more than inflation, while wages and benefits have lagged behind. This is market failure. A small number of companies have acted entirely in shareholders'—and not customers'—best interests. Plaid Cymru wants to see a Welsh not-for-dividend-profit energy company that would ensure best value for our citizens. In the meantime, we support the Cyd Cymru initiative of co-operative price bargaining. Plaid Cymru very much hopes that this initiative will be a success.

Rydym hefyd wedi dadlau y dylai'r rhai sy'n gymwys i gael lwfans tanwydd gaeaf oddi ar y grid gael eu harian yn yr haf, fel y gallant brynu tanwydd pan fydd yn rhatach ac nid pan fydd prisiau yn codi yn ystod yr hydref a'r gaeaf. Yn ystod y pum mlynedd ddiwethaf, mae prisiau ynni wedi codi'n sylweddol, yn fwy na chwyddiant o bell ffordd, tra nad yw cyflogau na budd-daliadau wedi codi yn yr un modd. Methiant y farchnad ydyw. Mae nifer fach o gwmnïau wedi gweithredu'n gyfan gwbl er budd cyfranddalwyr—yn hytrach nag er budd cwsmeriaid. Mae Plaid Cymru am weld cwmni ynni i Gymru, sef cwmni di-elw nad yw'n rhoi difidendau a fyddai'n sicrhau'r gwerth gorau i'n dinasyddion. Yn y cyfamser, rydym yn cefnogi menter Cyd Cymru o fargeinio cydweithredol ynglŷn â phris. Mae Plaid Cymru gobeithio'n fawr y bydd y fenter hon yn llwyddiant.

The rise in food banks has been substantial. We should not need them, but we are very grateful that they are there. According to the Trussell Trust, since 2008-09, the numbers of people using them have risen substantially across the UK, from 26,000 people to almost 350,000 in 2012-13. That is an increase of more than 13,000% in just five years. More than a third of those people are children. We have heard stories of children fainting at school or being unable to concentrate due to a lack of food. Children must be well-fed so that they can be well-educated. Last week, a letter appeared in the British Medical Journal from renowned health researchers, arguing that malnutrition will be the next public health emergency. They said that children's malnutrition can have lifelong impacts on increasing the risk of cardiovascular and other adult chronic diseases. The Welsh Government's anti-poverty strategy must ensure that families with children are assisted so that these risks do not materialise. Allotments, people's supermarkets and working with food producers could help to bring food costs down. Food banks have become essential; they must not, however, become part of our social security system.

Mae'r cynnydd yn nifer y banciau bwyd wedi bod yn sylweddol. Ni ddylai fod eu hangen arnom, ond rydym yn ddiolchgar iawn eu bod ar gael. Yn ôl Ymddiriedolaeth Trussell, ers 2008-09, mae nifer y bobl sy'n eu defnyddio wedi codi'n sylweddol ledled y DU, o 26,000 o bobl i bron 350,000 yn 2012-13, sef cynnydd o fwy na 13,000% mewn pum mlynedd yn unig. Mae mwy na thraean o'r bobl hynny yn blant. Rydym wedi clywed straeon am blant yn llewygu yn yr ysgol neu'n methu â chanolbwyntio oherwydd diffyg bwyd. Rhaid i blant gael bwyd da er mwyn iddynt gael addysg dda. Yr wythnos diwethaf, ymddangosodd llythyr yn y British Medical Journal gan ymchwilwyr iechyd enwog, yn dadlau mai diffyg maeth fydd yr argyfwng nesaf ym maes iechyd y cyhoedd. Dywedant y gall diffyg maeth ymhlith plant gael effaith gydol oes ar gynyddu'r risg o glefydau cardiofasgwlaidd a chyflyrau cronig eraill ymhlith oedolion. Rhaid i strategaeth Llywodraeth Cymru yn erbyn tlodi sicrhau bod teuluoedd gyda phlant yn cael cymorth fel na chaiff y risgiau hyn eu gwireddu. Gallai rhandiroedd, archfarchnadoedd y bobl a gweithio gyda chynhyrchwyr bwyd helpu i leihau costau bwyd. Mae banciau bwyd wedi dod yn hanfodol; ond ni ddylent, fodd bynnag, ddod yn rhan o'n system nawdd cymdeithasol.

Figures from the Trussell Trust show that 30% of people referred to food banks were there because of benefit delays; 18% as a result of benefit changes and 15% because of low income. Others were there because of domestic violence, because they had been refused crisis loans, or through debt or unemployment. The majority of people turning to food banks were of working age. Of course, these are figures for the period before the introduction of the bedroom tax in April this year.

Dengys ffigurau gan Ymddiriedolaeth Trussell fod 30% o bobl a gyfeiriwyd at fanciau bwyd yno oherwydd oedi cyn cael budd-daliadau; 18% o ganlyniad i newidiadau mewn budd-daliadau a 15% oherwydd incwm isel. Roedd eraill yno oherwydd trais yn y cartref, oherwydd bod eu cais am fenthyciadau mewn argyfwng wedi cael ei wrthod, neu oherwydd dyled neu ddiweithdra. Roedd y rhan fwyaf o bobl a oedd wedi troi at fanciau bwyd o oedran gweithio. Wrth gwrs, ffigurau ar gyfer y cyfnod cyn cyflwyno'r dreth ystafell wely ym mis Ebrill eleni yw'r rhain.

Of course we cannot tackle poverty without addressing our economy. There has been an increase in the number of people in work in Wales, but there has not been a substantial decrease in unemployment. There are still 40,000 more people looking for work now, at the end of 2013, than there were in 2007, before the recession. There has been a substantial rise in the numbers who are underemployed or looking for more hours to work. While the number of men unemployed has fallen consistently in the past two years, for women there has been no route back to the workforce at all. Youth unemployment figures in some places are shocking—around 40% in the central Valleys. The so-called economic recovery seems to be largely missing out Wales. The most recent figures show more business deaths than start-ups in more than three quarters of Welsh counties.

Wrth gwrs, ni allwn fynd i'r afael â thlodi heb fynd i'r afael â'n heconomi. Bu cynnydd yn nifer y bobl mewn gwaith yng Nghymru, ond ni fu gostyngiad sylweddol mewn diweithdra. Mae 40,000 yn fwy o bobl o hyd yn chwilio am waith yn awr, ar ddiwedd 2013, nag yr oedd yn 2007, cyn y dirwasgiad. Bu cynnydd sylweddol yn y niferoedd sy'n cael eu tangyflogi neu sy'n chwilio am fwy o oriau i weithio. Er bod nifer y dynion di-waith wedi gostwng yn gyson yn ystod y ddwy flynedd ddiwethaf, i fenywod ni fu unrhyw ffordd yn ôl i'r gweithlu o gwbl. Mae ffigurau diweithdra ymhlith pobl ifanc mewn rhai mannau yn frawychus—tua 40% yn y Cymoedd canolog. Ymddengys nad yw'r adferiad economaidd fel y'i gelwir yn cyrraedd Cymru i raddau helaeth. Mae'r ffigurau diweddaraf yn dangos mwy o fusnesau yn mynd i'r wal na busnesau newydd mewn mwy na thri chwarter o siroedd Cymru.

We welcome today's GVA figures for 2012, which show that Wales was still gaining compared to the UK average last year, but, if our GVA per head is still worth less than three quarters of the UK average, we have nothing to celebrate.

Croesawn y ffigurau ynglŷn â GYC heddiw ar gyfer 2012, sy'n dangos bod Cymru ar y blaen o'i chymharu â chyfartaledd y DU y llynedd, ond, os yw ein GYC y pen yn dal yn werth llai na thri chwarter cyfartaledd y DU, nid oes gennym reswm dros ddathlu.

There is a great deal of work to be done to eliminate poverty in Wales, but that is work that can and must be done. One thing is for certain: we have to accept that we have problems, and those problems require hard work, determination and a clear plan if we are to overcome them. The complacency and denial demonstrated by this Government to date will simply not cut it.

Mae llawer iawn o waith i'w wneud i gael gwared ar dlodi yng Nghymru, ond mae hynny'n waith y gellir ei wneud ac y mae'n rhaid ei wneud. Mae un peth yn sicr: rhaid inni dderbyn bod gennym broblemau, a bod y problemau hynny yn gofyn am waith caled, penderfyniad a chynllun clir os ydym am eu goresgyn. Yn syml, ni fydd hunanfodlonrwydd y Llywodraeth hon na'i hamharodrwydd i wynebu'r gwirionedd yn ddigon da.

16:17

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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I have selected the 11 amendments to the motion. If amendment 8 is agreed, amendment 9 will be deselected. If amendment 10 is agreed, amendment 11 will be deselected. I call on Peter Black to move amendments 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11 in the name of Aled Roberts.

Rwyf wedi dethol yr 11 o welliannau i'r cynnig. Os derbynnir gwelliant 8, bydd gwelliant 9 yn cael ei ddad-ddethol. Os derbynnir gwelliant 10, bydd gwelliant 11 yn cael ei ddad-ddethol. Galwaf ar Peter Black i gynnig gwelliannau 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 a 11 yn enw Aled Roberts.

Gwelliant 1—Aled Roberts

Amendment 1—Aled Roberts

Ychwanegu fel pwynt newydd ar ddechrau'r cynnig ac ailrifo yn unol â hynny:

Insert as new point at start of motion and renumber accordingly:

Yn croesawu bod economi'r DU wedi tyfu 0.8% yn nhrydydd chwarter 2013 a bod y rhagolwg ar gyfer twf CMC y DU yn 2013 wedi codi o 0.6% i 1.4%.

Welcomes that the UK economy grew by 0.8% in the third quarter of 2013 and the forecast for UK GDP growth in 2013 has been revised up from 0.6% to 1.4%.

Gwelliant 3—Aled Roberts

Amendment 3—Aled Roberts

Cynnwys pwynt 2 newydd ac ailrifo yn unol â hynny:

Insert as new point 2 and renumber accordingly:

Yn croesawu cyhoeddiad Llywodraeth y DU am ddiwygiadau a fydd yn golygu y bydd cartrefi'n arbed £50 y flwyddyn ar gyfartaledd ar eu biliau ynni a bod y dreth ar danwydd yn cael ei rhewi am weddill y Senedd hon.

Welcomes the UK Government's announcement of reforms to save households an average of £50 per year on their energy bills and to freeze fuel duty for the rest of this Parliament.

Gwelliant 5—Aled Roberts

Amendment 5—Aled Roberts

Cynnwys pwynt 3 newydd ac ailrifo yn unol â hynny:

Insert as new point 3 and renumber accordingly:

Yn croesawu polisi'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol i godi trothwy'r dreth incwm i £10,000, a weithredwyd gan Lywodraeth y DU, sy'n golygu, o fis Ebrill 2014, y bydd dros 1.1 miliwn o bobl yng Nghymru yn cael dros £700 o doriad mewn treth ac na fydd 106,000 o weithwyr ar incwm isel yng Nghymru yn gorfod talu'r dreth incwm o gwbl.

Welcomes the Liberal Democrat policy to raise the income tax threshold to £10,000, implemented by the UK Government, which means that from April 2014 over 1.1 million people in Wales will have received a tax cut of over £700 and that 106,000 Welsh low-income workers will be taken out of paying income tax altogether.

Gwelliant 7—Aled Roberts

Amendment 7—Aled Roberts

Cynnwys pwynt 4 newydd ac ailrifo yn unol â hynny:

Insert as new point 4 and renumber accordingly:

Yn gresynu wrth fethiant y cymdeithasau tai a Llywodraeth Cymru i baratoi ar gyfer newidiadau yn y system fudd-daliadau, er gwaethaf dwy flynedd o rybudd, a methiant y llywodraethau Llafur a Cheidwadol blaenorol i adeiladu digon o gartrefi, gan olygu bod 1.5 miliwn o gartrefi wedi'u colli.

Regrets the failure of housing associations and the Welsh Government to prepare for changes in the benefit system, despite two years' notice, and the failure of previous Labour and Conservative governments to build sufficient homes, resulting in a loss of 1.5 million homes.

Gwelliant 9—Aled Roberts

Amendment 9—Aled Roberts

Cynnwys ar ddiwedd pwynt 4:

Insert at the end of point 4:

'ac yn gresynu bod Cymru yn dal ar ei hôl hi y tu ôl i weddill y DU gyda chyfradd ddiweithdra o 7.8% o gymharu â chyfartaledd o 7.1% yn y DU'.

'and regrets that Wales continues to lag behind the rest of the UK with an unemployment rate of 7.8% compared to a UK average of 7.1%'.

Gwelliant 11—Aled Roberts

Amendment 11—Aled Roberts

Ym mhwynt 5, dileu 'yng ngoleuni'r argyfwng cynyddol a wynebir gan bobl yn sgîl caledi, newidiadau i fudd-daliadau a chynnydd yng nghostau byw' a rhoi yn ei le 'er mwyn mynd i'r afael â thlodi cynyddol, sydd wedi'i wreiddio'n ddwfn, mewn cymunedau yng Nghymru'.

In point 5, delete 'in light of the growing crisis faced by people as a result of austerity, changes to benefits and rises in the cost of living' and replace with 'to tackle deep-rooted and growing poverty in Welsh communities'.

16:17

Peter Black Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I move amendments 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11.

Cynigiaf welliannau 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 ac 11.

In moving the amendments, the last thing I wanted was to give the impression that we were complacent or in denial, because one of the things I have tried not to do in formulating these amendments was to delete any part of this motion, with the exception of a small change to point 5, which I will explain in a minute. I think we need to recognise that times are hard out there and that there are issues in terms of employment, poverty and deprivation. There are also issues in terms of some of the policies of the coalition Government that can be done better and can be improved. I am happy to acknowledge that and to accept that. However, the amendments that we have tabled to this motion have been put down because we felt that there needed to be some balance to acknowledge that, despite all the bad things to which this motion actually refers, some things are being done in an attempt to make a difference, and a lot of those things are being done as a result of the Liberal Democrats being in Government and bringing those forward as part of the programme for government.

Wrth gynnig y gwelliannau, y peth olaf yr oeddwn am ei wneud oedd rhoi'r argraff ein bod yn hunanfodlon neu'n amharod i wynebu'r gwirionedd, oherwydd un o'r pethau yr wyf wedi ceisio peidio â'i wneud wrth lunio'r gwelliannau hyn oedd dileu unrhyw ran o'r cynnig hwn, ac eithrio mân newid i bwynt 5, y byddaf yn ei esbonio yn y man. Credaf fod angen inni gydnabod bod hwn yn gyfnod anodd i bobl a bod problemau o ran cyflogaeth, tlodi ac amddifadedd. Cyfyd problemau hefyd o ran rhai o bolisïau'r Llywodraeth glymblaid y gellir eu gweithredu'n well ac y gellir eu gwella. Rwy'n barod i gydnabod hynny ac i dderbyn hynny. Fodd bynnag, mae'r gwelliannau yr ydym wedi'u cyflwyno i'r cynnig hwn wedi cael eu cyflwyno oherwydd ein bod yn teimlo bod angen rhywfaint o gydbwysedd er mwyn cydnabod, er gwaethaf yr holl bethau drwg y mae'r cynnig hwn yn cyfeirio atynt mewn gwirionedd, fod rhai pethau'n cael eu gwneud mewn ymdrech i wneud gwahaniaeth, a bod llawer o'r pethau hynny yn cael eu gwneud am fod y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol mewn grym ac yn eu cyflwyno fel rhan o'r rhaglen lywodraethu.

In relation to point 5, which is the one section of this motion that we have sought to amend, the reason why we have proposed a change—I refer to our last amendment, amendment 11—is because we felt that the way that this particular point was phrased took almost a year-zero approach to the need to have an anti-poverty strategy. It is almost as if everything has happened since 2010, when, in fact, I think it is fair to say that it is not just austerity changes to benefits and a rise in the cost of living since that time that have caused these problems. These problems are deep-rooted and have been in place for some time. So, we felt that there was a need to put that into context, although we accept that some of the policies that this Government has been forced to put into place as a result of the economic situation it inherited have had an impact and have caused some problems for many communities and many people in Wales. However, clearly, the need for the anti-poverty strategy goes back long before the last general election, and most probably many general elections before that, too. I think we can all acknowledge in this Chamber—and I have been an Assembly Member here since the start—that we have been talking since the beginning of this Assembly about the need for a Valleys strategy and many other strategies to deal with poverty and deep-rooted exclusion in many communities across Wales.

O ran pwynt 5, sef yr unig ran o'r cynnig hwn yr ydym wedi ceisio ei diwygio, y rheswm pam rydym wedi cynnig newid—cyfeiriaf at ein gwelliant olaf, gwelliant 11—yw oherwydd ein bod yn teimlo bod geiriad y pwynt arbennig hwn bron yn awgrymu ymagwedd blwyddyn gyntaf tuag at yr angen am strategaeth yn erbyn tlodi. Mae bron fel pe bai popeth wedi digwydd ers 2010, er, mewn gwirionedd, credaf ei bod yn deg dweud nad dim ond newidiadau i fudd-daliadau oherwydd cynilo na chynnydd mewn costau byw ers hynny sydd wedi achosi'r problemau hyn. Mae'r problemau hyn wedi'u gwreiddio'n ddwfn ac wedi bod ar droed ers peth amser. Felly, roeddem yn teimlo bod angen rhoi hynny yn ei gyd-destun, er ein bod yn derbyn bod rhai o'r polisïau y mae'r Llywodraeth hon wedi cael ei gorfodi i'w rhoi ar waith o ganlyniad i'r sefyllfa economaidd a etifeddwyd ganddi wedi cael effaith ac wedi achosi rhai problemau i lawer o gymunedau ac i lawer o bobl yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, yn amlwg, mae'r angen am y strategaeth yn erbyn tlodi yn mynd yn ôl ymhell cyn yr etholiad cyffredinol diwethaf, a sawl etholiad cyffredinol arall cyn hynny hefyd, fwy na thebyg. Credaf y gallwn ni i gyd gydnabod yn y Siambr hon—ac rwyf wedi bod yn Aelod Cynulliad yma ers y cychwyn—ein bod wedi bod yn sôn ers dechrau'r Cynulliad hwn am yr angen am strategaeth i'r Cymoedd a llawer o strategaethau eraill i ymdrin â thlodi ac allgáu dwfn mewn nifer o gymunedau ledled Cymru.

If I may just talk about some of the amendments we have tabled, in terms of amendment 1, we need to acknowledge that the UK economy is beginning to grow again—I am not claiming that this is an economic recovery, but it is beginning to grow again—and that the GDP growth targets have been revised, up from 0.6% to 1.4%. I think that that is a start, and, hopefully, if that continues, it will start to make a difference. However, I also acknowledge, as Leanne Wood made clear, that Wales is largely missing out on that economic recovery. There are reasons for that, and I also think that the Welsh Government could do a lot more to help us in that. There are policies being put forward by the Welsh Government that are not helping that recovery, and I think it needs to look at why Wales is lagging behind the rest of the UK.

Os caf sôn ychydig am rai o'r gwelliannau yr ydym wedi'u cyflwyno, o ran gwelliant 1, mae angen inni gydnabod bod economi'r DU yn dechrau tyfu eto—nid wyf yn honni bod hyn yn adferiad economaidd, ond mae'n dechrau tyfu eto—a bod y targedau o ran twf CMC wedi cael eu diwygio, tuag i fyny o 0.6% i 1.4%. Credaf fod hynny'n fan cychwyn, a, gobeithio, os bydd yn parhau, y bydd yn dechrau gwneud gwahaniaeth. Fodd bynnag, rwyf hefyd yn cydnabod, fel y nododd Leanne Wood yn glir, nad yw'r adferiad economaidd hwnnw yn digwydd yng Nghymru i raddau helaeth. Mae rhesymau dros hynny, a chredaf hefyd y gallai Llywodraeth Cymru wneud llawer mwy i'n helpu o ran hynny. Mae polisïau yn cael eu cyflwyno gan Lywodraeth Cymru nad ydynt yn helpu'r adferiad hwnnw, a chredaf fod angen ystyried pam mae Cymru ar ei hôl hi o'i chymharu â gweddill y DU.

In terms of amendment 3, we need to acknowledge, in relation to the autumn statement, that we are going to be saving households an average of £50 per year on their energy bills and that we are going to freeze fuel duty for the rest of this Parliament. That, again, will help. Obviously, a lot more needs to be done, but we also need to acknowledge that simplistic solutions, such as, for example, freezing all fuel bills, are not possible in the short time available. I have doubts as to whether that would work anyway, given the huge pressures on fuel companies. We need to look at the energy market. When Ed Miliband was Secretary for energy there were 13 energy companies; we now have 6. Competition has reduced significantly in that period, and we are reaping the problems of that in terms of what has, effectively, become an oligopoly.

O ran gwelliant 3, mae angen inni gydnabod, o ran datganiad yr hydref, y byddwn yn arbed £50 y flwyddyn ar gyfartaledd i aelwydydd ar eu biliau ynni ac y byddwn yn rhewi'r dreth tanwydd am weddill y tymor Seneddol hwn. Bydd hynny, unwaith eto, yn helpu. Yn amlwg, mae angen gwneud llawer mwy, ond mae angen inni hefyd gydnabod nad yw atebion gorsyml, megis, er enghraifft, rhewi pob bil tanwydd, yn bosibl yn yr amser byr sydd ar gael. Mae gennyf amheuon ynghylch a fyddai'n gweithio beth bynnag, o ystyried y pwysau enfawr ar gwmnïau tanwydd. Mae angen inni edrych ar y farchnad ynni. Pan oedd Ed Miliband yn Ysgrifennydd dros ynni, roedd 13 o gwmnïau ynni; erbyn hyn, chwech sydd gennym erbyn hyn. Mae'r gystadleuaeth wedi lleihau'n sylweddol yn ystod y cyfnod hwnnw, ac rydym bellach yn wynebu'r problemau sy'n deillio o hynny o ran yr hyn sydd, i bob pwrpas, wedi dod yn oligopoli.

There is a whole range of other issues in here. I want to acknowledge the changes to the income tax threshold. Substantial numbers of people in poverty are in work and the changes to the income tax threshold will have a big impact in helping them to cope with the problems that they face. In terms of the housing benefit changes, I believe that the way they were introduced could have been done better. I think it should have excluded disabled adults, and that we could have put it in place so that it applied only if someone refused to move to a smaller property. I think that would have made a big difference to that particular policy. Also, we could have planned better and had more housing units in place earlier, had we thought it through.

Cyfyd pob math o fater arall o ran hynny. Rwyf am gydnabod y newidiadau i'r trothwy treth incwm. Mae nifer sylweddol o bobl sy'n byw mewn tlodi mewn gwaith a bydd y newidiadau i'r trothwy treth incwm yn cael effaith fawr o ran eu helpu i ymdopi â'r problemau y maent yn eu hwynebu. O ran y newidiadau i'r budd-dal tai, credaf y gelid bod wedi eu cyflwyno'n well. Credaf y dylai'r drefn newydd fod wedi eithrio oedolion anabl, ac y gallem fod wedi ei rhoi ar waith fel ei bod yn berthnasol dim ond os bydd rhywun yn gwrthod symud i eiddo llai. Credaf y byddai hynny wedi gwneud gwahaniaeth mawr i'r polisi penodol hwnnw. Hefyd, gallem fod wedi cynllunio'n well ac wedi sicrhau bod mwy o unedau tai ar gael yn gynharach, pe byddem wedi ystyried pob agwedd.

16:22

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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I call on Mark Isherwood to move amendments 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 in the name of William Graham.

Galwaf ar Mark Isherwood i gynnig gwelliannau 2, 4, 6, 8 a 10 yn enw William Graham.

Gwelliant 2—William Graham

Amendment 2—William Graham

Cynnwys ar ddiwedd pwynt 1:

Insert at the end of point 1:

', a'r angen i roi sylw i effaith hyn gyda dealltwriaeth glir o'r canlyniadau o ran prisiau, buddsoddiad, ymateb y diwydiant a defnyddwyr'.

', and the need to address the impact of this with a clear understanding of the consequences for prices, investment, consumer and industry behaviour'.

Gwelliant 4—William Graham

Amendment 4—William Graham

Dileu pwynt 2 a rhoi yn ei le:

Delete point 2 and replace with:

Yn nodi bod banciau bwyd sydd wedi agor yn ddiweddar ledled Cymru yn helpu i fodloni anghenion y garfan gudd o bobl newynog, ac yn cydnabod gwaith pwysig banciau bwyd a'u cyfraniad at fywydau pobl mewn argyfwng.

Notes that newly opened food banks across Wales are helping to meet the need of the hidden hungry and acknowledges the important work of food banks and their contribution to the lives of people in crisis.

Gwelliant 6—William Graham

Amendment 6—William Graham

Dileu pwynt 3 a rhoi yn ei le:

Delete point 3 and replace with:

Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i gymryd camau ar frys i ddarparu ateb marchnad gyfan i'r argyfwng mewn cyflenwad tai ers datganoli.

Calls on the Welsh Government to take urgent action to deliver a whole market solution to the post devolution housing supply crisis.

Gwelliant 8—William Graham

Amendment 8—William Graham

Dileu pwynt 4 a rhoi yn ei le:

Delete point 4 and replace with:

Yn croesawu'r gostyngiad yn nifer y bobl nad ydynt mewn cyflogaeth yng Nghymru ers 2010, ond yn cydnabod bod gan Gymru lawer o ffordd i fynd o hyd o'i gymharu â gweddill y DU.

Welcomes the fall in the number of people not in employment in Wales since 2010, but recognises that Wales still has a long way to go compared to the rest of the UK.

Gwelliant 10—William Graham

Amendment 10—William Graham

Dileu pwynt 5 a rhoi yn ei le:

Delete point 5 and replace with:

Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i adolygu a diwygio ei strategaeth yn erbyn tlodi ar sail cyd-gynhyrchu er mwyn mynd i'r afael â'r achosion o dlodi yng Nghymru sydd wedi'u gwreiddio'n ddwfn, y bwlch tlodi cynyddol, a'r symudedd cymdeithasol sydd wedi peidio ers datganoli.

Calls on the Welsh Government to review and revise its anti-poverty strategy on the basis of co-production in order to tackle the deep rooted causes of poverty in Wales, the widening poverty gap and stalled social mobility since devolution.

16:22 **Mark Isherwood** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I move amendments 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10.

Cynigiaf welliannau 2, 4, 6, 8 a 10.

We will also be supporting amendments 1, 3, 9 and 11, but opposing amendment 7 and abstaining on amendment 5, while welcoming the policy implemented by a Conservative Chancellor giving 1.1 million people in Wales a tax cut of over £700 and lifting 130,000 low-income employees in Wales out of income tax altogether.

Byddwn hefyd yn cefnogi gwelliannau 1, 3, 9 ac 11, ond yn gwrthwynebu gwelliant 7 ac ymatal ar welliant 5, tra'n croesawu'r polisi a weithredwyd gan Ganghellor Ceidwadol sy'n rhoi toriad treth o dros £700 i 1.1 miliwn o bobl yng Nghymru ac sy'n sicrhau nad yw 130,000 o weithwyr incwm isel yng Nghymru yn talu treth incwm o gwbl.

Almost a third of Welsh households live in fuel poverty. We must address the impact of energy prices on households with a clear understating of the causes. The head of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development said this week that Labour's plans to freeze fuel prices could bankrupt investors in energy companies. Commenting on Ed Miliband's announcement, Adam Scorer, Consumer Futures director, stated:

Mae bron traean o aelwydydd Cymru yn byw mewn tlodi tanwydd. Rhaid inni fynd i'r afael ag effaith prisiau ynni ar aelwydydd gan ddatgan yr achosion yn glir. Dywedodd pennaeth y Sefydliad ar gyfer Cydweithrediad a Datblygiad Economaidd yr wythnos hon y gallai cynlluniau Llafur i rewi prisiau tanwydd beri i fuddsoddwyr mewn cwmnïau ynni fynd yn fethdalwyr. Wrth sôn am gyhoeddiad Ed Miliband, dywedodd Adam Scorer, cyfarwyddwr Dyfodol Defnyddwyr:

'Consumers would clearly welcome a freeze on energy prices'

Byddai defnyddwyr yn amlwg yn croesawu penderfyniad i rewi prisiau ynni

but added:

ond ychwanegodd:

'However, a radical transformation of an essential market like energy needs to be very carefully thought through with a clear understanding of the consequences for prices, investment, consumer and industry behaviour.'

Fodd bynnag, mae angen meddwl yn ofalus iawn cyn trawsnewid marchnad hanfodol megis ynni ac mae angen dealltwriaeth glir o'r goblygiadau o ran prisiau, buddsoddi, defnyddwyr ac ymddygiad y diwydiant.

The UK Government has announced that the Office of Fair Trading, Ofgem and the Competition and Markets Authority will now look every year at energy prices. It has also given Ofgem new powers to force energy companies to compensate customers for misselling and overcharging.

Mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi cyhoeddi y bydd y Swyddfa Masnachu Teg, Ofgem a'r Awdurdod Cystadleuaeth a Marchnadoedd bellach yn edrych ar brisiau ynni bob blwyddyn. Mae hefyd wedi rhoi pwerau newydd i Ofgem orfodi cwmnïau ynni i ddigolledu cwsmeriaid am gamwerthu a chodi gormod.

Food banks make a vital contribution to people in crisis. Given that the Trussell Trust has opened several new food banks across Wales—Mold in May 2012, followed by others, including Wrexham, Denbigh, Carmarthen, Pwllheli, Abergavenny, Chepstow and the Vale of Glamorgan—it is inevitable that the number of people vising food banks has increased. It is more difficult to assess how much of that is new need. As ITV's social affairs editor has said, what we are seeing the long-term, hidden hungry becoming visible.

Mae banciau bwyd yn gwneud cyfraniad hanfodol i bobl mewn argyfwng. O ystyried bod Ymddiriedolaeth Trussell wedi agor nifer o fanciau bwyd newydd ledled Cymru—Yr Wyddgrug ym mis Mai 2012, ac yna eraill, gan gynnwys Wrecsam, Dinbych, Caerfyrddin, Pwllheli, Y Fenni, Cas-gwent a Bro Morgannwg—mae'n anochel bod nifer y bobl sy'n defnyddio banciau bwyd wedi cynyddu. Mae'n fwy anodd asesu faint o hynny sy'n angen newydd. Fel y dywedodd golygydd materion cymdeithasol ITV, yr hyn yr ydym yn ei weld yw'r rhai sydd wedi bod yn mynd heb fwyd yn ddiarwybod inni yn dod yn weladwy.

Under Labour, the poverty gap has widened and social mobility has stalled since devolution in 1999. The Joseph Rowntree Foundation has found that barriers to work in the tax and benefit system increased under Labour. However, this UK Government is acting to ensure that claimants are always better off in work. Ed Miliband's parliamentary aide has now said that Labour, like the Conservatives, does not want to see an increase in welfare spending. Fifty-five per cent of those using food banks do so because of delays in benefits. The number of severely disabled people being given long-term unconditional support has increased since action to address problems with the work capability assessments introduced by the last UK Labour Government.

O dan Lafur, mae'r bwlch tlodi wedi lledu ac mae symudedd cymdeithasol wedi arafu ers datganoli ym 1999. Mae Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree wedi canfod i rwystrau i weithio yn y system dreth a budd-daliadau gynyddu o dan Lafur. Fodd bynnag, mae Llywodraeth bresennol y DU yn gweithredu er mwyn sicrhau bod hawlwyr bob amser yn well eu byd mewn gwaith. Mae cynorthwyydd seneddol Ed Miliband wedi dweud bellach nad yw Llafur, fel y Ceidwadwyr, am weld cynnydd yn y gwariant ar les. Mae 55 y cant o'r rhai sy'n defnyddio banciau bwyd yn gwneud hynny oherwydd oedi cyn cael budd-daliadau. Mae nifer y bobl ag anableddau difrifol sy'n cael cymorth diamod yn yr hirdymor wedi cynyddu ers i gamau gweithredu gael eu cymryd i fynd i'r afael â phroblemau o ran yr asesiadau o'r gallu i weithio a gyflwynwyd gan Lywodraeth Lafur y Deyrnas Unedig.

For over a decade, the Welsh Government ignored calls for urgent action to prevent and then tackle the post-devolution housing supply crisis. It slashed the supply of new social homes by 71% as waiting lists, overcrowding and hidden homelessness ballooned. It then delayed the announcement of any funding for one and two-bedroomed homes until months after housing benefit reforms to free up properties for the estimated 90,000 households on waiting lists came into effect. It ignored the National Landlords Association's warning in 2011 that it had already built in housing benefit changes, but that change needed to be managed in local authorities and Welsh Government if the supply of properties was to adjust in time. It ignored detailed advance DWP guidance on the removal of the spare room subsidy that stated that disabled people in adapted accommodation or reliant on a local support network should be prioritised for discretionary housing payments and that exemptions included older people, foster carers, carers for the disabled, severely disabled children, armed forces personnel and bereaved families, until after the changes came into effect.

