



**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
(Y Cofnod Swyddogol)**

**The National Assembly for Wales
(The Official Record)**

Dydd Mawrth 15 Chwefror 2000

Tuesday 15 February 2000

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Yn y golofn chwith, cofnodwyd y trafodion yn yr iaith y llefarwyd hwy ynndi yn y Siambr.
Yn y golofn dde, cynhwyswyd cyfieithiad o'r areithiau hynny.

In the left-hand column, the proceedings are recorded in the language in which they were spoken in the Chamber. In the right-hand column, a translation of those speeches has been included.

*Cyfarfu'r Cynulliad am 2 p.m. gyda'r Llywydd yn y Gadair.
The Assembly met at 2 p.m. with the Presiding Officer in the Chair.*

Ethol Prif Ysgrifennydd Election of First Secretary

Y Llywydd: Galwaf am enwebiadau ar gyfer swydd Prif Ysgrifennydd o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 2.2.

The Presiding Officer: I call for nominations for the position of First Secretary under Standing Order No. 2.2.

The Business Secretary (Andrew Davies): I nominate Rhodri Morgan for the position of First Secretary of the National Assembly for Wales.

Y Trefnydd (Andrew Davies): Enwebaf Rhodri Morgan ar gyfer swydd Prif Ysgrifennydd Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru.

Y Llywydd: Gan mai dim ond un enwebiad sydd, datganaf fod Rhodri Morgan wedi ei ethol yn Brif Ysgrifennydd y Cynulliad. Gwahoddaf ef i annerch y Cynulliad.

The Presiding Officer: As there is only one nomination, I declare that Rhodri Morgan is elected First Secretary of the Assembly. I invite him to address the Assembly.

Datganiad gan y Prif Ysgrifennydd Statement by the First Secretary

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd (Rhodri Morgan): Diolch, Lywydd, a diolch i chi gyd am f'enwebu fel ail Brif Ysgrifennydd Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru.

The First Secretary (Rhodri Morgan): Thank you, Llywydd, and thank you all for nominating me as the second First Secretary of the National Assembly for Wales.

My first act in the Welsh jersey with the captain's armband is to reappoint the Cabinet under Standing Order No. 2.4 in their present portfolios, including myself. That is without prejudice to the normal procedure for choosing a Cabinet. If I did not reappoint the Cabinet, in accordance with Standing Order No. 2.4, there would be no Cabinet. I will make a further announcement about that matter in due course as well as, possibly in consultation with other parties, an announcement about Assembly structures and portfolios. That may take some months to arrange, given all the consultations through which one needs to go.

Fy ngweithred gyntaf yng nghrys Cymru â rhwymyn braich y capten yw ailbenodi'r Cabinet o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 2.4 yn eu portffolios presennol, gan fy nghynnwys i. Gwneir hynny heb niweidio'r drefn arferol ar gyfer dewis Cabinet. Pe na bawn yn ailbenodi'r Cabinet, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 2.4, ni fyddai Cabinet. Byddaf yn gwneud cyhoeddiad pellach am y mater hwnnw maes o law yn ogystal â chyhoeddiad, drwy ymgynghori o bosibl â'r pleidiau eraill, am strwythurau a phortffolios y Cynulliad. Efallai y bydd angen rhai misoedd i drefnu hynny, yng ngolwg yr holl ymgynghoriadau y mae'n rhaid i rywun fynd drwyddynt.

I return, after getting that technicality out of the way, to the tremendous emotion, honour and privilege that I feel in having been elected, selected, and appointed by you to be First Secretary of the National Assembly for Wales. I start by paying a huge tribute to my predecessor, Alun Michael. Nobody could have worked harder for Wales than Alun, and nobody with an ounce of humanity could

Dychwelaf, ar ôl cael gwared â'r pwynt technegol hwnnw, at y cyffro, yr anrhydedd a'r fraint aruthrol a deimlaf wrth gael fy ethol, fy nethol, a'm penodi gennych yn Brif Ysgrifennydd Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru. Dechreuaf drwy dalu teyrnged enfawr i'm rhagflaenydd, Alun Michael. Ni allasai neb weithio'n galetach dros Gymru nag Alun, ac ni allasai neb a chanddo'r

have failed to be moved by the dignity that he showed last week, and is still showing now, under the circumstances in which he lost office. He has, with your consent, handed on the baton of devolution to me, but history will record how he carried that baton himself with immense distinction.

Diolch iti Alun, a diolch am dy help a'rh garedigrwydd i mi.

It falls to me to carry forward the momentum of devolution. The Assembly needs a period of calm and continuity while we move on from the dramatic events of last week. Nobody in the Assembly would disagree with the proposition that we cannot allow the culling of First Secretaries, as happened last week, to become Wales's annual bloodsport. To that end, I confirm that my number one aim as First Secretary is to survive until the half-term recess at the end of this week.

You will be familiar with the phrase, 'Three tries for a Welshman', and you will be aware that this is the third try for me. I had two tries before the Assembly was set up and now extraordinary circumstances have resulted in my standing before you as First Secretary. During the past two and a half years since I put my name forward as a potential candidate for leadership for Labour I have given a great deal of thought to how I would do this job if I ever had the opportunity. Now that the First Secretary's job has fallen to me, I am privileged that it has come in the very month that the Labour Party celebrates its centenary.

Wales has played an important part in the history of the Labour Party. The traditions of democratic socialism have played a huge role in Wales's political life since the founding of the Labour Party. Labour is generally accepted as the largest political party in Wales, sometimes the majority political party, although perhaps not recently. However, something about the Labour side's attempts during the past hundred years has appealed strongly to the people of Wales. It is encapsulated mostly in what is called, in

mymryn lleiaf o drugaredd fod heb ei gyffwrdd gan yr urddas a amlygodd yr wythnos diwethaf, ac y mae'n dal i'w hamlygu yn awr, o dan yr amgylchiadau y colodd ei swydd. Mae ef, gyda'ch cydsyniad chi, wedi trosglwyddo baton datganoli i mi, ond bydd hanes yn cofnodi sut y dygodd ef y baton hwnnw ag anrhydedd enfawr.

Thank you Alun, and thank you for your help and kindness to me.

I'm rhan i y daw y gwaith o ddwyn momentwm datganoli yn ei flaen. Mae ar y Cynulliad angen cyfnod o dawelwch a dilyniant tra symudwn ymlaen o ddigwyddiadau dramatig yr wythnos diwethaf. Nid anghytunai neb yn y Cynulliad â'r gosodiad na allwn ganiatáu i ddifa Prif Ysgrifenyddion, fel y digwyddodd yr wythnos diwethaf, ddod yn helpa flynyddol yng Nghymru. I'r diben hwnnw, cadarnhaf mai fy nod bennaf fel Prif Ysgrifennydd yw goroesi hyd y toriad hanner-tymor ar ddiwedd yr wythnos hon.

Byddwch yn gyfarwydd â'r ymadrodd 'Tri chynnig i Gymro', a byddwch yn ymwybodol mai hwn yw'r trydydd cynnig i mi. Rhoddais ddau gynnig arall arni cyn sefydlu'r Cynulliad ac yn awr, o ganlyniad i amgylchiadau eithriadol, yr wyf yn sefyll ger eich bron yn Brif Ysgrifennydd. Yn ystod y ddwy flynedd a hanner diwethaf ers imi gyflwyno fy enw fel ymgeisydd posibl ar gyfer arweinyddiaeth Llafur myfyriais lawer iawn ynghylch sut y gwnawn y swydd hon pe cawn y cyfle byth. A swydd y Prif Ysgrifennydd bellach wedi dod i'm rhan, braint i mi yw iddi ddod yn yr union fis pan fo'r Blaid Lafur yn dathlu ei chanmlwyddiant.

Mae Cymru wedi chwarae rhan bwysig yn hanes y Blaid Lafur. Mae traddodiadau sosialaeth ddemocrataidd wedi chwarae rôl enfawr ym mywyd gwleidyddol Cymru ers sefydlu'r Blaid Lafur. Derbynnir yn gyffredinol mai Llafur yw plaid wleidyddol fwyaf Cymru, y blaid wleidyddol fwyafrifol weithiau, er nad yn ddiweddar efallai. Fodd bynnag, mae rhywbeth ynghylch ymdrechion yr ochr Lafur yn ystod y 100 mlynedd diwethaf wedi apelio'n gryf i bobl Cymru. Fe'i crynhoir fwyaf yn yr hyn a elwir, yn

Millbank speak, the politics of the many not the few. In Wales we call them ‘*y werin, nid y crachach*’—the common people, not the elite. There is something about that that has huge appeal to people in Wales. Somehow, I could never get Millbank spin doctors to accept ‘*y werin, nid y crachach*’ as a phrase to be broadcast on Channel 4 and the BBC’s nine o’clock news.

I want to inspire our voters with a vision of devolution and democratic politics that involves people in the democratic process of rebuilding the bond between politicians of all parties—in particular my own—and the people of Wales. We should all be concerned about political cynicism, apathy, low turnout and low voter participation and interest in politics. I know that there are many other interesting things in life. There is consumerism. There is sport on Saturdays. These things can make people think that politics rate at around number 57 in their interests. That is fair enough. Not everybody is an anorak about politics. Not everybody dragged their mother to political meetings at the age of 11 to see Dorothy Rees, a Labour MP, attempting unsuccessfully to save the Vale of Glamorgan constituency in 1951, although I was also interested in sport and other things.

Not everybody is like the 60 of us in the Assembly. We, who are interested in politics and are lucky enough to make a living out of it, must somehow connect with the people for whom politics is either a bore, a turn-off or something that used to interest them. That is not a Welsh, British or European problem. North America probably has the worst problem. However, if there is anything that we can do as Assembly Members to reconnect the voters of Wales with the new institution that we have set up, then it is our duty to do it. It is all very well for British voters to be cynical about the Houses of Parliament or 10 Downing Street, which is a rock solid institution. People are born with it. Their grandparents were born with it. That institution is 800 years old. If people are cynical about an institution that is only eight months old, then we have a problem. All of us need to bend our efforts to try to solve that problem.

iaith Millbank, yn wleidyddiaeth y lliaws, nid yr ychydig. Yng Nghymru fe’u galwn ‘*y werin, nid y crachach*’. Mae rhywbeth ynghylch hynny sydd yn fawr ei apêl i bobl yng Nghymru. Rywsut, ni allwn byth gael troellwyr Millbank i dderbyn ‘*y werin, nid y crachach*’ yn ymadrodd i’w ddarlledu ar Channel 4 a newyddion naw o’r gloch y BBC.

Yr wyf am ysbrydoli’n hetholwyr â gweledigaeth o ddatganoli a gwleidyddiaeth ddemocrataidd sydd yn cynnwys pobl yn y broses ddemocrataidd o ailgreu’r cyswllt rhwng gwleidyddion o bob plaid—yn enwedig fy mhlaid i—a phobl Cymru. Dylem oll bryderu ynghylch sinigiaeth wleidyddol, difrawder, niferoedd isel yn pleidleisio a chyfranogiad a diddordeb isel mewn gwleidyddiaeth ymysg etholwyr. Gwn fod llawer o bethau diddorol eraill mewn bywyd. Dyna brynwriaeth. Dyna chwaraeon ar ddydd Sadwrn. Mae’r pethau hyn yn peri bod pobl yn ystyried bod gwleidyddiaeth tua safle 57 yn eu diddordebau. Mae hynny’n ddigon teg. Nid pawb sydd yn gwirioni ar wleidyddiaeth. Nid pawb a lusgodd eu mam i gyfarfodydd gwleidyddol yn 11 oed i weld Dorothy Rees, AS Llafur, yn ceisio’n aflwyddiannus achub etholaeth Bro Morgannwg yn 1951, er fy mod yn ymddiddori hefyd mewn chwaraeon a phethau eraill.

Nid yw pawb fel y 60 ohonom yn y Cynulliad. Rhaid i ni, sydd yn ymddiddori mewn gwleidyddiaeth ac yn ddigon ffodus i ennill bywoliaeth ohoni, gysylltu rywsut â phobl y mae gwleidyddiaeth un ai’n fwrn, yn ddiflastod neu’n rhywbeth a arferai fod o ddiddordeb iddynt. Nid problem Gymreig, Prydeinig neu Ewropeaidd yw honno. Mae’n debyg mai gan Ogledd America y mae’r broblem fwyaf. Fodd bynnag, os oes unrhyw beth y gallwn ei wneud fel Aelodau Cynulliad i ailgysylltu etholwyr Cymru â’r sefydliad newydd a sefydlasom, mae’n ddyletswydd arnom i wneud hynny. Un peth yw i etholwyr Prydain fod yn sinigaidd ynghylch y Senedd neu 10 Downing Street, sydd yn sefydliad sydd yn gadarn fel y graig. Yr oedd yno wrth eu geni. Yr oedd yno pan aned eu neiniau a’u teidiau. Mae’r sefydliad hwnnw’n 800 mlwydd oed. Os yw pobl yn sinigaidd ynghylch sefydliad nad yw ond wyth mis oed, yna mae gennym broblem.

Rhaid inni oll gyfeirio ein hymdrechion i geisio datrys y broblem honno.

The Assembly has had a difficult start in terms of the narrowness of the victory in the referendum and the low turnout in the elections. The 46 or 47 per cent turnout in those May 1999 elections looks respectable compared with some of the elections since then. Nevertheless, voter turnout is important to us. To ensure that voters take the interest that they should in what is the only institution that delivers for the people of Wales, we must connect with them and provide the services that they want. Although we are the anoraks—the people who make a living from and who are involved in devolution full time—ultimately, devolution is about them and not us. It is fair to say that, in many ways, voters think that we have spent too much time squabbling and not enough time delivering.

Mae'r Cynulliad wedi cael dechrau anodd o ran agosrwydd y fuddugoliaeth yn y refferendwm a'r nifer isel a bleidleisiodd yn yr etholiadau. Mae'r 46 neu 47 y cant a bleidleisiodd yn yr etholiadau hynny ym Mai 1999 yn ymddangos yn barchus wrth ymyl rhai o'r etholiadau ers hynny. Er hynny, mae'r nifer sydd yn pleidleisio yn bwysig i ni. Er mwyn sicrhau bod etholwyr yn ymddiddori fel y dylent yn yr unig sefydliad sydd yn cyflawni dros bobl Cymru, rhaid inni gysylltu â hwy a darparu'r gwasanaethau y mae arnynt eu hangen. Er mai ni yw'r rhai sydd yn gwirioni—y rhai sydd yn gwneud bywoliaeth o ddatganoli ac yn ymwneud ag ef yn llawn amser—yn y pen draw, mae datganoli'n ymwneud â hwy ac nid â ni. Teg yw dweud, ar lawer ystyr, fod yr etholwyr yn credu inni dreulio gormod o amser yn ffraeo a dim digon yn cyflawni.

2:09 p.m.

I was lucky as a young man, as any of you who saw my mother's wonderful performance on *Y Byd ar Bedwar* last night will know. I was able to attend quite posh universities when I was young. Many young people of my generation did not get that opportunity of entering higher education. Inevitably, if you did have the chance to enter higher education, you left Wales and you never returned. That was the Welsh catch-22—if you wanted to get on, you had to get out. We must solve that problem in Wales.

Yr oeddwn yn ffodus yn ddyn ifanc, fel y gŵyr unrhyw rai ohonoch a welodd berfformiad rhyfeddol fy mam ar *Y Byd ar Bedwar* neithiwr. Cefais fynd i brifysgolion eithaf crand pan oeddwn yn ifanc. Yr oedd llawer o bobl ifanc yn fy nghenedlaeth i na chawsant y cyfle hwnnw i fynd i addysg uwch. Yn anorfod, os caech y cyfle i fynd i addysg uwch, byddech yn gadael Cymru ac ni ddeuech byth yn ôl. Dyna oedd cyfyng-gyngor Cymru—os oeddech am lwyddo, yr oedd yn rhaid ichi adael. Rhaid inni ddatrys y broblem honno yng Nghymru.

What contribution have we in Wales made to civilisation? I am not just thinking about Labour figures here. I think, with great pride, about Keir Hardie who—although he was a Scotsman—was the first Labour MP, the first leader of the Labour Party and an MP for Merthyr and Aberdare. Lloyd George made a huge contribution in giving us the old-age pension and other aspects of the welfare state in the early years of the last century. Jim Griffiths established national insurance and Nye Bevan adapted the Tredegar medical self-help system, with which he grew up, and gave it to Great Britain as the first free-at-the-point-of-access national health service. I

Pa gyfraniad a wnaethom ni yng Nghymru i wareiddiad? Nid wyf yn meddwl am ffigyrau Llafur yn unig yma. Cofiaf, gyda balchder mawr, am Keir Hardie—er mai Albanwr ydoedd—a oedd yn AS cyntaf Llafur, yn arweinydd cyntaf y Blaid Lafur ac yn AS dros Ferthyr ac Aberdâr. Gwnaeth Lloyd George gyfraniad enfawr drwy roi inni'r pensiwn henoed ac agweddu eraill ar y wladwriaeth les ym mlynnyddoedd cynnar y ganrif ddiwethaf. Sefydlodd Jim Griffiths yswiriant gwladol ac addasodd Nye Bevan system hunangymorth meddygol Tredegar, y'i magwyd ef gyda hi, a'i rhoi i Brydain Fawr fel y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol cyntaf

wonder whether any small nation anywhere in the world has contributed as much as Wales. We have established what we are proud to call the cornerstones of civilisation in Great Britain today. Those giants: Lloyd George from north Wales, Jim Griffiths from west Wales, and Nye Bevan from east Wales, had dreams about how to improve society. They all came from Wales and are no different to us. If they could do it, so can we. Now that we have our own institution, which can be a democratic vehicle to improve the lives of the people of Wales, it is up to us to help them and to give them the right to dream their dreams and to use the Assembly as a vehicle to improve their lives.

The language in which we discuss politics can be a big turn off. I do not refer to Welsh and English language issues, but to the third language—jargon, which is perhaps the great peril. We need a language to which voters can relate, not just politicians, specialists, lobbyists and the practitioners of politics. If, when we talk about social exclusion, we mean poor living and working conditions, then let us say so. If we can state the problem in plain language that people outside can understand, then we have a greater chance of tackling it.

We must also consider the Assembly's structure after last week's incidents. There is an interesting variable geometry in this Assembly. No party has a majority. We must see how we can provide the political stability that the Assembly needs to deliver the services that Wales needs. We must do that without giving the majority party carte blanche to do stupid things and expect to get away with it, because this is a body accountable to the people of Wales. However, I hope that we would all agree that the time has come to stop marking out the pitch and start playing the game. I want a wide game using our powers to the full, taking on the forces of conservatism, apathy and bureaucracy. I want to release the talents of all Assembly Members and the 2,500 civil servants who work for us, to work towards the vision of a better Wales. We must uncork

oedd yn rhad ac am ddim wrth y pwynt mynediad. Tybed a oes yr un genedl fach arall yn unman yn y byd a gyfrannodd gymaint â Chymru. Sefydlasom yr hyn yr ydym yn falch o'u galw'n gonglfeini gwareiddiad ym Mhrydain Fawr heddiw. Yr oedd gan y cewri hynny, Lloyd George o ogledd Cymru, Jim Griffiths o orllewin Cymru, a Nye Bevan o ddwyrain Cymru, freuddwydion ynghylch sut i wella cymdeithas. Daethant oll o Gymru ac nid ydynt ddim gwahanol i ni. Os gallent hwy wneud hynny, gallwn ninnau. A ninnau bellach â'n sefydliad ein hunain, a all fod yn gyfrwng democrataidd i wella bywydau pobl Cymru, ein lle ni yw eu helpu a rhoi iddynt yr hawl i freuddwydio eu breuddwydion a defnyddio'r Cynulliad fel cyfrwng i wella eu bywydau.

Mae'r iaith a ddefnyddiwn wrth drafod gwleidyddiaeth yn gallu bod yn ddiffastod mawr. Nid wyf yn cyfeirio at faterion iaith Cymraeg a Saesneg, ond at y drydedd iaith—jargon, sef y perygl mwyaf o bosibl. Yr ydym angen iaith y gall yr etholwyr gysylltu â hi, nid y gwleidyddion, yr arbenigwyr, y lobiwyr ac ymarferwyr gwleidyddiaeth yn unig. Os mai'r hyn a olygwn, wrth sôn am allgáu cymdeithasol, yw amodau byw a gweithio gwael, gadewch inni ddweud hynny. Os gallwn nodi'r broblem mewn geiriau syml y gall pobl y tu allan eu deall, mae gennym fwy o gyfle i fynd i'r afael â hi.

Rhaid inni hefyd ystyried strwythur y Cynulliad ar ôl digwyddiadau'r wythnos diwethaf. Mae geometreg newidiol ddiddorol yn y Cynulliad hwn. Nid oes gan yr un blaid fwyafrif. Rhaid inni weld sut y gallwn ddarparu'r sefydlogrwydd gwleidyddol y mae ar y Cynulliad ei angen er mwyn cyflenwi'r gwasanaethau y mae ar Gymru eu hangen. Rhaid inni wneud hynny heb roi rhwydd hynt i'r blaid fwyafrifol wneud pethau gwirion a disgwyl cael maddeuant, oherwydd mae hwn yn gorff sydd yn atebol i bobl Cymru. Fodd bynnag, gobeithiaf y byddwn oll yn cytuno bod yr amser wedi dod i roi'r gorau i nodi'r marciau ar y cae ac i ddechrau chwarae'r gêm. Yr wyf am gael gêm eang gan ddefnyddio ein pwerau i'r eithaf, gan fynd i'r afael â grymoedd ceidwadaeth, difrawder a biwrocratiaeth. Yr wyf am ryddhau doniau holl Aelodau'r Cynulliad a'r 2,500 o weision

the Welsh champagne bottle and let it fizz.

I want to celebrate the talent and diversity of the people of Wales. I say that in a multi-cultural context. I had a wonderful welcome from the Swansea Chinese community at the Brangwyn Hall last Sunday morning and my constituency, Cardiff West, has people of many different ethnic origins. Tim Williams—one of my biggest fans according to *Y Byd ar Bedwar* last night—when involved with Nick Bourne and others in the No campaign, always used to refer to my constituency with the utmost contempt as containing ‘*pobl Pontcanna*’—the devolution groupies who had dreamt up the whole thing which was of no interest to anybody else in Wales. However, last night he seemed to be fully reconciled to the project and in fact now thinks that the Assembly should have more powers. Good old Tim, he may be one of the great fair-weather friends of modern Wales. However, it was interesting to hear him last night.

We must stop thinking in terms of how Welsh people are. I was thinking the other day of the occasion when a distinguished member of the present Government stayed overnight with us in Michaelston-le-Pit—I am not talking now about Tony Blair. We were driving across the Ynys Bridge by the Taff gorge and I pointed out to her that the area was still in the catchment area of Whitchurch Grammar School, where I went to school, but was also the dividing line between what was known as ‘the Welsh accent’ and the Cardiff area. The small handful of children from Tongwynlais and Gwaelod-y-garth who used to attend Whitchurch Grammar School were always known as the taffs. My guest looked totally bewildered at that and said ‘you are all taffs to us you know’. That is true. We see artificial divisions within Wales but outside Wales we are all considered Welsh. That is how I see the Assembly: regardless of what party we are in, whether we voted yes or no in the referendum or did not vote at all, we are all in the same boat. We have the Assembly; we will not get another one. This is our institution and we must make it work

sifil sydd yn gweithio i ni, er mwyn gweithio tuag at weledigaeth o well Cymru. Rhaid inni dynnu corcyn potel siampaen Cymru a gadael iddi fyrlymu.

Yr wyf am ddathlu dawn ac amrywiaeth pobl Cymru. Dywedaf hynny mewn cyd-destun amlddiwylliannol. Cefais groeso ardderchog gan gymuned Tsieineaidd Abertawe yn Neuadd Brangwyn fore Sul diwethaf ac yn fy etholaeth i, Gorllewin Caerdydd, ceir pobl o lawer o darddiadau ethnig gwahanol. Byddai Tim Williams—un o’r m hedmygwyr mwyaf yn ôl *Y Byd ar Bedwar* neithiwr—pan oedd yn gysylltiedig â Nick Bourne ac eraill yn yr ymgyrch Na, bob amser yn cyfeirio at fy etholaeth gyda’r dirmyg mwyaf fel un a gynhwysai ‘bobl Pontcanna’—y grwpis datganoli a ddyfeisiodd yr holl beth nad oedd o ddiddordeb i neb arall yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, neithiwr ymddangosai ei fod yn llwyr dderbyn y prosiect a’i fod bellach o’r farn y dylai’r Cynulliad gael mwy o bwerau. Yr hen Tim, efallai mai ef yw un o’r cyfeillion tywydd teg mwyaf sydd gan y Gymru gyfoes. Fodd bynnag, diddorol oedd gwrando arno neithiwr.

Rhaid inni roi’r gorau i feddwl yn nhermau pa mor Gymreig yw rhywun. Cofiais y diwrnod o’r blaen am yr achlysur pan ddaeth aelod nodedig o’r Llywodraeth bresennol i fwrw noson gyda ni yn Llanfihangel-y-pwll—nid wyf yn sôn am Tony Blair yn awr. Yr oeddem yn gyrru dros Bont Ynys ger ceunant afon Taf ac eglurais iddi fod yr ardal yn dal i fod yn nalgylch Ysgol Ramadeg yr Eglwys Newydd, lle y derbyniais fy addysg, ond mai hwn hefyd oedd y terfyn rhwng yr hyn a elwid yn ‘acen Gymreig’ ac ardal Caerdydd. Gelwid y llond dwrn o blant o Dongwynlais a Gwaelod-y-garth a âi i Ysgol Ramadeg yr Eglwys Newydd bob amser yn *taffs*. Yr oedd golwg gwbl ddryslyd ar fy ngwestai o glywed hynny a dywedodd ‘*taffs* yw pob un ohonoch i ni, wyddoch chi’. Mae hynny’n wir. Gwelwn raniadau ffug oddi mewn i Gymru ond y tu allan i Gymru ystyrir pob un ohonom yn Gymry. Dyna sut y gwelaf y Cynulliad: i ba bynnag blaid yr ydym yn perthyn, pa un a bleidleisiasom dros ie neu nace yn y refferendwm neu os oeddem heb bleidleisio o gwbl, yr ydym oll yn yr un cwch. Mae’r Cynulliad gennym; ni fyddwn yn cael un arall. Hwn yw’n sefydliad ni a

better for all the people of Wales.

I have spoken of an operation phoenix for my own party. However, it applies equally to the National Assembly for Wales. We can and must arise from the ashes, or whatever you want to call the peculiar events of last week. Some people have chosen to interpret our first few months as the beginning of the end of devolution, to borrow a phrase from another famous politician from Nick Bourne's party. However, I regard now as the end of the beginning of devolution and I hope all of us do so as well.

Credaf yng ngrym democratiaeth i wella bywydau ein pobl yng Nghymru. Gallwn wneud iddo weithio'n llawer gwell dros bobl Cymru. Ein Cynulliad ni ydyw. Nid 'ni' yn ystyr y 60 Aelod ond yn ystyr y 3 miliwn o bobl yng Nghymru. Felly, dylem weithio â'n gilydd i weld beth y gallwn ei wneud i weithio'n well drostynt i gyd. [Cymeradwyaeth.]

Dafydd Wigley: Dyma'r tro cyntaf imi gael y cyfle i siarad yn ffurfiol fel arweinydd fy mhlaid yn y Cynulliad ers digwyddiadau rhyw ddeufis yn ôl. Nid oeddwn yn disgwyl dod yn ôl i'r math hwn o sefyllfa. Serch hynny, yr wyf yn falch o'r cyfle, fel y cyntaf i siarad ar ôl Rhodri, i'w longyfarch yn gynnes ar ei benodiad. Ategap yr hyn a ddywedodd Rhodri wrth ddiolch i Alun Michael am ei waith wrth sefydlu Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru. Sylweddola pawb i'r cyfnod diwethaf hwn fod yn un anodd iawn i Alun. Fe gymer amser i ddod dros y briw hwnnw. Serch hynny, mae'r gwaith o sefydlu'r Cynulliad wedi ei wneud a bydd yn cael ei gofio am byth. Cyfeiriodd Rhodri at y dywediad 'tri chynnig i Gymro'. Yn sicr dyma'r trydydd tro i Rhodri. Disgwylodd yn hir a gobeithiaf y bydd y pleser yn fwy o'r herwydd. Yr wyf yn siŵr fod pob un ohonom a welodd *Y Byd ar Bedwar* neithiwr yn ymfalchïo fod ei fam wedi cael byw i weld y diwrnod y daeth i'r swydd hon. Bydd hynny yn rhoi pleser a balchder mawr i'r teulu.

rhaid inni wneud iddo weithio'n well dros holl bobl Cymru.

Soniais am ymgyrch ffenics ar gyfer fy mhlaid fy hun. Fodd bynnag, mae'r un mor berthnasol i Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru. Gallwn a bydd yn rhaid inni godi o'r lludw, neu beth bynnag yr ydych am alw digwyddiadau rhyfedd yr wythnos diwethaf. Mae rhai wedi dewis dehongli ein hychydig fisoedd cyntaf fel dechrau'r diwedd i ddatganoli, a benthyca dywediad o eiddo gwleidydd enwog arall o blaid Nick Bourne. Fodd bynnag, ystyriaf fi'r adeg hon yn ddiwedd ar ddechrau datganoli a gobeithiaf fod pawb ohonom yn meddwl felly hefyd.

I believe in the power of democracy to improve the lives of our people in Wales. We can make it work much better for the people of Wales. It is our Assembly. It does not belong to us, the 60 Members, but to the 3 million people in Wales. Therefore, we should work together to see what we can do to work better for them all. [Applause.]

Dafydd Wigley: This is the first opportunity I have had to speak formally as my party's leader in the Assembly since the events of some two months ago. I did not expect to come back to this kind of situation. However, I am glad to have the opportunity, as the first to speak after Rhodri, to congratulate him warmly on his appointment. I endorse what Rhodri said in thanking Alun Michael for his work in establishing the National Assembly for Wales. Everybody realises that this recent period was a very difficult one for Alun. It will take time to get over that wound. However, the work of establishing the Assembly has been accomplished and will be remembered forever. Rhodri referred to the saying, 'three tries for a Welshman'. This is certainly the third time for Rhodri. He has waited for a long time and hopefully the pleasure will be greater for that. I am sure that all of us who watched *Y Byd ar Bedwar* last night are delighted that his mother has lived to see the day when he came into this post. That will give the family great pleasure and pride.

2:19 p.m.

Yr ydym yn ymwybodol o eirioni'r sefyllfa—daethoch i'r swydd gan fod Plaid Cymru wedi pleidleisio fel y gwnaeth. Yr ydym wedi galluogi'r Blaid Lafur, efallai, i gael yr arweinydd a fyddai wedi cael ei ethol pe bai'r system bleidleisio wedi bod yn wahanol flwyddyn yn ôl.

Derbyniwn, Rhodri, fod eich teyrngarwch yn llwyr i Gymru. Bydd angen gweledigaeth, dyfalbarhad, cadernid a phenderfyniad arnoch i wneud llwyddiant o hyn.

There are lessons to be learnt from recent days and weeks. The first lesson—for all parties as well as for people outside Wales—is that it is we in Wales, as parties and as an Assembly, who decide on our leaders. Let that message go forth in no uncertain terms. There are lessons regarding central issues such as European funding that remain to be resolved. We wish you strength in doing that.

There are issues regarding changing our Standing Orders—to which you referred in your opening comments—to protect all Assembly Members, backbenchers as well as frontbenchers, and to ensure the Office of the Presiding Officer's independence at all times.

We wish Rhodri well during his tenure of office. We look to him to develop a programme geared to Wales's needs, based on our experience as a country and as communities, and fine-tuned to our aspirations as a nation. It should be a programme geared to jobs, health, housing, education and rural needs. We hope that such a programme will come forward. It will take time. In September each year, perhaps, a programme for governance could be discussed with all parties in advance, where there could be maximum unity in carrying it out.

There is a wide body of aspiration that cuts across political parties in Wales. Building on that is the way forward. The challenge for Rhodri is to build an understanding that unites us so that the policies that unite us can be delivered. Plaid Cymru accepts that you will need time to deliver—we will give you

We are aware of the irony of the situation—you have come to this post because Plaid Cymru voted as it did. We have enabled the Labour Party, maybe, to get the leader who would have been elected had the voting system been different a year ago.

We accept, Rhodri, that your loyalty is entirely to Wales. You will need vision, perseverance, strength and determination to make a success of this.

Mae gwersi i'w dysgu o'r dyddiau a'r wythnosau diwethaf. Y wers gyntaf—i'r holl bleidiau yn ogystal â phobl oddi allan i Gymru—yw mai ni yng Nghymru, yn bleidiau ac yn Gynulliad, sydd yn penderfynu ar ein harweinyddion. Boed i'r neges honno fynd allan yn blwmp ac yn blaen. Mae gwersi sydd yn ymwneud â materion canolog fel arian Ewropeaidd sydd yn aros i'w datrys. Dymunwn nerth i chi wrth wneud hynny.

Mae materion sydd yn ymwneud â newid ein Rheolau Sefydlog—y cyfeiriasoch atynt yn eich sylwadau agoriadol—er mwyn gwarchod holl Aelodau'r Cynulliad, yn feincwyr cefn yn ogystal â meincwyr blaen, ac i sicrhau annibyniaeth Swyddfa'r Llywydd bob amser.

Dymunwn yn dda i Rhodri yn ystod ei gyfnod yn y swydd. Disgwyliwn iddo ddatblygu rhaglen sydd yn addas i anghenion Cymru, yn seiliedig ar ein profiad fel gwlad ac fel cymunedau, ac wedi ei manwl gyweirio i'n dyheadau fel cenedl. Dylai fod yn rhaglen sydd ynghlwm wrth swyddi, iechyd, tai, addysg ac anghenion gwledig. Gobeithiwn y daw rhaglen o'r fath yn ei blaen. Bydd yn cymryd amser. Ym Medi bob blwyddyn, efallai, gellid trafod rhaglen ar gyfer trefn llywodraeth gyda phob plaid ymlaen llaw, lle y gellid cael yr undod mwyaf posibl wrth ei gweithredu.

Mae corff eang o ddyhead sydd yn torri ar draws y pleidiau gwleidyddol yng Nghymru. Adeiladu ar hynny yw'r ffordd ymlaen. Yr her i Rhodri yw creu dealltwriaeth sydd yn ein huno fel y gellir cyflenwi'r polisiau sydd yn ein huno. Mae Plaid Cymru yn derbyn y bydd arnoch angen amser i wireddu hyn—

that time. We hope that we can work together on those matters where we agree. You have a right to know where we disagree so that you can plan accordingly, understanding the realities. We look for progress on the European issues particularly. We look for the Assembly's development. It has made a beginning but has yet to build on those foundations. We hope that there will be an opportunity to review the Assembly's work and to consider its powers. Where we feel frustration that the powers are inadequate, we hope that we can look—if not immediately, then at least in the medium term—to getting the necessary powers to do the job. We hope that you can make firm statements on your intentions in this matter.

Edrychwn tuag at bennod newydd yn ein hanes, fel Cynulliad ac fel gwlad. Mae sialens i uno Cymru, i gael pob rhan o'n gwlad—y gogledd a'r gorllewin, cefn gwlad a'r cymoedd diwydiannol—i edrych ar y Cynulliad fel cyfrwng i wella bywyd pob un o fewn ein cenedl. Fel plaid, byddwn yn fodlon i chwarae ein rhan i hyrwyddo hyn. Gobeithiaf, rhyngom, y gwelwn y llwyddiant y mae ein cenedl yn dyheu amdano ac sydd mor angenrheidiol i sicrhau dyfodol y Cynulliad.

Nick Bourne: It would be churlish not to congratulate Rhodri on his success today. We understand the pride that you and your family and friends must feel in becoming First Secretary. I am sure that that will be a widespread feeling throughout Wales. It is also a tribute to Alun Michael's dignity and character that he is here today to see you taking the reins.

I have had discussions with Rhodri Morgan. I have promised him robust and constructive opposition, and I mean just that. The Welsh Conservative group will certainly be robust, but we will also be constructive. You are aware of the issues that we consider vital to Wales. The most immediate issue is the reason for your being where you are: Objective 1 funding, not only match funds, but implementing the programme and the single programming document. This issue will not go away. You must have time to

byddwn yn rhoi'r amser hwnnw i chi. Gobeithiwn y gallwn gydweithio ar y materion hynny y cytunwn arnynt. Mae gennych hawl i wybod ar beth yr ydym yn anghytuno fel y gallwch gynllunio yn unol â hynny, gan ddeall y wir sefyllfa. Disgwylwn weld cynnydd ar y materion Ewropeaidd yn enwedig. Disgwylwn weld datblygu'r Cynulliad. Mae wedi dechrau arni ond nid yw eto wedi adeiladu ar y seiliau hynny. Gobeithiwn y bydd cyfle i adolygu gwaith y Cynulliad ac ystyried ei bwerau. Lle y teimlwn yn rhwystredig bod y pwerau'n annigonol, gobeithiwn y gallwn ymorol—os nad ar unwaith, o leiaf yn y tymor canolig—am gael y pwerau angenrheidiol i wneud y gwaith. Gobeithiwn y gallwch wneud datganiadau pendant ar eich bwriadau yn y mater hwn.

We look to a new chapter in our history, as an Assembly and as a country. There is a challenge to unify Wales, to get each part of our country—the north and the west, the countryside and the industrial valleys—to look towards the Assembly as a medium for improving the lives of each one of us within our nation. As a party we will be happy to play our role to promote this. I hope that, between us, we will see the success that our nation desires and that is so essential to ensuring the future of the Assembly.

Nick Bourne: Anfoesgar fyddai peidio â llongyfarch Rhodri ar ei lwyddiant heddiw. Deallwn y balchder yr ydych chi a'ch teulu a'ch ffrindiau'n sicr o'i deimlo o ddod yn Brif Ysgrifennydd. Yr wyf yn sicr y bydd hynny'n deimlad cyffredinol ledled Cymru. Mae hefyd yn deyrnged i urddas a chymeriad Alun Michael ei fod yma heddiw i'ch gweld yn cymryd yr awenau.

Cefais drafodaethau â Rhodri Morgan. Addewais iddo wrthwynebiad cadarn ac adeiladol, a dyna'n union a olygaf. Bydd grŵp Ceidwadol Cymru yn sicr yn gadarn, ond byddwn hefyd yn adeiladol. Yr ydych yn ymwybodol o'r materion a ystyriwn yn hanfodol i Gymru. Y mater mwyaf brys yw'r rheswm pam yr ydych yn y lle'r ydych: arian Amcan 1, nid yn unig arian cyfatebol, ond gweithredu'r rhaglen a'r ddogfen raglennu sengl. Nid â'r mater hwn i ffwrdd. Rhaid ichi gael amser i ymdrin â'r materion hynny sydd

address those issues that are vital to people throughout Wales, as we will all benefit from the European funding, particularly those in the Valleys and west Wales. We must not lose that opportunity.

There are other important issues that transcend party politics. The rural issues are vital and remain largely unaddressed. I speak as someone who represents a rural area. I spent the weekend in my constituency. The people in mid and north Wales still feel that they have been neglected and forgotten. That must be addressed. The health service was one reason why we voted against the Labour budget. We do not feel that adequate resources have been put into the budget to deal with the immediate waiting list situation and the winter pressures that will be upon us next year. More must be done on a hospital building programme. That remains a key concern. I am sure that you will also address the level of council taxes. We will still provide robust opposition to all those issues, but we will be constructive. When we agree with you, we will support you. I would welcome private discussions on issues on which you feel we might be able to support you, along with the other parties, where appropriate.

Today is a new opportunity for a fresh start that must not be frittered away. We must carry this forward. We look forward to hearing what your Cabinet reshuffle holds in store for Wales and to discussing your future programme. This is an opportunity for a fresh start. Well done from the Conservative group.

Michael German: On behalf of the Liberal Democrats, I thank you, Rhodri and welcome you to your new post. I watched your mother on *Y Byd ar Bedwar* last night, but my Welsh is not quite up to her standard. Please explain to her that if she spoke more slowly, I could get the gist of what she is saying. However, the pride on her face was clear. We wish you well in your new role. We are committed to doing what we can to make the Assembly work where previously it has been seen to fail.

yn holl bwysig i bobl ledled Cymru, gan y byddwn oll yn elwa ar arian Ewropeaidd, yn enwedig y rhai yn y Cymoedd a gorllewin Cymru. Rhaid inni beidio â cholli'r cyfle hwnnw.

