



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

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

Dydd Mawrth 3 Mehefin 2003

Tuesday 3 June 2003

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Yn y golofn chwith, cofnodwyd y trafodion yn yr iaith y llefarwyd hwy ynddi 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.*

**Datganiad gan y Llywydd
Statement by the Presiding Officer**

Y Llywydd: Croesawaf i'r Cynulliad aelodau o Bwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd Schleswig Holstein a'r Gweinidog. [*Cymeradwyaeth.*]

The Presiding Officer: I welcome to the Assembly members of the Schleswig Holstein Economic Development Committee and the Minister. [*Applause.*]

**Ethol i Bwyllgor yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad
Elections to the Environment, Planning and Countryside Committee**

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I propose that

Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Cynigiau fod

The National Assembly:

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol:

1. *in accordance with Standing Order No. 8.4 elects the following members to its Environment, Planning and Countryside Committee: Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey (Labour), Irene James (Labour), Catherine Thomas (Labour), Carl Sargeant (Labour), Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Plaid Cymru), Brynle Williams (Conservative), Glyn Davies (Conservative), Mick Bates (Liberal Democrat), and*

1. *yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 8.4 yn ethol yr aelodau canlynol i Bwyllgor yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad: Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey (Llafur), Irene James (Llafur), Catherine Thomas (Llafur), Carl Sargeant (Llafur), Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Plaid Cymru), Brynle Williams (Ceidwadwyr), Glyn Davies (Ceidwadwyr), Mick Bates (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol), ac*

2. *in accordance with Standing Order No. 9.3 selects Alun Ffred Jones (Plaid Cymru) from the panel to be the Chair of the Committee. (NDM1482)*

2. *yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 9.3 yn dewis Alun Ffred Jones (Plaid Cymru) o'r panel i fod yn Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor. (NDM1482)*

Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Ieuan Wyn Jones): Byddaf yn gwneud nifer o sylwadau, nid yn unig ar y Pwyllgor hwn, sydd â gwaith pwysig, ond ar bryd y bydd Pwyllgorau yn cyfarfod, pa mor aml, a phryd y cawn gyfle i graffu ar waith y Llywodraeth—os daw gwaith ger ein bron maes o law. Yr ydym yn haeddu datganiad gan y Trefnydd ynglŷn â'r rhesymau pam mae'r Llywodraeth yn teimlo y dylai Pwyllgorau gyfarfod yn llai aml nag a wnaethant yn ystod y Cynulliad cyntaf. Yn ystod y cyfnod hwnnw, bu Pwyllgorau yn cyfarfod bob pythefnos, a'r hyn a fu'n digwydd—[*Torri ar draws.*]

The Leader of the Opposition (Ieuan Wyn Jones): I will make a number of comments, not only on this Committee, which has important work, but on when Committees are to meet, how often, and when we will be given the opportunity to scrutinise the work of Government—if work is, at last, to be put before us. We deserve a statement from the Business Minister as to why the Government feels that Committees should meet less frequently than they did during the first Assembly. During that period, Committees met every fortnight, and what happened—[*Interruption.*]

I think that Members may be under the misapprehension, Presiding Officer, that this

Tybiaf y gallai Aelodau fod dan y gamargraff, Lywydd, na ellir cael dadl ar y

motion is not debatable. I believe that you will rule that it is debatable.

The Presiding Officer: Order. There cannot be misapprehension. We operate under Standing Orders and are debating this matter under Standing Order No. 8.6. The Business Minister has proposed a motion:

‘tabled for election of members of committees and one Member from each political group to speak briefly in response; the Business Minister shall be entitled to reply and the Presiding Officer shall then put the proposition to the vote.’

Ieuan Wyn Jones: The point I was making is an entirely proper one. It is about scrutiny in the National Assembly and the role of the opposition parties in that, given that the Labour Party has decided to govern alone. What they want—[*Interruption.*]

The Presiding Officer: Order. The leader of the opposition is making a brief response under Standing Order No. 8.6.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: It is vital that scrutiny takes place and for Committee meetings to be held at least fortnightly. We now understand that the Government originally wanted Committees to meet monthly, which would mean that we would not have any scrutiny for a month. Now we are told that, as a compromise, Committees will meet every three weeks. What is happening with regard to scrutinising this Government? Why does it want to close down the work of opposition parties in scrutinising it? When are we going to have any business to debate in the National Assembly? This is the first Plenary following the Whitsun recess and we have a debate on an opposition motion. Where is the Government motion today? There is a Plenary session tomorrow and we do not have a Government motion—there is only a backbencher motion. When will we have some Government business? When will this Government take its responsibility to govern seriously? If you read the *South Wales Echo*—

The Presiding Officer: Order. Before the

cynnig hwn. Credaf y byddwch yn dyfarnu y gellir cael dadl arno.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Ni ellir bod dan gamargraff. Gweithredwn yn unol â Rheolau Sefydlog ac yr ydym yn trafod y mater hwn o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 8.6. Mae'r Trefnydd wedi cynnig cynnig:

‘sydd wedi’i gyflwyno ar gyfer ethol aelodau pwyllgorau ac i un Aelod o bob grŵp gwleidyddol ymateb yn gryno; bydd gan y Trefnydd hawl i ateb ac yna bydd y Llywydd yn cynnal pleidlais ar y cynnig.’

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Mae'r pwynt yr oeddwn yn ei wneud yn un cwbl briodol. Mae'n ymwneud â chraffu yn y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol a rôl y gwrthbleidiau yn hynny, gan fod y Blaid Lafur wedi penderfynu llywodraethu ar ei phen ei hun. Yr hyn y mae arnynt ei eisiau—[*Torri ar draws.*]

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Mae arweinydd yr wrthblaid yn ymateb yn gryno o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 8.6.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Mae'n hollbwysig bod craffu'n digwydd a bod cyfarfodydd Pwyllgor yn cael eu cynnal bob pythefnos o leiaf. Deallwn bellach mai dymuniad gwreiddiol y Llywodraeth oedd i Bwyllgorau gwrdd yn fisol, a olygai na chaem unrhyw graffu am fis. Yn awr dywedir wrthym y bydd Pwyllgorau, fel cyfaddawd, yn cwrdd bob tair wythnos. Beth sy'n digwydd ynghylch craffu ar y Llywodraeth hon? Pam y mae arni eisiau rhoi pen ar waith gwrthbleidiau o ran craffu arni? Pa bryd y cawn unrhyw fusnes i'w drafod yn y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol? Dyma'r Cyfarfod Llawn cyntaf ar ôl toriad y Sulgwyn ac mae gennym ddadl ar gynnig o eiddo'r wrthblaid. Ym mhle y mae cynnig y Llywodraeth heddiw? Mae Cyfarfod Llawn yfory ac nid oes gennym gynnig o eiddo'r Llywodraeth—dim ond cynnig gan Aelod o'r meinciau cefn sydd. Pa bryd y cawn rywfaint o fusnes Llywodraeth? Pa bryd y gwnaiff y Llywodraeth hon gymryd ei chyfrifoldeb i lywodraethu o ddifrif? Os darllenasoch y *South Wales Echo*—

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Cyn i arweinydd yr

leader of the opposition quotes from the *South Wales Echo*, I remind him to confine his remarks to the motion, which concerns elections to a Committee. I have allowed him a little latitude in order to discuss the general principle, but I draw his attention to Standing Order No. 8.6, which states that I am required to call

‘one Member from each political group to speak briefly in response.’

I define ‘briefly’ as about three minutes.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: This Committee has important work to do, on genetically modified crops and the reform of the common agricultural policy. It is time for this Government to come clean and ensure that these Committees meet every fortnight. Let us have a statement on that, Business Minister.

The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives (Nick Bourne): Two weeks ago we objected to the business statement on the basis that no motions to elect members to Committees were brought forward. We were not supported in that objection—Plaid Cymru voted against us. I remind the leader of the opposition that that was the case two weeks ago. I am glad that he has now had a change of heart. It is true that we have a Government, but we do not have any Government business. That is unacceptable. The Labour Party had a manifesto, and to be in this position cannot have completely taken it by surprise—but perhaps it did. All Members seemed to agree that much of the Assembly’s valuable work was carried out in Committee—with regard to both scrutiny and policy development. It is absolutely unconscionable, therefore, that it is now suggested that these Committees meet less frequently—they should meet as frequently, if not more often. It cannot have escaped—*[Interruption.]*

The Presiding Officer: Order. I will not allow a party that has a de facto majority in the Chamber to prevent the leader of one of the opposition parties from speaking.

Nick Bourne: I am grateful, Mr Llywydd. I can see why they—particularly the First

wrthblaid ddyfynnu o’r *South Wales Echo*, yr wyf yn ei atgoffa i gyfyngu ei sylwadau i’r cynnig, sy’n ymwneud ag ethol i Bwyllgor. Yr wyf wedi caniatáu ychydig o ryddid iddo er mwyn trafod yr egwyddor gyffredinol, ond tynnaf ei sylw at Reol Sefydlog Rhif 8.6, sy’n datgan ei bod yn ofynnol imi alw

‘un Aelod o bob grŵp gwleidyddol i ymateb yn gryno.’

Fy niffiniaid i o ‘gryno’ yw tua thri munud.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Mae gan y Pwyllgor hwn waith pwysig i’w wneud, ar gnydau a addaswyd yn enetig ac ar ddiwygio’r polisi amaethyddol cyffredin. Mae’n bryd i’r Llywodraeth hon fod yn onest a sicrhau bod y Pwyllgorau hyn yn cwrdd bob pythefnos. Gadewch inni gael datganiad ar hynny, Drefnydd.

Arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru (Nick Bourne): Bythefnos yn ôl gwnaethom wrthwynebu’r datganiad busnes ar y sail na chyflwynwyd cynigion i ethol aelodau i Bwyllgorau. Ni chawsom ein cefnogi yn y gwrthwynebiad hwnnw—pleidleisiodd Plaid Cymru yn ein herbyn. Atgoffaf arweinydd yr wrthblaid mai felly yr oedd bythefnos yn ôl. Yr wyf yn falch ei fod bellach wedi newid ei feddwl. Mae’n wir bod gennym Lywodraeth, ond nid oes gennym unrhyw fusnes Llywodraeth. Mae hynny’n annerbyniol. Yr oedd maniffesto gan y Blaid Lafur, ac ni all fod yn gwbl annisgwyl ganddi fod yn y sefyllfa hon—ond efallai ei bod. Ymddengys fod yr holl Aelodau’n cytuno bod llawer o waith gwerthfawr y Cynulliad wedi’i gyflawni mewn Pwyllgorau—o ran craffu a datblygu polisi. Cwbl afresymol, felly, yw awgrymu’n awr y dylai’r Pwyllgorau hyn gwrdd yn llai aml—dylent gwrdd cyn amled, os nad yn amlach. Nid oes bosibl na sylwodd—*[Torri ar draws.]*

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Ni wnafrif ganiatáu i blaid sydd â mwyafrif de facto yn y Siambr atal arweinydd un o’r gwrthbleidiau rhag siarad.

Nick Bourne: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar, Mr Llywydd. Gallaf weld pam y gallent hwy—y

Minister—might feel uncomfortable with a few home truths, but it is important that the valuable work of the Assembly should continue. Committee elections have not been held for a month—a deplorable delay—and we know from the Business Committee that this is being held up while matters are referred to the Labour group. Which Committee is running the Assembly—is it the Labour group or is it the Business Committee, which should be advising on these issues? It is intolerable that Assembly business is being held up while the Labour group tells the Business Minister what the Assembly can do. That cannot continue.

The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrat Group (Michael German):

Clearly, the issue of Assembly business is vexing all Members. We do not have any Government business before us—I will come back to that later. In respect of debating Committee membership, and the frequency of Committee meetings, I remind the First Minister that during the first Assembly, party business managers and Committee Chairs came before the Business Committee seeking more time for Committees to carry out their work. I also remind him that during the debate on Assembly procedures, the role of Committees was found to be the one distinctive feature that set the Assembly apart from other legislatures. The Assembly is not like Westminster, and that is how it should be—the reason for that is the Assembly Committees. Assembly Committees have a dual function: not only do they have a scrutiny function, but they also have a policy development role in the longer term for the benefit of the people of Wales. We do not have that position before us now. To suggest that we should reduce the amount of policy-making is terrible. This Government is a minority Government of its own choosing, but it should respect the view that the National Assembly should have the ability to develop its policy-making role through its Committees. Far from hitting the ground running, the Government has left us stuck in the mud. It is displaying the National Assembly in a light that the people of Wales did not want.

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair):

Prif Weinidog yn enwedig—deimlo'n annifyr o glywed ychydig o wirioneddau syml, ond mae'n bwysig i waith gwerthfawr y Cynulliad barhau. Ni chynhaliwyd etholiadau i Bwyllgorau am fis—sy'n oedi affwysol—a gwyddom o'r Pwyllgor Busnes fod hyn yn cael ei ddal yn ôl tra cyfeirir materion i'r grŵp Llafur. Pa Bwyllgor sy'n rhedeg y Cynulliad—ai'r grŵp Llafur ynteu'r Pwyllgor Busnes, a ddylai gynghori ar y materion hyn? Ni ellir goddef dal gwaith y Cynulliad yn ôl tra dywed y grŵp Llafur wrth y Trefnydd beth y caiff y Cynulliad ei wneud. Ni all hynny barhau.

Arweinydd Grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Michael German):

Mae'n amlwg bod mater busnes y Cynulliad yn peri gofid i'r holl Aelodau. Nid oes gennym unrhyw fusnes o eiddo'r Llywodraeth ger ein bron—deuaf yn ôl at hynny'n ddiweddarach. O ran trafod aelodaeth Pwyllgorau, a pha mor aml y caiff cyfarfodydd Pwyllgor eu cynnal, atgoffaf y Prif Weinidog bod rheolwyr busnes y pleidiau a Chadeiryddion Pwyllgorau wedi dod gerbron y Pwyllgor Busnes yn ystod y Cynulliad cyntaf i geisio rhagor o amser i Bwyllgorau gyflawni eu gwaith. Yr wyf yn ei atgoffa hefyd y cafwyd, yn ystod y ddadl ar weithdrefnau'r Cynulliad, mai rôl y Pwyllgorau oedd y nodwedd neilltuol a wnâi'r Cynulliad yn wahanol i ddeddfwrfeydd eraill. Nid yw'r Cynulliad yn debyg i San Steffan, ac felly y dylai fod—y rheswm am hynny yw Pwyllgorau'r Cynulliad. Mae swyddogaeth ddeuol i Bwyllgorau'r Cynulliad: yn ogystal â swyddogaeth craffu, mae ganddynt rôl datblygu polisi yn y tymor hwy er budd pobl Cymru. Nid y sefyllfa honno sydd ger ein bron yn awr. Mae awgrymu y dylem leihau'r maint o waith llunio polisi yn ofnadwy. Mae'r Llywodraeth hon yn Llywodraeth leiafrifol o'i dewis ei hun, ond dylai barchu'r farn y dylai'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol allu datblygu ei rôl llunio polisi drwy ei Bwyllgorau. Yn hytrach na chychwyn yn syth, mae'r Llywodraeth wedi'n gadael a'n traed yn sownd yn y llaid. Mae'n dangos y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol mewn goleuni nad oedd pobl Cymru am ei weld.

Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Pwrpas y

This motion is to elect Committee members—it is not about timetables. I will bring forward a statement about timetables in due course. The issue has been considered by the Business Committee. The opposition parties are flexing their muscles on this; we need to carry on with our business.

cynnig hwn yw ethol aelodau Pwyllgor—nid yw'n ymwneud ag amserlenni. Cyflwynaf ddatganiad am amserlenni gyda hyn. Mae'r mater wedi'i ystyried gan y Pwyllgor Busnes. Mae'r gwrthbleidiau'n ystwytho eu cyhyrau ar hyn; rhaid inni gario ymlaen â'n busnes.

*Cynnig (NDM1482): O blaid 54, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM1482): For 54, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Gibbons, Brian
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Marek, John
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John

Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

Ethol i'r Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes **Elections to the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee**

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I propose that

the National Assembly:

1. in accordance with Standing Order No. 8.4, elects the following members to its Education and Lifelong Learning Committee: Leighton Andrews (Labour), Jeff Cuthbert (Labour), Denise Idris Jones (Labour), Irene James (Labour), Helen Mary Jones (Plaid Cymru), Owen John Thomas (Plaid Cymru), David Davies (Conservative), Mark Isherwood (Conservative), and

2. in accordance with Standing Order No. 9.3 selects Peter Black (Liberal Democrat) from the panel to be the Chair of the Committee. (NDM1483)

David Davies: Given the current controversy regarding Wales's biggest quango, which is responsible to the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee, it is appalling that the Government is trying to reduce the number of times the Committee meets. I would have thought that, if the Government is satisfied with ELWa's performance, it would be only too happy for the Committee to meet regularly and to have ELWa brought before the Committee to explain itself.

Presiding Officer, a few moments ago you commendably said that you would stand up for the right of an opposition speaker to speak against a majority Government. However, I am afraid that this Government, because of its tenuous majority, is about to stop all Members of opposition parties from having the opportunity to express their opinions in Committee meetings.

2.10 p.m.

Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Cynigiau fod

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol:

1. yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 8.4, yn ethol yr aelodau canlynol i'w Bwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes: Leighton Andrews (Llafur), Jeff Cuthbert (Llafur), Denise Idris Jones (Llafur), Irene James (Llafur), Helen Mary Jones (Plaid Cymru), Owen John Thomas (Plaid Cymru), David Davies (Ceidwadwyr), Mark Isherwood (Ceidwadwyr), ac

2. yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 9.3 yn dewis Peter Black (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol) o'r panel i fod yn Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor. (NDM1483)

David Davies: O ystyried y dadlau presennol ynghylch cwango mwyaf Cymru, sy'n atebol i'r Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes, mae'n warthus bod y Llywodraeth yn ceisio lleihau'r nifer o weithiau y mae'r Pwyllgor yn cwrdd. Tybiaswn, os yw'r Llywodraeth yn fodlon ar berfformiad ELWa, na fyddai ond yn rhy falch i'r Pwyllgor gwrdd yn rheolaidd ac i ELWa gael ei ddwyn gerbron y Pwyllgor i'w egluro ei hun.

Lywydd, ychydig eiliadau'n ôl dywedasochn yn ganmoladwy y safech dros hawl siaradwr o'r wrthblaid i siarad yn erbyn Llywodraeth fwyafrifol. Fodd bynnag, mae arnaf ofn bod y Llywodraeth hon, oherwydd ei mwyafrif bregus, ar fin atal holl Aelodau'r gwrthbleidiau rhag cael y cyfle i fynegi eu barn mewn cyfarfodydd Pwyllgor.

The Presiding Officer: Order. I will of course ensure the right of any Assembly Member to speak, provided that what he or she says is in order and relevant to the motion. This motion relates to the election of Members to a Committee. I would be grateful for contributions relevant to that motion.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Wrth gwrs, byddaf yn diogelu hawl unrhyw Aelod o'r Cynulliad i siarad, ar yr amod bod yr hyn a ddywed ef neu hi mewn trefn ac yn berthnasol i'r cynnig. Mae'r cynnig hwn yn ymwneud ag ethol Aelodau i Bwyllgor. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar am gyfraniadau sy'n berthnasol i'r cynnig hwnnw.

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I say let us vote on the membership of the Committee. I commend the motion.

Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Gadewch inni bleidleisio ar aelodaeth y Pwyllgor. Cymeradwyaf y cynnig.

*Cynnig (NDM1483): O blaid 58, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM1483): For 58, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gibbons, Brian
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Marek, John
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan

Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty
 Wood, Leanne

Derbyniwyd y cynnig.

Motion carried.

Ethol i'r Pwyllgor Diwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon Elections to the Culture, Welsh Language and Sport Committee

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I propose that

the National Assembly:

1. in accordance with Standing Order No. 8.4, elects the following members to its Culture, Welsh Language and Sport Committee: Leighton Andrews (Labour), Lorraine Barrett (Labour), Denise Idris Jones (Labour), Owen John Thomas (Plaid Cymru), Elin Jones (Plaid Cymru), Lisa Francis (Conservative), Laura Anne Jones (Conservative), Eleanor Burnham (Liberal Democrat), and

2. in accordance with Standing Order No. 9.3 selects Rosemary Butler (Labour) from the panel to be the Chair of the Committee. (NDM1484)

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Fel cyn-Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Diwylliant yn y Cynulliad cyntaf, dywedaf wrth Aelodau fod y Pwyllgor, yn ystod y ddwy flynedd a hanner y bu mewn bodolaeth, wedi cyfarfod yn gyson gydag amserlen lawn. Mae'r Pwyllgor wedi ceisio trosglwyddo gwaith fel etifeddiaeth i'r Pwyllgor newydd, ac wedi awgrymu y dylai edrych ar ddiwylliant Saesneg yng Nghymru, sydd yn faes hynod o bwysig. Ni ddeallaf, o'm profiad, sut y gall aelodau'r Pwyllgor newydd ymgymryd ag arolwg mor bwysig os yw'r Pwyllgor i gyfarfod cyn lleied ag unwaith y mis. Apeliaf ar yr aelodau hynny i sicrhau bod y Pwyllgor yn cyfarfod o leiaf

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol:

1. yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 8.4, yn ethol yr aelodau canlynol i'w Bwyllgor Diwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon: Leighton Andrews (Llafur), Lorraine Barrett (Llafur), Denise Idris Jones (Llafur), Owen John Thomas (Plaid Cymru), Elin Jones (Plaid Cymru), Lisa Francis (Ceidwadwyr), Laura Anne Jones (Ceidwadwyr), Eleanor Burnham (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol), ac

2. yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 9.3 yn dewis Rosemary Butler (Llafur) o'r panel i fod yn Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor. (NDM1484)

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: As the former Chair of the Culture Committee in the first Assembly, I inform Members that the Committee met regularly during the two and a half years of its existence and that its timetable was full. The Committee has attempted to pass on a legacy of work to the new Committee, and has suggested that it should consider English-language culture in Wales, which is a very important issue. I cannot comprehend, from my experience, how the members of the new Committee can undertake such an important review if the Committee is to meet as infrequently as once a month. I appeal to those members to ensure

bob pythefnos er mwyn cyflawni eu cyfrifoldebau fel aelodau o'r Pwyllgor hwnnw.

that the Committee meets at least once a fortnight in order to fulfil their responsibilities as members of that Committee.

Rhyfeddaf fod y Trefnydd yn gwrthod ymateb i'r pwyntiau a godwyd, sydd yn ddigon dilys. Os yw'r Llywodraeth yn mynd i ymddwyn fel hyn, ni chawn gyfle i graffu ei gwaith ac ni chawn ymateb i bwyntiau dilys a godir ynglŷn â'r ffordd y mae'n gweithredu.

I am surprised that the Business Minister refuses to respond to the points raised, which are quite valid. If that is how the Labour Government is going to behave, we will not be in a position to scrutinise its work or to expect responses to valid points raised about the way it operates.

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I will not repeat myself. We are here to go through the names.

Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Nid ailadroddaf yr hyn a ddywedais. Yr ydym yma i fynd drwy'r enwau.

*Cynnig (NDM1484): O blaid 52, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM1484): For 52, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gibbons, Brian
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val

Marek, John
 Melding, David
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Sinclair, Karen
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

Ethol i'r Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus Elections to the Local Government and Public Services Committee

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I propose that **Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair):** Cynigiau fod

the National Assembly:

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol:

1. *in accordance with Standing Orders No. 8.4, elects the following members to its Local Government and Public Services Committee: Lorraine Barrett (Labour), Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey (Labour), Peter Law (Labour), Janet Ryder (Plaid Cymru), David Lloyd (Plaid Cymru), Glyn Davies (Conservative), Laura Anne Jones (Conservative), Kirsty Williams (Liberal Democrat), and*

1. *yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 8.4, yn ethol yr aelodau canlynol i'w Bwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus: Lorraine Barrett (Llafur), Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey (Llafur), Peter Law (Llafur), Janet Ryder (Plaid Cymru), David Lloyd (Plaid Cymru), Glyn Davies (Ceidwadwyr), Laura Anne Jones (Ceidwadwyr), Kirsty Williams (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol), ac*

2. *in accordance with Standing Order No. 9.3 selects Ann Jones (Labour) from the panel to be the Chair of the Committee. (NDM1485)*

2. *yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 9.3 yn dewis Ann Jones (Llafur) o'r panel i fod yn Gadeirydd y pwyllgor. (NDM1485)*

Janet Ryder: I will address the potential members of this Committee—some have a background in local government, some do not; some were on the previous Committee, some were not. This Committee faces a great deal of work and it is disappointing that it will not meet for some time. I look forward to seeing the work programme set out before the Committee. We not only have the Sunderland commission, which looked into the development of town and community councils, to deal with, but the local government settlement, which we need to start to consider before the summer. Most importantly, the forthcoming local government elections, and what the Assembly can do to increase turnout in those

Janet Ryder: Anerchaf aelodau dichonol y Pwyllgor hwn—mae gan rai ohonynt gefndir mewn llywodraeth leol, ac nid oes gan rai gefndir o'r fath; bu rhai ohonynt ar y Pwyllgor blaenorol, ac ni fu eraill. Mae'r Pwyllgor hwn yn wynebu llawer iawn o waith a thestun siom yw na fydd yn cwrdd am beth amser. Edrychaf ymlaen at weld y rhaglen waith a roddir gerbron y Pwyllgor. Bydd yn rhaid inni ymdrin â chomisiwn Sunderland, a ymchwiliodd i ddatblygiad cynghorau tref a chymuned, yn ogystal â setliad llywodraeth leol, y bydd yn rhaid inni ddechrau ei ystyried cyn yr haf. Yn bwysicaf oll, rhaid ymdrin hefyd â'r etholiadau llywodraeth leol sydd i ddod, a'r hyn y gall y Cynulliad ei wneud i gynyddu nifer y

elections, needs to be addressed. The Local Government and Public Services Committee will surely have a key role to play in developing voter interest in those elections and new forms of voting for those elections.

Peter Law: These contributions underline why I have been trying to persuade my party group to adopt monthly meetings. Rather than waste time on this sort of prevarication from the minority parties, we need to put this through. We want Ministers in constituencies—[*Interruption.*] Do not interrupt; I did not interrupt you. We want Ministers working in constituencies for our people, showing them what we will do and listening to their problems. We not only have scrutiny in monthly meetings, but through the Committees meeting whenever they need to, as far as going out into the communities to undertake special investigations is concerned. We will ask questions of Ministers in the Chamber, and debates will be held in the Chamber, so we should not waste time when we should be helping those who are in need. That is why I believe this is a good suggestion. I do not know why we listen to all of this. We now have a majority; we should act as we think is right. [ASSEMBLY MEMBERS: 'Oh.']

The Presiding Officer: Order.

Nick Bourne: The Member should be ashamed of himself. He knows better; he has already witnessed the tyranny of this majority group, as it cost him the post of Deputy Presiding Officer. He says that Committees should only meet once a month—why not hold meetings once every two months or even once every three months? We all know—

Peter Law *rose*—

Nick Bourne: I will not give way. We all know that much of the Assembly's valuable work is undertaken in Committee. All Assembly Members admit that outside the Chamber. Will the Business Minister stand up and answer the question that everyone is asking of her, namely why cannot we have

pleidleiswyr yn yr etholiadau hynny. Mae'n sicr y bydd rôl allweddol i'r Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus wrth feithrin diddordeb pleidleiswyr yn yr etholiadau hynny a'r ffyrdd newydd o bleidleisio ar gyfer yr etholiadau hynny.

Peter Law: Mae'r cyfraniadau hyn yn dangos pam y bûm yn ceisio darbwyllio fy ngrŵp plaid i fabwysiadu cyfarfodydd misol. Yn hytrach na gwastraffu amser ar y math hwn o anwladu gan y pleidiau lleiafrifol, rhaid inni roi hyn ar waith. Yr ydym am gael Gweinidogion mewn etholaethau—[*Torri ar draws.*] Peidiwch â thorri ar draws; ni thorrais ar eich traws chi. Yr ydym am gael Gweinidogion yn gweithio mewn etholaethau dros ein pobl, yn dangos iddynt yr hyn a wnawn ac yn gwrando ar eu problemau. Yn ogystal â chraffu mewn cyfarfodydd misol, caiff y Pwyllgorau wneud hynny drwy gwrdd yn ôl y galw, o ran mynd allan i gymunedau i gynnal ymchwiliadau arbennig. Holwn gwestiynau i Weinidogion yn y Siambr a chynhelir dadleuon yn y Siambr, felly ni ddylem wastraffu amser pan ddylem fod yn helpu'r rhai sydd mewn angen. Dyna pam y credaf fod hwn yn awgrym da. Ni wn pam yr ydym yn gwrando ar hyn i gyd. Mae gennym fwyafrif bellach; dylem weithredu fel y credwn sy'n iawn. [AELODAU'R CYNULLIAD: 'O.']

Y Llywydd: Trefn.

Nick Bourne: Rhag cywilydd i'r Aelod. Gŵyr yn well na hynny; gwelodd ormes y grŵp mwyafrifol hwn eisoes, gan iddo gostio swydd y Dirprwy Lywydd iddo. Dywed na ddylai Pwyllgorau ond cwrdd unwaith y mis—beth am gynnal cyfarfodydd bob yn ddeufis neu dri mis hyd yn oed? Gwyddom oll—

Peter Law *a gododd*—

Nick Bourne: Ni wnaf ildio. Gwyddom oll fod llawer o waith gwerthfawr y Cynulliad yn cael ei wneud yn y Pwyllgorau. Mae holl Aelodau'r Cynulliad yn cyfaddef hynny y tu allan i'r Siambr. A wnaiff y Trefnydd sefyll ar ei thraed ac ateb y cwestiwn y mae pawb yn ei ofyn iddi, sef pam na allwn gael

fortnightly meetings as we had in the past? What was wrong with that system? Why do you now want monthly meetings? Is it just because you cannot get your Members to serve on these Committees? Do you not believe that valuable work is undertaken in these Committees? If you believe that valuable policy development and scrutiny work is undertaken in Committee, can we not have fortnightly meetings as previously? Perhaps the Minister will now answer those questions, rather than giving us the blanket response that she has nothing to say. That is not why you are in post, Minister.

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I said quite clearly in the debate on the first motion that these motions do not involve the role of Committees or timetables; they involve Committee membership.

cyfarfodydd bob pythefnos fel y cawsom yn y gorffennol? Beth a oedd o'i le ar y system honno? Pam yr ydych am gael cyfarfodydd misol bellach? A yw hynny am na allwch berswadio eich Aelodau i wasanaethu ar y Pwyllgorau hyn? Oni chredwch y gwneir gwaith gwerthfawr yn y Pwyllgorau hyn? Os credwch y gwneir gwaith gwerthfawr o ran datblygu polisi a chraffu yn y Pwyllgorau, oni allwn gael cyfarfodydd bob pythefnos fel y caem o'r blaen? Efallai y gwnaiff y Trefnydd ateb y cwestiynau hynny'n awr, yn hytrach na rhoi inni'r ateb cyffredinol nad oes ganddi ddim i'w ddweud. Nid i wneud hynny yr ydych yn eich swydd, Drefnydd.

Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Dywedais yn gwbl blaen yn y ddadl ar y cynnig cyntaf nad yw'r cynigion hyn yn ymwneud â rôl Pwyllgorau neu amserlenni; maent yn ymwneud ag aelodaeth Pwyllgorau.

*Cynnig (NDM1485): O blaid 58, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM1485): For 58, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gibbons, Brian
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin

Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Marek, John
 Melding, David
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

Ethol i'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio Elections to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I **Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair):** Cynigiaf fod
 propose that

the National Assembly:

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol:

1. in accordance with Standing Order No. 8.4, elects the following members to its Social Justice and Regeneration Committee: Huw Lewis (Labour), Sandy Mewies (Labour), Catherine Thomas (Labour), Leanne Wood (Plaid Cymru), Janet Ryder (Plaid Cymru), William Graham (Conservative), Mark Isherwood (Conservative), Peter Black (Liberal Democrat), and

1. yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 8.4, yn ethol yr aelodau canlynol i'w Bwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio: Huw Lewis (Llafur), Sandy Mewies (Llafur), Catherine Thomas (Llafur), Leanne Wood (Plaid Cymru), Janet Ryder (Plaid Cymru), William Graham (Ceidwadwyr), Mark Isherwood (Ceidwadwyr), Peter Black (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol), ac

2. in accordance with Standing Order No. 9.3 selects Janice Gregory (Labour) from the panel to be the Chair of the Committee. (NDM1486)

2. yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 9.3 yn dewis Janice Gregory (Llafur) o'r panel i fod yn Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor. (NDM1486)

*Cynnig (NDM1486): O blaid 58, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
 Motion (NDM1486): For 58, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gibbons, Brian
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Marek, John
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

**Ethol i'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Elections to the Health and Social Services Committee**

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I Y Trefnydd **(Karen Sinclair):** Cynigaf fod
propose that

the National Assembly:

1. in accordance with Standing Order No. 8.4, elects the following members to its Health and Social Services Committee: John Griffiths (Labour), Ann Jones (Labour), Val Lloyd (Labour), Gwenda Thomas (Labour), Jocelyn Davies (Plaid Cymru), David Lloyd (Plaid Cymru), Jonathan Morgan (Conservative), Kirsty Williams (Liberal Democrat), and

2. in accordance with Standing Order No. 9.3 selects David Melding (Conservative) from the panel to be the Chair of the Committee. (NDM1487)

David Lloyd: I am sorry to disappoint a member of the Government, but a debate on Committee membership also involves the issue of when those Committees will meet. When, otherwise, could we debate this important issue? I support the call for Committees to meet every two weeks. To suggest a longer timeframe, particularly for the Health and Social Services Committee, is perverse. This Committee is responsible for a budget that exceeds £4 billion a year. It is a huge portfolio, and if we are to take it on board and scrutinise it seriously, the Committee needs to meet at least every fortnight. Members of the previous Health and Social Services Committee are well aware of the time pressures upon that Committee. As a result of pressure of work, we were often forced to hold additional meetings on Thursday afternoons. To suggest that the Committee should meet less often is, frankly, perverse, not only given the huge agenda that the Committee must scrutinise, but also given the huge problems that undoubtedly exist in health and social services. If everything was going swimmingly and was nice and normal, you could possibly argue that we needed less scrutiny but, frankly, given the waiting list position, that is not the case. We need more scrutiny. Yet another disastrous social services joint review report has just been published, but you suggest that less scrutiny is required. Business Minister, that suggestion is perverse; you should think again.

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol:

1. yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 8.4, yn ethol yr aelodau canlynol i'w Bwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol: John Griffiths (Llafur), Ann Jones (Llafur), Val Lloyd (Llafur), Gwenda Thomas (Llafur), Jocelyn Davies (Plaid Cymru), David Lloyd (Plaid Cymru), Jonathan Morgan (Ceidwadwyr), Kirsty Williams (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol), ac

2. yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 9.3 yn dewis David Melding (Ceidwadwyr) o'r panel i fod yn Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor. (NDM1487)

David Lloyd: Mae'n ddrwg gennyf siomi aelod o'r Llywodraeth, ond credaf fod dadl ar aelodaeth Pwyllgor hefyd yn ymwneud â pha bryd y cyferfydd y Pwyllgorau hynny. Pa bryd, fel arall, y gallem drafod y mater pwysig hwn? Ategap yr alwad am i Bwyllgorau gwrdd bob pythefnos. Gwrthnysig yw awgrymu cyfnod hwy, yn enwedig yn achos y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Mae'r Pwyllgor hwn yn gyfrifol am gyllideb o fwy na £4 biliwn y flwyddyn. Mae'n bortffolio enfawr, ac os ydym i'w ystyried a chraffu arno o ddifrif, rhaid i'r Pwyllgor gwrdd bob pythefnos o leiaf. Mae aelodau'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol blaenorol yn ymwybodol iawn o'r pwysau amser sydd ar y Pwyllgor hwnnw. O ganlyniad i bwysau gwaith, fe'n gorfodwyd yn aml i gynnal cyfarfodydd ychwanegol ar brynhawniau Iau. Mae awgrymu y dylai'r Pwyllgor gwrdd yn llai aml yn wrthnysig, a dweud y gwir, nid yn unig o gofio'r agenda anferth y mae'n rhaid i'r Pwyllgor graffu arni, ond hefyd o gofio'r problemau anferth sy'n sicr yn bodoli mewn iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol. Os oedd popeth yn mynd yn rhwydd ac yn braf ac yn normal, efallai y gallech ddadlau bod arnom angen llai o graffu ond, a siarad yn blwmp ac yn blaen, o gofio'r sefyllfa o ran rhestrau aros, nid felly y mae. Mae arnom angen rhagor o graffu. Mae adroddiad trychinebus arall ar adolygiad ar y cyd o wasanaethau cymdeithasol newydd ei gyhoeddi, ond yr ydych yn awgrymu bod angen llai o graffu. Drefnydd, mae'r awgrym hwnnw'n

wrthnysig; dylech ailfeddwl.

Rosemary Butler: Standing Orders relating to this issue have remained unchanged since the first Assembly. Ministers are scrutinised once a month in Committee. They must answer questions in Committee once a month, and that will remain the case. They must also answer questions in Plenary once a month. However, whatever the Committee timetable that is decided upon, will the leaders of the opposition parties ensure that their Members turn up and stay at Committee meetings, not just pop in and out?

Rosemary Butler: Nid yw'r Rheolau Sefydlog sy'n ymwneud â'r mater hwn wedi newid ers y Cynulliad cyntaf. Holir Gweinidogion unwaith y mis yn y Pwyllgor. Rhaid iddynt ateb cwestiynau yn y Pwyllgor unwaith y mis, ac felly y bydd o hyd. Rhaid iddynt hefyd ateb cwestiynau yn y Cyfarfod Llawn unwaith y mis. Fodd bynnag, pa bynnag amserlen Pwyllgorau y penderfynir arni, a wnaiff arweinyddion y gwrthbleidiau sicrhau bod eu Haelodau'n dod i gyfarfodydd Pwyllgor ac yn aros yno, ac nid dim ond taro i mewn ac allan?

2.20 p.m.

Jonathan Morgan: I agree with Dai Lloyd's comments. During the first Assembly, we worked according to the premise that the Committees had three functions: to scrutinise the Minister; to consider secondary legislation—although we have not done much of that; and to consider policy development. Those are three important functions that our Committees undertake. Committees represent the most innovative and imaginative part of the work of this devolved institution. We cannot be expected, as an Assembly, to carry out those three functions effectively if we only meet once every three weeks. If this Government proceeds with the farcical proposal of having Committees meet less frequently, it would make it impossible for us to undertake the functions of the Subject Committees. That is particularly true of the Health and Social Services Committee, which has an enormous remit in terms of its responsibility for the health and social care of the people of Wales. The proposal must be resisted, and the Government must listen to the voices of the opposition, who are concerned about the process that the Government has begun.

Jonathan Morgan: Cytunaf â sylwadau Dai Lloyd. Yn ystod y Cynulliad cyntaf, gwnaethom weithio ar y cynsail bod tair swyddogaeth i'r Pwyllgorau: holi'r Gweinidog; ystyried is-ddeddfwriaeth—er na wnaethom lawer o hynny; ac ystyried datblygu polisi. Dyna dair swyddogaeth bwysig y mae ein Pwyllgorau'n eu cyflawni. Pwyllgorau yw'r rhan fwyaf arloesol a llawn dychymyg o waith y sefydliad datganoledig hwn. Ni ellir disgwyl inni gyflawni'r tair swyddogaeth hynny'n effeithiol, fel Cynulliad, os na fyddwn ond yn cwrdd unwaith bob tair wythnos. Os gwnaiff y Llywodraeth hon fwrw ymlaen â'r cynnig chwerthinllyd o beri i Bwyllgorau gwrdd yn llai aml, fe'i gwnâi'n amhosibl inni gyflawni swyddogaethau'r Pwyllgorau Pwnc. Mae hynny'n arbennig o wir am y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, sydd â chylch gorchwyl anferth o ran ei gyfrifoldeb dros iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol pobl Cymru. Rhaid gwrthsefyll y cynnig, a rhaid i'r Llywodraeth wrando ar leisau'r wrthblaid, sy'n bryderus ynghylch y broses y mae'r Llywodraeth wedi ei chychwyn.

Kirsty Williams: As someone who served as a Chair throughout the first Assembly, I am only too aware of the pressures that Dai Lloyd mentioned with regard to the health and social services agenda. Party spokespeople were often unable to bring matters before the Committee because of time constraints. We wanted to grasp hold of the legislative function with which the

Kirsty Williams: Fel un a wasanaethodd fel Cadeirydd drwy'r Cynulliad cyntaf ar ei hyd, yr wyf yn ymwybodol iawn o'r pwysau y cyfeiriodd Dai Lloyd atynt o ran yr agenda iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol. Yn aml, nid oedd modd i lefaryddion y pleidiau ddod â materion gerbron y Pwyllgor oherwydd cyfyngiadau amser. Yr oeddem am fynd i'r afael â'r swyddogaeth

Assembly and its Committees have been empowered, but we were often forced to make difficult choices about which statutory instruments we could scrutinise. For me, the most valuable part of the Health and Social Services Committee's work was the wonderful investigations that we were able to carry out. We could not have done that if we had met less frequently. Also, in meeting less frequently, we would have had fewer opportunities to invite expert witnesses to meetings and to inform us about what was going on in the real world—the very thing that Peter Law said he wanted.

I understand that the *raison d'être* behind these proposals is to enable the Committees to get out and about. Committees got out and about during the first Assembly. The Culture Committee travelled to north Wales; the Health and Social Services Committee held a meeting in Brecon and in Rhyl. There were plenty of opportunities for people to get out and about. We discovered in the Health and Social Services Committee, that, due to the pressure on people's diaries, informal meetings were unsuccessful: only two Members attended a formal session at Port Talbot; I was the only Member to attend a meeting in Swansea; the Minister and I were the only ones to attend an informal Committee meeting in Cardiff. It is not appropriate for Rosemary to say that it is the party's fault if its Members do not attend Committee meetings. Labour Members were unable to attend informal meetings because of time constraints.

This proposal will not work. The Government must listen. Peter Law said it all when he said that now that the Labour Party had a majority, anything goes. The role of the backbenchers will be reduced, as will the role of this Assembly as a corporate body. The Labour Party wants to turn this place into something similar to the local councils that it has been running for years.

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): There is no need to respond again. I commend the motion.

ddeddfwriaethol a roddwyd i'r Cynulliad a'i Bwyllgorau, ond yn aml gorfu inni wneud dewisiadau anodd ynghylch pa offerynnau statudol y gallem graffu arnynt. Yn fy ngolwg i, y rhan fwyaf gwerthfawr o waith y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol oedd yr ymchwiliadau gwych y gallem eu cyflawni. Ni allem fod wedi gwneud hynny pe baem wedi cwrdd yn llai aml. Hefyd, wrth gwrdd yn llai aml, cawsem lai o gyfleoedd i wahodd arbenigwyr i gyfarfodydd i roi tystiolaeth inni ynglŷn â'r hyn a oedd yn mynd ymlaen yn y byd go iawn—yr union beth y dywedodd Peter Law ei fod yn dymuno ei gael.

Deallaf mai'r rheswm dros y cynigion hyn yw'r bwriad i alluogi Pwyllgorau i deithio. Bu Pwyllgorau yn teithio yn ystod y Cynulliad cyntaf. Aeth y Pwyllgor Diwylliant i'r Gogledd; cynhaliodd y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol gyfarfodydd yn Aberhonddu ac yn y Rhyl. Yr oedd digon o gyfleoedd i bobl deithio. Fel y gwelodd y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, oherwydd y pwysau ar ddyddiaduron pobl, yr oedd cyfarfodydd anffurfiol yn aflwyddianus: dim ond dau Aelod a ddaeth i sesiwn ffurfiol ym Mhort Talbot; myfi oedd yr unig Aelod a oedd yn bresennol mewn cyfarfod yn Abertawe; y Gweinidog a mi oedd yr unig rai a ddaeth i gyfarfod anffurfiol o'r Pwyllgor yng Nghaerdydd. Nid yw'n briodol i Rosemary ddweud mai ar y blaid y mae'r bai os na ddaw ei Haelodau i gyfarfodydd Pwyllgor. Ni fu modd i Aelodau Llafur ddod i gyfarfodydd anffurfiol oherwydd cyfyngiadau ar amser.