Ers dros ddegawd, anwybyddodd Llywodraeth Cymru y galwadau am weithredu ar frys i atal yr argyfwng o ran cyflenwad tai ar ôl datganoli ac yna fynd i'r afael ag ef. Torrodd y cyflenwad o dai cymdeithasol newydd 71% wrth i restrau aros, gorlenwi a digartrefedd cudd gynyddu'n syfrdanol. Wedyn, bu oedi cyn iddi gyhoeddi unrhyw arian ar gyfer cartrefi un a dwy ystafell wely am fisoedd ar ôl i'r diwygiadau i'r budd-dal tai, er mwyn rhyddhau eiddo ar gyfer y 90,000 o aelwydydd sydd ar restrau aros yn ôl yr amcangyfrif, ddod i rym. Anwybyddodd rybudd Cymdeithas Genedlaethol y Landlordiaid yn 2011 ei bod eisoes wedi ymgorffori newidiadau i'r budd-dal tai, ond bod angen i'r newidiadau gael eu rheoli gan awdurdodau lleol a Llywodraeth Cymru er mwyn i'r cyflenwad o eiddo gael ei addasu mewn pryd. Anwybyddodd ganllawiau manwl yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau ymlaen llaw ar ddileu'r cymhorthdal ystafell sbâr a oedd yn datgan y dylid blaenoriaethu pobl anabl mewn llety wedi'i addasu neu'r rhai sy'n dibynnu ar rwydwaith cymorth lleol ar gyfer taliadau tai dewisol, a bod eithriadau yn cynnwys pobl hŷn, gofalwyr maeth, gofalwyr pobl anabl, plant ag anabledd difrifol, personél y lluoedd arfog a theuluoedd mewn profedigaeth, tan ar ôl i'r newidiadau ddod i rym.

What it wrongly terms a 'bedroom tax' was introduced by Labour in the private sector in April 2008, when Labour and Plaid Cymru were in coalition Government here. There was a strange silence from both parties then. The housing supply crisis in Wales developed over 14 and a half years of Labour-led Welsh Government, not eight months of housing benefit changes.

Cafodd yr hyn y mae'n ei gamenwi'n 'dreth ystafell wely' ei gyflwyno gan y Blaid Lafur yn y sector preifat ym mis Ebrill 2008, pan oedd y Blaid Lafur a Phlaid Cymru mewn llywodraeth glymblaid yma. Bu tawelwch rhyfedd gan y ddwy blaid bryd hynny. Mae'r argyfwng o ran cyflenwad tai yng Nghymru wedi datblygu dros y 14 a hanner o flynyddoedd o dan arweiniad Llafur Llywodraeth Cymru, nid yr wyth mis o newidiadau i'r budd-dal tai.

The number of people not in employment in Wales has fallen by 66,000 since the change in UK Government, but still lags behind the UK average under Welsh Labour. We will not tackle the deep-rooted causes of poverty in Wales until co-production is truly embraced, breaking down the barriers between people who provide services and those who use them rather than cutting to crisis-led services.

Mae nifer y bobl nad ydynt mewn cyflogaeth yng Nghymru wedi gostwng 66,000 ers i Lywodraeth y DU newid, ond mae'n dal i fod ar ei hôl hi o gymharu â chyfartaledd y DU o dan Lafur Cymru. Ni fyddwn yn mynd i'r afael ag achosion dwfn tlodi yng Nghymru nes y derbynnir cyd-gynhyrchu yn wirioneddol, gan chwalu'r rhwystrau rhwng pobl sy'n darparu gwasanaethau a'r rhai sy'n eu defnyddio yn hytrach na thorri gwasanaethau a arweinir gan argyfwng.

As we heard at last Friday's Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council annual general meeting, creating social value is about

Fel y clywsom yng nghyfarfod cyffredinol blynyddol Cyngor Gwasanaethau Gwirfoddol Sir Ddinbych ddydd Gwener diwethaf, mae creu gwerth cymdeithasol yn ymwneud ag

'adding to the wellbeing of the population over and above the usual added value associated with public sector contracts, embracing all market sectors and directly changing the approach and response to people and communities.'

ychwanegu at les y boblogaeth uwchben y gwerth ychwanegol arferol sy'n gysylltiedig â chontractau yn y sector cyhoeddus, gan groesawu pob sector o'r farchnad a newid sut yr ymdrinnir â phobl a chymunedau a'r ymateb iddynt yn uniongyrchol.

Let us heed that message.

Gadewch inni wrando ar y neges honno.

16:27

Llyr Gruffydd Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I would like to focus my contribution to this debate on the section of our motion that refers to fuel poverty. Every year, the big six energy companies raise their prices far beyond wholesale price rises and every year we hear about extortionate profits and bonuses for energy bosses, while longstanding abuses in the market, of course, continue to happen and go unchallenged. Every year, we reach this time of this year and discuss how we can best protect vulnerable people from having to choose between warmth and food. It is a deeply distressing cycle that governments at all levels have so far failed to break.

Yn fy nghyfraniad i'r ddadl hon hoffwn ganolbwyntio ar y rhan o'n cynnig sy'n cyfeirio at dlodi tanwydd. Bob blwyddyn, mae'r chwe chwmni ynni mawr yn codi eu prisiau ymhell y tu hwnt i godiadau mewn prisiau cyfanwerthu a bob blwyddyn rydym yn clywed am elw gormodol a bonysau i brif swyddogion cwmnïau ynni, tra bod achosion hirsefydlog o gamymddwyn yn y farchnad, wrth gwrs, yn parhau ac yn mynd heb eu herio. Bob blwyddyn, rydym yn cyrraedd yr adeg hon o'r flwyddyn ac yn trafod y ffordd orau o amddiffyn pobl sy'n agored i niwed rhag gorfod dewis rhwng gwres a bwyd. Mae'n gylch trallodus iawn y mae llywodraethau ar bob lefel wedi methu â'i dorri hyd yn hyn.

This year, we have an average price rise for energy bills of 8%. The profits of the big six rose by 77% last year to £1.2 billion. Ofgem calculates that the big six's profits will rise again in 2013 to £2 billion. The average profit that energy firms make from each household has tripled in just three years—from £30 in 2011 up to £53 per household last year and up to a huge £105 this year. At the same time research from Citizens Advice found that suppliers have upped their prices by 37% over the last three years—eight times faster than earnings. That is the scale of the problem that needs to be tackled.

Eleni, bydd cynnydd pris cyfartalog o 8% mewn biliau ynni. Cynyddodd elw'r chwech mawr 77% y llynedd i £1.2 biliwn. Mae Ofgem yn cyfrifo y bydd elw'r chwech mawr yn cynyddu eto yn 2013 i £2 biliwn. Mae'r elw cyfartalog y mae cwmnïau ynni yn ei wneud o bob aelwyd wedi treblu mewn dim ond tair blynedd—o £30 yn 2011 i £53 ar gyfer pob aelwyd y llynedd a chynnydd enfawr wedyn i £105 eleni. Ar yr un pryd, canfu ymchwil gan Cyngor ar Bopeth fod cyflenwyr wedi cynyddu eu prisiau 37% dros y tair blynedd ddiwethaf —wyth gwaith yn gyflymach nag enillion. Dyna faint y broblem y mae angen mynd i'r afael â hi.

It is now widely recognised that the targets for eliminating fuel poverty, set over a decade ago, will not be met. Energy prices have risen consistently, as we have heard, over the past few years, and this has undone much of the progress that had been made. The Welsh Government has simply not had the powers available to tackle rising fuel bills. In this context, retrofitting is only ever going to be a mitigating act. The schemes for retrofitting themselves have been streamlined due to financial pressures. As a result Nest, for example, has focused on the poorest households, thus missing those households where in-work poverty, and poor housing and poor infrastructure—for example, off-grid homes very often—form a literally lethal combination. Indeed the excess winter deaths statistics should remind us all that the consequences of not tackling fuel poverty are serious for the people whom we all represent.

Cydnabyddir yn eang erbyn hyn na fydd y targedau ar gyfer dileu tlodi tanwydd, a bennwyd dros ddegawd yn ôl, yn cael eu cyflawni. Mae prisiau ynni wedi codi'n gyson, fel y clywsom, dros yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf, ac mae hyn wedi dadwneud llawer o'r cynnydd a wnaed. Yn syml, nid oedd y pwerau i fynd i'r afael â biliau tanwydd sy'n codi ar gael i Lywodraeth Cymru. Yn y cyd-destun hwn, dim ond gweithred liniarol fydd ôl-gyfarparu byth. Mae'r cynlluniau ar gyfer ôl-gyfarparu eu hunain wedi cael eu symleiddio oherwydd pwysau ariannol. O ganlyniad, mae Nyth, er enghraifft, wedi canolbwyntio ar yr aelwydydd tlotaf, a thrwy hynny wedi colli'r aelwydydd hynny lle mae tlodi mewn gwaith, a thai gwael a seilwaith gwael—er enghraifft cartrefi oddi ar y grid yn aml iawn—sy'n cynnig cyfuniad angheuol yn llythrennol. Yn wir, dylai'r ystadegau ynglŷn â marwolaethau ychwanegol yn ystod y gaeaf ein hatgoffa i gyd bod goblygiadau peidio â mynd i'r afael â thlodi tanwydd yn ddifrifol i'r bobl yr ydym i gyd yn eu cynrychioli.

Labour's energy price freeze is an attractive policy on a number of levels, and it is certainly not without some merits. However, we think that more work needs to be done to tackle the structural problems in the energy market, which will continue during and after any price freeze.

Mae polisi Llafur i rewi prisiau ynni yn un atyniadol mewn sawl ffordd, ac yn sicr mae ganddo rai rhinweddau. Fodd bynnag, credwn fod angen gwneud mwy o waith i fynd i'r afael â'r problemau strwythurol yn y farchnad ynni, a fydd yn parhau yn ystod ac ar ôl unrhyw gyfnod o rewi prisiau.

In Wales, we pay an average of 5% to 10% more for our energy than those elsewhere. This, of course, is due to poor energy infrastructure, particularly for rural and post-industrial areas and also the failure of competition to work in the market. Poor digital infrastructure means, very often, that those who are digitally excluded cannot access the best deals and there is, as we all know, a general sense that switching is not the answer, leading to the monopoly-type practices of energy companies.

Yng Nghymru, rydym yn talu 5% i 10% yn fwy ar gyfartaledd am ein hynni na phobl mewn mannau eraill, a hynny, wrth gwrs, oherwydd seilwaith ynni gwael, yn enwedig mewn ardaloedd gwledig ac ôl-ddiwydiannol a hefyd fethiant cystadleuaeth i weithio yn y farchnad. Mae seilwaith digidol gwael yn golygu, yn aml iawn, na all y rhai sydd wedi'u hallgáu'n ddigidol gael y fargen orau ac fel y gŵyr pob un ohonom, ceir ymdeimlad cyffredinol nad newid yw'r ateb, am fod hynny'n arwain at arferion monopoli gan gwmnïau ynni.

This is exactly why Plaid Cymru is calling for a not-for-dividend energy company, so that the huge tier of profits can be removed from the system and invested back into infrastructure. The good news is that a concerted effort to tackle fuel poverty would also address, of course, the other problems that colleagues of mine will be raising in the course of this debate.

Dyna'n union pam mae Plaid Cymru yn galw am gwmni ynni nad yw'n rhoi difidendau, fel y gall yr haen enfawr o elw gael ei thynnu o'r system a'i buddsoddi mewn seilwaith. Y newyddion da yw y byddai ymdrech ar y cyd i fynd i'r afael â thlodi tanwydd hefyd, wrth gwrs, yn mynd i'r afael â'r problemau eraill y bydd fy nghyd-Aelodau yn eu codi yn ystod y ddadl hon.

Green jobs are also a part of solving our economic problems. The United Nations environment programme has outlined the economic benefits of investing in green jobs. Its report into energy efficiency notes that, for every €1 million spent in energy efficiency programmes focusing on home insulation, between 11.3 and 13.5 full-time equivalent jobs were created. Jobs are created directly in small and medium-sized enterprises, of course, and over 90% of firms in this industry have fewer than 10 employees. The jobs are local as well, and around 80% of the companies operating in Wales under the Arbed scheme, for example, were Welsh companies. There is a further indirect benefit in that money saved as a result of energy efficiency can also then be invested locally. Therefore, there is a lot that can be done, there is a lot that needs to be done, and fuel poverty, in my book, needs to be up there at the top of our list.

Mae swyddi gwyrdd hefyd yn rhan o ddatrys ein problemau economaidd. Mae rhaglen amgylcheddol y Cenhedloedd Unedig wedi amlinellu'r manteision economaidd sy'n gysylltiedig â buddsoddi mewn swyddi gwyrdd. Mae ei hadroddiad ar effeithlonrwydd ynni yn nodi, ar gyfer pob €1 miliwn a wariwyd mewn rhaglenni effeithlonrwydd ynni sy'n canolbwyntio ar inswleiddio cartrefi, i rhwng 11.3 a 13.5 o swyddi cyfwerth â llawn amser gael eu creu. Crëir swyddi yn uniongyrchol mewn busnesau bach a chanolig, wrth gwrs, ac mae dros 90% o gwmnïau yn y diwydiant hwn yn cyflogi llai na 10 o weithwyr. Mae'r swyddi yn rhai lleol hefyd, ac roedd tua 80% o'r cwmnïau sy'n gweithredu yng Nghymru o dan gynllun Arbed, er enghraifft, yn gwmnïau o Gymru. Ceir budd anuniongyrchol pellach yn yr ystyr y gall yr arian a arbedir o ganlyniad i effeithlonrwydd ynni wedyn hefyd gael ei fuddsoddi yn lleol. Felly, mae llawer y gellir ei wneud, mae llawer y mae angen ei wneud, ac mae angen i dlodi tanwydd, o'm rhan i, fod ar frig ein rhestr o flaenoriaethau.

16:32 **Mohammad Asghar** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

This debate this afternoon takes place after an autumn statement that revealed that the tough economic decisions taken by the Conservative-led Government in Westminster are working. Labour let the public finances run out of control, leaving Britain with the largest deficit in our peacetime history.

Mae'r ddadl hon y prynhawn yma yn digwydd ar ôl datganiad yr hydref a ddatgelodd fod y penderfyniadau economaidd anodd a wnaed gan y Llywodraeth o dan arweiniad y Ceidwadwyr yn San Steffan yn gweithio. Collodd Llafur reolaeth ar y cyllid cyhoeddus, gan adael y diffyg mwyaf i Brydain yn ein hanes yn ystod cyfnod o heddwch.

The contrast could not be more stark. It is difficult for one Government to overturn the economic mountain in three years. However, economic growth has been upgraded from 0.6% to 1.4% in 2013 and from 1.8% to 2.4% in 2014. UK unemployment is forecast to fall to 7% in 2015 and to 5.6% in 2018. Labour's deficit will fall to 6.8% this year and the budget will be in surplus in 2018/19. A lot has been done but there is much to do, and David Cameron and his team are working strongly. They way that they are going, they are doing a great job and we will see the result when the real picture comes out, and it will shut everybody up.

Ni allai'r cyferbyniad fod yn fwy amlwg. Mae'n anodd i un Llywodraeth ddymchwel y mynydd economaidd mewn tair blynedd. Fodd bynnag, mae twf economaidd wedi cael ei uwchraddio o 0.6% i 1.4% yn 2013 ac o 1.8% i 2.4% yn 2014. Rhagwelir y bydd diweithdra yn y DU yn gostwng i 7% yn 2015 ac i 5.6% yn 2018. Bydd diffyg Llafur yn gostwng i 6.8% eleni a bydd gwarged cyllidebol yn 2018/19. Mae llawer wedi cael ei wneud, ond mae llawer i'w wneud, ac mae David Cameron a'i dîm yn gweithio'n gadarn. Mae'r ffordd y maent yn mynd ati yn golygu eu bod yn gwneud gwaith gwych ac fe welwn y canlyniad pan fydd y gwir ddarlun yn dod i'r golwg, a fydd yn gwneud i bawb dewi.

The UK Government is fully aware of the pressure on household budgets. That is why it has raised the income tax threshold to £10,000, cutting income tax by an average of £700 for 25 million people in this country and taking 2.7 million out of income tax altogether. You should learn some lessons rather than teaching us something.

Mae Llywodraeth y DU yn gwbl ymwybodol o'r pwysau ar gyllidebau aelwydydd. Dyna pam mae wedi codi'r trothwy treth incwm i £10,000, gan dorri treth incwm £700 ar gyfartaledd i 25 miliwn o bobl yn y wlad hon a sicrhau nad yw 2.7 miliwn yn talu treth incwm o gwbl. Dylech chi ddysgu rhai gwersi yn hytrach na dysgu rhywbeth i ni.

I agree that energy bills are causing concern to many people at present. I welcome the UK Government's commitment to retaining the winter fuel payment and the cold weather payment to assist the most vulnerable with their fuel bills. Proposals to cut green levies will reduce energy bills by an average of £50 next year and legislation will force energy companies to put customers on the lowest tariff. This is positive action to address rising fuel bills and I would remind the Assembly that when Labour was in power between 1997 and 2010, the average gas bill more than doubled and electricity bills increased by more than 50%.

Cytunaf fod biliau ynni yn peri pryder i lawer o bobl ar hyn o bryd. Croesawaf ymrwymiad Llywodraeth y DU i gadw taliad tanwydd y gaeaf a'r taliad tywydd oer i gynorthwyo'r rhai sydd fwyaf agored i niwed gyda'u biliau tanwydd. Bydd cynigion i dorri ardollau gwyrdd yn lleihau biliau ynni £50 ar gyfartaledd y flwyddyn nesaf a bydd deddfwriaeth yn gorfodi cwmnïau ynni i roi cwsmeriaid ar y tariff isaf. Mae hwn yn gam cadarnhaol i fynd i'r afael â biliau tanwydd sy'n codi a hoffwn atgoffa'r Cynulliad pan oedd Llafur mewn grym rhwng 1997 a 2010, i'r bil nwy cyfartalog fwy na dyblu ac i filiau trydan gynyddu dros 50%.

It is true that the number of people using food banks has increased. The first food bank in the United Kingdom opened in Salisbury in 2000, under a Labour Government. Food bank use has increased under Governments of both colours. I agree with that. According to the Trussell Trust, the Christian charity that operates food banks, 30% of those they feed need help due to the delay in receipt of benefits. Another 10% have fallen into debt and are caught by loan sharks. Another 5% are rough sleepers who are entitled to help from the state but are unwilling or unable to accept it. These problems should be addressed and the benefits system must be speeded up.

Mae'n wir bod nifer y bobl sy'n defnyddio banciau bwyd wedi cynyddu. Agorwyd y banc bwyd cyntaf yn y Deyrnas Unedig yng Nghaersallog yn 2000, o dan Lywodraeth Lafur. Mae'r defnydd a wneir o fanciau bwyd wedi cynyddu o dan Lywodraethau'r naill blaid a'r llall. Cytunaf â hynny. Yn ôl Ymddiriedolaeth Trussell, sef yr elusen Gristnogol sy'n gweithredu banciau bwyd, o'r rhai y maent yn eu bwydo, mae angen help ar 30% oherwydd oedi cyn cael budd-daliadau. Mae 10% arall wedi mynd i ddyled ac yn cael eu dal gan fenthycwyr arian diegwyddor. Mae 5% arall yn cysgu ar y stryd y mae ganddynt hawl i gael cymorth gan y wladwriaeth, ond sy'n amharod i'w dderbyn neu'n methu â'i dderbyn. Dylid mynd i'r afael â'r problemau hyn a rhaid i'r system fudd-daliadau weithredu'n gynt.

Action must be taken against pay-day loan companies and credit unions should and are being promoted as a cheaper alternative source of finance.

Rhaid cymryd camau yn erbyn cwmnïau benthyciadau diwrnod cyflog a dylai undebau credyd gael eu hyrwyddo fel ffynhonnell amgen rhatach o gyllid, ac maent yn cael eu hyrwyddo.

Finally, I turn to the spare-room subsidy. Under Labour the housing benefit bill almost doubled to £20 billion. We cannot afford to continue to pay for people living in social housing to live in homes that are bigger than their needs. I think that they should be more sensible and live in a place that is suitable for them. When you need help, the state helps you, but now the state needs you, you better help the state. The UK Government has ensured that disabled children and their siblings will not be put at risk by virtue of sharing a bedroom. The elderly, foster carers, carers for the disabled—

Yn olaf, trof at y cymhorthdal ystafell sbâr. O dan Lafur bu'r bil budd-dal tai bron â dyblu i £20 biliwn. Ni allwn fforddio parhau i dalu pobl sy'n byw mewn tai cymdeithasol i fyw mewn cartrefi sy'n fwy na'u hanghenion. Credaf y dylent fod yn fwy synhwyrol a byw mewn lle sy'n addas ar eu cyfer. Pan fydd angen help arnoch, mae'r wladwriaeth yn eich helpu, ond gan fod angen eich help chi ar y wladwriaeth, dylech helpu'r wladwriaeth. Mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi sicrhau na fydd plant anabl na'u brodyr a chwiorydd yn cael eu rhoi mewn perygl am eu bod yn rhannu ystafell wely. Yr henoed, gofalwyr maeth, gofalwyr ar gyfer yr anabl—

16:37

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Conclude with this now, please.

Gorffennwch â hyn yn awr, os gwelwch yn dda.

16:37

Mohammad Asghar Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

And severely disabled children will not be at risk.

Ac ni fydd plant anabl iawn yn cael eu rhoi mewn perygl.

16:37

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you.

Diolch.

16:37 **Mohammad Asghar** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Deputy Presiding Officer, by these actions the UK Government has clearly demonstrated its resolve to creating a growing vibrant economy—

Ddirprwy Lywydd, drwy'r camau gweithredu hyn, mae Llywodraeth y DU yn amlwg wedi dangos ei phenderfyniad i greu economi fywiog sy'n tyfu—

16:37 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

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You are out of time, sorry.

Mae'ch amser wedi dod i ben, mae'n ddrwg gennyf.

16:37 **Alun Ffred Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Rwyf am ganolbwyntio ar yr agweddau economaidd a chyflogaeth sydd yn y cynnig. Hoffwn gyfeirio yn fyr at rai o sylwadau'r cyn-siaradwr. Mae ef wedi ceisio amddiffyn y Llywodraeth yn Llundain y gorau gall ef. Y gwir amdani yw bod y Canghellor wedi methu ei dargedau'n gyson ers iddo fod yn ei swydd. Os yw'r adferiad hwn yr ydym yn ei weld yn yr economi ym Mhrydain yn dibynnu ar ragor o ddyled gyhoeddus ac ar brisiau tai, yna rydym yn mynd yn ôl yn gyflym iawn i'r un sefyllfa a greodd y dirwasgiad yn 2007, ar wahân i'r ffaith syml, wrth gwrs, bod y gwellhad hwn i'w weld yn bennaf yn Llundain a de-ddwyrain Lloegr. Ond, dyna ni.

I want to concentrate on the economic and employment aspects of the motion. I would like to refer briefly to some of the comments of the previous speaker. He has endeavoured to defend the Government in London as best he can. The truth is that the Chancellor has missed his targets consistently since taking post. If this recovery that we are seeing in the British economy is dependent on greater public debt and on house prices, then we are swiftly returning to the situation that created the recession in 2007, apart from the simple fact, of course, that this improvement seems to be happening only in London and the south-east. But, there you go.

Gadewch inni ganolbwyntio ar y sefyllfa sy'n wynebu pobl yng Nghymru a realiti bywyd bob dydd ar y ddaear hon yng Nghymru. Mae 41,000 yn rhagor o bobl yn ddi-waith yng Nghymru o'i gymharu â'r sefyllfa yn 2007. Bydd y teuluoedd hyn yn wynebu'r Nadolig mewn cyflwr pryderus iawn. Un o'r pryderon hynny, wrth i'r tywydd oeri, fydd y biliau trydan a thanwydd uchel a fydd yn eu hwynebu yn y flwyddyn newydd.

Let us concentrate on the situation facing people in Wales and the reality of daily life on the ground here in Wales. There are 41,000 more unemployed people in Wales compared with the situation in 2007. These families will be facing Christmas in a state of great worry. One of the worries, as the weather gets colder, will be the high electricity and fuel bills that they will be faced with in the new year.

Mae 117,000 yn ddi-waith yng Nghymru, sy'n ychydig llai na 8%, ac fe allem ddweud nad yw'r diweithdra hwnnw wedi cyrraedd y lefelau a welwyd ar ddechrau'r 80au o dan Lywodraeth Margaret Thatcher nag ar ddechrau'r 90au. Fodd bynnag, fel y gwyddom, nid pobl ddi-waith yw'r unig rai sy'n ofni gweld y biliau hynny'n cyrraedd yn y post. Mae tlodi yr un mor debygol o daro rhai sydd ar gyflogau isel a rhai sy'n gweithio'n rhan-amser.

There are 117,000 unemployed people in Wales, which is a little less than 8%, and we could say that that level of unemployment has not reached the levels that we saw at the beginning of the 80s under the Thatcher Government or at the beginning of the 90s. However, as we know, it is not just the unemployed who are fearful of seeing the bills arrive through the post. Poverty is just as likely to affect those on low wages and those working part-time.

Mae'r darlun yng Nghymru yn un a ddylai achosi pryder i bob un ohonom. Mae diweithdra yn dal i gynyddu ymysg merched. Mae 55,000 o ferched bellach yn ddi-waith ac mae'r lefelau yn cynyddu. Er bod lefelau cyffredinol diweithdra yn gostwng, mae diweithdra ymysg merched yn cynyddu, ac wedi cynyddu'n gyson dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Wrth gwrs, mae'r wasgfa real iawn hon ar gynghorau lleol yn debygol o arwain at ragor o ddiswyddiadau, ac mae llawer iawn o'r rheini yn debygol o fod ymysg merched. Cofiwn hefyd fod cyflogau yn y sector cyhoeddus wedi eu rhewi i bob pwrpas ar draws Cymru ers nifer o flynyddoedd. Mae bob peth yn arwain at y sefyllfa hon lle mae pobl yn ei chael yn anodd i ateb y gofynion sylfaenol ar gyfer bywyd normal.

The picture in Wales is one that should cause concern to each and every one of us. Unemployment is still increasing among women. There are now 55,000 unemployed women and those levels are increasing. Despite the fact that the general levels of unemployment are reducing, unemployment among women is increasing, and has increased consistently over the past few years. Of course, the very real pressure on local councils is likely to lead to further loss of work, and many of those losses are likely to be among women. We must also bear in mind that salaries in the public sector have, for all intents and purposes, been frozen across Wales for many years. All of this is leading to this situation where people are finding it difficult to make ends meet to have a normal life.

Mae adroddiadau diweddar hefyd yn awgrymu bod cyfran uchel o'r swyddi newydd sy'n cael eu creu yn rhai rhan-amser, ac mae'r rhain yn aml ar yr isafswm cyflog. Yr amcangyfrif yw bod tua 134,000 o bobl yn cael eu tangyflogi. Mae'r bobl hyn wedi cymryd swyddi rhan-amser—nid o ddewis, ond o raid. Felly, rydych yn sôn am tua 0.25 miliwn o unigolion sydd naill yn ddi-waith neu yn cael eu tangyflogi yng Nghymru. Y rhain fydd yn wynebu'r dewisiadau anodd neu amhosibl yn ystod y gaeaf hwn o naill gadw eu hunain yn gynnes, rhoi bwyd ar y ford neu ddilladu eu teuluoedd.

Recent reports also suggest that a high percentage of the new jobs created are part-time posts, and these are very often at the minimum wage. The estimate is that about 134,000 people are underemployed. These people have taken part-time jobs—not through choice, but out of necessity. Therefore, you are talking about some 0.25 million individuals who are either unemployed or underemployed in Wales. These are the people who will face the tough or impossible choices over the winter months of whether to keep themselves warm, put food on the table or clothe their families.

Nid yw ffigurau cymharol yn adrodd y stori i gyd, ond o gofio bod prisiau trydan yn aml yn uwch yng Nghymru, mae lefelau enillion wythnosol cyfartalog yn is yng Nghymru nag yng ngweddill y Deyrnas Unedig. Maent yn amcangyfrif mai £520 yw'r cyflog cyfartalog neu'r incwm i'r teulu yng Nghymru. Yng Ngogledd Iwerddon, y ffigur yw £536; yn yr Alban, y ffigur yw £585; a'r ffigur yn Lloegr yw £616, sydd bron yn wahaniaeth o £100.

The comparative figures do not tell the whole story, but bearing in mind that electricity prices are higher in Wales, the average weekly wage levels are lower in Wales than in the rest of the United Kingdom. They estimate that £520 is the average wage or the income for the family in Wales. In Northern Ireland, the figure is £536; in Scotland, the figure is £585; and in England, the figure is £616, which is almost a difference of £100.

Mae'r farchnad swyddi hefyd yn wahanol. Yn yr Alban, mae'r farchnad swyddi mor iach ag yr oedd cyn y dirwasgiad. Nid yw hynny'n wir yng Nghymru am y rhesymau a nodais ynghynt. Mae'r sefyllfa yn y fan hon dal yn beryglus. Yr awgrym o'r ffigurau hynny yw bod llawer iawn gormod o bobl Cymru ar yr isafswm cyflog. Yn wir, nid yw enillion y rhan fwyaf o bobl wedi codi mewn termau real ers degawd a rhagor. Dyna pam fod iechyd cyffredinol yr economi mor bwysig. Dyna pam fod cael economi ffyniannus, fywiog, gref a chyhyrog yn hollbwysig er mwyn galluogi pobl i wneud y dewisiadau iawn, er mwyn sicrhau yr hanfodion hynny sydd eu hangen ar bob teulu ac sy'n rhoi urddas i bobl. Ni fydd yr urddas hwnnw ar gael i lawer gormod o deuluoedd yng Nghymru yn ystod y gaeaf hwn.

The labour market is also different. In Scotland, the labour market is now as buoyant as it was before the recession. That is not the case in Wales for the very reasons that I outlined earlier. The situation here is still dangerous. The suggestion from those figures is that far too many of the people of Wales are earning the minimum wage. Indeed, for most people, their earnings have not increased in real terms over a decade or more. That is why the general health of the economy is so important. That is why having a prosperous, vibrant, strong and robust economy is crucial if we are to enable people to make the right choices, in order to ensure those necessities that every family need that give people dignity. That dignity will not be available to far too many families in Wales over these winter months.

16:42

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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I call the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty, Jeff Cuthbert.

Galwaf ar y Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi, Jeff Cuthbert.

16:42

Jeff Cuthbert Bywgraffiad Biography

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Fideo Video

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

I share Plaid Cymru's opposition to the UK Government's welfare reforms, and the difficulties that these pose to people who are struggling to make ends meet.

Rhannaf wrthwynebiad Plaid Cymru i ddiwygiadau lles Llywodraeth y DU, a'r anawsterau y mae'r rhain yn eu hachosi i bobl sy'n cael trafferth i gael dau ben llinyn ynghyd.

Our commitment to address the issues faced by families living in poverty is shown in the unique actions that we are taking forward through our tackling poverty action plan and flagship programmes such as Communities First, Flying Start and Families First. Many of the key policy levers around tackling poverty, as has been mentioned by others, do not lie within the control of the Welsh Government. Nevertheless, we have a significant role to play in improving the employment, education and health outcomes of low-income households.

Dangosir ein hymrwymiad i fynd i'r afael â'r problemau a wynebir gan deuluoedd sy'n byw mewn tlodi yn y camau gweithredu unigryw yr ydym yn eu cymryd drwy ein cynllun gweithredu ar gyfer trechu tlodi a'n rhaglenni blaenllaw megis Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, Dechrau'n Deg a Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf. Fel y'i crybwyllwyd gan eraill, nid oes gan Lywodraeth Cymru reolaeth dros lawer o'r ysgogiadau polisi allweddol ynghylch mynd i'r afael â thlodi. Serch hynny, mae gennym rôl bwysig i'w chwarae i wella cyflogaeth, addysg a chanlyniadau iechyd teuluoedd incwm isel.

We acknowledge that the economy has recently shown some promising signs. However, gross domestic product has still not returned to the level achieved in 2008, and people are still not seeing any improvement in their living standards. For too many people, the reverse is the case.

Rydym yn cydnabod bod yr economi wedi dangos rhai arwyddion addawol yn ddiweddar. Fodd bynnag, nid yw cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth wedi dychwelyd eto i'r lefel a welwyd yn 2008, ac nid yw pobl yn gweld unrhyw welliant yn eu safonau byw eto. I ormod o bobl, y gwrthwyneb sy'n wir.

The economic recession and slow growth over recent years has had an impact upon the pace of progress for eradicating poverty in Wales. The UK Government's austerity measures and welfare reform compound these pressures. Amendment 1 acknowledges that the UK economy has grown, so we support the amendment. We oppose amendment 9 as it does not recognise the latest data, which demonstrate that the gap in employment rates between Wales and the UK is the lowest on record at 1.5%.

Mae'r dirwasgiad economaidd a thwf araf dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf wedi cael effaith ar y cynnydd i ddileu tlodi yng Nghymru. Mae mesurau cynilo Llywodraeth y DU a'r diwygiadau lles yn dwysáu'r pwysau hyn. Mae gwelliant 1 yn cydnabod bod economi'r DU wedi tyfu, felly rydym yn cefnogi'r gwelliant. Gwrthwynebwn welliant 9 gan nad yw'n cydnabod y data diweddaraf, sy'n dangos bod y bwlch mewn cyfraddau cyflogaeth rhwng Cymru a'r DU ar ei lefel isaf erioed, sef 1.5%.

Fuel prices and the regulation of the energy market are not devolved matters, but we are doing all that we can to help households in Wales. I recognise that fuel poverty is often more prevalent in rural areas, and we are looking at how the future rural development plan might augment community support for renewable energy. We note the recent announcement from the UK Government of a £50 reduction in energy bills, but this is a short-term solution. Our priority is to help low-income households to manage increasing energy bills in the long term by improving the energy efficiency of their homes. We are doing this successfully through our energy efficiency programme, which includes our NEST and Arbed schemes. However, we support amendments 2 and 3, which recognise the need to address fuel poverty.