Mae materion pwysig eraill sydd uwchlaw gwleidyddiaeth bleidiol. Mae'r materion gwledig yn holl bwysig a heb eu trin o hyd i raddau helaeth. Siaradaf fel un sydd yn cynrychioli ardal wledig. Treuliais y penwythnos yn fy etholaeth. Mae'r bobl yng nghanolbarth a gogledd Cymru yn teimlo o hyd eu bod wedi eu hesgeuluso a'u hanghofio. Rhaid rhoi sylw i hynny. Y gwasanaeth iechyd oedd un rheswm pam y pleidleisiasom yn erbyn y gyllideb Lafur. Nid ydym yn teimlo bod digon o adnoddau wedi eu rhoi yn y gyllideb i ymdrin â'r sefyllfa rhestrau aros yn awr a'r pwysau gaeaf a fydd arnom y flwyddyn nesaf. Rhaid gwneud mwy ynghylch rhaglen adeiladu ysbytai. Mae hynny'n bryder allweddol o hyd. Yr wyf yn sicr y byddwch yn rhoi sylw hefyd i lefel trethi cyngor. Byddwn yn dal i ddarparu gwrthwynebiad cadarn ar yr holl faterion hynny, ond byddwn yn adeiladol. Pan gytunwn â chi, byddwn yn eich cefnogi. Croesawn drafodaethau preifat ar faterion y teimlwch y gallem eich cefnogi arnynt, ynghyd â'r pleidiau eail, lle y bo'n briodol.

Mae heddiw'n gyfle newydd am ddechrau newydd a rhaid peidio â'i afradu. Rhaid inni barhau â hyn. Edrychwn ymlaen at glywed beth y mae'r ad-drefniad ar y Cabinet yn ei gynnig i Gymru ac at drafod eich rhaglen ar gyfer y dyfodol. Mae hyn yn gyfle ar gyfer dechrau newydd. Llongyfarchiadau oddi wrth y grŵp Ceidwadol.

Michael German: Ar ran y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, diolchaf i chi, Rhodri a'ch croesawu i'ch swydd newydd. Gwelais eich mam ar *Y Byd ar Bedwar* neithiwr, ond nid yw fy Nghymraeg lawn cystal â'i safon hi. Byddwch gystal ag egluro iddi y gallwn ddeall hanfod yr hyn a ddywedai pe siaradai'n arafach. Fodd bynnag, yr oedd yn amlwg o'i hwyneb ei bod yn falch. Dymunwn yn dda i chi yn eich rôl newydd. Yr ydym wedi ymrwymo i wneud yr hyn a allwn i wneud i'r Cynulliad weithio lle y gwelwyd cynt ei fod yn methu.

The mood here today is good. We have had a punishing couple of weeks. We have learnt a lot about devolution and taught members of another place a thing or two. We must move on.

Y mae'n rhaid inni symud ymlaen i ailadeiladu hyder y tu mewn a thu allan i'r Siambr hon a dechrau gwneud i'r Cynulliad weithio er mwyn y bobl yr ydym yma i'w gwasanaethu.

I am not convinced that we should be keen to speak about fresh starts when, in Wales's eyes, we are still on probation. We have yet to deliver, and to convince people. We do not need a new, fresh face, voice or turn of phrase, although I am sure that you, Rhodri, as our newly-promoted caretaker, will be sharpening your wit at all of our expense in the next couple of weeks and months. We must put politics into action where it really matters—in the north, south, east, west, the Valleys and the urban areas.

It is a good day for the Assembly, but let us not kid ourselves that today means anything much to the people outside of Cardiff Bay yet. We have a chance to take stock. Let us take it and look back over the last eight months in order to look ahead. I am sorry to mention that the French said last week that you must step back in order to jump forward. I welcome the positive noises that we have heard from behind the revolving door of the new First Secretary, the indication that he is prepared to work alongside others to secure the success of Objective 1 and his acceptance of the importance of partnership across the Assembly, flowing outwards to the people of Wales.

We have spoken at length about being inclusive, and about new politics and consensus. None of us have cracked it yet. It is difficult to give the people of Wales the honest, robust debate that they deserve alongside the political co-operation that they have come to expect. It is difficult to balance the legitimate interests of party philosophy with the wider demands of our constituencies. Wales's political culture is all about confrontation, not co-operation. As

Mae hwyliau da yma heddiw. Cawsom wythnos neu ddwy flinderus. Dysgasom lawer ynghylch datganoli a dysgu un neu ddau o bethau i aelodau mewn lle arall. Rhaid inni symud ymlaen.

We must move on to rebuild confidence inside and outside this Chamber to make the Assembly work for the people we are here to serve.

Nid wyf yn sicr y dylem fod yn awyddus i sôn am ddechrau newydd pan ydym, yng ngolwg Cymru, yn dal i fod ar brawf. Nid aethom â'r maen i'r wal eto, ac argyhoeddi pobl. Nid oes arnom angen wyneb, llais neu dro ymadrodd newydd, ffres, er fy mod yn sicr y byddwch chi, Rhodri, fel ein gofalwr newydd ei ddyrchafu, yn rhoi min ar eich ffraethineb ar draul pob un ohonom yn yr wythnosau a'r misoedd nesaf hyn. Rhaid inni droi gwleidyddiaeth yn weithredu lle y mae o wir bwys—yn y gogledd, y de, y dwyrain, y gorllewin, y Cymoedd a'r ardaloedd trefol.

Mae'n ddiwrnod da i'r Cynulliad, ond na foed inni ein twyllo ein hunain bod heddiw'n golygu llawer eto i bobl y tu hwnt i Fae Caerdydd. Mae gennym gyfle i bwysu a mesur. Gadewch inni ddal ar hynny a bwrw golwg yn ôl dros yr wyth mis diwethaf er mwyn edrych ymlaen. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf grybwyll bod y Ffrancwyr wedi dweud yr wythnos diwethaf bod yn rhaid camu'n ôl er mwyn neidio ymlaen. Croesawaf y seiniau cadarnhaol a glywsom o'r tu ôl i ddrws troi'r Prif Ysgrifennydd newydd, yr arwydd ei fod yn barod i weithio ochr yn ochr ag eraill er mwyn sicrhau llwyddiant Amcan 1 a'r ffaith ei fod yn derbyn pwysigrwydd partneriaeth ar draws y Cynulliad, gan lifo allan i bobl Cymru.

Siaradasom yn faith am fod yn gynhwysol, ac am wleidyddiaeth newydd a chonsensws. Nid oes yr un ohonom wedi ei ddatrys eto. Mae'n anodd rhoi i bobl Cymru y ddatl onest, gadarn a haeddant ochr yn ochr â'r cydweithrediad gwleidyddol y daethant i'w ddisgwyl. Anodd yw cadw'r ddysgl yn wastad rhwng buddiannau dilys athroniaeth plaid a gofynion ehangach ein hetholaethau. Mae diwylliant gwleidyddol Cymru'n ymwneud yn llwyr â gwrthdaro, nid

Rhodri said, consensus is not cosy. It comes at a price. We must all recognise that, and we have a long way to go. A prominent Labour Welsh politician sitting not too far from me once described working with the Liberal Democrats as herding cats in thunder. For Rhodri's sake, we hope that lightning will not strike twice.

2:29 p.m.

Rod Richards: As one popular choice to another, I congratulate the second First Secretary in his third attempt to come forth in this place. Only members of the disabled ducks society understand that sentence. Some years ago, when I was promoted by John Major and standing at the despatch box for the first time, Rhodri Morgan, then the opposition spokesman, greeted me with the warm welcome: 'this must be the first time in history that a rat has joined a sinking ship'. We have been inseparable ever since.

In his eloquent speech, the First Secretary said—and, without wishing to embarrass him, I agreed with almost everything that he said, and he is now in despair—'three tries for a Welshman'.

Tri chynnig i Gymro, fel y dywedir. Yn sgîl yr hyn a ddigwyddodd, dylem newid y dywediad hwnnw i 'dri chynnig i hwyaden ungoes'.

I pay tribute to the former First Secretary. Even though we have not always agreed, I appreciated much of what he did in difficult circumstances. In light of his experiences last week, I understand exactly how he feels.

Finally, I leave one message with the First Secretary. After last week's events, my concern is the image of not just the Assembly but of Wales and its people, and that we can demonstrate our competence to run our own affairs and our professionalism in doing so. When the First Secretary deals with people outside Wales, will he remember at all times that he has the full support, I believe, of all

cydweithredu. Fel y dywedodd Rhodri, nid yw consensws yn gysurus. Mae angen talu amdano. Rhaid inni oll gydnabod hynny, gan fod gennym ffordd bell o'n blaen. Dywedodd gwleidydd Llafur Cymreig sydd yn eistedd nid nepell oddi wrthyf un tro bod gweithio â'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol fel corlannu cathod yng nghanol taranau. Er mwyn Rhodri, gobeithiwn na fydd melltt yn taro ddwywaith.

Rod Richards: Gan siarad fel un dewis poblogaidd yn cyfarch un arall, llongyfarchaf yr ail Brif Ysgrifennydd ar ei drydydd ymgais i ddod i'r lle hwn. Dim ond aelodau o'r gymdeithas hwyaid anabl a ddeall y frawddeg honno. Rai blynyddoedd yn ôl, pan ddyrchafwyd fi gan John Major a minnau'n sefyll wrth y blwch dogfennau am y tro cyntaf, fe'm cyfarchwyd gan Rhodri Morgan, llefarydd yr wrthblaid bryd hynny, â'r gair cynnes o groeso: 'rhaid mai dyma'r tro cyntaf mewn hanes i lygoden fawr ddod ar fwrdd llong sydd yn suddo'. Yr ydym yn anwahanadwy byth ers hynny.

Yn ei araith huawdl, dywedodd y Prif Ysgrifennydd—a, heb ddymuno codi cywilydd arno, cytunais â bron popeth a ddywedodd, ac mae bellach yn anobeithio—'tri chynnig i Gymro'.

Three tries for a Welshman, as it is said. As a result of what has happened, we should change that saying to 'three tries for a one-legged duck'.

Talaf deyrnged i'r cyn-Brif Ysgrifennydd. Er nad oeddem yn cytuno bob amser, gwerthfawrogaf lawer o'r hyn a wnaeth mewn amgylchiadau anodd. Yng ngoleuni ei brofiadau yr wythnos diwethaf, deallaf yn union sut y mae'n teimlo.

Yn olaf, gadawaf un neges gyda'r Prif Ysgrifennydd. Ar ôl digwyddiadau'r wythnos diwethaf, yr hyn sydd yn peri pryder i mi yw nid yn unig ddelwedd y Cynulliad ond delwedd Cymru a'i phobl, a bod modd inni ddangos ein gallu i redeg ein materion ein hunain a'n proffesiynoldeb wrth wneud hynny. Pan yw'r Prif Ysgrifennydd yn ymwneud â phobl y tu allan i Gymru, a fydd

60 Assembly Members? We cannot have a repeat of last week, as far as proud Welshmen are concerned. In this respect, First Secretary, you cannot and must not fail.

cystal â chofio bob amser fod ganddo gefnogaeth lwyr, yr wyf yn credu, ymhlith pob un o 60 Aelod y Cynulliad? Ni allwn ailadrodd yr wythnos diwethaf, ym marn Cymry balch. Yn hyn o beth, Brif Ysgrifennydd, ni allwch ac ni chewch fethu.

The Presiding Officer: Welsh men and women, of course.

Y Llywydd: Cymry a Chymryesau, wrth gwrs.

Cwestiynau i'r Prif Ysgrifennydd Questions to the First Secretary

'Gwell Cymru' (Cynhwysiant Cymdeithasol) 'A Better Wales' (Social Inclusion)

Q1 Geraint Davies: How will the document 'A Better Wales' contribute to social inclusion? (OAQ3519)

C1 Geraint Davies: Sut y bydd y ddogfen 'Gwell Cymru' yn cyfrannu at gynhwysiant cymdeithasol? (OAQ3519)

Estynnaf fy llongyfarchiadau a'm dymuniadau gorau i chi.

I extend my congratulations and best wishes to you.

The First Secretary: Social inclusion is one of the three major themes running through the plan and it has guided policy and action on everything from the economy to health. In my acceptance speech, I acknowledged that there is a case for saying that we should not talk about social inclusion or social exclusion. That is new speak for poverty. Actions to remedy poverty should involve redistribution. We should cut the waffle and call it, and our remedial actions, what they really are. The problem with being too radical in doing that is that it tends to make you think of all the things that are not devolved to the Assembly, such as taxation and the benefit system. Those are areas that have not been devolved to the Assembly. There is some sort of case for using a different language that concentrates more on what we can do.

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Cynhwysiant cymdeithasol yw un o'r tair thema fawr sydd yn rhedeg drwy'r cynllun ac mae wedi arwain polisi a gweithredu ar bopeth o'r economi i iechyd. Yn fy araith dderbyn, cydnabûm fod dadl dros ddweud na ddylem sôn am gynhwysiant cymdeithasol neu allgáu cymdeithasol. Geiriau gwneud am dlodi yw'r rheini. Dylai camau er mwyn gwella tlodi gynnwys ailddosbarthu. Dylem roi'r gorau i falu awyr a galw hynny, a'r camau a gymerwn i'w wella, yr hyn ydynt mewn gwirionedd. Y broblem sydd ynglŷn â bod yn rhy radicalaidd wrth wneud hynny yw ei fod yn tueddu i beri ichi feddwl am yr holl bethau sydd heb eu datganoli i'r Cynulliad, fel trethiant a'r system budd-daliadau. Mae'r rheini'n feysydd nad ydynt wedi eu datganoli i'r Cynulliad. Mae rhyw fath o ddadl dros ddefnyddio iaith wahanol sydd yn canolbwyntio'n fwy ar yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud.

I would today like to commend the brilliant projects that are found in some of our most deprived communities, but not in enough of those communities. If there were 100 deprived communities in Wales, there is probably a brilliant community self-help project taking place in five or 10 of those communities. If only there was in 90 of those communities the same sort of projects that

Heddiw hoffwn ganmol y prosiectau gwych a geir yn rhai o'n cymunedau mwyaf difreintiedig, ond nid mewn digon o'r cymunedau hynny. Pe bai 100 o gymunedau difreintiedig yng Nghymru, mae'n fwy na thebyg bod prosiect hynangymorth cymunedol gwych yn digwydd mewn pump neu 10 o'r cymunedau hynny. O na bai'r un math o brosiectau yn 90 o'r cymunedau

you can find in the Rhondda and Cynon valleys, and the kind of project that I saw in Wrexham's Higher Park estate. We must spread best practice from those projects so that every community has a self-help project. It has to be self-help. We can only facilitate. We cannot order communities as to how they should better themselves.

Geraint Davies: The idea of creating a vision of what Wales will be like in 10 years time is an excellent one. The 'A Better Wales' document is to be commended for that attempt. Speaking as Plaid Cymru spokesperson for the Valleys, do you agree, Rhodri, that if social inclusion and poverty in the Valleys is to be addressed, the responsibility for co-ordinating the various initiatives of 'A Better Wales' and translating its fine rhetoric into action should be at Cabinet level. When you reshuffle your Cabinet, do you intend to appoint a secretary for the Valleys?

The First Secretary: I will make a statement on that issue later and, therefore, the question of whether there should or should not be a Cabinet member for the Valleys must be left in abeyance until that time.

Jonathan Morgan: Recognising the hardship in those deprived communities of which you spoke and recognising the principles outlined in 'A Better Wales', will you consider the possibility of establishing a committee of inquiry into student financial support?

The First Secretary: Social inclusion or lack of financial ability to participate in higher education will be relevant to some students. It would not normally be considered as relevant but I understand and sympathise with Jonathan's case. The use of access funds would be seen as the right solution to individual problems in terms of access to higher education for those from less well-off families. There may be cases or categories of students that Jonathan wants to discuss, which could be brought to the attention of Tom Middlehurst or myself. The question of tuition fees and grants, which has been a burning issue in Scotland, is not devolved to us. It would be difficult to involve that issue

hynny ag a gewch yng nghymoedd Rhondda a Chynon, a'r math o brosiect a welais ar stad Higher Park yn Wrecsam. Rhaid inni ledaenu'r arfer gorau o'r prosiectau hynny fel bod gan bob cymuned brosiect hunangymorth. Rhaid iddo fod yn hunangymorth. Ni allwn ond hwyluso. Ni allwn orchymyn i gymunedau o ran y modd y dylent wella eu cyflwr.

Geraint Davies: Mae'r syniad o greu gweledigaeth o'r hyn y bydd Cymru ymhen 10 mlynedd yn un rhagorol. Mae'r ddogfen 'Gwell Cymru' i'w chanmol am geisio gwneud hynny. A siarad fel llefarydd Plaid Cymru dros y Cymoedd, a gytunwch, Rhodri, os yw cynhwysiant cymdeithasol a thlodi yn y Cymoedd i gael sylw, y dylai'r cyfrifoldeb dros gydlynu gwahanol fentrau 'Gwell Cymru' a throï ei rhethreg wych yn weithredu fod ar lefel y Cabinet. Pan aildrefnwch eich Cabinet, a fwriadwch benodi ysgrifennydd dros y Cymoedd?

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Byddaf yn gwneud datganiad ar y mater hwnnw'n ddiweddarach ac, felly, rhaid gadael y cwestiwn o ba un a ddylid cael aelod Cabinet dros y Cymoedd heb ei ateb tan hynny.

Jonathan Morgan: Gan gydnabod y caledi yn y cymunedau difreintiedig hynny y soniasoch amdanynt a chan gydnabod yr egwyddorion a amlinellir yn 'Gwell Cymru', a ydych yn barod i ystyried y posibilïad o sefydlu pwyllgor ymchwil i gymorth ariannol i fyfyrwyr?

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Bydd cynhwysiant cymdeithasol neu ddiffyg gallu ariannol i gyfranogi mewn addysg uwch yn berthnasol i rai myfyrwyr. Ni châi ei ystyried yn berthnasol fel arfer ond yr wyf yn deall ac yn cydymdeimlo â dadl Jonathan. Byddai defnyddio cronfeydd mynediad yn cael ei ystyried yn ateb priodol i broblemau unigol o ran mynediad i addysg uwch i'r rhai o deuluoedd llai cefnog. Efallai fod enghreifftiau neu gategoriâu o fyfyrwyr y mae Jonathan am eu trafod, y gellid dod â hwy i sylw Tom Middlehurst neu fi. Nid yw mater ffioedd hyfforddi a grantiau, a fu'n bwnc llosg yn yr Alban, wedi ei ddatganoli i ni. Byddai'n anodd cynnwys y mater hwnnw

in the kind of inquiry that Jonathan mentioned. If we can do anything to help open up access to higher education, vocational education and lifelong learning for people from less well-off areas, communities or families, we will try to help, provided that it is within the Assembly's powers.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: A gaf i hefyd gymryd y cyfle i'ch llongyfarch yn gynnes, Rhodri, ar eich penodiad fel Prif Ysgrifennydd. Yr ydych yn dechrau'r swydd gydag ewyllys da eich plaid eich hun ac Aelodau o bob plaid yn y Cynulliad.

Fe gydnabyddoch yn eich datganiad nad oes unrhyw blaid â mwyafrif yn y Cynulliad a bod yr elfen o gydweithio yn anorfod i sicrhau ein bod yn creu hyder yn y sefydliad. Mae'r ddogfen 'Gwell Cymru' wedi ei chynllunio ar y sail y bydd sylwadau gan bleidiau eraill yn rhan o'r drafodaeth. Nid yn unig y mae angen inni gael dealltwriaeth ynglŷn â chynnwys y rhaglen, ond mae'r math o bolisiau sydd yn deillio o hynny yn golygu bod yn rhaid inni gael cyd-drafod ar y cynnwys o safbwynt manylion polisi. Ar ba fath o strwythur y byddwch chi'n edrych, Rhodri, i sicrhau bod y math hwnnw o fewnbwn yn cael ei wneud gan bob plaid o hyn ymlaen?

2:39 p.m.

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Nid wyf eisiau manylu y prynhawn yma ar sut y gallem gytuno ar welliannau yn y strwythur. Fodd bynnag, derbyniaf yr egwyddor sylfaenol y cyfeiriodd Ieuan ati, sef fy mod eisiau annog y 60 ohonom i gymryd mwy o ran mewn datblygu polisi, yn enwedig o ran y cynlluniau ledled Cymru sydd yn mynd ar draws sawl pwnc a ystyrir yn draddodiadol fel pynciau ar wahân. Yr ydym yn ceisio eu gwneud yn fwy cytûn, felly bydd cyfle i bobl o bob plaid i gyfrannu—gan gynnwys Rod sydd heb blaid—ym mhob ffordd bosibl at y broses o droi'r egwyddorion yn weithredoedd a all wella sefyllfa pobl nad ydynt yn byw mewn ardaloedd llewyrchus o Gymru.

yn y math o ymchwiliad a grybwyllodd Jonathan. Os gallwn wneud rhywbeth i helpu i ehangu mynediad i addysg uwch, addysg alwedigaethol a dysgu gydol oes ar gyfer pobl o ardaloedd, cymunedau neu deuluoedd llai cefnog byddwn yn ceisio helpu, ar yr amod ei fod oddi mewn i bwerau'r Cynulliad.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: May I also congratulate you warmly, Rhodri, on your appointment as First Secretary. You start the work with the good will of your own party and that of Members of every party in the Assembly.

You acknowledged in your statement that no party has a majority in the Assembly, and that an element of co-operation is essential to ensure that we generate confidence in the establishment. The document 'A Better Wales' has been designed on the basis that comments from other parties will be part of the discussion. Not only do we need an understanding of the programme's contents, but the kind of policies that arise from that mean that we must discuss the contents as regards policy details. To what kind of structure will you be looking, Rhodri, to ensure that that kind of input is made by every party from now on?

The First Secretary: I do not wish to go into detail this afternoon about how we can agree on improvements in the structure. However, I accept the basic principle to which Ieuan referred, which is that I want to encourage the 60 of us to take a greater part in developing policy, especially regarding the schemes throughout Wales which cross-cut subjects that are traditionally considered as separate subjects. We are trying to bring them together, therefore there will be an opportunity for people from every party—including Rod who has no party—to contribute in any possible way towards the process of turning the principles into actions that can improve the situation of people who do not live in prosperous areas of Wales.

**Plant ag Anghenion Addysgol Arbennig
Children with Special Educational Needs**

Q2 Pauline Jarman: How does the First Secretary plan to ensure that pupils with special educational needs are not socially excluded? (OAQ3520)

On the eve of this new dawn, I want to prove that we are listening to what you say.

The First Secretary: It depends on how you resolve the old issue of the special needs of special needs children, preserving the principle of mainstreaming special needs children, providing them with the additional provision that they need without stigmatising that provision because it is special for those children. You cannot always do that. Children with severe special needs probably need to be catered for separately. One would want to consider parental views as well as those of specialists in those circumstances. Children with mild special educational needs can be dealt with via mainstreaming. However, we must try to solve any problems with the statementing procedure which ensures that parents have the right to decide if they want their children to be in mainstream education with additional provision or in separate provision because they believe that their children's special needs are so great that they should not be dealt with via mainstream provision.

Pauline Jarman: Will you be pressing your colleagues in Westminster to implement the advice of the disability rights taskforce in full, including bringing schools under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995? It is a terrible injustice that schools are not included in the Act. It continues to lead to unnecessary exclusion.

The First Secretary: As a general principle, I mentioned that parental rights are very important. That is true here as well. Sometimes bodies misunderstand what parents say about this issue and somehow believe that one size fits all. In my experience, parents of special needs children divide into those who want their children mainstreamed, with special assistance, and those who do not want their children mainstreamed because they believe that their

C2 Pauline Jarman: Sut y mae'r Prif Ysgrifennydd yn bwriadu sicrhau na chaiff plant ag anghenion addysgol arbennig eu hallgáu'n gymdeithasol? (OAQ3520)

Ar drothwy'r wawr newydd hon, yr wyf am brofi ein bod yn gwrandao ar yr hyn a ddywedwch.

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Mae'n dibynnu ar y modd yr ydych yn datrys hen fater yr anghenion arbennig sydd gan blant ag anghenion arbennig, gan gadw at yr egwyddor o roi plant ag anghenion arbennig yn y brif ffrwd, rhoi'r ddarpariaeth ychwanegol y mae arnynt ei angen heb warthnodi'r ddarpariaeth honno am ei bod yn arbennig ar gyfer y plant hynny. Ni allwch wneud hynny bob amser. Mae'n fwy na thebyg bod angen darparu ar wahân ar gyfer plant ag anghenion arbennig difrifol. Byddai rhywun am ystyried barn y rhieni yn ogystal â barn arbenigwyr yn yr amgylchiadau hynny. Gellir trafod plant ag anghenion addysgol arbennig cymedrol drwy brif-frydio. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni geisio datrys unrhyw broblemau â'r drefn llunio datganiadau sydd yn sicrhau y caiff rhieni hawl i benderfynu a ydynt am i'w plant fod mewn addysg brif ffrwd gyda darpariaeth ychwanegol neu mewn darpariaeth ar wahân am eu bod yn credu bod anghenion arbennig eu plant mor fawr fel na ddylid ymdrin â hwy drwy ddarpariaeth brif ffrwd.

Pauline Jarman: A fyddwch yn pwysu ar eich cydweithwyr yn San Steffan i roi cyngor y tasglu hawliau anabledd ar waith yn llawn, gan gynnwys rhoi ysgolion o dan y Ddeddf Gwahaniaethu ar sail Anabledd 1995? Mae'n ofnadwy o anghyfiawn nad yw ysgolion wedi eu cynnwys yn y Ddeddf. Mae'n dal i arwain at allgáu diangen.

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Fel egwyddor gyffredinol, crybwyllais fod hawliau rhieni'n bwysig iawn. Mae hynny'n wir yma hefyd. Weithiau mae cyrff yn camdeall yr hyn a ddywed rhieni am y mater hwn ac yn credu rywsut fod yr un maint yn ffitio pawb. Yn fy mhrofiad i, mae rhieni plant ag anghenion arbennig yn ymrannu'n rhai sydd am gael eu plant yn y brif ffrwd, gyda chymorth arbennig, a'r rhai nad ydynt am i'w plant gael eu rhoi yn y brif ffrwd am eu bod yn credu na

children cannot cope. It is not good simply to say that one size fits all.

Dafydd Wigley: Byddwch yn ymwybodol o'm diddordeb yn y pwnc hwn. Mae gwahaniaeth rhwng gwahanol gategoriâu o anabledd sydd angen darpariaeth wahanol. Yn y cyd-destun hwnnw, a fydddech chi'n derbyn fod dadl dros geisio lleoli ysgolion arbennig sydd yn cyfrannu at addysg y plant hyn o fewn yr un campws ag ysgolion eraill, hyd yn oed ar gyfer y plant sydd â'r anawsterau mwyaf? A fyddai hi'n bosibl i ni edrych yn bositif ac yn greadigol tuag at raglen o geisio sicrhau hyn yng Nghymru dros gyfnod o amser a chael yr arian cyfalaf angenrheidiol sydd ar gael i wella nid yn unig safon darpariaeth ysgolion arbennig ond hefyd eu lleoliad?

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Gwnaeth Dafydd bwynt diddorol ynglŷn ag adnoddau a lleoliad. Mae'r plant yn gallu cael eu dosbarthu mewn o leiaf bedwar categori: y rhai sydd yn aros yn yr un dosbarth gydag athro neu athrawes ychwanegol; y rhai sydd yn mynd i uned sydd yn delio ag anghenion addysgol arbennig, oddi fewn i'r un ysgol ond ar wahân; y rhai sydd yn mynd i ysgol sydd ar wahân ond y drws nesaf i ysgol arferol, fel bo modd i'r disgyblion o leiaf weld ei gilydd ac, efallai, chwarae gyda'i gilydd dan rai amgylchiadau; a'r rhai sydd yn mynd i ysgol ar wahân. Yr hyn y mae'r rhieni eisïau, a'r hyn y mae'r seicolegydd addysg yn ei argymhell sydd yn bwysig: ni allech ddweud bod pob plentyn yn gorfod dilyn yr egwyddor fawr o brif-ffrydio er mwyn osgoi stigma. Yr wyf o blaid osgoi stigma, ond hyd yn oed wedyn, y ddarpariaeth sydd yn addas i'r plentyn sydd yn bwysig, nid egwyddor.

Jane Davidson: Congratulations on your election, First Secretary. Given your view that we want to ensure that children who have special needs are treated appropriately, would you be prepared to work with your Cabinet colleague with responsibility for education to examine the physical aspects and location of our schools for children with special needs? I visited the Rhondda Special School last week, in Trealaw in the Rhondda, where over a third of the pupils need to use wheelchairs and have very severe disabilities. The school

all eu plant ddygymod. Nid peth da yw dweud yn syml bod yr un maint yn ffitio pawb.

Dafydd Wigley: You will be aware of my interest in this subject. There is a difference between different categories of disability that need different provision. In that context, would you accept that there is an argument for locating special schools that deal with the education of these children within the same campus as other schools, even for those children with the greatest difficulties? Would it be possible for us to look positively and creatively towards a programme of trying to ensure this over a period of time in Wales and get the essential capital funds available to improve not only the standard of provision of special schools but also their location?

The First Secretary: Dafydd has made an interesting point regarding resources and also location. Children can be classified in at least four categories: those who stay in the same class with an additional teacher; those who go to a unit to deal with special educational needs, within the same school, but separate; those who go to a school that is separate but next door to a usual school, so that at least the pupils can see each other and, perhaps, play together in some circumstances; and those who go to a separate school. What parents want and what the educational psychologist recommends is important: you cannot say that every child must follow the great mainstreaming principle in order to avoid stigma. I am in favour of avoiding stigma, but even so, the provision that suits the child is important, not a principle.

Jane Davidson: Llongyfarchiadau ar eich ethol, Brif Ysgrifennydd. O dderbyn eich barn ein bod am sicrhau y caiff plant ag anghenion arbennig eu trin yn briodol, a fydddech yn barod i weithio gyda'ch cydweithiwr yn y Cabinet sydd â chyfrifoldeb dros addysg i archwilio agweddau ffisegol a lleoliad ein hysgolion ar gyfer plant ag anghenion arbennig? Ymwelais ag Ysgol Arbennig y Rhondda yr wythnos diwethaf, yn Nhrealaw yn y Rhondda, lle y mae dros un rhan o dair o'r disgyblion ag angen defnyddio

has about 100 steps down to the main entrance. Although it is possible to access the school by wheelchair, that has to be done outside the normal route that anyone else would use. Do you not agree that if we are to tackle stigma, we must ensure that those who cannot make their own case should have their case made for them in the Assembly?

The First Secretary: I cannot comment on an individual school that you have visited and I have not. However, the situation you have described does not sound ideal by any means. It would not fit into the category of mainstreaming, in anyone's definition, because clearly it claims to provide a good facility, but it sounds in fact as if the school is physically unsuitable, presumably due to the nature of the site. However, I cannot say anything further about that particular school without knowledge of it.

Jenny Randerson: I am sure that you are aware that there is a widespread fear that the policy of encouraging mainstream education for pupils with special educational needs, rather than education in special units, is education on the cheap. Many people see the policy as such and as the educational equivalent of the Conservatives' care in the community, which turned out to be neglect in the neighbourhood. In practice, in many schools the level of support in mainstream classes for children with special educational needs is far too low and woefully inadequate. Can you give us an assurance, on your first official day as our First Secretary, that you will do all you can to ensure that the level of educational spending in Wales is raised to that of, and improves on, the level in England, so that we provide a good start for all children in Wales?

The First Secretary: I cannot make promises from this podium today, having just been appointed, on additional resources for any area of expenditure, even one that engages our personal and political sympathies. Jenny, you may know of units that are inadequate, are poor substitutes and not real special needs education. You should

cadeiriau olwyn a chanddynt anableddau difrifol iawn. Mae tua 100 o risiau o'r ysgol i lawr i'r brif fynedfa. Er bod modd mynd i'r ysgol mewn cadair olwyn, rhaid gwneud hynny y tu allan i'r llwybr arferol a ddefnyddiai pawb arall. Oni chytunwch, os ydym i ymdrin â gwarthnodi, fod rhaid inni sicrhau bod achos y rhai na allant ddadlau eu hachos eu hunain yn cael ei ddadlau ar eu rhan yn y Cynulliad?

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Ni allaf wneud sylw am ysgol unigol yr ymwelwyd â hi gennyh chi ond nid gennyf fi. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'r sefyllfa a ddisgrifiasoch yn swnio'n ddelfrydol o bell ffordd. Ni fyddai'n ffitio i gategori prif-ffrydio, yn ôl unrhyw ddiffiniad, oherwydd mae'n amlwg yn honni darparu cyfleuster da, ond mae'n swnio mewn gwirionedd fel petai'r ysgol yn ffisegol anaddas, oherwydd natur y safle yn ôl pob tebyg. Fodd bynnag, ni allaf ddweud dim ymhellach am yr ysgol benodol honno heb wybod amdani.

Jenny Randerson: Yr wyf yn sicr eich bod yn ymwybodol bod ofn cyffredinol bod y polisi o hybu addysg brif ffrwd ar gyfer plant ag anghenion addysgol arbennig, yn hytrach nag addysg mewn unedau arbennig, yn addysg am y nesaf peth i ddim. Mae llawer o bobl yn gweld y polisi felly ac fel yr hyn sydd yn cyfateb mewn addysg i ofal yn y gymuned y Ceidwadwyr, y cafwyd ei fod yn esgeulustod yn y gymdogaeth. Yn ymarferol, mewn llawer o ysgolion mae lefel y gefnogaeth mewn dosbarthiadau prif ffrwd i blant ag anghenion addysgol arbennig yn rhy isel o lawer ac yn anobeithiol o annigonol. A allwch roi sicrwydd, ar eich diwrnod swyddogol cyntaf yn Brif Ysgrifennydd, y byddwch yn gwneud popeth a allwch i sicrhau y codir lefel y gwariant addysgol yng Nghymru i lefel Lloegr, ac yn uwch na hynny, fel ein bod yn rhoi cychwyn da i'r holl blant yng Nghymru?

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Ni allaf roi addewidion o'r podiwm hwn heddiw, a minnau newydd fy mhenodi, ar adnoddau ychwanegol i unrhyw faes gwariant, hyd yn oed un sydd yn ennyn ein cydymdeimlad personol a gwleidyddol. Jenny, efallai y gwyddoch am unedau sydd yn annigonol, sydd yn efelychiadau gwael a heb fod yn

draw them to my attention or to that of the Secretary with responsibility for education. On units, and provided that the unit is a proper unit within a school, they at least mean that children walk to school together—if they can walk—which therefore means better social integration for the child, rather than social separation. As I said, if there are problems with units about which you know, I would like to hear about them. I do not think that one should condemn any particular method of special needs education. It should be about trying to make sure that whatever the statement says is suitable for that child is provided. That is when you bump up against the resource limit. However, if a unit with proper resourcing is available, that may well be the most suitable provision for a child. I do not think that one should condemn it in advance.

addysg anghenion arbennig mewn gwirionedd. Dylech eu tynnu i'm sylw i neu'r Ysgrifennydd sydd yn gyfrifol am addysg. Ynghylch unedau, ac ar yr amod bod yr uned yn uned wirioneddol oddi mewn i ysgol, maent o leiaf yn golygu bod plant yn cerdded gyda'i gilydd i'r ysgol—os gallant gerdded—sydd felly'n golygu gwell integreiddio cymdeithasol i'r plentyn, yn hytrach na gwahanu cymdeithasol. Fel y dywedais, os oes problemau ynglŷn ag unedau y gwyddoch amdanynt, hoffwn glywed amdanynt. Ni chredaf y dylid collfarnu un dull penodol o addysg anghenion arbennig. Yr hyn a ddylai fod dan sylw yw ceisio sicrhau y darperir beth bynnag y dywed y datganiad sydd yn addas i'r plentyn hwnnw. Dyna pryd y bwriwch yn erbyn y terfyn adnoddau. Fodd bynnag, os oes uned ag adnoddau priodol ar gael, efallai mai honno fydd y ddarpariaeth fwyaf addas i'r plentyn. Ni chredaf y dylid ei cholllfarnu ymlaen llaw.

2:49 p.m.

Cyllid Cyfatebol Match Funding

Q3 Alun Cairns: Will the First Secretary make a statement on the latest developments on his negotiations with the Secretary of State for Wales and the Treasury in relation to match funding? (OAQ3504)

C3 Alun Cairns: A wnaiff y Prif Ysgrifennydd ddatganiad ar y datblygiadau diweddaraf yn ei negodiadau ag Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru a'r Trysorlys mewn perthynas â chyllid cyfatebol? (OAQ3504)

I congratulate Rhodri Morgan on his election as First Secretary. I wish him well in every effort that he will make to improve the quality and way of life in Wales, nowhere more important than in my question.

Llongyfarchaf Rhodri Morgan ar ei ethol yn Brif Ysgrifennydd. Dymunaf yn dda iddo ym mhob ymdrech ganddo i wella'r ansawdd a'r ffordd o fyw yng Nghymru, ac ynghylch fy nghwestiwn i yn anad dim.

The First Secretary: Alun Michael and I have had regular meetings with the Secretary of State for Wales, both in my former post and since my caretaker elevation to First Secretary, to discuss all the issues relating to Wales, the Treasury and the financial obligations of Objective 1. You could call this a political example of Murphy's Law. If it had not been for the events of last week and today, with me becoming First Secretary, I would have now been on my way to London for my first meeting with Andrew Smith, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, at 5.30 p.m. this afternoon. That is now impossible and I

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Bu cyfarfodydd rheolaidd rhwng Alun Michael a fi ac Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru, yn fy swydd flaenorol ac ers imi gael fy nychafu'n Brif Ysgrifennydd dros dro, i drafod yr holl faterion sydd yn ymwneud â Chymru, y Trysorlys ac oblygiadau ariannol Amcan 1. Gallech alw hyn yn enghraifft wleidyddol o Ddeddf Murphy. Oni bai am ddigwyddiadau'r wythnos diwethaf a heddiw, a minnau'n dod yn Brif Ysgrifennydd, buaswn yn awr ar fy ffordd i Lundain ar gyfer fy nghyfarfod cyntaf ag Andrew Smith, Prif Ysgrifennydd y Trysorlys, am 5.30 p.m.

will therefore meet him for the first time to discuss this subject the week after next.

Alun Cairns: You will appreciate the importance that Assembly Members place on this issue. Do you believe that the Prime Minister now appreciates the importance that the Assembly places on this issue? As a result, do you expect him, in collaboration with yourself, to make an announcement on match funding over and above the Barnett block grant before the end of the comprehensive spending review?

The First Secretary: I have not commanded the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer to alter the timing of the comprehensive spending review, although First Secretary of the National Assembly for Wales is an important post. However, I will certainly be pressing the Chief Secretary to the Treasury on the fact that European funds should be considered outside of the normal Barnett formula, and therefore above and beyond the block that we would otherwise receive.

Phil Williams: Llongyfarchiadau twymgalon a dymuniadau gorau yn dy swydd newydd. Yr wyf yn sicr iti ddarllen erthygl yn *The Observer* ddoe a oedd yn disgrifio pryder ardaloedd Amcan 1 yn Lloegr ynglŷn â'r diffyg mawr yn y cyllid cyfatebol gan y Llywodraeth. Yr ydym ar yr un ochr â de Swydd Efrog, Glannau Mersi a Chernyw yn y frwydr hon. Yr ydym hefyd eisiau defnyddio cymhorthion gweithredu i'r fantais fwyaf yn yr un modd. Pa drafodaethau sydd yn mynd ymlaen rhwng ein cynrychiolwyr a chynrychiolwyr ardaloedd Amcan 1 yn Lloegr?

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Rhaid mai yn *The Observer* ddydd Sul yr oedd hyn ac nid un ddoe, ynteu ai yn y *Pontypridd and Llantrisant Observer* yr oedd? Ni ddarllenais yr erthygl y mae Phil yn cyfeirio ati, ond deallaf y cefndir. Cawn ein cynrychioli yn y cyfarfodydd gyda'r tair ardal Amcan 1 yn Lloegr, sef de Swydd Efrog, Glannau Mersi a Chernyw. Yr ydym yn cymryd rhan gyflawn gyda hwy wrth drafod yr holl bosibiliadau o ddefnyddio'r arian yn y modd mwyaf

y prynhawn yma. Mae hynny'n amhosibl bellach a byddaf felly'n cyfarfod ag ef am y tro cyntaf i drafod y pwnc hwn yr wythnos ar ôl y nesaf.

Alun Cairns: Byddwch yn deall y pwys y mae Aelodau'r Cynulliad yn ei roi ar y mater hwn. A gredwch fod y Prif Weinidog bellach yn deall y pwys y mae'r Cynulliad yn ei roi ar y mater hwn? O ganlyniad, a ydych yn disgwyl y bydd ef, mewn cydweithrediad â chi, yn gwneud cyhoeddiad ar gyllid cyfatebol ar ben yr hyn sydd yng ngrant bloc Barnett cyn diwedd yr adolygiad cynhwysfawr o wariant?

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Ni orchynnais i'r Prif Weinidog a Changhellor y Trysorlys newid amseriad yr adolygiad cynhwysfawr o wariant, er bod swydd Prif Ysgrifennydd Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn un bwysig. Fodd bynnag, byddaf yn sicr o bwysio ar Brif Ysgrifennydd y Trysorlys ynghylch y ffaith y dylid ystyried arian Ewropeaidd y tu allan i'r fformwla Barnett arferol, ac felly ar ben y bloc y byddem yn ei dderbyn fel arall.

Phil Williams: Heartfelt congratulations and best wishes in your new post. I am certain that you read the article in *The Observer* yesterday which described the concerns of Objective 1 areas in England regarding the great deficit in the match funding from the Government. We are on the same side as south Yorkshire, Merseyside and Cornwall in this battle. We also want to use operating aids to the greatest advantage in the same manner. What discussions are ongoing between our representatives and the representatives of the Objective 1 areas in England?