Ni wnaiff y cynnig hwn weithio. Rhaid i'r Llywodraeth wrando. Dywedodd Peter Law y cwbl pan ddywedodd y gwnaiff rhywbeth y tro, gan fod mwyafrif bellach gan y Blaid Lafur. Bydd rôl Aelodau meinciau cefn yn llai, fel y bydd rôl y Cynulliad hwn fel corff corfforaethol. Mae'r Blaid Lafur am droi'r lle hwn yn rhywbeth tebyg i'r cynghorau lleol y bu'n eu rhedeg ers blynyddoedd.

Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Nid oes angen ymateb eto. Cymeradwyaf y cynnig.

*Cynnig (NDM1487): O blaid 58, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM1487): For 58, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gibbons, Brian
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Marek, John
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

Ethol i'r Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth Elections to the Economic Development and Transport Committee

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I propose that

the National Assembly:

1. in accordance with Standing Order No. 8.4, elects the following members to its Economic Development and Transport Committee: Christine Chapman (Labour), Brian Gibbons (Labour), Lynne Neagle (Labour), Elin Jones (Plaid Cymru), Janet Davies (Plaid Cymru), Alun Cairns (Conservative), Lisa Francis (Conservative), Jenny Randerson (Liberal Democrat), and

2. in accordance with Standing Order No. 9.3 selects Christine Gwyther (Labour) from the panel to be the Chair of the Committee. (NDM1488)

Elin Jones: Fel aelod arfaethedig o'r Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth, gwrthwynebaf y syniad o'r Pwyllgorau, a'r Pwyllgor hwn yn benodol, yn cwrdd unwaith y mis yn unig. Yr oedd sylwadau Peter Law yn gywilyddus o annemocrataidd. Bradychodd wir safbwynt Llafur ar ddemocratiaeth a chraffu: nad yw Llafur am weld craffu yn ein corff democrataidd cenedlaethol. Yr wyf yn cynrychioli pobl Ceredigion yn y Siambr, a disgwyliaf i'r Llywodraeth a'r Trefnydd roi cyfleoedd imi gynrychioli barn pobl Ceredigion a chraffu ar waith y Llywodraeth.

Gwnaf ddau bwynt ymarferol ar fy mhrofiad innau o'r Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd dros y tair blynedd diwethaf. Mae'r agenda yn orlawn bob pythefnos. Ar sawl achlysur, yr ydym wedi gorfod gohirio trafodaeth. Cofiaf un achlysur pan ddaeth 10 aelod o staff Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru i'r Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd. Ni chyrrhaeddwyd yr eitem ar yr agenda a oedd yn ymdrin â WEFO, a gorfu i'r 10 person hynny fynd adref heb gyfrannu at y drafodaeth.

Yr ydym wedi derbyn galwadau lu am gyfarfodydd ac eitemau ychwanegol, a

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol:

1. yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 8.4, yn ethol yr aelodau canlynol i'w Bwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth: Christine Chapman (Llafur), Brian Gibbons (Llafur), Lynne Neagle (Llafur), Elin Jones (Plaid Cymru), Janet Davies (Plaid Cymru), Alun Cairns (Ceidwadwyr), Lisa Francis (Ceidwadwyr), Jenny Randerson (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol), ac

2. yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 9.3 yn dewis Christine Gwyther (Llafur) o'r panel i fod yn Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor. (NDM1488)

Elin Jones: As a prospective member of the Economic Development and Transport Committee, I reject the suggestion that Committees, and this Committee in particular, meet only once a month. Peter Law's comments were disgracefully undemocratic. He betrayed Labour's true stance on democracy and scrutiny: it does not wish to see scrutiny in our national democratic body. I represent the people of Ceredigion in the Chamber, and I expect the Government and the Business Minister to give me opportunities to represent the views of the people of Ceredigion and to scrutinise the Government's work.

I will make two practical points about my experience of the Economic Development Committee over the past three years. The agenda is full to overflowing every fortnight. On a number of occasions, we have had to defer discussions. On one occasion, 10 Welsh European Funding Office staff attended a meeting of the Economic Development Committee. We did not reach the agenda item involving WEFO, and those 10 people had to return home without contributing to the discussion.

We have received numerous calls for additional meetings and agenda items, and

chyfarfodydd anffurfiol er mwyn inni allu cyflawni'n gwaith. Nid llai o gyfarfodydd o'r Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd sydd eu hangen, ond mwy: nid unwaith y mis, ond unwaith yr wythnos. Gwrthwynebam y syniad o gynnal cyfarfodydd Pwyllgor unwaith y mis, fel y dymuna Llafur.

Leighton Andrews: I am a new Member of the Assembly. My constituents will believe that the last 30 minutes of opposition filibustering have been a waste of time and a pathetic way of considering the work of this Assembly. [*Interruption.*]

The Presiding Officer: Order.

Leighton Andrews: Many of us have tabled important questions for answer this afternoon. I am eager to discuss a report on the Valleys that raises important issues about the future of my constituency and community. Presiding Officer, I hope that you will deduct the 30 minutes that we have wasted from the time allowed for the Conservatives' minority party debate today. The opposition parties are only interested in issues of protest and procedure; they have not voted against even one of today's motions.

The Presiding Officer: Order. I am aware of the delicate balance between process and decision-making in any elected Assembly. I am also aware of the way in which parliamentary procedure is used world-wide for opposition parties to make the kind of points that they are making today. I will always allow Members to make their points provided that they are in order.

2.30 p.m.

Alun Cairns: As the only original member of the former Economic Development Committee, I underline some of Elin Jones's earlier comments. A fortnightly meeting was not often enough. Additional meetings were slotted in regularly to deal with the workload. Elin Jones has already highlighted one of several occasions when items on the agenda had to be rescheduled. Surely it is up to the Committees to decide how often they meet, but it should be at least fortnightly. Our colleagues in the Scottish Parliament meet

for informal meetings to enable us to carry out our work. We need more Economic Development Committee meetings rather than fewer: not once a month, but once a week. I oppose the idea of holding Committee meetings once a month, as Labour wishes.

Leighton Andrews: Yr wyf yn Aelod newydd o'r Cynulliad. Bydd fy etholwyr yn credu bod y 30 munud diwethaf o herwddadlau gan yr wrthblaid yn wastraff amser ac yn fodd pathetig o ystyried gwaith y Cynulliad hwn. [*Torri ar draws.*]

Y Llywydd: Trefn.

Leighton Andrews: Mae llawer ohonom wedi cyflwyno cwestiynau pwysig i'w hateb y prynhawn yma. Yr wyf yn awyddus i drafod adroddiad ar y Cymoedd sy'n codi materion pwysig ynghylch dyfodol fy etholaeth a'm cymuned. Lywydd, gobeithiaf y byddwch yn tynnu'r 30 munud yr ydym wedi'u gwastraffu o'r amser a ganiateir ar gyfer dadl plaid leiafrifol y Ceidwadwyr heddiw. Unig ddiddordeb y gwrthbleidiau yw materion yn ymwneud â phrotest a gweithdrefn; ni wnaethant bleidleisio yn erbyn yr un o'r cynigion heddiw.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Yr wyf yn ymwybodol o'r cydbwysedd bregus rhwng proses a phenderfynu mewn unrhyw Gynulliad etholedig. Yr wyf hefyd yn ymwybodol o'r modd y defnyddir gweithdrefn seneddol ledled y byd er mwyn i wrthbleidiau wneud y math o bwyntiau a wnânt heddiw. Byddaf wastad yn caniatáu i Aelodau wneud eu pwyntiau ar yr amod eu bod mewn trefn.

Alun Cairns: Fel yr unig aelod gwreiddiol o'r cyn Bwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd, ategaf rai o sylwadau cynharach Elin Jones. Yn aml, nid oedd cyfarfod bob pythefnos yn ddigon. Gwnaed lle i gyfarfodydd ychwanegol yn rheolaidd er mwyn delio â'r llwyth gwaith. Mae Elin Jones wedi tynnu sylw eisoes at un o'r nifer o achlysuron pan fu'n rhaid ailamserlennu eitemau ar yr agenda. Siawns nad mater i'r Pwyllgorau yw penderfynu pa mor aml y cyfarfyddant, ond dylai fod yn unwaith y pythefnos o leiaf. Mae

weekly. In response to Leighton Andrews's comment that the opposition parties are, no-one is filibustering more than the Labour Government, as it will not bring forward its work programme for the next few months. This period is a waste of time because the Government is not bringing forward any legislation. It is time for the Government to use the Assembly properly. Unless the Assembly Government tries to dig itself out of this hole, the cynics and the sceptics will continue to think negatively about the Assembly.

Aelodau Senedd yr Alban yn cwrdd bob wythnos. Mewn ymateb i sylw Leighton Andrews i'r perwyl bod y gwrthbleidiau'n herwddadlau, nid oes neb yn herwddadlau'n fwy na'r Llywodraeth Lafur, gan na wnaiff gyflwyno ei rhaglen waith ar gyfer yr ychydig fisoedd nesaf. Mae'r cyfnod hwn yn wastraff amser gan nad yw'r Llywodraeth yn cyflwyno unrhyw ddeddfwriaeth. Mae'n bryd i'r Llywodraeth ddefnyddio'r Cynulliad yn iawn. Os na wnaiff Llywodraeth y Cynulliad geisio dod o'r twll hwn, bydd y sinigiaid a'r amheuwyr yn dal i feddwl yn negyddol am y Cynulliad.

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): Let me make it clear that we are not discussing timetables today; we are discussing Committee membership.

Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Gadewch imi egluro nad ydym yn trafod amserlenni heddiw; yr ydym yn trafod aelodaeth Pwyllgorau.

*Cynnig (NDM1488): O blaid 58, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM1488): For 58, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gibbons, Brian
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne

Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Marek, John
 Melding, David
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

Ethol i'r Pwyllgor Archwilio Elections to the Audit Committee

Y Llywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliant 1 yn enw Karen Sinclair.

The Presiding Officer: I have selected amendment 1 in the name of Karen Sinclair.

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I propose that

Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Cynigiau fod

the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order Nos. 8.4 and 12.1, elects the following Assembly Members to its Audit Committee: Leighton Andrews (Labour), Christine Gwyther (Labour), Denise Idris Jones (Labour), Val Lloyd (Labour), Carl Sargeant (Labour), Janet Davies (Plaid Cymru), Jocelyn Davies (Plaid Cymru), Alun Cairns (Conservative), Mark Isherwood (Conservative), Jenny Randerson (Liberal Democrat);

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, yn unol â Rheolau Sefydlog Rhifau 8.4 a 12.1, yn ethol yr Aelodau Cynulliad canlynol i'w Bwyllgor Archwilio: Leighton Andrews (Llafur), Christine Gwyther (Llafur), Denise Idris Jones (Llafur), Val Lloyd (Llafur), Carl Sargeant (Llafur), Janet Davies (Plaid Cymru), Jocelyn Davies (Plaid Cymru), Alun Cairns (Ceidwadwyr), Mark Isherwood (Ceidwadwyr), Jenny Randerson (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol);

and elects Janet Davies (Plaid Cymru) to be the Chair of the Committee. (NDM1491)

ac yn ethol Janet Davies (Plaid Cymru) i fod yn Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor. (NDM1491)

I propose amendment 1: delete the name 'Jenny Randerson' and replace with the name 'Mick Bates'.

Cynigiau welliant 1: dileu'r enw 'Jenny Randerson' a rhoi'r enw 'Mick Bates' yn ei le.

Janet Davies: We all know that, over the last four years, the Audit Committee only met once a month. Comments have been made about cutting the amount of time that Subject Committees have for scrutiny: if they cannot

Janet Davies: Yr ydym oll yn gwybod na chyfarfu'r Pwyllgor Archwilio ond unwaith y mis dros y pedair blynedd diwethaf. Gwnaed sylwadau am dorri'r amser sydd ar gael i Bwyllgorau Pwnc ar gyfer craffu: os na allant

scrutinise properly, there is a danger that the Audit Committee could have to meet more frequently to pick up the pieces. The ELWa issue should have given people a hearty warning about scrutiny.

graffu'n briodol, mae perygl y byddai'r Pwyllgor Archwilio'n gorfod cwrdd yn amlach i glirio'r llanastr. Dylai mater ELWa fod wedi rhoi rhybudd cryf i bobl ynghylch craffu.

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): That is up to the Audit Committee. I commend the motion and the amendment to the Assembly.

Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Mater i'r Pwyllgor Archwilio yw hynny. Cymeradwyaf y cynnig a'r gwelliant i'r Cynulliad.

*Gwelliant 1: O blaid 53, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 1: For 53, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gibbons, Brian
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Marek, John
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen

Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty
Wood, Leanne

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment accepted.

Cynnig (NDM1491): O blaid 58, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM1491): For 58, Abstain 0, Against 0.

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gibbons, Brian
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Marek, John
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl

Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

Pwynt o Drefn Point of Order

Nick Bourne: Point of order. There are many people in the Chamber, but the number does not seem to be reflected in the first vote.

Nick Bourne: Pwynt o drefn. Mae llawer o bobl yn y Siambr, ond nid ymddengys fod y nifer wedi'i hadlewyrchu yn y bleidlais gyntaf.

The Presiding Officer: If there were any doubt as to the result, I would consider the matter further. Maybe people are getting tired of the voting process. There does not seem to be a doubt concerning the technology: the vote will stand.

Y Llywydd: Pe byddai unrhyw amheuaeth ynghylch y canlyniad, ystyriwn y mater ymhellach. Efallai fod pobl yn blino ar y broses bleidleisio. Nid ymddengys bod amheuaeth ynghylch y dechnoleg: bydd y bleidlais yn sefyll.

Ethol i'r Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal Elections to the Committee on Equality of Opportunity

Y Llywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliant 1 yn enw Karen Sinclair.

The Presiding Officer: I have selected amendment 1 in the name of Karen Sinclair.

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I propose that

Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Cynigiau fod

the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Orders Nos. 8.4 and 14.3, elects the following Assembly Members to its Committee on Equality of Opportunity: Lorraine Barrett (Labour), John Griffiths (Labour), Huw Lewis (Labour), Catherine Thomas (Labour), Gwenda Thomas (Labour), Leanne Wood (Plaid Cymru), Helen Mary Jones (Plaid Cymru), David Davies (Conservative), Lisa Francis (Conservative), Mick Bates (Liberal Democrat);

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, yn unol â Rheolau Sefydlog Rhifau 8.4 a 14.3, yn ethol yr Aelodau Cynulliad canlynol i'w Bwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal: Lorraine Barrett (Llafur), John Griffiths (Llafur), Huw Lewis (Llafur), Catherine Thomas (Llafur), Gwenda Thomas (Llafur), Leanne Wood (Plaid Cymru), Helen Mary Jones (Plaid Cymru), David Davies (Ceidwadwyr), Lisa Francis (Ceidwadwyr), Mick Bates (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol);

and elects Gwenda Thomas (Labour) to be the Chair of the Committee. (NDM1492)

ac yn ethol Gwenda Thomas (Llafur) i fod yn Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor. (NDM1492)

I propose amendment 1: delete the name 'Mick Bates' and replace with the name 'Jenny Randerson'.

Cynigiau welliant 1: dileu'r enw 'Mick Bates' a rhoi'r enw 'Jenny Randerson' yn ei le.

*Gwelliant 1: O blaid 58, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 1: For 58, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gibbons, Brian
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Marek, John
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty
Wood, Leanne

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.

Amendment accepted.

*Cynnig (NDM1492): O blaid 58, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM1492): For 58, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gibbons, Brian
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Marek, John
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

Ethol i'r Pwyllgor Deddfau Elections to the Legislation Committee

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Cynigaf fod propose that

the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Orders Nos. 8.4 and 11.1, elects the following Assembly Members to its Legislation Committee: Rosemary Butler (Labour), Christine Chapman (Labour), Jeff Cuthbert (Labour), Irene James (Labour), Catherine Thomas (Labour), David Lloyd (Plaid Cymru), Elin Jones (Plaid Cymru), Glyn Davies (Conservative), Laura Anne Jones (Conservative), Eleanor Burnham (Liberal Democrat);

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, yn unol â Rheolau Sefydlog Rhifau 8.4 a 11.1, yn ethol yr Aelodau Cynulliad canlynol i'w Bwyllgor Deddfau: Rosemary Butler (Llafur), Christine Chapman (Llafur), Jeff Cuthbert (Llafur), Irene James (Llafur), Catherine Thomas (Llafur), David Lloyd (Plaid Cymru), Elin Jones (Plaid Cymru), Glyn Davies (Ceidwadwyr), Laura Anne Jones (Ceidwadwyr), Eleanor Burnham (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol);

and elects Glyn Davies (Conservative) to be the Chair of the Committee. (NDM1489)

ac yn ethol Glyn Davies (Ceidwadwyr) i fod yn Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor. (NDM1489)

*Cynnig (NDM1489): O blaid 58, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM1489): For 58, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gibbons, Brian
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred

Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Marek, John
 Melding, David
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

Ethol i'r Pwyllgor Safonau Ymddygiad Elections to the Committee on Standards of Conduct

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Cynigaf fod propose that

the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Orders Nos. 8.4 and 16.2, elects the following Assembly Members to its Committee on Standards of Conduct: Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey (Labour), Jeff Cuthbert (Labour), Sandy Mewies (Labour), Lynne Neagle (Labour), Gwenda Thomas (Labour), Jocelyn Davies (Plaid Cymru), Owen John Thomas (Plaid Cymru), Brynle Williams (Conservative), David Davies (Conservative);

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, yn unol â Rheolau Sefydlog Rhifau 8.4 a 16.2, yn ethol yr Aelodau Cynulliad canlynol i'w Bwyllgor Safonau Ymddygiad: Tamsin Dunwoody-Kneafsey (Llafur), Jeff Cuthbert (Llafur), Sandy Mewies (Llafur), Lynne Neagle (Llafur), Gwenda Thomas (Llafur), Jocelyn Davies (Plaid Cymru), Owen John Thomas (Plaid Cymru), Brynle Williams (Ceidwadwyr), David Davies (Ceidwadwyr);

and elects Kirsty Williams (Liberal Democrat) to be the Chair of the Committee. (NDM1490)

ac yn ethol Kirsty Williams (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol) i fod yn Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor. (NDM1490)

*Cynnig (NDM1490): O blaid 58, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
 Motion (NDM1490): For 58, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Butler, Rosemary
 Cairns, Alun
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, David
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Graham, William
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 Isherwood, Mark
 James, Irene
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Marek, John
 Melding, David
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

Ethol i'r Pwyllgor Materion Ewropeaidd ac Allanol
Elections to the Committee on European and External Affairs

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Cynigiau fod propose that

the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Orders Nos. 8.4 and 15.4, elects the following Assembly Members to its Committee on European and External Affairs: Rhodri Morgan (Labour), Rosemary Butler (Labour), Christine Chapman (Labour), Christine Gwyther (Labour), Sandy Mewies (Labour), Ieuan Wyn Jones (Plaid Cymru), Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Plaid Cymru), Nick Bourne (Conservative), Jonathan Morgan (Conservative), Michael German (Liberal Democrat);

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, yn unol â Rheolau Sefydlog Rhifau 8.4 a 15.4, yn ethol yr Aelodau Cynulliad canlynol i'w Bwyllgor Materion Ewropeaidd ac Allanol: Rhodri Morgan (Llafur), Rosemary Butler (Llafur), Christine Chapman (Llafur), Christine Gwyther (Llafur), Sandy Mewies (Llafur), Ieuan Wyn Jones (Plaid Cymru), Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Plaid Cymru), Nick Bourne (Ceidwadwyr), Jonathan Morgan (Ceidwadwyr), Michael German (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol);

and elects Sandy Mewies (Labour) to be the Chair of the Committee. (NDM1493)

ac yn ethol Sandy Mewies (Llafur) i fod yn Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor. (NDM1493)

*Cynnig (NDM1493): O blaid 58, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
 Motion (NDM1493): For 58, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Butler, Rosemary
 Cairns, Alun
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, David
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Graham, William
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 Isherwood, Mark
 James, Irene
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Elin

Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Marek, John
 Melding, David
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

Cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog Questions to the First Minister

Cyrff a Noddir gan y Cynulliad (Contractau) Assembly Sponsored Bodies (Contracts)

Q1 David Davies: Has the First Minister had any discussions with Welsh Assembly Government Ministers about preventing National Assembly sponsored bodies from awarding contracts in an irregular fashion? (OAQ24252)

C1 David Davies: A yw'r Prif Weinidog wedi cael unrhyw drafodaethau gyda Gweinidogion Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru am atal cyrff a noddir gan y Cynulliad rhag dyfarnu contractau mewn dull afreolaidd? (OAQ24252)

The First Minister (Rhodri Morgan): The Assembly Government's response to the Audit Committee's report and recommendations on the ELWa—National Council accounts for 2001-02 was issued on 20 May and it agreed with nearly all of the Committee's recommendations on procurement compliance. The Permanent Secretary, in his role as principal accounting officer, wrote on the same day to Assembly sponsored public body accounting officers—their chief executives—reiterating the need to comply with established procurement procedures. That letter was also issued to our senior civil servants. It is important to note that the Auditor General for Wales, in his last report on this subject, stated that standards of

Y Prif Weinidog (Rhodri Morgan): Cyhoeddwyd ymateb Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i adroddiad ac argymhellion y Pwyllgor Archwilio ar gyfrifon ELWa—y Cyngor Cenedlaethol ar gyfer 2001-02 ar 20 Mai a chytunodd â bron bob un o argymhellion y Pwyllgor ar gydymffurfio wrth gaffael. Yr un diwrnod, ysgrifennodd yr Ysgrifennydd Parhaol, yn ei rôl fel prif swyddog cyfrifo, at swyddogion cyfrifo cyrff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad—eu prif weithredwyr—gan ailddatgan yr angen i gydymffurfio â gweithdrefnau caffael sefydledig. Anfonwyd y llythyr hwnnw hefyd at ein huwch weision sifil. Mae'n bwysig nodi bod Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru, yn ei adroddiad diwethaf ar y pwnc hwn, wedi

financial control across the public sector in Wales are good.

David Davies: The First Minister correctly ascertained the direction of my question but managed to avoid answering it. I asked what discussions he has had with National Assembly Government Ministers about this issue. He knows that the Auditor General has criticised ELWa for awarding £2.25 million irregularly, and he knows that there was criticism of a £4 million advance payment. Has the First Minister discussed whether any other advance payments were made? If not, why is he not interested?

The First Minister: The preamble to your question was, as usual, the reason why your question was ruinous and out of order. If you start by saying that the moon is made of green cheese, therefore these consequences will follow, they will do so; but, unfortunately, the moon is not made of green cheese. The only report to date has been on the £2.25 million in relation to procurement. Audit investigations into the issue of the £4 million involving the Pop Factory are ongoing. We will hear more when the National Audit Office has completed its work. You should not conflate the two points: one has completed its audit cycle and the other is in the middle of doing so. It would therefore be out of order for me to comment on that matter—indeed, I cannot do so until the National Audit Office has completed its work.

2.40 p.m.

The Presiding Officer: To avoid doubt, the First Minister means ‘out of order’ in the slang sense rather than in the procedural sense of the phrase.

The First Minister: Yes, I do.

The Presiding Officer: Shall I repeat my cockney slang? It did not work well. [*Laughter.*]

Helen Mary Jones: To bring us back from the moon and down to earth, in the context of awarding contracts, will the First Minister

dweud bod safonau rheolaeth ariannol yn dda drwy'r sector cyhoeddus yng Nghymru.

David Davies: Canfu'r Prif Weinidog gyfeiriad fy nghwestiwn yn iawn ond llwyddodd i beidio â'i ateb. Gofynnais pa drafodaethau a gafodd â Gweinidogion Llywodraeth y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol am y mater hwn. Gŵyr fod yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol wedi beirniadu ELWa am ddyfarnu £2.25 miliwn yn afreolaidd, a gŵyr fod beirniadaeth am daliad ymlaen llaw o £4 miliwn. A yw'r Prif Weinidog wedi trafod a fu unrhyw daliadau ymlaen llaw eraill? Os nad yw, pam nad yw'n ymddiddori yn hynny?

Y Prif Weinidog: Y rhagymadrodd i'ch cwestiwn, yn ôl yr arfer, yw'r rheswm pam fod eich cwestiwn yn andwyol ac allan o drefn. Os dechreuwch drwy ddweud bod y lleuad wedi'i wneud o gaws gwyrdd, ac felly y bydd y canlyniadau hyn yn dilyn, gwnânt hynny; ond, gwaetha'r modd, nid yw'r lleuad wedi'i wneud o gaws gwyrdd. Yr unig adroddiad a gafwyd hyd yn hyn oedd yr un ar y £2.25 miliwn mewn cysylltiad â chaffael. Mae'r ymchwiliadau archwilio i fater y £4 miliwn sy'n ymwneud â'r Pop Factory yn mynd rhagddynt. Clywn ragor wedi i'r Swyddfa Archwilio Genedlaethol gwblhau ei gwaith. Ni ddylech gyfuno'r ddau bwynt: mae un wedi cwblhau ei gylch archwilio ac mae'r llall ar ganol gwneud hynny. Gan hynny, byddai allan o drefn imi wneud sylw am y mater hwnnw—yn wir, ni allaf wneud hynny hyd nes y bydd y Swyddfa Archwilio Genedlaethol wedi cwblhau ei gwaith.

Y Llywydd: Fel na fydd amheuaeth, mae'r Prif Weinidog yn golygu ‘allan o drefn’ yn ystyr yr ymadrodd sathredig yn hytrach na'r ymadrodd gweithdrefnol.

Y Prif Weinidog: Ydwyf.

Y Llywydd: A wnaiff ailadrodd fy mrtiaith cocni? Ni weithiodd yn dda. [*Chwerthin.*]

Helen Mary Jones: Er mwyn dod â ni'n ôl o'r lleuad ac i'r ddaear, yng nghyd-destun dyfarnu contractau, a wnaiff y Prif Weinidog

and his Cabinet consider examining, in the interests of transparency, the rules on business interests that are appropriate for senior figures of Assembly sponsored public bodies to hold while in office? While the rules on declaration of interests are good—I do not believe that anybody would argue that they are not transparent—there is concern that they are not sufficient to prevent perceived impropriety. Will you consider making it a requirement to mothball interests that may be perceived to be conflicting? That may be a more effective method of avoiding the perception of conflicts of interests.

The First Minister: You are dragging a complicated trail of smears back and forth. You should reconsider the way you make allegations. You are either alleging an impropriety or you are alleging the possible appearance of an impropriety. If this is the case, say so. If you have an allegation, write to me about it because we can then deal with it. Trailing smears is inappropriate conduct for anyone purporting to be a party spokesperson.

Nick Bourne: Before the First Minister gets out of his pram, I did not hear any smear in that question; it was a reasonable question. Continuing on the subject of ELWa, the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning made two inconsistent statements. The first stated that ELWa had not wasted expenditure, and the second stated that the council was unable to demonstrate that it had secured value for money. *[Interruption.]* The question is addressed to the First Minister, not to the sedentary Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning. Can you, First Minister, reconcile these two statements?

The First Minister: It is difficult for me to reply to exegeses of statements that the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning is alleged to have made on separate occasions. If you believe that the statements made by the Minister at different times are inconsistent, you should raise that issue with her. It is clear to us that the audit cycle has completed its investigation into irregular payments made by ELWa, which mostly involved the failure to comply with European procurement rules about advertisements in

a'i Cabinet, er mwyn tryloywder, ystyried archwilio'r rheolau ar fuddiannau busnes y mae'n briodol i ffigyrau uchel mewn cyrff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad eu dal tra y maent yn eu swyddi? Er bod y rheolau ar ddatgan buddiannau'n dda—ni chredaf y byddai neb yn dadlau nad ydynt yn dryloyw—mae pryder nad ydynt yn ddigonol i atal afreoleidd-dra canfyddedig. A wnewch ystyried ei wneud yn ofynnol rhoi o'r neilltu fuddiannau y gellid ystyried eu bod yn gwrthdaro? Gallai hynny fod yn ddull mwy effeithiol o osgoi'r canfyddiad o fuddiannau sy'n gwrthdaro.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydych yn mynd yn ôl a blaen gan adael trywydd dyrys o ensyniadau. Dylech ailystyried y modd y gwnewch honiadau. Yr ydych naill ai'n honni bod afreoleidd-dra neu yr ydych yn honni bod ymddangosiad posibl o afreoleidd-dra. Os felly y mae, dywedwch hynny. Os oes gennych honiad, ysgrifennwch ataf yn ei gylch oherwydd gallwn ddelio ag ef wedyn. Mae hau ensyniadau'n ymddygiad amhriodol gan unrhyw un sy'n honni eu bod yn llafarydd dros blaid.

Nick Bourne: Cyn i'r Prif Weinidog golli arno'i hun, ni chlywais unrhyw ensyniad yn y cwestiwn hwnnw; yr oedd yn gwestiwn rhesymol. Gan ddal at bwnc ELWa, gwnaeth y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes ddau ddatganiad anghyson. Dywedwyd yn y cyntaf nad oedd ELWa wedi gwastraffu gwariant, a dywedwyd yn yr ail nad oedd y cyngor yn gallu dangos ei fod wedi sicrhau gwerth am arian. *[Torri ar draws.]* Mae'r cwestiwn yn un i'r Prif Weinidog, nid i'r Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes sydd ar ei heistedd. A allwch chi, Brif Weinidog, gysoni'r ddau ddatganiad hyn?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'n anodd i mi ymateb i ddehongliadau o ddatganiadau yr honnir i'r Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes eu gwneud ar wahanol achlysuron. Os credwch fod y datganiadau a wnaed gan y Gweinidog ar wahanol adegau'n anghyson, dylech godi'r mater hwnnw gyda hi. Mae'n amlwg i ni fod y cylch archwilio wedi cwblhau ei ymchwiliad i daliadau afreolaidd gan ELWa, a oedd yn ymwneud gan mwyaf â'r methiant i gydymffurfio â rheolau Ewropeaidd ar gaffael ynghylch hysbysebion

the *Official Journal of the European Communities*. The Audit Committee has dealt with that properly, it has submitted its recommendations to us in the normal way, and we have accepted almost all of those recommendations. I thought that we had all agreed on a good way forward as lessons have been learned from that unfortunate episode. Other matters relating to the issue that David Davies conflated with the issue of the £2.25 million of irregular payments may come before the Audit Committee as a result of the National Audit Office's report. If so, they will be dealt with in the same way. I do not know why Members want to drag the Minister into this matter when we have a proper audit procedure. You are simply looking for political scalps. We have seen that the audit procedure works effectively. You must accept that this is a matter for the Audit Committee, or would you rather that the Audit Committee did not exist so that we could bat the ball about in Plenary, and have a good time trying to see whether you can involve a Minister—or whoever Helen Mary Jones was referring to—by raising smears? If you believe that the Audit Committee has a job to do, let it get on with the job.

Nick Bourne: Rhodri Morgan mark 2 is trying to squirm his way out of giving a straight answer; Rhodri Morgan mark 1 was always keen to call quangos to account. Things have changed somewhat. Does he accept that the Audit Committee's report found 51 system failures, and that the Auditor General's report also found numerous system failures? Does he accept that Labour's ELWa made irregular payments? Labour created ELWa and Labour should be accountable for it.

The First Minister: That is a smear.

Nick Bourne: You created ELWa. Perhaps you have forgotten. That is not a smear; that is fact. The Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning is ultimately accountable for ELWa and you are ultimately accountable for her. Who do you think should carry the can for those irregular payments? Does Rhodri Morgan mark 2 believe that it does

yn yr *Official Journal of the European Communities*. Mae'r Pwyllgor Archwilio wedi delio â hynny'n briodol, mae wedi cyflwyno ei argymhellion i ni yn y modd arferol, ac yr ydym wedi derbyn bron bob un o'r argymhellion hynny. Tybiais ein bod ni oll wedi cytuno ar ffordd dda ymlaen gan fod gwersi wedi'u dysgu o'r bennod anffodus honno. Efallai y bydd materion eraill sy'n ymwneud â'r mater y cyfunodd David Davies ef â mater y £2.25 miliwn o daliadau afreolaidd yn dod gerbron y Pwyllgor Archwilio o ganlyniad i adroddiad y Swyddfa Archwilio Genedlaethol. Os byddant, fe'u trafodir yn yr un modd. Ni wn pam y mae Aelodau'n dymuno tynnu'r Gweinidog i'r mater hwn pan fod gennym weithdrefn archwilio briodol. Nid ydych ond yn chwilio am waed gwleidyddol. Gwelsom fod y weithdrefn archwilio'n gweithio'n effeithiol. Rhaid ichi dderbyn mai mater i'r Pwyllgor Archwilio yw hwn, neu a fyddai'n well gennych pe na fyddai'r Pwyllgor Archwilio'n bod fel y gallem daro'r bêl o gwmpas yn y Cyfarfod Llawn, a chael hwyl da'n ceisio gweld a allwch dynnu Gweinidog i mewn—neu bwy bynnag yr oedd Helen Mary Jones yn cyfeirio ato—drwy godi ensyniadau? Os credwch fod gan y Pwyllgor Archwilio waith i'w wneud, gadewch iddo fynd ymlaen â'r gwaith.

Nick Bourne: Mae Rhodri Morgan math 2 yn ceisio sleifio allan o roi ateb syml; yr oedd Rhodri Morgan math 1 bob amser yn awyddus i alw cwangos i gyfrif. Mae pethau wedi newid braidd. A yw'n derbyn bod adroddiad y Pwyllgor Archwilio wedi canfod 51 o fethiannau yn y system, a bod adroddiad yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol hefyd wedi canfod nifer o fethiannau yn y system? A yw'n derbyn bod ELWa Llafur wedi gwneud taliadau afreolaidd? Llafur a greodd ELWa a dylai Llafur fod yn atebol drosto.

Y Prif Weinidog: Ensyniad yw hwnnw.

Nick Bourne: Chi a greodd ELWa. Efallai'ch bod wedi anghofio. Nid ensyniad yw hwnnw; mae'n ffaith. Y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes sy'n atebol yn y pen draw dros ELWa a chi sy'n atebol yn y pen draw drosti hi. Pwy a gredwch a ddylai gymryd y bai am y taliadau afreolaidd hynny? A yw Rhodri Morgan math 2 yn

not matter now that Rhodri Morgan mark 1, who used to be the scourge of the quangos, is dead and buried?

The First Minister: Read the rules and do not try to drag Ministers into matters that have no direct ministerial involvement. It is simple. The correct procedure for dealing with irregular payments is that, if the National Audit Office recommends it, they go before the Audit Committee. The payments can then be investigated. If the Audit Committee asks the Government what it will do about it, the Government will say whether or not it will accept those recommendations. The Permanent Secretary, as the chief accounting officer, then makes the appropriate instructions to the accounting officers of those quangos. We set the rules. It is then up to the quangos to follow them. We cannot stand over the quangos when they sign cheques. If they sign cheques irregularly because they have forgotten to comply with European accounting rules, you cannot expect a Minister to stand beside the chief executive or finance officer and say that they should not be signing a cheque and that they have forgotten to advertise in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*. It is absurd that you should suggest that a Minister's job is to stand behind the chief executive or the finance officer and say that they are not in a position to issue a contract. It is for Sir Jon Shortridge, as Permanent Secretary, to keep an eye on what the chief executives are doing. It is also the chief executives' job. That is why they are called accounting officers. You know that, Nick. However, you would rather trail political smears across the Assembly, because you did not win the election and would love a few more smears, because that is your stock in trade.

credu nad yw o bwys bellach gan fod Rhodri Morgan math 1, a arferai fod yn fflangellwr y cwangos, wedi'i hen anghofio?

Y Prif Weinidog: Darllenwch y rheolau a pheidwch â cheisio tynnu Gweinidogion i faterion nad oes ganddynt unrhyw gysylltiad gweinidogol uniongyrchol â hwy. Mae'n syml. Y weithdrefn gywir ar gyfer delio â thaliadau afreolaidd yw, os yw'r Swyddfa Archwilio Genedlaethol yn argymhell hynny, eu bod yn mynd gerbron y Pwyllgor Archwilio. Wedyn gellir ymchwilio i'r taliadau. Os yw'r Pwyllgor Archwilio'n gofyn i'r Llywodraeth beth a wnaiff yn ei glych, dywed y Llywodraeth a wnaiff dderbyn yr argymhellion hynny neu beidio. Wedyn bydd yr Ysgrifennydd Parhaol, fel y prif swyddog cyfrifo, yn rhoi'r cyfarwyddiadau priodol i swyddogion cyfrifo'r cwangos hynny. Ni sy'n gosod y rheolau. Mater i'r cwangos wedyn yw eu dilyn. Ni allwn sefyll uwch ben y cwangos wrth iddynt arwyddo sieciau. Os arwyddant sieciau'n afreolaidd am eu bod wedi anghofio cydymffurfio â rheolau cyfrifyddu Ewropeaidd, ni allwch ddisgwyl i Weinidog sefyll wrth ymyl y prif weithredwr neu'r swyddog cyllid a dweud na ddylai arwyddo siec a'i fod wedi anghofio ei hysbysebu yn yr *Official Journal of the European Communities*. Mae'n beth gwirion ichi awgrymu mai gwaith Gweinidog yw sefyll y tu cefn i'r prif weithredwr neu'r swyddog cyllid a dweud nad yw mewn sefyllfa i osod contract. Mater i Syr Jon Shortridge, fel yr Ysgrifennydd Parhaol, yw cadw llygad ar yr hyn a wnaiff y prif weithredwyr. Dyna waith y prif weithredwyr hefyd. Dyna pam y'u gelwir yn swyddogion cyfrifo. Gwyddoch hynny, Nick. Er hynny, mae'n well gennych hau ensyniadau gwleidyddol yn y Cynulliad, gan na enillasoch yr etholiad a chan y byddech wrth eich bodd ag ychydig yn rhagor o ensyniadau, oherwydd dyna'ch arfer.

Adroddiad Sefydliad Bevan The Bevan Foundation Report

Q2 Leighton Andrews: Will the First Minister make a statement on the Bevan Foundation report, 'Ambitions for the Future'? (OAQ24284)

C2 Leighton Andrews: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar adroddiad Sefydliad Bevan, 'Ambitions for the Future'? (OAQ24284)

The First Minister: I had the pleasure of speaking at the Bevan Foundation fringe meeting at the Wales Trades Union Congress conference in Llandudno a few weeks ago. The Bevan Foundation is a think-tank that seeks to grapple with the difficult issues of inequality and deprivation. The creation of a new Cabinet portfolio—the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration—is along the lines of the Bevan Foundation’s recommendations.

Leighton Andrews: I welcome the appointment of a Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration. However, will you ensure that all Cabinet Ministers read the Bevan Foundation report, which calls for concerted and co-ordinated action to improve the quality of life in the Valleys?

The First Minister: No-one would disagree with that. We have considered many of the Bevan Foundation’s recommendations. It has said, for instance, that trying to reduce economic inactivity should be a high priority. I am glad that economic inactivity has been falling like a stone over the past 12 months, and that the gap between Wales and Great Britain has halved in 12 months. That is not specifically in the Valleys, but it includes the Valleys. There are many other parts of the Bevan Foundation report that we will study, and we will sometimes respond along the lines that I have mentioned, which are already in hand. However, we have yet to take on board other ideas.

Elin Jones: Mae’r angen am lewyrch economaidd yn greiddiol i adroddiad Sefydliad Bevan. A gredwch, felly, ei bod yn gywilyddus nad yw’r Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol wedi rhyddhau ffigurau cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth Cymru ers 1999 a fyddai’n rhoi tystiolaeth annibynnol o lewyrch, neu ddiffyg llewyrch, economi Cymru? Mae’r swyddfa wedi addo’r ffigurau hyn ar sawl achlysur—erbyn y Nadolig, erbyn y gwanwyn ac, yn awr, erbyn canol yr haf, pan na fydd y Cynulliad yn cyfarfod, sydd yn ddefnyddiol. A bwyswch, felly, ar y Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol i roi blaenoriaeth i ystadegau Cymru, ac i ryddhau’r ffigurau pwysig hyn ar gyfer 2000-01 o fewn y chwe wythnos nesaf?

Y Prif Weinidog: Cefais y pleser o siarad yng nghyfarfod ymylol Sefydliad Bevan yng nghynhadledd Cyngres Undebau Llafur Cymru yn Llandudno ychydig wythnosau’n ôl. Pwyllgor ystyried yw Sefydliad Bevan sy’n ceisio mynd i’r afael â materion anodd anghydraddoldeb ac amddifadedd. Mae creu portffolio newydd yn y Cabinet—y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio—yn gyson ag argymhellion Sefydliad Bevan.

Leighton Andrews: Croesawaf benodi Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio. Fodd bynnag, a wnewch sicrhau bod holl Weinidogion y Cabinet yn darllen adroddiad Sefydliad Bevan, sy’n galw am weithredu unol a chyd-drefnedig i wella ansawdd bywyd yn y Cymoedd?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid anghytunai neb â hynny. Yr ydym wedi ystyried llawer o argymhellion Sefydliad Bevan. Dywedodd, er enghraifft, y dylai’r ymgais i leihau anweithgarwch economaidd fod yn flaenoriaeth uchel. Yr wyf yn falch bod anweithgarwch economaidd wedi disgyn fel carreg dros y 12 mis diwethaf, a bod y bwlch rhwng Cymru a Phrydain Fawr wedi haneru mewn 12 mis. Nid yn y Cymoedd yn benodol y mae hynny, ond mae’n cynnwys y Cymoedd. Mae llawer o rannau eraill o adroddiad Sefydliad Bevan y gwnawn eu hastudio, a gwnawn ymateb weithiau yn y modd y cyfeiriais ato, sydd eisoes wedi digwydd. Fodd bynnag, nid ydym wedi derbyn syniadau eraill eto.

Elin Jones: The need for economic prosperity is central to the Bevan Foundation report. Do you believe, therefore, that it is disgraceful that the Office for National Statistics has not released Wales’s gross domestic product figures since 1999, figures which would provide independent evidence of the prosperity, or otherwise, of the Welsh economy? The office has promised these figures on several occasions—by Christmas, by the spring and, now, by mid summer, when the Assembly will be in recess, which is useful. Will you, therefore, bring pressure to bear on the ONS to give priority to Wales’s statistics, and to release these important figures for 2000-01 within the next six weeks?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid mater i mi yw dweud wrth y Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol pryd y dylai ryddhau ei ffigurau. Mae'r swyddfa wedi rhyddhau'r ffigurau hyn unwaith ac wedi gorfod eu tynnu'n ôl oherwydd y credai eu bod yn anghywir. Mae'n amlwg, felly, bod problemau ymarferol o ran sicrhau cyfrif cywir o'r lefel cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth y pen perthnasol rhwng rhanbarthau a chenedloedd y Deyrnas Unedig. Mae'n bwnc anodd. Mae'n ymddangos yn syml ond, unwaith yr ystyriwch elw, mae'n cymylu'r ystadegau. Nid wyf yn ystadegwr ond mae gennyf ddi-ddordeb mewn ystadegau economaidd ac mae'n bwysig peidio â phwyso ar y Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol, a rhoi'r amser angenrheidiol iddi gasglu'r ffigurau cywir diweddaraf.

Peter Law: I am pleased that you have provided opportunities for regeneration throughout the Valleys, First Minister, as we have seen with the proposed re-opening of the Ebbw Vale to Cardiff passenger railway in 2005. Will you supplement this further by attracting more companies to locate in places such as Blaenau Gwent and the Valleys, to provide the quality jobs that people look forward to having in the future?

2.50 p.m.

The First Minister: That is right. The issue is not only about what jobs are available but also what type of jobs they are. It is better if those jobs are of a high quality and incorporate company research and development and head office functions. Before the election, I was pleased that we secured the relocation of Sofegi Filtration from Abergavenny to Ebbw Vale, which helped to save the company. It has moved into the Bosal factory, I understand, with the assistance of the regional selective assistance budget. Saving the jobs at that company, which would otherwise have disappeared, was important and is good news for Blaenau Gwent. I am sure that we will be able to do more of the same over the next four years.

Laura Anne Jones: We naturally welcome any initiatives that will improve the economic prospects in the Valleys and across Wales. However, in my region of South Wales East,

The First Minister: It is not a matter for me to tell the ONS when it should release its figures. It has released these figures once and had to withdraw them because it believed them to be erroneous. It is obvious, therefore, that there are practical problems in correctly calculating the relevant level of gross domestic product per capita between the regions and nations of the United Kingdom. It is a difficult subject. It seems simple but, once you take account of the profit, it clouds the statistics. I am not a statistician but I am interested in economic statistics and it is important not to put pressure on the ONS, and to give it the necessary time to collate the latest correct figures.