Nid yw prisiau tanwydd na rheoleiddio'r farchnad ynni yn faterion datganoledig, ond rydym yn gwneud popeth o fewn ein gallu i helpu aelwydydd yng Nghymru. Rwy'n cydnabod bod tlodi tanwydd yn aml yn fwy cyffredin mewn ardaloedd gwledig, ac rydym yn ystyried sut y gallai'r cynllun datblygu gwledig yn y dyfodol ychwanegu at y cymorth cymunedol ar gyfer ynni adnewyddadwy. Nodwn y cyhoeddiad diweddar gan Lywodraeth y DU ynghylch gostyngiad o £50 mewn biliau ynni, ond ateb byrdymor ydyw. Ein blaenoriaeth yw helpu aelwydydd incwm isel i ymdopi â biliau ynni cynyddol yn yr hirdymor drwy wella effeithlonrwydd ynni eu cartrefi. Rydym yn gwneud hyn yn llwyddiannus drwy ein rhaglen effeithlonrwydd ynni, sy'n cynnwys cynlluniau Nyth ac Arbed. Fodd bynnag, rydym yn cefnogi gwelliannau 2 a 3, sy'n cydnabod bod angen mynd i'r afael â thlodi tanwydd.

The Welsh Government is supportive of the work undertaken by food banks. We know that the impact of welfare reform means that families are going hungry, including families in work. For those of us who care about our communities and who pay attention to the lives of real people, they are not the hidden hungry; they are all too visible. The Welsh Government's discretionary assistance fund is providing immediate help to people who are in a crisis and unable to provide food for their families. Therefore, we support amendment 4, acknowledging the contribution that food banks make.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn gefnogol i'r gwaith a wneir gan fanciau bwyd. Gwyddom fod effaith diwygiadau lles yn golygu bod teuluoedd yn mynd heb fwyd, gan gynnwys teuluoedd sy'n gweithio. I'r rhai hynny ohonom y mae ein cymunedau yn bwysig inni ac sy'n rhoi sylw i fywydau pobl go iawn, nid ydynt yn bobl sy'n mynd heb fwyd yn ddiarwybod inni; maent ond yn rhy weladwy. Mae cronfa cymorth dewisol Llywodraeth Cymru yn rhoi cymorth ar unwaith i bobl sydd mewn argyfwng ac sy'n methu â bwydo eu teuluoedd. Felly, rydym yn cefnogi gwelliant 4, gan gydnabod y cyfraniad y mae'r banciau bwyd yn ei wneud.

We welcome the increase in the income tax threshold. It will provide much-needed relief for many workers whose incomes are being squeezed by inflation. We therefore support amendment 5. However, the increase in the income tax threshold does nothing for people who are not in work and who are most likely to be in persistent poverty. In contrast, the increase in the threshold will benefit those on quite high incomes. The Welsh Government will continue to focus on reducing the number of workless households in Wales.

Rydym yn croesawu'r cynnydd yn y trothwy treth incwm. Bydd yn rhoi rhyddhad mawr ei angen i lawer o weithwyr y mae eu hincwm yn cael ei wasgu oherwydd chwyddiant. Felly, rydym yn cefnogi gwelliant 5. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'r cynnydd yn y trothwy treth incwm yn gwneud dim dros bobl nad ydynt mewn gwaith ac sydd fwyaf tebygol o fod mewn tlodi parhaus. Mewn cyferbyniad â hynny, bydd y cynnydd yn y trothwy o fudd i'r rhai ar incwm eithaf uchel. Bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn parhau i ganolbwyntio ar leihau nifer yr aelwydydd di-waith yng Nghymru.

Recognising the importance of ensuring that we deliver homes to meet the needs of the people of Wales, the Minister for Housing and Regeneration has set up a housing supply taskforce. The taskforce has membership from across the housing industry and considers the whole housing market. It will report shortly and is likely to identify actions for all partners to deliver. Plans on this will be announced early in the new year.

Er mwyn cydnabod pwysigrwydd sicrhau ein bod yn darparu cartrefi i ddiwallu anghenion pobl Cymru, mae'r Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio wedi sefydlu tasglu cyflenwad tai. Mae'r tasglu yn cynnwys aelodau o bob rhan o'r diwydiant tai ac mae'n ystyried y farchnad dai gyfan. Bydd yn cyflwyno adroddiad cyn bo hir a'r tebyg yw y bydd yn nodi camau gweithredu i'w cyflawni gan bob partner. Bydd cynlluniau ar hyn yn cael eu cyhoeddi ddechrau'r flwyddyn newydd.

We support amendment 6, recognising the need for urgent action to address housing issues. The right-to-buy scheme, which has been extended by the UK coalition Government, resulted in the loss of many millions of homes. We have taken steps to limit this scheme. Community Housing Cymru has highlighted the difficulties being created by the bedroom tax for housing association tenants and for the associations themselves. We are taking a number of steps to mitigate the highly damaging impact of this policy. This includes the smaller properties programme, funding for advice and support, and working with local authorities and other partner organisations. We therefore oppose amendment 7, which seeks to blame the Welsh Government and housing associations for losses of homes. The only sensible response to the iniquitous bedroom tax is to abolish it, which, I am pleased to say, my party has pledged to do when it returns to Government in Westminster.

Rydym yn cefnogi gwelliant 6, sy'n cydnabod bod angen gweithredu ar fyrder er mwyn mynd i'r afael â phroblemau tai. Arweiniodd y cynllun hawl i brynu, sydd wedi cael ei ymestyn gan Lywodraeth glymblaid y DU, at golli llawer o filiynau o gartrefi. Rydym wedi cymryd camau i gyfyngu ar y cynllun hwn. Mae Cartrefi Cymunedol Cymru wedi tynnu sylw at yr anawsterau sy'n cael eu creu gan y dreth ystafell wely i denantiaid cymdeithasau tai ac i'r cymdeithasau eu hunain. Rydym yn cymryd nifer o gamau i liniaru effaith niweidiol iawn y polisi hwn. Mae hyn yn cynnwys y rhaglen eiddo llai, cyllid ar gyfer cyngor a chymorth, a gweithio gydag awdurdodau lleol a sefydliadau partner eraill. Felly, rydym yn gwrthwynebu gwelliant 7, sy'n ceisio rhoi'r bai ar Lywodraeth Cymru a chymdeithasau tai am golli cartrefi. Yr unig ymateb synhwyrol i'r dreth ystafell wely anghyfiawn yw ei dileu, rhywbeth, rwyf yn falch o ddweud, y mae fy mhlaid wedi addo ei wneud pan fydd yn ennill grym yn San Steffan.

Unemployment in Wales is falling faster than in the UK, and employment is growing more quickly. However, tackling unemployment remains a key area for the Welsh Government. Policies, such as Jobs Growth Wales, our tackling workless households programme and the recently announced capital investment projects all reflect our ongoing commitment to tackling unemployment. We therefore oppose amendment 8, as we are making progress in addressing unemployment.

Mae diweithdra yng Nghymru yn gostwng yn gynt nag ydyw yn y DU, ac mae cyflogaeth yn tyfu'n gynt. Fodd bynnag, mae mynd i'r afael â diweithdra yn dal i fod yn faes allweddol i Lywodraeth Cymru. Mae polisïau, megis Twf Swyddi Cymru, ein rhaglen mynd i'r afael ag aelwydydd heb waith a'r prosiectau buddsoddiad cyfalaf a gyhoeddwyd yn ddiweddar i gyd yn adlewyrchu ein hymrwymiad parhaus i fynd i'r afael â diweithdra. Felly, rydym yn gwrthwynebu gwelliant 8, gan ein bod yn gwneud cynnydd o ran mynd i'r afael â diweithdra.

To conclude, we believe that the policies and practices that we have adopted demonstrate our commitment to the tackling poverty agenda. While we do not have all of the levers available to tackle poverty in Wales, we are determined to do all that we can. The centrepiece of our strategy—the revised tackling poverty action plan—was only put in place in July this year. People living in poverty want action to address the issues that they face, not reviews. On this basis, we cannot support amendments 10 and 11. Although I have said that the strategy can be reviewed in the light of experience and evidence, there is absolutely no requirement to do this now. For that reason, we must oppose the motion as written.

I gloi, credwn fod y polisïau a'r arferion a fabwysiadwyd gennym yn dangos ein hymrwymiad i'r agenda i fynd i'r afael â thlodi. Er nad yw'r holl ysgogiadau sydd ar gael i fynd i'r afael â thlodi yng Nghymru o dan ein rheolaeth, rydym yn benderfynol o wneud popeth o fewn ein gallu. Dim ond ym mis Gorffennaf eleni y rhoddwyd conglfaen ein strategaeth— y cynllun gweithredu diwygiedig ar gyfer mynd i'r afael â thlodi—ar waith. Mae pobl sy'n byw mewn tlodi am weld gweithredu i fynd i'r afael â'r problemau a wynebir ganddynt, nid adolygiadau. Ar y sail hon, ni allwn gefnogi gwelliannau 10 ac 11. Er fy mod wedi dweud y gall y strategaeth gael ei hadolygu yng ngoleuni profiad a thystiolaeth, nid oes unrhyw ofyniad o gwbl i wneud hyn yn awr. Am y rheswm hwnnw, rhaid inni wrthwynebu'r cynnig fel y'i lluniwyd.

16:49 **Jocelyn Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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In closing this debate, I will focus my contribution on the bedroom tax. I think that Members here will already know my feelings on the bedroom tax, but I will put those to one side today and take an objective view. I am not promising that I will not get angry, as the bedroom tax has significantly worsened poverty among the already poor, but I will try to not do so. I am sticking to figures and statistics today—indisputable facts.

Wrth gloi'r ddadl hon, rwyf am ganolbwyntio yn fy nghyfraniad ar y dreth ystafell wely. Credaf y bydd yr Aelodau yma eisoes yn ymwybodol o'm teimladau ynglŷn â'r dreth ystafell wely, ond byddaf yn eu rhoi o'r neilltu heddiw ac yn arddel barn wrthrychol. Nid wyf yn addo na fyddaf yn mynd yn ddig, gan fod y dreth ystafell wely wedi gwaethygu tlodi ymhlith y rhai sydd eisoes yn dlawd cryn dipyn, ond byddaf yn ceisio peidio â gwneud hynny. Cadwaf at ffigurau ac ystadegau heddiw—ffeithiau diamheuol.

We often hear that housing benefit doubled under Labour; it did not. It did increase by 70%, but it did not double. It did, in fact, treble under the Tories prior to 1997. There is no dispute whatsoever that, in 2010, it was a big figure: £20.88 billion. I look on that as an investment—an investment in the health and wellbeing of the nation, it subsidises low wages, it enriches private sector landlords and it helps create social good in the not-for-profit sector. However it is not this £20 billion and more that is often quoted by those who should, and I think do, know better.

Clywn yn aml i'r budd-dal tai ddyblu o dan Lafur; ni wnaeth. Cynyddodd 70%, ond ni ddyblodd. Mewn gwirionedd, gwnaeth dreblu o dan y Toriaid cyn 1997. Heb unrhyw amheuaeth o gwbl, roedd yn ffigur mawr yn 2010: £20.88 biliwn. Ystyriaf hynny yn fuddsoddiad—buddsoddiad yn iechyd a lles y genedl, mae'n gymhorthdal i rai ar gyflogau isel, mae'n cyfoethogi landlordiaid yn y sector preifat ac mae'n helpu i greu lles cymdeithasol yn y sector nid er elw. Fodd bynnag, nid y swm hwn o £20 biliwn a mwy ydyw sy'n cael ei grybwyll yn aml gan y rhai a ddylai wybod yn well, ac sydd, fe gredaf, yn gwybod yn well.

Let us look at the aims of the bedroom tax. I have taken them from the High Court judgment in May this year as laid down by Lord Justice Laws. They are: deficit reduction; enterprise and fairness; and reforming the welfare system to reward work. On deficit reduction, in May 2010, housing benefits stood at £20.88 billion, while the figure is now £23.88 billion. So, the Government failed to reduce the bill. In fact, it has gone up. In May 2010, there were 650,000 working families on housing benefit; in August this year, that figure was 1 million. That is a 56% increase in low-paid claimants. Let us all assume that they are working hard; let us give them the benefit of the doubt. Clearly then, housing benefit subsidises low wage-paying employers; it is a fact.

Gadewch inni edrych ar amcanion y dreth ystafell wely. Maent yn dod o ddyfarniad yr Uchel Lys ym mis Mai eleni fel y'i rhoddwyd gan yr Arglwydd Ustus Laws. Yr amcanion yw: lleihau'r diffyg, menter a thegwch, a diwygio'r system les er mwyn gwobrwyo gwaith. O ran lleihau'r diffyg, ym mis Mai 2010, roedd budd-daliadau tai yn costio £20.88 biliwn, ond £23.88 biliwn yw'r ffigur erbyn hyn. Felly, methodd y Llywodraeth â lleihau'r bil. Yn wir, mae wedi cynyddu. Ym mis Mai 2010, roedd 650,000 o deuluoedd a oedd yn gweithio yn cael y budd-dal tai; ym mis Awst eleni, un filiwn oedd y ffigur hwnnw. Mae hynny'n gynnydd o 56% yn nifer yr hawlwyr sy'n cael cyflog isel. Gadewch inni dybio eu bod yn gweithio'n galed; gadewch inni roi mantais yr amheuaeth iddynt. Yn amlwg felly, mae budd-dal tai yn cymorthdalu cyflogwyr sy'n talu cyflogau isel; mae'n ffaith.

Let us look at the savings. The Government estimated that the savings would be £480 million a year. That is what the DWP used to justify the introduction of the bedroom tax. Recent analysis, using the DWP's own model, demonstrates that this was hugely overestimated and that it is likely to be £160 million less. According to the University of York, savings were overestimated by perhaps as much as 40%. By the way, Iain Duncan Smith claims that this is a great success; he must be very pleased with the PISA results. In Scotland, the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities, which is the umbrella body for local authorities, estimates that it costs £58 million to save £50 million. That is failure writ large.

Gadewch inni edrych ar yr arbedion. Amcangyfrifodd y Llywodraeth y byddai'n arbed £480 miliwn y flwyddyn. Dyna'r hyn a ddefnyddiwyd gan yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau i gyfiawnhau cyflwyno'r dreth ystafell wely. Mae dadansoddiad diweddar, gan ddefnyddio model yr adran ei hun, yn dangos mai goramcangyfrif mawr ydoedd a'i fod yn debygol o arbed £160 miliwn yn llai. Yn ôl Prifysgol Caerefrog, cafodd yr arbedion eu goramcangyfrif gymaint â 40% o bosibl. Gyda llaw, mae Iain Duncan Smith yn honni bod hyn yn llwyddiant mawr; rhaid ei fod yn falch iawn o ganlyniadau PISA. Yn yr Alban, mae Confensiwn Awdurdodau Lleol yr Alban, sef corff mantell yr awdurdodau lleol, yn amcangyfrif ei bod yn costio £58 miliwn i arbed £50 miliwn. Mae hynny'n fethiant ar raddfa fawr.

Let us move on to fairness. Who is affected? Mostly, they are the low paid, the disabled and families with children. In the judgment, Lord Justice Laws outlines the evolution of the policy. By August 2010, Ministers were advised that there would be

Gadewch inni symud ymlaen at degwch. Ar bwy y mae'r dreth yn effeithio? Y rhai ar gyflogau isel, pobl anabl a theuluoedd â phlant, gan mwyaf. Yn y dyfarniad, mae'r Arglwydd Ustus Laws yn amlinellu datblygiad y polisi. Erbyn mis Awst 2010, dywedwyd wrth y Gweinidogion y byddai

'social sector tenants who cannot be found suitable alternative'

tenantiaid yn y sector cymdeithasol na fydd modd dod o hyd i dai addas iddynt,

housing, and reference was made to

a chyfeiriwyd at

'those caring full time for a disabled person'.

y rhai sy'n gofalu'n llawn amser am berson anabl.

By January 2011, officials noted that the Ministers agreed that exemptions

Erbyn mis Ionawr 2011, nododd swyddogion fod y Gweinidogion wedi cytuno y dylai eithriadau fod

'should be contingent on their landlord being unable to offer any suitable sized accommodation'.

yn amodol ar anallu eu landlord i gynnig unrhyw lety o faint addas.

In August that year, official papers said that

Ym mis Awst y flwyddyn honno, dywedodd y papurau swyddogol

'there was "a strong case for exempting disabled claimants where significant adaptations have been made to their properties"',

fod dadl gref dros eithrio hawlwyr anabl lle mae addasiadau sylweddol wedi cael eu gwneud i'w heiddo.

Several Members have mentioned that in the Chamber already this afternoon.

Mae nifer o Aelodau wedi sôn am hynny yn y Siambr eisoes y prynhawn yma.

Remember, in Wales, the average disabled facilities grant is £7,500, which, of course, if somebody moves, you need to spend again in the new property; that is £15,000 at least. Let us say that the bedroom tax is £12 a week. That is equal to 24 years of housing benefit, and 12 of them wasted just on duplication.

Cofiwch, yng Nghymru, y grant cyfleusterau i'r anabl cyfartalog yw £7,500 y mae angen, wrth gwrs, ei wario eto yn yr eiddo newydd os bydd rhywun yn symud tŷ; sef £15,000 o leiaf. Gadewch inni ddweud bod y dreth ystafell wely yn costio £12 yr wythnos. Mae hynny'n cyfateb i 24 o flynyddoedd o fudd-dal tai, a 12 ohonynt wedi'u gwastraffu ar ddyblygu yn unig.

You have to be asking yourself, 'Why weren't they exempted?' As I said, it has been raised already today by Rhun and by Julie Morgan, and I think that Peter Black agreed with this point in his speech. I will tell you why: it is because the judgment says so; the DWP concluded that it was too difficult to define 'significant adaptation'. That was the UK's argument in court. Therefore, from August 2011, discretionary housing payment had been seized upon as the solution. The important word here is 'discretionary'—you were not bound to get it. The judgment says that the Treasury was approached at this time, in September, for the money. The Treasury said 'no,' so, the DWP decided to revise up the bedroom tax rates, and that is why they are set at 14% for one bedroom and 25% for two bedrooms. So, the enhancement of the discretionary housing payment pot was achieved by increasing the bedroom tax. The poor bailing out the sick and the disabled. So, before any of you congratulate yourselves on that discretionary payment, just remember that some of it has been filched from tenants because it was too hard to define 'significant adaptations'.

Rhaid gofyn y cwestiwn, 'Pam na chawsant eu heithrio?' Fel y dywedais, mae wedi cael ei godi eisoes heddiw gan Rhun a chan Julie Morgan, a chredaf i Peter Black gytuno â'r pwynt hwn yn ei araith. Fe ddywedaf pam wrthych: oherwydd mae'r dyfarniad yn dweud hynny; daeth yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau i'r casgliad ei bod yn rhy anodd diffinio 'addasiad sylweddol'. Dyna oedd dadl y DU yn y llys. Felly, o fis Awst 2011, penderfynwyd mai taliad tai dewisol oedd yr ateb. Y gair pwysig yma yw 'dewisol'—nid oeddech yn siŵr o'i gael. Dywed y dyfarniad y gofynnwyd i'r Trysorlys ar y pryd, ym mis Medi, am yr arian. Dywedodd y Trysorlys 'na,' felly, penderfynodd yr adran Gwaith a Phensiynau adolygu cyfraddau'r dreth ystafell wely a'u cynyddu, a dyna pam maent wedi'u gosod ar 14% ar gyfer un ystafell wely a 25% ar gyfer dwy ystafell wely. Felly, ychwanegwyd at y cyllid ar gyfer taliadau tai dewisol drwy gynyddu'r dreth ystafell wely. Y tlawd yn achub y claf a'r anabl. Felly, cyn i neb longyfarch ei hun ar y taliad dewisol, cofiwch fod peth ohono wedi cael ei ddwyn oddi wrth denantiaid am ei bod yn rhy anodd diffinio 'addasiadau sylweddol'.

Do not forget that the DWP knew that between 56% and 63% of those affected were disabled. It is a fact. What did Ministers think would happen? They did not expect people to move, as we hear in this Chamber that people are supposed to do so. They did not expect that at all and, in fact, they said so several times. It is a fact. They expected between 10% and 20% of people to look to move, but, actually, around 40% are looking to move. In fact, the greatest savings for the UK Government is made if people stay put and just cough up. I think that the Lib Dems' amendment condemning our housing sector, in fact, is outrageous on this point, even for Lib Dems.

Peidiwch ag anghofio bod yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau yn gwybod bod rhwng 56% a 63% o'r rhai yr effeithiwyd arnynt yn anabl. Mae'n ffaith. Beth oedd y Gweinidogion yn meddwl a fyddai'n digwydd? Nid oeddent yn disgwyl i bobl symud, fel y clywn yn y Siambr hon y dylai pobl ei wneud. Nid oeddent yn disgwyl hynny o gwbl ac, mewn gwirionedd, dywedwyd hynny sawl gwaith ganddynt. Mae'n ffaith. Roeddent yn disgwyl y byddai rhwng 10% ac 20% o bobl yn ystyried symud tŷ, ond, mewn gwirionedd, mae tua 40% yn ystyried symud tŷ. Yn wir, caiff Llywodraeth y DU yr arbedion mwyaf os yw pobl yn aros yn eu hunfan a thalu'r dreth. Credaf fod gwelliant y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn condemnio ein sector tai yn warthus, mewn gwirionedd, o ran y pwynt hwn, hyd yn oed i'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol.

Estimates, under freedom of information requests, demonstrate that 96% of affected tenants across the UK are trapped where they are. There are no smaller properties for them to move to. That is a 96% failure rate in England, as well as Wales, of course, but there you are. You have the barefaced cheek, Aled, to blame those trying their best, by your amendment, to mitigate this damage. You will be blaming sick people next for hospital waiting lists. You should, in fact, withdraw your amendment and apologise. I listened carefully to Peter, and I am glad that he did not try to justify it in his speech. I do not think that you will be too surprised when I say that we will not be supporting it.

Mae amcangyfrifon, o dan geisiadau rhyddid gwybodaeth, yn dangos bod 96% o denantiaid yr effeithir arnynt ledled y DU wedi'u dal yn eu cartref presennol. Nid oes eiddo llai o faint ar gael iddynt symud iddo. Mae hynny'n gyfradd fethu o 96% yn Lloegr, yn ogystal â Chymru, wrth gwrs, ond dyna ni. Mae gennych yr haerllugrwydd, Aled, i feio'r rheini sy'n ceisio gwneud eu gorau, drwy eich gwelliant, i leihau'r difrod hwn. Byddwch yn beio pobl sâl nesaf am restrau aros mewn ysbytai. A dweud y gwir, dylech dynnu eich gwelliant yn ôl ac ymddiheuro. Gwrandewais yn ofalus ar Peter, ac rwy'n falch na cheisiodd ei gyfiawnhau yn ei araith. Ni chredaf y bydd yn ormod o syndod i chi pan ddywedaf na fyddwn yn ei gefnogi.

There are a few more statistics to think about. Average rent in a three-bedroomed social housing property is £83. It is £164 in the private rented sector, and £112 for a two-bedroomed property. So, it is more expensive to move. In fact, it is around £29 a week more in housing benefit if you live in a smaller property. Housing benefit goes up. It is a fact. In fact, housing benefit has gone up. Arrears are up, empty properties are up, and supply is down. These are all failures, and none of the policy objectives are met. Of course, all of this was made worse by the universal credit, which no longer pays rent directly to social landlords.

Mae ychydig mwy o ystadegau i feddwl amdanynt. Rhent cyfartalog mewn eiddo tai cymdeithasol tair ystafell wely yw £83. £164 ydyw yn y sector rhentu preifat, a £112 ar gyfer eiddo dwy ystafell wely. Felly, mae'n ddrutach i symud. Yn wir, cewch tua £29 yr wythnos yn fwy o fudd-dal tai os ydych yn byw mewn eiddo llai. Mae budd-dal tai yn cynyddu. Mae ôl-ddyledion wedi cynyddu, mae nifer yr eiddo gwag wedi cynyddu, ac mae cyflenwad wedi lleihau. Mae'r rhain i gyd yn fethiannau, ac ni fodlonir unrhyw un o'r amcanion polisi. Wrth gwrs, mae'r credyd cynhwysol wedi gwneud hyn i gyd yn waeth, gan nad yw mwyach yn talu rhent yn uniongyrchol i landlordiaid cymdeithasol.

I have another fact for you, even though I know that some of you are probably already a bit fed up of them. Restrictions on housing benefit entitlement, based on accommodation size in the private rented sector, were introduced in 1989 by Schedule 3 of the Rent Officers (Additional Functions) Order. That is because rent control was abandoned. It was being deregulated. The only way to control housing benefit in the private rented sector was to put a size restriction. For those of you who might not be quite listening, that was a Tory Government. Stop saying that it is a Labour invention; you are wrong. Let us face it, this lot are not nearly as inventive as you when it comes to stuff like this. You are continually confusing it with the local housing allowance, which was introduced by the Labour UK Government in 2008. Of course, the criteria on accommodation size were already there but, added to it, the rents then became payable on the broad rental market areas that the tenants live in. It was for all new claims. That is a fact. I have heard it this afternoon; you are repeating a lie. It is wrong.

Mae gennyf ffaith arall i chi, er fy mod yn gwybod bod rhai ohonoch eisoes wedi diflasu arnynt siŵr o fod. Cyflwynwyd cyfyngiadau ar hawliau budd-dal tai, yn seiliedig ar faint llety yn y sector rhentu preifat, yn 1989 gan Atodlen 3 o Orchymyn y Swyddogion Rhenti (Swyddogaethau Ychwanegol). Gwnaed hynny oherwydd rhoddwyd y gorau i'r gwaith o reoli rhenti. Roedd yn cael ei ddadreoleiddio. Yr unig ffordd o reoli'r budd-dal tai yn y sector rhentu preifat oedd drwy gyflwyno cyfyngiad o ran maint. Ar gyfer y rheini ohonoch nad ydych efallai yn gwrando'n rhy astud, Llywodraeth Dorïaidd oedd honno. Rhowch y gorau i ddweud mai ymyrraeth Lafur ydoedd; rydych yn anghywir. Gadewch inni wynebu'r peth, nid yw'r criw yma hanner mor ddyfeisgar â chi pan ddaw yn fater o drin pethau fel hyn. Rydych yn ei ddrysu'n barhaus gyda'r lwfans tai lleol, a gyflwynwyd gan Lywodraeth Lafur y DU yn 2008. Wrth gwrs, roedd y meini prawf o ran maint eiddo eisoes ar gael, ond yn ychwanegol at hynny, daeth y rhenti wedyn yn daladwy ar y meysydd marchnad rhentu ehangach y mae'r tenantiaid yn byw ynddi. Roedd ar gyfer pob hawliad newydd. Mae hynny'n wir. Rwyf wedi ei glywed y prynhawn yma; rydych yn ailadrodd celwydd. Mae'n anghywir.

Just to conclude, I have not expressed opinions, really, now; I have just stuck to the facts. Those who continue to support this policy are wilfully blind to its failings. This is the Government that is challenging the EU rules on bankers' bonus caps in the European Court of Justice while bearing down on the poor. It has its priorities wrong. I have a great deal more to say on the bedroom tax, but not today because time has defeated me. However, I tell you that the bedroom tax will be defeating you. [Assembly Members: 'Hear, hear.']

I grynhoi, nid wyf wedi mynegi barn yn awr, a dweud y gwir; rwyf wedi cadw at y ffeithiau. Mae'r rheini sy'n parhau i gefnogi'r polisi hwn yn fwriadol ddall i'w fethiannau. Y Llywodraeth sy'n herio rheolau'r UE ar gapiau bonws bancwyr yn Llys Cyfiawnder Ewrop tra'n pwyso'n galed ar y tlawd. Mae ei blaenoriaethau yn anghywir. Mae gennyf lawer mwy i'w ddweud ar y dreth ystafell wely, ond nid heddiw gan fod yr amser wedi dod i ben. Fodd bynnag, dywedaf wrthych y bydd y dreth ystafell wely yn eich trechu chi. [Aelodau Cynulliad: 'Clywch, clywch'.]

17:00

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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Order. I advise Members to be very careful. When they make speeches that have to be pungent and strong, I obviously make allowances. While saying that someone has repeated a lie is not accusing them of lying, because what they are doing could be utterly inadvertent, it causes the Chair problems. We have to make careful judgments on this that protect all Members. Therefore, I just urge caution, though, in this case, I am not calling you out of order.

Trefn. Rwy'n cynghori Aelodau i fod yn ofalus iawn. Pan fyddant yn rhoi areithiau y mae'n rhaid iddynt fod yn finiog a chadarn, rwyf yn amlwg yn rhoi ystyriaeth i hynny. Er nad yw dweud bod rhywun wedi ailadrodd celwydd yn ei gyhuddo o ddweud celwydd, oherwydd gallai'r hyn y mae'n ei ddweud fod yn hollol anfwriadol, mae'n achosi problemau i'r Cadeirydd. Rhaid inni arddel barn ofalus ar hyn sy'n diogelu pob Aelod. Felly, rwy'n annog pawb i fod yn ofalus, er, yn yr achos hwn, nid wyf yn dweud eich bod allan o drefn.

17:00

Jocelyn Davies Bywgraffiad Biography

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I understand. However, now that this has been pointed out, if someone should say it, they will be deliberately misleading. [Laughter.]

Rwy'n deall. Fodd bynnag, gan fod sylw wedi cael ei dynnu at hyn bellach, pe bai rhywun yn ei ddweud, byddant yn camarwain yn fwriadol. [Chwerthin.]

17:00

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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There are many inventive ways of pointing out logical inconsistencies in what people say, and they cause the Chair no problem at all. I urge Members, when they want to make such points, to use all of the rhetorical skill at their disposal to do so.

Mae sawl ffordd arloesol o nodi bod anghysondebau rhesymegol yn yr hyn y mae pobl yn ei ddweud, ac nid ydynt yn achosi unrhyw broblem i'r Cadeirydd o gwbl. Anogaf Aelodau, pan fyddant am wneud pwyntiau o'r fath, i ddefnyddio'r holl sgiliau rhethregol sydd ganddynt i wneud hynny.

17:01

Jocelyn Davies Bywgraffiad Biography

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I apologise.

Ymddiheuraf.

Mark Isherwood a gododd—

Mark Isherwood rose—

17:01

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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Order. If you are seeking to make a point of order, I will take it after the debate. I am about to call the motion.

Trefn. Os ydych yn ceisio gwneud pwynt o drefn, fe'i cymeraf ar ôl y ddadl. Rwyf ar fin galw'r cynnig.

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

Y cynnig yw cytuno ar y cynnig heb ei ddiwygio. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Oes. Felly, rwy'n gohirio pob pleidlais ar y cynnig hwn tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

Gohiriwyd y pleidleisio tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

Voting deferred until voting time.

17:01

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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Mark Isherwood, do you want to make a point of order?

Mark Isherwood, a ydych am wneud pwynt o drefn?

17:01 **Mark Isherwood** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I do, yes. A comment was made—to which you have referred—that was inappropriate. It also related to a statement of fact that was, in fact, factually incorrect itself. I can quote from what the— [Interruption.]

Ydw. Gwnaed sylw—yr ydych wedi cyfeirio ato—a oedd yn amhriodol. Roedd hefyd yn ymwneud â datganiad o ffaith a oedd, mewn gwirionedd, yn ffeithiol anghywir ei hun. Gallaf ddyfynnu o'r hyn a ddywedodd— [Torri ar draws.]

17:01 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Order. Okay, you are—

Trefn. Iawn, rydych yn—

17:01 **Mark Isherwood** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

If I may be allowed to say, Deputy Presiding Officer, what the Labour Government said at the time: the Labour Government said at the time that the new system comprised a flat-rate benefit according to household size and location, and a presumption of direct payments of the benefit to the claimant.

Os caf ddweud, Ddirprwy Lywydd, yr hyn a ddywedodd y Llywodraeth Lafur ar y pryd: dywedodd y Llywodraeth Lafur ar y pryd fod y system newydd yn cynnwys budd-dal cyfradd unffurf yn ôl maint a lleoliad y cartref, a rhagdybiaeth o daliadau uniongyrchol o'r budd-dal i'r hawlydd.

17:02 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography — Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you. I really should not let the Christmas spirit enter my heart, and I should be much tougher with you all. That really is not a point of order, but you have set the record straight, insofar as you perceive the record.

Diolch. Ni ddylwn adael i ysbryd y Nadolig lenwi fy nghalon, a dylwn fod yn fwy llym gyda chi i gyd. Nid yw hynny'n bwynt o drefn mewn gwirionedd, ond rydych wedi egluro'r sefyllfa gywir, i'r graddau yr ydych yn dirnad y sefyllfa.

Dadl Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru: Adroddiadau Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru

The following amendments have been selected: amendments 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 in the name of William Graham.

Welsh Liberal Democrats Debate: Wales Audit Office Reports

Detholwyd y gwelliannau canlynol: gwelliannau 1, 2, 3, 4 a 5 yn enw William Graham.

Cynnig NDM5387 Aled Roberts

Motion NDM5387 Aled Roberts

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Yn cydnabod rôl bwysig Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru o ran:

1. Recognises the important role of the Wales Audit Office in:

a) darparu gwaith craffu o safon sy'n annibynnol a chynhwysfawr ar weithgarwch a gwariant y Llywodraeth;

a) providing high quality, independent and comprehensive scrutiny of government activities and expenditure;

b) cynorthwyo gwasanaethau cyhoeddus effeithiol ac atebol;

b) supporting effective and accountable public services;

c) rhannu arfer da a nodi gwelliannau i'r broses o gyflenwi gwasanaethau cyhoeddus; a

c) sharing good practice and identifying improvements to public service delivery; and

d) helpu i sicrhau'r gwerth gorau am arian i bobl Cymru.

d) helping to ensure the best value for money for the people of Wales.