The First Secretary: This must have been in Sunday's *The Observer* and not in yesterday's, or was it in the *Pontypridd and Llantrisant Observer*? I did not read the article to which Phil refers, but I understand the background. We are represented at the meetings with the three Objective 1 areas in England, namely south Yorkshire, Merseyside and Cornwall. We take a full part with them in discussing all the possibilities of using the money in the most creative manner

creadigol i greu pob math o swyddi a chyfoeth newydd yn yr ardaloedd hynny sydd gymaint o'i angen.

Nick Bourne: Implementation and dissemination of information on Objective 1 are both clearly vital to Wales's success. You have produced 'Towards Objective One', which contains an address and a telephone number. When I rang the telephone number out of hours, the hotline seemed to have gone cold, with no answerphone message for people to register for details. I rang the hotline during office hours today. Although the staff were polite, they had no information to make available other than the single programming document, which would not be of much use to most people, especially in its current state. Will you do something about that?

The First Secretary: I am pleased that Nick has taken upon himself the role of what is known in the business as the mystery shopper; the barium meal in hospital terms. We always took the view that an Assembly politician would try out the hotline and at some stage the hotline arrangements would break down. Obviously you rung at that time. I shall make inquiries and try to ensure that prompt and relevant information is provided to everyone, not excluding Assembly party leaders, when they ring the hotline.

Christine Chapman: Further to that and to the guidance issued in relation to Objective 1, will you ensure that we proactively encourage strong local partnerships in which local authorities are key players but not necessarily the sole leaders, to ensure that the widest and strongest possible partnerships are formed and that they are not top-heavy and do not deter or demotivate possible participants from making full use of Objective 1 funds?

The First Secretary: I do not disagree. It is an important principle that local authorities in all Welsh Objective 1 areas take the initiative in forming local partnerships, but do not run the whole show. Once they have taken the initiative and made contact with partners in the business world and the voluntary sector,

to create all kinds of new jobs and wealth in those areas that need it so much.

Nick Bourne: Mae'n amlwg bod gweithredu a lledaenu gwybodaeth ar Amcan 1 yn holl bwysig i lwyddiant Cymru. Yr ydych wedi cynhyrchu 'Tuag at Amcan Un', sydd yn cynnwys cyfeiriad a rhif ffôn. Pan ffoniais y rhif y tu allan i oriau, yr oedd yn ymddangos bod y llinell boeth wedi oeri, ac nad oedd yr un neges peiriant ateb i bobl gael cofrestru i dderbyn manylion. Gelwais y llinell boeth yn ystod oriau swyddfa heddiw. Er bod y staff yn gwrtais, nid oedd ganddynt wybodaeth i'w rhoi heblaw am y ddogfen raglennu sengl, na fyddai o lawer o ddefnydd i'r rhan fwyaf o bobl, yn enwedig yn ei chyflwr presennol. A ydych yn fodlon gwneud rhywbeth ynghylch hynny?

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Yr wyf yn falch bod Nick wedi ymgymryd â rôl yr hyn a elwir yn y busnes yn siopwr dirgel; yr uwd bariwm yn nhermau ysbyty. Yr oeddem bob amser o'r farn y byddai gwleidydd Cynulliad yn rhoi cynnig ar y llinell boeth ac y byddai trefniadau'r llinell boeth yn torri i lawr rywdro. Mae'n amlwg eich bod wedi ffonio bryd hynny. Byddaf yn gwneud ymholiadau ac yn ceisio sicrhau y darperir gwybodaeth brydlon a pherthnasol i bawb, heb eithrio arweinyddion plaid yn y Cynulliad, pan ydynt yn ffonio'r llinell boeth.

Christine Chapman: Yn ychwanegol at hynny ac i'r arweiniad a gyhoeddwyd mewn perthynas ag Amcan 1, a ydych yn fodlon sicrhau ein bod yn hybu'n rhagweithiol bartneriaethau lleol cryf y mae awdurdodau lleol yn chwaraewyr allweddol ynddynt heb fod o reidrwydd yn unig arweinyddion, er mwyn sicrhau y ffurfir y partneriaethau ehangaf a chryfaf posibl ac nad ydynt yn bendrwm nac yn rhwystro nac yn dadysgogi cyfranogion posibl rhag defnyddio arian Amcan 1 i'r eithaf?

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Nid wyf yn anghytuno. Mae'n egwyddor bwysig bod awdurdodau lleol yn holl ardaloedd Amcan 1 Cymru yn achub y blaen wrth ffurfio partneriaethau lleol, ond nad ydynt yn rhedeg y sioe gyfan. Wedi iddynt gymryd y cam cyntaf a chysylltu â phartneriaid ym myd

they must withdraw slightly to a one-third role to enable the private sector and the voluntary sector to each have a third of a stake in the wider sense of that word. Then everybody knows that it is not a matter of leaving it to the council. The council may have made the first contact and provided the meeting facilities, but if the private sector and the voluntary sector are not equally engaged, the partnership principle breaks down.

Peter Black: I add my congratulations to Rhodri on his appointment as First Secretary. You have already said in this Chamber today that you feel the Assembly should change its voice on several issues in terms of terms and phraseology. How do you intend to change direction in dealing with the Treasury in trying to obtain this match funding?

The First Secretary: I cannot give specific details on changing direction with the Treasury, but the negotiations will continue for a further five or six months until the comprehensive spending review is over. The negotiating tactics may change during those six months as a result of whatever resistance the Treasury puts up. It is never easy to get money out of the Treasury nor would it be proper if it was easy to do so. I hope that I have learnt lessons in trying to get money out of Edwina Hart which will prove useful to me in trying to get money out of Gordon Brown and Andrew Smith.

busnes a'r sector gwirfoddol, rhaid iddynt dynnu'n ôl ychydig i rôl o un rhan o dair er mwyn galluogi'r sector peifat a'r sector gwirfoddol i gael un rhan o dair o gyfran bob un yn ystyr ehangach y gair hwnnw. Wedyn mae pawb yn gwybod nad yw'n fater o'i adael i'r cyngor. Efallai mai'r cyngor sydd wedi cysylltu yn y lle cyntaf ac wedi darparu'r cyfleusterau cyfarfod, ond os nad yw'r sector preifat a'r sector gwirfoddol yn cymryd rhan i'r un graddau, bydd yr egwyddor partneriaeth yn chwalu.

Peter Black: Ategaf fy llongyfarchion i Rhodri ar ei benodi'n Brif Ysgrifennydd. Dywedasoeh eisoes yn y Siambr hon heddiw eich bod yn teimlo y dylai'r Cynulliad newid ei lais ar sawl mater o ran termau a ieithwedd. Sut yr ydych yn bwriadu newid cyfeiriad wrth ymdrin â'r Trysorlys wrth geisio cael y cyllid cyfatebol hwn?

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Ni allaf roi manylion penodol ar newid cyfeiriad gyda'r Trysorlys, ond bydd y negodiadau'n parhau am bum neu chwe mis pellach nes bydd yr adolygiad cynhwysfawr o wariant wedi gorffen. Efallai y bydd y dacteg trafod yn newid yn ystod y chwe mis o ganlyniad i ba bynnag wrthwynebiad a geir gan y Trysorlys. Nid yw byth yn hawdd cael arian o'r Trysorlys ac ni fyddai'n briodol ychwaith pe bai'n hawdd gwneud hynny. Gobeithiaf fy mod wedi dysgu gwersi wrth geisio cael arian oddi wrth Edwina Hart a allai brofi'n ddefnyddiol i mi wrth geisio cael arian oddi wrth Gordon Brown ac Andrew Smith.

Rhestrau Aros Hwy (Cleifion Allanol) Longer Waiting Lists (Outpatients)

Q4 David Melding: Will the First Secretary commission research to assess the impact of longer outpatient waiting lists on social exclusion? (OAQ3515)

I do not know which you feel is more incongruous, being congratulated by a Conservative on your appointment or being congratulated by Tony Blair, but nonetheless I offer you my warmest congratulations. It is the fulfilment of an honourable ambition on your part.

C4 David Melding: A yw'r Prif Ysgrifennydd yn fodlon comisiynu ymchwil i asesu effaith rhestrau aros hwy ar gyfer cleifion allanol ar allgáu cymdeithasol? (OAQ3515)

Ni wn pa un a deimlwch sydd ryfeddaf, ai cael eich llongyfarch gan Geidwadwr ar eich penodi ai cael eich llongyfarch gan Tony Blair, ond er hynny cynigiaf fy llongyfarchiadau gwresocaf i chi. Mae'n gyflawniad o uchelgais anrhydeddus ar eich rhan chi.

The First Secretary: Longer outpatient waiting lists clearly have some impact because someone who is well off has the alternative of going private while someone who is not well off does not. In Wales and, echoing what I said earlier, in the land of Aneurin Bevan, going private is not an option as Government policy. If there was evidence that hospital waiting lists were lengthening or increased waiting time for a first outpatient appointment was becoming a serious problem in terms of equity of access I would take it seriously. I do not believe that is so yet. It is a serious problem but not in terms of equity of access. It is a problem for everybody. I do not think that there is a tendency in Wales to believe that expanding private health care is an option which then eases pressure on the national health service for those who cannot afford private health care. If that is the line behind his question it is not an option that we would want to follow.

David Melding: As well as ditching clumsy political language and jargon, will you start to ditch election promises that will not be fulfilled, namely the commitment to reduce waiting lists? Will your administration move to a more sensible measure, which would have cross-party support, to guarantee waiting times? That is what is important to a patient.

2:59 p.m.

The First Secretary: There is a huge amount of sympathy with the intellectual case that waiting times are better than numbers on lists. However, if we were suddenly to announce that waiting lists do not matter but waiting times do, David Melding would be the first to leap up and say 'You have abandoned an election commitment'. It is in the nature of combative politics in a democratic society that one balances election commitments, made before the Assembly was established, and ensures continuity between those and the election manifesto commitments that were made in the run up to the Assembly elections themselves. There is a strong intellectual case that waiting times are more important than lists. We would like to see progress on both fronts. Then we would not have this kind of programme. I

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Mae'n amlwg y caiff rhestrau aros hwy ar gyfer cleifion allanol ryw effaith oherwydd mae gan rywun cefnog y dewis o fynd yn breifat tra nad yw hynny gan rywun nad yw'n gefnog. Yng Nghymru, a chan adleisio'r hyn a ddywedais yn gynharach, yng ngwlad Aneurin Bevan, nid yw mynd yn breifat yn ddewis fel polisi'r Llywodraeth. Pe bai tystiolaeth bod rhestrau aros ysbytai yn ymestyn neu gynydd yn yr amser aros ar gyfer apwyntiad cyntaf i gleifion allanol yn dod yn broblem ddifrifol o ran tegwch mynediad fe'i cymerwn o ddifrif. Ni chredaf ei bod eto. Mae'n broblem ddifrifol ond nid o ran tegwch mynediad. Mae'n broblem i bawb. Ni chredaf fod tuedd yng Nghymru i gredu bod ehangu gofal iechyd preifat yn ddewis sydd wedyn yn lliniaru pwysau ar y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol i'r rhai hynny na allant fforddio gofal iechyd preifat. Os mai hynny yw'r safbwynt y tu ôl i'w gwestiwn nid yw'n ddewis y byddem am ei gymryd.

David Melding: Yn ogystal â thafu iaith a jargon wleidyddol drwsogl, a fyddwch yn dechrau taflu addewidion etholiad na fyddant yn cael eu cyflawni, sef yr ymrwymiad i leihau rhestrau aros? A fydd eich gweinyddiaeth yn symud tuag at fesurydd mwy synhwyrol, a gâi gefnogaeth drawsbleidiol, i warantu amseroedd aros? Dyna sydd yn bwysig i glaf.

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Mae llawer iawn o gydymdeimlad â'r ddadl ddeallusol bod amseroedd aros yn well na rhifau ar restrau. Fodd bynnag, pe baem yn cyhoeddi'n sydyn nad yw rhestrau aros o bwys ond bod amseroedd aros yn bwysig, David Melding fyddai'r cyntaf i neidio ar ei draed a dweud 'Yr ydych wedi rhoi'r gorau i ymrwymiad etholiad'. Mae'n naturiol mewn gwleidyddiaeth ymosodol mewn cymdeithas ddemocrataidd fod rhywun yn cydbwysu ymrwymadau etholiad, a wnaethpwyd cyn sefydlu'r Cynulliad, ac yn sicrhau dilyniant rhwng y rhain a'r ymrwymadau manifesto etholiad a wnaethpwyd yn y paratodau ar gyfer etholiadau'r Cynulliad eu hunain. Mae dadl ddeallusol gryf bod amseroedd aros yn bwysicach na rhestrau. Hoffem weld cynnydd ar y ddau ffrynt. Wedyn ni fyddai gennym

accept much of the intellectual case that he puts forward, but I know that we would not be free of criticism if we suddenly threw out our lists and used times instead.

David Lloyd: Ychwanegaf fy llongyfarchiadau. Mae'n hyfryd gweld eich mam a'ch brawd yn bresennol y prynhawn yma.

O gofio'r argyfwng gwelyau y gaeaf diwethaf a oedd yn golygu bod cannoedd o lawdriniaethau wedi'u gohirio lle y bydd cannoedd eraill yn cael eu gohirio maes o law, a yw'r Prif Ysgrifennydd newydd yn bwriadu gosod targed i gynyddu'r nifer o welyau yn y gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru yn y ddogfen 'Gwell Cymru'?

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Nid wyf yn bwriadu gwneud unrhyw newidiadau i'r ddogfen 'Gwell Cymru'. Nid oes unrhyw fwriad i gyfeirio'n wahanol at darged y gwelyau yn y ddogfen.

raglen o'r math hwn. Derbyniaf lawer o'r ddadl ddeallusol y mae'n ei chyflwyno, ond gwn na fyddem yn rhydd rhag beirniadaeth pe baem yn taflu'n rhestrau'n sydyn ac yn defnyddio amseroedd yn eu lle.

David Lloyd: I add my congratulations. It is lovely to see your mother and brother present here this afternoon.

Bearing in mind the beds crisis last winter, which meant that hundreds of operations were postponed and that many hundreds of others will be postponed in due course, does the new First Secretary intend to set a target to increase the number of beds in the health service in Wales in the document 'A Better Wales'?

The First Secretary: I do not intend to make any amendments to the document 'A Better Wales'. There is no intention to refer differently to the beds target in the document.

Pobl Ifanc Young People

Q5 Ann Jones: What plans does the First Secretary have to further encourage young people to take an active role in political life, and in the life of their local communities? (OAQ3521)

The First Secretary: There are several issues here. In the light of events taking place at the other end of the M4 today, one can say that the voice of young people in Wales has not been heard in the past and will be heard in the future. I cannot say more than that, because of other events that will take place in another democratic assembly at the other end of the M4. The important thing about the representation of young people and young people's involvement in the political process is that it must not be only the better-off young people that take part. It needs to be people from rich, middling and poor backgrounds, from whatever kind of family background or community they live in. Whatever their postal code, they must be equally involved and know that the Assembly, the political process and their local town council involvement in voluntary

C5 Ann Jones: Pa gynlluniau sydd gan y Prif Ysgrifennydd i roi mwy o anogaeth i bobl ifanc gymryd rhan weithredol ym maes gwleidyddiaeth, ac ym mywyd eu cymunedau lleol? (OAQ3521)

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Mae sawl mater yma. Yng ngoleuni'r digwyddiadau ym mhen arall yr M4 heddiw, gall rhywun ddweud na chlywyd llais pobl ifanc yng Nghymru yn y gorffennol ac y caiff ei glywed yn y dyfodol. Ni allaf ddweud mwy na hynny, oherwydd digwyddiadau eraill a geir mewn cynulliad democrataidd arall ym mhen arall yr M4. Y peth pwysig am gynrychiolaeth pobl ifanc a'r rhan a gymer pobl ifanc yn y broses wleidyddol yw nad y bobl ifanc fwy cefnog yn unig a ddylai gymryd rhan. Rhaid cael pobl o gefndiroedd cyfoethog, canolig a thlawd, o ba bynnag fath o gefndir teuluol neu gymuned y maent yn byw ynddi. Beth bynnag yw eu cod post, rhaid iddynt gymryd rhan yn gyfartal a gwybod bod y Cynulliad, y broses wleidyddol a'r rhan a gymer eu cyngor tref lleol mewn grwpiau gwirfoddol ac undebau llafur, yn rhywbeth yr ydym am

groups and trade unions, is something that we want to encourage, so that they do not become disaffected, unclubbable youth. That commitment was made very strongly when Alun Michael launched Young Voice/Llais Ifanc on 7 September.

Ann Jones: Today is a day for looking forward for young people. I ask you to ensure that your administration will have at the heart of its policies the voice of young people and that we do all we can to ensure that more young people take an active role in the democratic rights of their communities.

The First Secretary: All of us who took part in the elections in May 1999, thought that the Assembly would take a long time to become fully established, but we did it for the benefit of the next generation, and the generation after that, in Wales. We knew that, initially, people would still be orientated to thinking about the House of Commons, the British Government, and 10 Downing Street as the source of power and authority, with perhaps some idea about local councils. We knew that it would take a long while before there was any kind of equal attention and esteem attributed to whatever happened in the Assembly. However, for the younger generation it seems that this is a legitimate hope. If we can engage their attention by speaking their language and making provision for them to become involved in the building of a new civil society in Wales, then we can expect that the Assembly, and other bodies as well, will be equally worthy of their attention in years and in generations to come.

Elin Jones: Esytynaf fy llongyfarchiadau i chi, Rhodri, ar eich dyrchafiad yn Brif Ysgrifennydd y Cynulliad. O ystyried yr hyn a ddywedasoich yn eich datganiad ar ddechrau'r Cyfarfod Llawn ynglŷn â'r miloedd o bobl ifanc o Gymru dros y blynyddoedd sydd wedi gweld eu dyfodol, a'u gyrfa, a'u bywyd y tu allan i Gymru, a gytunwch, fel Prif Ysgrifennydd, fod angen rhoi blaenoriaeth i anghenion pobl ifanc a chyfleoedd gwirioneddol iddynt ym mhob maes polisi y mae'r Cynulliad yn gyfrifol amdano, nid yn unig addysg ond diwylliant, datblygu economaidd a hybu iechyd?

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Cytunaf. Pwrpas y

ei hybu, fel na fyddant yn mynd yn ieuentid dieithriedig, anghymdeithasol. Rhoddwyd yr ymrwymiad hwnnw'n gryf pan lansiodd Alun Michael Young Voice/Llais Ifanc ar 7 Medi.

Ann Jones: Mae heddiw'n ddiwrnod i edrych ymlaen i bobl ifanc. Gofynnaf ichi sicrhau y bydd eich gweinyddiaeth yn rhoi llais pobl ifanc wrth graidd ei pholisïau ac y gwnawn bopeth a allwn i sicrhau bod mwy o bobl ifanc yn cymryd rhan weithredol yn hawliau democrataidd eu cymunedau.

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Yr oedd pawb ohonom a gymerodd ran yn yr etholiadau ym Mai 1999, yn credu y cymerai'r Cynulliad amser hir i ymsefydlu'n llawn, ond fe'i gwnaethom er budd y genhedlaeth nesaf, a'r genhedlaeth ar ôl honno, yng Nghymru. Gwyddem y byddai pobl, ar y dechrau, yn dal i ogwyddo at feddwl am Dŷ'r Cyffredin, Llywodraeth Prydain, a 10 Downing Street fel ffynhonnell pŵer ac awdurdod, ynghyd â rhywfaint o syniad efallai am gynghorau lleol. Gwyddem y cymerai amser hir cyn y rhoddid unrhyw fath o sylw a pharch i'r un graddau i beth bynnag a ddigwyddai yn y Cynulliad. Fodd bynnag, o ran y genhedlaeth iau mae'n ymddangos bod hyn yn obaith dilys. Os gallwn gael eu sylw drwy siarad eu hiaith a gwneud darpariaeth iddynt ddod yn rhan o adeiladu cymdeithas ddinesig newydd yng Nghymru, wedyn gallwn ddisgwyl y bydd y Cynulliad, a chyrrff eraill hefyd, yr un mor deilwng o'u sylw yn y blynyddoedd a'r cenedlaethau i ddod.

Elin Jones: I extend my congratulations to you, Rhodri, on your promotion to First Secretary of the Assembly. Considering what you said in your statement at the beginning of this Plenary about the thousands of young people from Wales over the years who have seen their future, career and life outside of Wales, do you agree, as First Secretary, that there is a need to give priority to young people's needs and real opportunities for them in every policy field for which the Assembly is responsible, not only education but culture, economic development and health promotion?

The First Secretary: Yes. The Assembly's

Cynulliad yw creu gwell dyfodol i'r gymdeithas gyfan. Y genhedlaeth sydd i ddod a fydd yn manteisio fwyaf ar unrhyw beth a wnawn i gryfhau ein heconomi a gwella ein gwasanaeth iechyd. Hwy fydd yn manteisio gyntaf ac yn manteisio fwyaf ar unrhyw welliant y gallwn ei wneud o ran cyflenwi ein gwasanaethau ar gyfer pobl Cymru. Mae 3 miliwn o bobl yn byw yng Nghymru. Nid ydynt i gyd yn ifanc. Fodd bynnag, y genhedlaeth sydd i ddod fydd yr un a wêl fwyaf y cryfder y gallwn ei greu yn ein heconomi a'n cymdeithas.

Jonathan Morgan: Bearing in mind the contribution of young people to the expanding Welsh film industry, will you join me in congratulating S4C, particularly Ioan Gruffudd and Nia Roberts, whose film *Solomon a Gaenor* has today been nominated for an Oscar?

The First Secretary: That is a huge achievement, which will raise Wales's profile, particularly among young people. It is not only young people who are interested in the film industry, but this will have a dramatic effect on our credibility as we attempt to build a bigger media industry in Wales. I know only the names of the actors that Jonathan mentioned and I saw the brief piece that looked forward to the nomination procedure at 8 a.m. The happy event to which Jonathan referred had not taken place then.

I commend the producers, backers and whoever was involved in producing a Welsh-language film that is sufficiently commercial, skilful, professional, exciting and cultural to convince the moguls of Hollywood that it is worthy of an Oscar nomination. That is not chicken feed—it is a difficult task to achieve, even though this film is, presumably, in the special non-English language category. Nevertheless, that is a huge achievement and I hope that we can build on it in the future.

Christine Humphreys: Ychwanegaf fy llongyfarchiadau i Rhodri. A fydddech yn cytuno mai un o'r ffyrdd gorau o annog pobl ifanc i gymryd rhan mewn bywyd gwleidyddol yw sefydlu Cynulliad llawn i bobl ifanc, lle y cânt eu hethol yn ein

purpose is to create a better future for the whole of society. The future generation will benefit most from anything that we do to strengthen our economy and improve our health service. They will benefit first and most from any improvement that we can make in delivering our services for the people of Wales. There are 3 million people living in Wales. They are not all young. However, the future generation will be the one that will most see the strength that we can create in our economy and society.

Jonathan Morgan: O gofio cyfraniad pobl ifanc i'r diwydiant ffilm sydd yn tyfu yng Nghymru, a ydych yn barod i ymuno â mi wrth longyfarch S4C, yn enwedig Ioan Gruffudd a Nia Roberts, yr enwebwyd ei ffilm *Solomon a Gaenor* heddiw ar gyfer Oscar?

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Mae hynny'n gamp aruthrol, a fydd yn codi proffil Cymru, yn enwedig ymysg pobl ifanc. Nid pobl ifanc yn unig sydd yn ymddiddori yn y diwydiant ffilm, ond caiff hyn effaith drawiadol ar ein hygrdedd wrth inni geisio adeiladu diwydiant cyfryngau mwy yng Nghymru. Ni wn ond enwau'r actorion a grybwyllodd Jonathan a gwelais yr eitem fach oedd yn bwrw golwg ymlaen ar y drefn enwebu am 8 a.m. Nid oedd y digwyddiad hapus y cyfeiriodd Jonathan ato wedi bod bryd hynny.

Canmolaf y cynhyrchwyr, y cefnogwyr a phwy bynnag oedd yn gysylltiedig â chynhyrchu ffilm Gymraeg sydd yn ddigon masnachol, medrus, proffesiynol, cyffrous a diwylliannol i argyhoeddi pwysigion Hollywood ei bod yn deilwng o'i henwebu ar gyfer Oscar. Nid chwarae bach mo hynny—mae'n dasg anodd ei chyflawni, er bod y ffilm hon, yn ôl pob tebyg, yn y categori di-Saesneg arbennig. Er hynny, mae'n gamp aruthrol a gobeithiaf y gallwn adeiladu arno yn y dyfodol.

Christine Humphreys: I add my congratulations to Rhodri. Would you agree that one of the best ways to encourage young people to take part in political life is to establish a full Assembly for young people, where they are elected in schools to shadow

hysgolion er mwyn cysgodi a hyd yn oed fwydo gwaith y Cynulliad hwn?

and even feed into this Assembly's work?

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Nid oes gennyf wrthwynebiad i'r syniad hwnnw. Mae'n syniad gwydych ar yr amod mai dyna'r hyn y mae pobl ifanc ei eisiau. Eu dewis hwy ydyw. Os ydynt yn ei ystyried yn berthnasol i adeiladu sylfaen leol i'r syniad o gael rhyw fath o gyngor lleol neu ranbarthol yn y gogledd, y gorllewin, y Cymoedd neu ba le bynnag, nid oes gwahaniaeth gennyf. Mater iddynt hwy ydyw. Fodd bynnag, anogaf y syniad eu bod yn dysgu sut i chwarae rhan mewn dadlau a chymryd penderfyniadau i adeiladu'r math o wasanaeth dinesig yr ydym i gyd ei eisiau. Os mai dyna'r hyn y mae pobl ifanc ei eisiau, byddwn yn hapus i helpu.

The First Secretary: I have no opposition to that idea. It is an excellent idea on the condition that that is what young people want. It is their choice. If they see it as relevant to build a local basis for the idea of having some kind of local or regional council in the north, the west, the Valleys or wherever, I do not mind. It is a matter for them. However, I encourage the idea that they learn how to take part in debate and decision-making to build the kind of civic service that we all want. If that is what young people want, I would be happy to help.

Pwynt o Drefn Point of Order

Nick Bourne: Point of order. I raise this under Standing Order No. 1.9. Last week's dramatic events cannot pass without a comment about accusations made against you as Presiding Officer. It is important for the record that we establish that the political parties in the Assembly have faith in your execution of your role in what has been an extremely difficult period. On behalf of the Welsh Conservative Party, I state that we have total faith in you and that you have discharged your function in difficult circumstances over the last week with great dignity and aplomb. A lesson may have been learnt over this last week about the importance of establishing that you have access to independent legal advice. That is no reflection on the legal advice that is proffered to the administration within the Assembly. However, we are a body corporate and it is important that, in times of great party political debate, you have established, proper access to independent legal advice. I hope that the First Secretary will respond on that point. It would reassure Members of all political parties.

Nick Bourne: Pwynt o drefn. Codaf hyn o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 1.9. Ni chaiff digwyddiadau dramatig yr wythnos diwethaf fynd heibio heb wneud sylw am gyhuddiadau a wnaethpwyd yn eich erbyn chi fel Llywydd. Mae'n bwysig er mwyn y cofnod inni gadarnhau bod y pleidiau gwleidyddol yn y Cynulliad yn ymddiried yn y modd y cyflawnwch eich rôl yn yr hyn a fu'n gyfnod anodd iawn. Ar ran Plaid Geidwadol Cymru, datganaf ein bod yn ymddiried yn llwyr yn och a'ch bod wedi cyflawni'ch swyddogaeth mewn amgylchiadau anodd dros yr wythnos diwethaf gydag urddas a hunanfeddiant mawr. Efallai fod gwers wedi ei dysgu dros yr wythnos diwethaf hon ynghylch y pwysigrwydd o gadarnhau bod gennych hawl i dderbyn cyngor cyfreithiol annibynnol. Nid yw hynny'n adlewyrchu o gwbl ar y cyngor cyfreithiol a gynigir i'r weinyddiaeth oddi mewn i'r Cynulliad. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn gorff corfforaethol ac mae'n bwysig, ar adegau o ddadlau gwleidyddol pleidiol mawr, fod gennych hawl briodol a phroffedig i dderbyn cyngor cyfreithiol annibynnol. Gobeithiaf y bydd y Prif Ysgrifennydd yn ymateb ar y pwynt hwnnw. Rhoddai hynny dawl meddwl i Aelodau o'r holl bleidiau gwleidyddol.

3:09 p.m.

The Presiding Officer: I am grateful for that

Y Llywydd: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y

point of order. Does the First Secretary wish to respond at this stage, or at a later stage?

The First Secretary: There are difficulties with the Government of Wales Act 1998, as I understand it, because of the first line that specifies that we are a body corporate and independent in the full meaning of that phrase. I have had preliminary talks and discussions with the Presiding Officer and the Permanent Secretary about avoiding the repetition of that problem last week regarding ensuring independent legal advice or what approaches independent legal advice. I have told the Presiding Officer that if we can take action to double the thickness of the Chinese wall around him and the advice that he receives, so that it is seen to be separate from that which is provided to the administration side of this Assembly—provided that that is allowed within the wording of the Government of Wales Act—I am quite happy to consider doing so.

pwynt o drefn hwnnw. A yw'r Prif Ysgrifennydd yn dymuno ymateb yn awr, neu'n ddiweddarach?

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Mae anawsterau gyda Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998, fel y deallaf, oherwydd y llinell gyntaf sydd yn nodi ein bod yn gorff corfforaethol ac annibynnol yn ystyr llawn yr ymadrodd hwnnw. Cefais sgysiau a thrafodaethau rhagarweiniol gyda'r Llywydd a'r Ysgrifennydd Parhaol ynghylch osgoi ailadrodd y broblem honno yr wythnos diwethaf mewn perthynas â sicrhau cyngor cyfreithiol annibynnol neu'r hyn sydd yn ymylu ar gyngor cyfreithiol annibynnol. Dywedais wrth y Llywydd, os oes modd inni gymryd camau i ddyblu trwch y mur Tsieineaidd o'i amgylch a'r cyngor y mae'n ei dderbyn, fel y gwelir ei fod ar wahân i'r hyn a ddarperir i ochr weinyddiaeth y Cynulliad hwn—ar yr amod y caniateir hynny o fewn geiriad Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru—fy mod yn gwbl fodlon ystyried gwneud hynny.

Datganiad Busnes Business Statement

The Business Secretary (Andrew Davies): I would like to inform the Assembly of changes to business tomorrow. Instead of the Plaid Cymru and Conservative minority party debates we will debate transport in Wales; that debate has been rescheduled from last week. The change has the agreement of all parties. We will also discuss the planning panel guidance, also deferred from last week. I thank my colleagues in the Business Committee for agreeing to this change in Assembly business at short notice.

On Tuesday 29 February, in addition to the business I reported last week, there will be motions to approve the following items of subordinate legislation: the Local Government (Best Value) (Exemption) (Wales) Order 2000, the Local Government (Best Value) (Reviews and Performance Plans) (Wales) Order 2000 and the Seeds (Fees) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2000. To mark St David's day on 1 March, it has been agreed by the Business Committee that each party will debate a subject of its

Y Trefnydd (Andrew Davies): Hoffwn hysbysu'r Cynulliad am newidiadau yn y busnes yfory. Yn lle dadleuon plaid leiafrifol Plaid Cymru a'r Ceidwadwyr byddwn yn trafod trafndiaeth yng Nghymru; ailamserlennwyd y ddatl honno o'r wythnos diwethaf. Mae'r holl bleidiau wedi cytuno ar y newid. Byddwn hefyd yn trafod arweiniad y panel cynllunio, a ohiriwyd hefyd o'r wythnos diwethaf. Diolchaf i'm cydweithwyr yn y Pwyllgor Busnes am gyntuno ar y newid hwn ym musnes y Cynulliad ar fyr rybudd.

Ddydd Mawrth 29 Chwefror, yn ychwanegol at y busnes a adroddais yr wythnos diwethaf, bydd cynigion i gymeradwyo'r eitemau canlynol o is-ddeddfwriaeth: Gorchymyn Llywodraeth Leol (Gwerth Gorau) (Rhyddhad) (Cymru) 2000, Gorchymyn Llywodraeth Leol (Gwerth Gorau) (Adolygiadau a Chynlluniau Perfformiad) (Cymru) 2000 a Rheoliadau Hadau (Ffioedd) (Diwygiad) (Cymru) 2000. Er mwyn nodi dydd gŵyl Dewi ar 1 Mawrth, cytunwyd gan y Pwyllgor Busnes y bydd pob plaid yn cael

choice. Each debate will last between 30 to 45 minutes. The subjects for debate will be notified at the end of this week. On Tuesday 7 March, I have scheduled time to debate the report of the Waterhouse inquiry into child abuse in north Wales. On Wednesday 8 March, there will be a motion to approve the Local Authorities (Capital Finance) (Rate of Discount for 2000/2001) (Wales) Regulations 2000 and a motion to approve the Council Tax (Reduction Scheme) and (Demand Notices Transitional Provision) (Wales) Regulations 2000. There will also be a debate to mark international women's day. I have asked members of the Business Committee to consider an appropriate wording for the motion for that debate. On Tuesday 14 March, there will be a report from a Subject Committee and on Wednesday 15 March, there will be two one hour-long debates proposed by Plaid Cymru and the Conservative Party. Arrangements will be made after Plenary today to post this statement on the intranet and the internet.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I thank Andrew for his statement, the recognition for our giving up our party debate and that time will be made available on 15 March for that debate. Will he give the Assembly an assurance that there will be an early opportunity to question Jane Hutt on the implications of the Waterhouse report? Can he give us an early indication of when we can expect that?

Andrew Davies: I had hoped to be able to make a firmer statement in the Business Statement. I hope to make a further statement later this afternoon on the Waterhouse inquiry.

Business Statement adopted.

Cymeradwyo Gorchymyn Rheilffyrdd (Gwerth Ardrethol) (Cymru) 2000 Approval of the Railways (Rateable Value) (Wales) Order 2000

The Secretary for the Environment and Local Government (Peter Law): I propose that

the Assembly

(a) considers the report of the Legislation Committee relating to the draft Railtrack plc (Rateable Value) (Wales) Order 2000 laid in

dadl ar bwnc o'i dewis. Bydd pob dadl yn parhau rhwng 30 a 45 munud. Rhoddir gwybod am bynciau'r dadleuon ddiwedd yr wythnos hon. Ddydd Mawrth 7 Mawrth, yr wyf wedi neilltuo amser i drafod adroddiad ymchwiliad Waterhouse i gam-drin plant yng ngogledd Cymru. Ddydd Mercher 8 Mawrth, bydd cynnig i gymeradwyo Rheoliadau Awdurdodau Lleol (Cyllid Cyfalaf) (Cyfradd Gostyngiad am 2000/2001) (Cymru) 2000 a chynnig i gymeradwyo Rheoliadau Treth y Cyngor (Cynllun Lleihau) a (Darpariaethau Trosiannol Rhybuddion Archeb) (Cymru) 2000. Bydd dadl hefyd i nodi diwrnod rhyngwladol y benywod. Gofynnais i aelodau'r Pwyllgor Busnes ystyried geiriad priodol ar gyfer y cynnig i'r ddatl honno. Ddydd Mawrth 14 Mawrth, bydd adroddiad gan Bwyllgor Pwnc a ddydd Mercher 15 Mawrth, bydd dwy ddatl awr o hyd a gynigir gan Blaid Cymru a'r Blaid Geidwadol. Gwneir trefniadau ar ôl y Cyfarfod Llawn heddiw i osod y datganiad hwn ar y fewnwyd a'r rhyngwyd.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Diolchaf i Andrew am ei ddatganiad, y gydnabyddiaeth am inni ildio ein dadl plaid ac y bydd amser ar gael ar 15 Mawrth ar gyfer y ddatl honno. A fydd yn rhoi sicrwydd i'r Cynulliad y bydd cyfle cynnar i holi Jane Hutt am oblygiadau adroddiad Waterhouse? A all roi arwydd buan inni o ba bryd y gallwn ddisgwyl hynny?

Andrew Davies: Yr oeddwn wedi gobeithio gwneud datganiad mwy pendant yn y Datganiad Busnes. Gobeithiaf wneud datganiad pellach yn ddiweddarach y prynhawn yma ar ymchwiliad Waterhouse.

Derbyniwyd y Datganiad Busnes.

Ysgrifennydd yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol (Peter Law): Cynigiau fod

y Cynulliad

(a) yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau ar y Gorchymyn Railtrack ccc (Gwerth Ardrethol) (Cymru) 2000 drafft a

the Table Office on 8 February 2000;

osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 8 Chwefror 2000;

(b) considers the principle of the Order; and

(b) yn ystyried egwyddor y Gorchymyn; ac

(c) approves that the Order is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 1 February 2000.

(c) yn cymeradwyo gwneud y Gorchymyn yn unol â'r drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 1 Chwefror 2000.

This draft Order is one of a whole raft of statutory instruments that the Assembly has to make as a consequence of the 2000 business rates revaluation. It follows directly from the Central Rating List (Wales) Regulations 1999 that were made on 22 December, and is part of a package of five Orders being made for the industry, subject to prescribed assessment. The Assembly approved motions for the making of Orders covering the gas and water supply industries on 26 January.

Mae'r Gorchymyn drafft hwn yn un o bentwr mawr o offerynnau statudol y mae'n rhaid i'r Cynulliad eu gwneud o ganlyniad i ailbriso trethi busnes yn 2000. Mae'n dilyn yn uniongyrchol o Reoliadau'r Rhestr Trethiant Canolog (Cymru) 1999 a wnaethpwyd ar 22 Rhagfyr, ac yn rhan o becyn o bum Gorchymyn a wneir ar gyfer y diwydiant, yn amodol ar asesiad rhagnodedig. Cymeradwyodd y Cynulliad gynigion ar gyfer gwneud Gorchymynion sydd yn cynnwys y diwydiannau cyflenwi nwy a dŵr ar 26 Ionawr.

This draft Order prescribes a new rateable value for Railtrack's rail network in Wales. It relates solely to the track. Stations appear on local rating lists and have their rates collected by councils. The rateable value will be used by the Assembly to calculate the company's rates bills for 2000-01, and the following four years. The rates collected are pooled, and the Assembly redistributes them as part of its revenue support for councils and police authorities. The Order should come into force on 1 April. The rateable value contained in the draft Order is based on valuations produced by the Valuation Office Agency. It reflects the rental value that the property could have been reasonably expected to fetch on the open market at the valuation date of 1 April 1998. The valuations were carried out on a Great Britain basis because of the cross border nature of the rail network. As with the gas and water Orders, we have had to agree Wales's share with the Department for the Environment, Transport and the Regions and the Scottish Executive.

Mae'r Gorchymyn drafft hwn yn rhagnodi gwerth ardrethol newydd i rwydwaith rheilffyrdd Railtrack yng Nghymru. Mae'n ymwneud â'r cledrau yn unig. Mae gorsafodded yn ymddangos ar restrau trethiant lleol a chesglir eu trethi gan gynghorau. Defnyddir y gwerth ardrethol gan y Cynulliad i gyfrifo biliau trethi'r cwmni am 2000-01, a'r pedair blynedd wedi hynny. Cronnir y trethi a gesglir, ac mae'r Cynulliad yn eu hailddosbarthu fel rhan o'i gymorth refeniw i gynghorau ac awdurdodau'r heddlu. Dylai'r Gorchymyn ddod i rym ar 1 Ebrill. Mae'r gwerth ardrethol a geir yn y Gorchymyn drafft yn seiliedig ar brisiadau a gynhyrchwyd gan Asiantaeth y Swyddfa Brisio. Mae'n adlewyrchu'r gwerth rhentu y gellid disgwyl yn rhesymol i'r eiddo ei gyrraedd ar y farchnad agored ar ddyddiad y prisiad ar 1 Ebrill 1998. Cyflawnwyd y prisiadau ledled Prydain Fawr oherwydd natur drawsffiniol y rhwydwaith rheilffyrdd. Yn yr un modd â'r Gorchymynion nwy a dŵr, bu'n rhaid inni gytuno ar gyfran Cymru gydag Adran yr Amgylchedd, Trafnidiaeth a'r Rhanbarthau a Gweithrediaeth yr Alban.

Business rate revaluations reflect changes in the property market and have widely different effects in different areas and on different types of businesses. Some businesses will see their rateable values and bills rise, while

Mae ailbrisiadau o drethi busnes yn adlewyrchu newidiadau yn y farchnad eiddo ac maent yn wahanol iawn eu heffaith mewn gwahanol ardaloedd ac ar wahanol fathau o fusnesau. Bydd rhai busnesau'n gweld eu

others will see a fall. As we have already seen in the case of the gas and water companies, the impact of the 2000 revaluation varies considerably between each of the companies subject to prescribed assessment. The Order is technical in nature and updates existing legislation. The figure contained in it is based on independent valuations that have been subject to extensive consultation and agreed with Railtrack. I commend the motion.

gwerthoedd ardrethol a'u biliau'n codi, ac eraill yn gweld gostyngiad. Fel y gwelsom eisoes yn achos y cwmnïau nwy a dŵr, mae effaith ailbrisiad 2000 yn amrywio'n sylweddol rhwng pob un o'r cwmnïau sydd yn ddarostyngedig i asesiad rhagnodedig. Mae'r Gorchymyn yn dechnegol ei natur ac yn diweddar deddfwriaeth bresennol. Mae'r ffigur a geir ynddo'n seiliedig ar brisiadau annibynnol y bu ymgynghori helaeth arnynt ac y cytunwyd arnynt â Railtrack. Cymeradwyaf y cynnig.