Peter Law: Yr wyf yn falch eich bod wedi darparu cyfleoedd ar gyfer adfywio ledled y Cymoedd, Brif Weinidog, fel y gwelsom yn y bwriad i ailagor y rheilffordd deithwyr o Lynebwy i Gaerdydd yn 2005. A wnewch ategu hynny ymhellach drwy ddenu rhagor o gwmnïau i ymsefydlu mewn lleoedd fel Blaenau Gwent a'r Cymoedd, i ddarparu'r swyddi o ansawdd da y mae pobl yn edrych ymlaen at eu cael yn y dyfodol?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae hynny'n iawn. Nid y swyddi sydd ar gael yw'r unig fater ond hefyd y math o swyddi ydynt. Mae'n well os yw'r swyddi hynny o ansawdd da ac yn cynnwys ymchwil a datblygu gan y cwmni a swyddogaethau prif swyddfa. Cyn yr etholiad, yr oeddwn yn falch o allu sicrhau adleoli Sofegi Filtration o'r Fenni i Lynebwy, a fu'n gymorth i achub y cwmni. Deallaf ei fod wedi symud i ffatri Bosal, gyda chymorth y gyllideb cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol. Yr oedd achub y swyddi yn y cwmni hwnnw, a fyddai wedi diflannu fel arall, yn bwysig ac mae'n newyddion da i Flaenau Gwent. Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddwn yn gallu gwneud rhagor o'r un peth dros y pedair blynedd nesaf.

Laura Anne Jones: Wrth gwrs, croesawn unrhyw fentrau a wnaiff wella'r rhagolygon economaidd yn y Cymoedd a ledled Cymru. Fodd bynnag, yn fy rhanbarth i, sef Dwyrain

the recent devastating announcement about the closure of the LG Philips Displays plant is indicative of the wider problem of ensuring that major job creation schemes are sustainable in the longer term. What measures has the Assembly Government taken to ensure that the objectives outlined by initiatives, such as those in 'Ambitions for Wales', are sustainable and will not ultimately prove to be a waste of time and money?

The First Minister: Lessons will be learnt by those involved in the sad saga of LG during its six years at Newport. However, that should not mean that we give up on inward investment. Major inward investment is currently being considered, although not necessarily on the scale of the LG project. Before LG withdrew from LG Philips Displays, nearly 2,000 jobs had been secured in Newport over the past six years. I understand that that figure is now down to 430, which is sad. Too many eggs were put in one basket. I am sure that those involved at the time, before the change of Government in 1997, will have learnt lessons. We have learnt lessons in trying to make sense of the LG project, which we took over in 1999 after its inception in early 1997. However, we will not give up on inward investment because of that. A massive inward investment project is currently under consideration.

Peter Black: The Valleys Forward group of Members of Parliament recently identified economic inactivity as a major problem in the Valleys. It highlighted, in particular, high levels of ill health and poor transport links as key issues to be addressed. Do you not believe that, after six years of Labour Government, the fact that those problems have not been addressed is a failure on the part of that Government?

The First Minister: It is a bit over the top to say that they have not been addressed, but it is probably fair to say that they have not yet been solved. We have noticed, for example, that the level of those claiming incapacity benefit in the Valleys is still high, but that the

De Cymru, mae'r cyhoeddiad trychinebus diweddar am gau gwaith LG Philips Displays yn arwydd o'r broblem ehangach o sicrhau bod modd cynnal cynlluniau creu swyddi mawr yn y tymor hwy. Pa gamau a gymerodd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i sicrhau y gellir cynnal yr amcanion a nodir gan fentrau, fel y rhai yn 'Ambitions for Wales', ac na fyddant yn profi'n wastraff amser ac arian yn y pen draw?

Y Prif Weinidog: Dysgir gwersi gan y rhai a fu'n gysylltiedig â saga drist LG yn ystod ei chwe blynedd yng Nghasnewydd. Serch hynny, ni ddylai hynny olygu y dylem anobeithio ynghylch mewnfuddsoddi. Mae mewnfuddsoddi helaeth dan ystyriaeth ar hyn o bryd, er nad ar yr un raddfa â phrosiect LG o reidrwydd. Cyn i LG dynnu allan o LG Philips Displays, yr oedd bron 2,000 o swyddi wedi'u sicrhau yng Nghasnewydd dros y chwe blynedd diwethaf. Deallaf fod y ffigur hwnnw wedi gostwng bellach i 430, ac mae hynny'n drist. Rhoddwyd gormod o wyau mewn un fased. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd y rhai a oedd yn gysylltiedig ar y pryd, cyn y newid Llywodraeth yn 1997, wedi dysgu gwersi. Yr ydym ni wedi dysgu gwersi o ran ceisio gwneud synnwyr o brosiect LG, y gwnaethom ei gymryd drosodd yn 1999 ar ôl ei sefydlu ddechrau 1997. Fodd bynnag, nid anobeithiwn ynghylch mewnfuddsoddi oherwydd hynny. Mae prosiect mewnfuddsoddi enfawr dan ystyriaeth ar hyn o bryd.

Peter Black: Yn ddiweddar, gwnaeth y grŵp o Aelodau Seneddol, Valleys Forward, nodi bod anweithgarwch economaidd yn broblem fawr yn y Cymoedd. Tynnodd sylw, yn benodol, at lefelau uchel o iechyd gwael a chysylltiadau trafniadaeth gwael fel materion allweddol y dylid ymdrin â hwy. Oni chredwch, ar ôl chwe blynedd o Lywodraeth Lafur, mai methiant ar ran y Llywodraeth honno yw'r ffaith nad ymdriniwyd â'r problemau hynny?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mynd dros ben llestri braidd yw dweud nad ymdriniwyd â hwy, ond teg yw dweud, yn ôl pob tebyg, na chawsant eu datrys eto. Yr ydym wedi sylwi, er enghraifft, fod lefel y rhai sy'n hawlio budd-dal analluogrwydd yn y Cymoedd yn

level of new applicants claiming incapacity benefit is lower than it has been for some time. Although it is not yet clear, that is in part the result of the massive improvement in job prospects in the Valleys. Christine Chapman's constituency, I believe, has seen the highest drop in unemployment in Wales—it has been almost halved since 1997. There have been reductions of around 40 per cent in many other parts of the Valleys.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn gofyn i'r Llywodraeth fod yn uchelgeisiol, ond pa mor uchelgeisiol fydd y Llywodraeth? Yr wyf wedi darllen eich maniffesto ac nid oes unrhyw gyfeiriad ynddo at faint o swyddi y bydd y Llywodraeth yn eu creu yn ystod y pedair blynedd nesaf. Felly, mae'n rhaid i ni edrych ar y cynllun economaidd y bu i chi ei gyhoeddi yn ystod y Cynulliad cyntaf. A ydych yn cadw at y targed a nodwyd yn y ddogfen honno, sef y byddai GDP y pen Cymru yn 90 y cant o gyfartaledd y Deyrnas Gyfunol erbyn 2010, ac y byddai 135,000 o swyddi yn cael eu creu erbyn diwedd y ddegawd? A yw'r ffigurau hynny'n dal yn rhan o bolisi'r Llywodraeth?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid ydym wedi newid ein huchelgeisiau. Pan osodwn unrhyw darged, bydd y gwrthbleidiau'n cwyno nad yw'n ddigon uchelgeisiol neu nad yw'n realistig. Ni all y Llywodraeth fyth ennill ym marn y gwrthbleidiau. Dyna yw natur gwleidyddiaeth a dyna natur y dadlau sydd wastad yn digwydd rhwng gwrthbleidiau a'r Llywodraeth. Derbyniaf ei fod yn rhan o'r gêm, ond ni fydd o gymorth i greu'r un swydd yn y Cymoedd nac yn unman arall yng Nghymru. Parhew'n â'n huchelgeisiau a'n targedau.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: If you are to reach those ambitious targets, First Minister, we must measure their progress against the targets set. You referred to economic inactivity rates in the Valleys and elsewhere, but economic inactivity rates among young people have shot up in Wales over the last two years. In 2001, 54,000 young people were economically inactive, but in 2003, the figure was 79,000. That is a staggering increase of 46 per cent. How will you achieve those targets if young people are already failing to

uchel o hyd, ond bod lefel yr ymgeiswyr newydd sy'n hawlio budd-dal analluogrwydd yn is nag y bu ers cryn amser. Er nad yw'n eglur eto, mae hynny'n ganlyniad yn rhannol i'r gwelliant enfawr yn y rhagolygon am swyddi yn y Cymoedd. Credaf mai etholaeth Christine Chapman a welodd y gostyngiad mwyaf mewn diweithdra yng Nghymru—fe'i hanerwyd bron ers 1997. Bu gostyngiadau o tua 40 y cant mewn llawer o rannau eraill o'r Cymoedd.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: This report asks the Government to be ambitious, but how ambitious will the Government be? I have read your manifesto and there is no reference in it to how many jobs the Government will create during the next four years. Therefore, we must consider the economic plan that you published during the first Assembly. Are you standing by the target set in that document, that GDP per capita in Wales will be 90 per cent of the UK average by 2010, and that 135,000 jobs will be created by the end of the decade? Are those figures still part of the Government's policy?

The First Minister: We have not changed our ambitions. When we set any target, the opposition parties will either complain that it is not ambitious enough or that it is unrealistic. The Government can never win in the eyes of opposition parties. That is the nature of politics and the nature of the conflict that always happens between opposition parties and the Government. I accept that it is part of the game, but it will not help to create a single job in the Valleys or anywhere else in Wales. We will continue with our ambitions and our targets.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Os ydych i gyrraedd y targedau uchelgeisiol hynny, Brif Weinidog, rhaid inni fesur eu cynnydd yn erbyn y targedau a osodwyd. Cyfeiriasoch at gyfraddau anweithgarwch economaidd yn y Cymoedd ac mewn mannau eraill, ond mae cyfraddau anweithgarwch economaidd ymysg pobl ifanc wedi codi i'r entrychion yng Nghymru dros y ddwy flynedd diwethaf. Yn 2001, yr oedd 54,000 o bobl ifanc yn economaidd anweithgar, ond yn 2003, y ffigur oedd 79,000. Mae hynny'n gynydd

get the jobs that you promised them?

syfrdanol o 46 y cant. Sut y gwnewch gyrraedd y targedau hynny os yw pobl ifanc eisoes yn methu â chael y swyddi y gwnaethoch eu haddo iddynt?

The First Minister: I thought that we had corrected this ghastly howler of yours, Ieuan; you must stop repeating it. The only reason for the increase in economically inactive young people is that far more people in that age group are now students. There is no difference in the rates for those who are not students. If you want to command respect throughout Wales in the remaining months of your high office as leader of the opposition, you must learn to stop committing such ghastly howlers, and repeating them when they have been corrected in the Chamber and elsewhere by all who have studied the statistics.

Y Prif Weinidog: Tybiais ein bod wedi cywiro'r camgymeriad enbyd hwn a wnaethoch, Ieuan; rhaid ichi roi'r gorau i'w ailadrodd. Yr unig reswm am y cynnydd yn nifer y bobl ifanc sy'n economaidd anweithgar yw bod mwy o lawer yn y grŵp oedran hwnnw'n fyfyrwyr erbyn hyn. Nid oes gwahaniaeth yn y cyfraddau ar gyfer y rhai nad ydynt yn fyfyrwyr. Os ydych am ennyn parch ledled Cymru yn y misoedd sy'n weddill o'ch uchel swydd fel arweinydd yr wrthblaid, rhaid ichi ddysgu peidio â gwneud camgymeriadau ofnadwy o'r fath, a'u hailadrodd ar ôl iddynt gael eu cywiro yn y Siambr ac mewn mannau eraill gan bawb a astudiodd yr ystadegau.

Adleoli Swyddi i Ganolbarth a Gogledd Cymru Relocation of Jobs to Mid and North Wales

C3 Elin Jones: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar unrhyw drafodaethau y mae wedi'u cael ar adleoli swyddi Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i ganolbarth a gogledd Cymru? (OAQ24251)

Q3 Elin Jones: Will the First Minister make a statement on any discussions that he has had regarding the relocation of National Assembly jobs to mid and north Wales? (OAQ24251)

Y Prif Weinidog: Gwnaed llawer o waith eisoes i ganfod y lleoedd cywir ar gyfer lleoli swyddfydd a gweision sifil y Cynulliad yn y Gogledd a'r Canolbarth. Yr ydym yn barod i drafod yr opsiynau, ond nid ydym eto yn barod i enwi union lleoedd y swyddi.

The First Minister: Much work has already been done to find the right locations for Assembly offices and civil servants in north and mid Wales. We are ready to discuss the options, but we are not yet ready to name the exact locations of the jobs.

Elin Jones: Croesawaf y ffaith bod gwaith yn mynd rhagddo ar y mater pwysig hwn. Rhaid inni ddatblygu canolfannau twf ar hyd a lled Cymru i herio monopoli a maged Caerdydd. Dylem ddefnyddio swyddi'r Cynulliad i roi hwb i dair neu bedair canolfan yng Nghymru, fel y gwnaed ym Merthyr Tudful eisoes, a dylai Aberystwyth fod yn un o'r rheini. Pan fyddwch yn penderfynu ar y lleoliadau, a wnewch chi seilio'r penderfyniad ar strategaeth ranbarthol ehangach a fydd yn cynnwys hwb i economi, cymunedau a'r iaith Gymraeg mewn ardaloedd ar hyd a lled Cymru, fel yr ymrwymwyd iddo yn 'Iaith Pawb'?

Elin Jones: I welcome the fact that work is underway on this important matter. We must develop growth centres across Wales to challenge the monopoly and magnet of Cardiff. We should use Assembly jobs to boost three or four such centres in Wales, as has already been the case in Merthyr Tydfil, and Aberystwyth should be one of them. When you decide upon the locations, will you base your decision on a broader regional strategy that will include boosting the economy, communities and the Welsh language in areas throughout Wales, in accordance with the commitments of 'Iaith Pawb'?

Y Prif Weinidog: Fel y dywedwyd eisoes, y

The First Minister: As has been previously

genhadaeth sy'n bwysig, sef natur y swyddi a natur y cymunedau a'r sectorau ym mywyd cymdeithasol neu yn economi Cymru y bydd y swyddfa, adran neu is-adran yn eu gwasanaethu. Os yw'n adran amaethyddol, dylid ei lleoli mewn ardal amaethyddol. Os yw'r adran yn arbenigo mewn cyfiawnder cymdeithasol, dylid ei lleoli mewn ardal lle ceir diddordeb mewn cyfiawnder cymdeithasol. Felly, natur y genhadaeth, yn hytrach na ffactorau fel iaith, fydd y ffactor pwysicaf wrth benderfynu ar leoliadau, ynghyd â'r costau, adeiladau addas a rhesymol, ac ati.

Lorraine Barrett: First Minister, do you agree that any relocation of National Assembly jobs must be done only with the full involvement of employees and trade unions? We must not forget that people in south Wales and the Valleys also need those jobs, none more so than in Cardiff South and Penarth.

The First Minister: It will not be easy to satisfy everybody when it comes to relocation. That is also true for the UK Government, which wants to relocate 20,000 jobs outside London. We may bid for around half of those jobs, as they may be in UK departments working on devolved matters, rather than in 'English' departments.

On Assembly civil service jobs, we are seeking to increase the number of jobs located outside Cardiff by at least 700, and possibly by as many as 900 jobs. Our civil service is already dispersed, but we can do better. You are right; we must carry civil servants with us as much as is possible. They may have difficult family circumstances, such as carer responsibilities, children, spouses at work and so forth. If we do not consider the requirements of civil servants, the project will be delayed and we will not get the right staff to relocate.

3.00 p.m.

Brynle Williams: Having spoken with many constituents in north Wales, I am concerned about the perception that north Wales is a

stated, the mission is what is important, namely the nature of the jobs, and the kind of communities and sectors in the social or economic life of Wales that the office, department or division will serve. If the department's work relates to agriculture, it should be located in an agricultural area. If the department specialises in social justice, it should be located in an area where there is an interest in social justice. Therefore, the nature of the mission will be the most important factor in determining location, along with costs, suitable and reasonable accommodation, and so forth, rather than factors such as language.

Lorraine Barrett: Brif Weinidog, a gytunwch fod yn rhaid i weithwyr ac undebau llafur gymryd rhan lawn mewn unrhyw adleoli ar swyddi'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol? Rhaid inni beidio ag anghofio bod ar bobl yn y De a'r Cymoedd angen y swyddi hynny hefyd, ac yn Ne Caerdydd a Phenarth yn anad unman.

Y Prif Weinidog: Ni fydd yn hawdd bodloni pawb wrth adleoli. Mae hynny'n wir hefyd am Lywodraeth y DU, sy'n dymuno adleoli 20,000 o swyddi y tu allan i Lundain. Gallem ymgeisio am tua hanner y swyddi hynny, gan y gallent fod mewn adrannau o Lywodraeth y DU sy'n gweithio ar faterion a ddatganolwyd, yn hytrach nag mewn adrannau 'Seisnig'.

Ynghylch swyddi gwasanaeth sifil y Cynulliad, yr ydym yn ceisio cynyddu'r nifer o swyddi sydd wedi'u lleoli y tu allan i Gaerdydd o 700 o leiaf, ac o gynifer â 900 o swyddi o bosibl. Mae ein gwasanaeth sifil wedi'i wasgaru eisoes, ond gallwn wneud yn well. Yr ydych yn iawn; rhaid inni sicrhau cefnogaeth gweision sifil i'r graddau mwyaf posibl. Efallai y bydd ganddynt amgylchiadau teuluol anodd, fel cyfrifoldebau gofalwr, plant, bod eu priod mewn gwaith ac yn y blaen. Os nad ystyriwn anghenion gweision sifil, bydd oedi yn y prosiect ac ni chawn y staff iawn i adleoli.

Brynle Williams: A minnau wedi siarad â llawer o etholwyr yn y Gogledd, yr wyf yn bryderus ynghylch y canfyddiad bod y

neglected region. You quoted the number of National Assembly jobs that will be relocated from Cardiff. Can more jobs be relocated to north Wales? I know that there are problems in the Valleys, but there are also problems in north Wales. Such a move would bring the region much closer to the Assembly, and the people of north Wales would feel much more a part of it.

The First Minister: I do not disagree with a word of that. I wholeheartedly agree with your comments.

John Marek: Is the First Minister aware that the Welsh Development Agency has awarded a grant of £2 million for the demolition and development of the Bridge Street area of Wrexham, which would be an excellent site for the relocation of civil servants? Is he considering this site and, if not, will he do so?

The First Minister: I am sure that that has been drawn to the attention of the relevant officials. They will undoubtedly have noted this afternoon's exchange and, if they have not, I will ensure that they do. We will want to consider all possible sites, because we want a competitive price. Anyone who is willing to offer a nicely-equipped, reasonably-priced building that is suitable for the civil service—or one that could be made suitable—is of great interest, as price will be an important factor.

Mick Bates: I welcome the intention to move jobs away from Cardiff. I make a special plea for the neglected area called mid Wales, particularly eastern mid Wales, which is so often overlooked. In answering my question, can the First Minister declare today that Llanidloes—where 250 jobs will be lost, which is equivalent to the loss of 25,000 jobs in Cardiff—may be in line to receive some of the jobs that are being relocated from the M4 corridor?

The First Minister: I cannot give indications about an individual town. I share your concerns about the job losses at KTH Wales Ltd, and the huge impact that that will have in a relatively under-populated part of Wales. The jobs there must be counted as having a

Gogledd yn rhanbarth wedi ei hesgeuluso. Gwnaethoch ddyfynnu'r nifer o swyddi'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol a gaiff eu hadleoli y tu allan i Gaerdydd. A ellir adleoli rhagor o swyddi yn y Gogledd? Gwn fod problemau yn y Cymoedd, ond mae problemau hefyd yn y Gogledd. Byddai symudiad o'r fath yn dod â'r rhanbarth yn nes o lawer at y Cynulliad, a byddai pobl y Gogledd yn teimlo bod ganddynt ran fwy o lawer ynddo.

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid anghytunaf â'r un gair o hynny. Llwyd gytunaf â'ch sylwadau.

John Marek: A yw'r Prif Weinidog yn ymwybodol bod Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru wedi dyfarnu grant o £2 filiwn i ddymchwel a datblygu ardal Bridge Street yn Wrexham, a fyddai'n safle rhagorol ar gyfer adleoli gweision sifil? A yw'n ystyried y safle hwn ac, os nad ydyw, a wnaiff hynny?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn siŵr bod hynny wedi'i ddwyn i sylw'r swyddogion perthnasol. Byddant yn sicr o fod wedi nodi'r drafodaeth y prynhawn yma ac, os nad ydynt, byddaf yn sicrhau eu bod yn gwneud hynny. Byddwn am ystyried pob safle posibl, gan ein bod am gael pris cystadleuol. Mae unrhyw un sy'n barod i gynnig adeilad darparedig am bris rhesymol sy'n addas i'r gwasanaeth sifil—neu un y gellid ei wneud yn addas—o ddiddordeb mawr, gan y bydd y pris yn ffactor pwysig.

Mick Bates: Croesawaf y bwriad i symud swyddi o Gaerdydd. Cyflwynaf apêl arbennig dros ardal anghofiedig y Canolbarth, yn enwedig dwyrain y Canolbarth, a gaiff ei anwybyddu mor aml. Wrth ateb fy nghwestiwn, a all y Prif Weinidog ddatgan heddiw y gallai Llanidloes—lle y collir 250 o swyddi, sy'n cyfateb i golli 25,000 o swyddi yng Nghaerdydd—fod â chyfle o gael rhai o'r swyddi a adleolir oddi wrth goridor yr M4?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ni allaf wneud cyhoeddiadau ar drefi unigol. Rhannaf eich pryderon ynghylch y swyddi a gollir yn KTH Wales Cyf, a'r effaith enfawr a gaiff hynny mewn rhan o Gymru sy'n gymharol denau ei phoblogaeth. Rhaid cyfrif y swyddi yno'n

much greater economic impact than if they were located in an area with a population of 100,000 or more. There is already a major Assembly civil service presence in that part of Wales, although it is in Llandrindod Wells, not in Llanidloes. The eastern part of mid Wales has that advantage over western mid Wales, which was affected by John Redwood's erratic decision to relocate the agricultural office to Cardiff.

rhai sydd ag effaith economaidd fwy o lawer na phe byddent wedi'u lleoli mewn ardal a chanddi boblogaeth o 100,000 neu ragor. Mae nifer fawr o weision sifil y Cynulliad yn gweithio yn y rhan honno o Gymru eisoes, er mai yn Llandrindod y mae hynny, nid yn Llanidloes. Mae gan ran ddwyreiniol y Canolbarth fantais o'r fath dros orllewin y Canolbarth, a effeithiwyd gan benderfyniad diofal John Redwood i adleoli'r swyddfa amaethyddiaeth yng Nghaerdydd.

Twristiaeth yng Ngogledd Cymru Tourism in North Wales

Lisa Francis: My question involves tourism, but I request your indulgence, Llywydd, to take this opportunity to wish Cardiff the best of luck tomorrow in its bid to be Cultural Capital of Europe.

Lisa Francis: Mae fy nghwestiwn yn ymwneud â thwristiaeth, ond gofynnaf am faddeuant gennych, Lywydd, am achub ar y cyfle hwn i ddymuno pob lwc i Gaerdydd yfory yn ei chais i ddod yn Brifddinas Diwylliant Ewrop.

The Presiding Officer: Order. That is out of order.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Mae hynny allan o drefn.

Lisa Francis: That is a pity, as it is important for tourism.

Lisa Francis: Mae hynny'n drueni, gan ei fod yn bwysig i dwristiaeth.

The Presiding Officer: Order. The difficulty is that I cannot rule comments as being out of order until I have heard them. Please read your question, Lisa. You are allowed one supplementary question that refers to north Wales, which does not currently include Cardiff.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Yr anhawster yw na allaf ddyfarnu bod sylwadau allan o drefn hyd nes y byddaf wedi'u clywed. Darllenwch eich cwestiwn, Lisa, os gwelwch yn dda. Caniateir ichi un cwestiwn atodol sy'n cyfeirio at ogledd Cymru, nad yw'n cynnwys Caerdydd ar hyn o bryd.

Lisa Francis: No, but Cardiff could be the gateway to north Wales.

Lisa Francis: Nac ydyw, ond gallai Caerdydd fod yn fynedfa i'r Gogledd.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Gofynnwch eich cwestiwn, os gwelwch yn dda.

The Presiding Officer: Order. Please ask your question.

Q4 Lisa Francis: Would the First Minister make a statement about the Welsh Assembly Government's efforts to promote tourism in north Wales? (OAQ24255) [R]

C4 Lisa Francis: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar ymdrechion Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i hybu twristiaeth yng ngogledd Cymru? (OAQ24255) [R]

The First Minister: North Wales will continue to benefit from a substantial part of the Wales Tourist Board's record level of funding from the Assembly Government of over £27 million for this year. You will be aware of the north Wales regional tourism partnership, which is receiving £1.05 million of the special funds made available to the

Y Prif Weinidog: Bydd y Gogledd yn dal i elwa o ran sylweddol o'r cyllid mwyaf erioed a gafodd Bwrdd Croeso Cymru gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad, sef rhagor na £27 miliwn ar gyfer y flwyddyn hon. Byddwch yn gwybod am bartneriaeth twristiaeth ranbarthol y Gogledd, sy'n cael £1.05 miliwn o'r cyllid arbennig a ddarparwyd ar gyfer y

tourism partnerships. Given that the total available is £3 million, a healthy share of that money is going to north Wales.

Lisa Francis: Are you aware of any Welsh Assembly Government plans to spend money on creating more tourist information centres in north Wales?

The First Minister: I have no information as to whether there is a shortage of tourist information centres, and whether we will rectify such a shortage. I will write to you on this issue.

Sandy Mewies: The tourism industry, as well as the economic and industrial base, of north Wales—and north-east Wales in particular—will be impacted upon by P&O Ferries' decision to remove its services from Mostyn docks in my constituency of Delyn. What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to persuade P&O to remain at the docks, and what is being done to encourage another ferry operator to locate there should this matter not be resolved?

The First Minister: You are right to draw attention to P&O Ferries' tragic decision to sell its ships to Stena Line, subject to regulatory approval, and to close down the ferry service from Mostyn to Dublin that was opened around three years ago. I cannot comment on whether it will get regulatory approval to do so, since it is a matter for the Office of Fair Trading and the Department of Trade and Industry. However, if P&O Ferries manages to get that approval, then the port of Mostyn and the Assembly will urgently seek another ferry operator. We also hope to overcome the problems encountered with the shifting sandbanks in the Dee estuary and get consent to complete the dredging that has proved necessary. That was a much bigger job than anticipated because of the continuously shifting sandbanks in the Dee.

Janet Ryder: You have already detailed some of the money that is being invested into north Wales to develop and encourage tourism. Do you also agree that a great deal

partneriaethau twristiaeth. Gan mai £3 miliwn yw'r cyfanswm sydd ar gael, mae cyfran dda o'r arian hwnnw'n mynd i'r Gogledd.

Lisa Francis: A wyddoch am unrhyw gynlluniau gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i wario arian ar greu rhagor o ganolfannau gwybodaeth i ymwelwyr yn y Gogledd?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid oes gennyf unrhyw wybodaeth ynghylch a oes prinder canolfannau gwybodaeth i ymwelwyr, ac a fyddwn yn gwneud yn iawn am brinder o'r fath. Ysgrifennaf atoch ar y mater hwn.

Sandy Mewies: Bydd diwydiant ymwelwyr, yn ogystal â sylfaen economaidd a diwydiannol, y Gogledd—a'r Gogledd-ddwyrain yn enwedig—yn cael ei effeithio gan benderfyniad P&O Ferries i symud ei wasanaethau o ddociau Mostyn yn fy etholaeth i, sef Delyn. Beth y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i ddarbwylllo P&O i aros yn y dociau, a beth a wneir i annog gweithredwr llongau fferi arall i ymsefydlu yno os na chaiff y mater hwn ei ddatrys?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'n briodol ichi dynnu sylw at benderfyniad trychinebus P&O Ferries i werthu ei longau i Stena Line, yn amodol ar dderbyn cymeradwyaeth reoliadol, ac i roi terfyn ar y gwasanaeth llongau fferi o Fostyn i Ddilyn a agorwyd tua thair blynedd yn ôl. Ni allaf wneud sylw ynghylch a gaiff gymeradwyaeth reoliadol i wneud hynny, gan fod hynny'n fater i'r Swyddfa Masnachu Teg a'r Adran Masnach a Diwydiant. Fodd bynnag, os llwydda P&O i gael y gymeradwyaeth honno, bydd porthladd Mostyn a'r Cynulliad yn chwilio ar frys am weithredwr llongau fferi arall. Yr ydym hefyd yn gobeithio datrys y problemau a gafwyd gyda'r cefnenni tywod symudol yn aber Dyfrdwy a chael caniatâd i gwblhau'r gwaith carthu angenrheidiol. Yr oedd hynny'n waith mwy o lawer nag a ragwelwyd oherwydd y cefnenni tywod sy'n symud yn barhaus yn afon Dyfrdwy.

Janet Ryder: Yr ydych eisoes wedi rhestru rhywfaint o'r arian a fuddsoddir yn y Gogledd i ddatblygu a hybu twristiaeth. A gytunwch hefyd fod llawer iawn o arian yn

of money is being invested into developing facilities in south Wales to host events such as the Ryder Cup final, the capital of culture bid, the Network Q rally, the FA Cup final and the rugby league final. What measures will your Government put in place to ensure that the people of north Wales benefit from all the money invested in south Wales?

The First Minister: The Wales Tourist Board, through its events support strategy, also supports six major events in north Wales, namely the British Mountaineering Council's international meeting in Snowdonia, the Abersoch Jazz Festival, the International Snowdon Race, Bryn Terfel's Faenol festival, the Half Iron Man Triathlon in Snowdonia, and the British Adventure Racing Championship final held in Gwynedd.

cael ei fuddsoddi i ddatblygu cyfleusterau yn y De i gynnal digwyddiadau fel gornest derfynol Cwpan Ryder, y cais i ddod yn brifddinas diwylliant, rali Network Q, gêm derfynol Cwpan yr FA a gêm derfynol rygbi cynghrair. Pa gamau a gymer eich Llywodraeth i sicrhau bod pobl y Gogledd yn cael budd o'r holl arian a fuddsoddir yn y De?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae Bwrdd Croeso Cymru, drwy ei strategaeth cymorth i ddigwyddiadau, hefyd yn cefnogi chwe digwyddiad mawr yn y Gogledd, sef cyfarfod rhyngwladol y Cyngor Mynydda Prydeinig yn Eryri, Gŵyl Jazz Abersoch, Ras Ryngwladol yr Wyddfa, gŵyl Bryn Terfel yn y Faenol, Hanner Triathlon y Dyn Haearn yn Eryri, a gornest derfynol Pencampwriaeth Rasio Antur Prydain a gynhelir yng Ngwynedd.

Helpu Cwmnïau i Recriwtio Assisting Company Recruitment

Q5 William Graham: Will the First Minister outline how his administration's policies will assist company recruitment to those companies that have difficulty filling their vacancies? (OAQ24285)

The First Minister: In 2001, we launched the modern skills diploma for adults, which enables the over-25s to upgrade their skills. In 2003, we changed the rules on modern apprenticeships in Wales so that they are available to the over-25s. That is what employers wanted. We listened to and addressed their needs. We have also relaxed the eligibility criteria for the work-based learning for adults programme so that unemployed people can commence training after just one month of unemployment. Those changes are the first steps in introducing an all-age suite of programmes throughout Wales.

William Graham: You will know that a firm advertised 150 vacancies and was only able to recruit three employees. The local Labour MP recorded that people living just three miles away were not prepared to travel. Others were comfortable enough living off state benefits. Do you support calls for

C5 William Graham: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog roi amlinelliad o sut y bydd polisïau ei weinyddiaeth yn helpu cwmnïau sydd yn cael trafferth i lenwi swyddi i fynd ati i recriwtio? (OAQ24285)

Y Prif Weinidog: Yn 2001, gwnaethom lansio'r diploma sgiliau modern i oedolion, sy'n galluogi'r rhai dros 25 mlwydd oed i wella eu sgiliau. Yn 2003, newidiasom y rheolau ar brentisiaethau modern yng Nghymru fel eu bod ar gael i rai dros 25 mlwydd oed. Dyna oedd dymuniad cyflogwyr. Gwrandawasom ar eu hanghenion ac ymatebasom iddynt. Yr ydym hefyd wedi llacio'r meini prawf cymhwyster ar gyfer y rhaglen dysgu yn y gwaith i oedolion fel y gall pobl ddi-waith ddechrau hyfforddi ar ôl dim ond mis o ddiweithdra. Y newidiadau hynny yw'r camau cyntaf wrth gyflwyno set o raglenni ar gyfer pobl o bob oed ledled Cymru.

William Graham: Gwyddoch fod un busnes wedi hysbysebu 150 o swyddi gwag ac nad oedd ond yn gallu recriwtio tri o weithwyr. Mae'r AS Llafur lleol wedi dweud ar goedd fod pobl nad oeddent ond yn byw dair milltir i ffwrdd yn amharod i deithio. Yr oedd eraill yn ddigon cyfforddus yn byw ar fudd-

restructuring, given that so many people now rely on unemployment or incapacity benefit?

The First Minister: I read that story on BBC news online, but the company has denied the story and has said that it did not encounter recruitment problems. Although it has some problems retaining staff, it can easily re-recruit. The story appears to have been a complete fabrication. Do not believe everything you see on the BBC or read in the newspapers.

Jeff Cuthbert: Does the First Minister accept that ELWa has made a positive contribution to aid company recruitment through the promotion of the Welsh Assembly Government's programme of work-based learning and vocational training such as the modern apprenticeship scheme?

The First Minister: Occasionally, in all the *sturm und drang* that is fomented when the juices get flowing among opposition Members, particularly Conservatives Members and one or two in Plaid Cymru, they tend to forget about ELWa's achievements in promoting a massive increase in the number of people undertaking apprenticeships in Wales. That number has increased from 9,500 to 13,000, which, according to my maths, represents a 40 per cent increase. That is an impressive figure and is much higher than that of Scotland and England. We must never forget ELWa's achievements on the ground in terms of investing in exactly the way we told it to when we were first elected in 1999. It has achieved that, and there is much more to do to increase the skills base in Wales. ELWa is getting on with the job despite all the *sturm und drang*.

3.10 p.m.

Janet Davies: The real problem is that quality jobs are not reaching the Valleys or rural areas to the extent that we would like. Will you now undertake to improve and increase rail services that will enable people from high unemployment areas to travel to low unemployment areas by campaigning for responsibility and pro rata finance for rail to

daliadau gwladol. A ydych yn cefnogi galwadau am ailstrwythuro, gan fod cynifer bellach yn dibynnu ar fudd-dal diweithdra neu fudd-dal analluogrwydd?

Y Prif Weinidog: Darllenais y stori honno ar wefan newyddion y BBC, ond mae'r cwmni wedi gwadu'r stori ac wedi dweud na chafodd broblemau wrth recriwtio. Er bod ganddo rai problemau wrth gadw staff, mae'n ddigon hawdd iddo ailrecriwtio. Ymddengys bod y stori'n anwiredd llwyr. Peidiwch â chredu popeth a welwch ar y BBC neu a ddarllenwch yn y papurau newydd.

Jeff Cuthbert: A yw'r Prif Weinidog yn derbyn bod ELWa wedi cyfrannu'n gadarnhaol i helpu cwmnïau i recriwtio drwy hybu rhaglen Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru o ddysgu yn y gwaith a hyfforddiant galwedigaethol fel y cynllun prentisiaeth fodern?

Y Prif Weinidog: Weithiau, yng nghanol yr holl ystranciau a greir pan fo Aelodau'r wrthblaid, yn enwedig Aelodau Ceidwadol ac un neu ddau ym Mhlaid Cymru, yn dechrau cynhyrfu, tueddant i anghofio am gyflawniadau ELWa wrth hyrwyddo cynnydd enfawr yn y nifer sy'n dilyn prentisiaethau yng Nghymru. Mae'r nifer hwnnw wedi codi o 9,500 i 13,000, sy'n gynnydd o 40 y cant, yn ôl fy rhifydddeg i. Mae hwnnw'n ffigur trawiadol ac mae'n uwch o lawer na'r un yn yr Alban a Lloegr. Rhaid inni beidio byth ag anghofio cyflawniadau ELWa ar lawr gwlad o ran buddsoddi yn yr union fodd y dywedasom wrtho am wneud pan etholwyd ni am y tro cyntaf yn 1999. Cyflawnodd hynny, ac mae llawer iawn mwy i'w wneud i gynyddu'r sylfaen sgiliau yng Nghymru. Mae ELWa yn bwrw ymlaen â'r gwaith er gwaethaf yr holl ystranciau.

Janet Davies: Y broblem wirioneddol yw nad yw swyddi o ansawdd da'n cyrraedd y Cymoedd neu ardaloedd gwledig i'r graddau yr hoffem. A wnewch ymgymryd yn awr i wella a chynyddu gwasanaethau rheilffyrdd a fydd yn galluogi pobl o ardaloedd lle y mae llawer o ddiweithdra i deithio i ardaloedd lle nad oes llawer o ddiweithdra drwy ymgrychu

be transferred to the Assembly?

The First Minister: That is an important issue. We hope to have something more to say soon on the Strategic Rail Authority's award of the Wales and borders franchise. On the issue of jobs in the upper Valleys, it is not possible to sprinkle small numbers of jobs with a magic wand here, there and everywhere. Sometimes you can persuade people to move to areas, and sometimes you cannot. I remember that we had this exchange before the election, Janet, and I told you that many of the recent investments, particularly in the areas north of Bridgend, were in the upper Valleys. I believe that I mentioned COSi in Maesteg and GQ Parachutes Ltd factory, the company that moved to Llangeinor, which meant that hundreds of jobs were created in Maesteg and the Upper Garw valley. It is important that we do not downplay that. It can be done, but not by magic. It must be done by persuasion. We are getting on with it, and there are many successes to report. I have just listed two of them in your area.

Jenny Randerson: Will you comment on the views expressed by the Labour MP, Chris Bryant, that some Valleys areas have a so-called jobless culture? Do you agree with his comments and, if so, how do you propose to tackle the problem? If you do not agree with him, how will you tackle the bad impression that this will have given to potential employers who are thinking of moving into the area?

The First Minister: I did not hear exactly what he said in the debate in Westminster Hall in the House of Commons. I understand that he is angry with the BBC for twisting the report and claiming that the company had been unable to recruit, when in fact it had recruited almost all of the staff it wanted. The story appears to have been fabricated by the BBC, and comments were added to Chris Bryant's comment, which was taken out of context. Incapacity and other benefit reliance in the Valleys is higher than elsewhere. There are obvious reasons for that. Several males over the age of 50 have musculoskeletal or respiratory problems arising from working

dros drosglwyddo cyfrifoldeb dros reilffyrdd a chyllid pro rata ar eu cyfer i'r Cynulliad?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae hynny'n fater pwysig. Gobeithiwn y bydd gennym ragor i'w ddweud cyn hir am ddyfarnu masnachfrait Cymru a'r gororau gan yr Awdurdod Rheilffyrdd Strategol. Ynghylch mater swyddi ym mlaenau'r Cymoedd, nid oes modd taenu ychydig o swyddi yma ac acw â hudlath. Weithiau gellir perswadio pobl i symud i ardaloedd, ond nid yw hynny'n bosibl weithiau. Cofiaf inni drafod hyn cyn yr etholiad, Janet, a dywedais wrthy ch fod llawer o'r buddsoddiadau diweddar, yn enwedig yn yr ardaloedd i'r gogledd o Ben-y-bont ar Ogwr, ym mlaenau'r Cymoedd. Credaf fy mod wedi cyfeirio at COSi ym Maesteg a ffatri GQ Parachutes Cyf, y cwmni a symudodd i Langeinwyr, sy'n golygu y crewyd cannoedd o swyddi ym Maesteg a chwam Garw Uchaf. Mae'n bwysig inni beidio â bychanu hynny. Gellir ei wneud, ond nid drwy hud a lledrith. Rhaid ei wneud drwy berswâd. Yr ydym yn bwrw ymlaen â hynny, ac mae llawer o lwyddiannau i sôn amdanynt. Yr wyf newydd restru dau ohonynt yn eich ardal chi.

Jenny Randerson: A wnewch sylw am yr farn a fynegwyd gan yr AS Llafur, Chris Bryant, mai diwylliant o ddiweithdra, fel y'i galwyd, a geir mewn rhai ardaloedd yn y Cymoedd? A ydych yn cytuno â'i sylwadau ac, os ydych, sut y bwriadwch fynd i'r afael â'r broblem hon? Os nad ydych yn cytuno ag ef, sut y gwnewch wrthweithio'r argraff wael y bydd hyn wedi'i rhoi i gyflogwyr posibl sy'n ystyried symud i'r ardal?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ni chlywais beth yn union a ddywedodd yn y ddadl yn Westminster Hall yn Nhŷ'r Cyffredin. Deallaf ei fod yn ddiog wrth y BBC am newid y stori a honni nad oedd y cwmni wedi gallu recriwtio, a hwnnw wedi recriwtio bron y cwbl o'r staff yr oedd arno ei angen mewn gwirionedd. Ymddengys bod y stori wedi'i dyfeisio gan y BBC, ac ychwanegwyd sylwadau at sylw Chris Bryant, a gymerwyd o'i gyd-destun. Mae'r ddibyniaeth ar fudd-dal analluogrwydd a budd-daliadau eraill yn uwch yn y Cymoedd nag ydyw mewn mannau eraill. Mae rhesymau amlwg am hynny. Mae gan nifer o ddynion dros 50 mlwydd oed broblemau

for years in the mines. Nobody would wish to downplay that. However, that problem has been decreasing rapidly in the past 12 months, and we must recognise that enormous success. Furthermore, I had the pleasure, in the company of Andrew Smith, of launching a non-compulsory experimental programme in Rhondda Cynon Taf and Bridgend—which is an area comprising of some 12 per cent of the population of Wales. Some special measures, which do not involve compulsion, will be introduced to try to assist people to stop claiming incapacity benefit. As that trial has only just begun, we should give it a fair wind and return to this subject in 12 months' time.

cyhyrsgerbydol neu broblemau anadlol oherwydd blynyddoedd o weithio yn y glofeydd. Ni fyddai neb yn dymuno bychanu hynny. Fodd bynnag, mae'r broblem honno wedi lleihau'n gyflym yn y 12 mis diwethaf, a rhaid inni gydnabod y llwyddiant aruthrol hwnnw. At hynny, cefais y pleser, yng nghwmni Andrew Smith, o lansio rhaglen arbrofol anorfodol yn Rhondda Cynon Taf a Phen-y-bont ar Ogwr—ardal sy'n cynnwys tua 12 y cant o boblogaeth Cymru. Cyflwynir rhai mesurau arbennig, nad ydynt yn cynnwys gorfodaeth, i geisio helpu pobl i roi'r gorau i hawlio budd-dal analluogrwydd. Gan mai dim ond newydd ddechrau y mae'r rhagbrawf hwnnw, dylem roi rhwydd hynt iddo a dod yn ôl at y pwnc hwn ymhen 12 mis.

Iechyd yng Nghwm Cynon Health in the Cynon Valley

Q6 Christine Chapman: Will the First Minister detail the Assembly Government's achievements in health for the people of Cynon Valley? (OAQ24283)

C6 Christine Chapman: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog roi manylion am yr hyn y mae'r Llywodraeth wedi'i gyflawni ym maes iechyd ar gyfer pobl Cwm Cynon? (OAQ24283)

The First Minister: The biggest contribution to serve the people of Cynon Valley, although it is not in the Cynon valley, is the £81 million that has been committed to rebuilding the Prince Charles Hospital in Merthyr Tydfil, which serves the Cynon valley. Within the valley itself, there are two ongoing major initiatives. One is the new community hospital, for which funding has now been agreed. A remarkable agreement was achieved—involving much consultation with the community—to close two older hospitals and replace them with one new community hospital. That is not easy to achieve. We all know how difficult it is to get anybody to agree to the closure of a much-loved local hospital, but it has been done in the Cynon valley. It was a successful exercise. The other initiative is the primary care estates strategy, which is a pilot project for the rest of Wales.

Y Prif Weinidog: Y cyfraniad mwyaf i wasanaethu pobl Cwm Cynon, er nad yng nghwm Cynon y mae, yw'r £81 miliwn a neilltuwyd i ailadeiladu Ysbyty'r Tywysog Siarl ym Merthyr Tudful, sy'n gwasanaethu cwm Cynon. Yn y cwm ei hun, mae dwy fenter o bwys yn mynd rhagddynt. Un ohonynt yw'r ysbyty cymunedol newydd, y cytunwyd ar gyllid ar ei gyfer bellach. Sicrhawyd cytundeb nodedig—a olygodd lawer o ymgynghori â'r gymuned—i gau dau ysbyty hŷn a chodi un ysbyty cymunedol newydd yn eu lle. Nid yw'n hawdd cyflawni hynny. Yr ydym oll yn gwybod mor anodd yw cael gan neb gytuno i gau ysbyty lleol sy'n annwyl gan y gymuned, ond gwnaed hynny yng nghwm Cynon. Bu'n gynllun llwyddiannus. Y fenter arall yw'r strategaeth ystadau gofal sylfaenol, sy'n brosiect pilot ar gyfer gweddill Cymru.