2. Yn nodi canfyddiadau adroddiadau olynol a gyhoeddwyd gan Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru, sy'n amlygu methiannau sylweddol o ran trefniadau llywodraethu a chyflenwi gwasanaethau cyhoeddus allweddol, gan gynnwys AWEMA; Bwrdd Draenio Mewnol Gwastadeddau Cil-y-coed a Gwynllŵg; Gwesty River Lodge; Gofal Heb ei Drefnu; Cyllid Addysg Uwch a Chyllid y GIG.

2. Notes the findings of successive reports published by the Wales Audit Office, which highlight significant failings in the governance arrangements and delivery of key public services, including AWEMA; the Caldicot and Wentlooge Levels Internal Drainage Board; the River Lodge Hotel, Unscheduled Care; Higher Education Finances and NHS Finances.

3. Yn nodi'r ymchwiliad parhaus i Gronfa Buddsoddi Cymru mewn Adfywio, penderfyniad y Gweinidog i ddiddymu'r corff hwn a dychwelyd arian Ewropeaidd i WEFO, a'r effaith ddilynol ar nifer o brosiectau adfywio sy'n ceisio cyllid gan CBCA.

3. Notes the on-going investigation into the Regeneration Investment Fund For Wales, the decision by the Minister to disband this body and to return European funding to WEFO, and the subsequent impact on a number of regeneration projects seeking funding from RIFW.

4. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i:

4. Calls on the Welsh Government to:

a) cynnal adolygiad trylwyr o'r holl gyllid allanol i adfer hyder cyhoeddus a hyder buddsoddwyr yng ngallu Llywodraeth Cymru i fonitro a rheoleiddio cyllid Llywodraeth Cymru;

a) conduct a thorough review of all external funding to restore public and investor confidence in the ability of the Welsh Government to monitor and regulate Welsh Government funding;

b) cyhoeddi'r gyfundrefn monitro sydd yn ei lle o ran ei pholisi rheoli grantiau ac adrodd yn flynyddol i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ar ei chanlyniadau; a

b) publish the monitoring regime in place in respect of its grant management policy and report annually to the National Assembly on its outcomes; and

c) datblygu gweithdrefn gadarn a thryloyw i fynd i'r afael yn fwy effeithiol â methiannau sylweddol a phenodol ym mholisi Llywodraeth Cymru a amlygwyd gan adroddiadau Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru.

c) develop a robust and transparent procedure to more effectively address the substantial and specific failings in Welsh Government policy highlighted by Wales Audit Office reports.

17:02

Aled Roberts Bywgraffiad Biography

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Cynigiaf y cynnig.

I move the motion.

We have tabled this debate today to reflect on the worrying trend of successive reports that have highlighted significant failings in Welsh Government management of grant funding, in ensuring value for money, monitoring of resources and the governance arrangements and delivery of key public services. In the current economic climate, careful management and scrutiny of the use of public money is crucial. This was emphasised in a recent speech to the all-Wales scrutiny conference, where the Auditor General for Wales stated that minimising the unwise, unsanctioned or even unlawful use of public funding has to be a priority in a time of austerity. Effective scrutiny plays an important part in preserving scarce resources and delivering crucial services.

Rydym wedi cyflwyno’r ddadl hon heddiw i fyfyrio ar y duedd sy’n peri pryder o adroddiadau olynol sydd wedi amlygu diffygion sylweddol yn y modd y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn rheoli cyllid grant, er mwyn sicrhau gwerth am arian, monitro adnoddau a’r trefniadau llywodraethu a darparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus allweddol. Yn yr hinsawdd economaidd bresennol, mae rheolaeth ofalus a chraffu ar y defnydd o arian cyhoeddus yn hanfodol. Pwysleisiwyd hyn mewn araith ddiweddar i gynhadledd graffu Cymru gyfan, lle y nododd Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru y dylid rhoi blaenoriaeth i leihau’r defnydd annoeth, anawdurdodedig neu hyd yn oed anghyfreithlon o arian cyhoeddus mewn cyfnod o galedi. Mae craffu effeithiol yn chwarae rhan bwysig o ran gwarchod adnoddau prin a darparu gwasanaethau hollbwysig.

As our motion states, the Wales Audit Office has a vital role in providing high-quality, independent and comprehensive scrutiny of Government activities and expenditure. It is also our role as Assembly Members to ensure that the Welsh Government is transparent and is scrutinised on the £15 billion in funds voted on each year by the National Assembly. Repeatedly, we have seen reports published by the Wales Audit Office, as well as National Assembly committees, that have highlighted major problems in the delivery of some of our key public services. Some of these reports have revealed practices that are nothing short of scandalous. Today’s debate is an opportunity to examine the string of failings in recent years and to question whether any lessons have been learned from these findings.

Fel y dywed ein cynnig, mae gan Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru rôl hanfodol i ddarparu gwasanaeth annibynnol, cynhwysfawr o safon i graffu ar weithgareddau a gwariant y Llywodraeth. Mae dyletswydd arnom hefyd fel Aelodau Cynulliad i sicrhau bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn dryloyw ac y creffir ar y cronfeydd o £15 biliwn y mae’r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn pleidleisio arnynt bob blwyddyn. Dro ar ôl tro, rydym wedi gweld adroddiadau a gyhoeddwyd gan Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru, yn ogystal â phwyllgorau’r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, sydd wedi tynnu sylw at broblemau mawr wrth ddarparu rhai o’n gwasanaethau cyhoeddus allweddol. Mae rhai o’r adroddiadau hyn wedi datgelu arferion gwarthus a dweud y lleiaf. Mae dadl heddiw yn gyfle i edrych ar y gyfres o fethiannau a gafwyd yn y blynyddoedd diwethaf ac i holi a oes unrhyw wersi wedi eu dysgu o’r canfyddiadau hyn.

In the case of River Lodge in Llangollen, the WAO report in 2012 concluded that the Welsh Government's decision to purchase the hotel for £1.6 million was flawed and did not represent good value for money. The purchase was not supported by a full valuation. There was no robust risk assessment and no consideration of alternatives. The price paid, in the end, was far higher than the property was worth. There were serious failings in the Welsh Government's dealings over this purchase. Governance arrangements were defective, and former Ministers allowed delegated decisions to be taken that have ultimately cost the taxpayer a whopping £1.6 million.

Yn achos River Lodge yn Llangollen, daeth adroddiad Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru yn 2012 i'r casgliad bod penderfyniad Llywodraeth Cymru i brynu'r gwesty am £1.6 miliwn yn ddiffygiol ac nad oedd yn cynrychioli gwerth da am arian. Ni chefnogwyd y pryniant gan brisiad llawn. Ni chynhaliwyd asesiad risg cadarn ac nid ystyriwyd dewisiadau amgen. Yn y diwedd, roedd y pris a dalwyd yn llawer uwch na gwerth yr eiddo. Roedd diffygion difrifol yn ymgymeriadau Llywodraeth Cymru mewn perthynas â'r pryniant hwn. Roedd y trefniadau llywodraethu yn ddiffygiol, a gadawodd cyn Weinidogion i benderfyniadau dirprwyedig gael eu cymryd sydd wedi costio swm anferth o £1.6 miliwn i'r trethdalwyr yn y pen draw.

More recently, the WAO report on governance failings at the Caldicot and Wentlooge Levels Internal Drainage Board concluded that the board had spent money unwisely, and had acted unlawfully on occasions and in a way likely to undermine public confidence. There was a lack of accountability or any process of effective management. In October, the Public Accounts Committee found that this potentially put the lives and property of thousands of people at risk. This was a public organisation managing considerable sums of public money, yet the Welsh Government failed to clarify lines of accountability, and this led to the misuse of public funds.

Yn fwy diweddar, daeth adroddiad Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru ar fethiannau llywodraethu ym Mwrdd Draenio Mewnol Gwastadeddau Cil-y-coed a Gwynllŵg i'r casgliad bod y bwrdd wedi gwario arian yn annoeth, ac wedi gweithredu'n anghyfreithlon ar adegau ac mewn ffordd a oedd yn debygol o danseilio hyder y cyhoedd. Roedd diffyg atebolrwydd nac unrhyw broses o reoli'n effeithiol. Ym mis Hydref, canfu'r Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus bod hyn o bosibl yn rhoi bywydau ac eiddo miloedd o bobl mewn perygl. Sefydliad cyhoeddus oedd hwn a oedd yn rheoli symiau mawr o arian cyhoeddus, ac eto methodd Llywodraeth Cymru ag egluro llinellau atebolrwydd, ac arweiniodd hyn at gamddefnyddio arian cyhoeddus.

Just yesterday, we saw a call for lessons to be learned from the Wales Audit Office and Healthcare Inspectorate Wales in relation to their review of governance and management at the Betsi Cadwaladr University Local Health Board. There were clearly wide-ranging and deep-rooted problems in the health board, with management failings as well as financial decisions that threatened patient care, with operations being cancelled or delayed to avoid overspend. The situation was deemed to be neither clinically nor financially sustainable. The Welsh Government must assure us that lessons are being learned so that these failings are not repeated across other Welsh NHS bodies. I am sure that you are all aware that the Public Accounts Committee has published 21 recommendations that I certainly hope the Welsh Government will accept. It must improve support for NHS board members and introduce key indicators that will help us to minimise risks in the future and ensure that swift action can be taken.

Dim ond ddoe, gwelsom alw am wersi i'w dysgu gan Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru ac Arolygiaeth Gofal Iechyd Cymru mewn perthynas â'u hadolygiad o lywodraethu a rheoli ym Mwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Betsi Cadwaladr. Roedd yn amlwg bod problemau eang a dwfn yn y bwrdd iechyd, gyda methiannau rheoli yn ogystal â phenderfyniadau ariannol a oedd yn bygwth gofal cleifion, gyda gweithrediadau yn cael eu canslo neu eu gohirio er mwyn osgoi gorwario. Ystyriwyd nad oedd y sefyllfa yn glinigol nac yn gynaliadwy yn ariannol. Rhaid i Lywodraeth Cymru roi sicrwydd inni bod gwersi'n cael eu dysgu fel na fydd y methiannau hyn yn cael eu hailadrodd ar draws cyrff eraill y GIG yng Nghymru. Rwy'n siŵr eich bod i gyd yn ymwybodol bod y Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus wedi cyhoeddi 21 o argymhellion yr wyf yn sicr yn gobeithio y bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu derbyn. Rhaid iddo wella cefnogaeth i aelodau bwrdd y GIG a chyflwyno dangosyddion allweddol a fydd yn ein helpu i leihau'r risgiau yn y dyfodol a sicrhau y gellir cymryd camau cyflym.

It is not just financial issues that have been uncovered in recent reports. In September, a WAO report covering teacher absences revealed that, in 2011-12, maintained schools in Wales spent an estimated £54 million on classroom cover for teachers who were absent. This was a rise of 7% since 2008. If we are talking about educational attainment, around 10% of lessons are currently covered by staff other than the usual class teacher. The report concludes that arrangements for covering teacher absences in Wales are not sufficiently well-managed to support learners' progress or provide the best use of resources. This has an impact on pupil progress, which we certainly cannot afford. There is inadequate monitoring of the reasons for teacher absence, so how can we ever tackle the root cause unless we can identify where the problem lies? In England, there is an average of 4.5 days sickness absence per teacher, compared to seven days here in Wales. The WAO report highlights that if we could bring the levels in Wales down to those in England, Welsh schools could reduce cover days by around 60,000 equivalent days, saving £9 million a year alone in cover costs.

Nid dim ond materion ariannol sydd wedi cael eu datgelu mewn adroddiadau diweddar. Ym mis Medi, datgelodd adroddiad Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru a oedd yn sôn am absenoldebau athrawon, fod ysgolion a gynhelir yng Nghymru wedi gwario tua £54 miliwn ar staff ystafell dosbarth i gyflenwi yn lle athrawon a oedd yn absennol yn 2011-12. Roedd hyn yn gynnydd o 7% ers 2008. Os ydym yn sôn am gyrhaeddiad addysgol, mae tua 10% o wersi yn cael eu cyflenwi ar hyn o bryd gan staff ar wahân i'r athro dosbarth arferol. Daw'r adroddiad i'r casgliad nad yw trefniadau ar gyfer cyflenwi absenoldebau athrawon yng Nghymru yn cael eu rheoli'n ddigon da i gefnogi cynnydd dysgwyr neu sicrhau'r defnydd gorau o adnoddau. Mae hyn yn effeithio ar gynnydd disgyblion, ac yn sicr, ni allwn fforddio hynny. Ni chaiff y rhesymau dros absenoldebau athrawon eu monitro'n ddigonol, felly sut y gallwn byth fynd at wraidd y broblem heb wybod beth yn union yw'r broblem honno? Yn Lloegr, mae cyfartaledd o 4.5 diwrnod o absenoldeb salwch fesul athro, o gymharu â saith diwrnod yma yng Nghymru. Mae adroddiad Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru yn nodi pe gallem ostwng y lefelau yng Nghymru i'r lefelau a geir yn Lloegr, y gallai ysgolion Cymru ostwng nifer y diwrnodau cyflenwi tua 60,000 o ddiwrnodau cyfatebol, gan arbed £9 miliwn y flwyddyn mewn costau cyflenwi yn unig.

Welsh Government policies are failing to take account of the impact of teacher absence, and the ineffective Welsh Government quality mark for recruitment, which was withdrawn in 2010, is yet to be replaced. More needs to be done to support teachers, but more also needs to be done to monitor the impact of teacher absence on pupil attainment and to improve the quality of teaching in cover lessons if the Welsh Government is to have any hope of making progress on its PISA ambitions for 2015.

Nid yw polisïau Llywodraeth Cymru yn ystyried effaith absenoldeb athro, ac nid yw nod ansawdd aneffeithiol Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer recriwtio, a dynnwyd yn ôl yn 2010, wedi'i ddisodli eto. Mae angen gwneud mwy i gefnogi athrawon, ond mae hefyd angen gwneud mwy i fonitro effaith absenoldeb athrawon ar gyrhaeddiad disgyblion ac i wella ansawdd yr addysgu mewn gwersi cyflenwi os yw Llywodraeth Cymru i gael unrhyw obaith o wneud cynnydd gyda'i huchelgeisiau o ran PISA ar gyfer 2015.

This is just a selection, but it outlines a worrying trend of key failings, of poor management by the Welsh Government, and a total waste of public money. It is time for the Welsh Government to be open and transparent about the lessons that it has learned, the improvements that it needs to make and the processes that need to change to ensure more effective governance and expenditure of public funds in the future in order to restore public and investor confidence.

Dim ond detholiad a geir yma, ond mae'n amlinellu tuedd o fethiannau allweddol, rheolaeth wael gan Lywodraeth Cymru, a gwastraff llwyr o arian cyhoeddus. Mae'n bryd i Lywodraeth Cymru fod yn agored ac yn dryloyw ynghylch y gwersi y mae wedi eu dysgu, y gwelliannau y mae angen iddi eu gwneud a'r prosesau y mae angen eu newid er mwyn sicrhau y caiff arian cyhoeddus ei lywodraethu a'i wario'n fwy effeithiol yn y dyfodol er mwyn adfer hyder y cyhoedd a buddsoddwyr.

17:09

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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I have selected the five amendments to the motion, and I call on Darren Millar to move amendments 1 to 5, tabled in the name of William Graham.

Rwyf wedi dethol y pum gwelliant i'r cynnig, a galwaf ar Darren Millar i gynnig gwelliannau 1 i 5, a gyflwynwyd yn enw William Graham.

Gwelliant 1—William Graham

Amendment 1—William Graham

Yn is-bwynt 1c) ar ôl 'cyhoeddus' rhoi 'gan gynnwys drwy gyfrwng gwaith ei Chyfnewidfa Arfer Da'.

In sub-point 1c) after 'delivery' insert 'including via the work of its Good Practice Exchange'.

Gwelliant 2—William Graham

Amendment 2—William Graham

Ym mhwynt 2, dileu popeth ar ôl 'gwasanaethau cyhoeddus allweddol'.

In point 2, delete all after 'key public services'.

Gwelliant 3—William Graham

Amendment 3—William Graham

Dileu is-bwynt 4a) a rhoi yn ei le:

Delete sub-point 4a) and replace with:

adolygu'r cyllid a ddarperir ganddi i gyrff cyhoeddus Cymru a sefydliadau eraill er mwyn sicrhau bod y cyhoedd yn gallu bod yn hyderus ei fod yn cael ei reoli, ei fonitro a'i werthuso'n effeithiol;

review the funding it provides to Welsh public bodies and other organisations to ensure that the public can be confident that it is being effectively managed, monitored and evaluated;

Gwelliant 4—William Graham

Amendment 4—William Graham

Yn is-bwynt 4c) dileu 'ym mholisi Llywodraeth Cymru'.

In sub-point 4c) delete 'in Welsh Government policy'.

Gwelliant 5—William Graham

Amendment 5—William Graham

Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

Add new point at the end of the motion:

Yn croesawu'r cydweithio rhwng Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru ac arolygiaethau eraill ac yn nodi y gallai hyn wella effeithlonrwydd ac effeithiolrwydd eu gwaith.

Welcomes the joint working between the Wales Audit Office and other inspectorates and notes that this has the ability to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of their work.

17:09

Darren Millar Bywgraffiad Biography

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I move amendments 1, 2, 3, 4 a 5 tabled in the name of my colleague William Graham.

Cynigiaf welliannau 1, 2, 3, 4 a 5 a gyflwynwyd yn enw fy nghyd-Aelod William Graham.

Our amendments are designed to improve on the wording of the motion before us today. Amendment 1 highlights the good work being undertaken by the good practice exchange, which is, of course, an important feature of the work of the Wales Audit Office in ensuring that lessons are indeed learned across the public sector from the output of the reports that it produces. At the start of this debate, I want to pay tribute to the excellent work that has been undertaken by the Auditor General for Wales, Huw Vaughan Thomas, and the staff in the Wales Audit Office to assist the National Assembly in scrutinising the Government and to ensure that there is better value for money for Welsh taxpayers.

Mae ein gwelliannau wedi eu cynllunio er mwyn gwella ar eiriad y cynnig sydd ger ein bron heddiw. Mae gwelliant 1 yn tynnu sylw at y gwaith da sy'n cael ei wneud gan y gyfnewidfa arfer da, sydd, wrth gwrs, yn nodwedd bwysig o waith y Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru i sicrhau bod gwersi'n cael eu dysgu ar draws y sector cyhoeddus o allbwn yr adroddiadau y mae'n eu cynhyrchu. Ar ddechrau'r ddadl hon, hoffwn dalu teyrnged i'r gwaith rhagorol a wnaed gan Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru, Huw Vaughan Thomas, a staff Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru i gynorthwyo'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol wrth graffu ar y Llywodraeth a sicrhau bod gwell gwerth am arian i drethdalwyr Cymru.

Our amendment 2 tries to widen the scope of this debate, so that we are not just referring to the reports that have been listed in the Liberal Democrat motion and so that other issues can be brought into the discussion. Our amendment 3 deals with what we think is a lack of clarity in the Liberal Democrat motion. We think that this gives additional clarity and makes it clear that the issues that we need to consider are not just the grants that are awarded to public bodies but also other organisations that the Welsh Government interacts with, in addition to Welsh public bodies. Our amendment 4 makes it clear that the Wales Audit Office is not responsible for Government policy and interventions on Government policy—it is simply there to ensure that Government policy is being delivered, and delivered efficiently. Amendment 5 welcomes the joint work that the Wales Audit Office is doing with other inspectorates in Wales. Most notably, we have seen tremendous output in relation to the work that was done by Healthcare Inspectorate Wales and the Wales Audit Office in drawing everybody's attention to the governance arrangements and failures, unfortunately, at the Betsi Cadwaladr University Local Health Board.

Mae gwelliant 2 yn ceisio ehangu cwmpas y ddadl hon, fel nad ydym yn cyfeirio at yr adroddiadau sydd wedi eu rhestru yng nghynnig y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn unig ac fel y gellir cynnwys materion eraill i'r drafodaeth. Mae gwelliant 3 yn ymwneud â'r hyn sy'n ddiffyg eglurder yng nghynnig y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn fy marn i. Credwn fod hyn yn rhoi eglurder ychwanegol ac yn ei gwneud yn glir bod angen ystyried mwy na dim ond y grantiau a ddyfernir i gyrff cyhoeddus ond hefyd sefydliadau eraill y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn rhyngweithio gyda hwy, yn ogystal â chyrff cyhoeddus Cymru. Mae gwelliant 4 yn ei gwneud yn glir nad yw Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru yn gyfrifol am bolisi'r Llywodraeth ac ymyriadau ar bolisi'r Llywodraeth —yn syml, mae yno i sicrhau bod polisi'r Llywodraeth yn cael ei gyflawni, a'i ddarparu'n effeithlon. Mae gwelliant 5 yn croesawu'r gwaith y mae Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru yn ei wneud ar y cyd gydag arolygiaethau eraill yng Nghymru. Yn fwyaf nodedig, rydym wedi gweld allbwn aruthrol o ran y gwaith a wnaed gan Arolygiaeth Gofal Iechyd Cymru a Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru i dynnu sylw pawb at y trefniadau llywodraethu a'r methiannau, yn anffodus, ym Mwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Betsi Cadwaladr.

Aled Roberts is quite right. Regrettably, there are issues that feature on a regular basis in some of the reports that are published by the Wales Audit Office and laid before the Public Accounts Committee. Failures in the way in which the Welsh Government manages the grants that it awards to external organisations and other parts of the public sector are one feature and one theme that has been running through a number of reports that have been published by the Wales Audit Office. I recall very well the statement that was made by the Wales Audit Office in the wake of the report that was published into the situation at the All Wales Ethnic Minority Association. It made it quite clear that there had been 19 reports into the failure of the Welsh Government to manage grants properly before there appeared to be some much swifter action from the Welsh Government to try to address some of the failings that had been identified. I want to put on record that I think that that report was the one that broke the camel's back and forced the Welsh Government into taking the grants management situation in Wales seriously, grabbing the bulls by the horns and wanting to make some serious improvements in those processes.

Mae Aled Roberts yn llygad ei le. Yn anffodus, mae materion sy'n ymddangos yn rheolaidd yn rhai o'r adroddiadau sy'n cael eu cyhoeddi gan Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru a'u gosod ger bron y Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus. Mae methiannau yn y ffordd y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn rheoli'r grantiau y mae'n eu dyfarnu i sefydliadau allanol a rhannau eraill o'r sector cyhoeddus yn un nodwedd ac yn un thema sydd wedi bod yn rhedeg drwy nifer o adroddiadau a gyhoeddwyd gan Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru. Rwy'n cofio yn glir iawn y datganiad a wnaed gan Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru yn sgil yr adroddiad a gyhoeddwyd ar y sefyllfa yng Nghymdeithas Lleiafrifoedd Ethnig Cymru Gyfan. Eglurodd y cafwyd 19 o adroddiadau ar fethiant Llywodraeth Cymru i reoli grantiau yn briodol cyn iddi ymddangos bod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cymryd camau llawer cyflymach i geisio mynd i'r afael â rhai o'r diffygion a nodwyd. Rwyf am gofnodi fy mod yn credu mai'r adroddiad hwnnw a orfododd Llywodraeth Cymru i gymryd y sefyllfa rheoli grantiau yng Nghymru o ddifrif, gan gymryd yr awenau a phenderfynu gwneud rhai gwelliannau difrifol yn y prosesau hynny.

One of the big issues that was identified in the AWEMA report was just how many fingers were in the pie, as it were—how fragmented the approach of the Welsh Government was in its relationship with AWEMA. There were lots of different Government departments, civil servants and Ministers responsible for the relationship with AWEMA at one time or another and taking the lead on that relationship. That caused problems in internal communications within the Welsh Government; the lack of briefings for Ministers was absolutely appalling.

Un o'r materion pwysig a nodwyd yn adroddiad AWEMA oedd pa mor dameidiog oedd ymagwedd y Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei chydberthynas ag AWEMA. Roedd llawer o wahanol adrannau'r Llywodraeth, gweision sifil a Gweinidogion yn gyfrifol am y gydberthynas ag AWEMA ar un adeg neu'i gilydd ac yn cymryd yr awenau o ran y gydberthynas honno. Achosodd hynny broblemau o ran cyfathrebu mewnol o fewn Llywodraeth Cymru; roedd y diffyg sesiynau briffio i Weinidogion yn gwbl warthus.

In terms of governance issues, these are unfortunately now also becoming a recurring theme. We know from the work that the Wales Audit Office did on the Caldicot and Wentlooge internal drainage board and the work that is been undertaken in respect of Betsi Cadwaladr University Local Health Board that there appears to be a problem emerging whereby the Welsh Government is simply not holding to account the accountable officers in these organisations, to ensure that the money that they are spending is delivering on the Welsh Government's policy objectives in a way that delivers value for money for taxpayers. I hope, Minister, that in your response today—as I am sure you will—you will address some of these concerns, to give the public confidence that you are taking them seriously.

O ran materion llywodraethu, yn anffodus mae'r rhain hefyd yn dod yn thema gyson. Gwyddom o'r gwaith a wnaeth Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru ar fwrdd draenio mewnol Cil-y-coed a Gwynllŵg a'r gwaith sy'n cael ei wneud mewn perthynas â Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Betsi Cadwaladr ei bod yn ymddangos bod yn broblem yn dod i'r amlwg lle nad yw Llywodraeth Cymru yn dwyn y swyddogion atebol yn y sefydliadau hyn i gyfrif, er mwyn sicrhau bod yr arian y maent yn ei wario yn cyflawni amcanion polisi Llywodraeth Cymru mewn ffordd sy'n sicrhau gwerth am arian i drethdalwyr. Gobeithiaf, Weinidog, y byddwch yn eich ymateb heddiw—rwy'n siŵr y gwnewch—yn mynd i'r afael â rhai o'r pryderon hyn, er mwyn rhoi hyder i'r cyhoedd eich bod yn eu cymryd o ddifrif.

17:14 **Peter Black** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Over £2 billion is spent annually by public bodies in Wales through grant funding, yet all too often we see reports being published that repeat the same examples of Welsh Government failure to manage and monitor grant funding, resulting in huge financial waste at a time when we can least afford it.

Caiff dros £2 biliwn ei wario bob blwyddyn gan gyrff cyhoeddus yng Nghymru drwy gyllid grant, ond yn rhy aml gwelwn adroddiadau yn cael eu cyhoeddi sy'n ailadrodd yr un enghreifftiau o fethiant Llywodraeth Cymru i reoli a monitro arian grant, gan arwain at wastraff ariannol enfawr ar yr adeg waethaf.

Darren Millar has referred already to AWEMA, which I wanted to focus on specifically in this contribution. The negligence exposed in relation to AWEMA last year is one of the most shocking examples of poor management of grant funding. It has highlighted what many of us knew already, that Labour cannot be trusted to act responsibly with public money. In 2012, the internal services audit report found significant and fundamental failures in the control and governance framework within AWEMA, and could not provide any reassurances that appropriate mechanisms were in place to safeguard over £7 million in public funds that were entrusted to that body. The Wales Audit Office report in 2012 found that the Welsh Government's management and co-ordination of its grant fund for AWEMA between July 2000 and December 2011 had often been weak. It exposed weak communication and knowledge sharing between Government departments, and poor performance and lack of stability in the equalities unit. Time and again, allegations about AWEMA were raised with the Welsh Labour Government in relation to governance, financial management, staffing issues and even potential criminal activities, and still it failed to put things right. It is nothing short of disgraceful that an organisation as badly run as AWEMA was allowed to continue receiving millions of pounds of public money while the Welsh Government sat back and did very little indeed. As Darren Millar has pointed out, over 20 reports have now highlighted the weak grant management process presided over by the Welsh Government. There have been very many mistakes without any proper examination of the lessons to be learned and that goes to the nub of the motion that is in front of us today.

Mae Darren Millar eisoes wedi cyfeirio at AWEMA, yr wyf yn awyddus i ganolbwyntio arno yn benodol yn y cyfraniad hwn. Yr esgeulustod a ddatgelwyd mewn perthynas ag AWEMA y llynedd yw un o'r enghreifftiau mwyaf syfrdanol o reolaeth wael o arian grant. Mae wedi tynnu sylw at yr hyn y gŵyr llawer ohonom eisoes, na ellir ymddiried yn y Blaid Lafur i ymddwyn yn gyfrifol gydag arian cyhoeddus. Yn 2012, canfu'r adroddiad archwilio gwasanaethau mewnol fethiannau sylweddol a sylfaenol yn y fframwaith rheoli a llywodraethu o fewn AWEMA, ac ni allai roi unrhyw sicrwydd bod dulliau priodol ar waith i ddiogelu dros £7 miliwn o arian cyhoeddus yr oedd y corff hwnnw yn gyfrifol amdano. Canfu adroddiad Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru yn 2012 fod prosesau Llywodraeth Cymru o reoli a chydgysylltu ei chronfa grant ar gyfer AWEMA rhwng mis Gorffennaf 2000 a Rhagfyr 2011 yn aml wedi bod yn wan. Datgelodd brosesau cyfathrebu a rhannu gwybodaeth gwan rhwng adrannau'r Llywodraeth, a pherfformiad gwael a diffyg sefydlogrwydd yn yr uned cydraddoldeb. Dro ar ôl tro, codwyd honiadau am AWEMA gyda Llywodraeth Lafur Cymru mewn perthynas â llywodraethu, rheolaeth ariannol, materion staffio a hyd yn oed weithgareddau troseddol posibl, ac ni lwyddodd i unioni pethau o hyd. Mae'n warthus y caniatawyd i sefydliad a gaiff ei redeg mor wael ag AWEMA barhau i gael miliynau o bunnoedd o arian cyhoeddus tra bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn eistedd yn ôl heb wneud bron ddim. Fel y mae Darren Millar wedi nodi, mae dros 20 o adroddiadau bellach wedi tynnu sylw at y broses wan o reoli grantiau yr oedd Llywodraeth Cymru yn gyfrifol amdani. Cafwyd llawer iawn o gamgymeriadau heb unrhyw archwiliad priodol o'r gwersi i'w dysgu ac sy'n mynd at wraidd y cynnig sydd ger ein bron heddiw.

I also want to refer to the regional investment fund for Wales. I do not want to prejudge the Wales Audit Office report, which I understand is due early next year, but as I understand it, there are huge issues around that particular fund and the impact of what has happened in terms of the way that fund has allegedly been run. Specifically, I think that we now have an issue where, because of the current Minister's intervention, the money that is available for regeneration in Wales has effectively been halved. A number of projects, including projects in my region in Swansea and Neath Port Talbot, have been put in jeopardy because the loans that were available for those projects are no longer going forward towards them. Obviously, I do not want to say who was responsible for that, but the one thing that I will say, when looking at this board, is that this is not a board that has been acting in isolation from the Welsh Government, because there were Welsh Government officials serving on the board throughout that process who knew what was going on, and knew how things were being run. It may well turn out that the way that the regional investment board for Wales handled things was absolutely correct, and my understanding is that some of the allegations that have been made about it are a bit wild and overstated, but I do think that the impact of that has damaged Wales's reputation and has damaged the projects that need to be put in place in Wales. You have to ask: if there were problems, why were the Welsh Government officials not bringing those problems in and putting them right?

Hoffwn hefyd gyfeirio at y gronfa buddsoddi ranbarthol ar gyfer Cymru. Nid wyf am ragfarnu adroddiad Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru, y deallaf y caiff ei gyhoeddi yn gynnar y flwyddyn nesaf, ond yn ôl yr hyn a ddeallaf, mae problemau mawr ynghylch y gronfa benodol honno ac effaith yr hyn sydd wedi digwydd o ran y ffordd y mae'r gronfa honno wedi cael ei rhedeg yn ôl y sôn. Yn benodol, credaf fod gennym sefyllfa bellach, oherwydd ymyrraeth y Gweinidog presennol, lle mae'r arian sydd ar gael ar gyfer adfywio yng Nghymru wedi'i haneru. Mae nifer o brosiectau, gan gynnwys prosiectau yn fy rhanbarth yn Abertawe a Chastell-nedd Port Talbot, wedi cael eu peryglu gan nad yw'r benthyciadau a oedd ar gael ar gyfer y prosiectau hynny bellach ar gael ar eu cyfer. Yn amlwg, nid wyf am ddweud pwy oedd yn gyfrifol am hynny, ond dywedaf un peth, wrth edrych ar y bwrdd hwn, nad yw hwn yn fwrdd sydd wedi bod yn gweithredu ar wahân i Lywodraeth Cymru, oherwydd roedd swyddogion Llywodraeth Cymru yn gwasanaethu ar y bwrdd drwy gydol y broses honno a wyddai beth oedd yn digwydd, ac a wyddai sut roedd pethau'n cael eu rhedeg. Mae'n ddigon posibl y gwelwn fod y ffordd yr aeth y bwrdd buddsoddi rhanbarthol ar gyfer Cymru i'r afael â phethau yn hollol gywir, ac o'r hyn yr wyf i'n ei ddeall, mae rhai o'r honiadau a wnaed am y mater ychydig yn wyllt ac wedi'u gorbwysleisio, ond rwy'n credu bod effaith hynny wedi niweidio enw da Cymru a'r prosiectau y mae angen eu rhoi ar waith yng Nghymru. Mae'n rhaid ichi ofyn: os oedd problemau, pam nad oedd swyddogion Llywodraeth Cymru yn tynnu sylw at y problemau hynny ac yn eu datrys?