Cynnig: O blaid 34, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.

Motion: For 34, Abstain 0, Against 0.

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:
The following Members voted for:

Black, Peter
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Geraint
Davies, Jocelyn
Davies, Ron
Essex, Sue
Feld, Val
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Halford, Alison
Hancock, Brian
Hutt, Jane
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Law, Peter
Lloyd, David
Marek, John
Melding, David
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Jonathan
Neagle, Lynne
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty
Williams, Phil

Motion adopted.

Derbyniwyd y cynnig.

3:19 p.m.

Cymeradwyo Rheoliadau Addysg (Grantiau Safonau Addysg) (Cymru) 2000
Approval of the Education (Education Standards Grants) (Wales) Regulations 2000

The Secretary for Education and Children (Rosemary Butler): I propose that

the Assembly

(a) *considers the report of the Legislation Committee relating to the draft Education (Education Standards Grants) (Wales) Regulations 2000 Order laid in the Table Office on 8 February 2000;*

(b) *considers the principle of the Order; and*

(c) *approves that the Order is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 1 February 2000*

The grants for education support and training programme is the Assembly's main mechanism for driving forward the standard agenda in schools. It enables the Assembly to target resources on a wide range of activities to support the many facets of school performance, school improvement and pupil attainment. It is a wide-ranging, constantly evolving programme. Its total value next year is just over £50 million and 60 per cent of this is a grant from the Assembly to local education authorities. The balance comes from LEAs whose revenue support grant settlement includes their 40 per cent contribution.

For 2000-01, the Pre-16 Education Committee has agreed that the grants for education support and training programme will give greater prominence to the social inclusion agenda, particularly measures to tackle disaffection and behavioural issues. This refocusing is not being undertaken at the expense of what might be regarded as the more traditional activities of the programme. It is just as important to sustain those activities that have supported schools in the past as it is to bring in new ideas and priorities. These two strands are not mutually exclusive. We can and must do both.

Yr Ysgrifennydd Addysg a Phlant (Rosemary Butler): Cynigaf fod

y Cynulliad

(a) *yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau ar y Gorchymyn drafft Rheoliadau Addysg (Grantiau Safonau Addysg) (Cymru) 2000 a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 8 Chwefror 2000;*

(b) *yn ystyried egwyddor y Gorchymyn; ac*

(c) *yn cymeradwyo gwneud y Gorchymyn yn unol â'r drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 1 Chwefror 2000.*

Y rhaglen grantiau cynnal addysg a hyfforddiant yw prif fecanwaith y Cynulliad ar gyfer hybu'r agenda safonol mewn ysgolion. Galluoga'r Cynulliad i dargedu adnoddau ar amrediad eang o weithgareddau er mwyn cynnal yr agweddau lu ar berfformiad ysgolion, gwella ysgolion a chyrhaeddiad disgyblion. Mae'n rhaglen gynhwysfawr sydd yn datblygu'n gyson. Mae cyfanswm ei gwerth y flwyddyn nesaf ychydig dros £50 miliwn ac mae 60 y cant o hynny'n grant oddi wrth y Cynulliad i awdurdodau addysg lleol. Daw'r gweddill o'r awdurdodau addysg lleol, y mae eu setliad grant cynnal refeniw yn cynnwys eu cyfraniad o 40 y cant.

Ar gyfer 2000-01, mae'r Pwyllgor Addysg Cyn-16 wedi cytuno y bydd y rhaglen grantiau cynnal addysg a hyfforddiant yn rhoi mwy o amlygrwydd i'r agenda cynhwysiant cymdeithasol, yn enwedig mesurau i ymdrin â materion dieithrwch ac ymddygiad. Nid ymgwymerir â'r newid ffocws hwn ar draul yr hyn y gellid ei ystyried yn weithgareddau mwy traddodiadol y rhaglen. Mae yr un mor bwysig parhau â'r gweithgareddau hynny sydd wedi cynnal ysgolion yn y gorffennol ag ydyw i gyflwyno syniadau a blaenoriaethau newydd. Nid yw'r ddwy elfen hon yn annibynnol ar ei gilydd. Gallwn wneud y ddau a bydd yn rhaid eu gwneud.

The payment of these grants requires statutory authority, which is provided by the draft regulations before you today. Regulations are made annually to reflect the evolving nature of the programme. These regulations are technical in that they set out broad parameters for the management of the GEST programme and are supplemented by a schedule that lists, in broad terms, the eligible activities for which grant is payable. These include support for raising standards and expectations of schools, teachers and pupils; better leadership and management, including governor training; the continuing professional development of teachers, whether subject specific, as in the implementation of the revised national curriculum, or more generally; increased access to, and better use of, information and communications technology as a tool for improved teaching and learning; the development of literacy and numeracy strategies; and support for teachers of pupils with special educational needs. They also help to tackle behaviour and attendance issues, support policies that support better achievement by pupils from ethnic minority backgrounds, relieve the administrative burdens on teachers and provide measures to expand opportunities in music for young people of all abilities and backgrounds.

Local education authorities have been consulted about the coverage of the programme and its management arrangements. These are set out in Assembly circular 6/00, which is available on the intranet and internet. The Pre-16 Education Committee considered the draft programme in its meeting on 1 December 1999. The regulations are not contentious and I hope that the motion will be supported unanimously.

Gareth Jones: Hoffwn gydnabod pwysigrwydd y rhaglen GEST o ran hyrwyddo prosiectau a datblygiadau yn ein hysgolion. Mae Rosemary wedi cyfeirio at nifer ohonynt ac mae'n bwysig ein bod yn cymeradwyo'r rheoliadau hyn.

Cyfeiriwyd at symiau gwahanol ar gyfer eleni, ond mae llinell yn y gyllideb o dan

Mae angen awdurdod statudol i dalu'r grantiau hyn, a darperir hynny gan y rheoliadau drafft sydd ger eich bron heddiw. Gwneir rheoliadau'n flynyddol er mwyn adlewyrchu natur ddatblygol y rhaglen. Mae'r rheoliadau hyn yn dechnegol i'r graddau eu bod yn pennu paramedrau bras ar gyfer rheoli'r rhaglen grantiau cynnal addysg a hyfforddiant ac yn atodiad iddynt ceir atodlen sydd yn rhestru, yn fras, y gweithgareddau y gellir talu grant amdanynt. Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys cymorth i godi safonau a disgwyliadau ysgolion, athrawon a disgyblion; gwell arweinyddiaeth a rheolaeth, gan gynnwys hyfforddi llywodraethwyr; datblygiad proffesiynol parhaus athrawon, boed ar gyfer pwnc penodol, fel a geir wrth roi'r cwricwlwm cenedlaethol diwygiedig ar waith, neu'n fwy cyffredinol; mwy o fynediad at dechnoleg gwybodaeth a chyfathrebu, a gwell defnydd ohoni, fel arf i wella dysgu ac addysgu; datblygu strategaethau llythrennedd a rhifogrwydd; a chymorth i athrawon disgyblion sydd ag anghenion addysgol arbennig. Maent hefyd yn helpu i fynd i'r afael â materion ymddygiad a phresenoldeb, yn cynnal polisiau sydd yn cynnal gwell cyrhaeddiad ymysg disgyblion o gefndiroedd lleiafrifoedd ethnig, yn lleddfu'r beichiau gweinyddol ar athrawon ac yn darparu mesurau i ehangu cyfleoedd mewn cerddoriaeth i bobl ifanc o bob gallu a chefnidir.

Ymgynghorwyd ag awdurdodau addysg lleol ynghylch cynnwys y rhaglen a'i threfniadau rheoli. Nodir y rhain yng nghylchlythyr 6/00 y Cynulliad, sydd ar gael ar y fewnwyd a'r rhyngwyd. Rhoddodd y Pwyllgor Addysg Cyn-16 ystyriaeth i'r rhaglen ddrafft yn ei gyfarfod ar 1 Rhagfyr 1999. Nid yw'r rheoliadau'n ddadleuol a gobeithiaf y cefnogir y cynnig yn unfrydol.

Gareth Jones: I would like to acknowledge the importance of the GEST programme in promoting projects and developments in our schools. Rosemary has referred to many of them and it is important that we approve these regulations.

Different sums have been mentioned for this year, but there is a budget line under the

bennawd GEST ar gyfer 2000-01, sydd yn cyfeirio at swm o £42.7 miliwn. Mae hwnnw yn gamarweiniol gan ei fod yn cynnwys £13 miliwn nad yw'n ymwneud â rhaglen GEST ond sydd yn rhan o'r rhaglen i gadw'r niferoedd mewn dosbarthiadau babanod o dan 30. Mewn cylchlythyr ar 5 Ionawr, cyfeiriwyd—fel y gwnaeth yr Ysgrifennydd Addysg a Phlant yn awr—at swm o £50.6 miliwn. Cydnabyddaf fod hwnnw'n swm cywir. Mae'n cynnwys yr arian a fydd yn cael ei glustnodi gan yr awdurdodau lleol. Fodd bynnag, mae dryswch ynghylch y ffigurau hyn. Gobeithiaf, pan drafodir y gyllideb y flwyddyn nesaf, y byddwn yn derbyn y ffigur cywir.

Hoffwn ychwanegu un neu ddau o bwyntiau. Yr wyf wedi gwneud ymholiadau a derbyn negeseuon ac, ar adegau, nid yw'r rhaglen GEST yn cyd-fynd â chynlluniau strategol awdurdodau addysg lleol. Nid yw hynny'n digwydd bob amser. Ar hyn o bryd—a rhaid cyfaddef ei bod hi'n flwyddyn anghyffredin—nid oes digon o drafodaeth a chyd-ddealltwriaeth rhwng y Cynulliad a'r awdurdodau addysg ynglŷn â'u cynlluniau strategol. Hoffwn weld gwell cydweithio yn y maes hwnnw.

Mae'r rhaglen yn ddrud i'w gweinyddu. Golyga hynny fod arian yn mynd allan o'r gyfundrefn. Ar adegau, caiff hynny ei drefnu ar fyrder a chynhwysir rhai eitemau ar fympwy. Efallai eu bod yn eitemau o bwys ond nid yw'r ysgolion, drwy'r awdurdodau, wedi cael digon o gyfle i roi sylw a thrafodaeth i'r eitemau hynny. Mae tuedd i gyflwyno eitem er mwyn gwario'r arian o fewn dau neu dri mis neu beth bynnag sydd yn weddill o'r flwyddyn ariannol. Mae natur y drafodaeth yn bwysig ac mae angen digon o amser ar ei chyfer.

Rhaid inni gofio ein bod yn trin a thrafod swm sylweddol o arian. Cyfeiriwn at swm sydd o gwmpas 20 y cant o'r holl gyllideb addysg dan-16. Mae angen sicrhau defnydd effeithiol o'r arian. Rhaid cofio bod yn rhaid i'r awdurdodau addysg glustnodi'r arian hwn. Mae 60 y cant ar gael i'r awdurdodau ond rhaid iddynt ganfod y 40 y cant arall. Gall rhai awdurdodau ganfod yr arian, ond ni all eraill. Golyga hynny fod amrywiaeth yng ngwariant y pen o un awdurdod i'r llall. Mae

GEST heading for 2000-01, which refers to a sum of £42.7 million. That is misleading because it includes £13 million that is not for the GEST programme but is part of the programme to keep the numbers in infant classes below 30. In a circular on 5 January, a sum of £50.6 million was mentioned—the same sum as the Secretary for Education and Children mentioned now. I acknowledge that as a correct sum. It includes the funds that will be earmarked by the local authorities. However, there is misunderstanding about these figures. I hope that, when the budget is discussed next year, we will receive the correct figure.

I would like to add one or two points. I have made enquiries and received messages and, on occasions, the GEST programme does not concur with local education authorities' strategic plans. That does not always happen. At present—and one must admit that this is an unusual year—there is not enough discussion and understanding between the Assembly and the education authorities about their strategic plans. I would like to see better collaboration in that area.

Administering the programme is expensive. That means that funds go out of the system. At times, that is arranged hastily and some items are included at whim. They may be important items but the schools, through the authorities, have not had enough opportunity to consider and discuss those items. There is a tendency to introduce an item so that the money can be spent within two or three months or whatever is left of the financial year. The nature of the discussion is important and sufficient time is needed for it.

We must remember that we are discussing a significant sum of money. We are referring to a sum of around 20 per cent of the whole pre-16 education budget. We must ensure effective use of the money. We must remember that the education authorities must earmark this money. Sixty per cent is available to the authorities but they must find the additional 40 per cent. Some authorities can find the money, but others cannot. That means that there is variation in expenditure

hynny'n creu tensiwn a phrotestiadau ymysg rhieni ac undebau sydd yn cynrychioli buddiannau ein hathrawon a'n hathrawesau.

Jenny Randerson: There is general agreement in the Pre-16 Education Committee that we need a review of the procedure and the way in which educational funding in Wales is set out. The officials admitted that the process and consultation procedure on GEST funding was complex. The best way of describing it in modern parlance is that it is downright opaque for most people. It struck me in the last few months that there is a widespread perception among educational professionals and parents in Wales that there is money for schemes in England that does not exist in Wales. It is often difficult for us to explain where the money goes and why it is available from the Department for Education and Employment for some schemes in England and is not available here.

Bearing in mind that there will be greater disparity in the coming months and years as devolution develops, it is important that the system is transparent and understandable. I therefore concur with many of Gareth's comments. We need a debate in the coming year on how we handle some aspects of educational spending in Wales.

3:29 p.m.

I will raise one other issue. I am especially concerned about the level of GEST funding for teaching English as an additional language. I have made this point previously but make no apologies for raising it again. In my constituency there are several schools where the number of children from ethnic minorities is between a quarter and a third of the total pupil intake. Teaching English as an additional language is therefore important. In the budget for next year, it seems that the amount of money for teaching English as an additional language will be spread out differently. Wales will take a significant number of asylum seekers during the coming year. It does not seem likely that money will come with them directly for educational resources in the same way that it will come for housing resources. I am concerned about that, because existing pupils in Wales with

per capita among authorities. That creates tension and protests among parents and unions representing our teachers' interests.

Jenny Randerson: Mae cytundeb cyffredinol yn y Pwyllgor Addysg Cyn-16 fod arnom angen arolwg o'r weithdrefn a'r modd y trefnir ariannu addysgol yng Nghymru. Cyfaddefodd y swyddogion fod y broses a'r drefn ymgynghori ar ariannu'r rhaglen grantiau cynnal addysg a hyfforddiant yn gymhleth. Y ffordd orau o'i disgrifio yn yr iaith fodern yw dweud ei bod yn gwbl anhryloyw i'r rhan fwyaf o bobl. Fe'm trawodd yn y misoedd diwethaf hyn fod gwelediad cyffredinol ymysg gweithwyr addysgol proffesiynol a rhieni yng Nghymru fod arian ar gyfer cynlluniau yn Lloegr nad yw'n bod yng Nghymru. Mae'n anodd yn aml inni egluro i ble yr â'r arian a pham ei fod ar gael oddi wrth yr Adran Addysg a Chyflogaeth ar gyfer rhai cynlluniau yn Lloegr a heb fod ar gael yma.

O gofio y bydd mwy o wahaniaeth yn y misoedd a'r blynyddoedd i ddod wrth i ddatganoli ddatblygu, mae'n bwysig bod y system yn dryloyw ac yn ddealladwy. Yr wyf felly'n cyd-fynd â llawer o sylwadau Gareth. Mae arnom angen trafodaeth yn y flwyddyn i ddod ar y modd y trafodwn rai agweddau ar wariant addysgol yng Nghymru.

Codaf un mater arall. Yr wyf yn arbennig o bryderus ynghylch lefel cyllid y grantiau cynnal addysg a hyfforddiant ar gyfer dysgu'r Saesneg fel iaith ychwanegol. Gwneuthum y pwynt hwn o'r blaen ond nid ymddiheuraf am ei godi eto. Yn fy etholaeth i mae sawl ysgol lle y mae nifer y plant o leiafrifoedd ethnig rhwng chwarter ac un rhan o dair o gyfanswm y disgyblion a dderbynnir. Mae dysgu'r Saesneg fel iaith ychwanegol yn bwysig felly. Yn y gyllideb ar gyfer y flwyddyn nesaf, ymddengys y bydd y swm o arian ar gyfer dysgu Saesneg fel iaith ychwanegol yn cael ei ddsbarthu'n wahanol. Bydd Cymru'n derbyn nifer sylweddol o geiswyr nodedd yn ystod y flwyddyn i ddod. Nid ymddengys yn debygol y daw arian gyda hwy'n uniongyrchol ar gyfer adnoddau addysgol yn yr un modd ag y daw ar gyfer adnoddau tai. Pryderaf ynghylch hynny,

English as an additional language will find that their level of assistance will be diluted. If you make the same amount of money go further among a larger number of pupils, the service will be diluted. I take this opportunity today to urge that we consider this. I hope that the Secretary for Education and Children has already taken this on board but I repeat it today so that it can be placed on record that this matter is recognised as one of concern.

Rosemary Butler: I think that every member of the Pre-16 Education Committee would agree with Gareth Jones and Jenny that the way in which the budget is presented causes difficulties, in terms of language—we did not understand what the headings meant—and in the layout of figures. We have taken that on board and it will be much simpler next year, so that everyone can understand it without having to delve into background. We will have a presentation on the GEST programme, either at the next Committee meeting or at the following one, so that the whole Committee can get behind it again. It is important that the word ‘opaque’ does not arise next year. The process must be open and clear, and everyone must know exactly where the money is going.

These regulations do not govern the total value of the programme or the amount that is made available to any individual programme. They are about the process, which is why they are truly technical. I agree that the figures were confusing in some instances. That was not intentional. It is simply due to how figures have been presented in the past.

Jenny has raised the issue of English as a second language on a number of occasions. She has the sympathy of other Committee members on this. Funding is currently confined to Cardiff, Newport and Swansea, reflecting what happened under the Home Office funding. A small amount is available for distribution elsewhere. We are consulting on proposals to distribute the resources much more widely. Those proposals will return to the Committee to see how the issue can be dealt with next year. We do not know what the picture will be regarding asylum seekers.

oherwydd bydd y disgyblion presennol yng Nghymru â'r Saesneg yn iaith ychwanegol iddynt yn canfod y bydd lefel eu cymorth yn wannach. Os parwch i'r un swm o arian fynd ymhellach ymysg nifer fwy o ddisgyblion, bydd y gwasanaeth yn wannach. Cymeraf y cyfle hwn heddiw i fynnu inni ystyried hyn. Gobeithiaf fod yr Ysgrifennydd Addysg a Phlant eisoes wedi amgyffred hyn ond fe'i dywedaf eto heddiw fel y gellir ei roi ar gof a chadw y cydnabyddir bod y mater hwn yn peri pryder.

Rosemary Butler: Credaf y byddai pob aelod o'r Pwyllgor Addysg Cyn-16 yn cytuno â Gareth Jones a Jenny bod y modd y cyflwynir y gyllideb yn peri anawsterau, o ran iaith—ni ddealllem ystyr y penawdau—a threfniant y ffigurau. Yr ydym wedi derbyn hynny a bydd yn llawer symlach y flwyddyn nesaf, fel y gall pawb ei deall heb orfod cloddio i'r cefndir. Byddwn yn cael cyflwyniad ar y rhaglen grantiau cynnal addysg a hyfforddiant, naill ai yng nghyfarfod nesaf y Pwyllgor neu yn yr un ar ôl hynny, fel y gall y Pwyllgor cyfan ymroi iddi eto. Mae'n bwysig nad yw'r gair ‘anhryloyw’ yn codi'r flwyddyn nesaf. Rhaid i'r broses fod yn agored ac yn eglur, a rhaid i bawb wybod i ble yn union y mae'r arian yn mynd.

Nid yw'r rheoliadau hyn yn rheoli gwerth cyfan y rhaglen neu'r swm sydd ar gael i unrhyw raglen unigol. Maent yn ymwneud â'r broses, a dyna pam y maent yn wirioneddol dechnegol. Cytunaf fod y ffigurau'n peri dryswch mewn rhai achosion. Nid oedd hynny'n fwriadol. Nid oedd ond yn ganlyniad i'r modd y cyflwynwyd ffigurau yn y gorffennol.

Mae Jenny wedi codi mater y Saesneg fel ail iaith ar sawl achlysur. Mae aelodau eraill y Pwyllgor yn cydymdeimlo â hi ar hyn. Mae'r cyllid yn gyfyngedig ar hyn o bryd i Gaerdydd, Casnewydd ac Abertawe, gan adlewyrchu'r hyn a ddigwyddodd o dan gyllid y Swyddfa Gartref. Mae swm bach ar gael i'w ddsbarthu mewn mannau eraill. Yr ydym yn ymgynghori ynghylch cynigion i ddsbarthu'r adnoddau'n ehangach o lawer. Bydd y cynigion hynny'n dod yn ôl i'r Pwyllgor er mwyn gweld sut y gellir ymdrin â'r mater y flwyddyn nesaf. Ni wyddom beth

We are waiting for a whole raft of facts to emerge, such as where in Wales the dispersal will be, the number of asylum seekers and how many of them will be children of school age. However, arrangements are being made to hold a meeting in early March between Home Office and Assembly officials and the key stakeholders to discuss dispersal policy implementation in Wales. Among other matters, as well as associated health issues, are the social care and education issues that are of particular interest to us. Until it happens, I do not know what the figures will be. We will discuss with the local education authorities how best to meet those educational needs. This is an important issue.

The educational strategic plans, which Gareth mentioned, will help us to make these decisions in the future and ensure that we all move in the same direction.

As I indicated earlier, these regulations are not controversial. The programme for which they provide statutory authority is an important lever for the Assembly for raising standards in our schools. It supports a comprehensive programme of training and professional development for teachers. It will fund participation in the headship programme that I announced recently. There is ring-fenced provision for key skills such as literacy, numeracy and information and communication technology. The programme also supports measures to tackle disaffection and truancy. It is an agenda to which we can all subscribe and should support unanimously.

fydd y darlun o ran ceiswyr nodded. Yr ydym yn aros i doreth fawr o ffeithiau ddod i'r amlwg, fel ym mha le yng Nghymru y bydd y gwasgariad, nifer y ceiswyr nodded a faint ohonynt fydd yn blant oed ysgol. Fodd bynnag, mae trefniadau ar y gweill i gynnal cyfarfod yn gynnar ym Mawrth rhwng swyddogion y Swyddfa Gartref a'r Cynulliad a'r prif gyfranogion er mwyn trafod gweithredu'r polisi gwasgaru yng Nghymru. Ymysg materion eraill, yn ogystal â materion iechyd cysylltiedig, mae materion gofal iechyd ac addysg sydd o ddiddordeb arbennig i ni. Hyd y digwydd hynny, ni wn beth fydd y ffigurau. Byddwn yn trafod â'r awdurdodau addysg lleol sut orau i ateb yr anghenion addysgol hynny. Mae hyn yn fater pwysig.

Bydd y cynlluniau strategol addysgol, y soniodd Gareth amdanynt, yn ein helpu i wneud y penderfyniadau hyn yn y dyfodol a sicrhau ein bod oll yn symud yn yr un cyfeiriad.

Fel y nodais yn gynharach, nid yw'r rheoliadau hyn yn ddadleuol. Mae'r rhaglen y rhoddant awdurdod statudol iddi yn lifer bwysig i'r Cynulliad er mwyn codi safonau yn ein hysgolion. Mae'n cynnal rhaglen gynhwysfawr o hyfforddiant a datblygiad proffesiynol ar gyfer athrawon. Bydd yn ariannu cyfranogiad yn y rhaglen brifathrawiaeth a gyhoeddais yn ddiweddar. Mae darpariaeth a glustnodwyd ar gyfer medrau allweddol fel llythrennedd, rhifogrwydd a thechnoleg gwybodaeth a chyfathrebu. Mae'r rhaglen hefyd yn cynnal mesurau i ymdrin â dieithrwech a thriwantiaeth. Mae'n agenda y gallwn oll ei harddel ac y dylem ei chefnogi'n unfrydol.

Cynnig: O blaid 29, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.

Motion: For 29, Abstain 0, Against 0.

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:
The following Members voted for:

Black, Peter
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Edwards, Richard
Essex, Sue
Feld, Val
German, Michael
Gregory, Janice

Gwyther, Christine
 Halford, Alison
 Hancock, Brian
 Hutt, Jane
 Jarman, Pauline
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Gareth
 Law, Peter
 Lloyd, David
 Marek, John
 Melding, David
 Middlehurst, Tom
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Williams, Kirsty
 Williams, Phil

Motion adopted.

Derbyniwyd y cynnig.

**Cymeradwyo Cynllun Grant Cymhorthdal Bysiau 2000-01:
 Adroddiad Grant Arbennig (Cymru) 2000**

**Approval of the Bus Subsidy Grant Scheme 2000-01:
 Special Grant Report (Wales) 2000**

The Secretary for the Environment and Local Government (Peter Law): I propose that

the Assembly, under section 88(b) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, and in accordance with Standing Order No. 19.10, approves the Bus Subsidy Grant Scheme 2000-01: Special Grant Report (Wales) 2000, which was laid in the Table Office on 8 February 2000.

The purpose of today's debate on the bus subsidy grant scheme is to clear the way for payments to be made to local authorities for the next financial year. Using the available budget of £5 million, authorities will be able to boost the number and the range of subsidised local bus services throughout Wales. Payments to local authorities under the bus subsidy grant scheme are classified as a special grant under the Local Government Finance Act 1988. We are committed to encouraging and developing an integrated transport policy for Wales. Effective transport solutions are essential for the economic, social and environmental well being of Wales. We have already initiated a range of practical measures to achieve our shared objective. I do not intend to detail

Ysgrifennydd yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol (Peter Law): Cynigiai fod

y Cynulliad, o dan adran 88(b) Deddf Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol 1988, ac yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 19.10, yn cymeradwyo'r Cynllun Grant Cymhorthdal Bysiau 2000-01: Adroddiad Grant Arbennig (Cymru) 2000, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 8 Chwefror 2000.

Pwrpas dadl heddiw ar y cynllun grant cymhorthdal bysiau yw agor y ffordd i wneud taliadau i awdurdodau lleol am y flwyddyn ariannol nesaf. Gan ddefnyddio'r gyllideb o £5 miliwn sydd ar gael, bydd awdurdodau'n gallu hybu nifer ac amrediad y gwasanaethau bysiau lleol sydd yn derbyn cymhorthdal ledled Cymru. Dynodir taliadau i awdurdodau lleol o dan y cynllun grant cymhorthdal bysiau yn grant arbennig o dan Ddeddf Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol 1988. Yr ydym wedi ymrwmo i hybu a datblygu polisi trafndiaeth integredig i Gymru. Mae atebion trafndiaeth effeithiol yn hanfodol i les economaidd, cymdeithasol ac amgylcheddol Cymru. Yr ydym eisoes wedi sefydlu amrediad o fesurau ymarferol er mwyn cyrraedd ein nod gyffredin. Ni

those measures now as the issue before us requires our consideration today.

Under the bus subsidy grant scheme, the Assembly can allocate grant to local authorities. They spend in accordance with their powers under the Transport Act 1985 to subsidise socially necessary but non-commercial local bus services. Councils already utilise these discretionary powers to enter into contract with bus operators, using their own unencumbered budgets and spending approximately £10 million per annum in Wales. The scheme was introduced in 1998-99 as the rural bus subsidy grant scheme to help address the problems of accessibility and social exclusion facing rural communities. The sum of £2.25 million was allocated to local authorities by using a formula based on population density in local wards. Authorities have confirmed that this extra funding has succeeded in securing additional subsidised services throughout Wales. These extra services have not only helped to promote the bus as a realistic and attractive alternative to private transport, they have also come to represent a lifeline for many people in isolated communities.

3:39 p.m.

In the current financial year, the budget for the bus subsidy grant scheme has been increased by more than 120 per cent to £5 million, of which at least £3 million must be spent to secure services that benefit rural communities. The balance of £2 million is available to be spent on services in rural or urban areas at local authorities' discretion. Prior to seeking the Assembly's agreement that the scheme should continue next year and on the means of allocating the grant, I consulted the Welsh Local Government Association, the Confederation of Passenger Transport Wales, which represents bus operators, and the Association of Transport Co-ordination Officers. All agree strongly that the scheme is extremely valuable in encouraging modal shift and in promoting social inclusion.

fwriadaf restru'r mesurau hynny'n awr gan fod y mater sydd ger ein bron angen ein hystyriaeth heddiw.

O dan y cynllun grant cymhorthdal bysiau, gall y Cynulliad ddyrannu grant i awdurdodau lleol. Maent yn gwario yn unol â'u pwerau o dan y Ddeddf Trafnidiaeth 1985 er mwyn rhoi cymhorthdal i wasanaethau bysiau lleol sydd yn gymdeithasol angenrheidiol ond yn anfasnachol. Mae'r cynghorau eisoes yn defnyddio'r pwerau dewisol hyn er mwyn gwneud contractau â gweithredwyr bysiau, gan ddefnyddio eu cyllidebau sydd heb eu pridiannu a chan wario tua £10 miliwn y flwyddyn yng Nghymru. Cyflwynwyd y cynllun yn 1998-99 fel y cynllun grant cymhorthdal bysiau gwledig er mwyn helpu i ymdrin â phroblemau hygrychedd ac allgáu cymdeithasol sydd yn wynebu cymunedau gwledig. Dyrannwyd y swm o £2.25 miliwn i awdurdodau lleol drwy ddefnyddio fformwla a oedd yn seiliedig ar drwyth y boblogaeth mewn wardiau lleol. Mae'r awdurdodau wedi cadarnhau bod yr arian ychwanegol hwn wedi llwyddo i sicrhau gwasanaethau ychwanegol a gynhelir gan gymhorthdal ledled Cymru. Yn ogystal â hybu'r bws fel dewis ymarferol a deniadol yn lle cludiant preifat, mae'r gwasanaethau ychwanegol hyn hefyd wedi dod i fod yn rhaff achub i lawer o bobl mewn cymunedau diarffordd.

Yn y flwyddyn ariannol gyfredol, mae'r gyllideb ar gyfer y cynllun grant cymhorthdal bysiau wedi ei chynyddu o fwy na 120 y cant i £5 miliwn, a rhaid gwario o leiaf £3 miliwn ohoni i sicrhau gwasanaethau sydd o les i gymunedau gwledig. Mae'r gweddill o £2 filiwn ar gael i'w wario ar wasanaethau mewn ardaloedd gwledig neu drefol yn ôl doethineb yr awdurdodau lleol. Cyn ceisio cytundeb y Cynulliad y dylai'r cynllun barhau y flwyddyn nesaf ac ar y dull o ddyrannu'r grant, ymgynghorais â Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, Cyd-ffederasiwn Cludiant Teithwyr Cymru, sydd yn cynrychioli gweithredwyr y bysiau, a Chymdeithas y Swyddogion Cydlynau Trafnidiaeth. Maent oll yn cytuno'n gryf bod y cynllun yn werthfawr iawn wrth hybu symud rhwng moddau a hyrwyddo

cynhwysiant cymdeithasol.

I propose that the scheme should continue next year, with a budget of £5 million to be allocated by a formula based on the population densities of local wards within each local authority area. The grants for each authority are set out in annex A of the special grants report. As in the current year, I also propose that the sum of £3 million be ring-fenced for expenditure on services in rural areas and that the balance of £2 million be spent at authorities' discretion on urban or rural areas according to their own assessment of local need. A detailed explanation of the mechanism is set out in annex B of the report.

In other respects, the report reflects the conditions and requirements established during the first and second years of operation of the scheme. I am satisfied that the former condition, whereby services were generally ineligible for support under the scheme if they had been operating on 1 May 1998, should now be removed. That had been included with the aim of discouraging some operators that may have been tempted to withdraw from operating subsidised services only to submit more expensive tenders when local authorities offered new contracts for those services. This will be a welcome change to the regulations, and it is much needed across Wales.

The general responsibility of local authorities for Best Value and the genuine partnership that now exists between local authorities and operators, which share our commitment to enhance bus provision as part of an integrated transport policy, mean that such a condition is not valid. Through local authorities' local transport plans, we will be looking for evidence that the twin foundations of partnership with public transport operators and the provision of a quality product have been fundamental considerations in preparing those plans and authorities' bus strategies. I know that Members share my concern to ensure that the money that we spend on subsidised local bus services is spent wisely and to the maximum benefit of all our people. I therefore intend for a review of the bus

Cynigiau y dylai'r cynllun barhau y flwyddyn nesaf, gyda chyllideb o £5 miliwn i'w dyrannu drwy fformwla sydd yn seiliedig ar drwy poblogaeth wardiau lleol oddi mewn i ardal pob awdurdod lleol. Nodir y grantiau ar gyfer pob awdurdod yn atodiad A i'r adroddiad grantiau arbennig. Fel yn y flwyddyn gyfredol, cynigiau hefyd y dylid clustnodi'r swm o £3 miliwn i'w wario ar wasanaethau mewn ardaloedd gwledig ac y caiff y gweddill o £2 filiwn ei wario yn ôl doethineb yr awdurdodau ar ardaloedd trefol neu wledig yn ôl eu hasesiad eu hunain o'r angen lleol. Rhoddir eglurhad manwl o'r mecanwaith yn atodiad B i'r adroddiad.

Ar sawl cyfrif arall, mae'r adroddiad yn adlewyrchu'r amodau a'r gofynion a sefydlwyd yn ystod y gyntaf a'r ail o flynyddoedd gweithredu'r cynllun. Yr wyf yn fodlon y dylid dileu bellach yr amod flaenorol, a olygai fod gwasanaethau'n anghymwys yn gyffredinol i dderbyn cymorth o dan y cynllun os oeddent yn gweithredu ar 1 Mai 1998. Yr oedd honno wedi ei chynnwys er mwyn anghefnogi rhai gweithredwyr a allai fod wedi eu temtio i dynnu'n ôl oddi wrth weithredu gwasanaethau sydd yn derbyn cymhorthdal, ond i gyflwyno tendrau drutach pan gynigiai awdurdodau lleol gontractau newydd ar gyfer y gwasanaethau hynny. Bydd hyn yn newid i'w groesawu yn y rheoliadau, ac mae mawr angen amdano ledled Cymru.

Mae cyfrifoldeb cyffredinol awdurdodau lleol am Werth Gorau a'r bartneriaeth wirioneddol sydd yn bod bellach rhwng awdurdodau lleol a gweithredwyr, sydd yn rhannu ein hymrwymiad i wella'r ddarpariaeth bysiau fel rhan o bolisi trafndiaeth integredig, yn golygu nad yw amod o'r fath yn ddilys. Drwy gynlluniau trafndiaeth lleol yr awdurdodau lleol, byddwn yn chwilio am dystiolaeth bod sylfeini deul y bartneriaeth â gweithredwyr trafndiaeth gyhoeddus a'r ddarpariaeth o gynnyrch o ansawdd wedi bod yn ystyriaethau sylfaenol wrth baratoi'r cynlluniau hynny a strategaethau bysiau'r awdurdodau. Gwn fod yr Aelodau'n rhannu'r pwys a roddaf ar sicrhau bod yr arian a wariwn ar wasanaethau bysiau lleol sydd yn derbyn cymhorthdal yn cael ei wario'n

subsidy grant scheme to be undertaken in time for the next budget round. That will include bus fuel duty rebate and its relationship to local authority bus subsidies. I will welcome input from all parties at the appropriate time on this matter. I urge the Assembly to support this motion.

Janet Ryder: I thank Peter for his comments. I would like to emphasise again that these rural support schemes are important to counter rural isolation. Some of the schemes that have been developed are vital to the health and wellbeing of rural communities. However, we want to see a commitment to longer-term funding because operators need some security when they tender for these contracts. There is a tie-in to the possibility of developing a passenger transport authority for Wales, which could integrate these services much more effectively. Can Peter confirm that Powys announced yesterday that it was cutting its rural bus services because it cannot afford to subsidise them any longer? Will he comment now, or in tomorrow's Committee meeting on how he will deal with this issue as these rural bus services are important to the health and wellbeing of rural communities?

David Davies: The Conservative Group will not vote against this motion because we recognise the importance of rural transport schemes and a bus subsidy. However, I am concerned—wearing my constituency hat rather than my local government spokesman hat—that not enough of this money goes into rural areas at the moment. In my constituency of Monmouthshire, we have had to cut funding for socially important bus services such as those running in the Devauden and Shirenewton areas. I have received a lot of correspondence on this issue.

While we support the intention of the subsidies and the wider intention of the integrated transport scheme, it is important for us to remember that there is plenty of money available centrally in the Treasury for

ddoeth ac er y budd mwyaf posibl i'n holl bobl. Bwriadaf, felly, i arolwg o'r cynllun grant cymhorthdal bysiau gael ei gyflawni mewn pryd i'r cylch cyllideb nesaf. Bydd hynny'n cynnwys yr ad-daliad treth tanwydd bysiau a'i berthynas â chymorthdaliadau bysiau i awdurdodau lleol. Byddaf yn croesawu mewnbwn gan bob plaid ar yr adeg briodol ar y mater hwn. Anogaf y Cynulliad i gefnogi'r cynnig hwn.

Janet Ryder: Diolchaf i Peter am ei sylwadau. Hoffwn bwysleisio eto bod y cynlluniau cymorth gwledig hyn yn bwysig i ymladd arwahanrwydd gwledig. Mae rhai o'r cynlluniau a ddatblygwyd yn holl bwysig i iechyd a lles cymunedau gwledig. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym am weld ymrwymiad i ariannu tymor hwy oherwydd mae ar weithredwyr angen rhywfaint o sicrwydd pan ydynt yn tendro am y contractau hyn. Mae cysylltiad rhwng hyn â'r posibilïad o ddatblygu awdurdod trafniadaeth teithwyr i Gymru a allai integreiddio'r gwasanaethau hyn yn llawer mwy effeithiol. A all Peter gadarnhau bod Powys wedi cyhoeddi ddoe ei fod yn cwtdogi ar ei wasanaethau bysiau gwledig am na all fforddio rhoi cymhorthdal iddynt mwyach? A fydd yn gwneud sylw yn awr, neu yng nghyfarfod y Pwyllgor yfory ar sut y bydd yn ymdrin â'r mater hwn gan fod y gwasanaethau bysiau gwledig hyn yn bwysig i iechyd a lles cymunedau gwledig?

David Davies: Ni fydd y Grŵp Ceidwadol yn pleidleisio yn erbyn y cynnig hwn oherwydd cydnabyddwn bwysigrwydd cynlluniau trafniadaeth gwledig a chymhorthdal bysiau. Fodd bynnag, pryderaf—gan wisgo fy het etholaeth yn hytrach na'm het llefarydd ar lywodraeth leol—nad oes digon o'r arian hwn yn mynd i ardaloedd gwledig ar hyn o bryd. Yn fy etholaeth i, Sir Fynwy, yr ydym wedi gorfod cwtdogi ar wariant ar wasanaethau bysiau cymdeithasol bwysig fel y rhai sydd yn rhedeg yn ardaloedd Devauden a Shirenewton. Derbyniais lawer o ohebiaeth ar y mater hwn.

Er ein bod yn cefnogi bwriad y cymorthdaliadau a bwriad ehangach y cynllun trafniadaeth integredig, mae'n bwysig inni gofio bod digon o arian ar gael yn ganolog yn y Trysorlys ar gyfer y cynlluniau

these schemes. We are told that there is a war chest of billions. That large sum of money is partly due to the increase in taxation on fuel duty. Taxation was increased to discourage commuters from using their cars and to encourage them to use public transport. They cannot do that in rural areas because, at the moment, there is no public transport system. That problem will continue even following this welcome amount of money. The Conservatives cautiously welcome this and hope that the Secretary for the Environment and Local Government will fight for more money next time around.

I will congratulate Peter Law on the speed restriction introduced in Llanover.

Peter Black: I also congratulate Peter Law on the bus subsidy grant because it is important and I am pleased to discuss it today. I take on board what Peter said. If there is a 120 per cent increase, then that is fine. I do not want to contradict him but the guidance notes on the intranet state that the £5 million is the same sum as was provided for 1999-2000. That contradicts what he said.

I will stress the importance of local transport plans in developing this scheme. We must increase the amount of money that we invest in this scheme in future years. As David Davies indicated, there are severe problems with public transport provision, particularly in rural areas, because local authority contributions to the bus subsidy are not hypothecated or earmarked for that subsidy. As authorities are faced with financial pressures in dealing with other services, the money that becomes available to them falls back resulting in situations such as that we have in Powys, where the county councillors state that they can no longer maintain the same level of subsidy. In light of that situation, this grant, which is paid directly and for specific purposes, becomes more important. That is another reason why the Assembly should look to extend it to ensure, as Janet Ryder said, that we can provide long-term funding and can use that funding to achieve a proper integration of all the transport modes in rural and urban areas. At

hyn. Dywedir wrthym fod cist ryfel o biliynau. Mae'r swm mawr hwnnw o arian yn ganlyniad yn rhannol i drethiant ar danwydd. Cynyddwyd y trethiant er mwyn annog cymudwyr i beidio â defnyddio eu ceir ac i'w cymell i ddefnyddio cludiant cyhoeddus. Ni allant wneud hynny mewn ardaloedd gwledig oherwydd, ar hyn o bryd, nid oes system drafnidiaeth gyhoeddus. Bydd y broblem honno'n parhau hyd yn oed ar ôl y swm arian derbyniol hwn. Mae'r Ceidwadwyr yn croesawu hyn yn ochelgar ac yn gobeithio y bydd Ysgrifennydd yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol yn ymladd am fwy o arian y tro nesaf.