Christine Chapman: I welcome the extra investment in health for my constituency. As you are aware, one of the indicators of good health and wellbeing is a strong local economy. Do you agree that the news of 90

Christine Chapman: Croesawaf y buddsoddiad ychwanegol mewn iechyd ar gyfer fy etholaeth. Fel y gwyddoch, un o ddangosyddion iechyd a lles da yw economi leol gryf. A gytunwch fod y newyddion am

job losses at Sanken Power Systems in Abercynon this morning is devastating for the workforce? Will you work with Andrew Davies to ensure that assistance is provided to find alternative employment for the redundant workforce, which now faces an uncertain future?

The First Minister: You are right. High levels of unemployment have a depressing effect, both directly and generally. It can induce mental health problems or more general health problems, such as low expectations, and poor lifestyles are engendered by not having the expectation of a job. Any jobs, particularly in the Valleys, are hard to replace. I heard about these job losses this morning, due to your good office, Christine. We will look into the transfer of 90 jobs to Hungary from Sanken Power Systems in Abercynon. We all know the factory well because we see it as we travel on the A470.

Lifestyle is an important issue in the Valleys. That is one reason why we majored so heavily in Labour's manifesto on matters that may help to promote a healthy lifestyle, such as swimming free of charge at local authority leisure centres. A healthy lifestyle will give people the self-confidence to promote themselves in interviews and to feel good about themselves, which may lead to jobs, education, training and better prospects. That is not, in any way, to downplay the 90 jobs that have been lost, or to give the impression that I am not concerned about them. Any jobs that are lost in the Valleys are not easily replaced, but we will do our best to get on with it.

David Melding: Your Government has been right to focus on improving primary care in Valleys areas such as the Cynon valley. Will you assure us that these initiatives will be pursued with maximum vigour; in particular, the initiatives to improve the estate and to test concepts such as salaried general practitioners, so that staff of the highest quality work in the areas with the most acute health needs?

golli 90 o swyddi yn Sanken Power Systems yn Abercynon y bore yma'n drychineb i'r gweithlu? A wnewch weithio gydag Andrew Davies i sicrhau y darperir cymorth i ddod o hyd i waith arall i'r gweithwyr a ddiswyddwyd, sydd bellach yn wynebu dyfodol ansicr?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydych yn iawn. Mae lefelau uchel o ddiweithdra'n peri iselder, yn uniongyrchol ac yn gyffredinol. Gall achosi problemau iechyd meddwl neu broblemau iechyd mwy cyffredinol, megis disgwyliadau isel, a pherir ffyrdd o fyw gwael drwy fod heb y disgwyliad o gael swydd. Anodd yw cael swyddi yn lle rhai a gollwyd, yn enwedig yn y Cymoedd. Clywais am y colledion swyddi hyn y bore yma, drwy'ch caredigrwydd chi, Christine. Gwnawn ymchwilio i'r trosglwyddiad o 90 o swyddi i Hwngari o Sanken Power Systems yn Abercynon. Yr ydym oll yn adnabod y ffatri'n dda am ein bod yn ei gweld wrth inni deithio ar yr A470.

Mae ffordd o fyw'n fater o bwys yn y Cymoedd. Dyna un rheswm pam y rhoesom gymaint o bwys ym manifestio Llafur ar faterion a allai helpu i hybu ffordd o fyw iach, fel nofio'n rhad ac am ddim yng nghanolfannau hamdden awdurdodau lleol. Bydd ffordd o fyw iach yn rhoi i bobl yr hunanhyder y mae arnynt ei angen i'w cyflwyno eu hunain yn dda mewn cyfweiliadau ac i ymfalchïo ynddynt eu hunain, a gall hynny arwain at swyddi, addysg, hyfforddiant a gwell rhagolygon. Wrth ddweud hynny, nid wyf yn bychanu o gwbl y 90 o swyddi a gollwyd, nac yn rhoi'r argraff nad wyf yn pryderu amdanynt. Nid hawdd yw cael swyddi yn lle rhai a gollir yn y Cymoedd, ond gwnawn ein gorau i frwr ymlaen â hynny.

David Melding: Mae'ch Llywodraeth wedi canolbwyntio'n briodol ar wella gofal sylfaenol mewn ardaloedd o'r Cymoedd fel cwm Cynon. A wnewch ein sicrhau y datblygir y mentrau hyn gyda'r egni mwyaf posibl; yn benodol, y mentrau i wella'r ystâd ac i roi prawf ar gysyniadau fel ymarferwyr cyffredinol cyflogedig, fel bod staff o'r ansawdd gorau'n gweithio yn yr ardaloedd sydd â'r anghenion iechyd mwyaf difrifol?

The First Minister: We are not merely testing the concept of salaried GPs—we are providing salaried GPs. We are leading the UK on this issue and the Cynon valley is a target area. Salaries will provide much of the answer to the GP retirement crisis, caused by the fact that the generation of doctors, mostly from Asia, who moved into the Valleys in the 1960s are approaching retirement age. They will not be replaced from Asia; they will be replaced from within Wales in the main. Many of the new GPs will be salaried because it will be a popular option for them.

Leanne Wood: To quote your colleague, Frank Dobson, back in 1997,

inequalities in health are the most fundamental inequalities of all. There is no greater inequality than the difference between being dead or alive.

First Minister, do you agree with Frank Dobson, and what do you intend to do about the health inequalities in Wales and the inequality between Wales and the rest of Britain?

The First Minister: I agree that raising the level of health and life expectancy in the areas with the worst morbidity and mortality rates to the level of the best in Wales would be a massive achievement. That is one reason why a primary-care led strategy, close co-operation with external agencies that are not strictly health-related—such as social services concerning delayed transfers of care—the promotion of a lifestyle that does not contribute to heart or chest diseases, and eliminating poor mental health resulting from low expectations are all enormously important. They are all part of the inequality agenda. They involve much more than health per se—they also involve how people see themselves and what they expect of themselves and of their communities. Therefore, it is part of the new social justice and regeneration agenda, as well as the health and social services agenda.

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid dim ond rhoi prawf ar y cysyniad o feddygon teulu cyflogedig yr ydym—yr ydym yn darparu meddygon teulu cyflogedig. Yr ydym yn arwain yn y DU ar y mater hwn ac mae cwm Cynon yn ardal a dargedir. Bydd cyflogau'n cyfrannu'n helaeth at gynnig ateb i'r argyfwng oherwydd ymddeoliad meddygon teulu, a achoswyd am fod y genhedlaeth o feddygon, o Asia gan mwyaf, a symudodd i'r Cymoedd yn y 1960au yn agosáu at oed ymddeol. Nid o Asia y daw'r rhai a gymer eu lle; daw'r rhan fwyaf ohonynt o'r tu mewn i Gymru. Bydd llawer o'r meddygon teulu newydd yn gyflogedig gan y bydd hynny'n ddewis poblogaidd ganddynt hwy.

Leanne Wood: A dyfynnu geiriau'ch cyd-aelod, Frank Dobson, yn ôl yn 1997,

anhydraddoldebau mewn iechyd yw'r anhydraddoldebau mwyaf sylfaenol o'r cwbl. Nid oes anhydraddoldeb mwy na'r gwahaniaeth rhwng bod yn farw a bod yn fyw.

Brif Weinidog, a ydych yn cytuno â Frank Dobson, a beth y bwriadwch ei wneud ynghylch yr anhydraddoldebau iechyd yng Nghymru a'r anhydraddoldeb rhwng Cymru a gweddill Prydain?

Y Prif Weinidog: Cytunaf y byddai codi lefel iechyd a disgwyliad oes yn yr ardaloedd sydd â'r cyfraddau gwaethaf o ran afiachusrwydd a marwolaethau i lefel y gorau yng Nghymru yn gyflawniad aruthrol. Dyna un rheswm pam y mae strategaeth a arweinir gan ofal sylfaenol, cydweithredu agos ag asiantaethau allanol nad ydynt yn rhai sy'n ymwneud â iechyd yn unig—fel gwasanaethau cymdeithasol ynghylch oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal—hybu ffordd o fyw nad ydyw'n cyfrannu at glefydau'r galon neu'r frest, a dileu iechyd meddwl gwael sy'n ganlyniad i ddisgwyliadau isel oll yn bwysig dros ben. Maent i gyd yn rhan o'r agenda anhydraddoldeb. Maent yn ymwneud â llawer mwy nag iechyd fel y cyfryw—maent hefyd yn ymwneud â chanfyddiad pobl ohonynt eu hunain a'r hyn a ddisgwyliant ganddynt eu hunain a'u cymunedau. Gan hynny, mae'n rhan o'r agenda cyfiawnder cymdeithasol ac adfywio newydd, yn ogystal â'r agenda iechyd a gwasanaethau

cymdeithasol.

Cysylltiadau Trafnidaeth rhwng y Gogledd a'r De Transport Links between North and South Wales

Q7 Janet Ryder: Will the First Minister make a statement on Government plans to improve transport links between north and south Wales? (OAQ24268)

The First Minister: The Assembly Government is committed to the maintenance and development of the strategic north–south corridor as reflected in the transport framework for Wales. Janet, as you travel along the A470 frequently, as I do, you will be aware of the improvement work currently underway, at a cost of £17.5 million, in the Lledr valley between Dolwyddelan and Pont-yr-Afanc. It will be followed shortly by another scheme in that area, costing £10 million—the Blaenau Ffestiniog to Cancoed scheme.

Janer Ryder: While those schemes are welcome, much work still needs to be done on the A470. When will you come forward with a timescale for that work to be carried out, so that the people who visit the Abersoch Jazz Festival will be able to travel quickly, through Wales, to the Wales Millennium Centre?

The First Minister: We have done that, Janet. The value of the schemes in the trunk road forward programme, which are planned to start by 2008, amounts to more than £400 million. The programme includes eight schemes on the A470 north-south corridor, but that is not the only north-south route. The A487, south of Caernarfon, has also seen major investment, and you will also be aware of the massive investment in the A55 Anglesey dualling scheme, which was completed in 2001. Although it is not a north-south link, if you live in Holyhead there is no way to get to a north-south route except by going along the A55 to the Menai bridge.

3.20 p.m.

Diddymu Taliadau Presgripsiwn Abolition of Prescription Charges

C8 David Lloyd: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog

C7 Janet Ryder: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog roi datganiad ar gynlluniau'r Llywodraeth i wella'r cysylltiadau trafniadaeth rhwng y De a'r Gogledd? (OAQ24268)

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi ymrwymo i gynnal a datblygu'r coridor strategol o'r de i'r gogledd fel y dangosir yn y fframwaith trafniadaeth i Gymru. Janet, wrth ichi deithio ar hyd yr A470 yn aml, fel y gwnaf fi, byddwch yn ymwybodol o'r gwaith gwella sy'n mynd ymlaen ar hyn o bryd, ar gost o £17.5 miliwn, yn nyffryn Lledr rhwng Dolwyddelan a Phont-yr-Afanc. Fe'i dilynir cyn hir gan gynllun arall yn yr ardal honno, ar gost o £10 miliwn—cynllun Blaenau Ffestiniog i Gancoed.

Janer Ryder: Er bod y cynlluniau hynny i'w croesawu, mae angen gwneud llawer o waith o hyd ar yr A470. Pa bryd y cyflwynwch amserlen ar gyfer cyflawni'r gwaith hwnnw, fel y bydd y rhai sy'n ymweld â Gŵyl Jazz Abersoch yn gallu teithio'n gyflym, drwy Gymru, i Ganolfan Mileniwm Cymru?

Y Prif Weinidog: Gwnaethom hynny, Janet. Mae gwerth y cynlluniau yn y flaenraglen cefnffyrdd, y bwriedir iddynt ddechrau erbyn 2008, yn dod i fwy na £400 miliwn. Mae'r rhaglen yn cynnwys wyth cynllun ar ffordd yr A470 o'r de i'r gogledd, ond nid hwnnw yw'r unig lwybr o'r de i'r gogledd. Bu buddsoddi helaeth hefyd yn yr A487, i'r de o Gaernarfon, a byddwch yn ymwybodol hefyd o'r buddsoddi enfawr yng nghynllun deuoli'r A55 yn Ynys Môn, a gwblhawyd yn 2001. Er nad yw'n gyswllt rhwng y de a'r gogledd, os ydych yn byw yng Nghaergybi nid oes modd cyrraedd llwybr o'r gogledd i'r de heb fynd ar hyd yr A55 i bont Menai.

Q8 David Lloyd: Will the First Minister

roi datganiad ar ddiddymu taliadau presgripsiwn yng Nghymru? (OAQ24264)

Y Prif Weinidog: Byddwn yn diddymu taliadau presgripsiwn yng Nghymru yn ystod tymor presennol Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ôl yr addewid yn ein maniffesto. Bydd y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yn ymgynghori â rhanddeiliaid ac â swyddogion cyn hir i benderfynu ar yr amserlen a'r opsiynau mwyaf ymarferol ar gyfer gweithredu ar yr addewid hwnnw.

David Lloyd: Pam y gwnaethoch newid eich meddwl a phenderfynu ar y polisi hwn mor ddisymwth cyn yr etholiad?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae rhai pobl yn ceisio ail fyw yr etholiad fis yn rhy hwyr. Yr ydych yn penderfynu ar gynnwys eich maniffesto ac mae'r bobl yn pleidleisio ar y sail hwnnw. Ni wnaethoch chi gynnwys y polisi hwn yn eich maniffesto ac yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod yn difaru peidio â gwneud hynny. Nid oes pwynt ceisio gwneud iawn yn awr am y bwlch hwnnw yn eich maniffesto drwy gwyno am y ffordd yr ysgrifennwyd ein maniffesto. Ni a enillodd fwyaf ymarferol yn y Cynulliad ac mae'n rhy hwyr ichi wneud rhywbeth am hynny.

Jonathan Morgan: I understand the need to offer something for nothing during the election campaign. However, given how much this policy will cost, would it not be more productive to use the money to ensure that it benefits those with chronic disorders rather than offering an absolute free-for-all?

make a statement on the abolition of prescription charges in Wales? (OAQ24264)

The First Minister: We will abolish all prescription charges in Wales during the current Welsh Assembly Government term, as promised in our manifesto. The Minister for Health and Social Services will consult with stakeholders and officials shortly to decide upon the timetable and the most workable options to implement that pledge.

David Lloyd: Why did you change your mind and suddenly decide on this policy just before the election?

The First Minister: Some people are trying to fight the election a month too late. You decide on the contents of your manifesto and the people vote on that basis. You did not include this policy in your manifesto and I am sure that you regret not doing so. There is no point now in trying to make up for that gap in your manifesto by complaining about the way in which ours was written. We have won a working majority in the Assembly and it is too late for you to do anything about that.

Jonathan Morgan: Deallaf yr angen i gynnig rhywbeth am ddim yn ystod yr ymgyrch etholiadol. Er hynny, o ystyried cymaint fydd cost y polisi hwn, onid mwy cynhyrchiol fyddai defnyddio'r arian i sicrhau ei fod yn dod â budd i'r rhai sydd ag anhwylderau cronig yn hytrach na chynnig rhywbeth rhad ac am ddim i bawb?

The First Minister: It is interesting that you raise the issue of offering 'something for nothing'. Only last week, your leader, Nick Bourne—whom you do not think is worth an extra £5,500, and I sympathise with that view, Jonathan—spouted about how wonderful it would be to offer something for nothing with regard to tuition fees. It is odd for you then to say that it is not appropriate for us to offer something for nothing and to describe abolishing prescription charges as such. That is far from the case. Not only are there major health benefits to abolishing the charges, there are major benefits in terms of persuading more people who are currently not employed to move into work now that jobs are available—there are an extra 68,000 jobs in the Welsh economy now than there were last year. People are coming off incapacity benefit and single parent benefit and going on to working families' tax credits and other tax credit schemes. Not losing the free prescriptions that you get when you are out of work or on benefits is an additional incentive to do that.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'n ddiddorol eich bod yn codi'r mater o gynnig 'rhywbeth am ddim'. Dim ond yr wythnos diwethaf, bu'ch arweinydd, Nick Bourne—na chredweh ei fod yn werth £5,500 yn ychwanegol, a chydymdeimlaf â'r farn honno, Jonathan—yn parhau ynghylch pa mor wych fyddai cynnig rhywbeth am ddim o ran ffioedd hyfforddi. Mae'n rhyfedd wedyn ichi ddweud nad yw'n briodol i ni gynnig rhywbeth am ddim ac i ddisgrifio diddymu taliadau presgripsiwn felly. Mae hynny ymhell o fod yn wir. Yn ogystal â'r buddion iechyd pwysig a geir o ddiddymu'r taliadau, mae buddion pwysig o ran darbwyllo mwy o bobl nad ydynt yn gyflogedig ar hyn o bryd i ddechrau gweithio gan fod swyddi ar gael yn awr—mae 68,000 yn rhagor o swyddi yn economi Cymru yn awr nag yr oedd y llynedd. Mae pobl yn rhoi'r gorau i hawlio budd-dal analluogrwydd a budd-dal rhiant sengl gan ddod yn rhan o'r cynllun credyd treth i deuluoedd sy'n gweithio a chynlluniau credyd treth eraill. Mae peidio â cholli'r presgripsiynau am ddim a gewch pan ydych yn ddi-waith neu'n derbyn budd-daliadau yn anogaeth ychwanegol i wneud hynny.

Llanelli ac Economi Cymru Llanelli and the Welsh Economy

Q9 Catherine Thomas: Would the First Minister make a statement on how developments in the Welsh economy have impacted on the constituency of Llanelli? (OAQ24275)

C9 Catherine Thomas: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar y modd y mae datblygiadau yn economi Cymru wedi effeithio ar etholaeth Llanelli? (OAQ24275)

The First Minister: During the period of Labour Government from 1997 to 1999, and the Labour-led Assembly since then, there has been a 33 per cent drop in unemployment in the Llanelli area in terms of the claimant count. If you include those people who were previously on benefits and therefore did not technically count as being unemployed, the picture is healthier still. Not only are major investments being made in industry in Llanelli, but we are trying to create a new technological heart for Llanelli in the longer term. The proposed motor technium at Dafen and Pembrey stands out in that regard. Once we can get it up and running, it will be a flagship for the Llanelli area and will make it world famous.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yn ystod cyfnod y Llywodraeth Lafur o 1997 i 1999, a'r Cynulliad dan arweiniad Llafur ers hynny, bu gostyngiad o 33 y cant mewn diweithdra yn ardal Llanelli o ran nifer yr hawlwyd. Os cynhwysir y rhai a oedd yn derbyn budd-daliadau cynt, ac felly oedd heb eu cyfrif yn dechnegol yn rhai di-waith, mae'r darlun hyd yn oed yn iachach. Yn ogystal â'r buddsoddiadau mawr mewn diwydiant yn Llanelli, yr ydym yn ceisio creu calon dechnolegol newydd ar gyfer Llanelli yn y tymor hwy. Mae'r technium moduron arfaethedig yn Nafen a Phen-bre yn bwysig iawn yn hynny o beth. Wedi inni lwyddo i'w gychwyn, bydd yn tynnu sylw at ardal Llanelli ac yn ei gwneud yn fyd-enwog.

Catherine Thomas: On Saturday, you visited the Corus plant at Trostre, Llanelli, one of the main employers in my constituency, to celebrate 50 years of full production there. You also opened its new £10 million production line. That investment means that the plant can increase production by 30 per cent, which is excellent news for both the local and the Welsh economy. However, what is your wider prognosis for manufacturing in Wales?

The First Minister: Now that the pound has returned to what you might call a reasonable relationship with the euro—that is, the exchange rate has returned to the level it was at when the euro was launched four-and-a-half years ago—the prospects for manufacturing must be far better than they have been for the past four years. Manufacturing has undoubtedly struggled, but it will struggle less over the next four years if the exchange rate remains at its current level; we will not have an overvalued pound holding back our exports. It was interesting to visit Trostre to help inaugurate the No.6 electrolytic tinning line. Not only were there many proud people from Llanelli present, there were people there from Ebbw Vale who had moved to Llanelli and joined in the effort to strip down and rebuild that line. Had Corus bought that line new, it would have cost it £50 million and taken three years to install. As the workforce put in the effort on the shopfloor to rebuild that line, Corus had £50 million-worth of investment for £10 million. That is how you build a globally competitive centre for tinsplate manufacture in Llanelli. I have every confidence that the Trostre plant will still be there in 50 years' time.

Catherine Thomas: Ar ddydd Sadwrn, bu ichi ymweld â gwaith Corus yn Nhrostre, Llanelli, un o'r prif gyflogwyr yn fy etholaeth i, i ddathlu 50 mlynedd o gynhyrchu llawn yno. Bu ichi hefyd agor ei linell gynhyrchu newydd sy'n werth £10 miliwn. Mae'r buddsoddiad hwnnw'n golygu y gall y gwaith gynyddu ei gynhyrchiant o 30 y cant, sy'n newyddion rhagorol i'r economi leol ac i economi Cymru. Fodd bynnag, beth yw'ch prognosis ehangach ar gyfer gweithgynhyrchu yng Nghymru?

Y Prif Weinidog: Gan fod y bunt wedi dychwelyd bellach at yr hyn y gellid ei alw'n berthynas resymol â'r ewro—hynny yw, mae'r gyfradd gyfnewid wedi dychwelyd at yr un lefel â phan lanswyd yr ewro bedair blynedd a hanner yn ôl—mae'r rhagolygon ar gyfer gweithgynhyrchu'n sicr o fod yn well o lawer nag y buont dros y pedair blynedd diwethaf. Mae'n sicr bod gweithgynhyrchu wedi'i chael yn anodd, ond bydd yn llai anodd iddo dros y pedair blynedd nesaf os bydd y gyfradd gyfnewid yn aros ar ei lefel bresennol; ni fydd gennym bunt a orbrisiwyd yn dal ein hallforion yn ôl. Yr oedd yn ddiddorol ymweld â Throstre i helpu i agor llinell tunio electrolytig Rhif 6. Yn ogystal â'r nifer fawr o bobl falch o Lanelli a oedd yn bresennol, yr oedd rhai yno o Lynebwy a oedd wedi symud i Lanelli ac wedi ymuno â'r gwaith o dynnu'r llinell honno i lawr a'i hailadeiladu. Pe bai Corus wedi prynu'r llinell honno'n newydd, byddai wedi costio £50 miliwn iddo ac wedi cymryd tair blynedd i'w gosod. Gan fod y gweithlu wedi gwneud yr ymdrech ar lawr y gwaith i ailadeiladu'r llinell honno, cafodd Corus werth £50 miliwn o fuddsoddiad am £10 miliwn. Dyna'r modd i greu canolfan sy'n gystadleuol drwy'r byd ar gyfer gweithgynhyrchu tunplat yn Llanelli. Mae gennyf bob ffydd y bydd gwaith Trostre yn dal i fod yno ymhen 50 mlynedd.

Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy ac Economi Cymru Alyn and Deeside and the Welsh Economy

Q10 Carl Sargeant: Would the First Minister make a statement on how developments in the Welsh economy have impacted on the Alyn and Deeside constituency? (OAQ24279)

C10 Carl Sargeant: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar sut y mae datblygiadau yn economi Cymru wedi effeithio ar etholaeth Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy? (OAQ24279)

The First Minister: We propose to build on

Y Prif Weinidog: Bwriadwn adeiladu ar sail

the policies in 'A Winning Wales', which are working well. Alyn and Deeside has benefited considerably from support from the Assembly Government's regional selective assistance scheme and, since July 1999, grant offers of over £11 million have been made to 52 companies. You will know of some of those companies because they are substantial: for example, Faurecia and Almedica on Deeside, which supply products to the automotive and pharmaceutical industries respectively.

Carl Sargeant: Unlike some members of the opposition, I am happy to talk up north Wales, as it is a wonderful area with great prospects. In recent years, the Welsh Assembly Government has worked in partnership with business and the trade unions to create employment opportunities that have benefited many of my constituents. What else do you envisage being done in my constituency to encourage and motivate smaller enterprises?

The First Minister: I did not mention smaller enterprises earlier; in connection with Alyn and Deeside one tends to think first of Airbus and other large employers and of Deeside industrial park, which is probably the most successful business park in Great Britain. However, it is also important to build on the successful small and medium sized-enterprise base in Deeside. Assembly investment grants are given to small and medium-sized firms, regardless of whether they are in assisted areas or not. It is interesting to note that Alyn and Deeside, which has approximately 2.5 per cent of the population of Wales, has received 8 per cent of the Assembly investment grants. That demonstrates that Alyn and Deeside has a healthy small and medium-sized enterprise base, which helps to serve Airbus and the larger employers. That combination of large employers and a healthy supplier base to serve them is the recipe for a successful economy.

Alun Ffred Jones: Gan mai 'targedau' yw un o hoff eiriau Llafur, a chan fod y strategaeth datblygu economaidd wedi methu ym mhob rhan o Gymru, gan gynnwys

y polisiau yn 'Cymru'n Ennill', sy'n gweithio'n dda. Mae Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy wedi elwa'n sylweddol ar gymorth o gynllun cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ac, ers Gorffennaf 1999, cynigiwyd mwy nag £11 miliwn ar ffurf grantiau i 52 o gwmnïau. Byddwch yn gwybod am rai o'r cwmnïau hynny am eu bod yn rhai mawr: er enghraifft, Faurecia ac Almedica yng Nglannau Dyfrdwy, sy'n cyflenwi cynhyrchion ar gyfer y diwydiant moduron a'r diwydiant fferyllol, yn y drefn honno.

Carl Sargeant: Yn wahanol i rai Aelodau o'r wrthblaid, yr wyf yn falch o ganu clodydd y Gogledd, gan ei fod yn ardal ragorol a chanddi ragolygon gwych. Yn y blynyddoedd diweddar, mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi gweithio mewn partneriaeth â busnes a'r undebau llafur i greu cyfleoedd gwaith a fu o fudd i lawer o'm hetholwyr. Beth arall y rhagwelwch gaiff ei wneud yn fy etholaeth i i hybu a symbylu busnesau llai?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ni chyfeiriais at fusnesau llai yn gynharach; mewn cysylltiad ag Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy, mae rhywun yn tueddu i feddwl yn gyntaf am Airbus a chyflogwyr mawr eraill ac am barc diwydiannol Glannau Dyfrdwy, sef y parc busnes mwyaf llwyddiannus ym Mhrydain Fawr, yn ôl pob tebyg. Er hynny, mae hefyd yn bwysig adeiladu ar sail y busnesau bach a chanolig eu maint llwyddiannus sydd wedi'u lleoli yng Nglannau Dyfrdwy. Rhoddir grantiau buddsoddi'r Cynulliad i fusnesau bach a chanolig eu maint, heb ystyried a ydynt mewn rhanbarth cymorth ai peidio. Mae'n ddiddorol nodi bod Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy, sydd â thua 2.5 y cant o boblogaeth Cymru, wedi derbyn 8 y cant o grantiau buddsoddi'r Cynulliad. Dengys hynny fod gan Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy sylfaen iach o fusnesau bach a chanolig eu maint, sy'n helpu i wasanaethu Airbus a'r cyflogwyr mwy. Y cyfuniad hwnnw o gyflogwyr mawr a sylfaen iach o gyflenwyr i'w gwasanaethu yw'r modd i gael economi lwyddiannus.

Alun Ffred Jones: As 'targets' is one of Labour's favourite words, and given that the economic development strategy has failed in all parts of Wales, including Caernarfon, why

Caernarfon, pam nad ydych wedi gosod targedau rhanbarthol ar gyfer creu swyddi?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae gennym dargedau rhanbarthol, gan fod rhan o Gymru yn ardal Amcan 1. Mae aelodau blaenllaw o'ch plaid yn gofyn am saith targed rhanbarthol, a thorri Cymru yn saith rhanbarth. Mae hynny'n hollol anymarferol. Gwn ei bod yn ddadl ac mae gan Blaid Cymru hawl i'w gwneud. Ni chredaf bod y syniad yn ymarferol ac ni chredaf fod arbenigwyr yn meddwl ei fod yn ymarferol ychwaith. Mae pob rhyddid gennych ddewis y polisi hwnnw, ond ni chredaf y bydd neb yn pleidleisio drosto.

Mark Isherwood: Average incomes in Flintshire remain below those across the border in Cheshire, yet people in Flintshire receive the second lowest rate of support grant per person in Wales. When will your Government start funding school children, the vulnerable and the elderly infirm in Flintshire and adjoining counties on the basis of what they need rather than where they live?

The First Minister: You are right to draw attention to the relationship between Flintshire and Cheshire. That is the problem of the multiplier effect in Wales: prosperity in Flintshire creates professional service jobs in Cheshire rather than in north Wales. A smaller version of the problem exists in south Wales, as many companies use accountancy practices in Bristol because that is the location of the head office. However, the problem in south Wales is not as acute as it is in Flintshire and Cheshire. It has been that way for hundreds of years. I wish that we could get people to use lawyers, accountants and other professionals in north Wales rather than going across the border to Cheshire, Liverpool and Manchester. However, there is nothing that you can do about it; you are fighting centuries of history. The issue is how you attract top-level jobs to Wales as well as the jobs in factories and in basic-level service industry complexes. If we could attract those jobs, Welsh gross domestic product per capita would rapidly approach that of the adjoining areas in England, and the problems that you mention would disappear. However, it is difficult to do that when you are trying to counter centuries of behaviour. There is no

have you not set regional targets for job creation?

The First Minister: We have regional targets, as part of Wales is an Objective 1 area. Prominent members of your party have asked for seven regional targets, splitting Wales into seven regions. That is wholly impractical. I know that it is an argument and Plaid Cymru has a right to make that argument. I do not believe that the idea is practical and I do not believe that experts believe it to be practical either. You are free to choose that policy, but I do not believe that anyone will vote for it.

Mark Isherwood: Mae'r incwm cyfartalog yn sir y Fflint yn dal i fod yn is na'r rhai dros y ffin yn swydd Gaer, ac eto mae pobl sir y Fflint yn derbyn y gyfradd ail isaf o grant cynnal y pen yng Nghymru. Pa bryd y gwnaiff eich Llywodraeth ddechrau cyllido plant ysgol, y rhai sy'n agored i niwed a'r henoed eiddil yn sir y Fflint a'r siroedd cyfagos ar sail eu hangen yn hytrach nag ym mhle y maent yn byw?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'n briodol ichi dynnu sylw at y berthynas rhwng sir y Fflint a swydd Gaer. Dyna broblem yr effaith drawsluosi yng Nghymru: mae ffyniant yn sir y Fflint yn creu swyddi gwasanaethu proffesiynol yn swydd Gaer yn hytrach nag yng ngogledd Cymru. Ceir fersiwn llai o'r broblem yn y De, gan fod llawer o gwmnïau'n defnyddio cwmnïau cyfrifo ym Mryste am mai yno y mae'r brif swyddfa. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'r broblem yn y De cyn waethed ag ydyw yn sir y Fflint a swydd Gaer. Felly y bu am ganrifoedd. Byddai'n dda gennyf pe gallem berswadio pobl i ddefnyddio cyfreithwyr, cyfrifwyr a gweithwyr proffesiynol eraill yn y Gogledd yn hytrach na mynd dros y ffin i swydd Gaer, Lerpwl a Manceinion. Fodd bynnag, nid oes dim y gallwch wneud yn ei gylch; yr ydych yn ymladd yn erbyn canrifoedd o hanes. Y mater dan sylw yw sut y gellir denu swyddi ar y lefel uchaf i Gymru yn ogystal â'r swyddi mewn ffatrïoedd ac yng nghanolfannau diwydiannau gwasanaethu sylfaenol. Os gallem ddenu'r swyddi hynny, byddai'r cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth y pen yng Nghymru'n codi'n gyflym at yr hyn a geir yn yr ardaloedd cyfagos yn Lloegr, a

magic wand.

byddai'r problemau y cyfeiriwch atynt yn diflannu. Fodd bynnag, anodd yw gwneud hynny a chithau'n ceisio gwrthweithio ymddygiad a fodolodd am ganrifoedd. Nid oes hudlath ar gael.

3.30 p.m.

Datganiad ar Ddiswyddiadau yn LG Philips Displays Statement on the LG Philips Displays Redundancies

The Presiding Officer: Before I call the Minister for Economic Development and Transport to speak, I draw Members' attention to the fact that the business statement will follow this statement on LG Philips, in accordance with our customary practice. However, having checked procedure, I note that the Business Committee agreed on 11 March, in the previous Assembly, that business statements would normally precede other statements. However, I will continue with business as set out on the agenda today.

The Minister for Economic Development and Transport (Andrew Davies): This statement is on the announcement by LG Philips Displays on 22 May that it was planning to close its Newport plant, making 870 employees redundant.

As Members will know, as soon as the company's press notice was issued, I issued a statement to all Assembly Members expressing the Assembly Government's extreme disappointment at the news. Before turning to the closure, and our work in helping those being made redundant, I will refer to developments over the past few months.

As many of you are aware, rumours have been circulating about the plant's future for some time. Welsh Office officials and, from 1999, Assembly Government officials, have been in regular contact with the company since the original investment in 1997. Toward the end of last year, however, it became clear that matters beyond local management needed to be addressed, and I asked senior Assembly Government officials and the Welsh Development Agency to follow these up. Two meetings were held with the managing director of LGPD Europe,

Y Llywydd: Cyn imi alw ar y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth i siarad, tynnaf sylw Aelodau at y ffaith y bydd y datganiad busnes yn dilyn y datganiad hwn ar LG Philips, yn unol â'n harfer arferol. Fodd bynnag, a minnau wedi gwirio'r weithdrefn, sylwaf fod y Pwyllgor Busnes wedi cytuno ar 11 Mawrth, yn y Cynulliad blaenorol, y bydd datganiadau busnes yn dod o flaen datganiadau eraill fel arfer. Fodd bynnag, gwnaf barhau â busnes fel y mae wedi'i nodi ar yr agenda heddiw.

Y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth (Andrew Davies): Mae'r datganiad hwn yn ymwneud â'r cyhoeddiad gan LG Philips Displays ar 22 Mai ei fod yn bwriadu cau ei waith yng Nghasnewydd, gan ddiswyddo 870 o weithwyr.

Fel y gŵyr Aelodau, cyn gynted ag y cyhoeddwyd hysbysiad y cwmni i'r wasg, rhoddais ddatganiad i holl Aelodau'r Cynulliad gan fynegi siom ddybryd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad o glywed y newyddion. Cyn troi at y cau, a'n gwaith o ran helpu'r rhai a ddiswyddir, cyfeiriaf at ddatblygiadau dros yr ychydig fisoedd diwethaf.

Fel y gŵyr llawer ohonoch, mae sŷon ar led ynghylch dyfodol y gwaith ers cryn amser. Bu swyddogion y Swyddfa Gymreig ac, ers 1999, swyddogion Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, mewn cysylltiad rheolaidd â'r cwmni ers y buddsoddi gwreiddiol yn 1997. Tua diwedd y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, fodd bynnag, daeth yn amlwg bod angen ymdrin â materion y tu hwnt i gwmpas y rheolwyr lleol, a gofynnais i uwch swyddogion Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ac Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru fynd ar eu trywydd. Cynhaliwyd dau gyfarfod gyda rheolwr gyfarwyddwr LGPD Europe, a

and a third meeting was held with the chairman and the chief executive officer of LGPD in Hong Kong. At those meetings, the difficulties in the picture tube market were discussed, and the company was urged to consider introducing other products at Newport.

As soon as we became aware that a decision was imminent, I wrote to Andreas Wenté, the chairman and chief executive officer of LGPD, to express my grave disappointment at the company's decision, and to ask him to reconsider the company's position. Mr Wenté's response, and the company's subsequent statement, makes clear that the decision was due to the global economic environment and the impact that the television and computer monitor tube markets had had on the company. Attempts were made by the company last year to broaden the Newport plant's product portfolio, but this did not bring about a turnaround in its operations.

Mr Wenté also assured me that the decision in no way reflects on the performance of the plant or of the employees, who have consistently shown great commitment over the years. The company has already closed plants elsewhere in Europe, and the announcement on 22 May also referred to the closure of a plant in Southport, England. However, the planned closure does not affect the adjacent LG Electronics Wales plant, which assembles monitors and computers, and for which demand continues to increase. That plant currently employs 430 people.

Also, through the WDA, we are in contact with the suppliers to the LGPD plant, and are keeping a close eye on them. The immediate task, however, is to ensure that the LG employees receive every possible assistance to find alternative employment. Following my letter to Mr Wenté, I received an assurance from him that the company will co-operate fully with Team Wales agencies to help staff find new employment. We understand that 800 employees will leave at the end of the 90 days consultation period on 20 August. Decommissioning will then begin at the plant, and the remaining 70 staff will leave when this is completed at the end of the

chynhaliwyd trydydd cyfarfod gyda chadeirydd a phrif weithredwr LGPD yn Hong Kong. Yn y cyfarfodydd hynny, trafodwyd yr anawsterau yn y farchnad tiwbiau llun, ac anogwyd y cwmni i ystyried cyflwyno cynhyrchion eraill yng Nghasnewydd.

Cyn gynted ag y cawsom wybod bod penderfyniad ar fin cael ei wneud, ysgrifennais at Andreas Wenté, cadeirydd a phrif weithredwr LGPD, i fynegi fy siom ddirfawr ym mhenderfyniad y cwmni, ac i ofyn iddo ailystyried safbwynt y cwmni. Yn ymateb Mr Wenté, ac yn natganiad y cwmni wedyn, rhoddir ar ddeall bod y penderfyniad yn ganlyniad i'r amgylchedd economaidd byd-eang a'r effaith a gafodd y marchnadoedd tiwbiau teledu a monitorau cyfrifiadur ar y cwmni. Ceisiodd y cwmni ehangu portffolio cynhyrchion y gwaith yng Nghasnewydd y llynedd, ond ni fu hynny'n fodd i drawsnewid ei weithrediadau.

Cefais sicrwydd gan Mr Wenté hefyd nad yw'r penderfyniad yn adlewyrchu o gwbl ar berfformiad y gwaith neu'r gweithwyr, sydd wedi amlygu ymroddiad mawr yn gyson dros y blynyddoedd. Mae'r cwmni eisoes wedi cau gweithfeydd mewn mannau eraill yn Ewrop, ac yr oedd y cyhoeddiad ar 22 Mai yn cyfeirio hefyd at gau gwaith yn Southport, Lloegr. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'r bwriad i gau yn effeithio ar waith cyfagos LG Electronics Wales, lle y cydosodir monitorau a chyfrifiaduron, y ceir galw cynyddol amdanynt. Mae'r gwaith hwnnw'n cyflogi 430 o bobl ar hyn o bryd.

Hefyd, drwy'r WDA, yr ydym mewn cysylltiad â chyflenwyr gwaith LGPD, ac yr ydym yn cadw llygad barcud arnynt. Y dasg gyntaf, fodd bynnag, yw sicrhau y caiff gweithwyr LG bob cymorth posibl i ddod o hyd i waith arall. Yn dilyn fy llythyr at Mr Wenté, derbyniais sicrwydd ganddo y bydd y cwmni'n cydweithredu'n llawn ag asiantaethau Tîm Cymru i helpu staff i ddod o hyd i waith newydd. Deallwn y bydd 800 o weithwyr yn gadael ar ddiwedd y cyfnod ymgynghori 90 diwrnod ar 20 Awst. Wedyn dechreuir digomisiynu'r gwaith, a bydd y 70 o staff sy'n weddill yn gadael ar ôl cwblhau hynny ar ddiwedd y flwyddyn.

year.

The company has appointed an outplacement agency to assist the redundant workers. There have already been two meetings held with the Team Wales agencies—the WDA, Jobcentre Plus, Education and Learning Wales, Newport City Council, and Careers Wales—and an action plan has been agreed on the way forward. I have also been in contact with the trade union at the plant, Amicus, to ensure its involvement in this process. An information centre is being established on site, and advice will begin to be given in the next day or so. We will monitor the situation carefully to ensure that the employees receive every possible assistance.

I reiterate that the Assembly Government is extremely disappointed at the company's decision, and our thoughts are with those who will be made redundant, their families, and the communities in which they live. However, this workforce is well trained and, despite this setback, the overall position of the electronics sector, and of the labour market in that part of Wales, is good. I will visit several electronics companies in the area later this month. Members may already know that several companies have already made the LG employees aware of vacancies, and the process of identifying suitable alternative employment will intensify over the coming weeks and months. We are therefore reasonably confident that most of the employees will be able to find new employment relatively quickly and we will work with the company, the trade union, and the Team Wales support agencies, to ensure that that happens.

Elin Jones: Rhannaf siom y Gweinidog ynglŷn â chyhoeddiad LG Philips. Cydymdeimlaf â'r gweithwyr sy'n colli eu swyddi. Yr wyf yn cymryd yn ganiataol y bydd y Gweinidog yn gweithio gyda'r asiantaethau perthnasol i helpu'r gweithwyr hynny i ganfod gwaith arall ac i ganfod defnydd newydd ar gyfer y safle yng Nghasnewydd. Rhaid i ni ddysgu gwersi o gawdel LG. Cofiw'n Weinidogion Torïaidd yn 1996-97 yn baglu dros ei gilydd i groesawu prosiect LG i Gasnewydd. Rhoesant becyn gwerth £247 miliwn—hanner y gyllideb gyfan ar gyfer datblygu economaidd

Mae'r cwmni wedi penodi asiantaeth all-leoli i gynorthwyo'r gweithwyr a ddiswyddir. Cynhaliwyd dau gyfarfod eisoes ag asiantaethau Tîm Cymru—y WDA, Canolfan Byd Gwaith, Dysgu ac Addysgu Cymru, Cyngor Dinas Casnewydd, a Gyrfa Cymru—a chytunwyd ar gynllun gweithredu ar gyfer y ffordd ymlaen. Bûm mewn cysylltiad hefyd â'r undeb llafur yn y gwaith, Amicus, i sicrhau ei fod yn cymryd rhan yn y broses hon. Sefydli'r canolfan wybodaeth ar y safle, a dechreuir rhoi cyngor yn y dyddiau nesaf. Byddwn yn cadw golwg manwl ar y sefyllfa i sicrhau bod y gweithwyr yn cael pob cymorth posibl.

Dywedaf eto fod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn siomedig tu hwnt ym mhenderfyniad y cwmni, ac mae'r rhai a ddiswyddir, eu teuluoedd, a'r cymunedau lle y maent yn byw yn ein meddyliau. Fodd bynnag, mae'r gweithlu hwn wedi'i hyfforddi'n dda ac, er gwaethaf yr anffawd hon, mae sefyllfa gyffredinol y sector electroneg, a'r farchnad lafur yn y rhan honno o Gymru, yn dda. Byddaf yn ymweld â nifer o gwmnïau electroneg yn yr ardal yn ddiweddarach y mis hwn. Efallai y gŵyr Aelodau'n barod fod sawl cwmni eisoes wedi rhoi gwybod i weithwyr LG am swyddi gwag, a bydd y broses o ganfod gwaith arall addas yn dwysáu dros yr wythnosau a'r misoedd nesaf. Gan hynny, yr ydym yn weddol ffyddiog y gall y rhan fwyaf o'r gweithwyr ddod o hyd i waith newydd yn gymharol fuan a gweithiwn gyda'r cwmni, yr undeb llafur, ac asiantaethau cymorth Tîm Cymru, i ofalu bod hynny'n digwydd.