Spending on consultants is another issue of value for money in the Wales Audit Office report, 'The Procurement and Management of Consultancy Services', published in February. It highlighted that although Welsh public bodies have been spending less on consultancy services in recent years, many have no strategic approach to procurement and cannot demonstrate value for money. In 2010-11 expenditure on consultancy represented 4% of total expenditure on public goods and services across the public sector. The Welsh Government spend on consultancy services was 16% of its salary costs and only 7% of the consultancy projects examined by the Wales Audit Office had appraised the suitability of internal resources to deliver the projects instead. There is no routine evaluation of the lessons learned from the use of consultants. The Wales Audit Office report identified £23 million of efficiency savings if best practice in the procurement and management of consultancy services was followed.

Mae gwariant ar ymgynghorwyr yn fater arall o ran gwerth am arian yn adroddiad Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru, 'Caffael a Rheoli Gwasanaethau Ymgynghori', a gyhoeddwyd ym mis Chwefror. Tynnodd sylw at y ffaith, er bod cyrff cyhoeddus yng Nghymru wedi bod yn gwario llai ar wasanaethau ymgynghori yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf, nad oes gan lawer ohonynt unrhyw ddull strategol tuag at gaffael ac ni allant ddangos gwerth am arian. Yn 2010-11 roedd gwariant ar ymgynghoriaeth yn cynrychioli 4% o gyfanswm y gwariant ar nwyddau a gwasanaethau cyhoeddus ar draws y sector cyhoeddus. Roedd Llywodraeth Cymru yn gwario 16% o'i chostau cyflog ar wasanaethau ymgynghori a dim ond 7% o'r prosiectau ymgynghori a archwiliwyd gan Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru a oedd wedi gwerthuso addasrwydd adnoddau mewnol i gyflawni'r prosiectau yn lle hynny. Nid oes unrhyw werthusiad rheolaidd o'r gwersi a ddysgwyd o'r defnydd o ymgynghorwyr. Nododd adroddiad Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru £23 miliwn o arbedion effeithlonrwydd pe byddai arfer gorau wrth gaffael a rheoli gwasanaethau ymgynghori yn cael ei ddilyn.

The whole point of all these examples that I have given, that Aled Roberts has given, and that my other colleagues will be giving, is that the way that the Welsh Government has been handling money, and has been handling its dealings with external organisations, is actually damaging Wales's reputation. It is telling the outside world that Wales is not a good place to do business in, and it is putting people off from investing here and working with the Welsh Government. That is a matter of huge concern and we need to address that. This is not just our reputation; this is jobs and investment, which are suffering as a result of these issues.

Holl bwynt yr holl enghreifftiau hyn yr wyf wedi eu rhoi, a'r rhai y mae Aled Roberts wedi eu rhoi, ac y bydd fy nghyd-Aelodau eraill yn eu rhoi, yw bod y ffordd y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi bod yn trafod arian, ac wedi bod yn ymdrin â sefydliadau allanol, yn niweidio enw da Cymru. Mae'n dweud wrth y byd y tu allan nad yw Cymru yn lle da i wneud busnes, ac mae'n gwneud pobl yn llai parod i fuddsoddi yma ac i weithio gyda Llywodraeth Cymru. Mae hynny'n fater o bryder mawr ac mae angen inni fynd i'r afael â hynny. Nid dim ond ein henw da ni yw hyn; mae hefyd a wnelo â swyddi a buddsoddiad, sy'n dioddef o ganlyniad i'r materion hyn.

17:19 **Jenny Rathbone** Bywgraffiad Biography

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This feels like a bit of a wash-up of all the old papers lying around on the desks of Aled Roberts and Peter Black—you know, trying to clear them all out by the end of the year. I strongly agree with the first paragraph. Unfortunately, it is downhill all the way after that.

Mae hyn yn teimlo fel proses o glirio'r holl hen bapurau sydd ar ddesgiau Aled Roberts a Peter Black—wyddoch chi, ceisio rhoi trefn arnynt erbyn diwedd y flwyddyn. Rwy'n cytuno'n gryf â'r paragraff cyntaf. Yn anffodus, mae pethau'n dirywio ar ôl hynny.

Of course, it is very important that we have a strong and intellectually rigorous Wales Audit Office, scrutinising how public money is spent, sharing examples of good practice—that is what good practice exchange is all about, as mentioned by Darren Millar—as well as highlighting examples of poor practice. However, listing all the subjects that the Public Accounts Committee has investigated in the fourth Assembly—I am trying to think of anything that the Lib Dem motion fails to mention—as if nothing has changed as a result of the WAO's reports and the PAC's investigations of those reports and their recommendations to the Welsh Government, as if the Welsh Government had just motored on regardless, ignores the serious and vigorous action that the Welsh Government has taken in response to, for example, AWEMA and River Lodge, to name but two. It ultimately gives the impression that the Public Accounts Committee is a talking shop with no teeth, which I do not think is the case. Instead, the Welsh Government has accepted most of the Public Accounts Committee's recommendations in all of the reports that we have produced in the last year.

Wrth gwrs, mae'n bwysig iawn bod gennym Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru gref a deallusol drylwyr, yn craffu ar sut y caiff arian cyhoeddus ei wario, yn rhannu enghreifftiau o arfer da—dyna yw hanfod cyfnewid arfer da, fel y crybwyllodd Darren Millar—yn ogystal â thynnu sylw at enghreifftiau o arfer gwael. Fodd bynnag, mae rhestru'r holl bynciau y mae'r Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus wedi ymchwilio iddynt yn y pedwerydd Cynulliad—rwy'n ceisio meddwl am unrhyw beth nad yw wedi'i grybwyll yng nghynnig y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol—fel pe bai dim wedi newid o ganlyniad i adroddiadau Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru ac ymchwiliadau'r Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus o'r adroddiadau hynny a'u hargymhellion i Lywodraeth Cymru, fel pe bai Llywodraeth Cymru wedi parhau er gwaethaf popeth, yn anwybyddu'r camau difrifol a chadarn y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'u cymryd wrth ymateb, er enghraifft, i AWEMA a River Lodge, i enwi ond dau. Yn y pen draw, mae'n rhoi'r argraff bod y Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus yn siop siarad heb unrhyw ddannedd, ac ni chredu fod hynny'n wir. Yn hytrach, mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi derbyn y rhan fwyaf o argymhellion y Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus ym mhob un o'r adroddiadau yr ydym wedi'u cynhyrchu yn y flwyddyn ddiwethaf.

Turning to point 3 of the motion, on the regeneration investment fund for Wales, this indeed is cause for concern. The Welsh Government has already taken firm action. Carl Sargeant announced in October that the investment activities of RIFW as currently constituted would be brought to a close, and quite right too. Here is an organisation that was given 16 parcels of publicly owned land across Wales, for which apparently there was no use, with a remit to sell them so that it had money to use for regenerating areas of Wales, as mentioned by Peter Black in relation to parts of Swansea. So far, so good. The issues that cause concern are that these parcels of land were not sold on the open market. Why not? That means that the £21 million raised could be as big a mis-sale as the floating of the Royal Mail, conducted by that Lib Dem totem figure, Vince Cable. What is worse in this case is that two of those parcels of land—

Gan droi at bwynt 3 y cynnig, ar gronfa buddsoddi Cymru mewn adfywio, mae hyn yn destun pryder mawr. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru eisoes wedi cymryd camau cadarn. Cyhoeddodd Carl Sargeant ym mis Hydref bod gweithgareddau buddsoddi CBCA fel y mae ar hyn o bryd yn cael eu dwyn i ben, a hynny'n haeddiannol hefyd. Dyma sefydliad a gafodd 16 o leiniau o dir sy'n eiddo cyhoeddus ledled Cymru, nad oedd unrhyw ddefnydd ar eu cyfer yn ôl y sôn, gyda chylch gwaith i'w gwerthu fel ei fod yn cael arian i'w ddefnyddio ar gyfer adfywio ardaloedd yng Nghymru, fel y crybwyllodd Peter Black mewn perthynas â rhannau o Abertawe. Popeth yn iawn hyd yma. Y materion sy'n achosi pryder yw na chafodd y lleiniau hyn o dir eu gwerthu ar y farchnad agored. Pam ddim? Mae hynny'n golygu y gallai'r £21 miliwn a godwyd fod yn gymaint o achos o gam-werthu â'r broses o gyhoeddi cyfrannau'r Post Brenhinol ar y farchnad stoc, a gynhaliwyd gan y ffigur totem hwnnw o'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, Vince Cable. Yr hyn sy'n waeth yn yr achos hwn yw bod dau o'r lleiniau hynny o dir—

17:22

Peter Black [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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Will you give way?

A wnewch chi ildio?

17:22

Jenny Rathbone [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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No, I think that I will keep going, actually.

Na, rwy'n credu yr af yn fy mlaen, a dweud y gwir.

One parcel of land in Lisvane in Cardiff North and another in Monmouthshire were sold as agricultural land, valued at approximately £15 an acre. However, some four weeks later, they were designated for housing development in the freshly drafted and revised local development plans of the two local authorities, at which point, those parcels of land were worth approximately £1 million per acre.

Gwerthwyd un llain o dir yn Llys-faen yng Ngogledd Caerdydd ac un arall yn Sir Fynwy fel tir amaethyddol, gyda gwerth o tua £15 yr erw. Fodd bynnag, rhyw bedair wythnos yn ddiweddarach, cawsant eu dynodi ar gyfer datblygu tai yng nghynlluniau datblygu lleol y ddau awdurdod lleol a oedd newydd gael eu drafftio o'r newydd a'u diwygio, a phryd hynny, roedd y lleiniau hynny o dir yn werth tua £1 filiwn yr erw.

The third issue of concern is that these 16 parcels of land were sold to the misnamed South Wales Land Developments, based in Guernsey. I do not know who is behind South Wales Land Developments, what relations they might have had with the companies and individuals linked to the regeneration investment fund for Wales, or whether South Wales Land Developments had received insider information about the proposed re-designation of agricultural land as housing land by Monmouth and Cardiff councils. However, I am confident that the Wales Audit Office will find out and that is why we have a Wales Audit Office. I await its final report on RIFW with interest.

Y trydydd mater sy'n peri pryder yw bod yr 16 o leiniau o dir wedi cael eu gwerthu i South Wales Land Davelopments, a gamenwyd, a leolir yn Guernsey. Ni wn pwy sydd y tu ôl i South Wales Land Developments, pa gysylltiadau y gallant fod wedi eu cael gyda'r cwmnïau ac unigolion sy'n gysylltiedig â chronfa buddsoddi Cymru mewn adfywio, neu a oedd South Wales Land Developments wedi cael gwybodaeth fewnol am y broses arfaethedig o ail-ddynodi tir amaethyddol yn dir ar gyfer tai gan gynghorau Trefynwy a Chaerdydd. Fodd bynnag, rwy'n hyderus y bydd Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru yn cael gwybod a dyna pam y mae gennym Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru. Disgwyliaf yn eiddgar am ei hadroddiad terfynol ar CBCA.

17:23

Peter Black [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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Do you accept that, throughout that catalogue of issues that you have raised, Welsh Government officials were part of the board? Why were they not doing something about this?

A ydych yn derbyn, drwy'r rhestr o faterion y gwnaethoch eu codi, bod swyddogion Llywodraeth Cymru yn rhan o'r bwrdd? Pam nad oeddent yn gwneud rhywbeth am hyn?

17:23 **Jenny Rathbone** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I was not aware of that until you mentioned it. I note it and no doubt that will be part of the investigation by the Wales Audit Office. There are much more substantive issues than that around how public money that may have been misappropriated can be clawed back. There is, happily, a clawback mechanism that I have no doubt that the Welsh Government will insist on. It will be useful to know how much that will be. Will it be 50% of the true value or 100%?

Nid oeddwn yn ymwybodol o hynny nes ichi sôn amdano. Nodaf hynny ac nid oes amheuaeth y bydd yn rhan o'r ymchwiliad gan Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru. Mae materion llawer mwy arwyddocaol na hynny ynghylch sut y gellir adennill arian cyhoeddus y gallai fod wedi cael ei gamddefnyddio. Diolch byth bod dull adennill yr wyf yn sicr y bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn mynnu ei ddefnyddio. Bydd yn ddefnyddiol gwybod faint fydd hynny. A fydd yn 50% o'r gwir werth neu 100%?

To put it in context, the tone of the motion coming from the Liberal Democrats and the points that Peter Black has mentioned about how this puts Wales in a very poor light are totally inaccurate because the Welsh European Funding Office has (a) got all its money back from RIFW and (b) the European commissioner has praised WEFO and the Welsh Government for the quality of its European programme. There was a mere 0.02% of inaccuracies in its accounting of how money is spent and it is a fact that the proposals for the 2014 to 2020 programme are in better shape to hit the ground running on 1 January than in any other region or nation of Europe.

I'w roi yn ei gyd-destun, mae natur y cynnig a ddaw gan y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol a'r pwyntiau y mae Peter Black wedi sôn amdanynt ynghylch sut mae hyn yn rhoi Cymru mewn golau gwael iawn yn gwbl anghywir oherwydd bod Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru (a) wedi cael ei holl arian yn ôl gan CBCA a (b) bod y comisiynydd Ewropeaidd wedi canmol Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru a Llywodraeth Cymru am ansawdd ei rhaglen Ewropeaidd. Dim ond 0.02% o gamgymeriadau a gafwyd yn ei chyfrifiadau o sut mae arian yn cael ei wario ac mae'n ffaith bod y cynigion ar gyfer rhaglen 2014 i 2020 mewn sefyllfa well i fwrw ati'n syth ar 1 Ionawr nag mewn unrhyw ranbarth neu wlad arall yn Ewrop.

17:25 **Kirsty Williams** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I found the last contribution slightly amazing. Jenny Rathbone says that it is not the point that there were Welsh Government officials sitting on a board that oversaw the potential mis-selling of a public asset that is now being investigated by the Serious Fraud Office. She says that that is not relevant to today's debate; that it is not relevant that on more than 19 occasions it was flagged with the Welsh Government that there was something seriously wrong within AWEMA, yet those Welsh Government Ministers and officials sat back and continued to let that situation develop until it ended in a crisis.

Roedd y cyfraniad diwethaf braidd yn anhygoel yn fy marn i. Dywed Jenny Rathbone nad y ffaith bod swyddogion Llywodraeth Cymru wedi eistedd ar fwrdd a oruchwyliodd proses bosibl o gam-werthu ased cyhoeddus sydd bellach yn cael ei archwilio gan y Swyddfa Twyll Difrifol sy'n bwysig. Dywed nad yw hynny'n berthnasol i ddadl heddiw; nad yw'n berthnasol y tynnwyd sylw Llywodraeth Cymru fwy na 19 o weithiau bod rhywbeth difrifol o'i le o fewn AWEMA, ond bod y Gweinidogion a'r swyddogion hynny o Lywodraeth Cymru wedi eistedd yn ôl a pharhau i adael i'r sefyllfa honno ddatblygu hyd nes iddi droi'n argyfwng.

Let me give you another example, Jenny, of where there is distinct evidence of the Welsh Government being advised by the Wales Audit Office that things need to improve and change and yet we still find ourselves, years later, in a similar situation. I want to turn to the issue of some of the work that the WAO has done in the field of healthcare. Back in 2009, the WAO recommended in a report that action was needed urgently to simplify the process of access to unscheduled care. Today, the Health and Social Care Committee has written, yet again, another letter on what the Government is doing to ensure that there is adequate preparedness for winter. This is an issue that was being talked about by the Wales Audit Office in 2009, yet the lessons have not been learnt, and more Assembly, committee and ministerial time is being spent on tackling exactly the same issues. That is the point of today. The Wales Audit Office does a fantastic job, but unless we take the opportunity to learn from the points that it raises in its reports and to do something about them, then Welsh citizens will not get the services that they deserve—services that, collectively, we all want to see—and we will not be able to ensure good value for taxpayers' money.

Gadewch imi roi enghraifft arall, Jenny, o ble y ceir tystiolaeth amlwg bod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cael ei hysbysu gan Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru bod angen i bethau wella a newid ac eto rydym mewn sefyllfa debyg flynyddoedd yn ddiweddarach. Hoffwn droi rywfaint o'r gwaith y mae Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru wedi'i wneud ym maes gofal iechyd. Yn ôl yn 2009, argymhellodd Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru mewn adroddiad fod angen cymryd camau ar frys i symleiddio'r broses o gael mynediad i ofal heb ei drefnu. Heddiw, mae'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol wedi ysgrifennu llythyr arall unwaith eto ar yr hyn y mae'r Llywodraeth yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod digon o baratoadau wedi'u gwneud ar gyfer y gaeaf. Mae hwn yn fater a oedd yn cael ei drafod gan Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru yn 2009, ac eto nid yw'r gwersi wedi cael eu dysgu, ac mae mwy o amser y Cynulliad, pwyllgorau ac amser gweinidogol yn cael ei dreulio ar fynd i'r afael â'r un materion yn union. Dyna bwrpas heddiw. Mae Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru yn gwneud gwaith gwych, ond oni bai ein bod yn cymryd y cyfle i ddysgu o'r wrth y pwyntiau y mae'n codi yn ei adroddiadau ac i wneud rhywbeth yn eu cylch, yna ni fydd pobl Cymru yn cael y gwasanaethau y maent yn eu haeddu—gwasanaethau y mae pob un ohonom am eu gweld—ac ni fyddwn yn gallu sicrhau gwerth da am arian trethdalwyr.

One of the things that constantly lands in my constituency casework inbox is the question of continuing healthcare and the dispute over whether something is regarded as social care, and is therefore means tested and paid for by an individual, or whether a person's care is classified as healthcare. Those issues are going to continue to fall into Assembly Members' inboxes until we have reform of paying for social care. In June of this year, the implementation of the national framework for continuing NHS healthcare highlighted continuing concerns that have been raised in this Chamber for years, by Members of all parties, about the backlog of challenges by relatives over eligibility for continuing healthcare. These are people who sold their parents' homes, and sometimes their only assets, to pay for social care, only to discover now that in all likelihood that should never have happened and that their relatives should have been funded by the NHS all along.

Un o'r pethau sy'n ymddangos yn gyson ym mewnflwch gwaith achos fy etholaeth yw cwestiwn gofal iechyd parhaus a'r anghydfod ynghylch p'un a yw rhywbeth yn cael ei ystyried yn ofal cymdeithasol, ac felly yn golygu y cynhelir prawf modd arno ac mai unigolyn sy'n talu amdano, neu p'un a gaiff gofal person ei ddosbarthu fel gofal iechyd. Bydd y pethau hyn yn parhau i ymddangos mewn mewnflychau Aelodau'r Cynulliad hyd nes inni ddiwygio'r broses o dalu am ofal cymdeithasol. Ym mis Mehefin eleni, amlygodd y broses o weithredu'r fframwaith cenedlaethol ar gyfer gofal iechyd parhaus y GIG bryderon parhaus sydd wedi cael eu codi yn y Siambr hon ers blynyddoedd, gan Aelodau o bob plaid, am yr ôl-groniad o heriau gan berthnasau ynghylch cymhwysedd ar gyfer gofal iechyd parhaus. Mae'r rhain yn bobl a werthodd gartrefi eu rhieni, ac weithiau eu hunig asedau, i dalu am ofal cymdeithasol, dim ond i ddarganfod yn awr na ddylai hynny fod byth wedi digwydd yn ôl pob tebyg ac y dylai eu perthnasau fod wedi cael eu hariannu gan y GIG drwy'r adeg.

In September 2012, only 13% of the over 1,000 retrospective claims had been resolved. Some of these claims relating to care fees go back as far as 17 years—17 years of injustice for those families. I would be really grateful today if the Minister could provide an update on progress on this situation. If significant progress has not been made, this could have a serious impact on health budgets and we need transparency over the decisions that are being reached in these cases.

Ym mis Medi 2012, dim ond 13% o'r 1,000 o geisiadau ôl-weithredol a mwy a oedd wedi eu datrys. Mae rhai o'r hawliadau hyn yn ymwneud â ffioedd gofal yn mynd yn ôl cymaint â 17 mlynedd—17 mlynedd o anghyfiawnder i'r teuluoedd hynny. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar iawn heddiw pe gallai'r Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y cynnydd ar y sefyllfa hon. Os nad oes cynnydd sylweddol wedi cael ei wneud, gallai hyn gael effaith ddifrifol ar gyllidebau iechyd ac mae angen inni gael tryloywder mewn perthynas â'r penderfyniadau a wneir yn yr achosion hyn.

There continues to be confusion over eligibility for continuing healthcare. These issues were raised in the Wales Audit Office report. Funding for continuing healthcare now accounts for some 5% of each health board's net operating costs. It is a growing and potentially larger sum of money that will have to be spent, yet we know that there is inconsistency in the application of the rules around continuing healthcare, which, in turn, potentially leads us to more and more complaints and challenges.

Mae dryswch o hyd ynghylch cymhwysedd ar gyfer gofal iechyd parhaus. Codwyd y materion hyn yn adroddiad Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru. Mae cyllid ar gyfer gofal iechyd parhaus bellach yn cyfrif am tua 5% o gostau gweithredu net pob bwrdd iechyd. Mae'n swm cynyddol ac efallai y bydd yn rhaid gwario mwy o arian, ond gwyddom fod anghysondeb yn y modd y caiff y rheolau ynghylch gofal iechyd parhaus eu cymhwyso, a allai, yn ei dro, ein harwain at fwy a mwy o gwynion a heriau.

I would also, very quickly, like to raise the issue of the consultant contract. A report by the WAO in February highlighted that, despite spending significant amounts of money implementing the new NHS consultant contract in Wales, one in six consultants is still working on average, 46.5 hours week. The transformational change that this contract for consultants was supposed to deliver in terms of modernising working practices and care for patients has yet to materialise. Again, there is a history of failure in this regard, because, in 2009, similar challenges were pointed out.

Hoffwn hefyd, yn gyflym iawn, godi'r contract ar gyfer meddygon ymgynghorol. Amlygodd adroddiad gan Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru ym mis Chwefror, er gwaethaf y symiau sylweddol o arian a wariwyd yn gweithredu contract newydd y GIG ar gyfer meddygon ymgynghorol yng Nghymru, bod un o bob chwe meddyg ymgynghorol yn dal i weithio 46.5 awr yr wythnos ar gyfartaledd. Nid yw'r newid trawsnewidiol yr oedd y contract hwn ar gyfer meddygon ymgynghorol i fod i'w gyflawni o ran moderneiddio arferion gwaith a gofal i gleifion wedi dod i'r amlwg eto. Unwaith eto, mae yna hanes o fethiant yn y cyswllt hwn, oherwydd y tynnwyd sylw at heriau tebyg yn 2009.

17:30 **Jocelyn Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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As a member of the Public Accounts Committee, I value very much the work of the Wales Audit Office in assessing and scrutinising services and, in particular, of course, public expenditure. This work is vital in a healthy democracy and it is also important that, as elected representatives, we add our own scrutiny of Government performance and Government expenditure. After all, the audit office does not scrutinise policy in itself, but looks at delivery and value for money. While I, of course, support greater transparency on expenditure and performance indicators and so on, I would like to take this opportunity to assert that this transparency would be in vain unless there is a real cultural shift at the heart of Government—away from dodging responsibility and side-stepping reality and towards a new culture of taking responsibility for policy delivery and performance.

Fel aelod o'r Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus, rwy'n gwerthfawrogi yn fawr iawn waith Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru wrth asesu a chraffu ar wasanaethau ac, yn benodol, wrth gwrs, ar wariant cyhoeddus. Mae'r gwaith hwn yn hanfodol mewn democratiaeth iach ac mae hefyd yn bwysig, fel cynrychiolwyr etholedig, ein bod yn ychwanegu ein gwaith craffu ein hunain o berfformiad y Llywodraeth a gwariant y Llywodraeth. Wedi'r cyfan, nid yw'r swyddfa archwilio yn archwilio polisi ynddo'i hun, ond yn hytrach, mae'n edrych ar ddarpariaeth a gwerth am arian. Er fy mod, wrth gwrs, yn cefnogi mwy o dryloywder ar wariant a dangosyddion perfformiad ac yn y blaen, hoffwn fanteisio ar y cyfle hwn i nodi y byddai'r tryloywder hwn yn ofer oni bai y gwelir newid diwylliannol go iawn yng nghanol gwaith y Llywodraeth—oddi wrth osgoi cyfrifoldeb a realiti a thuag at ddiwylliant newydd o gymryd cyfrifoldeb am gyflwyno polisi a pherfformiad.

This is, of course, our last minority party debate of the year—I know that the Labour Members are probably quite sad about that—but this year, for me, has been notable for the entrenchment of this long-established culture whereby poor performance is blamed on others, rather than responsibility being accepted. I am sure that Members here will recognise that this is a frustrating trait, because devolution was meant to bring greater accountability. A prime example has been when health targets are missed—and that is not a personal attack on the current Minister for Health and Social Services at all. However, just this week, a report was published about Betsi Cadwaladr University Local Health Board—and, again, it is a very disappointing report—into governance there. However, again, the Government refuses to take responsibility, as is evidenced by its contribution to the inquiry. That is just the latest example. I do not intend to detail the contents of specific reports, but I do not think that I disagree with any comments that have been made by Members so far. I think that the public interest reports demonstrate the need for the auditor general and the Wales Audit Office, in shining a light on the scandals that occur if governance is poor. If you get governance right, you are generally on the right road.

Wrth gwrs, hon yw ein dadl plaid leiafrifol olaf o'r flwyddyn—gwn ei bod yn debygol bod yr Aelodau Llafur yn eithaf trist am hynny—ond i mi, mae eleni wedi bod yn nodedig am natur ddi-syfl y diwylliant hirsefydledig hwn lle mae perfformiad gwael yn cael ei feio ar eraill, yn hytrach na bod cyfrifoldeb yn cael ei dderbyn. Rwy'n siŵr y bydd yr Aelodau yma yn cydnabod bod hwn yn nodwedd rwystredig, oherwydd roedd datganoli i fod i gyflwyno mwy o atebolrwydd. Un enghraifft amlwg o hyn oedd pan gaiff targedau iechyd eu colli—ac nid ymosodiad personol ar y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol presennol yw hynny o gwbl. Fodd bynnag, dim ond yr wythnos hon, cyhoeddwyd adroddiad am Fwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Betsi Cadwaladr—ac, unwaith eto, mae'n adroddiad siomedig iawn—am y prosesau llywodraethu yno. Fodd bynnag, unwaith eto, mae'r Llywodraeth yn gwrthod cymryd cyfrifoldeb, fel y gwelir yn ei chyfraniad i'r ymchwiliad. Dim ond yr enghraifft ddiweddaraf yw hon. Nid wyf yn bwriadu manylu ar gynnwys adroddiadau penodol, ond ni chredaf fy mod yn anghytuno ag unrhyw sylwadau a wnaed gan Aelodau hyd yma. Credaf fod yr adroddiadau ar les y cyhoedd yn dangos bod angen i'r archwilydd cyffredinol a Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru, daflu goleuni ar y sgandalau sy'n digwydd os ceir prosesau llywodraethu gwael. Os ceir prosesau llywodraethu priodol, rydych ar y trywydd cywir yn gyffredinol.

I am sure that we will all be thinking in the coming weeks about new year's resolutions and so on, and I sincerely hope that, when we reconvene in the new year, we will see the Welsh Government adopt a resolution to take some responsibility for what is happening on its own watch. However, I have to say that I do not think that I can ever imagine the WAO without work any time soon.

Rwy'n siŵr y bydd pob un ohonom yn meddwl am addunedau blwyddyn newydd ac ati dros yr wythnosau nesaf, ac rwy'n mawr obeithio, pan fyddwn yn ailymgynnull yn y flwyddyn newydd, y byddwn yn gweld Llywodraeth Cymru yn mabwysiadu penderfyniad i gymryd rhywfaint o gyfrifoldeb dros yr hyn sy'n digwydd. Fodd bynnag, rhaid imi ddweud na allaf ddychmygu y bydd Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru heb waith am beth amser.

The amendments are very sensible, and we will be supporting them all.

Mae'r gwelliannau yn synhwyrol iawn, a byddwn yn cefnogi pob un ohonynt.

17:33 **Byron Davies** Bywgraffiad Biography

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I also want to thank the Liberal Democrats for bringing this very timely and very relevant debate before us today. The importance of the Wales Audit Office cannot be overestimated, and I, like previous speakers, pay tribute to Mr Huw Vaughan Thomas and his team for their professionalism and their tireless work on behalf of the people of Wales. It is a royal appointment; he is independent and he reports to the National Assembly and is accountable to the Public Accounts Committee.

Hoffwn hefyd ddiolch i'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol am ddod â'r ddadl amserol iawn a pherthnasol iawn hon ger ein bron heddiw. Ni ellir gorbwysleisio pwysigrwydd Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru, ac rwyf fi, fel siaradwyr blaenorol, yn talu teyrnged i Mr Huw Vaughan Thomas a'i dîm am eu proffesiynoldeb a'u gwaith diflino ar ran pobl Cymru. Mae'n benodiad brenhinol, mae'n annibynnol ac mae'n adrodd i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ac yn atebol i'r Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus.

Much to my surprise and disappointment, in my first term of office, I have spent a significant amount of time working with the Wales Audit Office on several cases of gross failings in terms of governance and oversight of public moneys in the Welsh Government. So, in opening, I would like to echo many of the points that Darren Millar made and support the amendments tabled in the name of William Graham.

Roedd yn destun syndod a siom mawr imi, yn fy nhymor cyntaf yn y swydd, fy mod wedi treulio cryn dipyn o amser yn gweithio gyda Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru ar sawl achos o fethiant difrifol o ran llywodraethu a goruchwylio arian cyhoeddus yn Llywodraeth Cymru. Felly, i ddechrau, hoffwn adleisio llawer o'r pwyntiau a wnaeth Darren Millar a chefnogi'r gwelliannau a gyflwynwyd yn enw William Graham.

It would be remiss of me not to spend a moment highlighting the ongoing fiasco that is the regeneration and investment fund for Wales, my referral of it to the Wales Audit Office, the decision by the Minister to disband this body and to return European funding to WEFO and the subsequent impact on a number of regeneration projects seeking funding from RIFW, as already outlined by Peter Black. The scale of the taxpayers' money wasted on this body is enormous, both in terms of the missed capital receipts—that is the point, Jenny Rathbone—from the undersold land, and the sheer amount of money spent on consultants and solicitors to, essentially, fund one local authority project. It will come as no surprise that we may get a further statement this Friday afternoon about RIFW, in keeping with Government tradition.

Byddai'n esgeulus imi beidio â threulio ennyd yn tynnu sylw at y llanastr parhaus sy'n bodoli mewn perthynas â chronfa adfywio a buddsoddi Cymru, y ffaith fy mod wedi cyfeirio'r mater at Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru, penderfyniad y Gweinidog i ddiddymu'r corff hwn ac i ddychwelyd cyllid Ewropeaidd i WEFO a'r effaith ddilynol ar nifer o brosiectau adfywio sy'n ceisio arian gan CBCA, fel yr amlinellwyd eisoes gan Peter Black. Gwastraffwyd swm anferth o arian trethdalwyr ar y corff hwn, o ran y derbynebau cyfalaf a gollwyd—dyna'r pwynt, Jenny Rathbone—o'r tir a werthwyd am lai na'i werth, a'r swm enfawr o arian a wariwyd ar ymgynghorwyr a chyfreithwyr i ariannu un prosiect awdurdod lleol yn y bôn. Ni fydd yn unrhyw syndod y gallwn gael datganiad pellach brynhawn dydd Gwener am CBCA, yn unol â thraddodiad y Llywodraeth.

Point 4(a) of this motion is extremely welcome, and I believe that the Welsh Government needs to review all external funding to restore public and investor confidence in the ability of the Welsh Government to monitor and regulate funding.

Croesewir pwynt 4(a) y cynnig hwn, a chredaf fod angen i Lywodraeth Cymru adolygu'r holl gyllid allanol i adfer hyder y cyhoedd a buddsoddwyr yng ngallu Llywodraeth Cymru i fonitro a rheoleiddio cyllid.

Yet another example was brought to my attention this week, namely the Forge Fach Community Resource Centre in Clydach, Swansea. It is closing because its owner, Cwmni Clydach Development Trust, is insolvent. This project received £1.2 million from the Objective 1 programme, £400,000 from a local regeneration fund via Swansea council, £95,000 from Clydach Community Council and £74,000 from the Sports Council for Wales, and was opened by Rhodri Morgan back in 2006. Given the large amount of public money injected into the project, the community is now left extremely angry and bewildered by the closure. It is yet another example of extremely poor monitoring, and, with senior Labour members making up the trust, it leaves a lot of unanswered questions for the constituents of Gower.

Tynnwyd enghraifft arall eto at fy sylw yr wythnos hon, sef Canolfan Adnoddau Cymunedol Forge Fach yng Nghlydach, Abertawe. Mae'n cau am fod ei berchennog, Ymddiriedolaeth Datblygu Cwmni Clydach, wedi mynd yn fethdalwr. Derbyniodd y prosiect hwn £1.2 miliwn gan raglen Amcan 1, £400,000 o gronfa adfywio leol drwy gyngor Abertawe, £95,000 gan Gyngor Cymuned Clydach a £74,000 gan Gyngor Chwaraeon Cymru, ac fe'i hagorwyd gan Rhodri Morgan yn ôl yn 2006. O ystyried y swm mawr o arian cyhoeddus a chwistrellwyd i mewn i'r prosiect, mae'r ffaith bod y ganolfan bellach yn cau wedi gadael y gymuned yn hynod o flin a dryslyd. Mae'n enghraifft arall eto o fonitro hynod o wael, a, gydag uwch aelodau Llafur yn rhan o'r ymddiriedolaeth, mae'n golygu bod gan etholowyr Gŵyr lawer o gwestiynau heb eu hateb.