Yr wyf am longyfarch Peter Law ar y cyfyngiad cyflymder a gyflwynwyd yn Llanover.

Peter Black: Llongyfarchaf finnow Peter Law ar y grant cymhorthdal bysiau oherwydd mae'n bwysig ac yr wyf yn falch o'i drafod heddiw. Derbyniaf yr hyn a ddywedodd Peter. Os oes cynnydd o 120 y cant, mae hynny'n iawn. Nid wyf am ei groes-ddweud ond mae'r nodiadau arweiniad ar y fewnwyd yn dweud mai'r £5 miliwn yw'r un swm â hwnnw a ddarparwyd am 1999-2000. Mae hynny'n croes-ddweud yr hyn a ddywedodd.

Yr wyf am bwysleisio pwysigrwydd cynlluniau trafnidiaeth lleol wrth ddatblygu'r cynllun hwn. Rhaid inni gynyddu'r swm o arian a fuddsoddwn yn y cynllun hwn ym mlynnyddoedd y dyfodol. Fel y nododd David Davies, mae problemau difrifol ynglŷn â'r ddarpariaeth trafnidiaeth gyhoeddus, yn enwedig mewn ardaloedd gwledig, oherwydd nid yw cyfraniadau awdurdodau lleol i'r cymhorthdal bysiau wedi eu pridiannu neu eu clustnodi ar gyfer y cymhorthdal hwnnw. Wrth i awdurdodau wynebu pwysau ariannol wrth ymdrin â gwasanaethau eraill, mae'r arian a fydd ar gael iddynt yn lleihau gan arwain at sefyllfaoedd fel yr hyn sydd gennym ym Mhowys, lle y mae'r cynghorwyr sir yn datgan na allant bellach gynnal yr un lefel o gymhorthdal. Yng ngoleuni'r sefyllfa honno, mae'r grant hwn, a delir yn uniongyrchol ac i ddibenion penodol, yn dod yn fwy pwysig. Dyna reswm arall pam y dylai'r Cynulliad geisio ei ymestyn er mwyn sicrhau, fel y dywedodd Janet Ryder, y gallwn ddarparu ariannu tymor hir ac y

least £2 million of this grant is available for urban areas, if local authorities wish to spend it on those areas.

I welcome the removal of the restriction on the services provided before 1998, because that enables local authorities to use this money to continue existing services. We must try to encourage local authorities to use this money in this way.

Peter Law: I am grateful to colleagues for their constructive contributions, particularly those colleagues who mirror my views on environment and local government matters daily. In fairness to Janet Ryder, I acknowledge that she has always been a great supporter of, and champion for, the enhancement of rural bus services. That is a view shared by every Member here because improving public transport is about trying to improve people's quality of life, particularly in rural areas. We must provide as much support as possible. This money recognises that we are moving towards that. It is a positive approach. That is why, Peter, there was a 120 per cent increase this year. There is no increase next year; the grant remains at £5 million.

The formula that we used was prepared in agreement with the Welsh Local Government Association to ensure the full involvement of the people on the ground in the transport authorities.

I will look into the situation in Powys and I am as concerned as anyone else about that. However, that situation is reflected in many areas. It is also the case in my constituency. The more rural the area in which you live, the more difficulty bites. At the end of the day, it is the transport authority's responsibility and I hope that the change in regulations to which I referred today will help local authorities to deal with those problems. I am grateful that Peter Black recognises that. In making this change in regulations, I hope that all transport authorities will take advantage of the

gallwn ddefnyddio'r arian hwnnw er mwyn integreiddio'n briodol yr holl foddau trafniadaeth mewn ardaloedd gwledig a threfol. Mae o leiaf £2 filiwn o'r grant hwn ar gael ar gyfer ardaloedd trefol, os yw awdurdodau lleol yn dymuno ei wario ar yr ardaloedd hynny.

Croesawaf ddileu'r cyfyngiad ar y gwasanaethau a ddarparwyd cyn 1998, oherwydd mae hynny'n galluogi awdurdodau lleol i ddefnyddio'r arian hwn i barhau â'r gwasanaethau presennol. Rhaid inni geisio annog yr holl awdurdodau lleol i ddefnyddio'r arian hwn yn y modd hwnnw.

Peter Law: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i'm cydweithwyr am eu cyfraniadau adeiladol, yn enwedig y cydweithwyr hynny sydd yn adlewyrchu fy marn ar faterion yr amgylchedd a llywodraeth leol bob dydd. Er tegwch i Janet Ryder, cydnabyddaf ei bod yn gefnogwr mawr erioed i wella gwasanaethau bysiau gwledig, ac yn dadlau o'u plaid. Mae honno'n farn a rennir gan bob Aelod sydd yma oherwydd mae gwella trafniadaeth gyhoeddus yn ymwneud â gwella ansawdd bywyd pobl, yn enwedig mewn ardaloedd gwledig. Rhaid inni ddarparu cymaint o gymorth ag y bo modd. Mae'r arian hwn yn cydnabod ein bod yn symud tuag at hynny. Mae'n ddull gweithredu cadarnhaol. Dyna pam, Peter, yr oedd cynnydd o 120 y cant eleni. Nid oes cynnydd y flwyddyn nesaf; mae'r grant yn aros ar £5 miliwn.

Paratowyd y fformwla a ddefnyddiasom mewn cytundeb â Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru er mwyn sicrhau cyfraniad llawn gan y bobl yn y fan a'r lle yn yr awdurdodau trafniadaeth.

Byddaf yn edrych ar y sefyllfa ym Mhowys ac yr wyf yr un mor bryderus â neb arall am hynny. Fodd bynnag, gwelir yr un sefyllfa mewn llawer o ardaloedd. Mae'n digwydd hefyd yn fy etholaeth i. Po fwyaf gwledig y mae'r ardal lle'r ydych yn byw, mwyaf anodd yw hi. Yn y pen draw, cyfrifoldeb yr awdurdod trafniadaeth yw hyn a gobeithiaf y bydd y newid yn y rheoliadau y cyfeiriais ato heddiw yn helpu awdurdodau lleol i ymdrin â'r problemau hynny. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar bod Peter Black yn cydnabod hynny. Wrth newid y rheoliadau fel hyn, gobeithiaf y bydd

opportunity offered by this funding to ease their financial problems to some extent. I will get some information on that for you by tomorrow, Janet.

3:49 p.m.

David, your grudging and qualified support is always appreciated. I never said that this job would be easy. There should be more funding in rural areas. I know you represent a rural constituency. We have had a 120 per cent increase this year because we want to tackle this problem. We need to talk more about this problem in the future. We always want more resources for everything. We are tackling this positively and we are aiming to socially include more people from rural areas. We want them to have this type of public transport. I will look at that further in the future and I know that you will make sure that I am aware of your concerns. The restriction on service providers is being removed, which gives local authorities the opportunity to provide more funding to some existing services, perhaps, where that can be justified.

It is important that we share a common view that a sustainable and integrated transport system is essential for a better Wales. Buses have a pivotal role to play in achieving our objective, as we all agree. Extra subsidised services will not only provide attractive and realistic alternatives to the private car for more journeys, but ensure that more people are able to access essential services and facilities, contributing to the administration's aim of promoting social inclusion. That is what it is all about. I commend the proposals to the Assembly. I ask you to endorse them and I look forward to having more discussions with colleagues on how we can refine the system in the future.

yr holl awdurdodau trafniadaeth yn achub ar y cyfle a gynigir drwy'r arian hwn i leddfu eu problemau ariannol i ryw raddau. Byddaf yn cael mwy o wybodaeth ar hynny i chi erbyn yfory, Janet.

David, gwerthfawrogir eich cefnogaeth amharod ac amodol bob amser. Ni ddywedais erioed y byddai'r swydd hon yn rhwydd. Dylai fod mwy o ariannu mewn ardaloedd gwledig. Gwn eich bod yn cynrychioli etholaeth wledig. Cawsom gynnydd o 120 y cant eleni am ein bod am fynd i'r afael â'r broblem hon. Mae angen inni sôn mwy am y broblem hon yn y dyfodol. Yr ydym bob amser am gael mwy o adnoddau i bob dim. Yr ydym yn ymdrin â hyn yn gadarnhaol ac yr ydym yn ceisio cynnwys mwy o bobl o ardaloedd gwledig yn gymdeithasol. Yr ydym am iddynt gael y math hwn o gludiant cyhoeddus. Byddaf yn edrych ar hynny ymhellach yn y dyfodol a gwn y byddwch yn sicrhau fy mod yn ymwybodol o'ch pryderon. Diddymir y cyfyngiad ar ddarparwyr gwasanaethau, sydd yn rhoi cyfle i awdurdodau lleol ddarparu mwy o gyllid i rai o'r gwasanaethau presennol, efallai, lle y bo modd cyfiawnhau hynny.

Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn rhannu barn gyffredin bod system trafniadaeth integredig a chynaliadwy yn holl bwysig ar gyfer gwell Cymru. Mae lle canolog i fysiau wrth inni gyrraedd ein nod, fel yr ydym oll yn cytuno. Nid yn unig y bydd gwasanaethau ychwanegol â chymhorthdal yn darparu dewisiadau deniadol ac ymarferol yn lle'r car preifat ar fwy o deithiau, maent hefyd yn sicrhau bod mwy o bobl yn gallu cael mynediad at wasanaethau a chyfleusterau hanfodol, gan gyfrannu at nod y weinyddiaeth o hybu cynhwysiant cymdeithasol. Mae'r cwbl yn ymwneud â hynny. Cymeradwyaf y cynigion i'r Cynulliad. Gofynnaf ichi eu cadarnhau ac edrychaf ymlaen at gael mwy o drafodaethau â chydweithwyr ynghylch y modd y gallwn fireinio'r system yn y dyfodol.

*Cynnig: O blaid 37, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion: For 37, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:
The following Members voted for:

Barrett, Lorraine
 Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Butler, Rosemary
 Chapman, Christine
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Davies, Ron
 Edwards, Richard
 Essex, Sue
 Feld, Val
 German, Michael
 Gregory, Janice
 Gwyther, Christine
 Halford, Alison
 Hancock, Brian
 Hart, Edwina
 Humphreys, Christine
 Hutt, Jane
 Jarman, Pauline
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Law, Peter
 Lloyd, David
 Marek, John
 Melding, David
 Middlehurst, Tom
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Randerson, Jenny
 Rogers, Peter
 Ryder, Janet
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Kirsty

Motion adopted.

Derbyniwyd y cynnig.

Adroddiad Pwyllgor yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol Environment and Local Government Committee Report

The Presiding Officer: We now come to an important part of our activity. It is our first debate on a report from one of our Subject Committees, in line with Standing Order No. 9.9. It is a particular pleasure for me that it is the Environment and Local Government Committee that is to present its report. I therefore call the Chair, Sue Essex.

Sue Essex: I propose that

the Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order Nos. 6.5 and 9.9, notes the progress report from the Environment and Local Government Committee, laid in the Table Office on 8 February 2000.

It is a tremendous privilege to chair this

Y Llywydd: Deuwn yn awr at ran bwysig o'n gweithgaredd. Hon yw'n dadl gyntaf ar adroddiad oddi wrth un o'n Pwyllgorau Pwnc, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 9.9. Pleser arbennig i mi yw mai Pwyllgor yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol sydd i gyflwyno ei adroddiad. Galwaf felly ar y Cadeirydd, Sue Essex.

Sue Essex: Cynigiau fod

y Cynulliad, yn unol â Rheolau Sefydlog Rhif 6.5 a 9.9, yn nodi adroddiad gwaith Pwyllgor yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 8 Chwefror 2000.

Braint aruthrol yw cadeirio'r Pwyllgor hwn

Committee and also an honour to present to Plenary the first progress report from a Subject Committee. I will do my best as Chair to represent the views of the Committee, rather than my own. As you can see from its full title, the Local Government, Environment, Planning, Housing and Transport Committee is a wide-ranging Committee. The Committee must ensure in the limited time available that it does justice to these responsibilities. To date, its main emphasis has been on contributing to the development of emerging strategies and initiatives right across the Assembly Secretary's responsibilities.

We have had long debates in the Committee as to whether we try to concentrate on one or two topics—like the Post-16 Education and Training Committee that recently produced its report on ETAG—or whether we try to do justice to the wide ranging subject area. All those subjects—housing, transport, and the environment—are so important that we could not ignore any of them for long. The Committee has been operating at a time when there are many new strategies and initiatives taking place. We rightly decided that it was important that we gave a voice to those initiatives. I hope that Peter can listen to the input we have had. It includes the legislative proposals that the Government has put forward.

We work well as a Committee. It is a hard working Committee and I take this opportunity to thank my colleagues. It is not easy to be a member of this Committee. There is no hiding place and there is a lot of work. I thank them for tackling this agenda constructively. There are party political differences at times and sometimes there are difficulties within parties. If you are Peter Black or David Davies, you have to argue with yourself occasionally, because they are the only representatives from their parties. I recognise the co-operation that I have had from colleagues. We have tried—although there are sometimes difficulties and differences—to get a collective view. As a Committee, if we can achieve that then our views are much stronger. I also thank Peter Law, as Cabinet Secretary, who is always honest and open to ideas. It is in no short measure due to the way he operates that the

ac anrhydedd hefyd yw cyflwyno i'r Cyfarfod Llawn yr adroddiad gwaith cyntaf oddi wrth Bwyllgor Pwnc. Byddaf yn gwneud fy ngorau fel Cadeirydd i gynrychioli barn y Pwyllgor, yn hytrach na'm barn fy hun. Fel y gallwch weld o'i deitl llawn, mae Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol, yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio, Tai a Thrafnidiaeth yn Bwyllgor eang ei gwmpas. Rhaid i'r Pwyllgor sicrhau ei fod yn gwneud cyfiawnder â'r cyfrifoldebau hynny yn yr amser cyfyngedig sydd ar gael. Hyd yn hyn, bu ei brif bwyslais ar gyfrannu i ddatblygu strategaethau a mentrau sydd yn datblygu ar draws holl gyfrifoldebau'r Ysgrifennydd Cynulliad.

Cawsom ddadleuon hir yn y Pwyllgor ynghylch a ddylem geisio canolbwyntio ar un neu ddau o bynciau—fel y Pwyllgor Addysg a Hyfforddiant Ôl-16 a gynhyrchoedd ei adroddiad ar ETAG yn ddiweddar—yn teu a ddylem geisio gwneud cyfiawnder â'r maes pwnc eang. Mae'r holl bynciau hynny—tai, trafndiaeth, a'r amgylchedd—mor bwysig fel na allem anwybyddu'r un ohonynt yn hir. Bu'r Pwyllgor yn gweithredu ar adeg pan fo llawer o strategaethau a mentrau newydd yn digwydd. Penderfynasom yn briodol ei bod yn bwysig inni roi llais i'r mentrau hynny. Gobeithiaf y gall Peter wrando ar y mewnbwn a gawsom. Mae'n cynnwys y cynigion deddfwriaethol a gyflwynodd y Llywodraeth.

Yr ydym yn gweithio'n dda fel Pwyllgor. Mae'n Bwyllgor diwyd a chymeraf y cyfle hwn i ddiolch i'm cydweithwyr. Nid hawdd yw bod yn aelod o'r Pwyllgor hwn. Nid oes unman i guddio ac mae llawer o waith. Diolchaf iddynt am ymwneud â'r agenda hon yn adeiladol. Mae gwahaniaethau barn rhwng y pleidiau ar adegau ac weithiau ceir anawsterau oddi mewn i bleidiau. Os mai Peter Black neu David Davies ydych, rhaid ichi ddadlau â chi'ch hun ar brydiau, oherwydd hwy yw unig gynrychiolwyr eu pleidiau. Cydnabyddaf y cydweithrediad a gefais gan fy nghydweithwyr. Ceisiasom—er bod anawsterau a gwahaniaethau barn weithiau—gael barn ar y cyd. Fel Pwyllgor, os gallwn gyflawni hynny bydd ein barn yn llawer cryfach. Diolchaf hefyd i Peter Law, fel Ysgrifennydd Cabinet, sydd bob amser yn onest ac yn agored i syniadau. Oherwydd ei ddull gweithredu ef, i raddau helaeth, y mae'r

Committee is constructive.

Like many Committees, we have had several outside speakers. It is good for Committees to draw in people from the outside, listen to their views and to sometimes ask them awkward questions. It has informed the way that we progress. We have had speakers from Railtrack, the Strategic Rail Authority, the Shadow SRA and regular representations from the Welsh Local Government Association. We have been fortunate in being able to draw those people into our deliberations.

In terms of priorities, we have wide-ranging responsibilities, but I will briefly mention the priorities that underlie the way that we have spent these last eight months. First is to improve the quality and availability of housing in Wales, particularly social housing, to help combat social exclusion and poverty. Secondly is the protection and improvement of the Welsh environment, including the development of a waste strategy. Thirdly is to promote the delivery of high quality and cost-effective local government services within a framework of greater local accountability. Fourthly is the development and implementation of an integrated transport policy—there will be a debate on that tomorrow afternoon—and finally, the operation of a fair and efficient land use planning system. These priorities reflect the Assembly's priorities and I hope that they will help us to play our part in a better Wales.

I will briefly discuss some of these priorities, explain our work, and alert you to some of the difficulties that exist. First, housing. One main priority is to try to secure improvement in the quality and availability of housing in Wales. We have had many debates on housing and we recognise the role that housing plays, alongside health policies and other policies in combating social exclusion. This is an important message. We feel that housing has been treated as a sort of Cinderella. It must be given more political priority and more money in the future, because we all recognise that people need a safe and secure home. As many people will realise, because Peter recently presented the housing strategy and the work that is being

Pwyllgor yn un adeiladol.

Fel llawer o Bwyllgorau, cawsom sawl siaradwr o'r tu allan. Mae'n beth da i Bwyllgorau ddod â rhai i mewn o'r tu allan, gwranddo ar eu barn a gofyn cwestiynau anodd iddynt weithiau. Mae hyn wedi goleuo'r modd yr ydym yn gweithio. Cawsom siaradwyr o Railtrack, yr Awdurdod Rheilffyrdd Strategol, yr awdurdod rheilffyrdd strategol cysgodol a chynrychiolaethau rheolaidd o Gymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru. Buom yn ffodus o allu dod â'r bobl hynny i'n trafodaethau.

O ran blaenoriaethau, mae gennym amrediad eang o gyfrifoldebau, ond yr wyf am sôn yn fyr am y blaenoriaethau sydd yn sail i'r ffordd y treuliasom yr wyth mis diwethaf hyn. Y gyntaf yw gwella ansawdd ac argaeledd tai yng Nghymru, yn enwedig tai cymdeithasol, er mwyn helpu i ymladd allgáu cymdeithasol a thlodi. Yr ail yw gwarchod a gwella amgylchedd Cymru, gan gynnwys datblygu strategaeth wastraff. Y drydedd yw hybu'r cyflenwi o wasanaethau llywodraeth leol sydd o ansawdd uchel ac yn gost-effeithiol oddi mewn i fframwaith o atebolrwydd lleol mwy. Y bedwaredd yw datblygu a gweithredu polisi trafniadaeth integredig—bydd dadl ar hynny brynhawn yfory—ac yn olaf, gweithredu system cynllunio defnydd tir sydd yn deg ac yn effeithlon. Mae'r blaenoriaethau hyn yn adlewyrchu blaenoriaethau'r Cynulliad a gobeithiaf y byddant yn ein helpu i chwarae ein rhan mewn gwell Cymru.

Trafodaf yn fyr rai o'r blaenoriaethau hyn, egluraf ein gwaith, ac fe'ch rhybuddiaf am rai o'r anawsterau sydd yn bod. Yn gyntaf, tai. Un brif flaenoriaeth yw ceisio sicrhau gwelliant yn ansawdd ac argaeledd tai yng Nghymru. Cawsom lawer o ddadleuon ar dai a chydabyddwn rôl tai, ochr yn ochr â pholisïau iechyd a pholisïau eraill wrth ymladd allgáu cymdeithasol. Mae hon yn neges bwysig. Teimlwn fod tai wedi ei drin fel rhyw fath o Sinderela. Rhaid rhoi mwy o flaenoriaeth wleidyddol iddo a mwy o arian yn y dyfodol, oherwydd yr ydym oll yn cydnabod bod ar bobl angen cartref diogel a sicr. Fel y bydd llawer yn sylweddoli, oherwydd cyflwynodd Peter y strategaeth dai yn ddiweddar a'r gwaith a gyflawnir ar

carried out on that, we are fortunate to have a range of professionals in the housing field that give up their time to develop this housing strategy. They develop it in taskgroups. We have had the discussion relating to them and the Committee. I thank the Chartered Institute of Housing because we have an effective all-party group that meets monthly with some good presentations. That has also helped us in our deliberations as a Committee. Housing is an important issue.

3:59 p.m.

Secondly, the environment. That is a huge subject in itself. As a Committee, we relate to the Environment Agency. We have had joint meetings on Cardiff Bay with the Economic Development Committee. It has prime responsibility for Cardiff Bay, nevertheless our Committee has had concerns and responsibilities on the environment. We have had joint discussions to consider the future of the Bay and the barrage.

Another important area, to which I must alert you, concerns the development of a new waste strategy for Wales. As many of you realise, we are under-performing on waste targets. It is a major issue because we have relied so much on landfills in the past. We will not be allowed to do that in the future. The waste strategy is important, and following Peter's brief, it supports the sustainable development scheme, on which the Agriculture and Rural Development Committee takes the lead.

In local government, times are changing. The Local Government Bill is going through Parliament, the modernising agenda is coming to the fore, and we have the whole process of Best Value over the next two years. Relationship with local government is important to all of us. It must work. We are dependent on local government delivering. Developing Best Value in partnership with local government and the Audit Commission is important in ensuring our success in that partnership arrangement. In the light of the modernisation agenda and the structures

hynny, yr ydym yn ffodus o gael amryw o weithwyr proffesiynol ym maes tai sydd yn rhoi o'u hamser i ddatblygu'r strategaeth dai hon. Maent yn ei datblygu mewn grwpiau gorchwyl. Cawsom y drafodaeth yn eu cylch hwy a'r Pwyllgor. Diolchaf i Sefydliad Siartredig Tai oherwydd mae gennym grŵp effeithiol o'r holl bleidiau sydd yn cyfarfod yn fisol gyda rhai cyflwyniadau da. Mae hynny hefyd wedi'n helpu yn ein trafodaethau fel Pwyllgor. Mae tai'n fater pwysig.

Yn ail, yr amgylchedd. Mae hynny'n bwnc anferth ynddo'i hun. Fel Pwyllgor, mae gennym gydberthynas ag Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd. Cawsom gyfarfodydd ar y cyd ar Fae Caerdydd gyda'r Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd. Ganddo ef y mae'r prif gyfrifoldeb dros Fae Caerdydd, ond er hynny bu gan ein Pwyllgor ni bryderon a chyfrifoldebau ar yr amgylchedd. Cawsom gyd-drafodaethau i ystyried dyfodol y Bae a'r morglawdd.

Mae maes pwysig arall, y mae'n rhaid imi'ch rhybuddio yn ei gylch, yn ymwneud â datblygu strategaeth wastraff newydd i Gymru. Fel y sylweddola llawer ohonoch, yr ydym yn tanberfformio ar dargedau gwastraff. Mae'n fater o bwys oherwydd dibynasom gymaint ar safleoedd tirlenwi yn y gorffennol. Ni chaniateir inni wneud hynny yn y dyfodol. Mae'r strategaeth wastraff yn bwysig, a chan ddilyn cyfarwyddyd Peter, mae'n cefnogi'r cynllun datblygu cynaliadwy, y mae'r Pwyllgor Amaethyddiaeth a Datblygu Gwledig yn arwain arno.

Mewn llywodraeth leol, mae tro ar fyd. Mae'r Mesur Llywodraeth Leol yn mynd drwy'r Senedd, mae'r agenda moderneiddio yn dod i'r amlwg, ac mae holl broses Gwerth Gorau gennym dros y ddwy flynedd nesaf. Mae'r berthynas â llywodraeth leol yn bwysig i bob un ohonom. Rhaid iddi weithio. Yr ydym yn dibynnu ar lywodraeth leol i gyflawni. Mae datblygu Gwerth Gorau mewn partneriaeth â llywodraeth leol a'r Comisiwn Archwilio yn bwysig wrth sicrhau ein llwyddiant yn y trefniant partneriaeth hwnnw. Yng ngoleuni'r agenda moderneiddio a'r

available to local government under this heading, as a Committee we are of the opinion that with the Local Government Bill going through Parliament, there is a possibility of more models being put forward. We must recognise—as a Committee we have recognised it—that perhaps there is a different dimension in Wales. We have, as has just been stated, a large rural area and a different configuration and, perhaps, there is an opportunity for further models to be developed. Perhaps the model that we have here in the Assembly could be developed, with the Cabinet and the Committees, where the Committees have a policy development role as well as a scrutiny role. It could also reflect some of the discussions that Edwina, as Finance Secretary, has had on re-examining the standard spending assessment and responding to need.

We have devoted more time to transport than to any other issue. It relates to the economic development of Wales and also to the environment and sustainable development. During those discussions, the Committee has been aware of the lack of direct powers that the Assembly has over transport. I am pleased that we have put forward some sensible proposals in response to the transport bills. These form the basis of our response as an Assembly. One productive thing that this Committee has achieved is to try to pull together those arguments and respond to London. We have supported Peter Law's efforts, and efforts made by others, to improve the north-south Wales rail link. That is one of the Committee's fundamental ambitions in addition to promoting good, new initiatives such as the safe routes to school scheme, which is implemented in the community.

On land use planning, the Committee supports the principal policy guidance. Planning underpins the way we must work on the ground. In considering the national economic development strategy, we felt that there was a need for a stronger, strategic way forward, for Wales as a whole and at regional level.

In our future work programme, the Committee will seek to develop a more strategic approach. It is difficult, given the

strwythurau sydd ar gael i lywodraeth leol o dan y bennawd hon, yr ydym ni fel Pwyllgor o'r farn bod posibilid, a'r Mesur Llywodraeth Leol yn mynd drwy'r Senedd, o gyflwyno rhagor o fodelau. Rhaid inni gydnabod—fe'i cydnabuasom fel Pwyllgor—bod dimensiwn gwahanol efallai yng Nghymru. Fel y dywedwyd ychydig yn ôl, mae gennym arwynebedd gwledig mawr a gwahanol gyfluniad ac efallai fod cyfle i ddatblygu modelau pellach. Efallai y gellid datblygu'r model sydd gennym ni yma yn y Cynulliad, gyda'r Cabinet a'r Pwyllgorau, lle y mae gan y Pwyllgorau rôl datblygu polisi yn ogystal â rôl archwilio. Gallai hefyd adlewyrchu rhai o'r trafodaethau a gafodd Edwina, fel Ysgrifennydd Cyllid, ar ailarchwilio'r asesiad gwariant safonol ac ymateb i angen.

Rhoesom fwy o amser i drafnidiaeth nag i'r un mater arall. Mae'n ymwneud â datblygiad economaidd Cymru a hefyd â'r amgylchedd a datblygu cynaliadwy. Yn ystod y trafodaethau hynny, bu'r Pwyllgor yn ymwybodol o ddiffyg pwerau uniongyrchol y Cynulliad dros drafnidiaeth. Yr wyf yn falch ein bod wedi cyflwyno rhai cynigion synhwyrol mewn ymateb i'r mesurau trafnidiaeth. Mae'r rhain yn ffurfio sylfaen i'n hymateb fel Cynulliad. Un peth cynhyrchiol a gyflawnodd y Pwyllgor hwn yw ceisio tynnu'r dadleuon hynny at ei gilydd ac ymateb i Lundain. Cefnogasom ymdrechion Peter Law, ac ymdrechion gan eraill, i wella'r cyswllt rheilffordd rhwng gogledd a de Cymru. Dyna un o uchelgeisiau sylfaenol y Pwyllgor yn ogystal â hybu mentrau da, newydd fel y cynllun llwybrau diogel i'r ysgol, a weithredir yn y gymuned.

Ynghylch cynllunio defnydd tir, mae'r Pwyllgor yn cefnogi'r prif arweiniad polisi. Cynllunio sydd wrth wraidd y modd y mae'n rhaid inni weithio yn y maes. Wrth ystyried y strategaeth ddatblygu economaidd genedlaethol, teimlem fod angen ffordd strategol, gryfach ymlaen, i Gymru gyfan ac ar lefel ranbarthol.

Yn ein rhaglen waith yn y dyfodol, bydd y Pwyllgor yn ceisio datblygu dull gweithredu mwy strategol. Mae hyn yn anodd, yng

range of subjects with which we deal, and the pressure on us to present our views as we progress, but we would like to be more strategic over the next six months. Perhaps we can do that now, having used the first period to cover most of the ground work.

We will also put two policy reviews in place: one on public transport—an issue dear to everyone’s heart—and the other on housing stock transfer and the options that might be available, which is a big issue for every local authority in Wales. I am working with tenants’ associations and others to try to evaluate proposals. We may, in the longer term, have a more fundamental review of housing, perhaps in relation to the national housing strategy.

In conclusion, I have a few pointers on issues that we as a Committee—as well as other Committees—face. We have had our own performance appraisal. We sat in a room late one night and considered where we were going. As a result, the following week, we actually finished on time, so some benefit came from that. We also examined how we deal with the content and how we go forward. I will make a few key points on that.

First, this Committee has a capacity problem. The Planning Decision Panel also falls to us. We want to ensure that we incorporate study visits—we will visit north Wales at the beginning of March. There is a fundamental issue here about the time that Committees have to do justice to the subjects that they must consider. It is important that we reach out to the whole of Wales. Matters such as local government and the environment are important for everyone in Wales, and we somehow need to have extra capacity to do that outreach work.

We also need more capacity to take a more detailed look at the budget, particularly the local government budget. That is crucial in how we deliver. We also need to examine legislation in more detail. I am aware that we have secondary legislative powers and that we have not yet looked at them in detail. We

ngolwg yr amrediad o bynciau yr ymdriniwn â hwy, a’r pwysau arnom i gyflwyno ein barn wrth fynd ymlaen, ond hoffem fod yn fwy strategol dros y chwe mis nesaf. Efallai y gallwn wneud hynny’n awr, ar ôl defnyddio’r cyfnod cyntaf i ymdrin â’r sylfeini.

Byddwn hefyd yn rhoi dau adolygiad polisi ar waith: un ar drafnidiaeth gyhoeddus—mater sydd yn agos i galon pawb—a’r llall ar drosglwyddo’r stoc dai a’r dewisiadau a allai fod ar gael, sydd yn fater mawr i bob awdurdod lleol yng Nghymru. Yr wyf yn gweithio gyda chymdeithasau tenantiaid ac eraill i geisio gwerthuso’r cynigion. Yn y dyfodol, mae’n bosibl y cawn adolygiad mwy sylfaenol o dai, mewn perthynas efallai â’r strategaeth dai genedlaethol.

I derfynu, mae gennyf rai awgrymiadau ynghylch materion yr ydym ni fel Pwyllgor—yn ogystal â Phwyllgorau eraill—yn eu hwynebu. Cawsom ein harfarniad perfformiad ein hunain. Eisteddasom mewn ystafell yn hwyr un noson ac ystyried i ble’r oeddem yn mynd. O ganlyniad, yr wythnos wedyn, gorffenasom yn brydlon, felly daeth rhyw fudd o hynny. Ystyriasom hefyd y modd yr ydym yn ymdrin â’r cynnwys a sut yr ydym yn mynd ymlaen. Gwnaf ychydig o bwyntiau allweddol ar hynny.

Yn gyntaf, mae gan y Pwyllgor hwn broblem ynghylch cynhwysedd. Mae’r Panel Penderfyniadau Cynllunio hefyd yn gyfrifoldeb i ni. Yr ydym am sicrhau ein bod yn cynnwys ymweliadau astudiaeth—byddwn yn ymweld â gogledd Cymru ddechrau Mawrth. Mae mater sylfaenol yma ynghylch yr amser sydd gan Bwyllgorau i wneud cyfiawnder â’r pynciau y mae’n rhaid iddynt eu hystyried. Mae’n bwysig inni ymestyn allan i Gymru gyfan. Mae materion fel llywodraeth leol a’r amgylchedd yn bwysig i bawb yng Nghymru, a rywsut mae arnom angen cynhwysedd ychwanegol i wneud y gwaith allanol hwnnw.

Mae arnom angen mwy o gynhwysedd hefyd i fwrw golwg manylach ar y gyllideb, yn enwedig cyllideb llywodraeth leol. Mae hynny’n holl bwysig o ran y modd yr ydym yn gweithredu. Mae angen hefyd inni edrych ar ddeddfwriaeth yn fwy manwl. Yr wyf yn ymwybodol bod gennyf bwerau

need to develop those.

On the cross-cutting agenda, we have had two meetings with the Economic Development Committee. We would like more meetings with other Committees, such as the Health and Social Services Committee, as well as meetings with the Agriculture and Rural Development Committee on sustainable development, perhaps. However, it is difficult for us to do that, given our timetable and framework. That is probably true of all Committees. How do we work in this cross-cutting way? We need to consider whether we should have task and finish groups set up within Committees.

Last but not least, I thank the Committee members. They work very hard, with good humour for the most part. Peter Law also plays an excellent role and has a constructive approach. Particular thanks go to the Committee Secretariat, and to Martin Stevenson, our Committee Clerk, who is first class. He is quietly efficient and comprehensive and is a huge support to the Committee and to me. I thank him.

Janet Ryder: I thank Sue for her introduction and for the way that she has chaired the Environment and Local Government Committee through its first few months. I, and the other Plaid Cymru Committee members, appreciate how she has tackled the work.

There is much work involved in the Environment and Local Government Committee. Of all the Committees it has, perhaps, the most potential for affecting people's everyday lives. That may be heresy to those on the education Committees or on the Health and Social Services Committee, but the matters dealt with by the Environment and Local Government Committee touch the basis of everyday lives.

For example, are people's bins being emptied? That is part of a waste management strategy. Are the buses running on time, or in some areas, are there any buses or trains to

deddfwriaethol eilaidd ac nad ydym eto wedi edrych arnynt yn fanwl. Mae angen inni ddatblygu'r rheini.

Ar yr agenda drawsbynciol, cawsom ddau gyfarfod â'r Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd. Hoffem gael mwy o gyfarfodydd â Phwyllgorau eraill, fel y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, yn ogystal â chyfarfodydd â'r Pwyllgor Amaethyddiaeth a Datblygu Gwledig ar ddatblygu cynaliadwy, efallai. Fodd bynnag, mae'n anodd inni wneud hynny, o dderbyn ein hamserlen a'n fframwaith. Mae hynny'n wir am yr holl Bwyllgorau yn ôl pob tebyg. Sut yr ydym yn gweithio yn y ffordd drawsbynciol hon? Mae angen inni ystyried a ddylai grwpiau gorchwyl a gorffen gael eu sefydlu oddi mewn i Bwyllgorau.

Yn olaf ond nid yn lleiaf, diolchaf i aelodau'r Pwyllgor. Gweithiant yn galed iawn, ac mewn hwyliau da gan mwyaf. Mae Peter Law yntau'n chwarae rôl ragorol ac mae ganddo ddull gweithredu adeiladol. Diolchir yn arbennig i Ysgrifenyddiaeth y Pwyllgor, ac i Martin Stevenson, ein Clerc Pwyllgor, sydd yn wych. Mae'n dawel effeithlon a deallus ac mae hynny'n gymorth mawr i'r Pwyllgor ac i mi. Diolchaf iddo.

Janet Ryder: Diolchaf i Sue am ei rhagarweiniad ac am y modd y cadeiriodd Bwyllgor yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol yn ystod ei fisoedd cyntaf. Yr wyf fi, ac aelodau Pwyllgor eraill Plaid Cymru, yn gwerthfawrogi'r modd yr ymgymerodd â'r gwaith.

Mae llawer o waith yn gysylltiedig â Phwyllgor yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol. O'r holl Bwyllgorau, ganddo ef, efallai, y mae'r potensial mwyaf i effeithio ar fywyd bob dydd pobl. Efallai fod hynny'n heresi yng ngolwg y rhai ar y Pwyllgorau addysg neu'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, ond mae'r materion yr ymdrinnir â hwy gan Bwyllgor yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol yn cyffwrdd â gwraidd bywydau beunyddiol.

Er enghraifft, a yw buniau pobl yn cael eu gwagio? Mae hynny'n rhan o strategaeth rheoli gwastraff. A yw'r bysiau'n rhedeg ar amser, neu mewn rhai ardaloedd, a oes

catch? Are the holes in the roads being filled? Why are there so many cars going past my front door? Do we know that the foundations of people's houses are being affected by increasingly heavy lorries that are going past their front door? All that is part of an integrated transport system. When will people get a council house? Do we know how long they have been on the council waiting list? Do we know that their windows need replacing, or that they need a handrail fitted so that they can cross their front step? That is all part of a housing strategy. Why is the council allowing that new factory or that new housing estate or that new road to be built? That is all part of a planning framework for Wales. Why are council taxes increasing so much? That is pertinent to last week's debate and is all part of this Committee's work. There is a great deal of work, but it is all in areas that are inter-related and are dependent upon each other.

4:09 p.m.

A housing strategy, a waste strategy and an integrated transport strategy all need to be underpinned by a national planning framework for Wales. In tandem with the review of the planning policy guidelines we would like to see the Committee, during the coming year, working on developing a national structure plan. That would facilitate sustainable development while blocking other development in certain areas. A national structure plan would create the framework for developing a housing strategy, an integrated transport system and a waste management strategy. As part of this we would like to see a controlled third party right of appeal against certain planning permissions. We would also like to see the health implications of development given higher weighting in the planning process, with the health sector becoming a statutory consultee on planning.

An integrated transport system will be debated tomorrow. Together with a waste management strategy, it will form the basis for any sustainable development scheme, and is therefore very important. As part of the waste management strategy we would like to see the waste hierarchy redefined to prioritise

unrhyw fysiau neu drenau i'w dal? A yw'r tyllau yn y ffordd yn cael eu llenwi? Pam y mae cynifer o geir yn mynd heibio i'm drws ffrynt? A wyddom fod sylfeini tai pobl yn cael eu heffeithio gan y lorïau mwyfwy trwm sydd yn mynd heibio i'w drws ffrynt? Mae hynny i gyd yn rhan o system drafnidiaeth integredig. Pa bryd y caiff pobl dŷ cyngor? A wyddom am ba hyd y buont ar restr aros y cyngor? A wyddom fod angen adnewyddu eu ffenestri, neu fod angen gosod canllaw ar eu cyfer fel y gallant groesi carreg eu drws? Mae hynny oll yn rhan o strategaeth dai. Pam y mae'r cyngor yn caniatáu adeiladu'r ffatri newydd honno neu'r stad dai newydd honno neu'r ffordd newydd honno? Mae hynny oll yn rhan o fframwaith cynllunio i Gymru. Pam y mae trethi cyngor yn codi gymaint? Mae hynny'n berthnasol i'r ddadl yr wythnos diwethaf ac mae i gyd yn rhan o waith y Pwyllgor hwn. Mae llawer iawn o waith, ond mae'r cwbl ohono mewn meysydd sydd yn rhyng-gysylltiedig ac yn dibynnu ar ei gilydd.

Mae angen i strategaeth dai, strategaeth wastraff a strategaeth drafnidiaeth integredig fod yn seiliedig bob un ar fframwaith cynllunio cenedlaethol i Gymru. Ar y cyd â'r adolygiad ar y canllawiau polisi cynllunio hoffem weld y Pwyllgor, yn ystod y flwyddyn i ddod, yn gweithio ar ddatblygu cynllun fframwaith cenedlaethol. Byddai hynny'n hwyluso datblygu cynaliadwy gan rwystro datblygu arall mewn rhai ardaloedd. Cynllun fframwaith cenedlaethol fyddai'n creu'r fframwaith ar gyfer datblygu strategaeth dai, system drafnidiaeth integredig a strategaeth reoli gwastraff. Yn rhan o hynny hoffem weld hawl apelio trydydd parti rheoledig yn erbyn rhai penderfyniadau caniatâd cynllunio. Hefyd hoffem weld rhoi mwy o bwysoliad i oblygiadau datblygu i iechyd yn y broses cynllunio, gyda'r sector iechyd yn dod yn ymgynghoredig statudol ar gynllunio.