Elin Jones: I share the Minister's disappointment about LG Philips's announcement. I sympathise with the workers who are losing their jobs. I take it as read that the Minister will work with the relevant agencies to help those workers to find alternative employment and to find a new use for the site in Newport. We must learn lessons from the LG debacle. We remember Tory Ministers in 1996-97 falling over each other to welcome the LG project to Newport. They gave a package worth £247 million—half the entire economic development budget today—to one company. As the First

heddiw—i un cwmni. Fel y dywedodd y Prif Weinidog, rhoddwyd yr wyau i gyd mewn un basged. Rheibiwyd cyllidebau addysg uwch, prifysolion, colegau addysg bellach a phrosiectau cyfalaf yn y Cymoedd gan y Swyddfa Gymreig er mwyn neilltuo £247 miliwn ar gyfer prosiect LG. Mae'r colegau a'r prifysgolion yn parhau i gofio'r toriadau a wnaethpwyd yn eu cyllidebau ar ddiwedd y 1990au oherwydd LG. Beth yw cost prosiect LG i drethdalwyr Cymru? A fyddai'r arian hwn wedi arwain at greu swyddi a llewyrch tymor hir pe bai wedi ei wario ar ddatblygu busnesau bach a chanolig eu maint ar draws Cymru? Rhaid i'r Gweinidog agor y llyfrau ar LG. A wnewch baratoi adroddiad cynhwysfawr i'r Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth gan roi manylion yr holl wariant cyhoeddus ar brosiect LG dros y pum mlynedd diwethaf? Mae gennych gyfrifoldeb i fod yn dryloyw, Weinidog, ac i beidio â chuddio y tu ôl i gyfrinachedd masnachol cwmni rhyngwladol fel LG, sydd wedi siomi eu gweithwyr yng Nghasnewydd, a Chymru, yn y pythefnos diwethaf.

Andrew Davies: You used the same expression as the First Minister did about putting all our eggs in one basket. One lesson that we must learn is that inward investment is to be welcomed but not at the risk of distorting the economy and budgets. Your point about the Welsh Office was well made and we are aware of those issues. It is on record that the total support package offered was £247 million. That was set against an expected investment by LG of over £1,600 million and the creation of 6,100 jobs. However, that number of jobs was never created and we are discussing with the company reclaiming some elements of the money that was paid—not all the money offered was paid. However, to say that commercial confidentiality is being used to protect the interest of a multinational company is misleading and nonsense. When we deal with companies in relation to RSA or the Assembly investment grant, we must do so on the basis of commercial confidentiality because they are providing confidential information about their sources of income and their business funds. It would be inappropriate to divulge that information.

Minister said, all the eggs were put in one basket. The Welsh Office plundered the budgets for higher education, universities, further education colleges and capital projects in the Valleys in order to set aside £247 million for the LG project. The colleges and the universities still remember the cuts that were made in their budgets at the end of the 1990s because of LG. What is the cost of the LG project to taxpayers in Wales? Would this money have led to the creation of jobs and long-term prosperity had it been spent on developing small and medium-sized businesses across Wales? The Minister must now open the books on LG. Will he prepare a comprehensive report for the Economic Development and Transport Committee giving details of all public expenditure on the LG project over the past five years? It is your responsibility to be transparent, Minister, and not to hide behind the commercial confidentiality of an international company like LG, which has let down its workers in Newport, and Wales, in the last two weeks.

Andrew Davies: Bu ichi ddefnyddio'r un ymadrodd â'r Prif Weinidog am roi ein hwyau i gyd mewn un fasedg. Un wers y mae'n rhaid inni ei dysgu yw bod mewnfuddsoddi i'w groesawu, ond nid os ydyw'n camystumio'r economi a chyllidebau. Gwnaethoch bwynt da am y Swyddfa Gymreig ac yr ydym yn ymwybodol o'r materion hynny. Mae'n hysbys mai cyfanswm gwerth y pecyn cymorth a gynigiwyd oedd £247 miliwn. Rhoddwyd hynny yng nghyd-destun buddsoddiad disgwylidig gan LG o fwy na £1,600 miliwn a chreu 6,100 o swyddi. Fodd bynnag, ni chrewyd y nifer hwnnw o swyddi erioed ac yr ydym yn trafod adennill rhai elfennau o'r arian a dalwyd gyda'r cwmni—ni thalwyd y cwbl o'r arian a gynigiwyd. Er hynny, camarweiniol a disynnwyr yw dweud bod cyfrinachedd masnachol yn cael ei ddefnyddio i warchod buddiant cwmni rhyngwladol. Pan ydym yn delio â chwmnïau mewn cysylltiad â chymorth rhanbarthol dewisol neu grant buddsoddi'r Cynulliad, rhaid inni wneud hynny gan gadw cyfrinachedd masnachol gan eu bod yn darparu gwybodaeth gyfrinachol am eu ffynonellau incwm a'u cronfeydd busnes.

Byddai'n amhriodol datgelu'r wybodaeth honno.

The National Audit Office is considering the assistance given to the LG project and what was delivered and will report to the Audit Committee in due course. The Auditor General investigated the levels of inward investment offered to LG Electronics in 1998 and concluded that the investment aid package fully complied with the requirements. Procedures are in place and being used and the report will be submitted to the Audit Committee in due course. That is the appropriate procedure to follow in these cases.

Rosemary Butler: As the Assembly Member for Newport West, I am deeply concerned about the workers, who are losing their jobs through no fault of their own, and their families. The workforce is committed, highly-skilled and motivated. I welcome that the Assembly Government, Team Wales and Newport City Council are taking action. I am impressed that JobCentre Plus, Careers Wales and ELWa have already made arrangements on site to provide advice on benefits and alternative employment to workers. I am pleased that you will visit other electronics factories in the near future, and that you are promoting the workforce to ensure that they get first choice of any jobs. It is disappointing, but we must remember that the market is buoyant at present. This is a superb site, on the edge of a thriving city. The National Assembly must ensure that all possible assistance is given to Newport City Council, so that it can promote the site and develop more jobs for the future.

Mae'r Swyddfa Archwilio Genedlaethol yn ystyried y cymorth a roddwyd i brosiect LG a'r hyn a gyflawnwyd a bydd yn adrodd i'r Pwyllgor Archwilio gyda hyn. Ymchwiliodd yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol i'r lefelau o fewnfuddsoddi a gynigiwyd i LG Electronics yn 1998 a daeth i'r casgliad bod y pecyn cymorth buddsoddi yn cydymffurfio'n llwyr â'r gofynion. Mae gweithdrefnau wedi'u sefydlu ac yn cael eu defnyddio a chyflwynir yr adroddiad i'r Pwyllgor Archwilio gyda hyn. Dyna'r weithdrefn briodol i'w dilyn yn yr achosion hyn.

Rosemary Butler: Fel yr Aelod Cynulliad dros Orllewin Casnewydd, yr wyf yn bryderus tu hwnt ynghylch y gweithwyr, sy'n colli eu swyddi heb fod unrhyw fai arnynt hwy am hynny, a'u teuluoedd. Mae'r gweithlu'n ymroddedig, yn hyfedr ac yn frwdfrydig. Croesawaf y ffaith bod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, Tîm Cymru a Chyngor Dinas Casnewydd yn cymryd camau. Mae gennyf feddwl mawr o'r ffaith bod Canolfan Byd Gwaith, Gyrfa Cymru ac ELWa eisoes wedi gwneud trefniadau ar y safle i ddarparu cyngor ar fudd-daliadau a gwaith arall ar gyfer gweithwyr. Yr wyf yn falch y byddwch yn ymweld â ffatrioedd electroneg eraill yn y dyfodol agos, a'ch bod yn hyrwyddo'r gweithlu er mwyn sicrhau y cânt y dewis cyntaf o unrhyw swyddi. Mae'n siomedig, ond rhaid inni gofio bod y farchnad yn fywiog ar hyn o bryd. Mae hwn yn safle gwych, ar gyrion dinas lewyrchus. Rhaid i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol sicrhau y rhoddir pob cymorth posibl i Gyngor Dinas Casnewydd, fel y gall hyrwyddo'r safle a datblygu rhagor o swyddi ar gyfer y dyfodol.

3.40 p.m.

Andrew Davies: I stand corrected on the council's title. The council leader and the leader of the Welsh Local Government Association, Sir Harry Jones, were among the first people to whom I spoke following the announcement. I am delighted that they have joined Team Wales to address the issues.

Andrew Davies: Derbyniaf fy nghywiro ar deitl y cyngor. Yr oedd arweinydd y cyngor ac arweinydd Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, Syr Harry Jones, ymysg y rhai cyntaf y bûm yn siarad â hwy wedi i'r cyhoeddiad gael ei wneud. Yr wyf wrth fy modd eu bod wedi ymuno â Thîm Cymru er mwyn ymdrin â'r materion dan sylw.

We must bear in mind that, when LG opened,

Rhaid inni gofio, pan agorwyd gwaith LG,

about 60 per cent of the employees travelled to work from outside the Newport area. Therefore, many communities in that travel-to-work area will be affected. Workers travelled from Caerphilly, Blaenau Gwent and other areas to the LG plant and continue to do so. We must consider the implications across the board. You are right to say that the labour market in Newport—and south-east Wales in general—is buoyant. The First Minister referred to relevant figures earlier in today's Plenary. I am, therefore, reasonably confident that we can help LGPD workers into alternative employment. The situation is different to that of other major manufacturers such as Corus and Dewhirst, as their employees had spent most of their lives working in those industries. The LG workers have spent a shorter time working in their industry, although I am not trying to belittle their experience. They have been trained to a high level, so it will be easier for them to find alternative work. We will work with all relevant bodies, including the local authority, to help them with that process.

Alun Cairns: I will highlight three issues in response to the Minister's statement. First, I thank him for his statement. The Welsh Conservatives express our regret and sympathy to those who have lost their jobs and wish them well in seeking alternative employment in the immediate vicinity, if that is their wish.

My second point relates to the grant. I was extremely disappointed to hear Elin Jones's comments. I seem to remember that, when the announcement was made and the coup was made public in 1996, all parties enjoyed the celebrations. A £1.2 billion investment had been gained for Newport, and Europe's largest ever inward investment project was coming to south Wales. That fact was celebrated, and all parties took credit for it—Team Wales, Newport Borough Council, the Welsh Office, the Secretary of State for Wales at the time, William Hague, and Members of Parliament of all parties joined in the success and hailed the fact that the investment displayed so much confidence in the Welsh economy.

fod tua 60 y cant o'r gweithwyr yn teithio i'r gwaith o'r tu allan i ardal Casnewydd. Gan hynny, bydd hyn yn effeithio ar lawer o gymunedau yn yr ardal teithio i'r gwaith honno. Teithiai gweithwyr o Gaerffili, Blaenau Gwent ac ardaloedd eraill i waith LG ac maent yn dal i wneud hynny. Rhaid inni gofio'r goblygiadau cyffredinol. Yr ydych yn iawn wrth ddweud bod y farchnad lafur yng Nghasnewydd—ac yn y Ddeddwyrain yn gyffredinol—yn fywiog. Cyfeiriodd y Prif Weinidog at ffigurau perthnasol yn gynharach yn y Cyfarfod Llawn heddiw. Gan hynny, yr wyf yn eithaf ffyddiog y gallwn helpu gweithwyr LGPD i gael gwaith arall. Mae'r sefyllfa'n wahanol i un gweithgynhyrchwyr mawr eraill fel Corus a Dewhirst, gan fod eu gweithwyr wedi treuo'r rhan fwyaf o'u hoes yn gweithio yn y diwydiannau hynny. Mae gweithwyr LG wedi treulio cyfnod byrrach yn gweithio yn eu diwydiant, er nad wyf yn ceisio bychanu eu profiad. Fe'u hyfforddwyd fel eu bod yn hyfedr, felly bydd yn haws iddynt ddod o hyd i waith arall. Gwnawn weithio gyda'r holl gyreff perthnasol, gan gynnwys yr awdurdod lleol, i'w helpu yn y broses honno.

Alun Cairns: Tynnaf sylw at dri mater mewn ymateb i ddatganiad y Gweinidog. Yn gyntaf, diolchaf iddo am ei ddatganiad. Yr ydym ni Geidwadwyr Cymru'n mynegi ein gofid a'n cydymdeimlad â'r rhai a gollodd eu swyddi ac yn dymuno'n dda iddynt wrth iddynt geisio gwaith arall yn y cyffiniau, os mai hynny yw eu dymuniad.

Mae'r ail bwynt sydd gennyf yn ymwneud â'r grant. Yr oeddwn yn dra siomedig o glywed sylwadau Elin Jones. Yr wyf yn rhyw gofio, pan wnaed y cyhoeddiad a phan roddwyd gwybod am y gamp i'r cyhoedd yn 1996, i'r holl bleidiau fwynhau'r dathliadau. Sicrhawyd buddsoddiad o £1.2 biliwn ar gyfer Casnewydd, ac yr oedd y prosiect mewnffuddsoddi mwyaf erioed yn Ewrop yn dod i'r De. Dathlwyd hynny, a chymerodd pob ochr glod amdano—Tîm Cymru, Cyngor Bwrdeistref Casnewydd, y Swyddfa Gymreig, Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru ar y pryd, William Hague, ac ymunodd Aelodau Seneddol o bob plaid yn y llwyddiant a gwneud yn fawr o'r ffaith bod y buddsoddiad yn dangos cymaint o hyder yn economi Cymru.

However, not all of the £247 million of grant offered should have been paid. Regional selective assistance is drawn down as soon as jobs are created, but it does not seem that that was the case in this instance. We know that £30 million of RSA was paid when it should not have been paid. The Minister has cited commercial confidentiality as the reason—or it may be an excuse—why he cannot discuss this. We know that that is not the case. Is it not time for the Minister to come clean and admit that £30 million was paid in error in 1997? That was after May 1997, before anyone points to the last Conservative Government. The agreement was struck before the general election, but the grants were drawn down after the 1997 general election. If the information is commercially confidential, will you publish the legal advice that says that, so that we can scrutinise your decision? We know that you did everything possible not to talk about this before the Assembly elections. Some of your colleagues on the Economic Development Committee have given you every support in not talking about the overpayment of £30 million of RSA to LG. That money should not have been paid. It was paid in error by the Labour Government at the time. Therefore, in one way, I can respect Elin Jones's point about the scale of the grant, because part of the grant should not have been paid as the jobs were not created.

My final point relates to LG's statement. This is a serious question and I hope that the Minister will consider his response carefully. When did he know that those jobs were likely to be lost? I was told in February. I wrote to him on 28 February, highlighting concerns about the rumours that jobs would be lost. Did the Minister seek, in any way, to delay the announcement over the job losses? Did he use influence over the RSA grant that was paid in error? In negotiations, did it ever come up, either from the Minister's officials or on the Minister's suggestion, in any way, shape or form, that this announcement would be delayed until after the Assembly elections? That information is coming from senior sources at LG and the Welsh Development Agency. Everyone else is discussing this and it is about time that the

Fodd bynnag, ni ddylasid talu'r cwbl o'r grant o £247 miliwn a gynigiwyd. Ceir cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol cyn gynted ag y creir swyddi, ond nid ymddengys mai dyna a ddigwyddodd yn yr achos hwn. Gwyddom fod £30 miliwn o gymorth rhanbarthol dewisol wedi'i dalu pan na ddylasid gwneud hynny. Dywedodd y Gweinidog mai cyfrinachedd masnachol yw'r rheswm—neu gallai fod yn esgus—pam na allwn drafod hyn. Gwyddom nad felly y mae. Onid yw'n bryd i'r Gweinidog gyffesu'r cwbl a chyfaddef bod £30 miliwn wedi'i dalu drwy amryfusedd yn 1997? Yr oedd hynny ar ôl Mai 1997, cyn i unrhyw un bwyntio at y Llywodraeth Geidwadol ddiwethaf. Gwnaed y cytundeb cyn yr etholiad cyffredinol, ond cafwyd y grantiau ar ôl etholiad cyffredinol 1997. Os yw'r wybodaeth yn fasnachol gyfrinachol, a wnewch gyhoeddi'r cyngor cyfreithiol a ddywed hynny, fel y gallwn graffu ar eich penderfyniad? Gwyddom ichi wneud popeth o fewn eich gallu i beidio â sôn am hyn cyn etholiadau'r Cynulliad. Mae rhai o'ch cyd-aelodau ar y Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd wedi rhoi pob cefnogaeth ichi beidio â sôn am ordalu £30 miliwn o gymorth rhanbarthol dewisol i LG. Ni ddylasid talu'r arian hwnnw. Fe'i talwyd drwy amryfusedd gan y Llywodraeth Lafur ar y pryd. Gan hynny, ar un ystyr, gallaf barchu'r pwynt a wnaeth Elin Jones am faint y grant, oherwydd ni ddylasid talu rhan o'r grant gan na chrewyd y swyddi.

Mae'r pwynt olaf sydd gennyf yn ymwneud â datganiad LG. Cwestiwn difrif yw hwn a gobeithiaf y bydd y Gweinidog yn ystyried ei ymateb yn ofalus. Pa bryd y gwyddai fod swyddi'n debygol o gael eu colli? Dywedwyd wrthyf fi ym mis Chwefror. Ysgrifennais ato ar 28 Chwefror, gan dynnu sylw at bryderon ynghylch y sïon y byddai swyddi'n cael eu colli. A geisiodd y Gweinidog ohirio'r cyhoeddiad am y colledion swyddi mewn unrhyw fodd? A arferodd ddylanwad dros y grant cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol a dalwyd drwy amryfusedd? Mewn negodiadau, a godwyd y mater, naill ai gan swyddogion y Gweinidog neu drwy awgrym y Gweinidog, ar unrhyw ffurf, y byddid yn gohirio'r cyhoeddiad hwn tan ar ôl etholiadau'r Cynulliad? Daw'r wybodaeth honno o ffynonellau uchel yn LG ac Awdurdod

Minister addressed these questions.

Datblygu Cymru. Mae pawb arall yn trafod hyn ac mae'n hen bryd i'r Gweinidog ymdrin â'r cwestiynau hyn.

Andrew Davies: Alun Cairns asked me to carefully consider my answer; I ask him to carefully consider his point. He accuses me of putting pressure on a major multinational company to delay an announcement for political advantage.

Andrew Davies: Gofynnodd Alun Cairns imi ystyried fy ateb yn ofalus; gofynnaf iddo yntau ystyried ei bwynt yn ofalus. Mae'n fy nghyhuddo o roi pwysau ar gwmni rhyngwladol pwysig i ohirio cyhoeddiad er mantais wleidyddol.

Alun Cairns: That is what everyone is saying—

Alun Cairns: Dyna y mae pawb yn ei ddweud—

The Presiding Officer: Order. Alun, you have asked one supplementary question. The Minister has responded.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Alun, yr ydych wedi gofyn un cwestiwn atodol. Mae'r Gweinidog wedi ymateb.

Andrew Davies: I ask the Member to consider his allegation that I put pressure on LG to delay its announcement for political gain.

Andrew Davies: Gofynnaf i'r Aelod ystyried ei gyhuddiad fy mod wedi rhoi pwysau ar LG i ohirio ei gyhoeddiad er mantais wleidyddol.

The Presiding Officer: My interpretation is that his question was in order. I would have ruled on it were it an allegation as defined by our Standing Orders.

Y Llywydd: Fy nehongliad i yw bod ei gwestiwn mewn trefn. Byddwn wedi dyfarnu yn ei gylch os oedd yn gyhuddiad fel y diffinnir hynny yn ein Rheolau Sefydlog.

Andrew Davies: Andreas Wenté, the chief executive of LG, made it clear in his letter that the company's decision was made in response to global conditions. The timing of that announcement was entirely a matter for the company. I said at the beginning of my statement today that many Members would be aware of rumours that have been circulating. Clearly, I was also aware of those rumours. I made it clear that officials had been in consultation with LG on RSA and the development of the site before the advent of the Assembly and since 1999. I heard about the company's decision two days before it was due to make its announcement. I place that on the record. I had no prior knowledge of its timing. It was entirely a matter for the company, which it made clear in its announcement.

Andrew Davies: Gwnaeth Andreas Wenté, prif weithredwr LG, roi ar ddeall yn ei lythyr fod penderfyniad y cwmni wedi'i wneud mewn ymateb i amodau byd-eang. Yr oedd amseriad y cyhoeddiad hwnnw'n fater i'r cwmni'n unig. Dywedais ar ddechrau fy natganiad heddiw y byddai llawer o Aelodau'n ymwybodol o sion a fu ar led. Wrth gwrs, yr oeddwn innau'n ymwybodol o'r sion hynny. Rhoddais ar ddeall i swyddogion ymgynghori ag LG ynghylch cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol a datblygiad y safle cyn dyfodiad y Cynulliad ac er 1999. Clywais am benderfyniad y cwmni ddeuddydd cyn y disgwylwyd iddo wneud ei gyhoeddiad. Rhoddaf hynny ar gof a chadw. Ni wyddwn ymlaen llaw am ei amseriad. Yr oedd yn fater i'r cwmni'n unig, ac eglurodd hynny yn ei gyhoeddiad.

On the issue of grants, I have already given Elin Jones a full answer. I have put into the public domain all the information that I am prepared to make available, which is already a matter of public record. I have also stated that officials have been in discussions with the company about reclaiming RSA. I

Ynghylch mater grantiau, yr wyf eisoes wedi rhoi ateb llawn i Elin Jones. Yr wyf wedi cyhoeddi'r holl wybodaeth yr wyf yn barod i'w darparu, ac mae hynny'n fater sy'n hysbys eisoes. Yr wyf hefyd wedi dweud y bu swyddogion mewn trafodaethau â'r cwmni ynghylch adennill cymorth

reiterate the point that I made about RSA and commercial confidentiality, which also applies to the Assembly investment grant. No company would enter into a grant agreement with the Assembly if the basis on which the grant was issued, and on which it made the application, were put in the public domain because its competitors would be privy to commercial information about its financial position. No Government of any political hue would do that. We operate on that principle.

John Griffiths: I join Rosemary Butler in welcoming the Team Wales approach and the on-site advice and support that was impressively provided following the redundancies at Corus. Newport has a buoyant economy and a promising future, but these are substantial job losses which will have a wider impact on south-east Wales's regional economy, as you mentioned earlier. We know from studies following the Corus redundancies that Newport is the hub for that area, therefore the impact is felt in the Valleys where there are difficult employment situations.

In that light, will you assure me that one of the big promising developments for the future of Newport, namely the urban regeneration company, continues to receive all the support that the Assembly Government has provided to date and that you continue to take a hands-on interest in that company and ensure that it delivers all the future economic prosperity to Newport, which I am sure it will?

3.50 p.m.

Andrew Davies: I am more than happy to give you that assurance. The Government is fully committed to the URC, which the First Minister launched only a few months ago. There is considerable investment in Newport, partly as a result of the Corus redundancy package. You alluded to the URC, and there are many other developments, including the southern distributor road. In addition to that, there is a significant amount of regional selective assistance in that general area, which has been affected by LGPD. I have signed off seven RSA projects, which are forecasted to create 600 jobs in that area

rhanbarthol dewisol. Ailadroddaf y pwynt a wneuthum ynghylch cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol a chyfrinachedd masnachol, sydd hefyd yn berthnasol i grant buddsoddi'r Cynulliad. Ni fyddai'r un cwmni'n gwneud cytundeb grant â'r Cynulliad pe cyhoeddid ar ba sail y rhoddwyd y grant ac y gwnaed y cais gan y byddai ei gystadleuwyr yn cael gwybodaeth fasnachol ynghylch ei sefyllfa ariannol. Ni fyddai'r un Llywodraeth o unrhyw liw gwleidyddol yn gwneud hynny. Gweithredwn yn ôl yr egwyddor honno.

John Griffiths: Ymunaf â Rosemary Butler i groesawu dull gweithredu Tîm Cymru a'r cyngor a'r cymorth ar y safle a ddarparwyd ar y fath raddfa ar ôl y diswyddiadau yn Corus. Mae gan Gasnewydd economi fywiog ac mae ei ddyfodol yn addawol, ond mae'r rhain yn golledion swyddi sylweddol a gaiff effaith ehangach ar economi ranbarthol y Ddeddwyrain, fel y dywedasoeh yn gynharach. Gwyddom oddi wrth astudiaethau ar ôl y diswyddiadau gan Corus fod Casnewydd yn ganolbwynt i'r ardal honno, felly teimlir yr effaith yn y Cymoedd lle y mae sefyllfaoedd anodd o ran gwaith.

Yng ngolwg hynny, a wnewch roi sicrwydd imi fod un o'r datblygiadau addawol mawr ar gyfer dyfodol Casnewydd, sef y cwmni adfywio trefol, yn dal i dderbyn yr holl gymorth a ddarparodd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad hyd yn hyn a'ch bod yn dal i ymddiddori'n uniongyrchol yn y cwmni hwnnw ac yn sicrhau y daw â ffyniant economaidd i Gasnewydd yn y dyfodol, fel yr wyf yn siŵr y gwnaiff?

Andrew Davies: Yr wyf yn fwy na bodlon rhoi'r sicrwydd hwnnw i chi. Mae'r Llywodraeth wedi llwyr ymrwymo i'r cwmni datblygu trefol, a lanswyd gan y Prif Weinidog rai misoedd yn ôl yn unig. Mae cryn fuddsoddi yng Nghasnewydd, yn rhannol o ganlyniad i becyn diswyddiadau Corus. Cyfeiriasoch at y cwmni datblygu trefol, ac mae llawer o ddatblygiadau eraill, gan gynnwys y ffordd ddosbarthu ddeheuol. Yn ogystal â hynny, mae swm sylweddol o gymorth rhanbarthol dewisol yn yr ardal gyffredinol honno, a effeithiwyd gan LGPD. Yr wyf wedi rhoi sêl bendith ar saith prosiect

alone, and there are many more in the pipeline. I can give you a categorical assurance that the Newport URC has our full commitment and backing, as well as the backing of all Assembly sponsored public bodies.

Jenny Randerson: On behalf of the Liberal Democrats, I echo concerns for the workforce. However, I note that your statement lacks detailed commitments on an aid package for the workers concerned. Will you give a commitment that an aid package for redundant workers will be provided, similar to the one that was provided for Corus workers, even though, as you say, their prospects for re-employment may be better? I am sure that you share my concern that so much public money has been poured into a multinational company for an investment which, from the start, failed to live up to expectations—the number of jobs created was never anywhere near what was expected—and for an investment that has proved pitifully short-lived. Do you share my concern that the company has, in effect, been able to take the money and run, because there were no guarantees of long-term investment? Your statement mentions the company's failure to update its product. When the plant was first set up, tube technology was already old technology and a commitment should have been made then to modernising and updating it. I know that you share my concerns on that. Do you agree that the Conservative Government at the time was bedazzled by the concept of big inward investment projects and failed to get sufficient guarantees of a long-term approach? In view of that, do you agree that we must learn the lessons of the past and that we need a full inquiry into what went wrong?

The House of Commons Public Accounts Committee, as well as our own Audit Committee, both have a role in overseeing grants of this kind. You will know that there have been calls for an inquiry from Labour MPs. Do you agree that it would be appropriate to hold a joint inquiry between the Assembly and the House of Commons? Will you give your commitment that any

cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol, y rhagwelir y byddant yn creu 600 o swyddi yn yr ardal honno'n unig, ac mae llawer o rai eraill ar y gweill. Gallaf roi sicrwydd pendant i chi o'n hymrwymiad a'n cefnogaeth lwyr i gwmni adfywio trefol Casnewydd, ac o gefnogaeth yr holl gyrff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad.

Jenny Randerson: Ar ran y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, ategaf bryderon ynghylch y gweithlu. Fodd bynnag, sylwaf nad oes ymrwymadau manwl yn eich datganiad ar becyn cymorth i'r gweithwyr dan sylw. A wnewch ymrwymo y bydd pecyn cymorth ar gyfer gweithwyr a ddiswyddwyd yn cael ei ddarparu, yn debyg i'r un a ddarparwyd ar gyfer gweithwyr Corus, er y gallai eu rhagolygon am gael gwaith newydd fod yn well, fel y dywedwch? Yr wyf yn siŵr y rhannwch fy mhryder bod cymaint o arian cyhoeddus wedi'i arllwys i gwmni rhyngwladol ar gyfer buddsoddiad na fu gystal â'r disgwyl o'r dechrau—ni fu nifer y swyddi a grewyd erioed yn agos i'r hyn a ddisgwyliid—ac ar gyfer buddsoddiad a brofodd yn druenus o fyrhoedlog. A ydych yn rhannu fy mhryder bod y cwmni, i bob pwrpas, wedi gallu cymryd yr arian a dianc, am nad oedd gwarantau o fuddsoddi tymor hir? Mae'ch datganiad yn cyfeirio at fethiant y cwmni i ddiweddarau ei gynnyrch. Pan sefydlwyd y gwaith gyntaf, yr oedd technoleg tiwbiau eisoes yn hen a dylid bod wedi rhoi ymrwymiad bryd hynny i'w moderneiddio a'i diweddarau. Gwn eich bod yn rhannu fy mhryderon ynghylch hynny. A ydych yn cytuno bod y Llywodraeth Geidwadol ar y pryd wedi'i dallu gan y cysyniad o brosiectau mewnfuddsoddi mawr ac wedi methu â chael gwarantau digonol o ddull gweithredu tymor hir? Yng ngolwg hynny, a gytunwch fod rhaid inni ddysgu gwersi o'r gorffennol a bod arnom angen ymchwiliad llawn i'r hyn a aeth o'i le?

Mae gan Bwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus Tŷ'r Cyffredin, yn ogystal â'n Pwyllgor Archwilio ni, rôl wrth arolygu grantiau o'r math hwn. Gwyddoch y bu galwadau am ymchwiliad gan Aelodau Seneddol Llafur. A gytunwch y byddai'n briodol cynnal ymchwiliad ar y cyd gan y Cynulliad a Thŷ'r Cyffredin? A wnewch ymrwymo y bydd unrhyw ymchwiliad mor agored ag y bo modd ac y

inquiry will be as open as possible and will investigate whether public money was correctly used in this case? Finally, and specifically, will you reveal how much of the £247 million grant, which was originally offered, has now been paid? Do you believe that any public money can be recovered? We know that the original estimate was over £40,000 subsidy per job, but as most of the jobs never materialised, how much public money was paid per job created?

Andrew Davies: You are right about learning lessons. The First Minister referred to that earlier during his question time, and so did I in my reply to Elin Jones. There are lessons to learn from this. We all know that Welsh Office budgets—in education, health and other areas—were raided in order to form the financial package to bring LG to Wales. Given the different democratic settlement that we now have, and the Assembly's transparency, I do not believe that that kind of investment would now be made. In addition, inward investment projects of this scale are almost non-existent, given the current market in foreign direct investment.

You referred to the company taking the money and running, and, clearly, the number of jobs outlined at the beginning—around 6,600—was never created. Nevertheless, significant numbers of people were employed at what is now known as LGPD. Four hundred and thirty people are employed at the neighbouring site—LG Electronics Wales. It is a growing market and the company expects to increase employment in that area. We have been aware for some time that the number of jobs originally forecast would not be created and we have been in discussions with the company about recovering the money. I cannot give any details of those discussions, as they are ongoing.

On your call for the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee and the Assembly's Audit Committee to consider this matter, I said in reply to Elin Jones, that this is being considered by the National Audit Office. The NAO will report in due course to

bydd yn ymchwilio i ganfod a ddefnyddiwyd arian cyhoeddus yn gywir yn yr achos hwn? Yn olaf, ac yn benodol, a wnewch ddatgelu faint o'r grant o £247 miliwn, a gynigiwyd yn wreiddiol, sydd wedi'i dalu erbyn hyn? A gredwch y gellir adennill unrhyw arian cyhoeddus? Gwyddom mai'r amcangyfrif gwreiddiol oedd bod cymhorthdal o fwy na £40,000 am bob swydd ond, gan na chrewyd y rhan fwyaf o'r swyddi, pa faint o arian cyhoeddus a dalwyd am bob swydd a grewyd?

Andrew Davies: Yr ydych yn iawn ynghylch dysgu gwersi. Cyfeiriodd y Prif Weinidog at hynny'n gynharach yn ystod ei sesiwn cwestiynau, fel y gwneuthum i yn fy ateb i Elin Jones. Mae gwersi i'w dysgu o hyn. Yr ydym oll yn gwybod bod cyllidebau'r Swyddfa Gymreig—mewn addysg, iechyd a meysydd eraill—wedi'u hysbeilio er mwyn creu'r pecyn ariannol i ddod ag LG i Gymru. Yng ngolwg yr ardrefniant democrataidd gwahanol sydd gennym yn awr, a thryloywder y Cynulliad, ni chredaf y gwneid y math hwnnw o fuddsoddiad bellach. Yn ogystal â hynny, nid oes bron ddim prosiectau mewnfuddsoddi o'r maint hwn, oherwydd y farchnad bresennol o ran buddsoddi uniongyrchol o dramor.

Gwnaethoch sôn am y cwmni'n cymryd yr arian ac yn dianc, ac mae'n amlwg na chrewyd erioed y nifer o swyddi—sef tua 6,600—a ddisgrifiwyd ar y dechrau. Er hynny, cyflogwyd niferoedd mawr o bobl yn yr hyn a elwir bellach yn LGPD. Cyflogir 430 o bobl yn y safle cyfagos—LG Electronics Wales. Mae'n farchnad sydd ar gynydd ac mae'r cwmni'n disgwyl cyflogi rhagor yn y maes hwnnw. Gwyddom ers cryn amser na chreid y nifer o swyddi a ragwelwyd yn wreiddiol a buom mewn trafodaethau â'r cwmni ynghylch adennill yr arian. Ni allaf roi unrhyw fanylion am y trafodaethau hynny, gan eu bod yn parhau.

Ynghylch eich galwad am i Bwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus Tŷ'r Cyffredin a Phwyllgor Archwilio'r Cynulliad ystyried y mater hwn, dywedais yn fy ateb i Elin Jones fod hyn dan ystyriaeth gan y Swyddfa Archwilio Genedlaethol. Bydd y swyddfa'n

the Audit Committee. That is the proper procedure, which we will follow. It will then be up to the Audit Committee to question that report and to come to conclusions.

On your point about a package for the workers at LGPD, we must take stock of the position over the next few months. Workers will not be made redundant until August—we are now in the 90-day statutory consultation period—so there is considerable time available in which we can work with them to arrange training and alternative employment. It would be premature to make a commitment about a package such as that offered following the Corus announcement. However, we will review the position and take any necessary action.

Jocelyn Davies: Union representatives at LG have said that workers should have been told about the company's plans much earlier. Have you pressed the UK Government to adopt the EU directive that would have obliged the company to do so, or do you agree with Tony Blair's stance that the UK should opt out of that requirement and continue to allow our workers to be vulnerable to these sudden, large-scale redundancies, without any prior notice?

Andrew Davies: I believe that workers should be involved in these decisions. They are not as footloose as international capital and, therefore, have a greater stake in what happens to them than major companies do. However, the UK has until 23 March 2005 to implement the EU directive on information made available to employees; it is currently out to consultation. The directive would have been implemented in two years' time, which is cold comfort to the workforce at LGPD. I hope that the directive can be implemented soon, as it would help employees such as those at LGPD to deal with such situations.

William Graham: Minister, you will know that the Amicus trade union obtained supposedly confidential documents in September last year, which alluded to the possible closure of this plant. In your statement you made some reference to your officials' talks with the management at LG.

adrodd gyda hyn i'r Pwyllgor Archwilio. Dyna'r weithdrefn briodol, y byddwn yn ei dilyn. Mater i'r Pwyllgor Archwilio wedyn fydd craffu ar yr adroddiad hwnnw a dod i gasgliadau.

Ynghylch y pwynt a wnaethoch am becyn i weithwyr yn LGPD, rhaid inni bwysu a mesur y sefyllfa dros y misoedd nesaf. Ni ddiswyddir gweithwyr tan fis Awst—yr ydym yn y cyfnod ymgynghori statudol o 90 diwrnod ar hyn o bryd—felly mae cryn amser ar gael i weithio gyda hwy i drefnu hyfforddiant a gwaith arall. Mae'n rhy gynnar i wneud ymrwymiad ynghylch pecyn fel yr un a gynigiwyd ar ôl cyhoeddiad Corus. Er hynny, adolygwn y sefyllfa a chymryd unrhyw gamau angenrheidiol.

Jocelyn Davies: Dywedodd cynrychiolwyr yr undeb yn LG y dylai gweithwyr fod wedi cael gwybod am gynlluniau'r cwmni'n gynharach o lawer. A ydych wedi pwysu ar Lywodraeth y DU i fabwysiadu cyfarwyddeb yr UE a fyddai wedi gorfodi'r cwmni i wneud hynny, neu a ydych yn cyd-weld â safbwynt Tony Blair y dylai'r DU ymeithrio o'r gofyniad hwnnw a dal i adael i'n gweithwyr fod yn agored i'r diswyddiadau mawr, sydyn hyn, heb unrhyw rybudd ymlaen llaw?

Andrew Davies: Credaf y dylai gweithwyr gymryd rhan yn y penderfyniadau hyn. Nid ydynt mor droedrydd â chyfalaf rhyngwladol ac, felly, mae ganddynt fwy o gyfran yn yr hyn sy'n digwydd iddynt nag sydd gan gwmnïau mawr. Fodd bynnag, mae gan y DU tan 23 Mawrth 2005 i weithredu cyfarwyddeb yr UE ar wybodaeth a ddarperir i weithwyr; mae ymgynghori arni ar hyn o bryd. Byddai'r gyfarwyddeb wedi cael ei rhoi ar waith ymhen dwy flynedd, ac nid yw hynny'n fawr o gysur i'r gweithlu yn LGPD. Gobeithiaf y gellir rhoi'r gyfarwyddeb ar waith cyn hir, gan y byddai'n helpu gweithwyr fel y rhai yn LGPD i ddelio â sefyllfaoedd o'r fath.

William Graham: Weinidog, gwyddoch fod yr undeb llafur Amicus wedi cael dogfennau a oedd i fod yn gyfrinachol ym mis Medi y llynedd, a oedd yn cyfeirio at y posibilrwydd o gau'r gwaith hwn. Yn eich datganiad gwnaethoch ryw gyfeiriad at drafodaethau'ch swyddogion â'r rheolwyr yn LG. A wnewch

Will you elaborate on what information was given to LG Phillips to enable it to consider developing alternative products at that factory? Everybody would support the use of public money to enable the employees to continue working in such a modern facility.

To digress slightly, if you faced the prospect of attracting 6,000 jobs—as the Conservative Government did in 1996—you would welcome it and do all in your power to secure those jobs for Wales. Three quarters of the LG workforce lives in south-east Wales, not only in the city of Newport. Over the last four years, I have visited many factories engaged in similar work and I know that they are not thinking of employing large numbers of new workers. I pay tribute to the former Finance Minister for her help with European Semiconductor Manufacturing Ltd, one of the few companies that might be able to take on these workers. I regret that you are denigrating Members' insistence on an inquiry that would bring all the relevant facts to light, asking when was this information available, and also when grants were payable. It would exonerate you completely.

Andrew Davies: I am not sure that I need to be exonerated. The decision was taken by a former Conservative Government and William Hague, the then Secretary of State for Wales.

Alun Cairns: When was it paid?

4.00 p.m.

Andrew Davies: That was in 1997. The Assembly was not established until May 1999, so it is a bit rich for you to say that I should seek to be exonerated.

We have been in discussion with a company and have been pressing it to undertake alternative production and product lines. That is one of reasons why LG was split into LGPD and LG Electronics with the latter making flat screens and flat screen products, which is a growing market. The company made its decision due to global trading conditions and intended to close not only in Wales, but also in Southport too. It also

ymhelaethu ar y wybodaeth a roddwyd i LG Phillips i'w alluogi i ystyried datblygu cynhyrchion eraill yn y ffatri honno? Byddai pawb o blaid defnyddio arian cyhoeddus i alluogi'r gweithwyr i barhau i weithio mewn cyfleuster mor fodern.

Os caf grwydro am eiliad, pe byddech chi'n wynebu'r gobaith o ddenu 6,000 o swyddi—fel yr oedd y Llywodraeth Geidwadol yn 1996—fe'i croesawech a gwneud pob dim yn eich gallu i sicrhau'r swyddi hynny i Gymru. Mae tri chwarter o weithlu LG yn byw yn y De-ddwyrain, nid yn ninas Casnewydd yn unig. Dros y pedair blynedd diwethaf, ymwelais â llawer o ffatrïoedd sy'n ymwneud â gwaith tebyg a gwn nad ydynt yn ystyried cyflogi niferoedd mawr o weithwyr newydd. Talaf deyrnged i'r cyn Weinidog Cyllid am ei chymorth gydag European Semiconductor Manufacturing Cyf, un o'r ychydig gwmnïau a allai gyflogi'r gweithwyr hyn. Mae'n ofid imi eich bod yn bychanu'r ffaith bod Aelodau'n mynnu cael ymchwiliad a ddatgelai'r holl ffeithiau perthnasol, gan ofyn pa bryd yr oedd y wybodaeth hon ar gael, a hefyd pa bryd yr oedd grantiau'n daladwy. Byddai'n eich rhyddhau'n llwyr o unrhyw fai.

Andrew Davies: Nid wyf yn sicr a oes angen imi gael fy rhyddhau o fai. Gwnaed y penderfyniad gan Lywodraeth Geidwadol flaenorol a William Hague, Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru ar y pryd.

Alun Cairns: Pa bryd y'i talwyd?

Andrew Davies: Yr oedd hynny yn 1997. Ni sefydlwyd y Cynulliad tan fis Mai 1999, felly braidd yn hyf ichi ddweud y dylwn geisio cael fy rhyddhau o fai.

Buom mewn trafodaeth â chwmmi a buom yn pwysu arno i ymgymryd â chynhyrchu a llinellau cynhyrchion eraill. Dyna un o'r rhesymau y rhannwyd LG yn LGPD ac LG Electronics a'r olaf yn gwneud sgriniau gwastad a chynhyrchion sgrîn wastad, sy'n farchnad sydd ar gynnydd. Gwnaeth y cwmni ei benderfyniad oherwydd amodau masnachu byd-eang a bwriadai gau nid yn unig yng Nghymru, ond yn Southport hefyd. Mae

closed other facilities in other parts of Europe.

In terms of alternative employment, you mentioned ESM. There are many others in the area that are looking to grow and take on additional employees. That is why I said in my statement that we are confident that we will be able to help those affected at LGPD into alternative employment, much as we deplore the decision that has been taken. However, we will do all that we can. As we have always done with any announcement of major redundancies, we will help those workers into training where appropriate, or into alternative employment.

Michael German: Thank you for your statement. I note your concerns for the workforce, especially now that Newport is among the six worst unemployment areas in Wales. That is surprising given its background in manufacturing. Given your announcement on the support measures available from the individual agencies—and I welcome the fact that they are already vigorously at work—there are concerns that the resources available to those agencies be at least equal to the resources available to them when they dealt with the Corus job losses. Can you guarantee that equal resources will be made available, either directly from the organisations themselves or through the Welsh Assembly Government, so that the support package for individual workers who are losing their jobs will be the same as for those who lost their jobs at Corus? Also, will you make an announcement to that effect when those figures become clear so that we can see the funding package for those agencies that are dealing with the difficult situation of about 850 workers being made redundant this year?

Andrew Davies: It is useful to distinguish between the resources that we are able to give to the Team Wales agencies such as ELWa and Jobcentre Plus—even though responsibility is not devolved for it—Careers Wales and the WDA, in that they have contingency funds to deal with the various eventualities of major redundancies in the same way as they did for Corus, Dewhirst and others. We must distinguish between that and the enhanced packages that may have

hefyd wedi cau cyfleusterau eraill mewn rhannau eraill o Ewrop.

O ran gwaith arall, soniasoch am ESM. Mae llawer o rai eraill yn yr ardal sy'n bwriadu ehangu a chyflogi gweithwyr ychwanegol. Dyna pam y dywedais yn fy natganiad ein bod yn ffyddiog y gallwn helpu'r rhai a effeithiwyd yn LGPD i gael gwaith arall, er cymaint y gresynwn at y penderfyniad a wnaed. Fodd bynnag, gwnawn bopeth a allwn. Fel y gwnaethom bob tro pan gafwyd unrhyw gyhoeddiad am ddiswyddiadau niferus, gwnawn helpu'r gweithwyr hynny i gael hyfforddiant lle y bo'n briodol, neu i gael gwaith arall.

Michael German: Diolch i chi am eich datganiad. Nodaf eich pryderon ynghylch y gweithlu, yn enwedig gan fod Casnewydd bellach yn un o'r chwe ardal waethaf yng Nghymru o ran diweithdra. Mae hynny'n syndod o ystyried y traddodiad o weithgynhyrchu yno. Yng ngolwg eich cyhoeddiad am y mesurau cymorth sydd ar gael gan yr asiantaethau unigol—a chroesawaf y ffaith eu bod eisoes yn gweithio'n egniol—mae pryderon y dylai'r adnoddau sydd ar gael i'r asiantaethau hynny fod yn gymaint o leiaf â'r rhai a oedd ar gael iddynt pan oeddent yn ymdrin â'r colledion swyddi yn Corus. A allwch warantu y caiff cymaint o adnoddau eu darparu, naill ai'n uniongyrchol gan y cyrff eu hunain neu drwy Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, fel y bydd y pecyn cymorth i weithwyr unigol sy'n colli eu swyddi yr un fath â'r un ar gyfer y rhai a gollodd eu swyddi yn Corus? Hefyd, a wnewch gyhoeddiad i'r perwyl hwnnw pan ddaw'r ffigurau hynny'n eglur fel y gallwn weld y pecyn cyllido ar gyfer yr asiantaethau hynny sy'n delio â'r sefyllfa anodd o ddiswyddo tua 850 o weithwyr eleni?