The list of failings that we know about is ever-growing. I am afraid that I have to say that I have no confidence in this Government's ability to monitor and regulate its funding streams. I am bound to say that my previous service as a police officer was based on integrity, honesty and transparency, something that I did not expect to have to instil and examine in such depth in this institution. This is further demonstrated by the money being poured into Cardiff Airport—£52 million to purchase, £1 million in consultants' fees, and now a staggering £10 million has surfaced today in addition, without any business case or strategy, and without proper scrutiny.

Mae'r rhestr o fethiannau y gwyddom amdanynt yn tyfu o hyd. Mae arnaf ofn bod yn rhaid imi ddweud nad oes gennyf unrhyw hyder yng ngallu'r Llywodraeth hon i fonitro a rheoleiddio ei ffrydiau ariannu. Rhaid imi ddweud bod fy ngwasanaeth blaenorol fel swyddog yr heddlu yn seiliedig ar uniondeb, gonestrwydd a thryloywder, rhywbeth nad oeddwn yn disgwyl gorfod ei drwytho a'i archwilio mewn cymaint o ddyfnder yn y sefydliad hwn. Dangosir hyn ymhellach gan yr arian sy'n cael ei arllwys i mewn i Faes Awyr Caerdydd—£52 miliwn i'w brynu, £1 mewn ffioedd ymgynghorwyr, ac yn awr mae swm syfrdanol o £10 miliwn wedi ymddangos heddiw yn ogystal, heb unrhyw achos busnes neu strategaeth, a heb broses graffu briodol.

I want to remind Members that we all have a duty to protect the public purse from being misused, maladministered and wasted. European funding has been wasted. AWEMA and RIFW are just two examples of maladministration, if not worse. We all hold countless examples of mismanagement. I support this motion as amended, because we need to open up the books in Wales and ensure that we have transparency in our democracy. Sadly, the word 'transparency' is bandied around the Chamber with very little meaning or substance behind it at times. That is why the Wales Audit Office is so important, as it is a powerful weapon in the fight against waste and potential bad practice. I applaud it for its continued excellent work and reporting. I add that, while I am in this place, I will be relentless in my identification and exposure of the maladministration of taxpayers' money in Wales.

Hoffwn atgoffa'r Aelodau bod gan bob un ohonom ddyletswydd i sicrhau nad yw arian cyhoeddus yn cael ei gamddefnyddio, ei gamweinyddu a'i wastraffu. Mae arian Ewropeaidd wedi cael ei wastraffu. Dim ond dwy enghraifft o gamweinyddu, os nad gwaeth, yw AWEMA a CBCA. Mae gan bob un ohonom enghreifftiau di-rif o gamreoli. Rwy'n cefnogi'r cynnig hwn fel y'i diwygiwyd, oherwydd mae angen inni agor y llyfrau yng Nghymru a sicrhau bod gennym dryloywder yn ein democratiaeth. Yn anffodus, mae'r gair 'tryloywder' yn cael ei grybwyll o amgylch y Siambr heb fawr o ystyr neu sylwedd y tu ôl iddo ar adegau. Dyna pam mae Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru mor bwysig, gan ei bod yn arf pwerus yn y frwydr yn erbyn gwastraff ac arfer gwael posibl. Rwy'n ei chymeradwyo am ei gwaith a'i hadroddiadau ardderchog parhaus. Hoffwn ychwanegu, tra y byddaf yma, y byddaf yn benderfynol o nodi ac amlygu achosion o gamweinyddu arian trethdalwyr yng Nghymru.

17:37 **Jane Hutt** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Y Gweinidog Cyllid / The Minister for Finance

I welcome the opportunity to respond to this debate and motion. As far as the first part of the motion is concerned, the Welsh Government recognises the important role of the Auditor General for Wales and his staff at the Wales Audit Office in providing high quality, independent and comprehensive scrutiny of Government activities and expenditure. Indeed, Welsh Government officials work closely with the WAO in the delivery of its programmes of work. The relationship between the Welsh Government and the WAO is a constructive one, and both organisations are committed to ensuring that the process of scrutiny is efficient and effective.

Croesawaf y cyfle i ymateb i'r ddadl hon a'r cynnig hwn. O ran rhan gyntaf y cynnig, mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cydnabod y rôl bwysig Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru a'i staff yn Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru wrth gynnal prosesau craffu annibynnol a chynhwysfawr o safon o weithgareddau a gwariant y Llywodraeth. Yn wir, mae swyddogion Llywodraeth Cymru yn gweithio'n agos â Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru wrth gyflwyno ei rhaglenni gwaith. Mae'r gydberthynas rhwng Llywodraeth Cymru a Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru yn un adeiladol, ac mae'r ddau sefydliad wedi ymrwymo i sicrhau bod y broses graffu yn effeithlon ac yn effeithiol.

As part of its work, the WAO often identifies examples of good practice that should be shared with other bodies throughout Wales. In the main, the sharing of good practice is achieved through the WAO's good practice exchange. It is openly available via the internet, and it contains a wealth of advice and tools that can help public bodies to improve their processes and procedures. We support amendment 1 accordingly.

Fel rhan o'i gwaith, mae Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru yn aml yn nodi enghreifftiau o arfer da y dylid eu rhannu gyda chyrff eraill ledled Cymru. Ar y cyfan, caiff arfer da ei rannu drwy gyfnewidfa arfer da Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru. Mae ar gael yn agored trwy'r rhyngrwyd, ac mae'n cynnwys cyfoeth o gyngor ac adnoddau a all helpu cyrff cyhoeddus i wella eu prosesau a'u gweithdrefnau. Rydym yn cefnogi gwelliant 1 yn unol â hynny.

The WAO's value for money programme is a schedule of reviews designed to examine the economy, efficiency and effectiveness with which the Welsh Government, its sponsored bodies, local health boards and trusts and other bodies deliver their services. It does not question the policies per se, but examines the way in which they are delivered and managed. The rolling programme of work is annually scrutinised and approved by the Public Accounts Committee, and it reports on the outcome of these reviews, which are provided to it.

Mae rhaglen gwerth am arian Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru yn cynnwys rhestr o adolygiadau a gynlluniwyd i archwilio darbodusrwydd, effeithlonrwydd ac effeithiolrwydd Llywodraeth Cymru, y cyrff a noddir ganddi, byrddau iechyd lleol ac ymddiriedolaethau a chyrff eraill wrth ddarparu eu gwasanaethau. Nid yw'n cwestiynu'r polisïau fel y cyfryw, ond yn edrych ar y ffordd y cânt eu darparu a'u rheoli. Creffir ar y rhaglen waith dreigl yn flynyddol a chaiff ei chymeradwyo gan y Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus, ac mae'n adrodd ar ganlyniad yr adolygiadau hyn, a ddarperir iddo.

In response to amendment 5, which we also support, in Wales the WAO has been working closely with the other inspectorate bodies for some time. It undertakes joint reviews with Healthcare Inspectorate Wales, Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales, and Estyn.

Mewn ymateb i welliant 5, yr ydym hefyd yn ei gefnogi, yng Nghymru, mae Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru wedi bod yn gweithio'n agos gyda chyrff arolygu eraill ers peth amser. Mae'n cynnal adolygiadau ar y cyd ag Arolygiaeth Gofal Iechyd Cymru, Arolygiaeth Gofal a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Cymru, ac Estyn.

The second part of the motion refers to

Mae ail ran y cynnig yn cyfeirio at

'the findings of successive reports published by the Wales Audit Office, which highlight significant failings in the governance arrangements and delivery of key public services'.

ganfyddiadau adroddiadau olynol a gyhoeddwyd gan Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru, sy'n tynnu sylw at fethiannau sylweddol yn y trefniadau llywodraethu a'r gwasanaethau cyhoeddus allweddol a ddarperir.

However, to put this in context, the Welsh Government currently issues approximately 20,000 grant awards annually to in excess of 6,000 organisations. Therefore, the number of problems that occur is a small proportion of the organisations that we fund, but I recognise that we must learn lessons from the past, and that is exactly why the grants management project was established in 2010. That project has made and is continuing to make significant progress in tackling the generic themes that have emerged from the issues highlighted in the WAO's reports.

Fodd bynnag, i roi hyn yn ei gyd-destun, mae Llywodraeth Cymru ar hyn o bryd yn cyhoeddi tua 20,000 o ddyfarniadau grant i fwy na 6,000 o sefydliadau bob blwyddyn. Felly, cyfran fechan o'r sefydliadau a ariannwn yw nifer y problemau sy'n codi, ond rwy'n cydnabod bod yn rhaid inni ddysgu gwersi o'r gorffennol, a dyna'n union pam y sefydlwyd y prosiect rheoli grantiau yn 2010. Gwnaeth y prosiect hwnnw gynnydd sylweddol o ran mynd i'r afael â'r themâu cyffredinol sydd wedi codi o'r materion a amlygwyd yn adroddiadau Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru, ac mae'n parhau i wneud hynny.

This is why it is important for me to say in this debate that the Welsh Government responded positively the Public Accounts Committee's two reports on grants management in Wales, accepting all of its recommendations. Most of the actions that we committed to undertake have been implemented, or are ongoing. We are confident that these actions will result in significant improvements in the way in which we administer and manage grants. These actions include improved due diligence work and more effective monitoring arrangements, which I regard as a key outcome as a result of the Public Accounts Committee's effective work.

Dyma pam ei bod yn bwysig imi ddweud yn y ddadl hon i Lywodraeth Cymru ymateb yn gadarnhaol i ddau adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus ar reoli grantiau yng Nghymru, gan dderbyn pob un o'i argymhellion. Mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r camau y gwnaethom ymrwymo i fynd i'r afael â hwy wedi cael eu gweithredu, neu yn mynd rhagddynt. Rydym yn hyderus y bydd y camau hyn yn arwain at welliannau sylweddol yn y ffordd rydym yn gweinyddu ac yn rheoli grantiau. Mae'r camau hyn yn cynnwys gwell gwaith diwydrwydd dyladwy a threfniadau monitro mwy effeithiol, ac rwy'n ystyried bod hyn yn un o ganlyniadau allweddol gwaith effeithiol y Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus.

The motion calls on the Welsh Government to conduct a thorough review of all external funding and to develop a robust and transparent procedure to more effectively address the failings. The scope of the grants management project includes a review of all grant funding, together with setting minimum standards for awarding, monitoring and evaluating grant projects. Substantial training packages have been developed and implemented to raise the awareness and skills of the Welsh Government officials who have roles to play in the grants processes. All of this business improvement work is led by the grants centre of excellence. It is designed to reduce the risks associated with grant making.

Mae'r cynnig yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i gynnal adolygiad trylwyr o'r holl gyllid allanol ac i ddatblygu gweithdrefn gadarn a thryloyw i fynd i'r afael â'r methiannau yn fwy effeithiol. Mae cwmpas y prosiect rheoli grantiau yn cynnwys adolygiad o'r holl arian grant, ynghyd â gosod safonau gofynnol ar gyfer dyfarnu, monitro a gwerthuso prosiectau grant. Mae pecynnau hyfforddi sylweddol wedi cael eu datblygu a'u gweithredu i godi ymwybyddiaeth a sgiliau swyddogion Llywodraeth Cymru sydd â rolau i'w chwarae yn y prosesau grantiau. Caiff yr holl waith gwella busnes hwn ei arwain gan y ganolfan rhagoriaeth grantiau. Mae wedi'i gynllunio i leihau'r risgiau sy'n gysylltiedig â rhoi grantiau.

However, we are not complacent and I am ensuring that this is a continuous improvement process. We work collaboratively with other funding organisations to share information and intelligence. We have established a good governance group, which includes the Welsh Local Government Association, the Big Lottery Fund, the Charity Commission, as well as the Wales Audit Office and a number of other organisations. The purpose of this group is to improve the governance of small organisations that receive public funding.

Fodd bynnag, nid ydym yn hunanfodlon ac rwy'n sicrhau bod hon yn broses o welliant parhaus. Rydym yn gweithio ar y cyd â sefydliadau ariannu eraill i rannu gwybodaeth a chudd-wybodaeth. Rydym wedi sefydlu grŵp llywodraethu da, sy'n cynnwys Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, y Gronfa Loteri Fawr, y Comisiwn Elusennau, yn ogystal â Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru a nifer o sefydliadau eraill. Pwrpas y grŵp hwn yw gwella llywodraethu sefydliadau bach sy'n derbyn arian cyhoeddus.

Robust and transparent procedures for scrutiny are already in place, primarily achieved through the work of the Public Accounts Committee. Its evidence sessions are open to the public and its reports are published. The recommendations made by the Public Accounts Committee require a Cabinet response with an agreed time frame. There is also, of course, a process to ensure the implementation of agreed actions.

Mae gweithdrefnau craffu cadarn a thryloyw eisoes yn eu lle, a gyflawnwyd yn bennaf drwy waith y Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus. Mae ei sesiynau tystiolaeth ar agor i'r cyhoedd a chaiff ei adroddiadau eu cyhoeddi. Mae'r argymhellion a wnaed gan y Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus yn gofyn am ymateb y Cabinet ynghyd ag amserlen y cytunwyd arni. Hefyd, wrth gwrs, ceir proses i sicrhau bod y camau gweithredu y cytunwyd arnynt yn cael eu rhoi ar waith.

Finally, Deputy Presiding Officer, while we will oppose the motion proposed by the Welsh Liberal Democrats as a whole, and amendments 2, 3 and 4 by the Welsh Conservatives, we will support, as I said, amendments 1 and 5. There are a number of features of the motion and the amendments, and, indeed, the debate today, with which I agree and we agree as a Government. My final point will be, as I said at the start, to recognise the important role that the Auditor General for Wales, the Wales Audit Office and, indeed, our Public Accounts Committee play to help deliver the transparency and accountability that I embrace as your Minister for Finance, and which we uphold in this Welsh Government.

Yn olaf, Ddirprwy Lywydd, er y byddwn yn gwrthwynebu'r cynnig a gynigiwyd gan Ddemocratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru yn ei gyfanrwydd, a gwelliannau 2, 3 a 4 gan y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig, fel y dywedais, byddwn yn cefnogi gwelliannau 1 a 5. Rwyf i, ac rydym ni fel Llywodraeth, yn cytuno ar nifer o nodweddion y cynnig a'r gwelliannau, ac, yn wir, y ddadl heddiw. Fel y dywedais ar y dechrau, fy mhwynt olaf fydd cydnabod y rôl bwysig sydd gan Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru, Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru ac, yn wir, ein Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus, i'w chwarae er mwyn helpu i gyflawni'r tryloywder a'r atebolrwydd yr wyf yn ei groesawu fel eich Gweinidog Cyllid, ac yr ydym yn ei gynnal yn Llywodraeth Cymru.

17:43

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I call Eluned Parrott to reply to the debate.

Galwaf ar Eluned Parrott i ymateb i'r ddadl.

17:43

Eluned Parrott Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

First, I would like to thank all Members who took part in this debate today, which is on what I believe to be a very important issue that we must continue to monitor and address in this place. As Aled Roberts highlighted in opening the debate, we brought forward this motion in order to reflect on another year that has brought yet more critical reports from the Wales Audit Office about the work of the Welsh Government.

Yn gyntaf, hoffwn ddiolch i'r holl Aelodau a gymerodd ran yn y ddadl hon heddiw, ar fater pwysig iawn yn fy marn i y mae'n rhaid inni barhau i'w fonitro a mynd i'r afael ag ef yn y lle hwn. Fel y nododd Aled Roberts wrth agor y ddadl, gwnaethom gyflwyno'r cynnig hwn er mwyn myfyrio ar flwyddyn arall pan welwyd mwy fyth o adroddiadau beirniadol gan Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru am waith Llywodraeth Cymru.

It was suggested by one speaker that perhaps this motion does not have a theme. Well, it does have a theme and it is one that we all ought to care very deeply about; it is the very financial credibility of this Assembly as an institution and our role, as backbenchers, to scrutinise the Government and help to hold it to account and to improve.

Awgrymwyd gan un siaradwr efallai nad oes gan y cynnig hwn thema. Wel, mae iddo thema ac mae'n un a ddylai fod yn bwysig iawn i bob un ohonom; sef hygrededd ariannol y Cynulliad hwn fel sefydliad a'n rôl ni, fel aelodau'r meinciau cefn, i graffu ar y Llywodraeth a helpu i'w dwyn i gyfrif ac i wella.

I thank Darren Millar for his contribution. He rightly thanked the Wales Audit Office and the auditor general for their work and talked about the work of the good practice exchange and its potential to drive improvements. So, we will support amendment 1 and thank you for that contribution.

Diolch i Darren Millar am ei gyfraniad. Yr oedd yn llygad ei le wrth ddiolch i Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru a'r archwilydd cyffredinol am eu gwaith a siaradodd am waith y gyfnewidfa arfer da a'i botensial i ysgogi gwelliannau. Felly, byddwn yn cefnogi gwelliant 1 a diolch ichi am y cyfraniad hwnnw.

We will also support amendment 5, but we reject amendment 2 on the grounds that the word 'including' indicates that this was not considered to be an exhaustive list. However, we did want to put on the record some examples of what it is that we mean when we talk about the failings that have been identified.

Byddwn hefyd yn cefnogi gwelliant 5, ond rydym yn gwrthod gwelliant 2 ar y sail bod y geiriau 'gan gynnwys' yn awgrymu nad yw hyn yn cael ei ystyried i fod yn rhestr gynhwysfawr. Fodd bynnag, roeddem eisiau rhoi ar gofnod rai enghreifftiau o'r hyn rydym yn ei olygu pan fyddwn yn sôn am y methiannau a nodwyd.

Peter Black talked about the situation at AWEMA and not only the weaknesses in grant management that that revealed, but also the fact that it took 19 warnings to address these very serious concerns and to stop the flow of money to that organisation. I think that that in itself highlights the catastrophic failure of any early warning systems to be taken seriously, even where they do exist. He also mentioned RIFW, on which we await yet another report. He spoke, very importantly, of the impact of these scandals. It is not just a question of what happens in the bubble; it is also about our reputation as an institution and our economic credibility on the world stage when yet another scandal is brought to the public's attention.

Soniodd Peter Black am y sefyllfa yn AWEMA ac nid dim ond y gwendidau o ran rheoli grant a oedd hynny'n dangos, ond hefyd y ffaith ei bod wedi cymryd 19 o rybuddion i fynd i'r afael â'r pryderon difrifol iawn ac i atal y llif arian i'r sefydliad hwnnw. Credaf fod hynny ynddo'i hun yn tynnu sylw at fethiant trychinebus unrhyw systemau rhybudd cynnar i gael eu cymryd o ddifrif, hyd yn oed lle maent yn bodoli. Soniodd hefyd am CBCA, yr ydym yn disgwyl adroddiad arall arno eto. Roedd yn siarad, yn bwysig iawn, am effaith y sgandalau hyn. Nid dim ond mater ydyw o'r hyn sy'n digwydd yn y swigen, mae hefyd yn ymwneud â'n henw da fel sefydliad a'n hygrededd economaidd ar lwyfan y byd pan gaiff sgandal arall eto ei ddwyn i sylw'r cyhoedd.

Jenny Rathbone said that our motion talked as if nothing had changed, as if the Welsh Government had motored on regardless. I hope to see the Welsh Government take significant action to address this list of shortcomings, so that we do not see these kinds of things repeated, but it should never have taken 19 referrals to inspire action on AWEMA. How many warnings should it take before the Welsh Government will take action? I think that you will have to accept that there are reasons why the opposition parties in this place have very grave concerns.

Dywedodd Jenny Rathbone fod ein cynnig yn swnio fel pe na bai dim wedi newid, fel pe bai Llywodraeth Cymru wedi mynd yn ei blaen er gwaethaf popeth. Rwy'n gobeithio gweld Llywodraeth Cymru yn cymryd camau sylweddol i fynd i'r afael â'r rhestr hon o ddiffygion, fel nad ydym yn gweld y mathau hyn o bethau dro ar ôl tro, ond ni ddylai fyth fod wedi cymryd 19 o atgyfeiriadau cyn iddi gael ei hysbrydoli i gymryd camau gweithredu ar AWEMA. Faint o rybuddion y dylai gymryd cyn i Lywodraeth Cymru weithredu? Credaf y bydd yn rhaid ichi dderbyn bod rhesymau pam bod gan y gwrthbleidiau yn y lle hwn bryderon difrifol iawn.

Kirsty Williams talked about the impact of some of these situations on individuals, and spoke very movingly about the backlog of continuing care cases and the impact that that has on individuals' families who have been forced to sell family homes and have waited for years for cases to be resolved.

Siaradodd Kirsty Williams am effaith rhai o'r sefyllfaoedd hyn ar unigolion, a siaradodd yn deimladwy iawn am yr ôl-groniad o achosion gofal parhaus a'r effaith y mae hynny'n ei chael ar deuluoedd unigolion sydd wedi cael eu gorfodi i werthu cartrefi teulu ac sydd wedi aros am flynyddoedd i achosion gael eu datrys.

Jocelyn Davies talked about the culture shift that we need to see in this place. We need to see the Welsh Government accepting responsibility—

Soniodd Jocelyn Davies am y newid diwylliant y mae angen inni ei weld yn y lle hwn. Mae angen inni weld Llywodraeth Cymru yn cymryd cyfrifoldeb—

17:46

Mark Isherwood Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

You referred to AWEMA, but do you also share my concern that, when the Plas Madoc Communities First whistleblower made the Welsh Government aware of her concerns, she suffered from false allegations against her? It was only when I and your predecessors Eleanor Burnham and Janet Ryder went to the Wales Audit Office that we were able to get to the truth of this matter and clear her good name.

Gwnaethoch gyfeirio at AWEMA, ond a ydych hefyd yn rhannu fy mhryder, pan leisiodd chwythwr chwiban Cymunedau yn Gyntaf Plasmadog ei phryderon wrth Lywodraeth Cymru, y gwnaed honiadau ffug yn ei herbyn? Dim ond pan euthum i a'ch rhagflaenwyr Eleanor Burnham a Janet Ryder at Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru y gwnaethom lwyddo i glywed gwirionedd y mater hwn a chlirio ei henw da.

17:47

Eluned Parrott Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you. Of course we would share concerns of that nature.

Diolch. Wrth gwrs byddem yn rhannu pryderon o'r fath.

Returning to the contribution by Jocelyn Davies, as I said, this lack of accountability hamstrings backbenchers in our role of providing honest scrutiny. I could not agree more with your contribution, and I would like to thank you for those comments.

Gan ddychwelyd at y cyfraniad gan Jocelyn Davies, fel y dywedais, mae'r diffyg atebolrwydd hwn yn rhwystro aelodau'r meinciau cefn rhag cynnal prosesau craffu gonest. Rwy'n cytuno'n llwyr gyda'ch cyfraniad, a hoffwn ddiolch ichi am y sylwadau hynny.

Byron Davies again talked about RIFW and the misgivings that he has about that report that we now expect in the new year and concern over the use of consultants. He also welcomed point 4(a) in our motion, which I thank him for, but I think that it is disappointing that his party's amendments seek to remove it.

Siaradodd Byron Davies eto am CBCA a'r amheuon sydd ganddo am yr adroddiad hwnnw yr ydym bellach yn ei ddisgwyl yn y flwyddyn newydd a phryder newydd ynghylch y defnydd o ymgynghorwyr. Croesawodd hefyd bwynt 4 (a) yn ein cynnig, a diolchaf iddo am hynny, ond credaf ei bod yn siomedig bod gwelliannau ei blaid yn ceisio ei ddileu.

The Minister recognised the important role of the auditor general and the role of scrutiny in driving continuous improvement in Government, which is a point that I agree with absolutely and will return to in a moment. The Minister also acknowledged the need to learn lessons and pointed to the grant management project. In response, Minister, I would say that one action does not cover all future bases. Continuous improvement work is exactly that: it is continuous; it is something that will have to move forward and will have to develop over a period of years.

Cydnabu'r Gweinidog rôl bwysig yr archwilydd cyffredinol a'r rôl graffu wrth sicrhau gwelliant parhaus yn y Llywodraeth, sy'n bwynt yr wyf yn cytuno'n llwyr ag ef a byddaf yn dychwelyd ato mewn munud. Cydnabu'r Gweinidog hefyd yr angen i ddysgu gwersi a chyfeiriodd at y prosiect rheoli grantiau. I ymateb i hynny, Weinidog, byddwn yn dweud nad yw un weithred yn cwmpasu pob mater yn y dyfodol. Dyna'n union yw gwaith gwelliant parhaus: mae'n barhaus; mae'n rhywbeth y bydd yn rhaid inni ei ddatblygu dros gyfnod o flynyddoedd.

As I have the privilege of the last word in this debate and almost the last word in the Chamber this year, I want to use it to make a plea. It is a plea for a more open style of Government. Why? For the last two and a half years, I have sat on these backbenches and, like many other Members, I have been incredibly frustrated by the lack of information available to backbenchers to enable us to do our job, the lack of detail in budgets, the lack of targets in strategies and the lack of effective monitoring of programmes. Far too often, the first red flag is raised when the press is pointing out that a project has already hit the buffers. We are already at crisis point and we are already being slammed by the Wales Audit Office again.

Gan fy mod yn cael y fraint o gael y gair olaf yn y ddadl hon a'r gair olaf yn y Siambr eleni bron, hoffwn ei ddefnyddio i gyflwyno ple. Mae'n ble am naws fwy agored i'r Llywodraeth. Pam? Dros y ddwy flynedd a hanner diwethaf, rwyf wedi eistedd ar y meinciau cefn hyn ac, fel llawer o Aelodau eraill, rwyf wedi bod yn rhwystredig iawn gan y diffyg gwybodaeth sydd ar gael i aelodau'r meinciau cefn er mwyn ein galluogi i wneud ein gwaith, y diffyg manylion mewn cyllidebau, y diffyg targedau mewn strategaethau a diffyg prosesau i fonitro rhaglenni yn effeithiol. Yn rhy aml o lawer, caiff y faner goch gyntaf ei chodi pan fydd y wasg yn nodi bod prosiect eisoes wedi dod at faen tramgwydd. Rydym eisoes yn wynebu argyfwng ac rydym eisoes yn cael ein beirniadu gan Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru eto.

I do not believe that the Welsh Government plans to fail when it designs its programmes, but I really do believe that it is absolutely plain that it fails to plan effectively to mitigate the risk in many cases and, in particular, by failing to set transparent targets and benchmarks and failing to monitor and publish key performance indicators, the Welsh Government removes all the early warning mechanisms, not only for us as Assembly Members, but also for itself. If you want to succeed, you have to set a target. How will you know how to reach your destination if you never knew where you were going in the first place? It is just common sense, and surely it is much better to identify potential problems early so that we can stop those problems from derailing projects entirely and casting a dark shadow across the reputation of this institution and its ability to provide effective financial scrutiny. No wonder that the Welsh Government is scared that it would lose a referendum on the devolution of income tax because its own record of financial irresponsibility—[Interruption.]

Ni chredaf fod Llywodraeth Cymru yn bwriadu methu pan fydd yn cynllunio ei rhaglenni, ond credaf ei bod yn gwbl amlwg ei bod yn methu â chynllunio'n effeithiol er mwyn lliniaru'r risg mewn nifer o achosion, ac, yn benodol, drwy fethu â gosod targedau a meincnodau tryloyw a methu â monitro a chyhoeddi dangosyddion perfformiad allweddol, mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cael gwared ar yr holl ddulliau rhybudd cynnar, nid yn unig i ni fel Aelodau Cynulliad, ond hefyd iddi ei hun. Os ydych am lwyddo, rhaid ichi osod targed. Sut y byddwch chi'n gwybod sut i gyrraedd eich nod os na fyddwch byth yn gwybod ble rydych yn mynd yn y lle cyntaf? Synnwyr cyffredin yw hynny, ac yn sicr mae'n llawer gwell nodi problemau posibl yn gynnar fel y gallwn atal y problemau hynny rhag bwrw prosiectau oddi ar y cledrau'n llwyr a bwrw cysgod tywyll dros enw da y sefydliad hwn a'i allu i ddarparu prosesau craffu ariannol effeithiol. Does ryfedd bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn ofni y byddai'n colli refferendwm ar ddatganoli treth incwm oherwydd ei hanes ei hun o fod yn anghyfrifol yn ariannol [Torri ar draws.]

17:50 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Order. The Member will be heard. I take a particularly dim view of chanting and jeering from the front bench. You all should know a lot better. Eleanor Burnham? Sorry—Eluned Parrott. [Laughter.]

Trefn. Caiff yr Aelod ei glywed. Nid oes gennyf amynedd gyda'r rhai sy'n gweiddi ac yn gwatwar o'r fainc flaen. Dylech i gyd wybod yn well. Eleanor Burnham? Mae'n ddrwg gennyf—Eluned Parrott. [Chwerthin.]

17:50 **Eluned Parrott** Bywgraffiad Biography

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As I was saying, its own record of financial irresponsibility condemns us all in the eyes of the public. Every fresh scandal loads the cannons for those who would dearly love to see this institution fail. I do not want to see this institution fail. I want us to show our detractors what we are capable of. In this last year, there have been moments that have shown us for the very best that we can be: the debate on the Human Transplantation (Wales) Bill; the passing into law the protection for park home owners; giving justice to those affected by asbestosis. This is this Assembly at its very best. I have been hugely proud and humbled to be a part of a legislature capable of that.

Fel yr oeddwn yn ei ddweud, mae ei hanes ei hun o fod yn anghyfrifol yn ariannol yn golygu bod y cyhoedd yn condemnio pob un ohonom. Mae pob sgandal newydd yn arfogaeth i'r sawl a fyddai wrth eu bodd yn gweld y sefydliad hwn yn methu. Nid wyf am weld y sefydliad hwn yn methu. Rwyf am inni ddangos i'r rhai sy'n ein bychanu beth y gallwn ei wneud. Yn y flwyddyn ddiwethaf hon, cafwyd adegau sydd wedi ein dangos ar ein gorau: y ddadl ar Fil Trawsblannu Dynol (Cymru); dod â diogelwch i berchnogion cartrefi mewn parciau i rym, gan roi cyfiawnder i'r rhai y mae asbestosis wedi effeithio arnynt. Dyma ddangos y Cynulliad hwn ar ei orau. Rwyf wedi teimlo balchder eithriadol o fod yn rhan o ddeddfwrfa a all wneud hynny.

However, far too often, when it comes to financial responsibility, we have all had cause to be ashamed. This has to stop. It does nobody any good: not this institution, not any of us as politicians, and certainly not the taxpayer whose money we are spending. The role of a backbencher, of whatever colour, fundamentally, is to keep the Government on its toes. Do we score points? Yes, we do. Do we enjoy it? Yes, we do. However, this is not a game. The purpose of scrutiny is to improve Government. It provides the challenge that should be the incentive and the inspiration for better Government in the future. Give us the tools to do our job; let us show the people of Wales that we can do so much better than this if you will just give us the information that we need to scrutinise you effectively.

Fodd bynnag, yn llawer rhy aml, pan ddaw i gyfrifoldeb ariannol, mae pob un ohonom wedi bod ag achos i deimlo cywilydd. Rhaid i hyn ddod i ben. Nid yw'n gwneud lles i unrhyw un: nid i'r sefydliad hwn, nid i unrhyw un ohonom ni fel gwleidyddion, ac yn sicr nid i'r trethdalwr yr ydym yn gwario ei arian. Rôl aelod o'r meinciau cefn, o ba bynnag liw, yn y bôn, yw cadw'r Llywodraeth ar flaenau ei bysedd. A ydym yn sgorio pwyntiau? Ydym. A ydym yn ei fwynhau? Ydym. Fodd bynnag, nid gêm yw hon. Pwrpas craffu yw gwella Llywodraeth. Mae'n rhoi'r her a ddylai fod yn gymhelliad ac ysbrydoliaeth i gael Llywodraeth well yn y dyfodol. Rhowch yr adnoddau inni wneud ein gwaith; gadewch inni ddangos i bobl Cymru y gallwn wneud cymaint yn well na hyn os byddwch ond yn rhoi'r wybodaeth sydd ei hangen arnom i graffu arnoch yn effeithiol.

17:51 **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 voting until voting time.

Y cynnig yw cytuno ar y cynnig heb ei ddiwygio. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Mae gwrthwynebiad, felly gohiriaf y pleidleisio tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

Gohiriwyd y pleidleisio tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

Voting deferred until voting time.

Datganiad gan y Dirprwy Lywydd

Statement by the Deputy Presiding Officer

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

I now wish to make a short statement. Members have received a written statement by the Counsel General this afternoon about the Recovery of Medical Costs for Asbestos Diseases (Wales) Bill. The Presiding Officer and I asked the Counsel General to come to the Assembly this afternoon to answer Members' questions. Unfortunately, he was not available. The Business Minister has assured us that the Counsel General will make an oral statement at the first opportunity in the new year.

Rwy'n dymuno gwneud datganiad byr. Cafodd yr Aelodau ddatganiad ysgrifenedig gan y Cwnsler Cyffredinol y prynhawn yma am Fil Adennill Costau Meddygol ar gyfer Clefydau Asbestos (Cymru). Gofynnodd y Llywydd a minnau i'r Cwnsler Cyffredinol ddod i'r Cynulliad y prynhawn yma i ateb cwestiynau'r Aelodau. Yn anffodus, nid oedd ar gael. Mae'r Gweinidog Busnes wedi rhoi sicrwydd inni y bydd y Cwnsler Cyffredinol yn gwneud datganiad llafar cyn gynted â phosibl yn y flwyddyn newydd.

We now proceed to voting time. Before I conduct the first vote, are there three Members who wish for the bell to be rung? There are not.