Trafodir system drafnidiaeth integredig yfory. Gyda strategaeth reoli gwastraff, bydd yn sylfaen ar gyfer unrhyw gynllun datblygu cynaliadwy, ac mae felly'n bwysig iawn. Fel rhan o'r strategaeth reoli gwastraff hoffem weld ailddiffinio'r hierarchiaeth gwastraff er mwyn rhoi blaenoriaeth i leihau gwastraff yn

waste minimisation rather than incineration. As part of that we would like to see a moratorium on the construction of new incinerators while that strategy is being put in place. We must place a heavier emphasis on reuse and recycling. We must take this opportunity to develop a strategy that is unique to Wales. We can take the lead on this, and I hope that we will be allowed to set a strategy that will meet European standards and regulations, even if other parts of the United Kingdom have time delays in meeting those standards.

We agree with Sue that a housing strategy is, perhaps, the most important strategy on which we are working. As that develops, we would like targets and timescales to be set as part of the strategy and some form of monitoring mechanism to be put in place to monitor our achievement on the housing strategy. We are concerned that only stock transfer is offered to cure the backlog of necessary repairs. Stock transfer will not be suitable for all areas, and may not be chosen by all areas. We must propose an alternative for those areas that do not choose stock transfer.

In order to deliver all those strategies we need a well-developed working relationship with local government. We must work together to implement shared policies, but we must also develop a well and adequately funded local government. As part of the Committee's work in the coming year, as Sue said, we would like to see the new funding formula for local government being developed. The formula should be worked out between local government and ourselves. As part of that formula we need to consider the restrictions that have been placed on local government on how it sets its budget. That has caused a problem this year. We must re-empower local government and enable it to deliver services and invest in communities as appropriate to local needs. To achieve that investment in local communities we need to concentrate on the funding mechanism. That mechanism would mean a fairer distribution of resources based on need and would acknowledge social deprivation as well as rural issues. The formula should be sensitive enough to recognise pockets of potential need within otherwise affluent areas. I was

hytrach na llosgi. Yn rhan o hynny hoffem weld moratoriwm ar adeiladu llosgyddion newydd tra rhoddir y strategaeth ar waith. Rhaid inni roi mwy o bwyslais ar ailddefnyddio ac ailgylchu. Rhaid inni achub ar y cyfle hwn i ddatblygu strategaeth sydd yn unigryw i Gymru. Gallwn arwain ar hyn, a gobeithiaf y caniateir inni bennu strategaeth a fydd yn cyrraedd safonau a rheoliadau Ewropeaidd, hyd yn oed os bydd rhannau eraill o'r Deyrnas Unedig yn oedi cyn cyrraedd y safonau hynny.

Cytunwn â Sue mai strategaeth dai, efallai, yw'r strategaeth bwysicaf yr ydym yn gweithio arni. Wrth i honno ddatblygu, hoffem weld gosod targedau ac amserlenni yn rhan o'r strategaeth a rhoi rhyw ffurf ar fecanwaith monitro ar waith er mwyn monitro ein cyflawniad ar y strategaeth dai. Pryderwn mai ond trosglwyddo stoc a gynigir er mwyn cywiro'r ôl-groniad o atgyweiriadau angenrheidiol. Ni fydd trosglwyddo stoc yn addas i bob ardal, ac mae'n bosibl nad hynny a ddewisir gan bob ardal. Rhaid inni gynnig dewis arall i'r ardaloedd hynny nad ydynt yn dewis trosglwyddo stoc.

Er mwyn cyflawni'r holl strategaethau hynny mae arnom angen perthynas waith ddatblygedig â llywodraeth leol. Rhaid inni gydweithio i weithredu polisiau a rennir, ond rhaid inni hefyd ddatblygu llywodraeth leol sydd wedi ei hariannu'n dda ac yn ddigonol. Fel rhan o waith y Pwyllgor yn y flwyddyn sydd i ddod, fel y dywedodd Sue, hoffem weld datblygu'r fformwla ariannu newydd ar gyfer llywodraeth leol. Dylai'r fformwla gael ei gweithio gan lywodraeth leol a ninnau. Yn rhan o'r fformwla honno mae angen inni ystyried y cyfyngiadau a osodwyd ar lywodraeth leol o ran y modd y mae'n pennu ei chyllideb. Mae hynny wedi achosi problem eleni. Rhaid inni ailalluogi llywodraeth leol a'i galluogi i gyflenwi gwasanaethau a buddsoddi mewn cymunedau fel y bo'n briodol i anghenion lleol. Er mwyn cyflawni'r buddsoddiad hwnnw mewn cymunedau lleol, rhaid inni ganolbwyntio ar y mecanwaith ariannu. Byddai'r mecanwaith hwnnw'n golygu dosbarthu adnoddau'n decach ar sail angen a byddai'n cydnabod amddifadedd cymdeithasol yn ogystal â materion gwledig. Dylai'r fformwla fod yn

pleased, therefore, to hear Sue's comments on local government in general, on the structures that might be developed in local government and on the funding mechanisms that we need to consider.

I thank Sue again for the way that she has chaired the Committee. It has been a great credit to her. It has been a pleasure to be a member of this Committee and what we have said has been taken on board. I thank Sue Essex and Peter Law for their openness in dealing with this Committee. I look forward, with the other members of Plaid Cymru, to working with you in the future.

David Davies: I echo the thanks of previous speakers for the chairmanship of Sue Essex and to Peter Law, the Secretary for the Environment and Local Government. Sue Essex has chaired the Committee competently over the last few months since I joined in September. Although I have strong political disagreements with Peter Law, he has always been willing to listen to Members' concerns. That is important and he deserves credit for that.

I would like to sound a few notes of caution. When I became a member of the Environment and Local Government Committee, due to unfortunate circumstances last September, I looked forward to an opportunity—coming from the closed confines of the Business Committee—to scrutinise the Executive and the Secretary for the Environment and Local Government about their policies. I believed, perhaps naively, that Assembly Subject Committees would work on similar lines to Select Committees in the Houses of Parliament. In that other place, members of Select Committees—and I am sure that the Llywydd would agree having spent many years there—put aside party allegiances and act as one to scrutinise the actions of the Executive. In this new era of spin doctors and control freakery those Committees act as a vital guardian of democracy. Therefore, it was disappointing that in the first meeting that I attended I was reminded by the Chair that the Environment and Local Government Committee is a

ddigon sensitif i adnabod pocedi o angen posibl oddi mewn i ardaloedd sydd fel arall yn llewyrchus. Yr oeddwn yn falch, felly, o glywed sylwadau Sue am lywodraeth leol yn gyffredinol, am y strwythurau y gellid eu datblygu mewn llywodraeth leol ac am y mecanwaith ariannu y mae angen inni ei ystyried.

Diolchaf eto i Sue am y modd y cadeiriodd y Pwyllgor. Mae'n glod mawr iddi. Pleser oedd bod yn aelod o'r Pwyllgor hwn a rhoddwyd ystyriaeth i'r hyn a ddywedasom. Diolchaf i Sue Essex a Peter Law am eu dull agored o ymdrin â'r Pwyllgor hwn. Edrychaf ymlaen, gydag aelodau eraill Plaid Cymru, at weithio gyda chi yn y dyfodol.

David Davies: Ate gaf ddiolchiadau'r siaradwyr blaenorol am gadeiryddiaeth Sue Essex ac i Peter Law, Ysgrifennydd yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol. Mae Sue Essex wedi cadeirio'r Pwyllgor yn fedrus dros y misoedd diwethaf hyn ers imi ymuno ym Medi. Er fy mod yn anghytuno'n gryf â Peter Law ar faterion gwleidyddol, bu bob amser yn barod i wrando ar bryderon yr Aelodau. Mae hynny'n bwysig a haedda glod am hynny.

Hoffwn seinio ychydig nodau o rybudd. Pan ddeuthum yn aelod o Bwyllgor yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol, oherwydd amgylchiadau anffodus fis Medi diwethaf, edrychais ymlaen at gyfle—ar ôl dod o fyd cyfyng y Pwyllgor Busnes—i archwilio'r Weithrediaeth ac Ysgrifennydd yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol ynghylch eu polisiau. Credais, yn ddiniwed efallai, y byddai Pwyllgorau Pwnc y Cynulliad yn gweithio'n debyg i Bwyllgorau Dethol yn y Senedd. Yn y lle arall hwnnw, mae aelodau Pwyllgorau Dethol—ac yr wyf yn sicr y cytunai'r Llywydd ac yntau wedi treulio blynyddoedd lawer yno—yn rhoi heibio ymlyniad plaid ac yn gweithredu fel un i archwilio gweithredoedd y Weithrediaeth. Yn yr oes newydd hon o droellwyr a'r obsesiwn rheoli mae'r Pwyllgorau hynny'n gweithredu fel gwarcheidwad holl bwysig i ddemocratiaeth. Siomedig, felly, oedd cael fy atgoffa gan y Cadeirydd yn y cyfarfod cyntaf yr oeddwn yn bresennol ynddo mai Pwyllgor Pwnc yw Pwyllgor yr Amgylchedd a

Subject Committee, scrutiny was not within our remit and our duty was merely to help the Executive to implement its policies.

It seems to have escaped the attention of those who drew up the Standing Orders that the majority of Members elected in this Chamber were not elected to help the Labour Party to implement its policy objectives. They were elected because they disagreed with them and had put other policies forward. An effective system of scrutiny is a right, not a privilege of those Committees.

I am afraid that a glance through the report would bring into question the *raison d'être* for spending thousands of pounds and many hours on this Assembly. The Committee supports improvements in housing in Wales, good transport links, and a fair and efficient planning system. They are all worthy but these are policies that are already being pursued by the Cabinet, just as they were previously by the Welsh Office under this administration and the one before it. I would go so far as to say that all of us would support these worthy objectives. None of us would have gone into politics if we did not believe that housing should be improved, that we should have better transport links and fairer planning systems.

If the Executive is already pursuing these objectives, then the relevant Committees should be holding it accountable for the progress it has made so far, or not, as the case may be. Instead of proper scrutiny we seem to be having a surfeit of sugary language with not enough substance. For example, the Committee is apparently keen to promote the delivery of high quality, cost-effective local government services. As the previous speaker mentioned, last week we discussed a budget that would lead to huge council tax rises for people, particularly in those rural areas.

4:19 p.m.

Some, though not all, of that rise is due to the four local authorities that have for some

Llywodraeth Leol, nad oedd archwilio yn rhan o'n cylch gwaith ac mai ein hunig ddyletswydd oedd helpu'r Weithrediaeth i roi ei pholisiau ar waith.

Ymddengys fod y rhai a luniodd y Rheolau Sefydlog wedi methu â sylwi nad oedd y rhan fwyaf o'r Aelodau a etholwyd i'r Siambr hon wedi eu hethol i helpu'r Blaid Lafur i weithredu ei nodau polisi. Fe'u hetholwyd am eu bod yn anghytuno â hwy ac wedi cyflwyno polisiau eraill. Mae system archwilio effeithiol yn hawl, nid yn fraint i'r Pwyllgorau hynny.

Mae arnaf ofn y byddai bwrw cipolwg ar yr adroddiad hwn yn codi amheuaeth ynghylch y rheswm dros wario miloedd o bunnoedd a threulio oriau lawer ar y Cynulliad hwn. Mae'r Pwyllgor yn cefnogi gwelliannau mewn tai yng Nghymru, cysylltiadau trafnidiaeth da, a system cynllunio teg ac effeithlon. Maent oll yn deilwng ond mae'r rhain yn bolisiau a ddilynir eisoes gan y Cabinet, yn union fel y'i dilynwyd cyn hynny gan y Swyddfa Gymreig o dan y weinyddiaeth hon a'r un o'i blaen. Awn mor bell â dweud y byddai pawb ohonom yn cefnogi'r amcanion teilwng hyn. Ni fuasai'r un ohonom wedi mynd i fyd gwleidyddiaeth pe na chredem y dylid gwella tai, y dylem gael gwell cysylltiadau trafnidiaeth a systemau cynllunio tecach.

Os yw'r Weithrediaeth eisoes yn dilyn yr amcanion hynny, dylai'r Pwyllgorau perthnasol fod yn ei alw i gyfrif am y cynnydd a wnaethpwyd hyd yn hyn, neu na wnaethpwyd, yn ôl fel y digwydd. Yn lle archwilio priodol ymddengys ein bod yn cael gormodedd o iaith siwgrwraidd heb ddigon o sylwedd. Er enghraifft, mae'n ymddangos bod y Pwyllgor yn awyddus i hybu'r cyflenwad o wasanaethau llywodraeth leol cost-effeithiol, uchel eu hansawdd. Fel y dywedodd y siaradwr blaenorol, yr wythnos diwethaf trafodasom gyllideb a fyddai'n arwain at godiadau anferth y dreth gyngor i bobl, yn enwedig yn yr ardaloedd gwledig hynny.

Mae rhywfaint, er nad y cwbl, o'r codiad hwnnw'n ganlyniad i'r pedwar awdurdod

reason—and I will not state the reason here—spent over and above their standard spending assessments. I will be absent from this Chamber tomorrow as I will be discussing this matter with the Secretary of State for Wales in Westminster.

The Committee, which has in the past received representations from various public bodies on different matters, could have examined this matter and flexed its muscles to call the relevant council leaders to account for themselves and their actions, and explain how they found themselves in such a situation. If it was not their own fault, as many in this Chamber would have us believe, they would no doubt be pleased to come forward and publicly announce how this situation arose. We have chosen not to do that.

Other speakers have referred to the integrated transport policy. It is essential that the Committee recognises that car drivers, particularly in rural areas, are already paying penal rates of taxation to the Treasury in the form of fuel tax. We are considering proposals that would allow the implementation of road tolls, not only in urban areas, but in rural areas and national parks, where there is a possibility of congestion at certain times of the year.

Alison Halford: I am saddened that you are knocking what is a very successful Committee. It has a long way to go but is also achieving a great deal. Without being disrespectful, you have not attended the Committee often and perhaps you were absent when the Committee was at its most constructive.

David Davies: I have been absent on occasion and can assure you that it was always with good reason. On one occasion I was opening a farmers' market in Monmouth, which I considered to be a good thing to do. On another occasion I was absent for a short while to meet a delegation from the Countryside Alliance. I was absent on another occasion to take part in the Countryside Alliance march, which was important to me as I come from a rural area where many jobs are provided through field sports. My absence has been for the best

lleol sydd am ryw reswm—ac ni ddywedaf y rheswm yma—wedi gwario mwy na'u hasesiadau gwariant safonol. Byddaf yn absennol o'r Siambr hon yfory gan y byddaf yn trafod y mater hwn gydag Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru yn San Steffan.

Buasai modd i'r Pwyllgor, a dderbyniodd sylwadau oddi wrth amryw o gyrff cyhoeddus ar wahanol faterion, fod wedi ystyried y mater hwn ac ystwytho'i gyhyrau drwy alw'r arweinyddion cyngor perthnasol i roi cyfrif amdanynt hwy eu hunain a'u gweithredoedd, ac egluro sut y cawsant eu hunain yn y fath sefyllfa. Os nad eu bai hwy ydoedd, fel y byddai llawer yn y Siambr hon am inni gredu, mae'n sicr y byddent yn falch o ddod ymlaen a datgan ar goedd sut y cododd y sefyllfa. Dewisasom beidio â gwneud hynny.

Cyfeiriodd siaradwyr eraill at y polisi trafniadaeth integredig. Mae'n holl bwysig i'r Pwyllgor gydnabod bod gyrrwyr ceir, yn enwedig mewn ardaloedd gwledig, eisoes yn talu cyfraddau trethiant cosbol i'r Trysorlys ar ffurf treth tanwydd. Yr ydym yn ystyried cynigion a fyddai'n caniatáu gweithredu tollau ffordd, nid yn unig mewn ardaloedd trefol, ond mewn ardaloedd gwledig a pharciau cenedlaethol, lle y mae posibilïad o dagfeydd ar rai adegau o'r flwyddyn.

Alison Halford: Tristwch i mi yw eich bod yn lladd ar yr hyn sydd yn Bwyllgor llwyddiannus iawn. Mae ganddo ffordd bell o'i flaen ond mae hefyd yn cyflawni llawer. Heb fod yn amharchus, ni fuoch yn y Pwyllgor yn aml ac efallai eich bod yn absennol pan oedd y Pwyllgor yn fwyaf adeiladol.

David Davies: Bûm yn absennol ambell dro a gallaf eich sicrhau bod rheswm da am hynny bob amser. Ar un achlysur yr oeddwn yn agor marchnad ffermwyr yn Nhrefynwy, a ystyriais yn beth da. Dro arall yr oeddwn yn absennol am ychydig amser i gyfarfod â dirprwyaeth o'r Gynghrair Cefn Gwlad. Yr oeddwn yn absennol dro arall i gymryd rhan yng ngorymdaith y Gynghrair Cefn Gwlad, a oedd yn bwysig i mi gan fy mod yn dod o ardal wledig lle y darperir llawer o swyddi drwy helwriaeth. Yr oeddwn yn absennol am y rhesymau gorau posibl. Rhoddaf fy

possible reasons. I have always put my constituency above other interests because I believe that representing the people of Monmouthshire should be my number one priority in this place.

I am not knocking the Committee and do not wish my remarks to be misinterpreted. I have paid tribute to the Committee's Chair. I am supplying constructive criticisms that I hope will help the Committee. I also hope that the Committee notes my comments and progresses in this new millennium by flexing more of its muscles and by showing more willingness to scrutinise what is happening in the Executive, and that it will therefore improve as a Committee. I am not saying that the situation is bad at the moment but we all want things to improve.

I agree that we have discussed the integrated transport policy. However, when the Chancellor of the Exchequer builds a budget surplus from the revenue he receives from fuel taxes, is it not right that the Committee should be able to challenge the Chancellor directly on that? We should be able to ask him why, for example, we cannot have more money for the rural bus subsidy. If the Assembly is being taken seriously by central Government, and I assume that that is the case because it was responsible for establishing the Assembly, why should we not be able to question the Chancellor directly about this issue? Why should the Committee not consider visiting 11 Downing Street to ask the Chancellor why he has such a surplus and why it cannot be spent throughout Wales, and specifically in our rural areas? I would like the answer to that question, along with many hard-pressed motorists. The Committee should therefore ask the question.

We still do not have enough scrutiny and action in the forward work programme. There are allegations that numerous complaints were made in Anglesey about officials suspended from their posts for alleged wrongdoing, who subsequently provided sick notes in order to receive pay and other benefits before retiring on health grounds. That is the kind of issue that the Committee could justifiably examine. Local government

etholaeth uwchlaw buddiannau eraill bob amser am fy mod yn credu y dylai cynrychioli pobl Sir Fynwy fod yn flaenoriaeth gyntaf gennyf yn y lle hwn.

Nid wyf yn lladd ar y Pwyllgor ac nid wyf yn dymuno i'm sylwadau gael eu camddehongli. Telais deyrnged i Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor. Yr wyf yn cynnig beirniadaethau adeiladol y gobeithiaf y byddant o gymorth i'r Pwyllgor. Gobeithiaf hefyd fod y Pwyllgor yn nodi fy sylwadau ac y bydd yn symud ymlaen yn y mileniwm newydd drwy ystytho'i gyhyrau i fwy o raddau a drwy amlygu mwy o barodrwydd i archwilio'r hyn sydd yn digwydd yn y Weithrediaeth, ac y bydd felly'n gwella fel Pwyllgor. Ni ddywedaf fod y sefyllfa'n wael ar hyn o bryd ond yr ydym oll am i bethau wella.

Cytunaf ein bod wedi trafod y polisi trafniadaeth integredig. Fodd bynnag, pan yw Canghellor y Trysorlys yn cronni gwarged cyllideb o'r refeniw a dderbynia o drethi tanwydd, onid yw'n iawn i'r Pwyllgor allu herio'r Canghellor yn uniongyrchol ar hynny? Dylai fod modd inni ofyn iddo, er enghraifft, pam na allwn gael mwy o arian i'r cymhorthdal bysiau gwledig. Os yw'r Cynulliad yn cael ei gymryd o ddifrif gan y Llywodraeth ganolog, a chymeraf fod hynny'n wir oherwydd yr oedd yn gyfrifol am sefydlu'r Cynulliad, pam na ddylem allu holi'r Canghellor yn uniongyrchol am y mater hwn? Pam na ddylai'r Pwyllgor ystyried ymweld â 11 Downing Street i ofyn i'r Canghellor pam y mae ganddo'r fath warged a pham na ellir ei wario ledled Cymru, ac yn benodol yn ein hardaloedd gwledig? Hoffwn i gael yr ateb i'r cwestiwn hwnnw, a llawer o fodurwyr sydd dan bwysau. Dylai'r Pwyllgor, felly, ofyn y cwestiwn.

Yr ydym yn dal i fod heb ddigon o archwilio a gweithredu yn y rhaglen waith ar gyfer y dyfodol. Mae cyhuddiadau bod cwynion niferus wedi eu gwneud yn Ynys Môn am swyddogion a ataliwyd o'u swyddi am ddrwgweithredu honedig, a ddarparodd lythyrau salwch wedyn er mwyn derbyn tâl a budd-daliadau eraill cyn ymddeol ar sail iechyd. Dyna'r math o fater y gallai'r Pwyllgor fod ag achos cyfiawn i'w archwilio.

modernisation was mentioned by previous speakers—

Jonathan Morgan: We heard earlier that the Committee will take a far more strategic approach. Bearing that in mind, would it not be right for the Committee to examine local government expenditure, particularly on education? Vast sums of money are spent on administration and little seems to get through to the chalk face of education delivery. Will you call in councillor Russell Goodwage—sorry, Goodway—to see whether he will accept the Assembly’s report on councillors’ allowances and the sensible recommendations that are found therein?

David Davies: You will not be surprised to hear that I agree with every word of that. Why can we not call in councillor Russell Goodway—I think that is his name although he is beginning to be known by a different surname—to ask him whether he will accept the report on councillors’ expenditure? Why can we not demand that he justifies the £60,000 that he pays himself for a three-day week when there are millions of pounds of uncollected council tax in Cardiff? Why do we not ask him how many chartered accountants would pay someone with so many outstanding debts a salary? I fully agree with your point, Jonathan.

Peter Rogers: You mentioned an area from which I come. I did not realise how serious an issue it is for your Committee, but it is a real problem in north Wales. There are council officials who have allegedly been suspended because of misdeeds. They then go on the sick, or take early retirement, and never face charges. This is a problem for local authorities because of the money involved. These people were fit and well when they committed the alleged offences, and they should answer the charges against them and not use sick notes in this way.

The Presiding Officer: Order. It would be helpful if we returned to debating the Committee’s report.

Alison Halford: I agree with what David

Yr oedd moderneiddio llywodraeth leol wedi ei grybwyll gan siaradwyr blaenorol—

Jonathan Morgan: Clywsom yn gynharach y bydd y Pwyllgor yn llawer mwy strategol yn ei ddull gweithredu. O gofio hynny, oni fyddai’n iawn i’r Pwyllgor ystyried gwariant llywodraeth leol, yn enwedig ar addysg? Gwerir symiau enfawr o arian ar weinyddu ac ymddengys mai prin yw’r hyn sydd yn mynd drwodd i reng flaen y ddarpariaeth addysg. A ydych yn fodlon galw’r cynghorydd Russell Goodwage—mae’n ddrwg gennyf, Goodway—i mewn i weld a yw’n barod i dderbyn adroddiad y Cynulliad ar lwfansau cynghorwyr a’r argymhellion synhwyrol a geir ynddo?

David Davies: Ni fyddwch yn synnu o glywed fy mod yn cytuno â phob gair o hynny. Pam na allwn alw i mewn y cynghorydd Russell Goodway—credaf mai dyna yw ei enw er ei fod yn dechrau cael ei adnabod wrth gyfenw arall—i ofyn iddo a yw’n fodlon derbyn yr adroddiad ar wariant cynghorwyr? Pam na allwn fynnu ei fod yn cyfiawnhau’r £60,000 y mae’n ei dalu iddo’i hun am wythnos dri-diwrnod pan fo miliynau o bunnoedd o’r dreth gyngor heb eu casglu yng Nghaerdydd? Pam na ofynnwn iddo faint o gyfrifyddion siartredig a dalai gyflog i rywun a chanddo gynifer o ddyledion heb eu clirio? Cytunaf yn llwyr â’ch pwynt, Jonathan.

Peter Rogers: Cyfeiriasoch at ardal y dof fi ohoni. Ni sylweddolais pa mor ddiffrifol yw’r mater hwn i’ch Pwyllgor, ond mae’n broblem wirioneddol yng ngogledd Cymru. Mae swyddogion cyngor yr honnir eu bod wedi eu hatal oherwydd camweddau. Wedyn maent yn derbyn tâl salwch neu’n ymddeol yn gynnar, a byth yn cael eu cyhuddo. Mae hyn yn broblem i awdurdodau lleol oherwydd yr arian dan sylw. Yr oedd y bobl hyn yn heini ac yn iach pan gyflawnasant y troseddau honedig, a dylent ateb y cyhuddiadau yn eu herbyn a pheidio â defnyddio llythyrau salwch fel hyn.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Byddai o gymorth pe baem yn dychwelyd at drafod adroddiad y Pwyllgor.

Alison Halford: Cytunaf â’r hyn a

said about Anglesey officials. As a member of the North Wales Police Authority, I am aware that a certain official took sick leave and a large pension.

The Presiding Officer: Order. Can we get on with the debate please?

David Davies: I am glad that the Member agrees that it is important that the Committee looks into these and other related matters. I will briefly mention the local government modernisation agenda, because I have spoken to many backbench councillors from many different parties who have expressed concern at the new structures. I believe that the Chair of the Committee mentioned the possibility of using this Assembly model as a possible template for some local authorities.

Michael German: Do you support the views of one of your leading councillors who, in the Local Government Association journal this week, credited the Government for the wonderful job that it had done in getting rid of all these committees and putting in their place elected mayors and secretive cabinet structures. Do you agree with that Conservative point of view?

David Davies: I would like to know who the Conservative was. I agree that local authorities should be able to put forward a model of their own choosing. They should not have a model forced upon them. Powers should reside with local authorities and the Assembly should not tell local authorities how to get on with things. There may be an argument for restructuring some local authorities and there may also be an argument for leaving others alone. It depends how they are working in different areas. I have always believed that you should not have one template for every area. I am convinced that the structure that we have in the Assembly is flawed. Members from other parties would be the first to agree that we should not try to force this on all local authorities in Wales. We should be willing to take evidence as a Committee from backbench councillors who have concerns about this.

ddywedodd David am swyddogion Ynys Môn. Fel aelod o Awdurdod Heddlu Gogledd Cymru, yr wyf yn ymwybodol bod un swyddog wedi cymryd seibiant salwch a phensiwn mawr.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. A gawn fynd ymlaen â'r ddadl, os gwelwch yn dda?

David Davies: Yr wyf yn falch bod yr Aelod yn cytuno ei bod yn bwysig i'r Pwyllgor ystyried y materion hyn a rhai cysylltiedig eraill. Soniaf yn fyr am yr agenda moderneiddio llywodraeth leol, oherwydd siaredais â llawer o gynghorwyr y meinciau cefn o lawer o bleidiau gwahanol a fynegodd bryder ynghylch y strwythurau newydd. Credaf fod Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor wedi sôn am y posibiliad o ddefnyddio'r model Cynulliad hwn yn batrwm posibl i rai awdurdodau lleol.

Michael German: A ydych yn cefnogi barn un o'ch cynghorwyr blaenllaw a roddodd glod i'r Llywodraeth, yng nghylchgrawn y Gymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol yr wythnos hon, am y gwaith rhyfeddol a wnaeth wrth gael gwared â'r holl bwyllgorau hynny a rhoi meiri etholedig a strwythurau cabinet cyfrinachgar yn eu lle. A gytunwch â'r safbwynt Ceidwadol hwnnw?

David Davies: Hoffwn wybod pwy oedd y Ceidwadwr. Cytunaf y dylai awdurdodau lleol gael cyflwyno model o'u dewis eu hunain. Ni ddylid gorfodi model arnynt. Dylai'r pwerau fod gydag awdurdodau lleol ac ni ddylai'r Cynulliad ddweud wrth awdurdodau lleol sut i fynd ynghylch pethau. Efallai fod dadl dros ailstrwythuro rhai awdurdodau lleol ac efallai fod dadl hefyd dros adael llonydd i eraill. Mae'n dibynnu ar y modd y maent yn gweithio mewn gwahanol feysydd. Credais erioed na ddylech gael un patrwm ar gyfer pob ardal. Yr wyf yn argyhoeddedig bod y strwythur sydd gennym yn y Cynulliad yn ddiffygiol. Aelodau o'r pleidiau eraill fyddai'r cyntaf i gytuno na ddylem geisio gorfodi hyn ar yr holl awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru. Dylem fod yn barod i dderbyn tystiolaeth fel Pwyllgor oddi wrth gynghorwyr y meinciau cefn sydd â phryderon ynghylch hyn.

I welcome the First Secretary's statement that there must be a fresh start in the Assembly. He implied, in his comments about robust politics, that the Committees might have more influence over policy than they do at the moment. I would welcome that. I reject this motion and the report because, although the motion calls for us to note the report, I find that there is little of note in it.

4:29 p.m.

I want the Environment and Local Government Committee to have a new remit and a new mandate to be fearless in scrutinising local government policies enacted by the Executive. I want it to be willing to hold the Executive to account for policies already in place and to be ready to risk upsetting and embarrassing the Executive and the First Secretary in the pursuit of openness.

Peter Black: I pay tribute to Sue Essex who has acted superbly as Chair of this Committee. I am sure that she will continue to do so for as long as she is Chair and the Committee remains in its present form. I also thank Peter Law, as the Assembly Secretary for this huge subject, for always being open and honest with us, answering our questions and dealing with us patiently and understandingly. He is a credit and a useful asset to the Committee.

As the leader of the Liberal Democrat team on the Committee, I try to keep arguments with myself to a minimum. However, the brief of the Committee is huge. There are many overlaps between the different topics and they are interlinked. It is difficult to separate the five topics with which we deal. We may need to consider that in future if we are to give these matters full justice. Other Committees are able to go into more depth with their subjects. There may be need for more scrutiny, questioning and study of huge issues such as housing and transport. The Committee in its present format does not have time to consider those issues. My comments may reflect those of Sue Essex when I say that.

Croesawaf ddatganiad y Prif Ysgrifennydd bod rhaid cael dechrau newydd yn y Cynulliad. Awgrymodd, yn ei sylwadau am wleidyddiaeth gadarn, y gallai'r Pwyllgorau gael mwy o ddylanwad ar bolisi na'r hyn sydd ganddynt ar hyn o bryd. Croesawn hynny. Gwrthodaf y cynnig hwn a'r adroddiad oherwydd, er bod y cynnig yn galw arnom i nodi'r adroddiad, caf nad oes ond ychydig sydd o bwys ynddo.

Yr wyf am i Bwyllgor yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol gael cylch gwaith newydd a mandad i fod yn ddi-ofn wrth archwilio polisiau llywodraeth leol a gyflwynwyd gan y Weithrediaeth. Yr wyf am iddo fod yn barod i alw'r Weithrediaeth i gyfrif am bolisiau sydd eisoes ar waith ac i fod yn barod i fentro tramgwyddo a pheri annifyrrwch i'r Weithrediaeth a'r Prif Ysgrifennydd yn ei gais am weithredu agored.

Peter Black: Talaf deyrnged i Sue Essex a weithredodd yn wych fel Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor hwn. Yr wyf yn sicr y bydd yn parhau i wneud hynny tra y bydd yn Gadeirydd a thra bo'r Pwyllgor ar ei ffurf bresennol. Diolchaf hefyd i Peter Law, fel yr Ysgrifennydd Cynulliad dros y pwnc enfawr hwn, am fod mor agored ac onest â ni bob amser, gan ateb ein cwestiynau ac ymdrin â ni'n amyneddgar ac yn ddeallgar. Mae'n gaffaeliad ac yn ased defnyddiol i'r Pwyllgor.

Fel arweinydd tîm y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol ar y Pwyllgor, ceisiaf ddadlau gyn lleied ag y bo modd â fi fy hun. Fodd bynnag, mae briff y Pwyllgor yn anferth. Mae llawer o orgyffwrdd rhwng y gwahanol bynciau ac maent yn gysylltiedig â'i gilydd. Anodd yw gwahanu'r pum pwnc yr ydym yn ymdrin â hwy. Efallai y bydd angen inni ystyried hynny yn y dyfodol os ydym i wneud cyfiawnder llwyr â'r materion hyn. Gall Pwyllgorau eraill ymdrin â'u pynciau yn fanylach. Efallai fod angen am fwy o archwilio, cwestiynu ac astudio ar faterion anferth fel tai a thrafnidiaeth. Yn ei ffurf bresennol, nid oes gan y Pwyllgor amser i ystyried y materion hynny. Efallai fod fy sylwadau'n adlewyrchu rhai Sue Essex pan ddywedaf hynny.

I will look at each of the subjects, as many issues in this report deserve to be highlighted. We face a massive problem with housing. We have a £1 billion backlog of repair and maintenance. The only solution we are offered, in terms of the public sector housing problem and council houses generally, is stock transfer. It is clear from the document that has been presented to the Assembly that stock transfer of all the council houses in Wales would leave an additional cost to the Assembly of £40 million, due to the cost of paying off the overhanging debts and rent rebates. This will have to come from other budgets, probably renovation grants. There are problems with that solution. Convincing tenants will be difficult. The solution as it stands is also a problem, because we need to invest in communities' environments, infrastructures and jobs at the same time. This is not an easy or cheap option.

We as a Committee should be pressing for changes to the public sector borrowing requirements so that Welsh local authorities can borrow against the value of their stock and their income streams to raise finance for improvement. The Committee must address that and the problems facing the private sector, particularly the decline in finance for renovation grants, which is a matter for concern, and the need to invest in the privately rented sector in the face of an unfitness rate of 20 per cent for houses in multiple occupation. This accommodation often houses some of the most deprived and vulnerable people. The fact that there is such a high unfitness rate raises concerns about the standard and quality of life of tenants in that accommodation, as well as safety issues.

The Committee has received a huge report on rough sleeping. We must ensure that every local authority has a comprehensive homelessness strategy, someone to co-ordinate it and adequate finance to deliver it. From those points alone, you can see that the housing issue is massive, but one that we must address. I believe we are starting to do that and will continue to do so, provided we can find time to do so properly.

The key issue on the environment is the need

Byddaf yn edrych ar bob un o'r pynciau, gan fod llawer o faterion yn yr adroddiad hwn yn teilyngu sylw. Wynebwn broblem anferth gyda thai. Mae gennym ôl-groniad o £1 biliwn o atgyweirio a chynnal a chadw. Yr unig ateb a gynigir i ni, o ran problem tai y sector cymdeithasol a thai cyngor yn gyffredinol, yw trosglwyddo stoc. Mae'n amlwg o'r ddogfen a gyflwynwyd i'r Cynulliad y byddai trosglwyddo stoc yr holl dai cyngor yng Nghymru yn gadael cost ychwanegol o £40 miliwn i'r Cynulliad, oherwydd cost talu'r dyledion sydd yn aros ac ad-daliadau rhent. Bydd yn rhaid i hynny ddod o gyllidebau eraill, grantiau adnewyddu yn ôl pob tebyg. Mae problemau gyda'r ateb hwnnw. Bydd argyhoeddi tenantiaid yn anodd. Mae'r ateb fel y mae hefyd yn broblem, oherwydd mae angen inni fuddsoddi yn amgylcheddau, seilweithiau a swyddi'r cymunedau yr un pryd. Nid yw hyn yn ddewis hawdd na rhad.

Dylem fel Pwyllgor bwysu am newidiadau yng ngofynion benthyca'r sector cyhoeddus fel y gall awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru fenthyca yn erbyn eu stoc a'u llofoedd incwm er mwyn codi arian ar gyfer gwelliannau. Rhaid i'r Pwyllgor roi sylw i hynny a'r problemau sydd yn wynebu'r sector preifat, yn enwedig y dirywiad yn y cyllid ar gyfer grantiau adnewyddu, sydd yn peri pryder, a'r angen i fuddsoddi yn y sector preifat ar rent yn wyneb cyfradd anaddasrwydd o 20 y cant ar gyfer tai amlbreswyliaeth. Y llety hwn sydd yn aml yn cartrefu rhai o'r bobl fwyaf difreintiedig ac agored i niwed. Mae'r ffaith bod cyfradd anaddasrwydd mor uchel yn codi pryderon ynghylch safon ac ansawdd bywyd y tenantiaid yn y llety hwnnw, yn ogystal â materion diogelwch.

Mae'r Pwyllgor wedi derbyn adroddiad anferth ar gysgu ar y strydoedd. Rhaid inni sicrhau bod gan bob awdurdod lleol strategaeth ddigartrefedd gynhwysfawr, rhywun i'w chydlynu a chyllid digonol i'w gweithredu. O'r pwyntiau hynny'n unig, gallwch weld bod mater tai yn un enfawr, ond yn un y mae'n rhaid inni fynd i'r afael ag ef. Credaf ein bod yn dechrau gwneud hynny ac y byddwn yn parhau i wneud, cyhyd ag y gallwn gael amser i'w wneud yn iawn.

Y mater allweddol ar yr amgylchedd yw'r

to establish a comprehensive waste strategy as soon as possible, which Janet Ryder has already mentioned. The majority of Committee members agree that this strategy should increase the minimisation, recycling and re-use of waste and avoid incineration if possible. We should try to meet the tougher targets that have been set in the European directive, rather than the weaker targets adopted by the UK Government. This is an opportunity for the Assembly to be distinctive and to start setting the standard for the rest of the UK. It is essential that we reverse the trend where £11 million to £12 million a year of much needed local government finance goes to the Treasury in landfill tax, while recycling rates have fallen to 4 or 5 per cent in Wales. Recycling must be subsidised, at least initially, if it is to be effective. This particularly applies to doorstep collection, which is one of the most effective ways of achieving waste separation. We must put pressure on the Treasury to reform the landfill tax scheme so that more of it is returned to Wales to seed corn recycling and waste minimisation strategies. Local councils could then benefit directly from this.

Air quality is another huge environmental issue, particularly in the region that I represent, which includes Port Talbot. We need to strengthen the powers of the Environment Agency and set higher air quality standards.

We have heard much on local government from David Davies. He is right to say that the modernisation agenda is a key issue that the Committee will face. The Liberal Democrats retain severe reservations about this so-called modernisation of local government. We believe that it will concentrate power in too few hands, lead to greater secrecy and disempower local people and backbench councillors. Many councils are looking at structures to try to overcome this. There is no getting away from the fact that, in most cases, the cabinet—the main decision-making body of these councils—will meet in secret and that many decisions will be taken by cabinet members. This is a significant departure from the present culture of transparency and

angen i sefydlu strategaeth wastraff gynhwysfawr gynted ag y bo modd, y cyfeiriodd Janet Ryder ato eisoes. Mae'r mwyafrif o aelodau'r Pwyllgor yn cytuno y dylai'r strategaeth hon gynyddu'r lleihau, ailgylchu ac aildddefnyddio ar wastraff ac osgoi llosgi, os oes modd. Dylem geisio cyrraedd y targedau anos a bennwyd yn y gyfarwydddeb Ewropeaidd, yn hytrach na'r targedau gwannach a fabwysiadwyd gan Lywodraeth y DU. Mae hyn yn gyfle i'r Cynulliad fod yn wahanol a dechrau pennu'r safon ar gyfer gweddill y DU. Mae'n holl bwysig inni wrthdroi'r duedd lle y mae £11 miliwn i £12 miliwn y flwyddyn o gyllid llywodraeth leol sydd fawr ei angen yn mynd i'r Trysorlys fel treth tirlenwi, tra bo cyfraddau ailgylchu wedi disgyn i 4 neu 5 y cant yng Nghymru. Rhaid rhoi cymhorthdal ar gyfer ailgylchu, ar y dechrau o leiaf, os yw i fod yn effeithiol. Mae hyn yn arbennig o berthnasol i gasgliadau o garreg y drws, sef un o'r dulliau mwyaf effeithiol o sicrhau y caiff gwastraff ei wahanu. Rhaid inni roi pwysau ar y Trysorlys i ddiwygio'r cynllun treth tirlenwi fel y caiff mwy ohoni ei dychwelyd i Gymru i roi cychwyn i strategaethau ailgylchu a lleihau gwastraff. Wedyn gallai cynghorau lleol elwa'n uniongyrchol o hyn.

Mae ansawdd awyr yn fater amgylcheddol enfawr arall, yn enwedig yn y rhanbarth a gynrychiolaf fi, sydd yn cynnwys Port Talbot. Mae angen inni gryfhau pwerau Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd a gosod safonau ansawdd awyr uwch.

Clywsom lawer am lywodraeth leol gan David Davies. Mae'n gywir wrth ddweud bod yr agenda moderneiddio yn fater allweddol y bydd y Pwyllgor yn ei wynebu. Mae gan y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol amheuan difrifol o hyd ynghylch y moderneiddio honedig hwn o lywodraeth leol. Credwn y bydd yn cronni pŵer yn nwylo nifer rhy fach, yn arwain at fwy o gyfrinachedd ac yn tynnu gallu oddi wrth bobl leol a chynghorwyr y meinciau cefn. Mae nifer o gynghorau'n ystyried strwythurau er mwyn ceisio goresgyn hyn. Nid oes dianc rhag y ffaith y bydd y cabinet—y prif gorff penderfynu yn y cynghorau hyn—yn cyfarfod yn gyfrinachol, yn y rhan fwyaf o achosion, ac y gwneir

openness in local government. We need to use the secondary powers available to us to seek the maximum openness and inclusiveness in the new structures, in partnership with councils.