Andrew Davies: Mae'n fuddiol gwahaniaethu rhwng yr adnoddau y gallwn eu rhoi i asiantaethau Tîm Cymru fel ELWa a Canolfan Byd Gwaith—er na ddatganolwyd y cyfrifoldeb drosto—Gyrfa Cymru a'r WDA, i'r graddau bod ganddynt gronfeydd wrth gefn i ddelio â'r gwahanol bosibiliadau o ddiswyddiadau niferus yn y modd y gwnaethant yn achos Corus, Dewhirst ac eraill. Rhaid inni wahaniaethu rhwng hynny a'r pecynnau amgenach a allasai fod ar gael i

been available to Corus workers through the iron and steel employees re-adaptation benefits scheme that Dewhirst workers were not able to access, as well as any additional regeneration resources or packages that we were able to put together, whether in the case of Corus or the response to the Dewhirst redundancies in Cardigan and in Fishguard. As I said in my reply to Jenny, it is too early to say whether those additional resources in terms of regeneration will be required. It will be some time before we are in a position to tell because the workers at LGPD will not be made redundant until August, so we have a few months in which to work with them, the unions, the company and the Team Wales agencies to help people into alternative work. It is only then that we can judge whether additional resources will be required.

weithwyr Corus drwy'r cynllun buddaliadau ailaddasu i weithwyr haearn a dur na allai gweithwyr Dewhirst eu cael, yn ogystal ag unrhyw adnoddau neu becynnau adfywio ychwanegol y gallasom eu rhoi at ei gilydd, boed hynny yn achos Corus neu yn yr ymateb i'r diswyddiadau gan Dewhirst yn Aberteifi ac yn Abergwaun. Fel y dywedais yn fy ateb i Jenny, mae'n rhy gynnar i ddweud a fydd angen yr adnoddau ychwanegol hynny yng nghyd-destun adfywio. Bydd cryn amser cyn inni fod mewn sefyllfa i allu dweud gan na chaiff y gweithwyr yn LGPD eu diswyddo tan fis Awst, felly mae gennym ychydig fisoedd i weithio gyda hwy, yr undebau, y cwmni, ac asiantaethau Tîm Cymru i helpu pobl i gael gwaith arall. Dim ond bryd hynny y gallwn farnu a fydd angen adnoddau ychwanegol.

Datganiad Busnes Business Statement

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): There are some changes to this week's business. The Minister for Economic Development and Transport has made a statement on the LG Phillips Display redundancies. Tomorrow, the Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport will make a statement on Cardiff's bid to become Cultural Capital of Europe 2008. On the next three weeks' business, in addition to the business shown on the draft statement, which can be found on the Chamberweb, under supporting documents, there will be a motion next Tuesday to approve the Home-grown Cereals Authority (Rate of Levy) Order 2003. Finally, the Deputy Presiding Officer determined this morning, under Standing Order No. 22.5, that the Sweeteners in Food (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2003 need not be referred to Committee for extended consideration.

The Presiding Officer: Are there any objections to the business statement? I see that there are. Are there 10 objections to the business statement? I see that there are.

Alun Cairns: There are 11 objections.

The Presiding Officer: Order. There are at least 10 objections. Under Standing Order

Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Mae rhai newidiadau i fusnes yr wythnos hon. Mae'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth wedi gwneud datganiad ar ddiswyddiadau yn LG Philips Displays. Yfory, bydd y Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon yn gwneud datganiad ar gais Caerdydd i ddod yn Brifddinas Diwylliant Ewrop 2008. Ynghylch busnes y tair wythnos nesaf, yn ogystal â'r busnes a ddangosir ar y datganiad drafft, y gellir ei weld ar we'r Siambr, dan ddogfennau ategol, bydd cynnig ddydd Mawrth nesaf i gymeradwyo Gorchymyn Awdurdod Grawnfwydydd Cartref (Cyfradd Ardollau) 2003. Yn olaf, penderfynodd y Dirprwy Lywydd y bore yma, dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 22.5, nad oes angen cyfeirio Rheoliadau Melysyddion mewn Bwyd (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2003 i Bwyllgor i'w hystyried yn helaethach.

Y Llywydd: A oes unrhyw wrthwynebiadau i'r datganiad busnes? Gwelaf fod. A oes 10 gwrthwynebiad i'r datganiad busnes? Gwelaf fod.

Alun Cairns: Mae 11 o wrthwynebiadau.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Mae o leiaf 10 gwrthwynebiad. O dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif

No. 5.4, I call the Business Minister to formally propose that the business statement be adopted.

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales adopts the business statement.

The Presiding Officer: I call on one Member from each political group to respond to the proposal.

Jonathan Morgan: We object to the business statement on the grounds that business up to the afternoon of Wednesday 25 June is extremely light. There is little, if any, Government business. Business is made up of minority party debates, statements from Ministers—which I presume will be general updates as opposed to major policy announcements—debates on issues relating to our obligations under Standing Order No. 6.5, and debates on other matters that occur year on year. Nothing in the draft business statement for the next three weeks indicates this Government's legislative agenda and there is nothing to indicate that we will have a major debate on any of its policy objectives arising from the election victory that it secured and the manifesto on the basis of which it fought that election. Therefore, we cannot support the business statement.

Helen Mary Jones: The Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales group endorses many of Jonathan Morgan's comments. In particular, we will not support this business statement on the grounds that it does not mention the urgent debate that we have requested on school funding. That is a major issue as there is a shortfall of £40 million, and perhaps much more. The National Union of Teachers estimates that 300 teachers are about to be made redundant. This is an urgent matter. In my home village of Trimsaran, a school is about to lose a member of staff who has been there for 20 years, as a result of what seems to be a temporary dip in the school roll. Surely we should be using the reduction in school rolls to reduce class sizes, not to sack teachers. We believe that the Assembly should debate this issue now, along with the

5.4, galwaf ar y Trefnydd i gynnig yn ffurfiol y caiff y datganiad busnes ei dderbyn.

Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Cynigiau fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn derbyn y datganiad busnes.

Y Llywydd: Galwaf ar un Aelod o bob grŵp gwleidyddol i ymateb i'r cynnig.

Jonathan Morgan: Gwrthwynebwn y datganiad busnes ar y sail bod busnes hyd at brynhawn Mercher 25 Mehefin yn denau dros ben. Nid oes y nesaf peth i ddim, os nad dim, o fusnes Llywodraeth. Y busnes yw dadleuon plaid leiafrifol, datganiadau gan Weinidogion—y cymeraf mai diweddariadau cyffredinol fyddant yn hytrach na chyhoeddiadau polisi pwysig—dadleuon ar faterion sy'n ymwneud â'n rhwymedigaethau o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.5, a dadleuon ar faterion eraill sy'n codi'r naill flwyddyn ar ôl y llall. Nid oes dim yn y datganiad busnes drafft ar gyfer y tair wythnos nesaf sy'n dangos agenda ddeddfwriaethol y Llywodraeth hon ac nid oes dim i ddangos y cawn ddadl o bwys ar unrhyw un o'i hamcanion polisi sy'n codi o'r fuddugoliaeth a sicraodd yn yr etholiad a'r maniffesto a oedd yn sail i'w hymgyrch etholiadol. Gan hynny, ni allwn gefnogi'r datganiad busnes.

Helen Mary Jones: Mae grŵp Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales yn ategu llawer o sylwadau Jonathan Morgan. Yn benodol, ni chefnogwn y datganiad busnes hwn ar y sail nad yw'n sôn am y ddadl frys a geisiasom ar gyllido ysgolion. Mae hynny'n fater pwysig gan fod diffyg o £40 miliwn, a llawer mwy o bosibl. Mae Undeb Cenedlaethol yr Athrawon yn amcangyfrif bod 300 o athrawon ar fin cael eu diswyddo. Mae hwn yn fater brys. Yn fy mhentref i, Trimsaran, mae ysgol ar fin colli aelod staff a fu yno am 20 mlynedd, o ganlyniad i'r hyn sy'n ymddangos yn ostyngiad dros dro yn nifer y disgyblion. Siawns na ddylem ddefnyddio'r gostyngiad yn nifer y disgyblion i leihau maint dosbarthiadau, nid i ddiswyddo athrawon. Credwn y dylai'r Cynulliad drafod y mater hwn yn awr, ynghyd â'r materion

longer and shorter-term issues of funding the teachers' workload agreement. Given the dearth of other Government business that Jonathan Morgan has just highlighted, it is inexplicable that the Assembly is not being granted an opportunity to scrutinise the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning on this crucial matter. However, given this Government's reluctance to be scrutinised in Committee, perhaps we should not be surprised by that. The Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales group will continue to oppose business statements until the Government agrees to a full debate on the current crisis in school funding.

Kirsty Williams: The Welsh Liberal Democrats will vote against this business statement because of the lack of business contained in it. Let us compare the business statement proposed in the National Assembly for Wales with that proposed in Scotland. The two Government parties there have hammered out and published a complete programme of Government, agreed two pieces of legislation, made a parliamentary statement on charity reform, held debates on dental services, and published two Bills—one on school meals and one on the Scottish agricultural college. That is a programme for Government and a business statement; that is not what we have in the National Assembly for Wales under Labour.

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): On Government business and the business programme, I outlined in the Business Committee this morning the items of business that I hope to bring forward in forthcoming weeks. It will be difficult to find sufficient time to schedule all the proposed items. As always, you will have an opportunity to comment on those items in the weekly business statement. I have discussed the request for a statement on school redundancies with my colleague, Jane Davidson, and we feel that it is premature to make a statement at this stage. Discussions need to continue with local education authorities over the weeks to come before a reliable picture emerges.

tymor hwy a thymor byrrach o gyllido'r cytundeb ar lwyth gwaith athrawon. Yng ngolwg prinder busnes arall o eiddo'r Llywodraeth y mae Jonathan Morgan newydd dynnu sylw ato, mae'n anesboniadwy na roddir cyfle i'r Cynulliad holi'r Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes ar y mater hollbwysig hwn. Fodd bynnag, yng ngolwg amharoddrwydd y Llywodraeth hon i gael ei holi mewn Pwyllgorau, efallai na ddylem synnu at hynny. Bydd grŵp Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales yn dal i wrthwynebu datganiadau busnes hyd nes bydd y Llywodraeth yn cytuno i gael dadl lawn ar yr argyfwng presennol mewn cyllido ysgolion.

Kirsty Williams: Bydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru yn pleidleisio yn erbyn y datganiad busnes hwn oherwydd y prinder busnes ynddo. Gadewch inni gymharu'r datganiad busnes a gynigir yng Nghynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru â'r un a gynigir yn yr Alban. Gwnaeth dwy blaid y Llywodraeth yn y fan honno daro bargaen a chyhoeddi rhaglen gyflawn o Lywodraeth, cytunasant ar ddwy eitem o ddeddfwriaeth, gwnaethant ddatganiad seneddol ar ddiwygio elusennau, cynaliasant ddadleuon ar wasanaethau deintyddol, a chyhoeddasant ddau Fesur—un ar brydau ysgol ac un ar goleg amaethyddol yr Alban. Rhaglen ar gyfer Llywodraeth a datganiad busnes yw hynny; nid hynny sydd gennym yng Nghynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru dan Lafur.

Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Ynghylch busnes Llywodraeth a'r rhaglen fusnes, disgrifiais yn y Pwyllgor Busnes y bore yma yr eitemau busnes y gobeithiaf eu cyflwyno yn yr wythnosau sydd i ddod. Bydd yn anodd dod o hyd i ddigon o amser i amserlennu'r holl eitemau arfaethedig. Fel erioed, cewch gyfle i wneud sylw am yr eitemau hynny yn y datganiad busnes wythnosol. Yr wyf wedi trafod y cais am ddatganiad ar ddiswyddiadau mewn ysgolion gyda'm cyd-Weinidog, Jane Davidson, a theimlwn ei bod yn rhy fuan i wneud datganiad ar hyn o bryd. Rhaid i drafodaethau barhau gydag awdurdodau addysg lleol dros yr wythnosau sydd i ddod cyn y daw darlun dibynadwy i'r golwg.

Motion: For 29, Abstain 0, Against 29.

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Cairns, Alun
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Isherwood, Mark
Lloyd, David
Marek, John
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty
Wood, Leanne

Gan fod nifer y pleidleisiau yn gyfartal, defnyddiodd y Llywydd ei bleidlais fwrw yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 1.12.

As there was an equality of votes, the Presiding Officer used his casting vote in accordance with Standing Order No. 1.12.

*Gwrthodwyd y cynnig.
Motion rejected.*

4.10 p.m.

**Dadl Plaid Leiafrifol (Y Blaid Geidwadol)
Minority Party Debate (The Conservative Party)**

**Dysgu ac Addysgu Cymru
Education and Learning Wales**

The Presiding Officer: I have selected amendment 1 in the name of Karen Sinclair and amendments 2 and 3 in the name of Jocelyn Davies.

Y Llywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliant 1 yn enw Karen Sinclair a gwelliannau 2 a 3 yn enw Jocelyn Davies.

Alun Cairns: I propose that

Alun Cairns: Cynigiau fod

the National Assembly for Wales expresses concern over the way public funds are being

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn datgan pryder ynghylch y dull y trafodir arian

handled by ELWa and calls for a full Assembly investigation into the running of ELWa, the way it handled its contracts as well as the role played by the Minister and department responsible. (NDM1481)

We discussed the crisis in ELWa, Wales's largest quango or 'super-quango', as it has been called by others, two weeks ago in my short debate. Although I wish to précis the events to date to show the depth and significance of the crisis, this is not a repeat of the short debate. It is important to emphasise that. Events have moved on; questions have been asked, and it is now time, Minister, that we get some answers.

On the amendments, we will vote against amendment 2, because it will change the nature of our motion. We are happy to support amendment 3. I will return to amendment 1 later.

The chronology of events is damning: ELWa's accounts were filed four months after the statutory deadline, there were irregular payments amounting to £2.25 million, and ELWa's internal investigation on 4 March could not provide positive assurance that the overall system of procurement was accurate, reliable and effective. That led to ELWa commissioning the accountancy firm Bentley Jennison to conduct a light-touch investigation. The situation was so bad that four senior directors were disciplined by the board, and a further investigation led to the discovery of 17 additional irregular contracts, which should have led to further disciplinary actions. However, the chief executive officer, who had already been disciplined, decided that there was no need for that: I wonder why.

In spite of this, the Minister presented a report, dated May 2002, to the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee, which stated:

'I conclude overall that there are currently no evident weaknesses in the control environment within ELWa.'

If ever there was a misleading statement, that is it.

cyhoeddus gan ELWa ac yn galw am ymchwiliad llawn gan y Cynulliad i'r modd y caiff ELWa ei redeg, y modd y deliodd â'i gontractau, yn ogystal â rôl y Gweinidog a'r adran sy'n gyfrifol amdano. (NDM1481)

Trafodasom yr argyfwng yn ELWa, cwango mwyaf Cymru neu 'archgwango', fel y'i galwyd gan eraill, bythefnos yn ôl yn fy nadl fer. Er fy mod yn dymuno crynodebu'r digwyddiadau hyd yn hyn i ddangos difrifoldeb ac arwyddocâd yr argyfwng, nid ailadroddiad o'r ddadl fer yw hwn. Mae'n bwysig pwysleisio hynny. Bu digwyddiadau ar ôl hynny; gofynnwyd cwestiynau, ac mae'n bryd bellach, Weindog, inni gael rhai atebion.

Ynghylch y gwelliannau, pleidleisiwn yn erbyn gwelliant 2, gan y bydd yn newid natur ein cynnig. Yr ydym yn fodlon cefnogi gwelliant 3. Deuaf yn ôl at welliant 1 yn ddiweddarach.

Mae cronoleg y digwyddiadau'n ddamniol: anfonwyd cyfrifon ELWa bedwar mis ar ôl y terfyn amser statudol, bu taliadau afreolaidd a ddeuai i gyfanswm o £2.25 miliwn, ac nid oedd ymchwiliad mewnol ELWa ar 4 Mawrth yn gallu rhoi sicrwydd pendant bod y system gaffael gyffredinol yn gywir, yn ddibynadwy ac yn effeithiol. Parodd hynny i ELWa gomisiynu'r cwmni cyfrifwyr Bentley Jennison i gynnal ymchwiliad llawysgafn. Roedd y sefyllfa cynddrwg fel bod pedwar uwch gyfarwyddwr wedi'u disgyblu gan y bwrdd, ac o ganlyniad i ymchwiliad pellach darganfuwyd 17 o gontractau afreolaidd ychwanegol, a ddylasai arwain at gamau disgyblu pellach. Er hynny, penderfynodd y prif weithredwr, a oedd wedi'i ddisgyblu eisoes, nad oedd angen hynny: pam tybed.

Er gwaethaf hynny, cyflwynodd y Gweinidog adroddiad, dyddiedig Mai 2002, i'r Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes, a ddatganodd:

Deuaf i'r casgliad cyffredinol nad oes gwendidau amlwg ar hyn o bryd yn yr amgylchedd rheoli o fewn ELWa.

Os bu erioed ddatganiad camarweiniol, dyna ef.

We also have the problems with the Pop Factory contract, Learn to Live Ltd, in that a £4 million up-front payment was made to a company that did not have the ability to deliver the contract in the first place. What experience did it have? Let us consider the application that it submitted. I have done that and that is how I know these facts.

This is the situation today. In the short debate two weeks ago, I suggested that the Minister should be given the benefit of the doubt. However, that was on the condition that she would answer some of the questions that we have asked. Questions were raised about the Pop Factory, and we are now expecting the answers, Minister, because you have not given them to date. These are the questions: were the background checks into Avanti conducted? Does the contract allow for use of Assembly equipment for commercial purposes? Why was the £4 million paid up front? Is it the case that ELWa offered the money up front, and that Avanti did not request it up front in the first place? How long after signing the contract was the project plan presented by Avanti to ELWa, if at all? What checks and audits of expenditure did ELWa make after handing over the £4 million in public funds? What mechanisms were in place to approve expenditure? Monthly meetings would be standard in this form of contract—did they happen, and when did they start?

Many of these questions were tabled as written questions following the short debate. In her replies, the Minister has chosen to hide behind the Auditor General and the Audit Committee's investigation. That excuse falls down in two ways and it is worth exploring that further. First, the Auditor General has conducted other investigations in which Ministers have readily come forward with detailed information in their interest. The reports on Cardiff bay and the Assembly building are two such examples. Furthermore, the Auditor General is also conducting ongoing investigations. In February, March and April, the Audit Committee discussed a host of investigations that spanned the Government's responsibilities, including those into the NHS estate and prescription charges. Other Ministers are more than happy to come

Mae gennym broblemau hefyd ynglŷn â chontract y Ffatri Bop, Learn to Live Cyf, i'r graddau bod taliad ymlaen llaw o £4 miliwn wedi'i roi i gwmni nad oedd yn gallu cyflawni'r contract yn y lle cyntaf. Pa brofiad a oedd ganddo? Gadewch inni ystyried y cais a gyflwynodd. Gwneuthum hynny a dyna sut y gwn y ffeithiau hyn.

Dyma'r sefyllfa heddiw. Yn y ddadl fer bythefnos yn ôl, awgrymais y dylid rhoi mantais yr amheuaeth i'r Gweinidog. Fodd bynnag, yr oedd hynny ar yr amod yr atebai rai o'r cwestiynau a ofynasom. Codwyd cwestiynau am y Ffatri Bop, ac yr ydym yn awr yn disgwyl yr atebion, Weindog, gan na roesoch hwy hyd yn hyn. Dyma'r cwestiynau: a gynhaliwyd y gwiriadau cefndir ar Avanti? A yw'r contract yn caniatáu defnyddio offer y Cynulliad i ddibenion masnachol? Pam y talwyd y £4 miliwn ymlaen llaw? A yw'n wir bod ELWa wedi cynnig yr arian ymlaen llaw, ac na ofynnodd Avanti am ei gael ymlaen llaw yn y lle cyntaf? Pa mor hir ar ôl llofnodi'r contract y cyflwynodd Avanti gynllun y prosiect i ELWa, os gwnaeth o gwbl? Pa wiriadau ac archwiliadau o wariant a wnaeth ELWa ar ôl trosglwyddo'r £4 miliwn o arian cyhoeddus? Pa fecanweithiau a oedd ar waith i gymeradwyo gwariant? Byddai cyfarfodydd misol yn arferol yn y math hwn o gontract—a gynhaliwyd hwy, a pha bryd y dechreusant?

Cyflwynwyd llawer o'r cwestiynau hyn ar ffurf cwestiynau ysgrifenedig ar ôl y ddadl fer. Yn ei hatebion, mae'r Gweinidog wedi dewis cuddio y tu ôl i ymchwiliad yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol a'r Pwyllgor Archwilio. Mae'r esgus hwnnw'n ddiffygiol ar ddwy ystyr ac mae'n werth ymchwilio ymhellach i hynny. Yn gyntaf, mae'r Archwilydd Cyffredinol wedi cynnal ymchwiliadau eraill lle y bu Gweinidogion yn barod i gyflwyno gwybodaeth fanwl er eu budd. Mae'r adroddiadau ar fae Caerdydd ac adeilad y Cynulliad yn ddwy enghraifft o'r fath. At hynny, mae'r Archwilydd Cyffredinol yn cynnal ymchwiliadau cyfredol hefyd. Yn Chwefror, Mawrth ac Ebrill, trafododd y Pwyllgor Archwilio lu o ymchwiliadau a oedd yn cwmpasu cyfrifoldebau'r Llywodraeth, gan gynnwys y rhai i ystâd y GIG a thaliadau presgripsiwn.

forward with statements on those issues, despite investigations by the Auditor General into the propriety of those issues. The Minister cannot continue to ignore this issue. Secondly, even when the Auditor General and the Audit Committee published a damning report on the financial irregularities at ELWa, condemning the Minister and her department, the Minister ignored it. The report stated that the Welsh Assembly Government paid insufficient attention to the assessment and management of the various risks. The Welsh Assembly Government replied by stating that it considered that there was adequate time available for the council to be established. The report also recommended that WAG sponsor divisions should exercise tighter oversight. In its reply, the Welsh Assembly Government stated that it did not agree that rigorous sponsorship was lacking in this case.

It is time for you to provide answers, Minister, because the facts demonstrate that even when the Audit Committee comes forward with damning evidence against the Assembly Government and the sponsoring department, you choose to ignore it. The First Minister said earlier that the situation was accepted. That is not the case. The Assembly Government stated that it did not agree that rigorous sponsorship was lacking despite the fact that the majority of Audit Committee members were in Government at that time. It is time for the Minister to answer some of those questions.

The most important question that you have refused to answer is whether there are any other projects with problems similar to those of the Pop Factory. Are there any other contracts where money has been paid up front? I have given you prior notice of that question, Minister, therefore, I expect an answer. Has ELWa made any other up-front payments that we do not know about? You have given a list of contracts, but have refused to answer as to whether other projects have received up-front payments. After the Pop Factory scandal, a decent Minister would have made it his or her business to find out such information. That would not prejudice the Auditor General's investigation, because the investigation is into the Pop Factory and

Mae Gweinidogion eraill yn fodlon iawn cyflwyno datganiadau ar y materion hynny, er gwaethaf ymchwiliadau gan yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol i briodoldeb y materion hynny. Ni all y Gweinidog barhau i anwybyddu'r mater hwn. Yn ail, hyd yn oed pan gyhoeddodd yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol a'r Pwyllgor Archwilio adroddiad damniol ar yr afreoleidd-dra ariannol yn ELWa, gan gollfarnu'r Gweinidog a'i hadran, anwybyddodd y Gweinidog ef. Dywedodd yr adroddiad nad oedd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi talu digon o sylw i asesu a rheoli'r gwahanol risgiau. Atebodd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru drwy ddatgan ei bod o'r farn bod digon o amser ar gael i sefydlu'r cyngor. Argymhellodd yr adroddiad hefyd y dylai adrannau noddi Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru fod yn fwy manwl yn eu goruchwyliaeth. Yn ei hateb, dywedodd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru na chytunai fod diffyg noddi manwl yn yr achos hwn.

Mae'n bryd ichi ddarparu atebion, Weinidog, gan fod y ffeithiau'n dangos, hyd yn oed pan fo'r Pwyllgor Archwilio'n cyflwyno tystiolaeth ddamniol yn erbyn Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a'r adran sy'n noddi, eich bod yn dewis ei hanwybyddu. Dywedodd y Prif Weinidog yn gynharach fod y sefyllfa wedi'i derbyn. Nid felly y mae. Dywedodd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad na chytunai fod diffyg noddi manwl er bod mwyafaf aelodau'r Pwyllgor Archwilio mewn Llywodraeth ar y pryd. Mae'n bryd i'r Gweinidog ateb rhai o'r cwestiynau hynny.

Y cwestiwn pwysicaf yr ydych wedi gwrthod ei ateb yw a oes prosiectau eraill sydd â phroblemau tebyg i rai'r Ffatri Bop. A oes unrhyw gontractau eraill lle y talwyd arian ymlaen llaw? Rhoddais rybudd o'r cwestiwn hwnnw ymlaen llaw, Weinidog, felly disgwyliaf gael ateb. A wnaeth ELWa unrhyw daliadau eraill ymlaen llaw na wyddom amdanynt? Yr ydych wedi rhoi rhestr o gontractau, ond wedi gwrthod ateb ynghylch a yw prosiectau eraill wedi derbyn taliadau ymlaen llaw. Ar ôl sgandal y Ffatri Bop, byddai Gweinidog iawn wedi mynd i'r drafferth o ddarganfod gwybodaeth o'r fath. Ni fyddai hynny'n amharu ar ymchwiliad yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol, am mai ymchwiliad i'r Ffatri Bop yw hwnnw ac nid i daliadau

not into up-front payments to other companies. ymlaen llaw i gwmnïau eraill.

Leighton Andrews: I have listened carefully to your comments and the questions that you have asked of the Minister, which are similar to those asked by the BBC of ELWa. Will you give an assurance that neither you, nor any other member of the Assembly Conservative party group or its staff, leaked confidential Audit Committee documents to the media?

Alun Cairns: The Presiding Officer prompted an investigation and my party was more than happy for e-mails to be investigated. My colleague, William Graham, has previously responded to such allegations. I am not here to take part in a kangaroo court. It is about time that all the parties showed their e-mails. One party in particular has refused to do that. We are happy to be investigated on that basis.

If you know whether any other up-front payments have been made, Minister, you should tell us. If you do not, people will judge your lack of ministerial intervention. Your defensive distance is damning. If this situation had arisen in Westminster, the chair and the chief executive of ELWa would have been dismissed by now. What have they got on you, Minister, which enables them to maintain your expressed confidence? We do not expect ELWa's chair to apply for the renewal of her contract later this year. However, that is not good enough. Someone must be held responsible and accountable. If that person is not the Minister, then the chief executive or the chair must pay the price.

4.20 p.m.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Cytunaf â'r feirniadaeth o ddiffyg rheoli yn ELWa, a diffyg goruchwyliaeth a pharodrwydd i dderbyn cyfrifoldeb y Gweinidog yn hyn o beth. Fodd bynnag, a gytunwch fod y cysyniad o gael corff fel ELWa sy'n gyfrifol am addysg a hyfforddiant ôl-16 yn bwysig, a bod diffygion y Gweinidog ac uwchswyddogion ELWa mewn perygl o danseilio hygredd y corff hollbwysig hwnnw?

Leighton Andrews: Gwrandewais yn astud ar eich sylwadau a'r cwestiynau a ofynasoch i'r Gweinidog, sy'n debyg i'r rhai a ofynnodd y BBC i ELWa. A wnewch roi sicrwydd na wnaethoch chi, nac unrhyw aelod arall o grŵp plaid y Ceidwadwyr yn y Cynulliad neu ei staff, ddatgelu dogfennau cyfrinachol o eiddo'r Pwyllgor Archwilio i'r cyfryngau?

Alun Cairns: Cychwynnodd y Llywydd ymchwiliad ac yr oedd fy mhlaid i'n fodlon iawn i negeseuon e-bost gael eu harchwilio. Mae fy nghyd-Aelod, William Graham, wedi ymateb i gyhuddiadau o'r fath o'r blaen. Nid wyf yma i gymryd rhan mewn llys cangarŵ. Mae'n hen bryd i'r holl bleidiau ddangos eu negesuon e-bost. Mae un blaid yn benodol wedi gwrthod gwneud hynny. Yr ydym yn fodlon bod yn destun ymchwiliad ar y sail honno.

Os gwyddoch fod taliadau eraill wedi'u gwneud ymlaen llaw, Weinidog, dylech ddweud wrthym. Fel arall, bydd pobl yn collfarnu'ch diffyg ymyrraeth fel Gweinidog. Mae'ch pellter amddiffynnol yn ddamniol. Pe bai'r sefyllfa hon wedi codi yn San Steffan, byddai cadeirydd a phrif weithredwr ELWa wedi'u diswyddo erbyn hyn. Pa wybodaeth sydd ganddynt amdanoch, Weinidog, sy'n eu galluogi i gadw'r hyder yr ydych wedi'i fynegi ynddynt? Nid ydym yn disgwyl i gadeirydd ELWa ymgeisio i adnewyddu ei chontract yn ddiweddarach eleni. Fodd bynnag, nid yw hynny'n ddigon da. Rhaid i rywun gael ei ddal yn gyfrifol ac yn atebol. Os nad y Gweinidog yw hwnnw, rhaid i'r prif weithredwr neu'r cadeirydd dalu'r pris.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I agree with the criticism of the lack of management in ELWa, and of the Minister's failure to supervise or to accept responsibility in this regard. However, do you agree that the concept of a body such as ELWa being responsible for post-16 education and training is important, and that the shortcomings of the Minister and senior ELWa officers are in danger of undermining

the credibility of that all-important body?

Alun Cairns: Derbyniaf hynny, Rhodri Glyn. Mae'r Gweinidog yn fodlon derbyn y clod ond nid y cyfrifoldeb. Dyna'r sialens. Rhaid i rywun ateb cwestiynau, a'r Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am wneud hynny.

Alun Cairns: I accept that, Rhodri Glyn. The Minister is willing to take the credit but not the responsibility. That is the challenge. Someone must answer questions, and the Minister is responsible for doing so.

The Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning (Jane Davidson): I propose amendment 1 in the name of Karen Sinclair. Delete all after 'expresses' and replace with:

Y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes (Jane Davidson): Cynigiau welliant 1 yn enw Karen Sinclair. Dileu popeth ar ôl 'datgan' a rhoi yn ei le:

its support for ELWa in the achievement of learning outcomes and requires ELWa to ensure that its management and business processes are brought fully into line with good practice. The National Assembly for Wales has confidence in the procedures of the National Audit Office and the Audit Committee, and deplores the attempt of the Welsh Conservative Party to undermine those procedures and misrepresent the role of the Welsh Assembly Government.

ei gefnogaeth i ELWa o ran cyflawni canlyniadau dysgu ac yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i ELWa sicrhau bod ei brosesau rheoli a busnes yn llwyr gyd-fynd ag arfer da. Mae gan Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru ffydd yng ngweithdrefnau'r Swyddfa Archwilio Genedlaethol a'r Pwyllgor Archwilio, ac mae'n gresynu at ymdrech Plaid Geidwadol Cymru i danseilio'r gweithdrefnau hynny a chamgyfleu rôl Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru.

Helen Mary Jones: I propose amendments 2 and 3 in the name of Jocelyn Davies. Amendment 2: delete all after 'into' and insert:

Helen Mary Jones: Cynigiau y gwelliannau canlynol yn enw Jocelyn Davies. Gwelliant 2: dileu popeth ar ôl 'i'r' a rhoi:

a) the policy decisions taken by the Minister, which led to the establishment of the National Council for Education and Training; and

a) penderfyniadau polisi gan y Gweinidog a arweiniodd at sefydlu Cyngor Addysg a Hyfforddiant Cymru; a

b) failures in corporate governance relating to the National Council, including:

b) methiannau mewn llywodraethu corfforaethol sy'n ymwneud â'r Cyngor Cenedlaethol, gan gynnwys

i. the management of its financial support for education and training programmes;

i. rheolaeth ei gymorth ariannol ar gyfer rhaglenni addysg a hyfforddi;

ii. procurement practices;

ii. arferion caffael;

iii. contracts with outside organisations;

iii. contractau â sefydliadau o'r tu allan;

iv. relationships with education institutions and training providers.

iv. perthynas â sefydliadau addysgol a darparwyr hyfforddiant.

I propose amendment 3. Add as a new point at the end of the motion:

Cynigiau welliant 3. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

the National Assembly resolves to appoint a suitably qualified, independent investigator to conduct the investigation and report back to the Assembly.

mae'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn penderfynu penodi ymchwilydd annibynnol â chymwysterau priodol i gynnal ymchwiliad ac adrodd yn ôl i'r Cynulliad.

We are grateful to the Conservative group for tabling this minority party debate; it is a great pity that the Government of Wales was not prepared to do so in its own time. Our amendments 2 and 3 seek to support the general principle of the motion, and to provide more detail as to the scope and nature of the inquiry that we believe is necessary. Concerns about ELWa and its management go beyond financial propriety and relate to the general relationships with staff and training providers, in both the public and the private sectors.

As Rhodri Glyn Thomas highlighted in his intervention, Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales strongly supports the principle of ELWa. It is right to bring together all post-16 education funding streams, and it is gratifying to hear the Conservative Party agreeing to that—that has not always been the case. ELWa, as it stands, is a classic example of doing the right thing the wrong way. ELWa has good staff, at many levels, doing their best in impossible circumstances. Half the time, the threat of redundancy hangs over their heads, and they have no security and no proper management structure to support them.

The Government's amendment highlights what it calls 'the achievements of ELWa'. However, they are not ELWa's achievements; they are the achievements of learners and training providers, despite, and not because of, ELWa's regime. There are grave concerns about ELWa and more are added daily; they are impossible to list. The Pop Factory allegations have been well rehearsed and I do not wish to trudge through them again.

Owen John Thomas: Throughout the ELWa debacle, the Minister repeatedly denied that she was responsible for this mess—and that from a Minister who jumps at half a chance to claim credit for success. When it comes to accepting public accountability, she readily resorts to spin and bull. Do you agree, Helen, that the Minister's refusal to recognise that the buck stops with her shows a fundamental weakness in her management of such matters?

Yr ydym yn ddiolchgar i'r grŵp Ceidwadol am gyflwyno'r ddatl plaid leiafrifol hon; mae'n drueni mawr nad yw Llywodraeth Cymru'n barod i wneud hynny yn ei hamser ei hun. Mae gwelliannau 2 a 3 o'n heiddo yn ceisio ategu egwyddor gyffredinol y cynnig, a rhoi mwy o fanylion am gwmpas a natur yr ymchwiliad y credwn ei fod yn angenrheidiol. Mae pryderon ynghylch ELWa a'r rheolaeth arno'n mynd y tu hwnt i briodoldeb ariannol ac yn ymwneud â'r cysylltiadau cyffredinol â staff a darparwyr hyfforddiant, yn y sector cyhoeddus a'r sector preifat.

Fel y pwysleisiodd Rhodri Glyn Thomas yn ei ymyriad, mae Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales yn gefnogol iawn i egwyddor ELWa. Mae'n briodol cyfuno'r holl ffrydiau cyllido addysg ôl-16, a braf oedd clywed y Blaid Geidwadol yn cytuno ar hynny—nid felly y bu erioed. Mae ELWa, fel y mae, yn enghraifft glasurol o wneud y peth iawn yn y modd anghywir. Mae gan ELWa staff da, ar lawer lefel, sy'n gwneud eu gorau mewn amgylchiadau amhosibl. Hanner yr amser, mae'r bygythiad o ddiswyddo uwch eu pennau, ac nid oes ganddynt sicrwydd a strwythur rheoli iawn i'w cefnogi.

Mae gwelliant y Llywodraeth yn tynnu sylw at yr hyn a eilw'n 'gyflawniadau ELWa'. Fodd bynnag, nid cyflawniadau ELWa ydynt; cyflawniadau dysgwyr a darparwyr hyfforddiant ydynt, er gwaethaf, ac nid oherwydd, cyfundrefn ELWa. Mae pryderon dybryd ynghylch ELWa a cheir rhagor bob dydd; mae'n amhosibl eu rhestru. Mae'r honiadau ynghylch y Ffatri Bop wedi'u hailadrodd yn aml ac ni ddymunaf fynd drwyddynt eto.

Owen John Thomas: Drwy gydol cawdel ELWa, gwadodd y Gweinidog dro ar ôl tro mai hi a oedd yn gyfrifol am y llanastr hwn—a hynny gan Weinidog sy'n neidio at hanner cyfle i hawlio clod am lwyddiant. Pan ddaw'n fater o dderbyn atebolrwydd cyhoeddus, mae'n barod i droi at sbin a malu awyr. A gytunwch, Helen, fod gwrthodiad y Gweinidog i gydnabod mai ganddi hi y mae'r cryfrifoldeb yn amlygu gwendid sylfaenol yn ei rheolaeth ar faterion o'r fath?

Helen Mary Jones: The management of the education agenda is problematic; it is deeply self-congratulatory, is too pleased with itself and is never prepared to carry the can. However, we want to take this debate beyond the scope of the Pop Factory and similar matters to consider the broader issues, which go well beyond the retrospective processes of audit.

This week, my attention was drawn to a specific example from my region, which highlights the ongoing problem and the need for a proper inquiry. I received representations from a medium-sized voluntary-sector training provider, which was owed £66,000 by ELWa for three months' work. The training provider had issued redundancy notices to 10 members of staff when suddenly, yesterday, ELWa was able to pay the money. That was following a three-month wait. ELWa was aware that the issue had been brought to my attention and to that of other National Assembly Members. Had that debt remained outstanding and the redundancies gone ahead, dozens of trainees would have had their training ended and the training provider would have had difficulty in keeping its best staff. At the same time, that same training provider was paid £12,000 twice for another piece of work and, despite the provider's drawing the mistake to ELWa's attention several times, nothing was done to retrieve the money. Eventually, the provider sent ELWa a cheque. Are ELWa's actions those of an organisation that has sorted out its procurement problems and knows how to develop relationships with training providers? I do not think so.

We need only to consider the sixth-form funding shambles. First, under ELWa's original formula, the money was not there; there was a £10.9 million shortfall. Then, suddenly, £8 million was found from elsewhere—£6 million from the National Assembly Government and £2 million from ELWa. On what basis was ELWa's original decision made? Who stepped in to sort that out? It raises interesting questions about when the Minister does and does not intervene.

Helen Mary Jones: Mae'r rheolaeth ar yr agenda addysg yn ansicr; mae'n hunanglodforus, mae'n rhy hunanfodlon ac nid yw byth yn fodlon derbyn y bai. Serch hynny, yr ydym am fynd â'r ddatl hon y tu hwnt i gwmpas y Ffatri Bop a materion tebyg i ystyried y materion mwy cyffredinol, sy'n mynd ymhell y tu hwnt i'r prosesau archwilio adolygol.

Yr wythnos hon, tynnwyd fy sylw at enghraifft benodol yn fy rhanbarth i, sy'n amlygu'r broblem gyfredol a'r angen am ymchwiliad iawn. Derbyniais sylwadau oddi wrth ddarparwr hyfforddiant canolig ei faint yn y sector gwirfoddol, yr oedd £66,000 yn ddyledus iddo gan ELWa am dri mis o waith. Wedi i'r darparwr hyfforddiant roi hysbysiadau diswyddo i 10 aelod staff, yn sydyn iawn, ddoe, yr oedd ELWa yn gallu talu'r arian. Yr oedd hynny ar ôl tri mis o ddisgwyl. Yr oedd ELWa yn gwybod bod y mater wedi'i ddwyn i'm sylw i ac i sylw Aelodau eraill y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Pe bai'r ddyled heb ei thalu a'r diswyddiadau wedi mynd rhagddynt, byddai hyfforddiant dwsinau o hyfforddeion wedi dod i ben a byddai'r darparwr hyfforddiant wedi'i chael yn anodd cadw ei staff gorau. Ar yr un pryd, talwyd £12,000 ddwywaith i'r un darparwr hyfforddiant am eitem arall o waith ac, er bod y darparwr wedi tynnu sylw ELWa at y camgymeriad sawl gwaith, ni wnaed dim i adennill yr arian. Yn y diwedd, gwnaeth y darparwr anfon sic i ELWa. A yw'r gweithredoedd hynny gan ELWa yn rhai o eiddo corff sydd wedi datrys ei broblemau caffael ac yn gwybod sut i ddatblygu cysylltiadau â darparwyr hyfforddiant? Ni chredaf felly.

Nid oes ond rhaid inni ystyried llanastr cyllido dosbarthiadau chwech. I ddechrau, dan fformiwla wreiddiol ELWa, nid oedd yr arian ar gael; yr oedd diffyg o £10.9 miliwn. Wedyn, yn sydyn, cafwyd hyd i £8 miliwn o rywle arall—£6 miliwn oddi wrth Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a £2 filiwn oddi wrth ELWa. Ar ba sail y gwnaed penderfyniad gwreiddiol ELWa? Pwy a ddaeth i'r adwy i ddatrys hynny? Mae'n codi cwestiynau diddorol ynghylch pa bryd y gwnaiff y Gweinidog ymyrryd a pha bryd na wnaiff.

How can schools and colleges be sure that these uncertainties will not rise again? It is a mess. I could go on, and mention cuts to vital funding programmes such as foundation modern apprenticeships, a lack of understanding of the whole culture of schools and grave concern about why, and to whom, contracts are let. No-one can be of the view that this is right and acceptable. There is no evidence of progress and change. Everyone in Wales—except, perhaps, the Minister and a few senior figures in ELWa—can see that. Something must be done. We do not seek to be negative. However, if the National Assembly, in its current form, is good for anything, we must be able to properly scrutinise ministerial decisions and public bodies. Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales wants ELWa to work. We believe that we need a proper inquiry, led by an independent investigator, to find out what is wrong and to put it right now. I urge Members, particularly Labour Members—who must know from their constituency postbags that all is not well with ELWa—to vote for amendments 2 and 3 and for the motion. Post-16 learners in Wales deserve more than self-congratulation and complacency.

Jonathan Morgan: I can understand the Minister's predicament given that, on many occasions, she has come to the Chamber to trumpet any minor achievement that she feels has been gained in the education sector in Wales. However, she fails to understand the huge concerns expressed by many opposition Members about how ELWa has conducted its business. She also fails to understand the need for her to be accountable for a quango that has responsibility not only to the Cabinet and to her as Minister, but also to this institution as a corporate body. I will confine my remarks to those who were charged with the responsibility of pulling together the various organisations into what would become ELWa—those people in whom great responsibility was entrusted when the Assembly established the new quango some years ago.

We know that the public appointments process is open and rigorous, and that a good

Sut y gall ysgolion a cholegau fod yn siŵr na fydd ansicrwydd o'r fath yn codi eto? Mae'n llastr. Gallwn fynd ymlaen, a sôn am doriadau mewn rhaglenni cyllido hollbwysig fel prentisiaethau modern sylfaen, diffyg dealltwriaeth o holl ddiwylliant ysgolion a phryder dybryd ynghylch pam, ac i bwy, y gosodir contractau. Ni allai neb ystyried bod hyn yn iawn ac yn dderbyniol. Nid oes unrhyw dystiolaeth o gynnydd a newid. Mae pawb yng Nghymru—heblaw, efallai, am y Gweinidog a rhai ffigyrau uchel yn ELWa—yn gallu gweld hynny. Rhaid gwneud rhywbeth. Nid ydym yn ceisio bod yn negyddol. Er hynny, os yw'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, ar ei ffurf bresennol, yn dda i rywbeth, rhaid inni allu craffu'n briodol ar benderfyniadau Gweinidogion a chyrrff cyhoeddus. Mae Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales am i ELWa lwyddo. Credwn fod arnom angen ymchwiliad iawn, dan arweiniad ymchwilydd annibynnol, i ddarganfod pa beth sydd o'i le a'i gywiro yn awr. Anogaf Aelodau, yn enwedig Aelodau Llafur—sy'n sicr o wybod, yn ôl yr ohebiaeth o'u hetholaethau, nad yw popeth yn iawn yn ELWa—i bleidleisio dros welliannau 2 a 3 a thros y cynnig. Mae dysgwyr ôl-16 yng Nghymru'n haeddu mwy na hunan-glod a difaterwch.