Yn awr, awn ymlaen i'r cyfnod pleidleisio. Cyn imi gynnal y bleidlais gyntaf, a oes tri Aelod sy'n dymuno i'r gloch gael ei chanu? Gwelaf nad oes.

Cyfnod Pleidleisio

Voting Time

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar gynnig NDM5385.

Result of the vote on motion NDM5385.

Gwrthodwyd y cynnig: O blaid 12, Yn erbyn 41, Ymatal 0.

Motion not agreed: For 12, Against 41, Abstain 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 1 i gynnig NDM5385.

Result of the vote on amendment 1 to motion NDM5385.

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 53, Yn erbyn 0, Ymatal 0.

Amendment agreed: For 53, Against 0, Abstain 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 2 i gynnig NDM5385.

Result of the vote on amendment 2 to motion NDM5385.

Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 26, Yn erbyn 27, Ymatal 0.

Amendment not agreed: For 26, Against 27, Abstain 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 3 i gynnig NDM5385.

Result of the vote on amendment 3 to motion NDM5385.

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 53, Yn erbyn 0, Ymatal 0.

Amendment agreed: For 53, Against 0, Abstain 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 4 i gynnig NDM5385.

Result of the vote on amendment 4 to motion NDM5385.

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 41, Yn erbyn 0, Ymatal 12.

Amendment agreed: For 41, Against 0, Abstain 12.

Cynnig NDM5385 fel y'i diwygiwyd:

Motion NDM5385 as amended:

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Yn gresynu at fethiant Llywodraeth Cymru i gynnal dadl ar y celfyddydau yn ystod y Cynulliad hwn.

1. Regrets the Welsh Government's failure to hold a debate on the arts during this Assembly.

2. Yn nodi:

2. Notes:

a) pwysigrwydd cynhenid y celfyddydau a diwylliant i hunaniaeth Cymru a lles personol ei dinasyddion;

a) the intrinsic importance of the arts and culture to the identity of Wales and the personal well-being of its citizens;

b) pwysigrwydd y Celfyddydau wrth hybu defnydd o'r Gymraeg;

b) the importance of the Arts in promoting the use of the Welsh language;

c) adroddiad Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru 'Adroddiad annibynnol ar gyfer Llywodraeth Cymru ar y Celfyddydau mewn Addysg yn Ysgolion Cymru' ar rôl y celfyddydau o ran datblygu llythrennedd a rhifedd; a

c) the Arts Council Wales report 'An independent report for the Welsh Government into Arts in Education in the Schools of Wales' on the role of the arts in developing literacy and numeracy; and

d) bod ymchwil VisitBritain yn nodi bod mwy o ymwelwyr tramor yn mynd i'r theatr, sioeau cerdd, opera neu fale, nag i ddigwyddiad chwaraeon byw, pan fyddant yn ymweld â Phrydain.

d) that VisitBritain research identifies that more overseas visitors go to the theatre, musicals, the opera or ballet, than to a live sporting event, when visiting in Britain.

3. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i esbonio sut y caiff cyllid ar gyfer y celfyddydau ei ddiogelu o fewn y cyllidebau addysg a llywodraeth leol.

3. Calls on Welsh Government to explain how funding for the arts will be protected within the education and local government budgets.

4. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i weithio gydag amgueddfeydd, orielau a chasgliadau eraill o gelf a threftadaeth yng Nghymru er mwyn sicrhau y gall cyfleusterau eraill yng Nghymru gael benthyg eitemau nad ydynt yn cael eu harddangos.

4. Calls on the Welsh Government to work with museums, galleries and other collections of art and heritage in Wales to ensure that items which are not on display can be loaned to other facilities in Wales.

5. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i roi cyfeiriad strategol i'r Cyngor Celfyddydau fuddsoddi mewn gwyliau llai ac artistiaid, cerddorion ac ysgrifenwyr addawol, a sicrhau bod digwyddiadau celfyddydol a diwylliannol yn symud tuag at gynlluniau busnes cynaliadwy.

5. Calls on the Welsh Government to give strategic direction to the Arts Council to invest in smaller festivals and up-and-coming artists, musicians and writers and ensure that arts and cultural events move towards sustainable business plans.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar gynnig NDM5385 fel y'i diwygiwyd.

Result of the vote on motion NDM5385 as amended.

Gwrthodwyd cynnig NDM5385 fel y'i diwygiwyd: O blaid 26, Yn erbyn 27, Ymatal 0.

Motion NDM5385 as amended not agreed: For 26, Against 27, Abstain 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar gynnig NDM5386.

Result of the vote on motion NDM5386.

Gwrthodwyd y cynnig: O blaid 9, Yn erbyn 44, Ymatal 0.

Motion not agreed: For 9, Against 44, Abstain 0

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 1 i gynnig NDM5386.

Result of the vote on amendment 1 to motion NDM5386.

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 44, Yn erbyn 9, Ymatal 0.

Amendment agreed: For 44, Against 9, Abstain 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 2 i gynnig NDM5386.

Result of the vote on amendment 2 to motion NDM5386.

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 44, Yn erbyn 9, Ymatal 0.

Amendment agreed: For 44, Against 9, Abstain 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 3 i gynnig NDM5386.

Result of the vote on amendment 3 to motion NDM5386.

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 44, Yn erbyn 9, Ymatal 0.

Amendment agreed: For 44, Against 9, Abstain 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 4 i gynnig NDM5386.

Result of the vote on amendment 4 to motion NDM5386.

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 39, Yn erbyn 9, Ymatal 5.

Amendment agreed: For 39, Against 9, Abstain 5.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 5 i gynnig NDM5386.

Result of the vote on amendment 5 to motion NDM5386.

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 32, Yn erbyn 9, Ymatal 12.

Amendment agreed: For 44, Against 9, Abstain 12.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 6 i gynnig NDM5386.

Result of the vote on amendment 6 to motion NDM5386.

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 44, Yn erbyn 9, Ymatal 0.

Amendment agreed: For 44, Against 9, Abstain 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 7 i gynnig NDM5386.

Result of the vote on amendment 7 to motion NDM5386.

Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 5, Yn erbyn 48, Ymatal 0.

Amendment not agreed: For 5, Against 48, Abstain 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 8 i gynnig NDM5386.

Result of the vote on amendment 8 to motion NDM5386.

Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 12, Yn erbyn 41, Ymatal 0.

Amendment not agreed: For 12, Against 41, Abstain 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 9 i gynnig NDM5386.

Result of the vote on amendment 9 to motion NDM5386.

Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 17, Yn erbyn 36, Ymatal 0.

Amendment not agreed: For 17, Against 36, Abstain 0.

[Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 10 i gynnig NDM5386.]

[Result of the vote on amendment 10 to motion NDM5386.]

Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 12, Yn erbyn 41, Ymatal 0.

Amendment not agreed: For 12, Against 41, Abstain 0.

[Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 11 i gynnig NDM5386.]

[Result of the vote on amendment 11 to motion NDM5386.]

Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 17, Yn erbyn 35, Ymatal 0.

Amendment not agreed: For 17, Against 35, Abstain 0.

Cynnig NDM5386 fel y'i diwygiwyd:

Motion NDM5386 as amended:

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Yn croesawu bod economi'r DU wedi tyfu 0.8% yn nhrydydd chwarter 2013 a bod y rhagolwg ar gyfer twf CMC y DU yn 2013 wedi codi o 0.6% i 1.4%.

1. Welcomes that the UK economy grew by 0.8% in the third quarter of 2013 and the forecast for UK GDP growth in 2013 has been revised up from 0.6% to 1.4%.

2. Yn nodi'r cynnydd diweddar mewn prisiau ynni ac yn gresynu at yr effaith y bydd hyn yn ei chael ar bob aelwyd yng Nghymru, yn enwedig y rhai sy'n dlawd o ran tanwydd na allant fanteisio ar fargeinion ynni tanwydd deuol ffafriol, a'r angen i roi sylw i effaith hyn gyda dealltwriaeth glir o'r canlyniadau o ran prisiau, buddsoddiad, ymateb y diwydiant a defnyddwyr.

2. Notes the recent rises in energy prices and regrets the impact that this will have on all households in Wales, especially the fuel poor and those who cannot access preferential dual fuel energy deals, and the need to address the impact of this with a clear understanding of the consequences for prices, investment, consumer and industry behaviour.

3. Yn croesawu cyhoeddiad Llywodraeth y DU am ddiwygiadau a fydd yn golygu y bydd cartrefi'n arbed £50 y flwyddyn ar gyfartaledd ar eu biliau ynni a bod y dreth ar danwydd yn cael ei rhewi am weddill y Senedd hon.

3. Welcomes the UK Government's announcement of reforms to save households an average of £50 per year on their energy bills and to freeze fuel duty for the rest of this Parliament.

4. Yn nodi bod banciau bwyd sydd wedi agor yn ddiweddar ledled Cymru yn helpu i fodloni anghenion y garfan gudd o bobl newynog, ac yn cydnabod gwaith pwysig banciau bwyd a'u cyfraniad at fywydau pobl mewn argyfwng.

4. Notes that newly opened food banks across Wales are helping to meet the need of the hidden hungry and acknowledges the important work of food banks and their contribution to the lives of people in crisis.

5. Yn croesawu polisi'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol i godi trothwy'r dreth incwm i £10,000, a weithredwyd gan Lywodraeth y DU, sy'n golygu, o fis Ebrill 2014, y bydd dros 1.1 miliwn o bobl yng Nghymru yn cael dros £700 o doriad mewn treth ac na fydd 106,000 o weithwyr ar incwm isel yng Nghymru yn gorfod talu'r dreth incwm o gwbl.

5. Welcomes the Liberal Democrat policy to raise the income tax threshold to £10,000, implemented by the UK Government, which means that from April 2014 over 1.1 million people in Wales will have received a tax cut of over £700 and that 106,000 Welsh low-income workers will be taken out of paying income tax altogether.

6. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i gymryd camau ar frys i ddarparu ateb marchnad gyfan i'r argyfwng mewn cyflenwad tai ers datganoli.

6. Calls on the Welsh Government to take urgent action to deliver a whole market solution to the post devolution housing supply crisis.

7. Yn nodi bod dros 41,000 yn fwy o bobl o hyd yn ddi-waith nawr nag a oedd cyn i'r argyfwng economaidd ddechrau.

7. Notes that there are still over 41,000 more people unemployed now than before the economic crisis began.

8. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i adolygu a diwygio ei strategaeth yn erbyn tlodi yng ngoleuni'r argyfwng cynyddol a wynebir gan bobl yn sgîl caledi, newidiadau i fudd-daliadau a chynnydd yng nghostau byw.

8. Calls on the Welsh Government to review and revise its anti-poverty strategy in light of the growing crisis faced by people as a result of austerity, changes to benefits and rises in the cost of living.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar gynnig NDM5386 fel y'i diwygiwyd.

Gwrthodwyd cynnig NDM5386 fel y'i diwygiwyd: O blaid 5, Yn erbyn 48, Ymatal 0.

Result of the vote on motion NDM5386 as amended.

Motion NDM5386 as amended not agreed: For 5, Against 48, Abstain 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar gynnig NDM5387.

Gwrthodwyd y cynnig heb ei ddiwygio: O blaid 5, Yn erbyn 48, Ymatal 0.

Result of the vote on motion NDM5387.

Motion without amendment not agreed: For 5, Against 48, Abstain 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 1 i gynnig NDM5387.

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 53, Yn erbyn 0, Ymatal 0.

Result of the vote on amendment 1 to motion NDM5387.

Amendment agreed: For 53, Against 0, Abstain 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 2 i gynnig NDM5387.

Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 21, Yn erbyn 32, Ymatal 0.

Result of the vote on amendment 2 to motion NDM5387.

Amendment not agreed: For 21, Against 32, Abstain 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 3 i gynnig NDM5387

Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 21, Yn erbyn 32, Ymatal 0.

Result of the vote on amendment 3 to motion NDM5387

Amendment not agreed: For 21, Against 32, Abstain 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 4 i gynnig NDM5387

Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 21, Yn erbyn 32, Ymatal 0.

Result of the vote on amendment 4 to motion NDM5387

Amendment agreed: For 21, Against 32, Abstain 0.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 5 i gynnig NDM5387

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 53, Yn erbyn 0, Ymatal 0.

Result of the vote on amendment 5 to motion NDM5387

Amendment agreed: For 53, Against 0, Abstain 0.

Cynnig NDM5387 fel y'i diwygiwyd:

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

1. Yn cydnabod rôl bwysig Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru o ran:

a) darparu gwaith craffu o safon sy'n annibynnol a chynhwysfawr ar weithgarwch a gwariant y Llywodraeth;

b) cynorthwyo gwasanaethau cyhoeddus effeithiol ac atebol;

c) rhannu arfer da a nodi gwelliannau i'r broses o gyflenwi gwasanaethau cyhoeddusgan gynnwys drwy gyfrwng gwaith ei Chyfnewidfa Arfer Da; a

d) helpu i sicrhau'r gwerth gorau am arian i bobl Cymru.

Motion NDM5387 as amended:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Recognises the important role of the Wales Audit Office in:

a) providing high quality, independent and comprehensive scrutiny of government activities and expenditure;

b) supporting effective and accountable public services;

c) sharing good practice and identifying improvements to public service delivery including via the work of its Good Practice Exchange; and

d) helping to ensure the best value for money for the people of Wales.

2. Yn nodi canfyddiadau adroddiadau olynol a gyhoeddwyd gan Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru, sy'n amlygu methiannau sylweddol o ran trefniadau llywodraethu a chyflenwi gwasanaethau cyhoeddus allweddol, gan gynnwys AWEMA; Bwrdd Draenio Mewnol Gwastadeddau Cil-y-coed a Gwynllŵg; Gwesty River Lodge; Gofal Heb ei Drefnu; Cyllid Addysg Uwch a Chyllid y GIG.

2. Notes the findings of successive reports published by the Wales Audit Office, which highlight significant failings in the governance arrangements and delivery of key public services, including AWEMA; the Caldicot and Wentlooge Levels Internal Drainage Board; the River Lodge Hotel, Unscheduled Care; Higher Education Finances and NHS Finances.

3. Yn nodi'r ymchwiliad parhaus i Gronfa Buddsoddi Cymru mewn Adfywio, penderfyniad y Gweinidog i ddiddymu'r corff hwn a dychwelyd arian Ewropeaidd i WEFO, a'r effaith ddilynol ar nifer o brosiectau adfywio sy'n ceisio cyllid gan CBCA.

3. Notes the on-going investigation into the Regeneration Investment Fund For Wales, the decision by the Minister to disband this body and to return European funding to WEFO, and the subsequent impact on a number of regeneration projects seeking funding from RIFW.

4. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i:

4. Calls on the Welsh Government to:

a) cynnal adolygiad trylwyr o'r holl gyllid allanol i adfer hyder cyhoeddus a hyder buddsoddwyr yng ngallu Llywodraeth Cymru i fonitro a rheoleiddio cyllid Llywodraeth Cymru;

a) conduct a thorough review of all external funding to restore public and investor confidence in the ability of the Welsh Government to monitor and regulate Welsh Government funding;

b) cyhoeddi'r gyfundrefn monitro sydd yn ei lle o ran ei pholisi rheoli grantiau ac adrodd yn flynyddol i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ar ei chanlyniadau; a

b) publish the monitoring regime in place in respect of its grant management policy and report annually to the National Assembly on its outcomes; and

c) datblygu gweithdrefn gadarn a thryloyw i fynd i'r afael yn fwy effeithiol â methiannau sylweddol a phenodol ym mholisi Llywodraeth Cymru a amlygwyd gan adroddiadau Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru.

c) develop a robust and transparent procedure to more effectively address the substantial and specific failings in Welsh Government policy highlighted by Wales Audit Office reports.

5. Yn croesawu'r cydweithio rhwng Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru ac arolygiaethau eraill ac yn nodi y gallai hyn wella effeithlonrwydd ac effeithiolrwydd eu gwaith.

5. Welcomes the joint working between the Wales Audit Office and other inspectorates and notes that this has the ability to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of their work.

Canlyniad y bleidlais ar gynnig NDM5387 fel y'i diwygiwyd:

Result of the vote on motion NDM5387 as amended:

Gwrthodwyd y cynnig: O blaid 26, Yn erbyn 27, Ymatal 0.

Motion not agreed: For 26, Against 27, Abstain 0. You

18:01

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Will those Members who are leaving the Chamber please do so quickly and quietly.

Gofynnaf i'r aelodau hynny sy'n gadael y Siambr wneud hynny'n gyflym ac yn ddistaw, os gwelwch yn dda.

18:02

Dadl Fer: E-sigaréts: Faint o Reoleiddio sydd ei Angen Arnom?

Short Debate: E-cigarettes: How Much Regulation Do We Need?

Y

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

I call on Julie Morgan to speak to the topic that she has chosen.

Galwaf ar Julie Morgan i siarad am y pwnc a ddewiswyd ganddi.

18:02

Julie Morgan Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Thank you very much, Deputy Presiding Officer. I am really pleased to have the opportunity to debate 'E-cigarettes: How Much Regulation Do We Need?', in what is actually the last debate of 2013. I think that this gives us a good chance to air the issues that have arisen because of the rapid increase in the use, availability and promotion of e-cigarettes. I am pleased to give Peter Black and Elin Jones a minute each at the end of my contribution.

Diolch yn fawr iawn, Ddirprwy Lywydd. Rwyf wrth fy modd cael cyfle i drafod 'E-sigaréts: Faint o Reoleiddio sydd ei Angen Arnom?' yn y ddadl hon, sef dadl olaf 2013. Credaf ei bod yn gyfle da inni drafod y materion sydd wedi codi o ganlyniad i'r cynnydd cyflym o ran y defnydd o e-sigaréts, eu hargaeledd a'r ffordd y cânt eu hyrwyddo. Mae'n bleser gennyf roi munud yr un i Peter Black ac Elin Jones ar ddiwedd fy nghyfraniad.

I would first like to say that I think that reducing smoking is the single most important thing that we can do to improve the health of the nation. Many progressive measures have been taken already in Wales, such as the ban on smoking in public places in 2007, and the ban on big shops and supermarkets displaying cigarettes in 2012, and I am very pleased that the campaign to have plain packaging for cigarettes is now back on the UK agenda.

Yn gyntaf, hoffwn ddweud mai lleihau nifer y bobl sy'n ysmygu, yn fy marn i, yw'r un peth pwysicaf y gallwn ei wneud i wella iechyd y genedl. Rhoddwyd sawl mesur blaengar ar waith eisoes yng Nghymru, megis gwahardd ysmygu mewn mannau cyhoeddus yn 2007, a gwahardd siopau mawr ac archfarchnadoedd rhag arddangos sigaréts yn 2012, ac rwyf wrth fy modd bod yr ymgyrch i gael deunydd pecynnu plaen ar sigaréts bellach ar yr agenda yn y DU unwaith yn rhagor.

This issue related to smoking is something that have campaigned on for many years. I was fortunate to win one of the ballots for a private Member's Bill in the House of Commons, when I worked with Baroness Ilora Finlay to introduce the Smoking in Public Places (Wales) Bill in 2005. It fell due to lack of time, but we did debate all the core issues on the floor of the House couple of years before the ban came into force in 2007, for which the Bill paved some of the way.

Mae'r mater hwn sy'n gysylltiedig ag ysmygu yn rhywbeth y bûm yn ymgyrchu yn ei gylch ers sawl blwyddyn. Bûm yn ffodus i ennill un o'r pleidleisiau ar gyfer Bil Aelod preifat yn Nhŷ'r Cyffredin, pan oeddwn yn gweithio gyda'r Farwnes Ilora Finlay i gyflwyno'r Bil Ysmygu mewn Mannau Cyhoeddus (Cymru) yn 2005. Methodd oherwydd diffyg amser, ond gwnaethom drafod yr holl faterion craidd ar lawr y Tŷ ychydig flynyddoedd cyn i'r gwaharddiad ddod i rym yn 2007, a gosododd y Bil rai o'r sylfeini ar gyfer y broses honno.

So, what are e-cigarettes? Most people think that e-cigarettes are fake cigarettes, and I thought that I would start by reminding the Chamber that fake cigarettes are nothing new. My colleague Julie James led a debate two weeks ago on the Dylan Thomas centenary, and Members might remember that in 'A Child's Christmas in Wales', Dylan Thomas gives a list of useless Christmas presents, and he mentions sweet cigarettes. As it is Christmas, I thought that I would give a quote. He talks about receiving:

Felly, beth yw e-sigaréts? Cred y rhan fwyaf o bobl mai sigaréts ffug yw e-sigaréts, a phenderfynais ddechrau drwy atgoffa'r Siambr nad yw sigaréts ffug yn ddim byd newydd. Arweiniodd fy nghyd-Aelod Julie James ddadl bythefnos yn ôl ar ganmlwyddiant Dylan Thomas, a bydd yr Aelodau o bosibl yn cofio bod Dylan Thomas, yn 'Nadolig Plentyn yng Nghymru', yn rhoi rhestr o anrhegion Nadolig dibwrpas inni, gan sôn am sigaréts melys. Gan ei bod yn Nadolig, penderfynais roi dyfyniad ichi. Mae'n sôn am dderbyn:

'a whistle to make the dogs bark to wake up the old man next door to make him beat on the wall with his stick to shake our picture off the wall. And a packet of cigarettes: you put one in your mouth and you stood at the corner of the street and you waited for hours, in vain, for an old lady to scold you for smoking a cigarette, and then with a smirk you ate it. And then it was breakfast under the balloons.'

'a whistle to make the dogs bark to wake up the old man next door to make him beat on the wall with his stick to shake our picture off the wall. And a packet of cigarettes: you put one in your mouth and you stood at the corner of the street and you waited for hours, in vain, for an old lady to scold you for smoking a cigarette, and then with a smirk you ate it. And then it was breakfast under the balloons.'

I do not think that you can get sweet cigarettes anymore; in fact, I am sure that you cannot, but you can certainly get e-cigarettes.

Ni chredaf eich bod yn gallu cael sigaréts melys mwyach; a dweud y gwir, rwy'n siŵr na allwch, ond yn sicr, gallwch gael e-sigaréts.

The debate about e-cigarettes focuses on their benefits in helping people to give up smoking, as well as the new problems that they may create. I think that this is a good opportunity to air the issues. At this point, I would like to thank ASH Wales for the help and information that it has given to me for this debate, as well as Cancer Research UK for its research on the marketing of electronic cigarettes in the UK. I propose to look at what e-cigarettes are and the present regulatory situation and advice on e-cigarettes.

Mae'r ddadl ynglŷn ag e-sigaréts yn canolbwyntio ar eu buddiannau o ran helpu pobl i roi'r gorau i ysmygu, yn ogystal â'r problemau newydd y gallant eu creu. Credaf ei fod yn gyfle da i drafod y problemau. Ar yr adeg hon, hoffwn ddiolch i ASH Cymru am y cymorth a'r wybodaeth y mae wedi'u rhoi imi mewn perthynas â'r ddadl hon, yn ogystal â Cancer Research UK am ei waith ymchwil ar farchnata sigaréts electronig yn y DU. Rwy'n bwriadu ystyried beth yw e-sigaréts a'r sefyllfa reoliadol a'r cyngor presennol ar e-sigaréts.

First, what are e-cigarettes? The term 'electronic cigarettes' is a generic term, which is not very helpful. They are also called e-cigs or ENDS—electronic nicotine delivery systems—and there is a huge variety of them. Some look like cigarettes—I have one here. It costs £5.99 in Sainsbury's and says 'Over 18 only' on it. I do not know whether that is self-regulation, because I had thought that anybody could buy one. That is an interesting point to debate. Some look like pens or even memory sticks; some produce a vapour, some do not; some have a glowing red tip; some have tips that glow in other colours; some are offered in different flavours, and some are not. No smoke is produced and there is no burning, but they typically contain nicotine and are sometimes referred to as NCPs—nicotine-containing products.

Yn gyntaf, beth yw e-sigaréts? Term cyffredinol yw 'sigaréts electronig', nad yw'n ddefnyddiol iawn. Cyfeirir atynt hefyd fel e-sigs neu ENDS yn Saesneg—systemau darparu nicotin electronig—ac mae amrywiaeth aruthrol ohonynt. Mae rhai ohonynt yn edrych fel sigaréts—mae gennyf un fan hyn. Mae'n costio £5.99 yn Sainsbury's ac yn dweud 'Over 18 only' arno. Ni wn ai enghraifft o hunanreoleiddio yw hynny, oherwydd roeddwn o'r farn y gallai unrhyw un brynu un. Mae hynny'n bwynt diddorol i'w drafod. Mae rhai yn edrych fel peniau neu hyd yn oed gofbinnau; mae rhai yn cynhyrchu anwedd, nid yw eraill; mae gan rai flaen coch sy'n edrych fel petai'n mudlosgi; mae gan rai flaen lliwiau eraill; caiff rhai eu cynnig mewn gwahanol flasau, ond ni chaiff eraill. Ni chynhyrchir unrhyw fwg ac nid oes unrhyw losgi, ond maent yn nodweddiadol yn cynnwys nicotin a chyfeirir atynt weithiau fel NCP—cynhyrchion sy'n cynnwys nicotin.

There is now a plethora of small e-cigarette companies. It is a burgeoning business. Information from Cancer Research UK's newest document shows that, in one year up to July 2013, there were 121 product trademark applications, and 12 more emerged in the two weeks following the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency's announcement that it was considering making them a medicine, which I will go on to shortly. Four of these applications have been set up by Imperial Tobacco. A lot of interest has been shown in e-cigarettes by tobacco companies.

Erbyn hyn, mae llu o gwmnïau e-sigaréts bach. Mae'n fusnes sy'n tyfu. Dengys gwybodaeth o ddogfen ddiweddaraf Cancer Research UK, mewn un flwyddyn hyd at Orffennaf 2013, bod 121 o geisiadau nod masnach cynnyrch wedi'u cyflwyno, a chyflwynwyd 12 arall yn ystod y pythefnos yn dilyn cyhoeddiad yr Asiantaeth Rheoleiddio Meddyginiaethau a Chynhyrchion Gofal Iechyd ei bod yn ystyried eu rhestru fel meddyginiaeth, a drafodaf maes o law. Cyflwynwyd pedwar o'r ceisiadau hyn gan Imperial Tobacco. Mae cwmnïau tybaco wedi dangos cryn dipyn o ddiddordeb mewn e-sigaréts.

The current advice and guidance that exists is as follows: the position of the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence is that for someone who cannot quit smoking completely, e-cigarettes offer a route to reducing the harm that can be caused by actual cigarettes. NICE published guidelines on tobacco harm reduction in June, which recommended the use of MHRA licensed nicotine-containing products, and they do not, at the current time, include e-cigarettes for harm-reduction purposes. So, these refer to using licenced NCPs as a substitute for tobacco to help people to cut down prior to quitting, to smoke less or to abstain from smoking temporarily. The MHRA's announcement, also in June of this year, was that all NCPs, such as electronic cigarettes are to be regulated as medicines to ensure safety and to stop their sale and marketing to under 18-year-olds. That is due to be introduced in 2016. However, that is now under some threat since, in October, the European Parliament voted against similar EU-wide measures and against this approach to regulation. This matter is to be decided on 16 December, so the debate is very topical and it is very important that all the issues are raised.

Mae'r cyngor a'r arweiniad presennol sy'n bodoli fel a ganlyn: mae'r Sefydliad Cenedlaethol dros Iechyd a Rhagoriaeth Glinigol o'r farn, i rywun na all roi'r gorau i ysmygu yn llwyr, bod e-sigaréts yn cynnig llwybr i leihau'r niwed y gall sigaréts go iawn ei achosi. Cyhoeddodd NICE ganllawiau ar leihau niwed tybaco ym mis Mehefin, a argymhellodd y dylid defnyddio cynhyrchion sy'n cynnwys nicotin wedi'u trwyddedu gan MHRA, ac nid ydynt, ar hyn o bryd, yn cynnwys e-sigaréts at ddibenion lleihau niwed. Felly, mae'r rhain yn cyfeirio at ddefnyddio cynhyrchion trwyddedig sy'n cynnwys tybaco yn lle tybaco er mwyn helpu pobl i leihau eu defnydd cyn rhoi'r gorau iddi, i ysmygu llai neu i roi'r gorau i ysmygu dros dro. Datganodd cyhoeddiad MHRA, hefyd ym mis Mehefin eleni, y caiff pob cynnyrch sy'n cynnwys nicotin, megis sigaréts electronig, eu rheoleiddio fel meddyginiaethau er mwyn sicrhau diogelwch a'u hatal rhag cael eu gwerthu a'u marchnata i bobl o dan 18 oed. Disgwylir i hynny gael ei gyflwyno yn 2016. Fodd bynnag, mae hynny o dan fygythiad bellach gan fod Senedd Ewrop, ym mis Hydref, wedi pleidleisio yn erbyn mesurau tebyg ar gyfer yr UE gyfan ac yn erbyn y dull rheoleiddio hwn. Gwneir penderfyniad ar y mater hwn ar 16 Rhagfyr, felly mae'r ddadl yn amserol iawn ac mae'n bwysig iawn codi'r holl faterion.

Just today, Public Health Wales, in response to the confusion about whether electronic cigarettes are harmful or helpful, has issued advice on e-cigarettes, having reviewed the available advice. Perhaps the Minister will be able to tell us more about this advice when he responds to the debate. Like NICE, it accepts that e-cigarettes can reduce the harm from smoking by helping people to quit, but it makes a series of recommendations because the safety or effectiveness of the products have not been tested. Public Health Wales points out that nicotine is a poison and that products vary widely in the amount of nicotine that they contain, and that that information is not available to the consumer. The advice covers several areas, including the recommendations that smokers who wish to quit should access one of the free NHS services that rely on scientifically proven support; that the use of e-cigarettes should be prohibited in work places, educational places and public places; and that ENDS should not be available to those under 18, and that anything that might increase their appeal to children should be avoided. I think that those are all very sensible recommendations. I am sure that we would all support those.

Dim ond heddiw, cyhoeddodd Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru, mewn ymateb i'r dryswch o ran pa un a yw sigaréts electronig yn niweidiol neu'n fuddiol, gyngor ar e-sigaréts, ar ôl adolygu'r cyngor sydd ar gael. Efallai y bydd y Gweinidog yn gallu dweud mwy wrthym am y cyngor hwn wrth ymateb i'r ddadl. Fel NICE, mae'n derbyn y gall e-sigaréts leihau'r niwed sy'n gysylltiedig ag ysmygu drwy helpu pobl i roi'r gorau iddi, ond cyflwyna gyfres o argymhellion gan nad yw diogelwch nac effeithiolrwydd y cynhyrchion wedi'u profi. Noda Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru mai gwenwyn yw nicotin a bod cynhyrchion yn amrywio'n sylweddol o ran faint o nicotin sydd ynddynt, ac nad yw'r wybodaeth honno ar gael i'r defnyddiwr. Mae'r cyngor yn ymdrin â sawl maes, gan gynnwys yr argymhellion y dylai ysmygwyr sy'n awyddus i roi'r gorau iddi ddefnyddio un o wasanaethau'r GIG sydd am ddim sy'n dibynnu ar gymorth a brofwyd yn wyddonol; y dylid gwahardd pobl rhag defnyddio e-sigaréts mewn gweithleoedd, lleoedd addysgol a mannau cyhoeddus; ac na ddylai ENDS fod ar gael i bobl o dan 18 oed, ac y dylid osgoi unrhyw beth a allai gynyddu eu hapêl i blant. Credaf fod pob un o'r argymhellion yn synhwyrol iawn. Rwy'n siŵr y byddai pob un ohonom yn cefnogi pob un ohonynt.

I would like to move briefly to the question of marketing—to how e-cigarettes are made appealing and the problems that can arise because of this. Marketing, which is still mainly by small, independent companies—although the big tobacco companies are starting to come in—seems to be aimed mainly at two groups: adult smokers and young people. For adult smokers, e-cigarettes are presented as an alternative for someone addicted to nicotine, and as a safe way to stop or to reduce smoking. However, the majority of the marketing is aimed at young people and it is this that I think it is important to concentrate on.

Hoffwn symud yn gryno at farchnata—at sut y caiff e-sigaréts eu gwneud yn apelgar a'r problemau a all godi o'r herwydd. Ymddengys bod gwaith marchnata, a wneir yn bennaf gan gwmnïau bach, annibynnol o hyd—er bod y cwmnïau tybaco mawr yn dechrau cymryd rhan—wedi'i anelu'n bennaf at ddau grŵp: oedolion sy'n ysmygu a phobl ifanc. I oedolion sy'n ysmygu, caiff e-sigaréts eu cyflwyno fel dewis amgen i rywun sy'n gaeth i nicotin, ac fel ffordd ddiogel o roi'r gorau i ysmygu neu leihau faint mae'n ei ysmygu. Fodd bynnag, mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r marchnata wedi'i anelu at bobl ifanc a dyna sy'n bwysig canolbwyntio arno, yn fy marn i.

As well as the effect e-cigarettes may have on young people, they are advertised as socially attractive, trendy and cool, they often have celebrity endorsement, and they are the subject of online promotions. They often provide sponsorship for sports. In fact, this last summer it was announced that Merthyr Town Football Club was to rename its stadium after its sponsor, Cigg-e, which is an electronic cigarette firm. So, there is a lot of concern about e-cigarette advertising and, consequently, such advertising is due to come under review in the new year under the Advertising Standards Authority. There was an incident when British American Tobacco apologised for advertising its e-cigarettes on an iPad app for kids. It is very worrying that there is such ruthless marketing to the young. I think we would be outraged if soft drinks, for instance, were sold to the young in fake beer bottles. It is very concerning that this very aggressive marketing is going on.