Best Value also remains a concern, not least the cost of inspecting it and the number of indicators, which threaten to tie up local authorities in red tape. There must be intense scrutiny of this scheme to ensure that the Assembly is offering local councils value for money and best value on this.

Finally on local government, the reform of the funding formula is essential if we are to redress the inequities that we face at present. Any formula is simply another way of distributing the same pot of money. There will be winners and losers next year as well, unless we address the underfunding of local councils and reverse the trend of massive hikes in council tax by finding more money in future years.

The development of an integrated transport policy is fundamental to achieving sustainable development, although we are not meant to use that phrase following Rhodri's speech. It is also fundamental in achieving better quality of life for people in rural and urban areas, tackling social disadvantage and improving the environment in which we live in Wales. We are having a debate on this tomorrow so I will not go into much detail. However, much work needs to be done on this as well. There are also huge financing issues that need to be addressed over the next few years. That has been illustrated by the report on the M4 extension around Newport, which has shown the huge amounts of money, under any particular option, which need to be addressed in the integrated transport policy.

As a Committee, we still need to get a grip on planning guidance and ensure that it reflects the sustainable policies that the Assembly

llawer o benderfyniadau gan aelodau cabinet. Mae hyn yn wriad mawr oddi wrth y diwylliant presennol o dryloywder a gweithredu agored mewn llywodraeth leol. Mae angen inni ddefnyddio'r pwerau eilaidd sydd ar gael i ni er mwyn sicrhau bod y strwythurau newydd mor agored a chynhwysol ag y bo modd, mewn partneriaeth â chynghorau.

Mae Gwerth Gorau yn peri pryder o hyd, yn fwy na dim y gost o'i arolygu a nifer y dangosyddion, sydd yn bygwth clymu awdurdodau lleol mewn biwrocratiaeth. Rhaid archwilio'r cynllun hwn yn fanwl iawn er mwyn sicrhau bod y Cynulliad yn cynnig gwerth am arian a gwerth gorau i gynghorau lleol ar hyn.

Yn olaf ar lywodraeth leol, mae'n holl bwysig diwygio'r fformwla ariannu os ydym i gywiro'r annhegwch a wynebwn ar hyn o bryd. Y cwbl yw unrhyw fformwla yw ffordd arall o ddsbarthu'r un swm o arian. Bydd rhai ar eu hennill a rhai ar eu colled y flwyddyn nesaf hefyd, oni fyddwn yn ymdrin â thanariannu cynghorau lleol ac yn gwrthdroi'r duedd o godiadau anferth yn y dreth gyngor drwy ganfod mwy o arian ym mlynnyddoedd y dyfodol.

Mae datblygu polisi trafndiaeth integredig yn hanfodol er mwyn sicrhau datblygu cynaliadwy, er nad ydym i fod i ddefnyddio'r ymadrodd hwnnw ar ôl araith Rhodri. Mae hefyd yn hanfodol er mwyn sicrhau gwell ansawdd bywyd i bobl mewn ardaloedd gwledig a threfol, gan fynd i'r afael ag amddifadedd cymdeithasol a gwella'r amgylchedd lle'r ydym yn byw yng Nghymru. Byddwn yn cael dadl ar hyn yfory felly nid af i lawer o fanylion. Fodd bynnag, mae angen gwneud llawer o waith ar hyn hefyd. Mae materion ariannu anferth hefyd y mae angen ymdrin â hwy dros y blynnyddoedd nesaf hyn. Dangoswyd hynny yn yr adroddiad ar estyniad yr M4 o gwmpas Casnewydd, sydd wedi dangos y symiau anferth o arian y mae angen rhoi sylw iddynt, o dan unrhyw ddewis penodol, yn y polisi trafndiaeth integredig.

Fel Pwyllgor, mae angen o hyd inni gael crap ar arweiniad cynllunio a sicrhau ei fod yn adlewyrchu'r polisiau cynaliadwy y mae'r

wants to put in place. The Liberal Democrats want to see changes that will strengthen the presumption against out-of-town shopping centres, provide an effective buffer zone for opencast sites, look to create green belts in Wales and encourage the development of brownfield sites wherever possible. Above all, we need to develop regional planning structures and offer clear guidance to local councils on this. I hope that that is one issue that we will take up when we come to look at planning guidance.

This Committee faces a huge task in dealing with its responsibilities. There are strong arguments for splitting us into two committees. However, it is clear that those responsibilities are central to the Assembly's work and how it is perceived. I hope, in future, that the budgets that we receive for these items will recognise that fact.

4:39 p.m.

Janice Gregory: I begin by endorsing the comments that my Committee colleagues have made about Sue Essex and Peter Law. I cannot speak highly enough of their work in the Local Government, Environment, Planning, Housing and Transport Committee. The Committee's title gives an indication of the size of its remit. I know that my colleagues on the Committee and I criticise ourselves because we do not always feel that we have enough time to devote to the issues before us.

I endorse what Janet Ryder said. Every issue that the Environment and Local Government Committee addresses touches everyone's lives in Wales, be it local government, the environment or transport. Although the members of the Committee are not of the same political persuasion, we use our time constructively. It is not always easy. We are not constantly scoring political points. I am sorry that David has left the Chamber because I was going to say that perhaps our Committee is a model of inclusivity. David is not included in that. He has made certain comments on the Committee and I am sorry that he has chosen the Chamber as a platform to make his comments.

Cynulliad am eu rhoi ar waith. Mae'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol am weld newidiadau a fydd yn cryfhau'r rhagdybiaeth yn erbyn canolfannau siopa y tu allan i drefi, yn darparu cylchfa ragod ar gyfer safleoedd glo brig, yn ceisio creu lleiniau glas yng Nghymru ac yn annog datblygu safleoedd maes llwyd lle bynnag y bo modd. Yn fwy na dim, mae angen inni ddatblygu strwythurau cynllunio rhanbarthol a chynnig arweiniad pendant i gynghorau lleol ar hynny. Gobeithiaf fod hyn yn un mater y byddwn yn ei ddilyn pan ddeuwn i ystyried arweiniad cynllunio.

Mae'r Pwyllgor hwn yn wynebu tasg anferth wrth ymdrin â'i gyfrifoldebau. Mae dadleuon cryf dros ein rhannu'n ddau bwyllgor. Fodd bynnag, mae'n amlwg bod y cyfrifoldebau hynny'n ganolog i waith y Cynulliad a sut y'i gwelir. Gobeithiaf, yn y dyfodol, y bydd y cyllidebau a dderbyniwn ar gyfer yr eitemau hyn yn cydnabod y ffaith honno.

Janice Gregory: Dechreuaf drwy ategu'r sylwadau a wnaeth fy nghydweithwyr ar y Pwyllgor am Sue Essex a Peter Law. Ni allaf organmol eu gwaith yn y Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol, yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio, Tai a Thrafnidiaeth. Mae teitl y Pwyllgor yn rhoi awgrym o faint ei gylch gwaith. Gwn fod fy nghydweithwyr ar y Pwyllgor a minnau'n ein beirniadu ein hunain am nad ydym bob amser yn teimlo bod gennym ddigon o amser i'w roi i'r materion sydd o'n blaen.

Ategaf yr hyn a ddywedodd Janet Ryder. Mae pob mater y mae Pwyllgor yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol yn ymdrin ag ef yn cyffwrdd â bywydau pawb yng Nghymru, boed hynny'n llywodraeth leol, yr amgylchedd neu dtrafnidiaeth. Er nad yw aelodau'r Pwyllgor o'r un duedd wleidyddol, defnyddiwn ein hamser yn adeiladol. Nid yw bob amser yn hawdd. Nid ydym yn sgorio pwyntiau gwleidyddol o hyd. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf fod David wedi gadael y Siambr oherwydd yr oeddwn am ddweud bod ein Pwyllgor ni efallai'n batrwm o gynwysoldeb. Nid yw David wedi ei gynnwys yn hynny. Gwnaeth rai sylwadau ar y Pwyllgor ac mae'n ddrwg gennyf ei fod wedi dewis y

Siambr yn llwyfan i wneud ei sylwadau.

Our Committee works extremely well. We work hard to identify problems that were hidden under the carpet for over 18 years under the previous administration. We find that there are few statistics on housing problems in Wales. We have had to identify these in the last eight months. Not only have we had to identify them, we have had to take steps to right the wrongs of 18 years. It is not easy, especially when our remit is so huge.

We are getting on with the job and we have before us a report. I am sure that you have all read every word of it. We have a huge task in front of us. Peter Black mentioned housing and its importance in Wales. It is vitally important. That is why Committee members give their time outside Committee meetings to meet with the all-party housing group, where we have experts who talk to us and advise us. That is of great advantage to us on the Committee.

I pay tribute to the professionals and the volunteers on the four housing task groups. The Committee members have enough papers to read. Not only do they have papers to read, they have papers to write for us to read. The input of these people, who give freely of their precious time to help us on this Committee, is much appreciated.

The implementation of the Planning Decision Committees has added greatly to the work of the Environment and Local Government Committee. We have to undergo training. Planning decisions must be taken correctly and transparently. We all have some trepidation about the Planning Decision Committees but we have undertaken this.

The Environment and Local Government Committee has never set the world alight. I am sure that we all agree on that including our Chair and the Assembly Secretary. It is not like agriculture. We did not have a beef on the bone crisis. It is not like other Committees. It is a Committee that gets down to the work before it without constantly

Mae ein Pwyllgor yn gweithio'n dda iawn. Gweithiwn yn galed i ddynodi problemau a guddiwyd o'r golwg am fwy na 18 mlynedd o dan y weinyddiaeth flaenorol. Cawn mai prin yw'r ystadegau am broblemau tai yng Nghymru. Bu'n rhaid inni ddynodi'r rhain yn yr wyth mis diwethaf. Nid yn unig y bu'n rhaid inni eu dynodi, bu'n rhaid inni hefyd gymryd camau i unioni camweddau 18 mlynedd. Nid yw'n hawdd, yn enwedig pan fo'n cylch gwaith mor enfawr.

Yr ydym yn bwrw ymlaen â'r gwaith ac mae gennym adroddiad o'n blaen. Yr wyf yn sicr eich bod i gyd wedi darllen pob gair ohono. Mae gennym dasg anferth o'n blaen. Soniodd Peter Black am dai a phwysigrwydd hynny yng Nghymru. Mae'n hanfodol bwysig. Dyna pam y mae aelodau'r Pwyllgor yn rhoi o'u hamser y tu allan i gyfarfodydd y Pwyllgor i gyfarfod â grŵp tai yr holl bleidiau, lle y mae gennym arbenigwyr sydd yn siarad â ni ac yn ein cynghori. Mae hynny o fantais fawr i ni ar y Pwyllgor.

Talaf deyrnged i'r gweithwyr proffesiynol a'r gwirfoddolwyr ar y pedwar grŵp gorchwyl tai. Mae gan aelodau'r Pwyllgor ddigon o bapurau i'w darllen. Nid yn unig y mae ganddynt bapurau i'w darllen, mae ganddynt bapurau i'w hysgrifennu i ni eu darllen. Mawr werthfawrogir mewnbwn y bobl hyn, sydd yn rhoi'n hael o'u hamser prin i'n helpu ni ar y Pwyllgor hwn.

Mae gweithredu'r Pwyllgorau Penderfyniadau Cynllunio wedi ychwanegu'n fawr at waith Pwyllgor yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol. Rhaid inni gael ein hyfforddi. Rhaid gwneud penderfyniadau cynllunio'n gywir ac yn dryloyw. Yr ydym oll yn anesmwyth i ryw raddau ynghylch y Pwyllgorau Penderfyniadau Cynllunio ond yr ydym wedi ymgymryd â hyn.

Nid yw Pwyllgor yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol erioed wedi rhoi'r byd ar dân. Yr wyf yn sicr y cytunwn oll ar hynny gan gynnwys ein Cadeirydd a'r Ysgrifennydd Cynulliad. Nid yw fel amaethyddiaeth. Ni chawsom yr argyfwng cig eidion ar yr asgwrn. Nid yw fel Pwyllgorau eraill. Mae'n Bwyllgor sydd yn ymroi i'r gwaith o'i flaen

scoring political points. I thank Peter and Sue for their work for the Committee and also the Committee Secretariat. Vaughan Watkin and Martin Stevenson carry out their duties as Committee clerks with good humour, which is not an easy task on our Committee.

The Presiding Officer: Thank you, Janice. I have received notice of a statement from the Business Secretary, which I will have to take before 5 p.m. I therefore must bring this debate to a close. I call Peter Law.

The Secretary for the Environment and Local Government (Peter Law): I was going to start by saying how much I appreciate David Davies's kind comments, but that could be described as President Carter accepting a valedictory proposition from the ayatollah. However, I appreciate the sentiments underlying his comments about what I try to do in the Committee—although I may not be here by the end of the week after what he said.

Although I am not officially responding to this debate, I was disappointed to hear David again reject the Committee's report in the way that he did. It was today's helping of the pulsating negativity that we have come to expect from the Conservative benches. It was misplaced and unnecessary criticism, because the Committee offers a great example of what partnership and working together means. David talked about his reasons for not attending the Committee, which have led to him being dubbed 'the missing presumed lost member of the Environment and Local Government Committee'. He said it was because he has been attending farming and countryside events. I would not want to foist him on my colleague Christine Gwyther; perhaps he is more suited to the Agriculture and Rural Development Committee, but that would be unkind. I am told that he will not be attending again tomorrow, but the Committee will be graced with the presence of William Graham, who I am sure will make a mature contribution. I hope that was sugary enough for you.

David Davies *rose—*

heb sgorio pwyntiau gwleidyddol o hyd. Diolchaf i Peter a Sue am eu gwaith dros y Pwyllgor a hefyd i Ysgrifenyddiaeth y Pwyllgor. Mae Vaughan Watkin a Martin Stevenson yn cyflawni eu dyletswyddau fel clerod Pwyllgor mewn hwyliau da, ac nid tasg hawdd yw hynny ar ein Pwyllgor ni.

Y Llywydd: Diolch, Janice. Yr wyf wedi cael rhybudd o ddatganiad gan y Trefnydd, y bydd yn rhaid imi ei dderbyn cyn 5 p.m. Felly rhaid imi ddod â'r ddadl hon i ben. Galwaf ar Peter Law.

Ysgrifennydd yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol (Peter Law): Yr oeddwn am ddechrau drwy ddweud cymaint yr wyf yn gwerthfawrogi sylwadau caredig David Davies, ond gellid cyffelybu hynny i'r Arlywydd Carter yn derbyn gair o ffarwel gan yr aiatola. Fodd bynnag, gwerthfawrogaf y teimladau sydd wrth wraidd ei sylwadau am yr hyn y ceisiaf ei wneud yn y Pwyllgor—er na fyddaf yma o bosibl erbyn diwedd yr wythnos ar ôl yr hyn a ddywedodd.

Er nad wyf yn ymateb yn swyddogol i'r ddadl hon, yr oeddwn yn siomedig o glywed David yn gwrthod adroddiad y Pwyllgor eto yn y modd y gwnaeth. Hwn oedd dogn y dydd o'r negyddoldeb dirgrynol y daethom i'w ddisgwyl o feinciau'r Ceidwadwyr. Yr oedd yn feirniadaeth gyfeiliornus a diangen, oherwydd mae'r Pwyllgor yn cynnig enghraifft dda o'r hyn y mae partneriaeth a gweithio ar y cyd yn ei olygu. Soniodd David am ei resymau dros beidio â dod i'r Pwyllgor, sydd wedi arwain at ei alw'n 'aelod o Bwyllgor yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth sydd ar ôl ac y tybir ei fod yn golledig'. Dywedodd mai'r rheswm am hyn oedd ei fod yn mynychu digwyddiadau ffermio a chefn gwlad. Ni fyddwn am ei wthio ar fy nghydweithiwr Christine Gwyther; efallai ei fod yn gweddu'n well i'r Pwyllgor Amaethyddiaeth a Datblygu Gwledig, ond byddai hynny'n angharedig. Dywedir wrthyf na fydd yn bresennol yfory eto, ond anrhydeddir y Pwyllgor â phresenoldeb William Graham, a fydd yn rhoi cyfraniad aeddfed yr wyf yn siŵr. Gobeithiaf fod hynny'n ddigon siwgwraidd i chi.

David Davies *a gododd—*

The Presiding Officer: Order. Peter Law is not giving way. We do not have much time.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Nid yw Peter Law yn ildio. Nid oes gennym lawer o amser.

Peter Law: The report reflects the wide range of issues that the Committee has looked at and the constructive way in which it has considered them. The discussions have contributed significantly to the development of the Assembly's policies. Our proceedings have been good humoured and positive, and I pay tribute to the members in general and to Peter Rogers, who made a positive contribution when he was a member of the Committee. David Davies should reflect upon that. The Committee has an ethos of wishing to improve the quality of life of all the people of Wales, which is what we are all here for. I thank Martin Stevenson and Vaughan Watkin from the Committee Secretariat, and also thank Owen John Thomas, Brian Hancock and Alison Halford, who have not spoken this afternoon but who have contributed to the Committee's work.

Peter Law: Mae'r adroddiad yn adlewyrchu'r amrediad eang o faterion y mae'r Pwyllgor wedi eu hystyried a'r modd adeiladol y'u hystyriodd. Mae'r trafodaethau wedi cyfrannu'n sylweddol at ddatblygu polisiau'r Cynulliad. Bu ein trafodion yn hwyliog ac yn gadarnhaol, a thalaf deyrnged i'r aelodau'n gyffredinol ac i Peter Rogers, a wnaeth gyfraniad cadarnhaol pan oedd yn aelod o'r Pwyllgor. Dylai David Davies fyfrio ynghylch hynny. Mae gan y Pwyllgor ethos o ddymuno gwella ansawdd bywyd holl bobl Cymru, sef y rheswm pam y mae pob un ohonom yma. Diolchaf i Martin Stevenson a Vaughan Watkin o Ysgrifenyddiaeth y Pwyllgor, a diolchaf hefyd i Owen John Thomas, Brian Hancock ac Alison Halford, sydd heb siarad y prynhawn yma ond sydd wedi cyfrannu i waith y Pwyllgor.

We have tackled some difficult matters. The Committee's input during the Assembly budgetary process and the local government funding settlement has been important. In developing policy, the Committee has shown support and made valuable input to the inclusive approach taken by devising the national housing strategy, of which we will hear more in the near future. The Committee has been supportive in the shift of emphasis towards tackling the problems of rough sleeping, and the enhancement of the programme to support sustainable communities. It has also been instrumental in securing the carrying over of under-spend to boost the programmes on sustainable communities: the £5 million agreed was an important investment for the future. Other issues have included the rough sleeping initiative, of which I spoke last week, where a 75 per cent increase in the budget was agreed, and a new £1 million programme for play facilities in deprived communities. These have all been achieved through Committee discussions.

Aethom i'r afael â rhai materion anodd. Bu mewnbyn y Pwyllgor yn ystod proses gyllidebol y Cynulliad a'r setliad ariannu llywodraeth leol yn bwysig. Wrth ddatblygu polisi, mae'r Pwyllgor wedi amlygu cefnogaeth ac wedi cyfrannu'n werthfawr i'r dull cynhwysol a fabwysiadwy drwy lunio'r strategaeth dai genedlaethol, y clywn fwy amdani yn y dyfodol agos. Bu'r Pwyllgor yn gefnogol yn y symud pwyslais tuag at ymdrin â phroblemau cysgu ar y strydoedd, a hyrwyddo'r rhaglen i gefnogi cymunedau cynaliadwy. Bu hefyd yn gyfrwng i sicrhau trosglwyddo arian nas gwariwyd i hybu'r rhaglenni sydd yn ymwneud â chymunedau cynaliadwy: yr oedd y £5 miliwn a gytunwyd yn fuddsoddiad pwysig ar gyfer y dyfodol. Ymhlith y materion eraill yr oedd y fenter cysgu ar y strydoedd, y siaredais amdani yr wythnos diwethaf, lle y cytunwyd ar gynnydd o 75 y cant yn y gyllideb, a rhaglen £1 filiwn newydd ar gyfer cyfleusterau chwarae mewn cymunedau difreintiedig. Cyflawnwyd y rhain i gyd drwy drafodaethau'r Pwyllgor.

The Committee has also been helpful in developing the Best Value regime, of which we will hear more tomorrow. I am sure that the Committee will continue to contribute to

Bu'r Pwyllgor hefyd o gymorth wrth ddatblygu'r gyfundrefn Gwerth Gorau, y clywn ragor amdani yfory. Yr wyf yn sicr y bydd y Pwyllgor yn parhau i gyfrannu at

future policy developments, including sustainable development and how we proceed with our waste strategy and integrated transport policy. Transport policy is to be debated tomorrow. There have been announcements of major trunk road and local authority schemes recently, which will target social exclusion.

I pay particular tribute to the effective way that Sue Essex has chaired the Committee. The Assembly is enriched by her experience and commitment, and I appreciate the positive approach that she brings to the work. She has worked untiringly to give us all a fair hearing, has restrained us gently when we have got carried away, and has repeatedly brought us to a clear consensus at the end of the day, and that is what chairmanship is all about. I therefore congratulate Sue, because she has shown the best example of working in a partnership for the good of Wales. Whatever party we represent, the Environment and Local Government Committee is a positive example of an enlightened partnership making a difference for Wales.

4:49 p.m.

Sue Essex: I will begin by thanking Janet for her comments. The Committee agrees how important are the issues that you raised such as waste strategy, respecting the hierarchy, and respecting community recycling initiatives. The way in which we implement housing strategy to have an impact on the ground, is another important issue, as is stock transfer, which Peter raised. I hope our study and expert advisor will illuminate that issue and whether there are other options so that people feel that other options are being considered.

It was a bit of a culture shock when we lost Peter Rogers and got David Davies. I have worked on him and have tried to make the Committee as inclusive as possible. David noted that I said in his first meeting that it was not the Subject Committee's job to do x, y and z. I read out the Standing Orders to him because it is our job to scrutinise and aid in policy development. The Committee is becoming so inclusive that David cannot stop

ddatblygiadau polisi yn y dyfodol, gan gynnwys datblygu cynaliadwy a'r modd yr awn ymlaen â'n strategaeth wastraff a'n polisi trafnidiaeth integredig. Mae polisi trafnidiaeth i'w drafod yfory. Bu cyhoeddiadau am gynlluniau cefnffyrdd ac awdurdodau lleol mawr yn ddiweddar, a fydd yn targedu allgáu cymdeithasol.

Talaf deyrnged yn arbennig i'r modd effeithiol y cadeiriodd Sue Essex y Pwyllgor. Mae'r Cynulliad yn gyfoethocach oherwydd ei phrofiad a'i hymroddiad, a gwerthfawrogaf ei ffordd gadarnhaol o ymwneud â'r gwaith. Gweithiodd yn ddiflino i roi gwrandawriad teg i ni oll, fe'n hataliodd yn gynnil pan ddechreuasom fynd i hwyl, a daeth â ni at gonsensws pendant dro ar ôl tro erbyn diwedd y dydd, a dyna holl bwrpas cadeiryddiaeth. Felly llongyfarchaf Sue, oherwydd amlygodd yr esiampl orau o weithio mewn partneriaeth er mwyn Cymru. Pa bynnag blaid a gynrychiolwn, mae Pwyllgor yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol yn enghraifft gadarnhaol o bartneriaeth oleuedig sydd yn gwneud gwahaniaeth i Gymru.

Sue Essex: Yr wyf am ddechrau drwy ddiolch i Janet am ei sylwadau. Mae'r Pwyllgor yn cytuno mor bwysig yw'r materion a godwyd gennych fel strategaeth wastraff, ynghylch yr hierarchiaeth, ac ynghylch mentrau ailgylchu cymunedol. Mae'r modd y gweithredwn strategaeth dai er mwyn cael effaith yn y fan a'r lle, yn fater pwysig arall, fel y mae trosglwyddo stoc, a godwyd gan Peter. Gobeithiaf y bydd ein hastudiaeth a'n hymgyngorydd arbenigol yn goleuo'r mater hwnnw a pha un a oes dewisiadau eraill fel bod pobl yn teimlo bod dewisiadau eraill dan ystyriaeth.

Yr oedd yn dipyn o ysgytwad diwylliannol pan gollasom Peter Rogers a chael David Davies. Gweithiais arno a cheisiais wneud y Pwyllgor mor gynhwysol ag y bo modd. Nododd David imi ddweud yn ei gyfarfod cyntaf nad gwaith y Pwyllgor Pwnc oedd gwneud hyn a'r llall ac arall. Darllenais y Rheolau Sefydlog iddo am mai ein gwaith ni yw archwilio a chynorthwyo wrth ddatblygu polisi. Mae'r Pwyllgor yn mynd mor

himself from suggesting things he might want to bring forward. I hope that he takes that attitude in future. I would also like to remind him that Committees have study visits and extra information sessions. We have been out and about and have seen some interesting things on the ground. There are therefore other events to which he might like to come along.

As to being fearless, I would not like to impose that on the rest of my colleagues, but we are all assiduous in the way that we scrutinise and do our job. Peter Black raised important points, which left me feeling more daunted than I did before. Janice Gregory made the important point that these issues touch everyone's life, and it reflects Janet Ryder's point. Members of the public write and phone me as Committee chair. They see the Committee on the television and say, 'I am so pleased that you actually talk about real things'. This does therefore have real meaning for people.

Finally, Peter Law reminded us that we have spent much time on rough sleeping and homelessness. The Assembly can be justly proud of that and Peter has taken a great interest in it. We have allocated more money to it, but we need to consider how we can use secondary legislation to help with homelessness because there is great scope there to do that. I thank those who have sat in the Chamber and listened to the debate. It will be business as usual for the Committee tomorrow morning.

gynhwysol fel na all David ymatal rhag awgrymu pethau y gallai fod am eu codi. Gobeithiaf y bydd yn cymryd agwedd felly yn y dyfodol. Hoffwn ei atgoffa hefyd fod Pwyllgorau'n cael ymweliadau astudio a sesiynau gwybodaeth ychwanegol. Yr ydym wedi mentro allan ac wedi gweld rhai pethau diddorol yn y maes. Felly mae digwyddiadau eraill y gallai ddymuno dod iddynt.

O ran bod yn ddi-ofn, ni hoffwn wthio hynny ar weddill fy nghydweithwyr, ond yr ydym oll yn ddyfal yn y modd yr ydym yn archwilio ac yn gwneud ein gwaith. Cododd Peter Black bwyntiau pwysig, a'm gadawodd yn teimlo'n fwy ofnus nag yr oeddwn o'r blaen. Gwnaeth Janice Gregory y pwynt pwysig bod y materion hyn yn cyffwrdd â bywyd pawb, ac mae'n adlewyrchu pwynt Janet Ryder. Mae aelodau o'r cyhoedd yn ysgrifennu ataf ac yn fy ffonio fel Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor. Gwelant y Pwyllgor ar y teledu a dywedant, 'Yr wyf mor falch eich bod yn siarad am bethau real'. Mae felly'n golygu rhywbeth gwirioneddol i bobl.

Yn olaf, fe'n hatgoffwyd gan Peter Law ein bod wedi treulio llawer o amser ar gysgu ar y strydoedd a digartrefedd. Gall y Cynulliad ymfalchïo'n haeddiannol yn hynny ac mae Peter wedi ymddiddori'n fawr ynddo. Dyranasom fwy o arian iddo, ond mae angen inni ystyried sut y gallwn ddefnyddio deddfwriaeth eilaidd i helpu gyda digartrefedd oherwydd mae cyfle mawr yn y fan honno i wneud hynny. Diolchaf i'r rhai a eisteddodd yn y Siambr a gwranddo ar y ddadl. Bydd yn fusnes fel arfer i'r Pwyllgor fore yfory.

*Cynnig: O blaid 34, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 6.
Motion: For 34, Abstain 0, Against 6.*

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:
The following Members voted for:

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Essex, Sue
German, Michael
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:
The following Members voted against:

Bourne, Nick
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Graham, William
Melding, David
Rogers, Peter

Halford, Alison
 Hancock, Brian
 Humphreys, Christine
 Hutt, Jane
 Jarman, Pauline
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Gareth
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Marek, John
 Michael, Alun
 Middlehurst, Tom
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Kirsty

Motion adopted.

Derbyniwyd y cynnig.

Datganiad gan y Trefnydd Statement by the Business Secretary

The Business Secretary (Andrew Davies): Paul Murphy, the Secretary of State for Wales, has just published the report of the tribunal of inquiry into the abuse of children in the care of the former county council areas of Clwyd and Gwynedd since 1974. We have arranged for copies of the tribunal's report and the accompanying executive summary to be made available to all Members later this afternoon. Officials will distribute these to Members' rooms.

The tribunal's report was made to the Secretary of State and presented to Parliament because powers under the Tribunals of Inquiry (Evidence) Act 1921 are reserved. Jane Hutt will make a statement to the Health and Social Services Committee tomorrow morning, setting out the report's main findings and recommendations and our proposals for handling the report within the Assembly. In view of the significance of this report to the Assembly in general, Jane Hutt will also make a statement in Plenary tomorrow. I have also scheduled time—as I stated in my business statement—for a full debate on the inquiry's report on Tuesday 7 March.

Y Trefnydd (Andrew Davies): Mae Paul Murphy, Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru, newydd gyhoeddi adroddiad y tribiwnlys ymchwiliad ar gam-drin plant yng ngofal cyn-ardaloedd cynghorau sir Clwyd a Gwynedd ers 1974. Trefnasom i gopïau o adroddiad y tribiwnlys a'r crynodeb gweithredol sydd gydag ef fod ar gael i'r holl Aelodau yn ddiweddarach y prynhawn yma. Bydd y swyddogion yn dosbarthu'r rhain i ystafelloedd yr Aelodau.

Gwnaethpwyd adroddiad y tribiwnlys i'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol ac fe'i cyflwynwyd i'r Senedd oherwydd mae pwerau o dan y Ddeddf Tribiwnlysoedd Ymchwiliad (Tystiolaeth) 1921 wedi eu cadw. Bydd Jane Hutt yn gwneud datganiad i'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol fore yfory, gan nodi prif ganfyddiadau ac argymhellion yr adroddiad a'n cynigion ar gyfer trafod yr adroddiad oddi mewn i'r Cynulliad. Yng ngolwg pwysigrwydd yr adroddiad i'r Cynulliad yn gyffredinol, bydd Jane Hutt hefyd yn gwneud datganiad yn y Cyfarfod Llawn yfory. Yr wyf hefyd wedi trefnu amser—fel y nodais yn fy natganiad busnes—ar gyfer dadl lawn ar adroddiad yr ymchwiliad ddydd Mawrth 7 Mawrth.

Dadl Fer Short Debate

Dyfodol Ysbyty Tal-y-garn The Future of Talygarn Hospital

Pauline Jarman: In the spirit of the new Wales that has been announced today, I have invited Dr Dai Lloyd, Kirsty Williams, Jane Davidson, Nick Bourne and Geraint Davies to contribute to this debate.

I begin by thanking the Talygarn Forum for giving me so much background on the history and work of Talygarn. I thought that it might be useful for Members who are not familiar with Talygarn and its surroundings to know its history. Talygarn House and gardens at Pontyclun occupy a unique place in Welsh history, not least through their close association with generations of south Wales miners whose sacrifices underpinned the industrial revolution. It is now threatened with closure as a public resource and the miners hospital will be sold for private development. The roots of south Wales will always lie with those coal miners whose industry and sacrifices created all that we see around us—our towns, cities, ports, roads and railways. The Talygarn rehabilitation centre stands as a testimony to all that the south Wales miners have left us. It is an inheritance that deserves to be treasured.

Talygarn became a convalescent home in which miners suffering from injury or illness could find rest and an opportunity to recover. Such were the conditions of the mining industry that injury was common and illness, so often the result of continuous exposure to dust, even commoner. In the economic depression of the inter-war years, for so many visitors to Talygarn, illness caused by the mining experience was compounded by malnutrition. Many thousands of families in south Wales have heard their fathers and grandfathers recall a time at Talygarn as a rare experience of comfort and respite.

During the second world war, Talygarn's role was expanded. The Government recognised the importance of keeping miners at work

Pauline Jarman: Yn unol ag ysbryd y Gymru newydd a gyhoeddwyd heddiw, yr wyf wedi gwahodd Dr Dai Lloyd, Kirsty Williams, Jane Davidson, Nick Bourne a Geraint Davies i gyfrannu i'r ddadl hon.

Dechreuaf drwy ddiolch i Fforwm Tal-y-garn am roi imi gymaint o wybodaeth cefndir am hanes a gwaith Tal-y-garn. Credais y byddai'n ddefnyddiol i Aelodau nad ydynt yn gyfarwydd â Thal-y-garn a'i amgylchoedd gael gwybod ei hanes. Mae i Dŷ Tal-y-garn a'r gerddi ym Mhont-y-clun le unigryw yn hanes Cymru, nid yn lleiaf drwy eu cysylltiad agos â chenedlaethau o lowyr de Cymru yr oedd eu haberth yn sylfaen i'r chwyldro diwydiannol. Mae bygythiad yn awr i'w gau fel adnodd cyhoeddus a gwerthir ysbyty'r glowyr ar gyfer datblygu preifat. Bydd gwreiddiau de Cymru bob amser gyda'r glowyr hynny y mae eu diwydiant a'u haberth wedi creu popeth a welwn o'n cwmpas—ein trefi, ein dinasoedd, ein porthladdoedd, ein ffyrdd a'n rheilffyrdd. Mae canolfan ailsefydlu Tal-y-garn yn sefyll yn dyst i'r cwbl a adawodd glowyr de Cymru i ni. Mae'n etifeddiaeth sydd yn haeddu ei thrysori.

Daeth Tal-y-garn yn gartref ymadfer lle y gallai glowyr a ddioddefai o anaf neu salwch gael gorffwys a chyfle i wella. Oherwydd amodau'r diwydiant glo yr oedd anafiadau'n gyffredin a salwch, yn ganlyniad mor aml i fod yn agored i lwch drwy'r amser, yn fwy cyffredin byth. Yn nirwasgiad economaidd y blynyddoedd rhwng y ddau ryfel, yn achos llawer o'r ymwelwyr â Thal-y-garn, yr oedd y salwch a achoswyd gan y profiad glofaol wedi ei waethygu drwy gamfaethu. Mae miloedd lawer o deuluoedd yn ne Cymru wedi clywed eu tadau a'u teidiau'n dwyn i gof eu hamser yn Nhal-y-garn fel profiad prin o gysur a seibiant.

Yn ystod yr ail ryfel byd, ehangwyd rôl Tal-y-garn. Cydnabu'r Llywodraeth mor bwysig oedd cadw'r glowyr wrth eu gwaith pan oedd

when the supply of labour was short. It wished to create an effective rehabilitation service for injured miners. Seven hospitals in the UK were created in which injured miners could, through treatment, be restored to fitness, health and work as quickly as possible. As part of this policy, a new Government agency, the Miners' Welfare Commission, took over Talygarn in 1943 and developed it as a specialist hospital for the treatment of injuries and illness related to the mining industry.

In 1955, the Government transferred the hospital to the newly created national health service with a requirement that the NHS should maintain Talygarn as a rehabilitation centre for injured miners for as long as the service was required. The NHS developed the specialisms of Talygarn and it gained a wide reputation for its treatment of respiratory disorders and for physiotherapy.

4:59 p.m.

Paul Robeson, the famous black American singer, actor and radical political activist had a long association with Welsh miners and Talygarn. He made several visits to south Wales and made a memorable film, *Proud Valley*, with Rachel Thomas, which was located in Rhondda Cynon Taff. He returned often to Talygarn and memories still exist of the gentle giant who sang at the miners' bedsides.

The original owner of Talygarn invested in the gardens and parklands. Many rare and beautiful trees that he planted in a grand design remain for our enjoyment today. He arranged the creation of the Talygarn lake through the construction of a weir to control water that flows from the Ystradowen moors. The attractive Talygarn lake, well known and much enjoyed by fishermen in Rhondda Cynon Taff, remains in the ownership of the health authority. A pump at the weir fed the water tower that remains a unique feature of Talygarn House. The 30 acres of wooded parkland include some fine specimens of trees.

Given the decline in the mining industry, representatives of the National Union of Miners and the National Coal Board agreed

y cyflenwad llafur yn brin. Dymunai greu gwasanaeth ailsefydlu effeithiol i lowyr a anafwyd. Crewyd saith ysbyty yn y DU lle y gallai glowyr a anafwyd gael eu hadfer, drwy driniaeth, i fod yn heini ac yn iach a'u cael yn ôl wrth eu gwaith cyn gynted ag yr oedd modd. Fel rhan o'r polisi hwn, ymgwymerodd asiantaeth Llywodraeth newydd, Comisiwn Lles y Glowyr, â Thal-y-garn yn 1943 a'i ddatblygu'n ysbyty arbenigol i drin anafiadau a salwch a oedd yn gysylltiedig â'r diwydiant glo.

Yn 1955, trosglwyddodd y Llywodraeth yr ysbyty i'r gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol oedd newydd ei greu gyda'r gofyniad y dylai'r NHS gadw Tal-y-garn yn ganolfan ailsefydlu ar gyfer glowyr a anafwyd gyhyd ag yr oedd angen y gwasanaeth. Datblygodd yr NHS arbenigeddau Tal-y-garn ac enillodd enw yn eang am ei driniaeth i anhwylderau anadliadol ac am ffisiotherapi.

Yr oedd gan Paul Robeson, y canwr, actor a gweithredwr gwleidyddol radicalaidd du enwog o America, gysylltiad hir â glowyr Cymru a Thal-y-garn. Ymwelodd â de Cymru sawl gwaith a gwnaeth ffilm gofiadwy, *Proud Valley*, gyda Rachel Thomas, a leolwyd yn Rhondda Cynon Taf. Dychwelai'n aml i Dal-y-garn a cheir atgofion o hyd am y cawr mwyn a ganai wrth erchwyn gwelyau'r glowyr.

Buddsoddodd perchennog gwreiddiol Tal-y-garn yn y gerddi a'r parcdiroedd. Mae llawer o goed prin a hardd a blannodd mewn cynllun mawreddog yn aros i ni eu mwynhau heddiw. Trefnodd i greu llyn Tal-y-garn drwy wneud cored i reoli dŵr sydd yn llifo o rosydd Ystradowen. Mae llyn pryderth Tal-y-garn, sydd yn adnabyddus ac yn rhoi llawer o fwynhad i bysgotwyr yn Rhondda Cynon Taf, yn eiddo o hyd i'r awdurdod iechyd. Yr oedd pwmp wrth y gored yn cyflenwi'r tŵr dŵr sydd yn nodwedd unigryw yn Nhŷ Tal-y-garn o hyd. Mae'r 30 erw o barcdir coediog yn cynnwys rhai coed gwych.

Yn wyneb y dirywiad yn y diwydiant glo, cytunodd cynrychiolwyr o Undeb Cenedlaethol y Glowyr a'r Bwrdd Glo

in the late 1970s, that the unique service at Talygarn should be made available to the wider community. Since that date, the hospital has offered its rehabilitation treatment to all in south Wales and elsewhere who can benefit from it.

In 1992, the NHS announced its intention to transfer the service of Talygarn rehabilitation centre to the new hospital it planned to build in Talbot Green. Such was the high regard for Talygarn throughout south Wales that a petition of 27,000 signatures was collected in opposition to this plan and to the proposed alternative use of Talygarn as a college of nursing. Nevertheless, the health authority has continued with its scheme. The new hospital will have a limited physiotherapy service and it is still intended to close the Talygarn hospital.

The Secretary for Health and Social Services, Jane Hutt, approved the transfer of services to the Royal Glamorgan Hospital on 14 December 1999. The health authority plans to dispose of Talygarn. We believe that it should be recognised that Talygarn was created by the miners of south Wales as an asset to the people of south Wales. We owe it to those miners to keep Talygarn as a facility to be enjoyed by all of us in south Wales.

The health authority has been gradually reducing its use of services at Talygarn. The residential hospital facility was withdrawn in 1992. It offered unique daytime services including physiotherapy, hydrotherapy, occupational therapy and the assistance required to regain personal confidence and self-esteem to live life to its full potential. It is the only rehabilitation centre that can provide intensive treatment to a wide variety of patients suffering from strokes, sports injuries and neurological disorders.

There is a need for effective rehabilitation programmes for many people who have suffered illness or injury or who have undergone surgery. Many of the resources of general hospitals and GPs are spent on people who have not had effective programmes to assist their full rehabilitation and who then return for future treatments. Too often,

Cenedlaethol yn y 1970au hwyr, y dylai'r gwasanaeth unigryw yn Nhal-y-garn fod ar gael i'r gymuned ehangach. Ers hynny, mae'r ysbyty wedi cynnig ei driniaeth ailsefydlu i bawb yn ne Cymru ac mewn mannau eraill sydd yn gallu elwa ohoni.