Jonathan Morgan: Gallaf ddeall cyfyng-gyngor y Gweinidog yng ngolwg y ffaith ei bod, ar sawl achlysur, wedi dod i'r Siambr i ddatgan unrhyw fân gyflawniad a gafwyd yn ei barn hi yn y sector addysg yng Nghymru. Er hynny, mae'n methu â deall y pryderon dybryd a fynegir gan lawer o Aelodau'r wrthblaid am y modd y mae ELWa wedi rheoli ei fusnes. Mae hefyd yn methu â deall yr angen iddi fod yn atebol dros gwango sydd â chyfrifoldeb nid yn unig i'r Cabinet ac iddi hi fel Gweinidog, ond i'r sefydliad hwn fel corff corfforaethol. Cyfyngaf fy sylwadau i'r rhai yr ymddiriedwyd iddynt y cyfrifoldeb o dynnu at ei gilydd y gwahanol gyrff a ffurfiar ELWa—y rhai yr ymddiriedwyd cyfrifoldeb mawr iddynt pan sefydlodd y Cynulliad y cwango newydd rai blynyddoedd yn ôl.

Gwyddom fod y broses penodiadau cyhoeddus yn un agored a thrwyadl, a bod

appointments procedure can ensure that the right people are selected for the job. However, we must ask what it was about the appointment of the chief executive and the chair that would lead to so many of these problems. One would have imagined that the chair and the chief executive were appointed because it was felt that they had the experience, the record and the skills required to manage these exciting changes. We need only consider the background of the chief executive to see that he was an individual with enormous civil service experience and expertise, with a long track record in public services in terms of public purchasing, and with knowledge of the rules and procedures of public bodies and how they operate.

We were charging this individual—a man of great experience—with the responsibility for pulling this organisation together. I am, therefore, somewhat baffled that such a catalogue of mistakes could go unreported by a chief executive who had, in my view, no excuse, having been such a high-ranking civil servant. I was astonished by the evidence given by the chief executive to the Audit Committee. He argued during the evidence session that, as it was his responsibility to run the organisation and to pull its various parts together, he should get on and manage any difficulties without reporting problems to the Assembly Government. He failed to understand that it was a policy decision, not only of the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee, but of this institution, to establish the National Council. He should have come back to the Assembly to indicate that problems existed. The arrogance and ineptitude of that individual and others has, in my view, contributed to many of these problems. In fact, the chief executive himself admitted responsibility for 31 system failures. We must ask the question: what is it about the chief executive's skills and abilities that ensured that he was able to admit some years later that 31 system failures had occurred? If he was able to do his job, he would not have been in that position. I hope that the Minister has a large amount of spare paper on which she can jot down our questions.

gweithdrefn benodi dda yn gallu sicrhau bod y bobl iawn yn cael eu dewis ar gyfer y swydd. Serch hynny, rhaid inni ofyn beth ydoedd ynghylch penodi'r prif weithredwr a'r cadeirydd a arweiniai at gynifer o'r problemau hyn. Byddai rhywun wedi tybio bod y cadeirydd a'r prif weithredwr wedi'u penodi am y teimlid eu bod yn meddu ar y profiad, y record a'r sgiliau yr oedd eu hangen i reoli'r newidiadau cyffrous hyn. Nid oes ond rhaid inni ystyried cefndir y prif weithredwr i weld ei fod yn unigolyn a chanddo brofiad ac arbenigedd aruthrol yn y gwasanaeth sifil, ynghyd â record hir o weithio yn y gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yng nghyd-destun prynu cyhoeddus, a gwybodaeth am reolau a gweithdrefnau cyrff cyhoeddus a'u dull o weithredu.

Yr oeddem yn ymddiried i'r unigolyn hwn—a oedd yn ddyn profiadol iawn—y cyfrifoldeb dros dynnu'r corff hwn at ei gilydd. Gan hynny, mae'n peri penbleth imi y gallai'r fath restr o gamgymeriadau fod heb ei hadrodd gan brif weithredwr nad oedd ganddo unrhyw esgus dros beidio â gwneud hynny, yn fy marn i, ac yntau wedi bod yn was sifil mor uchel. Fe'm syfrdanwyd gan y dystiolaeth a roddodd y prif weithredwr i'r Pwyllgor Archwilio. Dadleuai yn ystod y sesiwn tystiolaeth, gan mai ei gyfrifoldeb ef oedd rhedeg y corff a thynnu'r gwahanol rannau ohono at ei gilydd, y dylai fynd ymlaen a datrys unrhyw anawsterau heb roi gwybod am broblemau i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad. Methodd â deall mai penderfyniad polisi, nid yn unig gan y Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes, ond gan y sefydliad hwn, oedd sefydlu'r Cyngor Cenedlaethol. Dylai fod wedi dod yn ôl i'r Cynulliad i ddweud bod problemau. Mae trahauster ac anfedrusrwydd yr unigolyn hwnnw ac eraill wedi cyfrannu, yn fy marn i, at lawer o'r problemau hyn. Mewn gwirionedd, gwnaeth y prif weithredwr ei hun gyfaddef ei gyfrifoldeb am 31 o fethiannau yn y system. Rhaid inni ofyn y cwestiwn hwn: beth ydoedd ynghylch sgiliau a galluoedd y prif weithredwr a sicrhodd ei fod yn gallu cyfaddef rai blynyddoedd yn ddiweddarach fod 31 o fethiannau yn y system wedi digwydd? Os gallai wneud ei waith, ni ddylasai fod yn y sefyllfa honno. Gobeithiaf fod gan y Gweinidog lawer o bapur wrth law i nodi ein cwestiynau.

4.30 p.m.

In addition to Alun Cairns's questions, I have some questions and concerns to which I hope the Minister can respond, as her accountability is at stake. Is the Minister content with the performance of the chief executive and the chair in relation to those matters that were identified by the Auditor General? In light of the serious mistakes that were made by experienced public servants in ELWa, does the Minister now regret appointing the chief executive to that important post? Who made the decision to split Steve Martin's post? Was it advertised and how can you justify shifting the chief executive sideways in such a manner? I hope that the Minister will respond to these concerns and questions in detail. The confidence of the people of Wales in our quangos, not just in ELWa, depends heavily upon whether this quango can recuperate from the damaging few months that it has faced. That will not happen unless ELWa's staff is changed and there is a sharp exit by those people who ran the organisation in the first place.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I appreciate that you did not take the full five minutes to speak. We are short of time, so I hope other speakers will be as expeditious as possible in their speeches.

Peter Black: We must be clear that, as important as the Pop Factory issue is, this matter has wider implications. That has been outlined by Alun Cairns and subsequent contributors. The arguments have been well rehearsed; I have lost count of the number of debates on ELWa that I have sat through. Again, there are many arguments and questions that need to be addressed. I am anxious not to personalise, but to discuss, this issue. This matter goes to the heart of what was termed by a previous Secretary of State for Wales as 'the bonfire of the quangos' and whether we call them to account—whether they are democratically accountable and answerable for their actions.

The Assembly was established to bring democratic accountability to bear on government sponsored public bodies, yet this

Yn ogystal â chwestiynau Alun Cairns, mae gennyf rai cwestiynau a phryderon y gobeithiaf y gall y Gweinidog ymateb iddynt, gan fod ei hatebolrwydd yn y fantol. A yw'r Gweinidog yn fodlon ar berfformiad y prif weithredwr a'r cadeirydd mewn cysylltiad â'r materion hynny a nodwyd gan yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol? Yng ngolwg y camgymeriadau difrifol a wnaed gan weision sifil profiadol yn ELWa, a yw'n edifar gan y Gweinidog bellach iddi benodi'r prif weithredwr i'r swydd bwysig honno? Pwy a benderfynodd rannu swydd Steve Martin? A hysbysebwyd hynny a sut y gallwch gyfiawnhau symud y prif weithredwr wysg ei ochr yn y fath fodd? Gobeithiaf y bydd y Gweinidog yn ymateb yn fanwl i'r cwestiynau a'r pryderon hyn. Mae ymddiriedaeth pobl Cymru yn ein cwangos, ac nid ELWa yn unig, yn dibynnu'n helaeth ar allu'r cwango hwn i ymadfer ar ôl yr ychydig fisoedd niweidiol a wynebodd. Ni ddigwydd hynny oni newidir staff ELWa ac os na fydd y rhai a oedd yn rhedeg y corff yn y lle cyntaf yn ymadael yn fuan.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Gwerthfawrogaf na wnaethoch gymryd y pum munud lawn i siarad. Yr ydym yn brin o amser, felly gobeithiaf y bydd siaradwyr eraill mor gyflym ag y bo modd yn eu hareithiau.

Peter Black: Rhaid inni ddeall, er pwysiced yw pwnc y Ffatri Bop, fod goblygiadau ehangach i'r mater hwn. Disgrifiwyd hynny gan Alun Cairns a chan gyfranwyr dilynol. Mae'r dadleuon wedi'u hailadrodd yn aml; collais gyfrif o nifer y dadleuon ar ELWa yr wyf wedi gwrandao arnynt. Eto, mae llawer o ddadleuon a chwestiynau y mae angen ymdrin â hwy. Yr wyf yn awyddus i beidio â phersonoli, ond i drafod, y mater hwn. Mae'r mater hwn yn mynd at wraidd yr hyn a alwodd Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru blaenorol yn goelcerth y cwangos ac a ydym yn eu galw i gyfrif—a ydynt yn ddemocrataidd gyfrifol ac yn atebol am eu gweithredoedd.

Sefydlwyd y Cynulliad i ddod â chyrrff cyhoeddus a noddur gan lywodraeth dan atebolrwydd democrataidd, ac eto, mae'r

whole saga tells of a failure of accountability and management and an apparent failure of financial probity. We require an investigation into failures of the type that this motion calls for; there is a strong case for it. Therefore, the Welsh Liberal Democrats will support the motion and amendment 2, which focuses on how an inquiry should be conducted, and amendment 3, which focuses on ensuring that the investigation is conducted independently and impartially.

Going back through ELWa's history, there have been financial and management mistakes and problems from the beginning. That relates to the decision not to have a shadow year for ELWa. Matters might have been different if financial systems had been set up for a shadow period, and if the organisations that were merged and aligned and their standing orders for financial regulations were brought together for a period when the organisation did not effectively have to hit the ground running.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: You referred to the need for a shadow year for ELWa. Did you hear the Minister state a few weeks ago that the shadow year for local government reorganisation proved the need to move immediately to a new structure without a shadow year? Do you share my incredulity at Jane Davidson's statement that if, in fact, there had not been a shadow year, the reorganisation of local government in Wales would have been a total disaster?

Peter Black: I would not go so far as to say that I was incredulous because I am trying to avoid personalising this issue. However, throughout the shadow year for local government reorganisation, I sat on Swansea city council and its shadow authority. That shadow year was invaluable in terms of establishing those local councils and not encountering the type of mistakes and problems that have emerged in this case as a result of the Auditor General's investigation. In his report on this, he alludes to the risks of not having a shadow period. He states that:

saga hon yn amlygu methiant o ran atebolrwydd a rheoli a methiant ymddangosiadol o ran gonestrwydd ariannol. Mae arnom angen ymchwiliad i fethiannau o'r math y mae'r cynnig hwn yn galw amdano; mae dadl gryf o'i blaid. Gan hynny, bydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru yn cefnogi'r cynnig a gwelliant 2, sy'n canolbwyntio ar y dull o gynnal ymchwiliad, a gwelliant 3, sy'n canolbwyntio ar sicrhau bod yr ymchwiliad yn cael ei gynnal yn annibynnol ac yn ddiduedd.

Gan fynd yn ôl drwy hanes ELWa, bu camgymeriadau a phroblemau ariannol a rheoli o'r dechrau. Mae hynny'n ymwneud â'r penderfyniad i beidio â chael blwyddyn gysgodol i ELWa. Gallasai pethau fod yn wahanol pe bai systemau ariannol wedi'u sefydlu am gyfnod cysgodol, a phe bai'r cyrff a gafodd eu cyfuno a'u cysoni a'u rheolau sefydlog ar gyfer rheoliadau ariannol wedi'u dwyn at ei gilydd am gyfnod pan nad oedd y corff yn gorfod dechrau gweithio'n syth.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Cyfeiriasoch at yr angen am flwyddyn gysgodol i ELWa. A glywsoch y Gweinidog yn dweud ychydig wythnosau'n ôl fod y flwyddyn gysgodol ar gyfer ad-drefnu llywodraeth leol wedi profi'r angen i symud yn syth at strwythur newydd heb gael blwyddyn gysgodol? A ydych chi, fel minnau, yn cael datganiad Jane Davidson yn un anhygoel, sef, pe na fuasai blwyddyn gysgodol, y buasai ad-drefnu llywodraeth leol yng Nghymru'n drychineb llwyr?

Peter Black: Nid awn mor bell â dweud fy mod yn ei gael yn anhygoel gan fy mod yn ceisio peidio â phersonoli'r mater hwn. Fodd bynnag, drwy gydol y flwyddyn gysgodol ar gyfer ad-drefnu llywodraeth leol, bûm yn eistedd ar gyngor dinas Abertawe a'i awdurdod cysgodol. Yr oedd y flwyddyn gysgodol honno'n amhrisiadwy o ran sefydlu'r cynghorau lleol hynny a pheidio â dod ar draws y math o gamgymeriadau a phroblemau a ddaeth i'r golwg yn yr achos hwn o ganlyniad i ymchwiliad yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol. Yn ei adroddiad ar hyn, cyfeiria at y peryglon o beidio â chael cyfnod cysgodol. Dywed:

'given the difficult task that the new body o ystyried y dasg anodd yr oedd y corff

faced in bringing together six distinct public and private sector operating cultures at its various offices across Wales, a more comprehensive risk assessment would have been especially helpful in the period preceding 1 April 2001.'

He goes on:

'It also appears that some of the risks of operating dispersed functions from several different offices were not given adequate consideration when the decision was taken by the National Council that it should initially operate on a 'business as usual' basis in its first year.'

That sets out a compelling case as to why there should have been a shadow year. Our focus must be on the education and training provided by ELWa. It is a matter of concern that the organisation's focus is not concentrated on those services. This is distracting attention from the work of ELWa. We must ensure that the Minister stays on the case, so that lessons are learned and that the organisation's credibility is rebuilt. We should not be afraid of making organisational changes if they help to rebuild that credibility and improve the education and services provided by ELWa. Mistakes have been made, and must be investigated. The Auditor General said in his report:

'I consider it unsatisfactory that key pillars of sound corporate governance such as Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were not in place from 1 April 2001.'

Why were they not in place? What was done about that? These issues must be investigated. That is why the Welsh Liberal Democrats will support the motion and amendments 2 and 3.

David Melding: A year or two ago, the Bank of England held one of its board meetings in Cardiff, and many Members were invited to a lunch at St David's Hotel and Spa. We were rather amused when Sir Edward George referred to our First Minister as 'Rodney'—that may be appropriate in relation to this issue—and referred to ELWa as 'HELWa'; he was also right about that, as the

newydd yn ei hwynebu wrth gyfuno chwe diwylliant gwahanol yn y sectorau cyhoeddus a phreifat yn ei wahanol swyddfeydd ledled Cymru, buasai asesiad risg mwy cynhwysfawr yn arbennig o fuddiol yn y cyfnod cyn 1 Ebrill 2001.

Aiff ymlaen:

Ymddengys hefyd na roddwyd digon o ystyriaeth i rai o'r risgiau o gyflawni swyddogaethau gwasgaredig mewn sawl swyddfa wahanol pan benderfynodd y Cyngor Cenedlaethol y dylai weithredu ar sail 'busnes fel arfer' i ddechrau yn ei flwyddyn gyntaf.

Mae hynny'n cynnig dadl gryf dros gael blwyddyn gysgodol. Rhaid inni ganolbwyntio ar yr addysg a'r hyfforddiant y mae ELWa yn eu darparu. Testun pryder yw nad yw'r corff wedi canolbwyntio ar y gwasanaethau hynny. Mae hyn yn tynnu sylw oddi wrth waith ELWa. Rhaid inni sicrhau bod y Gweinidog yn cadw hyn dan sylw, fel y dysgir gwersi ac fel yr adferir hygrededd y corff. Ni ddylem ofni gwneud newidiadau trefniadol os ydynt yn gymorth i adfer yr hygrededd hwnnw ac i wella'r addysg a'r hyfforddiant y mae ELWa yn eu darparu. Gwnaed camgymeriadau, a rhaid ymchwilio iddynt. Dywedodd yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol yn ei adroddiad:

Anfodddhaol, yn fy marn i, yw bod pileri allweddol o lywodraethu corfforaethol dibynadwy fel Rheolau Sefydlog a Rheoliadau Ariannol heb eu sefydlu o 1 Ebrill 2001.

Pam nad oeddent wedi'u sefydlu? Beth a wnaed ynghylch hynny? Rhaid ymchwilio i'r materion hyn. Dyna pam y bydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru yn cefnogi'r cynnig a gwelliannau 2 a 3.

David Melding: Flwyddyn neu ddwy yn ôl, cynhaliodd Banc Lloegr un o'i gyfarfodydd bwrdd yng Nghaerdydd, a gwahoddwyd llawer o Aelodau i ginio yng Ngwesty a Sba Dewi Sant. Fe'i cawsom braidd yn ddoniol pan alwodd Syr Edward George ein Prif Weinidog yn 'Rodney'—gallai hynny fod yn briodol mewn cysylltiad â'r mater hwn—a galwodd ELWa yn 'HELWa'; yr oedd yn

Government is having a torrid time on this matter.

Serious issues of corporate governance have been raised, reminding us of the importance of the Assembly's scrutiny role. The Government does not like this sort of news, whatever the level of its responsibility. That brings me to my second point, which relates to the important relationship between the Assembly and its sponsored public bodies. We all know that part of the hyperbole in favour of devolution in the mid-1990s was that there would be a bonfire of the quangos. This quango seems to have put a bonfire under the Government—I do not know if that is the way it was intended. This brings home the question of corporate governance, executive responsibility, and where the buck stops.

As several Members have said, this focuses attention on one policy decision—whether or not to give ELWa a shadow year. It could, of course, have been given a shorter shadow period of, say, six months. That is a fairly standard procedure when rapid institutional reform is proposed. The Government must bear responsibility for that decision.

Above all, this relates to another issue that we have been discussing today, and no doubt will discuss for another few weeks, namely the role of our Subject Committees and how they perform their scrutiny role. It is interesting that the Minister has already tried to hide behind the Subject Committee, saying that no member raised any procurement procedure issues in Committee. I am not a member of that Committee, and cannot comment on the veracity of that statement, but one can infer from it that the Minister believes that scrutiny at that level is the responsibility of the Subject Committee. Yet, the Executive is now proposing to halve the frequency of Committee meetings. That is an astonishing proposal—going from a fortnightly cycle to a monthly cycle. The propaganda is that this will allow time for more informal gatherings, as if a Committee of the National Assembly can meet in informal session. That is constitutional nonsense.

iawn ar hynny hefyd, gan fod y mater hwn yn achosi problemau i'r Llywodraeth.

Codwyd materion difrifol o ran llywodraethu corfforaethol, gan ein hatgoffa o bwysigrwydd rôl y Cynulliad wrth graffu. Nid yw'r Llywodraeth yn hoffi newyddion o'r math hwn, beth bynnag fo lefel ei chyfrifoldeb. Daw hynny â mi at yr ail bwynt sydd gennyf, sy'n ymwneud â'r berthynas bwysig rhwng y Cynulliad a'r cyrff cyhoeddus y mae'n eu noddi. Yr ydym oll yn gwybod mai rhan o'r ormodiaith o blaid datganoli ganol y 1990au oedd y byddai coelcerth o gwangos. Ymddengys fod y cwango hwn wedi rhoi coelcerth dan y Llywodraeth—ni wn ai felly y bwriadwyd iddo fod. Mae hyn yn tynnu sylw at gwestiwn llywodraethu corfforaethol, cyfrifoldeb gweithredol, ac ym mhle y mae'r cyfrifoldeb.

Fel y mae sawl Aelod wedi dweud, mae hyn yn tynnu sylw at un penderfyniad polisi—a ddylid rhoi blwyddyn gysgodol i ELWa ai peidio. Wrth gwrs, galleid bod wedi rhoi cyfnod cysgodol byrrach iddo o chwe mis, dyweder. Mae hynny'n weithdrefn eithaf arferol pan gynigir diwygio sefydliadaol cyflym. Rhaid i'r Llywodraeth ddwyn y cyfrifoldeb am y penderfyniad hwnnw.

Yn fwy na dim, mae hyn yn ymwneud â mater arall y buom yn ei drafod heddiw, ac y byddwn yn sicr o'i drafod am rai wythnosau eto, sef rôl ein Pwyllgorau Pwnc a sut y maent yn cyflawni eu swyddogaeth craffu. Mae'n ddiddorol bod y Gweinidog eisoes wedi ceisio cuddio y tu ôl i'r Pwyllgor Pwnc, gan ddweud nad oedd yr un aelod wedi codi unrhyw faterion ynghylch y weithdrefn gaffael yn y Pwyllgor. Nid wyf yn aelod o'r Pwyllgor hwnnw, ac ni allaf wneud sylw am gywirdeb y datganiad hwnnw, ond gall rhywun gasglu o hynny fod y Gweinidog yn credu bod craffu ar y lefel honno'n gyfrifoldeb i'r Pwyllgor Pwnc. Ac eto, mae'r Weithrediaeth yn cynnig yn awr y dylid haneru amllder cyfarfodydd Pwyllgor. Mae hwnnw'n gynnig syfrdanol—mynd o gylch pythefnosol i un misol. Y propaganda yw y bydd hyn yn caniatáu amser ar gyfer cynulliadau mwy anffurfiol, fel pe bai Pwyllgor o'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn gallu cwrdd mewn sesiwn anffurfiol. Nonsens cyfansoddiadol yw hwnnw.

Brian Gibbons: The two-weekly helter-skelter scrutiny process has clearly failed to deal with the point that you are making. The conclusion that one draws from that is that we must consider how scrutiny is carried out in Committee.

4.40 p.m.

David Melding: The opposition must conduct a great deal of scrutiny, and Government members are usually struck mute in amazement at their Minister's abilities. It is a bit rich for the members of the Government party to state that the current Committee model is a failure. It clearly emphasises how often Committees should be held and how vigilant they should be when scrutinising Ministers. How on earth you reach the reverse conclusion that you can cut back on the number of meetings is simply beyond me.

Alun Cairns: In response to the points that you and Brian Gibbons have made, how can the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee be expected to scrutinise decisions, when the Minister made a statement during May 2002 which stated:

'I conclude overall that there are currently no evident weaknesses in the control environment within ELWa.'

According to that statement, no further questions need be asked.

David Melding: We should remember that this is the Minister who said that the Assembly did not need to debate the Education Bill in Plenary. If you accept that kind of working model—which is a rather Cuban practice—it is hardly surprising that she takes that kind of attitude to her workload in general, to the Subject Committees and to opposition Members.

In conclusion, this is a corporate body, with no primary law-making powers. We are supposed to contribute to policy and consider secondary legislation. We do not have standing committees that consider Bills and we are not overworked with Committee work relating to legislation. Our only focus is on

Brian Gibbons: Mae'n amlwg bod y broses archwilio bythefnosol frys wedi methu â delio â'r pwynt yr ydych yn ei wneud. Y casgliad y daw rhywun iddo o hynny yw bod rhaid inni ystyried sut y cyflawnir craffu yn y Pwyllgorau.

David Melding: Rhaid i'r wrthblaid gyflawni llawer iawn o graffu, ac mae aelodau'r Llywodraeth yn cael eu taro'n fud fel arfer gan eu syndod at alluoedd eu Gweinidog. Mae braidd yn hyf i aelodau plaid y Llywodraeth ddweud bod y model Pwyllgorau presennol yn fethiant. Mae'n amlwg bod hyn yn pwysleisio mor aml y dylid cynnal Pwyllgorau ac mor wylidwrus y dylent fod wrth holi Gweinidogion. Ni allaf ddeall sut ar y ddaear y gallwch ddod i'r casgliad croes y gellir cwtogi nifer y cyfarfodydd.

Alun Cairns: Mewn ymateb i'r pwyntiau a wnaethoch chi a Brian Gibbons, sut y gellir disgwyl i'r Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes graffu ar benderfyniadau, a'r Gweinidog wedi dweud mewn datganiad yn ystod Mai 2002:

Deuaf i'r casgliad cyffredinol nad oes gwendidau amlwg ar hyn o bryd yn yr amgylchedd rheoli o fewn ELWa?

Yn ôl y datganiad hwnnw, nid oes angen gofyn cwestiynau pellach.

David Melding: Dylem gofio mai hon yw'r Gweinidog a ddywedodd nad oedd angen i'r Cynulliad drafod y Mesur Addysg mewn Cyfarfod Llawn. Os derbyniwch fodel gweithio o'r fath—sy'n arfer eithaf Ciwbaidd—prin ei bod yn syndod ei bod yn ymagweddu felly at ei llwyth gwaith yn gyffredinol, at y Pwyllgorau Pwnc ac at Aelodau'r wrthblaid.

I gloi, corff corfforaethol yw hwn, heb unrhyw bwerau deddfu sylfaenol. Yr ydym i fod i gyfrannu at bolisi ac i ystyried is-ddeddfwriaeth. Nid oes gennym bwyllgorau sefydlog sy'n ystyried Mesurau ac nid ydym wedi'n gorlwytho gan waith Pwyllgor sy'n ymwneud â deddfwriaeth. Ar y Pwyllgorau

the Subject Committees. To turn them into occasional gatherings, meeting perhaps eight times a year, is nonsense. In fact, for the Assembly Government to take this attitude is a mixture of arrogance and indolence.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Gwrandewais yn ofalus ar sylwadau'r siaradwyr blaenorol. Yr wyf wedi clywed llawer o'r dadleuon hyn o'r blaen, ac mae rhywun yn gorfod gofyn felly pam fod rhaid i'r gwrthbleidiau gyflwyno cynigion tebyg i gynnig heddiw. Mae'r ateb yn syml: mae'r Llywodraeth wedi gwrthod derbyn ei chyfrifoldeb dro ar ôl tro yn yr achos hwn. Rhaid i'r Gweinidog a'r Llywodraeth ystyried yn ddifrifol sut y maent wedi ymateb i'r holl gwestiynau sydd wedi codi ynglŷn ag ELWa wythnos ar ôl wythnos, fis ar ôl mis. O ganlyniad i'r methiant i ateb y pwyntiau dilys a godwyd yn y Siambr, yn y Pwyllgor ac mewn manau eraill, mae'r Llywodraeth yn wynebu cynnig, yn syth ar ôl yr etholiad, sydd yn galw am ymchwiliad i'r holl fater.

Un o'm cwestiynau cyntaf i'r Gweinidog ar y mater hwn oedd pwy benderfynodd beidio â chael blwyddyn gysgodol. Gwrthododd y Gweinidog ateb y cwestiwn hwnnw lawer gwaith ond gorfu iddi ateb y cwestiwn yn y pen draw a chydabod mai'r Llywodraeth benderfynodd wrthod cynnig y Pwyllgor am flwyddyn gysgodol. Cefnogwyd adroddiad a chynnig y Pwyllgor gan y Grŵp Gweithredu Addysg a Hyfforddiant, ond penderfynodd y Gweinidog addysg blaenorol—nid y Gweinidog presennol, derbynias hynny—nad oedd angen blwyddyn gysgodol.

Mae'r cyfan a ddigwyddodd wedyn yn deillio o'r methiant i sicrhau blwyddyn gysgodol. Pan sefydlir corff mor fawr ag ELWa, rhaid ystyried y gwahanol elfennau sydd ynddo. Daeth gwahanol ddiwylliannau at ei gilydd o fewn un corff. Yr oedd rhannau o ELWa wedi bod yn gweithredu'n llwyr yn y sector cyhoeddus ac yn gwybod yn union beth oedd rheolau cyllido'r sector hwnnw. Wedyn, daeth rhannau eraill yn llu o'r sector preifat i ELWa, heb unrhyw brofiad o weithio yn y sector cyhoeddus. Felly, daeth o leiaf dwy elfen i fewn i ELWa nad oedd yn gweithredu'r un rheolau ariannol. Yr oedd

Pwnc yn unig yr ydym yn canolbwyntio. Nonsens yw eu troi'n gynulliadau achlysurol, sy'n cwrdd wyth gwaith y flwyddyn o bosibl. Mewn gwirionedd, mae'r ffaith bod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn cymryd yr agwedd hon yn gymysgedd o drahauster a diogi.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I listened carefully to the previous speakers' comments. I have heard many of these arguments before, and one must therefore ask why the opposition parties need to table motions such as the motion before us today. The answer is simple: the Government has refused to accept its responsibility time after time in this case. The Minister and the Government must seriously consider how they have responded to all the questions that have arisen about ELWa week after week, month after month. As a result of its failure to respond to the valid points raised in Plenary, in Committee, and elsewhere, the Government faces a motion, immediately after the election, which calls for an inquiry into this whole issue.

One of my first questions to the Minister on this issue was who decided not to have a shadow year. The Minister refused to answer that question many times but, eventually, she was forced to answer and to acknowledge that it was the Government's decision to reject the Committee's proposal that there should be a shadow year. The Committee's report and proposal was supported by the Education and Training Action Group, but the previous education Minister—not the current Minister, I accept that—decided that a shadow year was not necessary.

Everything that happened after that emanates from the failure to secure a shadow year. When a body as large as ELWa is established, you must consider the different elements within it. Various cultures came together within one body. Some sections of ELWa had been operating entirely within the public sector and knew exactly what the financial rules of that sector were. Then, many other sections from the private sector, which had no experience of working in the public sector, joined ELWa. Therefore, at least two elements joined ELWa that were not operating the same financial regulations.

rhan o ELWa, nad oedd wedi bod yn gweithredu o dan reolau cyllido llywodraeth, yn torri'r rheolau hynny oherwydd nad oedd y staff wedi gweithredu o fewn y ddiwylliant honno o'r blaen. Datblygodd sefyllfa gwbl anghredadwy lle yr oedd ELWa yn talu £4 miliwn i gwmni heb gytundeb llawn, a hynny o flaen llaw. Pa gorff cyhoeddus a fyddai'n gwneud hynny? Bu raid inni lusgo'r Gweinidog i'r Siambr i gael y rhesymau am hynny.

What we had in ELWa was the coming together of two or three organisations with different cultures. Some had been operating in the public sector, some primarily in the private sector. We had the astounding situation whereby ELWa paid money up-front to an organisation. That is unheard of in the public sector and should not have happened, yet the Minister fails to take responsibility. The reason that the Minister is constantly facing questions on this is because of her failure to accept responsibility. Had she come to the Assembly in the early stages, admitted that there were serious problems with ELWa, acknowledged them and set up a full investigation, we would not be debating this today. Why must we come here time and again to ask this Minister to accept responsibility? I hope that today will be the last time that we have to ask for an investigation. All that we ask is for the Government to accept responsibility for a serious situation in the biggest quango in Wales. The Minister must now accept responsibility. I hope that, today, she will accept the need for a full investigation into ELWa.

Leighton Andrews: I want to focus on two issues. The first is what is normally called the Pop Factory project, although that is not its proper title, and the second issue is the Assembly's audit process.

Alun Cairns: You referred to the Pop Factory project, and I hesitate to use that name, because I accept that the formal name is Learn to Live. However, the Minister referred to it as the Pop Factory project in a ministerial response.

Leighton Andrews: There has been loose language all over the Chamber—[ASSEMBLY

Therefore, one part of ELWa, which had not been operating under government financial regulations, was breaching those regulations because the staff had not worked within that culture previously. A totally incredible situation arose whereby ELWa paid £4 million to a company without a full contract, and did so up front. What public body would do that? We had to drag the Minister to the Chamber to get the reasons for that.

Yr hyn a gawsom yn ELWa oedd cyfuno dau neu dri chorff â gwahanol ddiwylliannau. Bu rhai'n gweithredu yn y sector cyhoeddus, a rhai yn y sector preifat yn bennaf. Cawsom y sefyllfa syfrdanol lle'r oedd ELWa wedi talu arian ymlaen llaw i gorff. Ni fyddai hynny fyth yn digwydd yn y sector cyhoeddus ac ni ddylai fod wedi digwydd, ac eto mae'r Gweinidog yn methu â chymryd cyfrifoldeb. Mae'r Gweinidog yn wynebu cwestiynau cyson ar hyn oherwydd ei bod yn gwrthod derbyn cyfrifoldeb. Pe byddai wedi dod i'r Cynulliad yn y cyfnod cynnar, wedi cyfaddef bod problemau difrifol ynghylch ELWa, wedi'u cydnabod ac wedi sefydlu ymchwiliad llawn, ni fyddem yn trafod hyn heddiw. Pam y mae'n rhaid inni ddod yma dro ar ôl tro i ofyn i'r Gweinidog hwn dderbyn cyfrifoldeb? Gobeithiaf mai heddiw fydd y tro olaf y byddwn yn gorfod gofyn am ymchwiliad. Y cwbl a ofynnwn ydyw i'r Llywodraeth dderbyn cyfrifoldeb am sefyllfa ddifrifol yn y cwango mwyaf yng Nghymru. Rhaid i'r Gweinidog dderbyn cyfrifoldeb yn awr. Gobeithiaf y bydd yn derbyn, heddiw, yr angen am ymchwiliad llawn i ELWa.

Leighton Andrews: Dymunaf ganolbwyntio ar ddau fater. Y cyntaf yw'r hyn a elwir fel arfer yn brosiect y Ffatri Bop, er nad hynny yw ei deitl iawn, a'r ail fater yw proses archwilio'r Cynulliad.

Alun Cairns: Cyfeiriasoch at brosiect y Ffatri Bop, a phetrusaf cyn defnyddio'r enw hwnnw, gan fy mod yn derbyn mai'r enw ffurfiol yw Learn to Live. Er hynny, gwnaeth y Gweinidog ei alw'n brosiect y Ffatri Bop mewn ymateb gweinidogol.

Leighton Andrews: Bu siarad llac ym mhob rhan o'r Siambr—[AELODAU'R CYNULLIAD:

MEMBERS: ‘Oh.’] I am surprised that the Plaid Cymru Members are getting upset, when the Plaid-Cymru-controlled Rhondda Cynon Taf council supports this project. The Pop Factory is a successful project that was launched three years ago by Tom Jones, Cerys Matthews, and the Stereophonics. It makes successful television programmes for HTV, S4C and BBC Wales. The issue is the learning cafe project, run by Learn to Live under that contract. The cafe itself is an innovative project. It is supported by Rhondda Cynon Taf council, has been backed by the Government and I am delighted—and it may be the only nice comment that I make about Rhondda Cynon Taf council between now and next May—that the project has attracted Objective 1 money as a part of the Porth Plaza project. I am glad that the Government supported it.

There are important issues at stake. I accept that there are questions about ELWa, Avanti and the management of the contract. However, there is also a question about our audit process. As I understand it, an NAO investigation is underway, which will be exhaustive and will bring out the issues in full. When that is done, that is the time to consider in detail what has gone wrong. We should not intervene half-way through the process. As a new member of the Audit Committee, I hope that Members will trust in the integrity of the Committee in its approach to these questions.

I am concerned about this project because it is important for my constituency. It is an important investment and I do not want it to go wrong. There are real questions that must be answered; I accept that. However, I do not accept and do not like the opportunism of the Conservative Party in raising this issue. They do not care about the project or about the regeneration of Porth. David Davies and his party did not even know that the Pop Factory existed two weeks ago. He stated in the Chamber that

‘it does not exist. There is an empty factory building.’

The Pop Factory does exist and it is a success. Let us focus on the real issues.

‘O.’] Yr wyf yn synnu bod Aelodau Plaid Cymru yn digio, a chyngor Rhondda Cynon Taf a reolir gan Blaid Cymru yn cefnogi’r prosiect hwn. Mae’r Ffatri Bop yn brosiect llwyddiannus a lanswyd dair blynedd yn ôl gan Tom Jones, Cerys Matthews, a’r Stereophonics. Mae’n gwneud rhaglenni teledu llwyddiannus i HTV, S4C a BBC Cymru. Y mater dan sylw yw’r prosiect caffi dysgu, sy’n cael ei redeg gan Learn to Live dan y contract hwnnw. Mae’r caffi ei hun yn brosiect arloesol. Fe’i cefnogir gan gyngor Rhondda Cynon Taf, ac fe’i cefnogwyd gan y Llywodraeth ac yr wyf yn falch iawn—ac efallai mai hwn fydd yr unig sylw dymunol a wnaaf am gyngor Rhondda Cynon Taf o hyn tan fis Mai nesaf—fod y prosiect wedi denu arian Amcan 1 fel rhan o brosiect Porth Plaza. Yr wyf yn falch bod y Llywodraeth wedi’i gefnogi.

Mae materion pwysig yn y fantol. Derbyniaf fod cwestiynau ynghylch ELWa, Avanti a rheoli’r contract. Er hynny, mae cwestiwn hefyd ynghylch ein proses archwilio. Fel yr wyf fi’n ei ddeall, mae ymchwiliad ar y gweill gan y Swyddfa Archwilio Genedlaethol, a fydd yn un trylwyr ac yn dod â’r holl faterion i’r amlwg. Ar ôl cwblhau hynny y dylid ystyried yn fanwl beth a aeth o’i le. Ni ddylem ymyrryd a’r broses ar ei hanner. Fel aelod newydd o’r Pwyllgor Archwilio, gobeithiaf y bydd Aelodau’n ymddiried yng ngonestrwydd y Pwyllgor yn ei ddull o ymdrin â’r cwestiynau hyn.

Pryderaf ynghylch y prosiect hwn gan ei fod yn bwysig i’r hetholaeth. Mae’n fuddsoddiad pwysig ac nid wyf am iddo fethu. Mae cwestiynau go iawn y mae’n rhaid eu hateb; yr wyf yn derbyn hynny. Er hynny, nid wyf yn derbyn ac nid wyf yn hoffi cyflegarwch y Blaid Geidwadol wrth godi’r mater hwn. Nid yw o bwys ganddynt am y prosiect nac am adfywio’r Porth. Nid oedd David Davies a’i blaid yn gwybod hyd yn oed am fodolaeth y Ffatri Bop bythefnos yn ôl. Dywedodd yn y siambr:

‘nid yw’n bodoli. Mae adeilad ffatri gwag.’

Mae’r Ffatri Bop yn bodoli ac mae’n llwyddo. Gadewch inni ganolbwyntio ar y materion go iawn.

4.50 p.m.

Glyn Davies: The matter under consideration is the credibility of the Government. Inevitably, that reflects on the credibility of the Assembly and of devolution. Every Assembly sponsored public body makes mistakes: that is the way of it, and many mistakes are made here. However, the issue is how we deal with those mistakes and how we retain public confidence in the whole process. I have had considerable experience of ASPBs and of the difficult situations that sometimes arise. To retain public confidence, the Government must deal dramatically with such situations. There must be resignations, not just people being scythed off, but genuine resignations, so that the public can see that responsibility is being taken.

There have been irregular payments amounting to over £2.25 million. That is shocking. Those who know how ASPBs work know that that is a shocking figure. Accounts have been late, which is equally shocking. However, what really stunned me was that £4 million was paid up front. I have never heard of that before. That has nothing to do with what the auditor is examining at all; it is a completely separate issue for this Assembly. Four million pounds was paid up front. What sort of contract is that? Not only was that money paid up front, but millions were spent on facilities that are available for use by the private sector. I have never heard of such a contract—it is absolutely amazing. How many more are there? My guess is that there are many more, and I hope that the Minister, when she replies, will answer the questions. Alun raised many questions and there were many others from all sides. The Minister can, I know, get away with this. There have been occasions when she has made statements and answered questions before when it was difficult to understand exactly what she said. However, if she does not answer these questions clearly today, does not take responsibility, and does not support a genuine inquiry so that the people of Wales know exactly what has happened, she will be letting down the Government and the Assembly and damaging the devolution

Glyn Davies: Y mater dan sylw yw hygredd y Llywodraeth. Yn anorod, mae hynny'n adlewyrchu ar hygredd y Cynulliad a datganoli. Mae pob corff a noddir gan y Cynulliad yn gwneud camgymeriadau: felly y mae, a gwneir llawer o gamgymeriadau yma. Fodd bynnag, y mater dan sylw yw sut y deliwn â'r camgymeriadau hynny a sut y cadwn ymddiriedaeth y cyhoedd yn yr holl broses. Cefais gryn brofiad o gyrff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad a'r sefyllfaoedd anodd sy'n codi weithiau. Er mwyn cadw ymddiriedaeth y cyhoedd, rhaid i'r Llywodraeth ddelio'n ddramatig â sefyllfaoedd o'r fath. Rhaid cael ymddiswyddiadau, nid pobl yn cael eu bwrw o'r neilltu, ond ymddiswyddiadau go iawn, fel y gall y cyhoedd weld bod rhai'n derbyn cyfrifoldeb.

Bu taliadau afreolaidd o fwy na £2.25 miliwn. Mae hynny'n gywilyddus. Mae'r sawl a wŷr sut y mae cyrff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad yn gweithio yn gwybod bod hwnnw'n ffigur cywilyddus. Bu cyfrifon yn hwyr, ac mae hynny yr un mor gywilyddus. Fodd bynnag, yr hyn a'm syfrdanodd i oedd bod £4 miliwn wedi'i dalu ymlaen llaw. Ni chlywais erioed am beth felly o'r blaen. Nid oes a wnelo hynny ddim â'r hyn y mae'r archwilydd yn edrych arno; mae'n fater cwbl ar wahân i'r Cynulliad hwn. Talwyd £4 miliwn ymlaen llaw. Sut gontract yw hwnnw? Nid yn unig y talwyd yr arian hwnnw ymlaen llaw, ond gwariwyd miliynau ar gyfleusterau sydd ar gael i'w defnyddio gan y sector preifat. Ni chlywais i erioed am gontract o'r fath—mae'n gwbl ryfeddol. Sawl un arall sydd? Tybiwn i fod llawer o rai eraill, a gobeithiaf y bydd y Gweinidog, wrth ymateb, yn ateb y cwestiynau. Cododd Alun lawer o gwestiynau a chafwyd llawer o rai eraill o bob ochr. Gwn y gall y Gweinidog lwyddo i ddianc rhag hyn. Bu adegau pan wnaeth ddatganiadau ac ateb cwestiynau pan oedd yn anodd deall beth yn union a ddywedodd. Fodd bynnag, os nad etyb y cwestiynau hyn yn glir heddiw, os na dderbyn gyfrifoldeb, ac os na chefnoga ymchwiliad go iawn fel y caiff pobl Cymru wybod beth yn union a ddigwyddodd, bydd yn gwneud cam â'r Llywodraeth a'r

project.

Eleanor Burnham: Before I came to the Assembly, I was self-employed and under contract to a training and enterprise council. Therefore, I was excited to hear about the establishment of ELWa. My understanding was that ELWa was full of highly professional and experienced people. I also understood that the former chief executive of the North Wales TEC was shadowing the new personnel for a year before ELWa's establishment. Imagine my surprise and horror, therefore, when I began to hear of problems with ELWa. It is, after all, a super-quango, with a budget of £800 million per annum. Frankly, it has been a catalogue of disasters. I point out that the Liberal Democrats raised questions about this matter before the elections, in case some in the Labour Party think I am being disloyal. Credibility has been completely lost and the perception that ELWa has wasted money is possibly true: who can tell? However, what is perceived to be true is often the reality. Many headteachers believe that their cash-strapped sixth forms have, in effect, given their money to ELWa, which they believe to be a complete waste of time. Minister, to restore your credibility and that of the Assembly, of devolution and, particularly, of ELWa, you must grasp the nettle and ensure a thorough investigation. The delivery of education and training, which really is the issue here, is of paramount importance and, therefore, an investigation is the least that we can expect.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Many questions have been asked about the senior management of ELWa and ministerial responsibility. You must accept, Jane, that, while you were prepared to visit the Pop Factory every other week to smile for the cameras and mingle with celebrities, suddenly, you have become camera-shy and quote-shy about ELWa. This is a question of ministerial responsibility. We managed to squeeze out of you the fact that you took a general policy decision, which seems to have been to bung £4 million into the business accounts of a private company. That public money was put into a private company's account, without conditions on its use. The company was able to use the money

Cynulliad ac yn gwneud drwg i brosiect datganoli.