Yn ogystal â'r effaith y gall e-sigaréts ei chael ar bobl ifanc, cânt eu hysbysebu fel rhywbeth cymdeithasol ddeniadol, ffasiynol a chŵl, cânt yn aml eu cymeradwyo gan enwogion, ac maent yn destun hyrwyddiadau ar-lein. Maent yn aml yn noddi chwaraeon. Yn wir, yr haf diwethaf, cyhoeddwyd y byddai Clwb Pêl-droed Tref Merthyr yn ailenwi ei stadiwm ar ôl ei noddwr, Cigg-e, sef cwmni sigaréts electronig. Felly, mae cryn dipyn o bryder ynghylch hysbysebu e-sigaréts ac, o ganlyniad, cynhelir adolygiad o hysbysebion o'r fath yn y flwyddyn newydd o dan yr Awdurdod Safonau Hysbysebu. Bu'n rhaid i British American Tobacco ymddiheuro am hysbysebu ei e-sigaréts ar ap iPad i blant. Mae'r ffaith bod ymgyrchoedd marchnata mor ddiarbed yn cael eu targedu at yr ifanc yn peri pryder mawr. Byddem yn sicr yn digio'n llwyr pe câi diodydd ysgafn, er enghraifft, eu gwerthu i'r ifanc mewn poteli cwrw ffug. Mae'r ffaith bod y gwaith marchnata ymosodgar iawn hwn yn mynd rhagddo yn destun gofid mawr.

There is a concern that e-cigarettes may become a gateway to smoking; that they may make smoking itself seem a glamorous lifestyle choice to young people. ASH is particularly concerned about this issue and has raised several questions about young people's use of these products: why they are using them; what the effects of unregulated marketing are; and whether young people who are not smokers are using them, because that would be very worrying—if young people, or indeed any people, who are not smokers, turned to e-cigarettes. I have heard some anecdotal evidence from secondary schools in Cardiff that this is the case, but certainly more evidence is needed, and I think, having looked into this for this debate, that one of the things we do need is some more hard facts and evidence.

Mae pryder y gall e-sigaréts ddod yn borth i ysmygu; y gallent wneud i ysmygu ei hun ymddangos yn ddewis ffordd o fyw hudolus i bobl ifanc. Mae ASH yn arbennig o bryderus am y mater hwn ac wedi codi sawl cwestiwn am ddefnydd pobl ifanc o'r cynhyrchion hyn: pam y maent yn eu defnyddio; beth yw effeithiau marchnata heb ei reoleiddio; a pha un a yw pobl ifanc nad ydynt yn ysmygwyr yn eu defnyddio, oherwydd byddai hynny'n peri pryder mawr—pe byddai pobl ifanc, neu yn wir unrhyw bobl, nad ydynt yn ysmygwyr, yn troi at e-sigaréts. Clywais rywfaint o dystiolaeth anecdotaidd o ysgolion uwchradd yng Nghaerdydd bod hyn yn wir, ond yn sicr mae angen mwy o dystiolaeth, a chredaf, ar ôl ymchwilio i'r mater wrth baratoi ar gyfer y ddadl hon, mai un o'r pethau sydd ei angen arnom yw mwy o ffeithiau a thystiolaeth gadarn.

ASH is actually doing an online survey of 13 to 18-year-olds to find out whether they have heard of e-cigarettes and, if so, where from. When that information becomes available, that will help inform this debate. Also, this is a particular concern because, as I understand it, there is no age restriction on the sale of e-cigarettes, so both the marketing and the sale of e-cigarettes seems worryingly unregulated at the moment.

Mae ASH wrthi'n cynnal arolwg ar-lein o bobl ifanc rhwng 13 a 18 oed er mwyn canfod pa un a ydynt wedi clywed am e-sigaréts ac, os felly, o ble. Pan gyhoeddir y wybodaeth honno, bydd yn helpu i lywio'r ddadl. Hefyd, mae'n peri pryder penodol oherwydd, fel y deallaf, nid oes unrhyw gyfyngiad oedran ar werthu e-sigaréts, felly ymddengys nad oes digon o reoleiddio o bell ffordd ar hyn o bryd ym maes marchnata a gwerthu e-sigaréts.

Finally, I would like to raise the issue of regulating the use of e-cigarettes in public places. In the US, Chicago and, I think, New York city are considering regulation. Switzerland is planning a ban on their use on public transport, and the French Government is considering covering e-cigarettes under its existing smoke-free legislation. The danger is that even if e-cigarettes were proven to be perfectly safe, reintroducing the cigarette into public places like this, albeit electronically, would normalise smoking again and would undermine efforts to encourage people to stop smoking. If you do see people in a room picking up an electronic cigarette, it is a particularly bad example to young people who you want to stop, and not get into the habit. That is very important, and I am glad that that is the advice from public health.

Yn olaf, hoffwn godi'r mater o reoleiddio'r defnydd o e-sigaréts mewn mannau cyhoeddus. Yn yr Unol Daleithiau, mae Chicago a dinas Efrog Newydd, fe gredaf, yn ystyried rheoleiddio. Mae'r Swistir yn bwriadu gwahardd pobl rhag eu defnyddio ar drafnidiaeth gyhoeddus, ac mae Llywodraeth Ffrainc yn ystyried cynnwys e-sigaréts o dan y ddeddfwriaeth ddi-fwg sydd eisoes ar waith ganddi. Y perygl yw, hyd yn oed pe profwyd bod e-sigaréts yn gwbl ddiogel, byddai ailgyflwyno'r sigaréts i fannau cyhoeddus fel hyn, er ar ffurf electronig, yn normaleiddio ysmygu unwaith eto ac yn tanseilio ymdrechion i annog pobl i roi'r gorau i ysmygu. Os byddwch yn gweld pobl mewn ystafell yn codi sigarét electronig, mae'n enghraifft arbennig o wael i bobl ifanc rydych am iddynt roi'r gorau iddi, a pheidio â mynd i'r arfer. Mae hynny'n bwysig iawn, ac rwy'n falch mai dyna'r cyngor gan iechyd cyhoeddus.

Clearly, this is a balanced matter. We will have to look at any benefits that can be there, and look at the danger, particularly to young people, of these electronic cigarettes. I think that we have to consider it very carefully. We do not want to get rid of any potential benefits that e-cigarettes might bring to those who want to quit smoking, but I do not know how much evidence there is that that is actually true. I have received e-mails, and I am sure others of you have over the last couple of days, from the save e-cigs campaign, making this very case. However, we certainly do not want e-cigarettes to be marketed and sold to the young, and for them to become a gateway into smoking cigarettes for young people. We also certainly do not want to normalise smoking in public places. My own view is that I certainly welcome the advice that has come out from the public health department today and that this all has to be looked at very carefully. I think that we need more research and information, and that there is certainly a case for further regulation.

Yn amlwg, mae dwy ochr i'r mater hwn. Bydd yn rhaid inni ystyried unrhyw fuddiannau cysylltiedig, ac ystyried y perygl, yn enwedig i bobl ifanc, sy'n gysylltiedig â'r sigaréts electronig hyn. Credaf fod yn rhaid inni ei ystyried yn ofalus iawn. Nid ydym am gael gwared ar unrhyw fuddiannau posibl y gallai e-sigaréts eu cyflwyno i'r rhai sydd am roi'r gorau i ysmygu, ond ni wn faint o dystiolaeth sydd ar gael bod hynny mewn gwirionedd yn wir. Rwyf wedi cael negeseuon e-bost, ac rwy'n siŵr bod eraill yn eich plith wedi eu cael hefyd yn ystod y diwrnodau diwethaf, gan yr ymgyrch 'save e-cigs', yn cyflwyno'r union ddadl hon. Fodd bynnag, yn sicr nid ydym am i e-sigaréts gael eu marchnata na'u gwerthu i'r ifanc, nac iddynt ddod yn borth i ysmygu sigaréts i bobl ifanc. Yn sicr, nid ydym ychwaith am normaleiddio ysmygu mewn mannau cyhoeddus. Rwyf i o'r farn yn sicr fy mod yn croesawu'r cyngor gan adran iechyd y cyhoedd heddiw a bod angen ystyried hyn oll yn ofalus iawn. Credaf fod angen gwneud rhagor o waith ymchwil a chael rhagor o wybodaeth, ac yn sicr, mae yna achos dros reoleiddio ymhellach.

18:14 **Peter Black** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I thank Julie Morgan for allowing me a short time to speak in this debate. I think she is right: we do not want to normalise smoking in a public place, and nor do we want to market these e-cigarettes to young people. However, we do need to strike a balance. While we certainly need to make sure that the cigarettes available to purchase in Wales are safe, we also must recognise that huge numbers of people in Wales have been helped to stop smoking by e-cigarettes. So, we need to try to avoid making regulations so onerous that those people can no longer get a solution to a terrible habit that works for them.

Diolch i Julie Morgan am ganiatáu amser byr imi siarad yn y ddadl hon. Credaf ei bod yn llygad ei lle: nid ydym am normaleiddio ysmygu mewn man cyhoeddus, ac nid ydym am farchnata'r e-sigaréts hyn i bobl ifanc. Fodd bynnag, mae angen inni sicrhau cydbwysedd. Er bod angen inni yn sicr wneud yn siŵr bod y sigaréts sydd ar gael i'w prynu yng Nghymru yn ddiogel, rhaid inni hefyd gydnabod bod nifer fawr o bobl yng Nghymru wedi cael cymorth i roi'r gorau i ysmygu drwy ddefnyddio e-sigaréts. Felly, mae angen inni geisio osgoi llunio rheoliadau sydd mor feichus fel na all y bobl hynny bellach gael ateb sy'n gweithio iddynt i arfer ofnadwy.

One of the best ways of improving public health in Wales is to get people to stop smoking. E-cigarettes are not the silver bullet, but they are another important tool in that fight.

Un o'r ffyrdd gorau o wella iechyd y cyhoedd yng Nghymru yw cael pobl i roi'r gorau i ysmygu. Nid e-sigaréts yw'r ateb euraid, ond maent yn arf pwysig arall yn y frwydr honno.

18:15 **Elin Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Diolch i Julie Morgan am gyflwyno pwnc sy'n gymharol newydd i ni i'w drafod yn y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Nid wyf eto wedi dod i gasgliad ar y lefel o reoleiddio sydd ei hangen ar sigarennau electronig. Ond, gallaf adrodd hanes unigolyn rwy'n ei adnabod yn dda sydd wedi ysmygu tybaco am 50 mlynedd ac wedi methu ar sawl achlysur â rhoi'r gorau i ysmygu tybaco. Mae hi bellach angen triniaeth orthopedig a'r cyngor meddygol cryf iawn mae wedi'i dderbyn yw bod rhaid iddi roi'r gorau i ysmygu tybaco. Yn dilyn y cyngor meddygol hwnnw, mae wedi llwyddo i gyflawni hynny drwy gychwyn ysmygu sigarennau electronig. Mae wedi llwyddo i wella agwedd ar ei bywyd a lleihau effaith tybaco ar ei hiechyd. Iddi hi, mae cyflwyno sigarennau electronig wedi bod yn fuddiol i'w hiechyd. Ond, fel dywedodd Julie Morgan, mae angen tystiolaeth ar rychwant hir o faterion arnom ac mae'n dda iawn ein bod wedi cychwyn y drafodaeth honno heddiw.

I thank Julie Morgan for bringing forward a relatively new subject for us to debate in the National Assembly. I have not yet come to a view on the level of regulation needed for e-cigarettes. However, I can tell you about an individual I know well who has smoked tobacco for 50 years and who has failed more than once to give it up. She now needs orthopaedic treatment and the strong medical advice that she has been given is that she must stop smoking tobacco. She has succeeded to heed that medical advice by starting to smoke e-cigarettes. She has managed to change an aspect of her life and to reduce the effect of tobacco on her health. For her, the introduction of e-cigarettes has led to health benefits. However, as Julie Morgan said, we need evidence on a wide range of issues and it is good that we have started that debate today.

18:16 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

Senedd.tv Fideo Video

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

Thanks to all those who took part in the debate and particularly to Julie Morgan for bringing it forward as a topic for discussion.

Diolch i bawb a gymerodd ran yn y ddadl ac yn arbennig i Julie Morgan am ei chyflwyno fel pwnc i'w drafod.

I begin with a point made towards the end of the discussion, by saying that nothing that I have to say this afternoon should be taken as an intention to ban e-cigarettes. Like other Members here, I hear directly from constituents who have told me that, having made enormous efforts and attempts to give up smoking, e-cigarettes are the only thing that they have found that has helped them to do that.

Dechreuaf gyda phwynt a wnaed tua diwedd y drafodaeth, drwy ddweud na ddylid ystyried unrhyw beth a ddywedwyd gennyf y prynhawn yma fel bwriad i wahardd e-sigaréts. Fel Aelodau eraill yma, clywaf yn uniongyrchol gan etholwyr a ddywedant wrthyf, ar ôl iddynt wneud ymdrechion aruthrol i roi'r gorau i ysmygu, mai e-sigaréts yw'r unig beth y maent wedi dod o hyd iddo sydd wedi eu helpu i wneud hynny.

In the advice from Public Health Wales today, Dr Pat Riordan said:

Yn y cyngor gan Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru heddiw, dywedodd Dr Pat Riordan:

'The last thing we want to do is alienate smokers who are using e-cigs in good faith as a part of their attempt to cut down or quit smoking.'

'Y peth olaf rydyn ni am ei wneud yw gelyniaethu smygwyr sy'n defnyddio e-sigs yn ddidwyll yn rhan o'u hymdrech i smygu llai neu i roi'r gorau i smygu.'

As Julie Morgan has said already, the actual evidence for e-cigarettes being a part of a quit regime is actually rather thin. There is no evidence that I am aware of of there being large numbers of people in Wales who could say, in an authoritative way, that e-cigarettes have allowed them to give up smoking where nothing else has succeeded.

Fel y dywedodd Julie Morgan eisoes, mae'r dystiolaeth wirioneddol o blaid e-sigaréts fel rhan o ymdrechion i roi'r gorau iddi mewn gwirionedd yn reit denau. Nid oes unrhyw dystiolaeth rwy'n ymwybodol ohoni fod niferoedd mawr o bobl yng Nghymru a allai ddweud, mewn ffordd awdurdodol, bod e-sigaréts wedi eu galluogi i roi'r gorau i ysmygu lle y methodd popeth arall.

Professor Gerard Hastings of the University of Stirling and co-author of the Cancer Research UK report that Julie Morgan has referred to has said that

Dywedodd yr Athro Gerard Hastings o Brifysgol Stirling a chydawdur yr adroddiad gan Cancer Research UK y cyfeiriodd Julie Morgan ato mai

'the market is looking to make money, not improve public health, and this is creating many dangers'.

anelu at wneud arian mai'r farchnad, nid gwella iechyd y cyhoedd, a bod hyn yn creu llawer o beryglon.

The growth of e-cigarettes is remarkable. It is estimated that some 80,000 smokers in Wales alone have now used electronic cigarettes.

Mae twf e-sigaréts yn rhyfeddol. Amcangyfrifir bod tua 80,000 o ysmygwyr yng Nghymru yn unig erbyn hyn wedi defnyddio sigaréts electronig.

The US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention reported earlier this year that teenage use of e-cigarettes in the United States has doubled in a single year between 2011 and 2012. Euromonitor International forecasts that the retail sale value of e-cigarettes worldwide will top $2.5 billion this year, and Wells Fargo has estimated that the figure will top $10 billion by 2017.

Nododd Canolfannau'r UD ar gyfer Rheoli ac Atal Clefydau yn gynharach eleni bod nifer y bobl yn eu harddegau sy'n defnyddio e-sigaréts yn yr Unol Daleithiau wedi dyblu mewn un flwyddyn rhwng 2011 a 2012. Mae Euromonitor International yn rhagamcan y bydd gwerth gwerthiannau manwerthu e -sigaréts ledled y byd yn fwy na $2.5 biliwn eleni, ac mae Wells Fargo wedi amcangyfrif y bydd y ffigur yn fwy na $10 biliwn erbyn 2017.

Little wonder, then, that the conventional tobacco industry—

Does ryfedd felly bod y diwydiant tybaco confensiynol—

'deceitful, determined and deeply detrimental to public health',

sy'n dwyllodrus, yn benderfynol ac yn niweidiol iawn i iechyd y cyhoedd,

to quote the Cancer Research UK report—

yn ôl adroddiad Cancer Research UK—

is, as 'The Independent' put it earlier this week, 'piling in' to the e-cigarette market. Having originally been sceptical of it and having directed its massive publicity machines to try to undermine the e-cigarette business, its strategy has now altered so radically that Philip Morris International announced on 20 November that its entry into the e-cigarette market was the:

fel y datganodd 'The Independent' yn gynharach yr wythnos hon, ar ras wyllt i ymuno â'r farchnad e-sigaréts. Ar ôl ei amheuon cychwynnol, ac ar ôl rhoi cyfarwyddyd i'w injanau cyhoeddusrwydd enfawr geisio tanseilio'r busnes e-sigaréts, mae ei strategaeth bellach wedi newid mewn ffordd mor radical fel y gwnaeth Philip Morris International gyhoeddi ar 20 Tachwedd mai ei benderfyniad i ymuno â'r farchnad e-sigaréts oedd:

'single greatest…opportunity for us'.

y cyfle unigol…mwyaf inni.

It has announced its intention to enter the e-cigarette market during the second half of next year. British American Tobacco is already in the e-cigarette industry. It produces Vype e-cigarettes in the United Kingdom, and its subsidiary Reynolds American in the United States has its equivalent there. Imperial Tobacco, the world's fourth-largest international tobacco company, has announced plans to launch two new electronic cigarettes next year as well. Therefore, the industry is moving, and moving very fast into this field and, despite its implication that e-cigarettes can be good for your health—and it is very careful never to really say that, because it is determined not to be regulated as producing a health product, but it implies that there are health benefits—we can see that there will be strong commercial considerations driving its involvement.

Cyhoeddodd ei fwriad i ymuno â'r farchnad e-sigaréts yn ystod ail hanner y flwyddyn nesaf. Mae British American Tobacco eisoes wedi ymuno â'r diwydiant e-sigaréts. Mae'n cynhyrchu e-sigaréts Vype yn y Deyrnas Unedig, ac mae gan ei is-gwmni Reynolds American yn yr Unol Daleithiau gynnyrch cyfatebol yno. Mae Imperial Tobacco, sef pedwerydd cwmni tybaco rhyngwladol mwyaf y byd, wedi cyhoeddi cynlluniau i lansio dwy sigarét electronig newydd y flwyddyn nesaf hefyd. Felly, mae'r diwydiant yn symud, ac yn symud yn gyflym iawn tuag at y maes hwn, er gwaethaf y goblygiad y gall e-sigaréts fod o fudd i'ch iechyd—ac mae'n ofalus iawn na fydd byth yn dweud hynny'n union, gan ei fod yn benderfynol o beidio â chael ei reoleiddio fel diwydiant sy'n cynhyrchu cynnyrch iechyd, ond mae'n awgrymu bod buddiannau iechyd—gallwn weld y bydd ystyriaethau masnachol cadarn yn llywio ei gyfranogiad.

The debate asked about regulation, and it is interesting to look at what has already been done elsewhere. Austria and New Zealand classify e-cigarettes as medical devices and restrict their sales. You can buy e-cigarettes in New Zealand only in a pharmacy. Australia, Brazil, Lebanon and Singapore have banned e-cigarettes outright. In the United States, New York and Chicago, as we heard, were among the first large cities to consider banning e-cigarettes; New Jersey, North Dakota and Utah have recently included electronic cigarettes in their bans on smoking in workplaces, bars and restaurants. Other states within the United States are following the advice of the American Lung Association in regarding e-cigarettes as something to be covered by the regulatory regime that covers tobacco products.

Gofynnodd y ddadl am reoleiddio, ac mae'n ddiddorol ystyried yr hyn a wnaed eisoes mewn mannau eraill. Yn Awstria a Seland Newydd, caiff e-sigaréts eu dosbarthu fel dyfeisiau meddygol a cheir cyfyngiadau ar eu gwerthu. Dim ond mewn fferyllfa y gallwch brynu e-sigaréts yn Seland Newydd. Mae Awstralia, Brasil, Lebanon a Singapôr wedi gwahardd e-sigaréts yn llwyr. Yn yr Unol Daleithiau, roedd Efrog Newydd a Chicago, fel y clywsom, ymhlith y dinasoedd mawr cyntaf i ystyried gwahardd e-sigaréts; mae New Jersey, Gogledd Dakota ac Utah yn ddiweddar wedi cynnwys sigaréts electronig yn eu gwaharddiadau ar ysmygu mewn gweithleoedd, bariau a bwytai. Mae taleithiau eraill o fewn yr Unol Daleithiau yn dilyn cyngor Cymdeithas Ysgyfaint America gan ystyried e-sigaréts fel rhywbeth a ddylai fod yn destun y gyfundrefn reoleiddio sy'n berthnasol i gynhyrchion tybaco.

Why is that happening? It is because of the reasons we know about—the result of the decision in this country by the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency to license e-cigarettes as medicines. In July 2013, MHRA announced the UK Government's intention to regulate e-cigarettes in that way because of concerns about safety, quality and efficacy. Unfortunately, as Julie noted, the failure of the European Parliament to agree to proposals to regulate e-cigarettes as a medicine has now thrown into some doubt the ability of the UK regulator to move on its own in that direction. There will be trilateral discussions next week; hopefully, a compromise will be reached, but there is huge lobbying from the industry at the European level to destabilise the Commission's compromise proposals. Therefore, we really will not know until those discussions are concluded whether we will be able to move even in that restricted way.

Pam mae hynny'n digwydd? Oherwydd y rhesymau sy'n hysbys inni—canlyniad y penderfyniad a wnaed yn y wlad hon gan yr Asiantaeth Rheoleiddio Meddyginiaethau a Chynhyrchion Gofal Iechyd i drwyddedu e-sigaréts fel meddyginiaethau. Ym mis Gorffennaf 2013, cyhoeddodd MHRA fwriad Llywodraeth y DU i reoleiddio e-sigaréts yn y ffordd honno oherwydd pryderon ynghylch diogelwch, ansawdd ac effeithiolrwydd. Yn anffodus, fel y nododd Julie, mae methiant Senedd Ewrop i gytuno i gynigion i reoleiddio e-sigaréts fel meddyginiaeth bellach wedi bwrw amheuon ar allu rheoleiddiwr y DU i symud i'r cyfeiriad hwnnw. Cynhelir trafodaethau teirochrol yr wythnos nesaf; gobeithio, y gellir dod i gyfaddawd, ond mae ymgyrch lobïo enfawr ar waith gan y diwydiant ar lefel Ewrop i ansefydlogi cynigion cyfaddawd y Comisiwn. Felly, ni fyddwn mewn gwirionedd yn gwybod hyd nes y daw'r trafodaethau hynny i ben pa un a fyddwn yn gallu symud hyd yn oed yn y ffordd gyfyngedig honno.

It comes as no surprise that the industry welcomed the European Parliament's decision not to go along with regulation on the basis of medicine. Last week, 'The Independent' reported that e-cigarettes have exhaled a sigh of relief on European Union regulation, while the 'Financial Times' reported that the e-cigarette boss, Mike Ryan, welcomed the vote, saying that it paved the way for the e-cigarette industry to continue to grow in the United Kingdom.

Nid yw'n syndod bod y diwydiant wedi croesawu penderfyniad Senedd Ewrop i beidio â rheoleiddio ar sail meddyginiaeth. Yr wythnos diwethaf, datganodd 'The Independent' bod e-sigaréts wedi ochneidio mewn rhyddhad yn sgîl penderfyniad rheoleiddio'r Undeb Ewropeaidd, a datganodd 'The Financial Times' fod y pennaeth e-sigaréts, Mike Ryan, wedi croesawu'r bleidlais, gan ddweud ei bod yn paratoi'r ffordd i'r diwydiant e-sigaréts barhau i dyfu yn y Deyrnas Unedig.

Why are these things of such concern? As you have heard, e-cigarettes operate by propelling a vapour into the so-called smoker's mouth. How do they do that? They use propylene glycol, which is a product that is more normally found in antifreeze and de-icing products. There is no regulation that requires the manufacturers of e-cigarettes to note on the packet what it is that the person will be taking inside their body. Most attempts in the United Kingdom to analyse what e-cigarettes contain find that, even when manufacturers do put an analysis of the product on the packet, it turns out not to be what is in the product when it is analysed. What is for sure is that they contain nicotine. They deliver nicotine without tar and that is a good thing. That is why there are some people who advocate their possibilities from a public health perspective. However, nicotine is a highly toxic and highly addictive compound in its own right. Paralysis and vascular collapse are prominent features of acute poisoning through nicotine, and death is often due to respiratory paralysis. By itself, making someone addicted to nicotine is not doing them any health favours.

Pam bod y pethau hyn yn peri cymaint o bryder? Fel y clywsoch, mae e-sigaréts yn gweithredu trwy ryddhau anwedd i geg yr ysmygwr honedig. Sut y gwneir hynny? Maent yn defnyddio glycol propylen, sef cynnyrch a geir fel arfer mewn gwrthrewydd a chynhyrchion dadrewi. Nid oes unrhyw reoliad sy'n ei gwneud yn ofynnol i weithgynhyrchwyr e-sigaréts nodi ar y pecyn beth y bydd yr unigolyn yn ei gymryd i mewn i'w gorff. Mae'r rhan fwyaf o ymdrechion yn y Deyrnas Unedig i ddadansoddi cynnwys e-sigaréts yn canfod, hyd yn oed pan fydd gweithgynhyrchwyr yn rhoi dadansoddiad o'r cynnyrch ar y pecyn, nad dyna sydd yn y cynnyrch pan gaiff ei ddadansoddi. Ond maent yn bendant yn cynnwys nicotin. Maent yn darparu nicotin heb dar ac mae hynny'n beth da. Dyna pam bod rhai pobl yn hyrwyddo eu posibiliadau o safbwynt iechyd y cyhoedd. Fodd bynnag, mae nicotin yn gyfansoddyn gwenwynig iawn ac yn hynod gaethiwus yn ei rinwedd ei hun. Mae parlys ac ymgwympiad fasgwlaidd yn nodweddion amlwg o fewn achos aciwt o wenwyno drwy nicotin, ac yn aml gall parlys anadlol arwain at farwolaeth. Ar ei ben ei hun, nid yw gwneud rhywun yn gaeth i nicotin o fudd iddynt mewn unrhyw ffordd o ran eu hiechyd.

Julie Morgan noted the fact that there are no age restrictions on e-cigarettes at all; you can buy them at any age. I went into a garage and queued up to buy petrol recently in Cardiff, and the person at the checkout was alerting every person who came to pay to the fact that they had an e-cigarette offer there, and those people included children who were buying other things at the garage.

Nododd Julie Morgan y ffaith nad oes unrhyw gyfyngiadau oedran ar e-sigaréts o gwbl; gall person o unrhyw oedran eu prynu. Euthum i mewn i garej a chiwio i brynu petrol yn ddiweddar yng Nghaerdydd, ac roedd y person wrth y til yn rhoi gwybod i bob person a ddaeth i dalu bod ganddynt gynnig arbennig ar e-sigaréts, ac roedd y bobl hynny yn cynnwys plant a oedd yn prynu pethau eraill yn y garej.

18:26 **Elin Jones** Bywgraffiad Biography

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And the Minister for health.

A'r Gweinidog iechyd.

18:26 **Mark Drakeford** Bywgraffiad Biography

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Yes, and the Minister for health. [Laughter.] You can buy bubble gum flavoured e-cigarettes and things that are, I would say, undoubtedly and cynically designed to ensure that these next-generation products are being prompted to usher in the next generation of smokers.

Ie, a'r Gweinidog iechyd. [Chwerthin.] Gallwch brynu e-sigaréts blas gwm swigod a phethau sy'n ddiau wedi'u cynllunio mewn ffordd sinigaidd, yn fy marn i, i sicrhau bod y cynhyrchion cenhedlaeth nesaf hyn yn ddeniadol er mwyn annog y genhedlaeth nesaf o ysmygwyr.

That is why, in many ways, normalisation is probably the single biggest threat that e-cigarettes bring with them. We have worked so hard over 30 years to get the message over to people that smoking is not cool or attractive or to be associated with success. One person dies of a smoking-related condition, nevertheless, every 90 minutes here in Wales; that is despite everything that people know and despite everything that has been done. A recent article on e-cigarettes was entitled 'When a Trojan horse becomes a Trojan hearse: the future of e-cigarettes and public health'.

Dyna pam, mewn sawl ffordd, mai normaleiddio fwy na thebyg yw'r bygythiad unigol mwyaf sy'n gysylltiedig ag e-sigaréts. Rydym wedi gweithio mor galed dros 30 mlynedd i gyfleu'r neges i bobl nad yw ysmygu yn cŵl nac yn ddeniadol nac yn gysylltiedig â llwyddiant. Serch hynny, mae un person yn marw o gyflwr sy'n gysylltiedig ag ysmygu bob 90 munud yma yng Nghymru; a hynny er gwaethaf popeth y mae pobl yn ei wybod ac er gwaethaf popeth a wnaed. Cyhoeddwyd erthygl ddiweddar ar e-sigaréts yn dwyn y teitl 'When a Trojan horse becomes a Trojan hearse: the future of e-cigarettes and public health'.

As a result of all of those things, a series of actions is already being taken. The Welsh Government's own smoke-free policy, published in March this year, is clear that no use of electronic cigarettes is allowed on any part of the Welsh Government estate.

O ganlyniad i'r holl bethau hynny, mae cyfres o gamau gweithredu eisoes ar waith. Mae polisi di-fwg Llywodraeth Cymru ei hun, a gyhoeddwyd ym mis Mawrth eleni, yn nodi'n glir na ddylid caniatáu unrhyw ddefnydd o sigaréts electronig ar unrhyw ran o ystâd Llywodraeth Cymru.

In September this year, Cardiff and Vale University Local Health Board published a revised no-smoking policy, which bans smoking across all health board sites and includes the use of e-cigarettes within that ban. Betsi Cadwaladr and Hywel Dda health boards are following in the same direction. Bridgend and Swansea local authorities treat employees who are users of e-cigarettes in the same way as they treat people who are smokers of tobacco.

Ym mis Medi eleni, cyhoeddodd Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Caerdydd a'r Fro bolisi di-fwg diwygiedig, sy'n gwahardd ysmygu ar draws holl safleoedd y bwrdd iechyd ac sy'n cynnwys y defnydd o e-sigaréts o fewn y gwaharddiad hwnnw. Mae byrddau iechyd Betsi Cadwaladr a Hywel Dda yn symud i'r un cyfeiriad. Mae awdurdodau lleol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr ac Abertawe yn trin gweithwyr sy'n defnyddio e-sigaréts yn yr un ffordd ag y maent yn trin pobl sy'n ysmygu tybaco.

I am very pleased to see the plans by the committee on advertising products to consult on advertising rules for e-cigarettes, to make sure that they are properly in line with the harm that e-cigarettes can bring. As Julie pointed out earlier, Public Health Wales has today issued advice on e-cigarettes—a position statement that makes it clear that, while not wanting to ban e-cigarettes and to capture any public health benefit that might be there for existing smokers of tobacco, these are to be treated as something that is more likely to reverse progress and to be a risk to population health than anything else.

Rwy'n falch iawn o weld cynlluniau'r pwyllgor ar hysbysebu cynhyrchion i ymgynghori ar reolau hysbysebu ar gyfer e-sigaréts, er mwyn gwneud yn siŵr eu bod yn briodol gydnaws â'r niwed y gall e-sigaréts ei achosi. Fel y nododd Julie yn gynharach, mae Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru heddiw wedi cyhoeddi cyngor ar e-sigaréts—datganiad sefyllfa sy'n nodi'n glir er nad yw'n awyddus i wahardd e-sigaréts ac er mwyn manteisio ar unrhyw fudd iechyd y cyhoedd posibl ar gyfer pobl sy'n ysmygu tybaco ar hyn o bryd, y dylid eu trin fel rhywbeth sy'n fwy tebygol o wyrdroi cynnydd ac achosi risg i iechyd y boblogaeth nag unrhyw beth arall.

These matters will be taken up in the public health White Paper that I hope to publish early in the new year. Inevitably, because these are new products that are rapidly developing, there will be some green edges around the White Paper in relation to e-cigarettes in particular. It will help, I hope, to create a debate about how we best regulate these products here in Wales. I am very grateful to Julie Morgan for giving us an early opportunity to air some of the important arguments that are there to be had as we look to regulate this product into the future.

Ymdrinnir â'r materion hyn yn y Papur Gwyn ar iechyd y cyhoedd y gobeithiaf ei gyhoeddi ddechrau'r flwyddyn newydd. Yn anochel, gan fod y rhain yn gynhyrchion newydd sy'n datblygu'n gyflym, bydd gan y Papur Gwyn rywfaint o ymylon gwyrdd yn enwedig o ran e-sigaréts. Bydd ysgogi trafodaeth am y ffordd orau i reoleiddio'r cynhyrchion hyn yma yng Nghymru, gobeithio, o gymorth. Rwy'n ddiolchgar iawn i Julie Morgan am roi cyfle cynnar inni drafod rhai o'r dadleuon pwysig sydd i'w cael wrth inni ystyried rheoleiddio'r cynnyrch hwn yn y dyfodol.

18:29

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography

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Thank you, Minister. That concludes today's proceedings.

Diolch, Weinidog. Daw hynny â thrafodion heddiw i ben.

Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 18:29.

The meeting ended at 18:29.