Yn 1992, cyhoeddodd yr NHS ei fwriad i drosglwyddo'r gwasanaeth yng nghanolfan ailsefydlu Tal-y-garn i'r ysbyty newydd y bwriadai ei godi yn Nhonysguboriau. Gymaint oedd y parch i Dal-y-garn ledled de Cymru fel y casglwyd deiseb o 27,000 o lofnodion i wrthwynebu'r cynllun hwn a'r defnydd arall arfaethedig o Dal-y-garn fel coleg nyrsio. Er hynny, aeth yr awdurdod iechyd ymlaen â'i gynllun. Gwasanaeth ffisiotherapi cyfyngedig fydd yn yr ysbyty newydd ac mae bwriad o hyd i gau ysbyty Tal-y-garn.

Cymeradwyodd yr Ysgrifennydd Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, Jane Hutt, drosglwyddo gwasanaethau i Ysbyty Brenhinol Morgannwg ar 14 Rhagfyr 1999. Mae'r awdurdod iechyd yn bwriadu gwerthu Tal-y-garn. Credwn y dylid cydnabod bod Tal-y-garn wedi ei greu gan lowyr de Cymru fel ased i bobl de Cymru. O ran dyled i'r glowyr hynny dylem gadw Tal-y-garn yn gyfleuster i'w fwynhau gan bawb ohonom yn ne Cymru.

Mae'r awdurdod iechyd yn graddol leihau ei ddefnydd o'r gwasanaethau yn Nhal-y-garn. Tynnwyd yn ôl y cyfleuster ysbyty preswyl yn 1992. Cynigiai wasanaethau dydd unigryw gan gynnwys ffisiotherapi, hydrotherapi, therapi galwedigaethol a'r cymorth sydd yn angenrheidiol er mwyn adfer hunanhyder a hunan-barch er mwyn byw bywyd i'r eithaf. Hon yw'r unig ganolfan ailsefydlu sydd yn gallu darparu triniaeth ddwys i amrywiaeth eang o gleifion sydd yn dioddef o strôc, anafiadau chwaraeon ac anhwylderau niwrolegol.

Mae angen rhaglenni ailsefydlu effeithiol ar gyfer llawer o bobl a ddiodesfodd salwch neu anaf neu a gafodd lawdriniaeth. Gwarir llawer o adnoddau ysbytai cyffredinol a meddygon teulu ar bobl na chawsant raglenni effeithiol er mwyn eu hailsefydlu'n llwyr ac sydd yn dychwelyd am driniaethau yn y dyfodol. Yn rhy aml, rhyddheir pobl o

people are discharged from general hospitals without the long-term assistance that would allow them to lead lives to their full potential. The planned facility at the new Royal Glamorgan Hospital is not intended to achieve this purpose. It will offer limited, short-term programmes to assist the early discharge of patients.

Talygarn belongs to the people of Wales. It is part of our history. It should also be part of our future. The Assembly has the ability and the responsibility to guarantee its future. All of us, locally, and throughout Wales, have a duty to remind the Secretary for Health and Social Services of her responsibilities.

Despite the claimed consultation on the future of Talygarn hospital, the support for its retention by Rhondda Cynon Taff Council, the MPs and AMs for the area, the community health councils and, especially, the Talygarn Forum, it is clear from a statement issued by Bro Taf Health Authority that the decision on the future of Talygarn was not based on any argument other than financial ones. I quote from the health authority document which states,

‘The financial planning assumptions are that services at the Royal Glamorgan Hospital cannot be fully commissioned unless some existing facilities, including both East Glamorgan General Hospital and Talygarn, are closed and their services and expenditure transferred to the new hospital.’

I turn to the present experience of patients who are receiving their rehabilitation programmes under these new arrangements. I have been told that the treatment of young neurological patients—those suffering head injury—has been finished prematurely due to a six-week policy. I am told that parents were advised that a further period of rehabilitation would be available if deemed necessary following reassessment and agreement with the consultant. That is not good enough.

I am told that the half-day regime under the new arrangements means that the pool, gym, and occupational therapy treatments are too

ysbytai cyffredinol heb y cymorth tymor hir a ganiatâi iddynt fyw bywyd i'r graddau mwyaf posibl. Nid oes bwriad i'r cyfleuster arfaethedig yn yr Ysbyty Brenhinol Morgannwg newydd gyflawni'r pwrpas hwn. Bydd yn cynnig rhaglenni cyfyngedig, tymor byr er mwyn cynorthwyo i ryddhau cleifion yn gynnar.

Mae Tal-y-garn yn eiddo i bobl Cymru. Mae'n rhan o'n hanes. Dylai fod yn rhan o'n dyfodol hefyd. Mae'r gallu a'r cyfrifoldeb gan y Cynulliad i warantu ei ddyfodol. Mae dyletswydd ar bawb ohonom, yn lleol a ledled Cymru, i atgoffa'r Ysgrifennydd Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol am ei chyfrifoldebau.

Er gwaethaf yr ymgynghoriad honedig ar ddyfodol ysbyty Tal-y-garn, y gefnogaeth i'w gadw gan Gyngor Rhondda Cynon Taf, yr ASau a'r ACau dros yr ardal, y cynghorau iechyd cymdeithas ac, yn arbennig, Fforwm Tal-y-garn, mae'n amlwg o ddatganiad a gyhoeddwyd gan Awdurdod Iechyd Bro Taf nad oedd y penderfyniad ar ddyfodol Tal-y-garn yn seiliedig ar unrhyw ddadl heblaw rhai ariannol. Dyfynnaf o ddogfen yr awdurdod iechyd sydd yn datgan,

‘Y rhagdybiaethau cynllunio ariannol yw na ellir comisiynu gwasanaethau yn Ysbyty Brenhinol Morgannwg yn llawn oni chaeir rhai o'r cyfleusterau presennol, yn Ysbyty Cyffredinol Dwyrain Morgannwg ac yn Nhal-y-garn, gan drosglwyddo eu gwasanaethau a'u gwariant i'r ysbyty newydd.’

Trof at brofiad presennol y cleifion sydd yn derbyn eu rhaglenni ailsefydlu o dan y trefniadau newydd hyn. Dywedwyd wrthyf fod y driniaeth i gleifion niwrolegol ifanc—rhai sydd yn dioddef o anaf i'r pen—wedi ei therfynu cyn pryd oherwydd polisi chwe-wythnos. Dywedir wrthyf fod cleifion wedi eu hysbysu y byddai cyfnod ailsefydlu pellach ar gael os bernid bod hynny'n angenrheidiol ar ôl ailasesu a chael cytundeb â'r ymgynghorydd. Nid yw hynny'n ddigon da.

Dywedir wrthyf fod y drefn hanner-diwrnod o dan y trefniadau newydd yn golygu bod y triniaethau yn y pwll a'r gampfa, a'r

fast-track for new patients. They have no time to recover between sessions or even time to dress if they are slow. I am told that occupational therapy, hydrotherapy and gym treatments cannot possibly be fitted into half-day sessions. Ambulances no longer collect patients from any areas outside Taff Ely and Rhondda. Instead of all-day rehabilitation, which is the equivalent of 180 sessions per patient at Talygarn, we now have only 72 sessions. Those patients then have to be referred back to the consultant to enable them to access further sessions. In effect, those patients go back onto the waiting list. It is felt that there is not enough time to talk to patients and learn about their problems. How are they coping with their disabilities? What else could be offered other than the specific treatments I have mentioned? There is a genuine belief that carrying out intensive rehabilitation in a district general hospital is not always ideal.

Talygarn was built by miners' contributions for the use of the community. As the proposed new facility will not serve the people as well, and as the people do not want it, justice and democracy demands that Talygarn remains open. For every 60 patients who receive treatment at Talygarn, only 32 can be treated at the Royal Glamorgan Hospital. Those 28 patients will be added to a waiting list which already stands at over 100 people. That cannot be progress. The aim of the Assembly is to reduce waiting lists, not to create them. The Health and Social Services Committee should have been consulted before Jane Hutt made her decision. Talygarn hospital should be kept open. It was confirmed to the local press in Rhondda Cynon Taff earlier today that Talygarn has been placed on the market, despite planning restrictions and a covenant restricting its use within a conservation area. I understand that a legal challenge is imminent, with a view to establishing a judicial review of the level of treatment and how it is delivered under these new arrangements. I am told that there are only four intensive rehabilitation beds in use at the Royal Glamorgan Hospital, compared to 11 at Talygarn. This smacks of the worst type of rationing, with increasing waiting

triniaethau therapi galwedigaethol yn rhy gyflym i gleifion newydd. Ni chânt amser i ymadfer rhwng sesiynau nac amser i wisgo amdanynt hyd yn oed os ydynt yn araf. Dywedir wrthyf nad oes modd yn y byd i gynnwys triniaethau therapi galwedigaethol, hydrotherapi a champfa o fewn sesiynau hanner-diwrnod. Bellach nid yw ambiwlansiau'n casglu cleifion o unrhyw ardaloedd oddi allan i Daf Elái a'r Rhondda. Yn lle ailsefydlu drwy'r diwrnod, sydd yn cyfateb i 180 sesiwn y claf yn Nhal-y-garn, nid oes gennym bellach ond 72 sesiwn. Wedyn rhaid cyfeirio'r cleifion hynny'n ôl i'w hymgyngorydd i'w galluogi i gael sesiynau pellach. I bob pwrpas, mae'r cleifion hynny'n mynd yn ôl ar y rhestr aros. Teimlir nad oes digon o amser i siarad â chleifion a dysgu am eu problemau. Sut y maent yn dygymod â'u hanableddau? Beth arall y gellid ei gynnig heblaw am y triniaethau penodol a grybwyllais? Mae cred wirioneddol nad yw cyflawni ailsefydlu dwys mewn ysbyty dosbarth cyffredinol bob amser yn ddelfrydol.

Codwyd Tal-y-garn drwy gyfraniadau glowyr i'w ddefnyddio gan y gymuned. Gan na fydd y cyfleuster newydd yn gwasanaethu'r bobl gystal, a chan nad yw'r bobl am ei gael, mae cyfiawnder a democratiaeth yn mynnu bod Tal-y-garn yn aros ar agor. Am bob 60 o gleifion sydd yn derbyn triniaeth yn Nhal-y-garn, dim ond 32 y gellir eu trin yn Ysbyty Brenhinol Morgannwg. Ychwanegir y 28 claf hynny at restr aros sydd eisoes â dros 100 o bobl arni. Nid cynnydd yw hynny. Nod y Cynulliad yw lleihau rhestrau aros, nid eu creu. Dylesid bod wedi ymgynghori â'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol cyn i Jane Hutt wneud ei phenderfyniad. Dylid cadw ysbyty Tal-y-garn yn agored. Rhoddwyd cadarnhad i'r wasg leol yn Rhondda Cynon Taf yn gynharach heddiw bod Tal-y-garn wedi ei roi ar y farchnad, er gwaethaf cyfyngiadau cynllunio a chyfamod sydd yn cyfyngu ar y defnydd ohono o fewn ardal gadwraeth. Deallaf fod sialens gyfreithiol ar fin digwydd, gyda golwg ar sefydlu adolygiad barnwrol o lefel y driniaeth a sut y caiff ei chyflenwi o dan y trefniadau newydd hyn. Dywedir wrthyf nad oes ond pedwar gwely ailsefydlu dwys ar ddefnydd yn Ysbyty Brenhinol Morgannwg, o'u cymharu ag 11 yn Nhal-y-garn. Mae hyn

lists.

If Jane Hutt will not reverse her decision, the Health and Social Services Committee should consider the issue and vote on it. We heard earlier today of the need for a more democratic, inclusive form of government, which gains the trust of the people in this new Assembly. We must not let the people down. The future of this hospital must become a priority. This is a great opportunity for the Assembly to do what it says it does, which is to make a difference to the quality of life of people in south Wales, with regard to intensive rehabilitation services. I ask everyone to consider my remarks and to join me in inviting the Secretary for Health and Social Services to revisit her previous decision. If she finds that she is unable to do so, she should refer the matter to the Health and Social Services Committee. I hope that the cross-party support that I expect from this debate today will ensure that Talygarn hospital has a future in health provision in south Wales.

5:09 p.m.

David Lloyd: I do not know if the rest of you can remember what you were doing in 1981 and 1982, but in those days I was a young, impressionable hospital doctor doing trauma and orthopaedics in the old Bridgend general hospital. As part of my work, I went to Talygarn. The provision there for people with severe neurological disorders and severe orthopaedic conditions was impressive. People marvelled at the effectiveness of the care given there. About 10 days ago, Geraint Davies and myself met a group of patients from Talygarn. I was horrified that these patients had had their rehabilitation therapy or physiotherapy stopped abruptly at Christmas, regardless of their diagnoses and of whether they had had their severe neurological problem, be it a stroke or a brain haemorrhage, for five years or for three months. It was distressing to hear that. We must revisit this decision, whether that is done by Jane Hutt or through the Health and Social Services Committee.

yn ymddangos yn ddogni o'r math gwaethaf, gyda rhestrau aros cynyddol.

Os na fydd Jane Hutt yn gwrthdroi ei phenderfyniad, dylai'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ystyried y mater a phleidleisio arno. Clywsom yn gynharach heddiw am yr angen am lywodraeth ar ffurf fwy democrataidd a chynhwysol, sydd yn ennyn hyder pobl yn y Cynulliad newydd hwn. Rhaid inni beidio â siomi'r bobl. Rhaid i ddyfodol yr ysbyty hwn ddod yn flaenoriaeth. Mae hyn yn gyfle mawr i'r Cynulliad wneud yr hyn y dywed ei fod yn ei wneud, sef gwneud gwahaniaeth yn ansawdd bywyd pobl yn ne Cymru, mewn perthynas â gwasanaethau ailsefydlu dwys. Gofynnaf i bawb ystyried fy sylwadau ac ymuno â mi wrth wahodd yr Ysgrifennydd Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol i ailystyried ei phenderfyniad blaenorol. Os caiff nad oes modd iddi wneud hynny, dylai gyfeirio'r mater i'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Gobeithiaf y bydd y gefnogaeth drawsbleidiol a ddisgwyliaf o'r ddad hon heddiw yn sicrhau y caiff ysbyty Tal-y-garn ddyfodol yn y ddarpariaeth iechyd yn ne Cymru.

David Lloyd: Ni wn a yw'r gweddill ohonoch yn gallu cofio beth yr oeddech yn ei wneud yn 1981 a 1982, ond yn y dyddiau hynny yr oeddwn yn feddyg ysbyty ifanc, teimladwy yn gwneud trawma ac orthopedeg yn hen ysbyty cyffredinol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr. Fel rhan o'm gwaith, awn i Dal-y-garn. Yr oedd y ddarpariaeth yno i bobl ag anhwylderau niwrolegol difrifol a chyflyrau orthopedeg difrifol yn drawiadol. Rhyfeddai pobl at effeithiolrwydd y gofal a roddid yno. Tua 10 niwrnod yn ôl, cyfarfu Geraint Davies a minnau â grŵp o gleifion o Dal-y-garn. Yr oedd yn fraw imi bod therapi ailsefydlu neu ffisiotherapi'r cleifion hyn wedi ei atal yn sydyn adeg y Nadolig, ni waeth pa bynnag ddiagnosis a gawsant ac a oedd y broblem niwrolegol ddiffrifol ganddynt, boed yn strôc neu'n waedlif ar yr ymennydd, ers pum mlynedd neu ers tri mis. Yr oedd yn ofid imi glywed hynny. Rhaid inni ailystyried y penderfyniad hwn, pa un a wneir hynny gan Jane Hutt neu drwy'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol.

Jane Davidson: Talygarn miners rehabilitation centre is in my constituency. I have received representations from many Talygarn patients, particularly members of the Talygarn Forum—some of whom are in the public gallery today—and the community health council and many former patients of the centre. As both speakers said, the announcement in December of the plan to close Talygarn and to transfer services was an enormous disappointment locally. Many of my constituents have been patients. I have received many testimonies from them about the quality of service to which Pauline referred.

I hope that members of the Talygarn Forum agree that I have worked hard, since becoming an Assembly Member, to ensure that we have the right dialogue between the Assembly and the Talygarn Forum. Members of the forum expressed their gratitude to Jane Hutt for listening to their case. However, this is an example of how not to go about a decision. This closure has been hanging over Talygarn since 1992. There have been eight years without a decision being made. By now, the services have been totally run down, the building has not been properly looked after and we have a new hospital on the doorstep. As a local Member, I did not want to see the facility closed. I would have preferred it if the health authority had presented other proposals. I will ensure that the health authority keeps to the guarantee that it made to me, which is that the services to the patients at Talygarn will not be disrupted by going to the new hospital. I am concerned for the same reasons as Dai Lloyd. I put those queries in a letter to the health authority this week. This is a major issue because if the health authority guarantees that there will be sufficient services at the Royal Glamorgan Hospital, it is up to us as local Members to ensure that that guarantee is kept. Otherwise, as with all Assembly decisions, there will be an opportunity for anybody to challenge those decisions through a judicial review.

Nick Bourne: I thank Pauline Jarman for highlighting this issue and for allowing me the opportunity to speak in this debate. The Talygarn centre has been doing marvellous

Jane Davidson: Mae canolfan ailsefydlu glowyr Tal-y-garn yn fy etholaeth i. Derbyniais sylwadau oddi wrth lawer o gleifion Tal-y-garn, yn enwedig aelodau o Fforwm Tal-y-garn—y mae rhai ohonynt yn yr oriel gyhoeddus heddiw—a'r cyngor iechyd cymdeithas a llawer o gyn-gleifion y ganolfan. Fel y dywedodd y ddau siaradwr, yr oedd y cyhoeddiad yn Rhagfyr am y bwriad i gau Tal-y-garn a throsglwyddo gwasanaethau yn siom aruthrol yn lleol. Bu llawer o'm hetholwyr yn gleifion. Derbyniais lawer o dystiolaethau ganddynt am ansawdd y gwasanaeth y cyfeiriodd Pauline ato.

Gobeithiaf fod aelodau Fforwm Tal-y-garn yn cytuno fy mod wedi gweithio'n galed, ers dod yn Aelod o'r Cynulliad, i sicrhau bod gennym y ddeialog iawn rhwng y Cynulliad a Fforwm Tal-y-garn. Mynegodd aelodau'r fforwm eu diolch i Jane Hutt am wrando ar eu hachos. Fodd bynnag, mae hyn yn enghraifft o sut i beidio â mynd ynghylch penderfyniad. Mae bygythiad i gau Tal-y-garn ers 1992. Bu wyth mlynedd heb wneud penderfyniad. Erbyn hyn, mae'r gwasanaethau wedi eu terfynu'n llwyr, nid yw'r adeilad wedi cael gofal iawn ac mae gennym ysbyty newydd ar garreg y drws. Fel Aelod lleol, nid oeddwn am weld cau'r cyfleuster. Buasai'n well gennyf pe bai'r awdurdod iechyd wedi cyflwyno cynigion eraill. Byddaf yn sicrhau bod yr awdurdod iechyd yn cadw at y sicrwydd a roddodd i mi, sef na amherir ar y gwasanaethau ar gyfer cleifion yn Nhal-y-garn wrth fynd â hwy i'r ysbyty newydd. Pryderaf am yr un rhesymau â Dai Lloyd. Rhoddais y cwestiynau hynny mewn llythyr i'r awdurdod iechyd yr wythnos hon. Mae hwn yn fater pwysig oherwydd os yw'r awdurdod iechyd yn rhoi sicrwydd y bydd gwasanaethau digonol yn Ysbyty Brenhinol Morgannwg, ein lle ni fel Aelodau lleol yw ymorol y cedwir at y sicrwydd hwnnw. Fel arall, yn yr un modd â holl benderfyniadau'r Cynulliad, bydd cyfle i unrhyw un herio'r penderfyniadau hynny drwy adolygiad barnwrol.

Nick Bourne: Diolchaf i Pauline Jarman am dynnu sylw at y mater hwn ac am roi'r cyfle imi siarad yn y ddadl hon. Gwnaeth canolfan Tal-y-garn waith rhyfeddol ac yr wyf yn

work and I am deeply concerned about the effect of its closure on those who are receiving effective treatment at the centre. Dai Lloyd mentioned that this transfer is already affecting people who are receiving treatment. I am already concerned— notwithstanding what Jane said—that this transfer will not ensure that people who have received treatment at Talygarn continue to receive the effective treatment that they are entitled to expect.

Talygarn was originally a miner's rehabilitation centre and it now offers physiotherapy and occupational therapy. It has excellent hydrotherapy facilities. In passing, I will pay tribute to the Talygarn Forum support group, particularly Coral Wilson. It has led a magnificent campaign in trying to keep this centre open. I hope that this will not fall on deaf ears today, Jane. It is not too late to revisit this decision, today of all days, when we have been trying to make a fresh start. This centre has been offering marvellous support for the people in the local community so I hope that you will revisit this decision and discuss it further in the Health and Social Services Committee because it is an important decision and a wrong one. Almost always there is a tendency to amalgamate institutions that get larger and larger. Often, small is beautiful and popular. In this case, small is extremely effective. That is the most important thing. I hope that you can reconsider this issue and ensure that Talygarn and the marvellous service that it provides remains available to people in the area.

Kirsty Williams: I thank Pauline for giving me the opportunity to make a small contribution to a sad topic. Let us be clear about this. It is not about the quality of service. I would not defend an institution that was not delivering the best service. I know that Talygarn is doing that. This is primarily a cost-cutting exercise, and if we continue to fail to put adequate investment into our hospitals, this Assembly will be facing more and more of these decisions. I am sure that the staff will do their best at the new hospital to provide the care that their patients and service users need. I would like Jane to assure us that they will not have to do so with

bryderus iawn am yr effaith o'i gau ar y rhai sydd yn derbyn triniaeth effeithiol yn y ganolfan. Dywedodd Dai Lloyd fod y trosglwyddo eisoes yn effeithio ar bobl sydd yn derbyn triniaeth. Yr wyf eisoes yn bryderus—er gwaethaf yr hyn a ddywedodd Jane—na fydd y trosglwyddo hwn yn sicrhau y bydd y rhai a dderbyniodd driniaeth yn Nhal-y-garn yn parhau i dderbyn y driniaeth effeithiol y mae ganddynt hawl i'w disgwyl.

Canolfan ailsefydlu i lowyr oedd Tal-y-garn yn wreiddiol ac mae bellach yn cynnig ffisiotherapi a therapi galwedigaethol. Ceir cyfleusterau hydrotherapi rhagorol yno. Wrth fynd heibio, yr wyf am dalu teyrnged i'r grŵp cefnogi Fforwm Tal-y-garn, yn enwedig Coral Wilson. Mae wedi arwain ymgyrch wych wrth geisio cadw'r ganolfan hon yn agored. Gobeithiaf na fydd hyn yn syrthio ar glustiau byddar heddiw, Jane. Nid yw'n rhy hwyr i ailystyried y penderfyniad hwn, heddiw o bob diwrnod, pan fuom yn ceisio dechrau o'r newydd. Mae'r ganolfan hon wedi bod yn cynnig cefnogaeth ryfeddol i bobl yn y gymuned leol felly gobeithiaf y byddwch yn ailystyried y penderfyniad hwn ac yn ei drafod ymhellach yn y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol oherwydd mae'n benderfyniad pwysig ac yn un anghywir. Yn aml, mae'r bach yn brydferth ac yn boblogaidd. Yn yr achos hwn, mae'r bach yn effeithiol dros ben. Dyna'r peth pwysicaf. Gobeithiaf y gallwch ailystyried y mater hwn a sicrhau bod Tal-y-garn a'r gwasanaeth rhyfeddol y mae'n ei ddarparu yn dal i fod ar gael i bobl yn yr ardal.

Kirsty Williams: Diolchaf i Pauline am roi'r cyfle imi wneud cyfraniad bach i bwnc trist iawn. Gadewch inni fod yn glir am hyn. Nid yw'n ymwneud ag ansawdd y gwasanaeth. Ni fyddwn yn amddiffyn sefydliad nad oedd yn darparu'r gwasanaeth gorau. Gwn fod Tal-y-garn yn gwneud hynny. Ymarferiad torri costau yw hyn yn bennaf, ac os parhawn i fetu â buddsoddi'n ddigonol yn ein hysbytai, bydd y Cynulliad hwn yn wynebu mwy a mwy o'r penderfyniadau hyn. Yr wyf yn sicr y gwna'r staff eu gorau yn yr ysbyty newydd i ddarparu'r gofal y mae ar eu cleifion a'u defnyddwyr gwasanaethau ei angen. Hoffwn gael sicrwydd gan Jane na

one hand tied behind their backs because of a failure to invest properly in services. I ask her to assure us that the levels of service, which Pauline, myself and Jane Davidson have questioned will be met. Problems facing patients at the new hospital, such as the size of the gymnasium, access to grounds and gardens, so that they can enjoy fresh air, should be resolved. Furthermore, patients' clinical needs—because patients go through rehabilitation with a variety of clinical needs—should be met at the new unit. Until we invest adequately in the NHS in Wales, we will return to decisions like this again and again.

The Secretary for Health and Social Services (Jane Hutt): I thank Pauline and the other speakers. The future of the Talygarn rehabilitation centre was uncertain for many years. The Mid Glamorgan Health Authority's proposals to transfer its services to local district general hospitals were approved in 1992. That transfer was not fully implemented but the services have been reduced since then because they have been provided elsewhere. More recently in 1998, Bro Taf Health Authority held a formal public consultation exercise on its proposal to transfer remaining services to the Royal Glamorgan Hospital. Following objections from the community health council, the proposal was referred to the Secretary of State for Wales and subsequently to the Assembly to be considered afresh.

I have listened carefully to the discussion today and I must say that I have been given legal advice that I cannot re-open this decision. Such decisions should be taken in accordance with a set procedure involving public consultation. That decision was communicated by letter on 14 December, 1999 to the Chair of Bro Taf Health Authority, Simon Jones. That letter considers the case for the transfer put forward by the health authority and the objections expressed during the public consultation exercise. It contains my assessment of the arguments for and against the transfer and my conclusions. I hope that the following extracts from the letter will address the concerns expressed in

fyddant yn gorfod gwneud hynny ag un llaw wedi ei chlymu y tu ôl i'w cefn oherwydd methiant i fuddsoddi'n briodol mewn gwasanaethau. Gofynnaf iddi roi sicrwydd i ni y cyrhaeddir y lefelau gwasanaeth, y mae Pauline, minnau a Jane Davidson wedi holi yn eu cylch. Dylid datrys problemau sydd yn wynebu cleifion yn yr ysbyty newydd, fel maint y gampfa, mynediad i'r tiroedd a'r gerddi, fel y gallant fwynhau awyr iach. Ar ben hynny, dylid ateb anghenion clinigol y cleifion—oherwydd mae cleifion yn mynd drwy ailsefydlu ag amrywiaeth o anghenion clinigol—yn yr uned newydd. Hyd nes y buddsoddwn yn ddigonol yn yr NHS yng Nghymru, byddwn yn dod yn ôl at benderfyniadau fel hyn dro ar ôl tro.

Yr Ysgrifennydd Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Jane Hutt): Diolchaf i Pauline a'r siaradwyr eraill. Yr oedd dyfodol canolfan ailsefydlu Tal-y-garn yn ansicr am flynyddoedd lawer. Cymeradwywyd cynigion Awdurdod Iechyd Morgannwg Ganol i drosglwyddo ei gwasanaethau i ysbytai dosbarth cyffredinol lleol yn 1992. Ni weithredwyd y trosglwyddiad yn llwyr ond lleihawyd y gwasanaethau ers hynny gan eu bod wedi eu darparu mewn mannau eraill. Yn fwyaf diweddar yn 1998, cynhaliodd Awdurdod Iechyd Bro Taf ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus ffurfiol ar ei fwriad i drosglwyddo'r gwasanaethau oedd yn weddill i Ysbyty Brenhinol Morgannwg. Ar ôl gwrthwynebiadau gan y cyngor iechyd cymdeithas, cyfeiriwyd y cynnig i Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru ac wedi hynny i'r Cynulliad i'w ystyried o'r newydd.

Gwrandewais yn astud ar y drafodaeth heddiw a rhaid imi ddweud fy mod wedi derbyn cyngor cyfreithiol na allaf ailagor y penderfyniad hwn. Dylid gwneud penderfyniadau o'r fath yn unol â threfn osod sydd yn cynnwys ymgynghori cyhoeddus. Rhoddwyd hysbysiad o'r penderfyniad hwnnw drwy lythyr ar 14 Rhagfyr 1999 i Gadeirydd Awdurdod Iechyd Bro Taf, Simon Jones. Mae'r llythyr hwnnw'n ystyried y ddadl dros drosglwyddo a gyflwynwyd gan yr awdurdod iechyd a'r gwrthwynebiadau a fynegwyd yn ystod yr ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus. Mae'n cynnwys fy asesiad o'r dadleuon o blaid ac yn erbyn y trosglwyddo a'm casgliadau. Gobeithiaf y bydd y

today's debate. I will also place a copy of the decision letter in the Assembly Library. The letter, which is addressed to the Chair of Bro Taf Health Authority, also makes reference to the future of Talygarn once the service is transferred.

5:19 p.m.

I will read the relevant points in the letter and I hope that they will be helpful in this debate. First are the health authority proposals,

'The proposals submitted to the Secretary of State for Wales are that all physiotherapy and occupational therapy rehabilitation services currently provided at Talygarn should transfer to the Royal Glamorgan Hospital, which is now open and operational. The Talygarn estate would become surplus to the Authority's requirements and would be sold in accordance with established procedures, with the funds returned to the Assembly for use in the all-Wales capital programme. It is noted that the Taff Ely local plan proposes to include a number of conditions on the future use of the Talygarn estate, designed to preserve its special character and atmosphere.'

Secondly is the consideration of the health authority proposals,

'I have considered all the circumstances of this case, including your Authority's submission to the Secretary of State for Wales (and accompanying documentation), and all other relevant information available to me. I have also met with you and the Pontypridd and Rhondda NHS Trust, which would provide the service at the Royal Glamorgan Hospital, to allow you an opportunity to reaffirm your Authority's case for the transfer. On similar terms, I have met representatives of those who, in the public consultation exercise, expressed opposition to the transfer, namely, the Taff Ely and Rhondda Community Health Council, the Talygarn Forum and patients, as well as representatives of the Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation (a major stakeholder).'

In the conclusions in my letter I say that,

dyfyniadau canlynol o'r llythyr yn ateb y pryderon a fynegwyd yn y ddadl heddiw. Byddaf hefyd yn gosod copi o lythyr y penderfyniad yn Llyfrgell y Cynulliad. Mae'r llythyr, a gyfeiriwyd i Gadeirydd Awdurdod Iechyd Bro Taf, yn cyfeirio hefyd at ddyfodol Tal-y-garn ar ôl trosglwyddo'r gwasanaeth.

Yr wyf am ddarllen y pwyntiau perthnasol yn y llythyr a gobeithiaf y byddant o gymorth yn y ddadl hon. Yn gyntaf mae cynigion yr awdurdod iechyd,

'Y cynigion a gyflwynwyd i Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru yw y dylid trosglwyddo'r holl wasanaethau ailsefydlu ffisiotherapi a therapi galwedigaethol a ddarperir yn Nhal-y-garn i Ysbyty Brenhinol Morgannwg, sydd bellach yn agored ac yn weithredol. Ni fyddai angen stad Tal-y-garn wedyn ar yr Awdurdod a châi ei gwerthu'n unol â'r gweithdrefnau a sefydlwyd, a châi'r cyllid ei ddychwelyd i'r Cynulliad i'w ddefnyddio yn rhaglen gyfalaf Cymru gyfan. Nodir bod cynllun lleol Taf Elái yn cynnig cynnwys nifer o amodau ar y defnydd o stad Tal-y-garn yn y dyfodol, er mwyn cadw ei chymeriad a'i hawyrgylch arbennig.'

Yn ail ceir ystyriaeth o gynigion yr awdurdod iechyd,

'Ystyriais holl amgylchiadau'r achos hwn, gan gynnwys yr hyn a gyflwynodd eich Awdurdod i Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru (a'r ddogfennaeth oedd gydag ef), a'r holl wybodaeth berthnasol arall oedd ar gael i mi. Cyfarfûm hefyd â chi ac Ymddiriedolaeth NHS Pontypridd a Rhondda, a ddarparai'r gwasanaeth yn Ysbyty Brenhinol Morgannwg, er mwyn rhoi cyfle ichi gadarnhau dadl eich Awdurdod o blaid y trosglwyddiad. Ar delerau tebyg, cyfarfûm â chynrychiolwyr y rhai, yn yr ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus, a fynegodd wrthwynebiad i'r trosglwyddiad, sef, Cyngor Iechyd Cymdeithas Taf Elái a Rhondda, Fforwm Tal-y-garn a chleifion, yn ogystal â chynrychiolwyr Corff Lles Cymdeithasol y Diwydiant Glo (cyfrannog pwysig).'

Yn y casgliadau yn fy llythyr dywedaf,

'I have carefully considered your Authority's proposals to transfer services from Talygarn rehabilitation centre to the Royal Glamorgan Hospital, together with the community health council's response to your consultation document on the proposal and its alternative proposal to develop Talygarn as a regional centre for excellence. I have also taken account of the views of expert advisers and other clinicians as well as the views of consultees, such as the Talygarn Forum, made available to me.'

'I am satisfied that transferring the rehabilitation service from Talygarn to the Royal Glamorgan Hospital would lead to an overall improvement in the efficiency and effectiveness of the service. This would be achieved through the establishment of a fully multidisciplinary service able to meet the needs of the Taff Ely and Rhondda population, providing improved access for patients to other clinical and professional support services. The modern, purpose-built facilities at the Royal Glamorgan Hospital would be better suited to the provision of rehabilitation than those at Talygarn. The expanded gymnasium space proposed by the Trust, which I am assured would be provided were the transfer to take place, would help alleviate some of the concerns of those opposed to the transfer. Although the revenue savings that would be realised would be relatively small, the transfer, nonetheless, represents good value for money.'

'I am not persuaded by the argument that Talygarn should be developed as a specialised regional centre and am not convinced that the development of such services separately from the main centres of medical and rehabilitation services would represent best clinical practice. The proposal, which has not been worked up in detail, would require significant but unquantifiable additional capital investment, which is unlikely to be a priority in the foreseeable future. Nor is there any evidence that the relevant health authorities would be in a position to accept the current revenue implications of such a development from a service that they are satisfied is better provided locally. In addition, it would have the effect of undermining the investment

'Yr wyf wedi ystyried yn ofalus gynigion eich Awdurdod i drosglwyddo gwasanaethau o ganolfan ailsefydlu Tal-y-garn i Ysbyty Brenhinol Morgannwg, ynghyd ag ymateb y cyngor iechyd cymdeithas i'ch dogfen ymgynghorol ar y cynnig a'i gynnig arall i ddatblygu Tal-y-garn yn ganolfan ragoriaeth ranbarthol. Yr wyf hefyd wedi cymryd i ystyriaeth barn ymgynghorwyr arbenigol a chlinigwyr eraill yn ogystal â barn ymgynghoredigion, fel Fforwm Tal-y-garn, a ddarparwyd i mi.'

'Yr wyf yn sicr y byddai trosglwyddo'r gwasanaeth ailsefydlu o Dal-y-garn i Ysbyty Brenhinol Morgannwg yn arwain at welliant cyffredinol yn effeithlonrwydd ac effeithioldeb y gwasanaeth. Cyflawnid hyn drwy sefydlu gwasanaeth cwbl amlddisgyblaethol sydd yn gallu ateb anghenion poblogaeth Taf Elái a Rhondda, gan ddarparu gwell mynediad ar gyfer cleifion i wasanaethau cefnogaeth clinigol a phroffesiynol eraill. Byddai'r cyfleusterau modern, pwrpasol yn Ysbyty Brenhinol Morgannwg yn fwy addas ar gyfer darparu ailsefydlu na'r rhai yn Nhal-y-garn. Byddai'r gofod campfa ehangach a gynigir gan yr Ymddiriedolaeth, y rhoddwyd sicrwydd i mi y câi ei ddarparu pe digwyddai'r trosglwyddiad, yn helpu i leddfu rhai o bryderon y rhai sydd yn gwrthwynebu'r trosglwyddiad. Er mai cymharol fach fyddai'r arbedion refeniw a geid, mae'r trosglwyddiad, er hynny, yn rhoi gwerth da am arian.'

'Ni'm perswadir gan y ddadl y dylid datblygu Tal-y-garn yn ganolfan ranbarthol arbenigol ac nid wyf wedi fy argyhoeddi y byddai datblygu gwasanaethau o'r fath ar wahân i brif ganolfannau gwasanaethau meddygol ac ailsefydlu yn golygu'r ymarfer clinigol gorau. Byddai'r cynnig, nad yw wedi ei baratoi'n fanwl, yn gofyn buddsoddiad cyfalaf ychwanegol sylweddol ond anfesuradwy, sydd yn annhebygol o fod yn flaenoriaeth yn y dyfodol rhagweladwy. Nid oes tystiolaeth ychwaith y byddai'r awdurdodau iechyd perthnasol mewn sefyllfa i dderbyn yr oblygiadau refeniw cyfredol o ddatblygiad o'r fath oddi wrth wasanaeth y maent yn sicr y byddai'n well ei ddarparu'n lleol. At hynny, ei effaith fyddai tansilio'r buddsoddiad a wnaethpwyd eisoes drwy

already made in developing an improved range of local rehabilitation facilities and services at the Royal Glamorgan Hospital and other district general hospitals.'

'For the reasons given above, I have decided to approve the proposal Bro Taf Health Authority made to the Secretary of State for Wales under cover of your letters of 11 December 1998, 11 and 20 January 1999, that rehabilitation services at Talygarn should cease and transfer to the Royal Glamorgan Hospital, which is now open and operational.'

In relation to implementation,

'The transfer of the service from Talygarn should not take place until the additional gymnasium space planned by the Trust is available. In implementing the transfer of services from Talygarn to the Royal Glamorgan Hospital, I would expect your Authority and the Pontypridd NHS Trust to make every effort to minimise disruption to patients and to liaise closely with staff, patients, the community health councils and local residents, over progress in implementation. Local residents and the Talygarn Forum should be kept informed and wherever possible, involved with the developments on the disposal of the site.'

Your authority and the Trust should bear in mind the recommendations made in the report commissioned by the Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation in implementing the transfer and, more generally, when planning and delivering rehabilitation services to the Bro Taf population in the future.'

As I explained, those were extracts of my decision letter that was sent to the Chair of the Bro Taf Health Authority. I want to take on board the points that Pauline, Jane, Kirsty, Dai and Nick have made to assure them that I will monitor the treatment received by patients at Talygarn hospital. Thank you for drawing these to my attention during today's debate.

Y Llywydd: Dyna ddiwedd diwrnod

ddatblygu amrediad gwell o gyfleusterau a gwasanaethau ailsefydlu lleol yn Ysbyty Brenhinol Morgannwg ac mewn ysbytai dosbarth cyffredinol eraill.'

'Am y rhesymau a roddir uchod, penderfynais gymeradwyo cynnig Awdurdod Iechyd Bro Taf a wnaethpwyd i Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru a eglurwyd yn eich llythyrau dyddiedig 11 Rhagfyr 1998, 11 a 20 Ionawr 1999, y dylai gwasanaethau ailsefydlu yn Nhal-y-garn ddod i ben a chael eu trosglwyddo i Ysbyty Brenhinol Morgannwg, sydd bellach yn agored ac yn weithredol.'

Mewn perthynas â gweithredu,

'Ni ddylid trosglwyddo'r gwasanaeth o Dal-y-garn hyd nes y bydd y gofod campfa ychwanegol a gynlluniwyd gan yr Ymddiriedolaeth ar gael. Wrth weithredu'r trosglwyddo o wasanaethau o Dal-y-garn i Ysbyty Brenhinol Morgannwg, disgwylwn i'ch Awdurdod chi ac Ymddiriedolaeth NHS Pontypridd wneud pob ymdrech i leihau'r amhariad ar gleifion ac i gysylltu'n agos â staff, cleifion, y cynghorau iechyd cymdeithas a thrigolion lleol, ynghylch y cynnydd wrth weithredu. Dylid hysbysu trigolion lleol a Fforwm Tal-y-garn am y datblygiadau ynghylch gwerthu'r safle, a'u cynnwys ynddynt lle y bo modd.'

Dylai'ch awdurdod chi a'r Ymddiriedolaeth gadw mewn cof yr argymhellion a wnaethpwyd yn yr adroddiad a gomisiynwyd gan Gorff Lles Cymdeithasol y Diwydiant Glo wrth roi'r trosglwyddiad ar waith ac, yn fwy cyffredinol, wrth gynllunio a chyflenwi gwasanaethau ailsefydlu i boblogaeth Bro Taf yn y dyfodol.'

Fel yr eglurais, yr oedd y rheini'n ddyfyniadau o'm llythyr penderfyniad a anfonwyd at Gadeirydd Awdurdod Iechyd Bro Taf. Yr wyf am gymryd i ystyriaeth y pwyntiau a wnaethpwyd gan Pauline, Jane, Kirsty, Dai a Nick er mwyn rhoi sicrwydd iddynt y byddaf yn monitro'r driniaeth a dderbynnir gan gleifion yn ysbyty Tal-y-garn. Diolch i chi am dynnu'r rhain i'm sylw yn ystod y ddadl heddiw.

The Presiding Officer: That is the end of

hanesyddol arall i'r Cynulliad. Diolchaf i'r another historic day for the Assembly. I thank
Aelodau am eu cydweithrediad. Members for their co-operation.

Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 5:26 p.m.
The session ended at 5:26 p.m.