Eleanor Burnham: Cyn imi ddod i'r Cynulliad, yr oeddwn yn hunangyflogedig ac yn gweithio ar gontract i gyngor hyfforddi a menter. Gan hynny, yr oedd yn gyffrous imi glywed am sefydlu ELWa. Deallais fod ELWa yn llawn pobl brofiadol a thra phroffesiynol. Deallais hefyd fod cyn brif weithredwr CHM Gogledd Cymru yn cysgodi'r staff newydd am flwyddyn cyn sefydlu ELWa. Gallwch feddwl cymaint o syndod a braw ydoedd i mi, felly, pan glywais gyntaf am y problemau yn ELWa. Archgwango ydyw, wedi'r cwbl, a chanddo gyllideb o £800 miliwn y flwyddyn. A dweud y gwir, cafwyd rhestr o drychinebau. Tynnaf sylw at y ffaith bod y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol wedi codi cwestiynau am y mater hwn cyn yr etholiadau, rhag ofn i rai yn y Blaid Lafur feddwl fy mod yn annheyrngar. Collwyd hygrededd yn llwyr a gallai'r canfyddiad bod ELWa wedi gwastraffu arian fod yn wir: pwy a all ddweud? Fodd bynnag, yr hyn y canfyddir ei fod yn wir yw'r gwirionedd yn aml. Mae llawer o benaethiaid ysgol yn credu bod eu dosbarthiadau chwech prin eu harian wedi rhoi eu harian i ELWa, i bob pwrpas, a chredant fod hwnnw'n wastraff amser llwyr. Weinidog, i adfer eich hygrededd a hygrededd y Cynulliad, datganoli ac, yn benodol, ELWa, rhaid ichi afael ynddi a sicrhau ymchwiliad trwyadl. Mae cyflenwi addysg a hyfforddiant, sef yr hyn sydd dan sylw yma mewn gwirionedd, yn rhywbeth sydd o'r pwys mwyaf ac, felly, ymchwiliad yw'r lleiaf y gallwn ei ddisgwyl.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Gofynnwyd llawer o gwestiynau am uwch reolwyr ELWa a chyfrifoldeb gweinidogol. Rhaid ichi dderbyn, Jane, er eich bod yn barod i ymweld â'r Ffatri Bop bob yn ail wythnos i wenu gerbron y camerâu a chymysgu gydag enwogion, ichi ddod, yn sydyn, yn swil o'r camerâu ac yn dawedog ar ELWa. Mater o gyfrifoldeb gweinidogol yw hyn. Gwnaethom lwyddo i wasgu ohonoch y ffaith eich bod wedi gwneud penderfyniad polisi cyffredinol sef, i bob golwg, taflu £4 miliwn i gyfrifon busnes cwmni preifat. Rhoddwyd yr arian cyhoeddus hwnnw yng nghyfrif cwmni preifat, heb amodau ar ei ddefnyddio. Gallai'r cwmni ddefnyddio'r arian ar gyfer mentrau

on private ventures; no conditions were placed upon that use. Minister, when will you take responsibility for the lack of supervision of this project? Will you accept that—

Leighton Andrews: Do you, like the Plaid Cymru-controlled Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council, want that money to be spent in Porth?

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I want that money to be spent in Porth and the Rhondda, but I want it to be spent professionally and in the way in which public money is usually spent by a private company. You know, Leighton, that when these contracts are drawn up, private companies expect conditions. Avanti apparently expected conditions, but ELWa told it to put the money in its business account and that conditions did not need to be placed on how it was spent. Minister, will you accept that you are in danger of doing what is known in the Chamber as a ‘German’: expecting everybody else to take responsibility for your shortcomings and failures. When will you take the podium and take responsibility for your actions?

Jeff Cuthbert: I speak in support of amendment 1. During questions to the First Minister, it was mentioned that ELWa has done good work on post-16 education and training. Over 13,000 young people are now engaged in modern apprenticeships, over 1,000 modern skills diplomas are underway, investors in people awards are 16 per cent over target, and, in terms of adult education, 42 per cent of adults in Wales are now, or have recently been, engaged as learners, compared with 39 per cent in England. The learners themselves must be congratulated on these achievements, but we must recognise the crucial role played by ELWa in promoting these schemes and initiatives. All key players recognise that more needs to be done, but leading trade unions and employers have nevertheless welcomed ELWa’s work in this regard. Two weeks ago, the Wales Trades Union Congress registered its approval of ELWa’s work, while recognising its internal business problems. Amendment 1 reflects the need for ELWa to improve its management of business practices while ensuring that its positive achievements are

preifat; ni osodwyd unrhyw amodau ar y defnydd hwnnw. Weinidog, pa bryd y cymerwch gyfrifoldeb am y diffyg goruchwyllo ar y prosiect hwn? A dderbyniwch bod—

Leighton Andrews: A ydych chi, fel Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf sydd dan reolaeth Plaid Cymru, yn dymuno i’r arian hwnnw gael ei wario yn y Porth?

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Dymunaf i’r arian hwnnw gael ei wario yn y Porth ac yn y Rhondda, ond yr wyf am iddo gael ei wario’n broffesiynol ac yn y modd arferol y gwarir arian cyhoeddus gan gwmni preifat. Gwyddoch, Leighton, pan lunnir y contractau hyn, fod cwmnïau preifat yn disgwyl amodau. Mae’n debyg bod Avanti yn disgwyl amodau, ond dywedodd ELWa wrtho am roi’r arian yn ei gyfrif busnes ac nad oedd angen gosod amodau ar y dull o’i wario. Weinidog, a wnewch dderbyn eich bod mewn perygl o wneud yr hyn a elwir yn y Siambr yn ‘German’: disgwyl i bawb arall dderbyn cyfrifoldeb am eich diffygion a’ch methiannau. Pa bryd y dewch i’r podium a chymryd cyfrifoldeb am eich gweithredoedd?

Jeff Cuthbert: Siaradaf o blaid gwelliant 1. Yn ystod y cwestiynau i’r Prif Weinidog, cyfeiriwyd at y ffaith bod ELWa wedi gwneud gwaith da ar addysg a hyfforddiant ôl-16. Bellach mae mwy na 13,000 o bobl ifanc yn cymryd rhan mewn prentisiaethau modern, mae mwy na 1,000 yn ymgeisio am ddiplomâu sgiliau modern, mae’r nifer o ddyfarniadau buddsoddwyr mewn pobl 16 y cant yn fwy na’r targed, ac, yng nghydestun addysg i oedolion, mae 42 y cant o oedolion yng Nghymru yn cymryd rhan fel dysgwyr, neu wedi gwneud yn ddiweddar, o’i gymharu â 39 y cant yn Lloegr. Rhaid llongyfarch y dysgwyr eu hunain ar y cyflawniadau hyn, ond rhaid inni gydnabod y rôl hollbwysig a oedd gan ELWa wrth hyrwyddo’r cynlluniau a’r mentrau hyn. Mae’r holl chwaraewyr allweddol yn cydnabod bod angen gwneud rhagor ond, er hynny, mae undebau llafur a chyflogwyr blaenllaw wedi croesawu’r gwaith a wnaeth ELWa yn hyn o beth. Bythefnos yn ôl, rhoddodd Cyngres Undebau Llafur Cymru ei chymeradwyaeth i waith ELWa, tra cydnabu ei broblemau busnes mewnol. Mae gwelliant

highlighted. If we do not support this amendment, the achievements of learners will be overshadowed by ELWa's significant, but internal, problems.

David Davies: We tabled this motion for debate today because there are serious questions about the manner in which ELWa conducts itself. My colleagues have clearly stated the allegations and we have raised them for debate because the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning has thus far failed to answer questions on them. A series of payments, running into hundreds of thousands of pounds, were made to several public relations companies without the proper tendering procedures having been followed. These were for advice on public relations, marketing and, in one instance, on reducing running costs. There are questions about the contract between ELWa and Learn to Live Ltd to develop an interactive cafe and training scheme for young people and the circumstances that led to a £4 million advance payment for that project, which has thus far failed to train one person. There are also questions about the use to which equipment, bought from public funds to train those young people, has been put, and whether or not other companies have benefited from ELWa's extraordinary policy of making advance payments.

We have been forced to use our opposition time to raise these matters because you failed to answer key questions, Minister, when you had the chance to do so two weeks ago. We asked about an irregular £4 million advance payment for a project which has not started, and you replied with a banal list of statistics, purporting to show that ELWa is doing a marvellous job in meeting the targets that you have set for it. We asked you why you set this body up without financial standing orders and you criticised us for having the temerity to ask the question. We asked you about the contracts, the equipment bought, and the use to which it has been put, and you hide behind the fact that investigations are going on—and on—hoping against hope that if you can prevaricate for long enough, and keep up the obfuscation until the summer recess,

I yn adlewyrchu'r angen i ELWa wella ei reolaeth ar arferion busnes gan sicrhau, yr un pryd, fod ei gyflawniadau cadarnhaol yn cael sylw. Os na chefnogwn y gwelliant hwn, caiff cyflawniadau dysgwyr eu bwrw i'r cysgod gan broblemau sylweddol, ond mewnol, ELWa.

David Davies: Gwnaethom gyflwyno'r cynnig hwn ar gyfer dadl heddiw am fod cwestiynau difrifol ynghylch y modd y mae ELWa yn ymddwyn. Mae fy nghyd-Aelodau wedi nodi'r honiadau'n glir ac yr ydym wedi'u codi ar gyfer dadl am fod y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes wedi methu ag ateb cwestiynau arnynt hyd yma. Gwnaed cyfres o daliadau, a ddeuai i gannoedd o filoedd o bunnoedd, i sawl cwmni cysylltiadau cyhoeddus heb ddilyn y gweithdrefnau tendro priodol. Yr oedd y rhain ar gyfer cyngor ar gysylltiadau cyhoeddus, marchnata ac, mewn un achos, ar leihau costau rhedeg. Mae cwestiynau ynghylch y contract rhwng ELWa a Learn to Live Cyf i ddatblygu caffi rhyngweithiol a chynllun hyfforddi ar gyfer pobl ifanc a'r amgylchiadau a arweiniodd at dalu £4 miliwn ymlaen llaw am y prosiect hwnnw, sydd wedi methu â hyfforddi neb hyd yn hyn. Mae cwestiynau hefyd ynghylch y defnydd o offer a brynwyd ag arian cyhoeddus i hyfforddi'r bobl ifanc hynny, ac a yw cwmnïau eraill wedi cael budd o bolisi rhyfeddol ELWa o wneud taliadau ymlaen llaw.

Fe'n gorfodwyd i ddefnyddio ein hamser fel gwrthblaid i godi'r materion hyn gan eich bod wedi methu ag ateb cwestiynau allweddol, Weinidog, pan gawsoch gyfle i wneud hynny bythefnos yn ôl. Gwnaethom eich holi ynghylch blaendaliad afreolaidd o £4 miliwn am brosiect nad yw wedi cychwyn, ac atebasoch drwy roi rhestr ddiflas o ystadegau, gan honni dangos bod ELWa yn gwneud gwaith ardderchog o ran cyrraedd y targedau yr ydych wedi'u gosod iddo. Gwnaethom ofyn ichi pam y sefydlassoch y corff hwn heb reolau sefydlog ariannol ac fe'n beirniadasoch ni am fod mor hyf â gofyn y cwestiwn. Gwnaethom eich holi am y contractau, yr offer a brynwyd, a'r defnydd a wnaed ohonynt, ac yr ydych chi'n cuddio y tu ôl i'r ffaith bod ymchwiliadau'n mynd ymlaen—ac ymlaen—gan obeithio er

everything will be all right. However, that will not do, Minister. We want, and demand, answers to our questions. You have a large brief in front of you, Minister: a great big, thick wodge of paper. It is no doubt full of many more statistics with which you will try to baffle us. However, we want simple answers—'yes' and 'no' answers will be sufficient.

5.00 p.m.

Have you seen the contract between ELWa and Learn to Live Ltd? If you have seen it, are you prepared to publish it? Are you satisfied with the performance of ELWa's senior management? Why did you set that body up without a shadow period? Will you investigate the use to which the equipment that was bought to train young people has been put? Will you investigate the six-figure sums paid out to public relations and marketing companies? However, the key question—and you knew that we would ask you this today because we sent the question to you yesterday—is: were advance payments made to other companies?

You are about to be called to speak, Minister. You can either answer these questions, or you can continue to prevaricate with statistics about the targets met, criticisms of an opposition party's right to scrutinise, reassuring noises about lessons learnt and ongoing investigations, and shrill ululations of support for all that ELWa is doing—apart, of course, from on the matters that we have raised today.

We ask you to make a courageous and difficult decision, Minister. Look away from your list of statistics, look Assembly Members in the eye, and answer the questions that we have put to you. If you cannot do that, you are not fit to hold ministerial office.

The Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning (Jane Davidson): I am sure that Members will not be surprised to hear that I strongly disagree with the motion tabled by Jonathan Morgan, and with amendments 2 and 3 tabled by Jocelyn Davies. I commend

gwaethaf popeth, os gallwch anwladu'n ddigon hir, a dal i fwydro tan doriad yr haf, y bydd popeth yn iawn. Fodd bynnag, ni wnaiff hynny'r tro, Weinidog. Yr ydym eisiau, ac yn mynnu, atebion i'n cwestiynau. Mae gennych friff mawr o'ch blaen, Weinidog: talp mawr tew o bapurau. Mae'n sicr o fod yn llawn ystadegau lu y byddwch yn ceisio'u defnyddio i'n drysu. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym am gael atebion syml—bydd 'ie' a 'nace' yn ddigon.

A welsoch y contract rhwng ELWa a Learn to Live Cyf? Os gwelsoch ef, a ydych yn barod i'w gyhoeddi? A ydych yn fodlon ar berfformiad uwch reolwyr ELWa? Pam y sefydlasoch y corff hwnnw heb gyfnod cysgodol? A wnewch ymchwilio i'r defnydd o offer a brynwyd i hyfforddi pobl ifanc? A wnewch ymchwilio i'r symiau chwe ffigur a dalwyd i gwmnïau cysylltiadau cyhoeddus a marchnata? Fodd bynnag, y cwestiwn allweddol—a gwyddech y byddem yn ei ofyn ichi heddiw am inni ei anfon atoch ddoe—yw: a wnaed taliadau ymlaen llaw i gwmnïau eraill?

Yr ydych ar fin cael eich galw i siarad, Weinidog. Gallwch naill ai ateb y cwestiynau hyn, neu gallwch barhau i fwyseirio gan roi ystadegau am y targedau a gyrhaeddwyd, beirniadaeth ar hawl gwrthblaid i graffu, synau cysurus am wersi a ddysgwyd ac ymchwiliadau cyfredol, a nadau main o blaid popeth y mae ELWa yn ei wneud—ar wahân, wrth gwrs, i'r materion yr ydym wedi'u codi heddiw.

Gofynnwn ichi wneud penderfyniad dewr ac anodd, Weinidog. Edrychwch heibio i'ch rhestr ystadegau, edrychwch i fyw llygaid Aelodau Cynulliad, ac ateb y cwestiynau yr ydym wedi'u gofyn i chi. Os na allwch wneud hynny, nid ydych yn gymwys i ddal swydd Gweinidog.

Y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes (Jane Davidson): Yr wyf yn siŵr na fydd Aelodau'n synnu o glywed fy mod yn anghydweld yn gryf â'r cynnig a gyflwynwyd gan Jonathan Morgan, a gwelliannau 2 a 3 a gyflwynwyd gan Jocelyn Davies.

amendment 1 to Members.

It may be helpful to Members if I state again what I am responsible for as a Minister, and what the National Council is responsible for, because the opposition is intent on misinterpreting the roles of the Minister and of the National Council. The council is a statutory, corporate body, established under the Learning and Skills Act 2000. It is responsible for the conduct of its affairs. It must conduct its affairs within the public sector rules that apply to all Assembly sponsored public bodies. As the Government, we require all bodies to operate within those rules. The responsibilities lie with the council's chief executive and accounting officer. That is what is laid down in law, no matter how much you obfuscate.

As Minister, I set the policy and budgetary framework within which the council operates. I issue its annual remit, and publish that document. We review its performance at least quarterly, and maintain oversight of its activities. It is scrutinised by the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee. The agenda for the establishment of ELWa and its work was endorsed by the Assembly in 2000; all parties approved the establishment of the council.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: You say that the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee is responsible for the scrutiny of ELWa. Did that Committee have sight of the document that you saw when you made your general policy decision approving the moneys given to Avanti?

Jane Davidson: The document that I saw related to giving general policy approval to the overall project—and the development of the project is bringing £14 million into the Rhondda Cynon Taf area—and was published in a redacted form in response to a question from Ieuan Wyn Jones. It is available to every Assembly Member.

I also remind the Assembly that council members are extremely distinguished people. They are committed individuals and I have every confidence in them. In terms of learning, Wales is outperforming other parts of the UK; ELWa is doing the job that it was

Cymeradwyaf welliant 1 i Aelodau.

Gallai fod o gymorth i Aelodau os dywedaf eto dros beth yr wyf fi'n gyfrifol fel Gweinidog, a thros beth y mae'r Cyngor Cenedlaethol yn gyfrifol, gan fod yr wrthblaid yn benderfynol o gamddechongli rolau'r Gweinidog a'r Cyngor Cenedlaethol. Mae'r cyngor yn gorff corfforaethol, statudol, a sefydlwyd dan Ddeddf Dysgu a Sgiliau 2000. Mae'n gyfrifol am reoli ei fusnes. Rhaid iddo reoli ei fusnes yn unol â'r rheolau sector cyhoeddus sy'n berthnasol i'r holl gyrff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad. Fel y Llywodraeth, mynnwn fod pob corff yn gweithredu'n unol â'r rheolau hynny. Prif weithredwr a swyddog cyfrifo'r cyngor sydd â'r cyfrifoldebau. Dyna a bennir mewn cyfraith, ni waeth faint yr ydych yn mwyrdo.

Fel Gweinidog, gosodaf y fframwaith polisi a chyllidebol y mae'r cyngor yn gweithredu oddi mewn iddo. Rhoddaf ei gylch gorchwyl blynyddol, a chyhoeddaf y ddogfen honno. Adolygwn ei berfformiad bob chwarter o leiaf, a goruchwylwn ei weithgareddau. Mae'r Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes yn craffu arno. Cadarnhawyd yr agenda ar gyfer sefydlu ELWa a'i waith gan y Cynulliad yn 2000; yr oedd yr holl bleidiau'n cymeradwyo sefydlu'r cyngor.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Dywedwch mai'r Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes sy'n gyfrifol am graffu ar ELWa. A welodd y Pwyllgor hwnnw y ddogfen a welsoch chi pan wnaethoch eich penderfyniad polisi cyffredinol i gymeradwyo'r arian a roddwyd i Avanti?

Jane Davidson: Yr oedd y ddogfen a welais i'n ymwneud â rhoi cymeradwyaeth polisi cyffredinol i'r prosiect cyfan—ac mae datblygu'r prosiect yn dod â £14 miliwn i ardal Rhondda Cynon Taf—ac fe'i cyhoeddwyd ar ffurf olygedig mewn ymateb i gwestiwn gan Ieuan Wyn Jones. Mae ar gael i bob Aelod o'r Cynulliad.

Yr wyf hefyd yn atgoffa'r Cynulliad bod aelodau'r cyngor yn bobl dra nodedig. Maent yn unigolion ymroddedig ac mae gennyf bob ffydd ynddynt. O ran dysgu, mae Cymru'n perfformio'n well na rhannau eraill o'r DU; mae ELWa yn gwneud y gwaith y sefydlwyd

established to do. I am grateful to the Members who have continued to express that view, despite the opposition.

Jonathan Morgan: You have stated your confidence in those running ELWa in terms of its meeting targets—targets which you have listed previously and will list again. Do you also have confidence in the way that they have managed the organisation, because they have admitted that they have failed in many respects?

Jane Davidson: The people involved were disciplined by the National Council, which is the employer. I have full confidence in the work of the acting chief executive, who is working as quickly as possible to tackle the weaknesses that have become evident. An action plan is in place to address all the structural and systems weaknesses. Eleanor said that everybody was saying that £2.25 million had been wasted at ELWa. That is being said because opposition Members have deliberately misrepresented the Auditor General's report in the Chamber. We do not excuse what has happened. However, it is important to understand that the council did not break the law, nor was expenditure wasted. However, the council could not demonstrate that it had secured value for money because it did not follow the proper processes. I reject the idea that, because the council did not follow the proper processes, that money has been lost to the education agenda in Wales. That is a significantly different issue.

Alun Cairns: I cannot believe the Minister. She is seeking to excuse £2.25 million in irregular payments. We will never know whether that money was wasted or not, because the proper procurement procedure was not followed. The Minister is trying to excuse irregularities within ELWa. That is inexcusable.

Jane Davidson: I am not excusing irregularities. I am making the same point that you made. We cannot demonstrate whether or not money has been lost, because the proper procedures were not followed. It was inexcusable that those procedures were not followed. However, that is a different issue from the expenditure.

ef i'w gyflawni. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i'r Aelodau sydd wedi dal i fynegi'r farn honno, er gwaethaf y gwrthbleidiau.

Jonathan Morgan: Yr ydych wedi datgan eich ffydd yn y rhai sy'n rhedeg ELWa o ran y ffaith ei fod yn cyrraedd targedau—targedau yr ydych wedi'u rhestru o'r blaen ac y byddwch yn eu rhestru eto. A oes gennych ffydd hefyd yn eu dull o reoli'r corff, gan eu bod wedi cyfaddef eu bod wedi methu mewn llawer modd?

Jane Davidson: Disgyblwyd y rhai a oedd yn gysylltiedig gan y Cyngor Cenedlaethol, sef y cyflogwr. Mae gennyf bob ffydd yng ngwaith y prif weithredwr gweithredol, sy'n gweithio cyn gynted ag y bo modd i ymdrin â'r gwendidau a ddaeth i'r amlwg. Mae cynllun gweithredu ar waith i fynd i'r afael â holl wendidau'r strwythurau a'r systemau. Dywedodd Eleanor fod pawb yn dweud bod £2.25 miliwn wedi'i wastraffu gan ELWa. Dywedir hynny am fod Aelodau'r wrthblaid wedi camgyfleu adroddiad yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol yn fwriadol yn y Siambr. Nid ydym yn esgusodi'r hyn a ddigwyddodd. Er hynny, mae'n bwysig deall na wnaeth y cyngor dorri'r gyfraith, ac na wastraffwyd gwariant. Fodd bynnag, ni allai'r cyngor brofi ei fod wedi sicrhau gwerth am arian am na ddilynodd y prosesau priodol. Gwrthodaf y syniad bod yr agenda addysg yng Nghymru wedi colli arian am na ddilynodd y cyngor y prosesau priodol. Mae hynny'n fater tra gwahanol.

Alun Cairns: Ni allaf goelio'r hyn a ddywed y Gweinidog. Mae'n ceisio esgusodi'r £2.25 miliwn o daliadau afreolaidd. Ni chawn byth wybod a wastraffwyd yr arian hwnnw ai peidio, gan na ddilynwyd y weithdrefn gaffael briodol. Mae'r Gweinidog yn ceisio esgusodi afreoleidd-dra yn ELWa. Ni ellir esgusodi hynny.

Jane Davidson: Nid wyf yn esgusodi afreoleidd-dra. Yr wyf yn gwneud yr un pwynt ag a wnaethoch chi. Ni allwn brofi a gollwyd arian ai peidio, am na ddilynwyd y gweithdrefnau priodol. Ni ellir esgusodi peidio â dilyn y gweithdrefnau hynny. Fodd bynnag, mae hynny'n fater gwahanol i'r gwariant.

There have been serious shortcomings at the council and there is no question of dismissing their impact. I reported those issues to the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee. There were opportunities for Members to ask questions. Adam Peat, who has run an Assembly sponsored public body and is a senior Assembly civil servant, reported in May that, at that point, there were no longer control problems in ELWa's framework. He did not say that there had not been problems, and we must remember that the procurement irregularities occurred between April 2001 and March 2002. He reported in May that there were no longer control environment problems at ELWa. I am not willing for a further investigation to be conducted into ELWa outside of the work being carried out by the Auditor General. I am disappointed that opposition Members are not only prepared to leak documents from the audit process but do not have confidence in the independence of the audit process.

Janice Gregory: I am glad that you mentioned the leaked Audit Committee report because, before the election, the then Chair of the Committee, Dafydd Wigley, wrote to all Committee members and their staff asking them to declare whether they had leaked this document. To my knowledge—and I have written to the Presiding Officer yet again on this issue—that investigation has not been concluded. The name of the person or persons who leaked that document is not yet known to the Committee, and we have elected new members to the Audit Committee today. Do you share my concern at that, Minister?

5.10 p.m.

Jane Davidson: This issue is now in the hands of the Presiding Office, which will pursue it vigorously in ensuring that the Assembly's proper processes are allowed to continue. This debate demonstrates the strength of our audit processes. This Assembly Government put those processes in place, both externally and internally. When the National Audit Office published the outcome of its investigation, it became a public document. When the Assembly's Audit Committee considered the issue, it

Bu diffygion difrifol yn y cyngor ac yn sicr ni fyddwn yn diystyru eu heffaith. Rhoddais wybod am y materion hynny i'r Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes. Bu cyfleoedd i Aelodau ofyn cwestiynau. Bu i Adam Peat, sydd wedi rhedeg corff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad ac sy'n uwch was sifil yn y Cynulliad, roi gwybod ym mis Mai nad oedd problemau rheoli bellach, y pryd hynny, yn fframwaith ELWa. Ni ddywedodd na fu problemau, a rhaid inni gofio bod yr achosion o afreoleidd-dra mewn caffael wedi digwydd rhwng Ebrill 2001 a Mawrth 2002. Rhoddodd wybod ym mis Mai nad oedd problemau erbyn hynny yn yr amgylchedd rheoli yn ELWa. Nid wyf yn barod i ymchwiliad pellach gael ei gynnal i ELWa y tu allan i'r gwaith a wneir gan yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol. Yr wyf yn siomedig bod Aelodau'r gwrthbleidiau yn barod i ddatgelu dogfennau cyfrinachol o'r broses archwilio a hefyd nad ydynt yn ymddiried yn annibyniaeth y broses archwilio.

Janice Gregory: Yr wyf yn falch eich bod wedi cyfeirio at adroddiad y Pwyllgor Archwilio a ddatgelwyd oherwydd, cyn yr etholiad, ysgrifennodd Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor ar y pryd, Dafydd Wigley, at holl aelodau'r Pwyllgor a'u staff gan ofyn iddynt ddatgan a oeddent wedi datgelu'r ddogfen hon. Hyd y gwn i—ac yr wyf wedi ysgrifennu at y Llywydd unwaith eto ar y mater hwn—nid yw'r ymchwiliad hwnnw wedi'i gwblhau. Nid yw enw'r sawl a ddatgelodd y ddogfen honno'n hysbys eto i'r Pwyllgor, ac yr ydym wedi ethol aelodau newydd i'r Pwyllgor Archwilio heddiw. A ydych yn rhannu fy mhryder ynghylch hynny, Weinidog?

Jane Davidson: Mae'r mater hwn yng ngofal Swyddfa'r Llywydd ar hyn o bryd, a bydd yn ei ddilyn yn egniol wrth sicrhau y caniateir i brosesau priodol y Cynulliad barhau. Mae'r ddadl hon yn dangos cadernid ein prosesau archwilio. Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a roddodd y prosesau hynny ar waith, yn allanol ac yn fewnol. Pan gyhoeddodd y Swyddfa Archwilio Genedlaethol ganlyniad ei hymchwiliad, daeth yn ddogfen gyhoeddus. Pan ystyriodd Pwyllgor Archwilio'r Cynulliad y mater, cynhyrchodd

produced a public document and, within 30 days, the Assembly Government published its report—another public document.

Janet Davies: Do you not accept that it was the Government of Wales Act 1998 that put the Audit Committee in place, and not any particular Government?

Jane Davidson: The Government of Wales Act 1998 was the work of my Westminster colleagues in the Labour Party. I am happy to endorse the principle and to endorse that all Members keep the principle. However, it is important that we have a learning agenda in Wales. Frankly, I am amazed by amendment 2, which calls for an investigation into the policy decisions taken by the Minister at the time that led to establishing the National Council—ELWa. All Members were involved in that debate on 1 February 2000. Jocelyn was a member of the former Post-16 Education and Training Committee at the time, which conducted four months of hearings.

Nick Bourne: I know that the Minister wants to move on from this question, but it is crucial. Have any other advance payments, like the one made to the Pop Factory, been made by ELWa?

Jane Davidson: As a Minister keen on making decisions based on evidence, I will await the Auditor General's evidence, not only on the Pop Factory—

Alun Cairns: You knew about the Pop Factory.

Jane Davidson: I had no idea, because—

Alun Cairns: Shameful.

Jane Davidson: Listen to my answer. I had no idea. As a responsible Government, we ensured that the Auditor General had all the information about ELWa's internal audit processes, so that he and his staff could produce a report this summer covering issues not only surrounding the Pop Factory but perhaps others. However, we do not know. As a Minister separate from this corporate

ddogfen gyhoeddus ac, o fewn 30 niwrnod, cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ei hadroddiad hi—dogfen gyhoeddus arall.

Janet Davies: Onid ydych yn derbyn mai Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998 a sefydlodd y Pwyllgor Archwilio, ac nid unrhyw Lywodraeth benodol?

Jane Davidson: Gwaith fy nghyd-aelodau o'r Blaid Lafur yn San Steffan oedd Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998. Yr wyf yn falch o ategu'r egwyddor ac i gymell yr holl Aelodau i lynu wrth yr egwyddor. Er hynny, mae'n bwysig bod gennym agenda dysgu yng Nghymru. A dweud y gwir, yr wyf yn rhyfeddu at welliant 2, sy'n galw am ymchwiliad i'r penderfyniadau polisi a wnaed gan y Gweinidog ar yr adeg cyn sefydlu'r Cyngor Cenedlaethol—ELWa. Cymerodd yr holl Aelodau ran yn y ddadl honno ar 1 Chwefror 2000. Yr oedd Jocelyn yn aelod o'r cyn Bwyllgor Addysg a Hyfforddiant Ôl-16 ar y pryd, a gynhaliodd wrandawiadau am bedwar mis.

Nick Bourne: Gwn fod y Gweinidog am symud oddi wrth y cwestiwn hwn, ond mae'n hollbwysig. A wnaeth ELWa unrhyw flaendaliadau eraill, fel yr un a roddwyd i'r Ffatri Bop?

Jane Davidson: Fel Gweinidog sy'n awyddus i wneud penderfyniadau ar sail tystiolaeth, disgwyliaf am dystiolaeth yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol, nid yn unig ar y Ffatri Bop—

Alun Cairns: Gwyddech am y Ffatri Bop.

Jane Davidson: Nid oedd gennyf yr un syniad, oherwydd—

Alun Cairns: Cywilyddus.

Jane Davidson: Gwrandewch ar fy ateb. Nid oedd gennyf yr un syniad. Fel Llywodraeth gyfrifol, gwnaethom sicrhau bod yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol yn cael yr holl wybodaeth am brosesau archwilio mewnol ELWa, fel y gallai ef a'i staff gynhyrchu adroddiad yr haf hwn yn ymdrin â materion sy'n ymwneud â'r Ffatri Bop ac eraill hefyd o bosibl. Fodd bynnag, ni wyddom. Fel

body, it is important that I await the outcome of the Auditor General's report, that that report comes before the Assembly and that our Audit Committee deals with it properly. Then, it is proper for the Assembly Government to respond within 30 days. These processes are outlined in law. We will deliver and, in the meantime, we are ensuring that ELWa has all it needs to deliver its responsibilities within the proper accounting procedures of the Assembly Government. I will await the evidence—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. Your time is up. I call Nick Bourne to wind up.

The First Minister: Nick Bourne is on now, is he? Lots of noise.

Nick Bourne: I will not disappoint you, Rhodri. This matter concerns accountability which, I am sure, is close to your heart, as is the scourge of the quangos. It is most extraordinary. First a few words about— [*Interruption.*] Is it not time that you acted like a statesman? You are our First Minister: calm down. You do not act like the First Minister, but that seems to be the result of the election.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. I have pressed the red button; no-one's words except mine will be recorded. Please settle down. We only have five minutes left. Everybody else was heard in reasonable silence, and I want the same for Nick Bourne.

Nick Bourne: This debate is categorically not about ELWa's performance in relation to targets on education, which may or may not have been reached. The Minister may be more comfortable talking about that, but it is not the subject of the debate. The more she talks about it, the more we are entitled to feel that she has something to hide. Indeed, we have been treated to her constant ducking and diving, finessing and feinting, dodging and evasion. However, she was clear on one point: she says that she did not know whether there were any more 'pop factories'. That is

Gweinidog sydd ar wahân i'r corff corfforaethol hwn, mae'n bwysig fy mod yn disgwyl canlyniad adroddiad yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol, bod yr adroddiad hwnnw'n dod gerbron y Cynulliad a bod ein Pwyllgor Archwilio yn delio ag ef yn briodol. Wedyn, mae'n briodol i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ymateb o fewn 30 niwrnod. Disgrifir y prosesau hyn mewn cyfraith. Awn â'r maen i'r wal ac, yn y cyfamser, yr ydym yn sicrhau bod gan ELWa bopeth y mae arno ei angen i gyflawni ei ddyletswyddau yn unol â gweithdrefnau cyfrifyddu priodol Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Arhosaf am y dystiolaeth—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Mae eich amser ar ben. Galwaf ar Nick Bourne i gloi.

Y Prif Weinidog: Nick Bourne sydd ymlaen yn awr, ie? Llauer o ddrw.

Nick Bourne: Ni'ch siomaf, Rhodri. Mae'r mater hwn yn ymwneud ag atebolrwydd sydd, yr wyf yn siŵr, yn agos at eich calon, fel fflangellwr y cwangos. Mae'n rhyfedd dros ben. Yn gyntaf, ychydig o eiriau am— [*Torri ar draws.*] Onid yw'n bryd ichi ymddwyn fel gwladweinydd? Chi yw ein Prif Weinidog: byddwch yn dawel. Nid ydych yn ymddwyn fel y Prif Weinidog, ond ymddengys mai hynny yw canlyniad yr etholiad.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Yr wyf wedi pwyso'r botwm coch; ni chofnodir geiriau neb heblaw fy rhai i. Byddwch yn dawel, os gwelwch yn dda. Dim ond pum munud sydd gennym yn weddill. Clywyd pawb arall mewn tawelwch rhesymol, ac yr wyf am gael hynny hefyd i Nick Bourne.

Nick Bourne: Yn sicr, nid oes a wnelo'r ddadl hon ddim â pherfformiad ELWa mewn cysylltiad â thargedau addysg, sydd wedi eu cyrraedd neu sydd heb eu cyrraedd. Efallai fod y Gweinidog yn fwy cyfforddus wrth sôn am hynny, ond nid hynny yw pwnc y ddadl. Po fwyaf y sieryd amdano, mwyaf yw'r hawl sydd gennym ni i deimlo bod ganddi rywbeth i'w gelu. Yn wir, cawsom y pleser o wrando ar ei gochel a'i hosgoi parhaus, ei smalio a'i ffugio, ei hel dail a'i hystrywiau. Er hynny, yr oedd yn bendant ar un pwynt: dywed na wyddai a oedd rhagor o 'ffatrioedd pop'. Mae

scandalous.

Leighton Andrews: Will you give way?

Nick Bourne: No, we have heard enough from you for today—and for the rest of the term, probably.

It is scandalous that you have not picked up the phone, Minister. You are the Minister and the buck stops with you. It is not for the Audit Committee to put that question; it is for you as Minister. ELWa is accountable to you. You have the power to hire and fire and direct it. Indeed, you told it two weeks ago to concentrate on its core business. You have conversations with ELWa. It is staggering that you have given us a list of its contracts but that you cannot tell us how many of them, if any, involved advance payments. After the Pop Factory scandal, it is staggering that you did not pick up the phone and ask—*[Interruption.]* I am sorry that you do not like me calling it the Pop Factory, Leighton, but that is what everyone calls it. You should have a word with the Minister, and if she changes what she calls it, so will we. This is about accountability. It is about who should take the blame for wrongdoings. It seems that no-one will take the blame for these unorthodox, unauthorised contracts whereby millions of pounds were prepaid when they should not have been for contracts that were entered into in an unauthorised way when they should not have been, and for a massive number of system failures identified by the Audit Committee—51 of them. No-one will carry the can. Indeed, the chief executive of ELWa, whom you told us had been disciplined, finds his workload halved, his salary constant and a performance bonus paid for the year in which the unauthorised acts occurred. That is punishment indeed, Minister.

ELWa was created by Labour, and it has been mismanaged under Labour. We are often told that it is a super-quango. It is only 'super' in terms of its size. Minister, you can scarcely complain—although you do in amendment 1—about our questioning quangos' activities. The First Minister made

hynny'n warthus.

Leighton Andrews: A wnewch ildio?

Nick Bourne: Na wnaaf, clywsom ddigon gennych am heddiw—ac am weddill y tymor, yn ôl pob tebyg.

Mae'n warthus nad ydych wedi codi'r ffôn, Weinidog. Chi yw'r Gweinidog a chennych chi y mae'r cyfrifoldeb. Nid mater i'r Pwyllgor Archwilio yw gofyn y cwestiwn hwnnw; mater i chi ydyw fel Gweinidog. Mae ELWa yn atebol i chi. Gennych chi y mae'r pŵer i gyflogi a diswyddo ac i'w gyfarwyddo. Yn wir, dywedasoeh wrtho bythefnos yn ôl am ganolbwyntio ar ei fusnes craidd. Cewch sgysiau ag ELWa. Mae'n syfrdanol eich bod wedi rhoi rhestr o'i gontractau i ni ond na allwch ddweud wrthym pa nifer ohonynt, os oedd rhai, a oedd yn cynnwys taliadau ymlaen llaw. Ar ôl sgandal y Ffatri Bop, mae'n syfrdanol na wnaethoch godi'r ffôn a gofyn—*[Torri ar draws.]* Mae'n ddrwg gennyf nad ydych yn hoffi fy mod yn rhoi enw'r Ffatri Bop arno, Leighton, ond hynny y mae pawb arall yn ei alw. Dylech gael gair gyda'r Gweinidog, ac os gwnaiff hi newid yr hyn y mae'n ei alw, gwnawn ninnau. Mae hyn yn ymwneud ag atebolrwydd. Mae'n ymwneud â phwy a ddylai gymryd y bai am ddrygau. Ymddengys na wnaiff neb gymryd y bai am y contractau anghonfensiynol, anawdurdodedig hyn a olygai dalu miliynau o bunnoedd ymlaen llaw pan na ddylid bod wedi gwneud hynny, ac am nifer enfawr o fethiannau yn y system a ganfuwyd gan y Pwyllgor Archwilio—51 ohonynt. Ni wnaiff neb dderbyn y bai. Yn wir, mae prif weithredwr ELWa, y dywedasoeh wrthym ei fod wedi ei ddisgyblu, yn cael bod ei lwyth gwaith wedi ei haneru, bod ei gyflog yr un fath a bod bonws am berfformiad wedi ei dalu iddo am y flwyddyn pan ddigwyddodd y gweithredoedd anawdurdodedig. Mae hynny'n gryn gosb, Weinidog.

Crewyd ELWa gan Lafur, ac fe'i camreolwyd dan Lafur. Dywedir wrthym yn aml mai archgwango ydyw. Nid yw felly ond o ran ei faint. Weinidog, prin y gallwch gwyno—er eich bod yn gwneud hynny yng ngwelliant 1—am ein cwestiynu ynghylch gweithgareddau cwangos. Gwnaeth y Prif

his name by scrutinising quangos and calling them to account. He is to be praised for that. However, he is not to be praised for the way in which he has now shifted ground and no longer believes in the right to do that. This is about accountability. There may be transparency up to a point on the Pop Factory issue, but that is not the case with other contracts where there may have been similar advance payments. You had better find that out, Minister. You are responsible to the Assembly for contracts of that nature. You had better find that out.

Alun Cairns: Would you welcome a statement by the Minister in the Chamber, either tomorrow or next week, on which contracts have received advance payments? They are nothing to do with the Auditor General's investigation, because that is primarily about the Pop Factory. We want to know which other contracts have been given advance payments.

Jane Davidson: May I make a point of information?

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. No, you cannot. Nick Bourne must reply to Alun Cairns's intervention, and then you may seek to intervene, Jane.

Nick Bourne: I would welcome such a statement. Many Members would be grateful for that information. We have had enough of the Minister hiding behind the audit process. That did not apply in relation to other issues such as the Assembly building and the health service, as other Ministers have made statements on matters when audit processes are ongoing. We have had enough of the Minister's arrogance in hiding behind the audit procedure. She owes us answers to those questions. I am surprised that she is not able or willing to give them.

Jane Davidson: What I said, and still maintain, is that the National Audit Office is working with ELWa's internal audit function to identify whether any other contracts have failed to properly comply with Government rules. When that process is complete, a report

Weinidog ei enw drwy graffu ar gwangos a'u galw i gyfrif. Mae i'w ganmol am hynny. Er hynny, nid ydyw i'w ganmol am y modd y mae bellach wedi newid ei safiad a rhoi'r gorau i'w gred yn yr hawl i wneud hynny. Mae hyn yn ymwneud ag atebolrwydd. Efallai fod rhyw raddau o dryloywder ynghylch mater y Ffatri Bop, ond nid yw hynny'n wir am gontractau eraill lle y gallai taliadau fod wedi eu gwneud ymlaen llaw yn yr un modd. Byddai'n well ichi gael gwybod am hynny, Weinidog. Yr ydych yn atebol i'r Cynulliad am gontractau o'r math hwnnw. Byddai'n well ichi gael gwybod am hynny.

Alun Cairns: A fyddech yn croesawu datganiad gan y Gweinidog yn y Siambr, naill ai yfory neu'r wythnos nesaf, ar ba gontractau a gafodd daliadau ymlaen llaw? Nid oes a wnelont ddim ag ymchwiliad yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol, gan fod hwnnw'n ymwneud yn bennaf â'r Ffatri Bop. Yr ydym am gael gwybod pa gontractau eraill y rhoddwyd taliadau ymlaen llaw ar eu cyfer.

Jane Davidson: A gaf wneud pwynt o wybodaeth?

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Na chewch. Rhaid i Nick Bourne ymateb i ymyriad Alun Cairns, ac wedyn cewch geisio ymyrryd, Jane.

Nick Bourne: Byddwn yn croesawu datganiad o'r fath. Byddai llawer o Aelodau'n ddiolchgar am y wybodaeth honno. Cawsom ddigon o'r Gweinidog yn cuddio y tu ôl i'r broses archwilio. Ni ddigwyddodd hynny mewn cysylltiad â materion eraill fel adeilad y Cynulliad a'r gwasanaeth iechyd, gan fod Gweinidogion eraill wedi gwneud datganiadau ar faterion tra oedd prosesau archwilio'n mynd rhagddynt. Cawsom ddigon o drahauster y Gweinidog wrth guddio y tu ôl i'r weithdrefn archwilio. Dylai roi atebion i ni i'r cwestiynau hynny. Yr wyf yn synnu nad yw'n alluog neu'n barod i'w rhoi.

Jane Davidson: Yr hyn a ddywedais, ac y daliaf ato o hyd, yw bod y Swyddfa Archwilio Genedlaethol yn gweithio gyda swyddogion archwilio mewnol ELWa i ganfod a oes unrhyw gontractau eraill sydd wedi methu â chydymffurfio'n briodol â

will be published in the summer. [ASSEMBLY MEMBERS: 'Oh.'] That is an NAO report. It is entirely independent of the Assembly Government. When the report is published, we will know whether any other contracts have operated outside Government accounting rules, and, if so, how many. Only then—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. This is an intervention.

Nick Bourne: I am tempted to make you go on longer, as you would dig a deeper hole for yourself. It is extraordinary that you say that the National Audit Office knows more about the running of ELWa than you do. It is extraordinary that you have not picked up the phone to ask the chief executive whether there are any more 'pop factories' planned for the future. The First Minister may also find it surprising that you did not do that, but that is for him to say.

5.20 p.m.

In short, you suffer from one fatal flaw—you are always wrong. You are wrong to defend the indefensible, you are wrong not to call for remedial action and resignation, you are wrong not to bring forward the Bentley Jenison report, and wrong not to come clean to the Assembly on these failings that we have witnessed on a massive scale. You are wrong to endorse wrongful acts and are wrong to stand on the sidelines and allow those who are responsible to get away with it. Behind all this is the First Minister with his characteristic dither and lack of concern. In my view, this is a scandal. All the opposition parties and many Labour backbenchers know that it is a scandal. Whatever the Minister has said today, it is a scandal that will not go away. Until these Augean stables are cleared out and someone is called to account for these grave and serious failings, no-one will feel able to trust you or ELWa again, Minister.

rheolau Llywodraeth. Wedi cwblhau'r broses honno, cyhoeddir adroddiad yn yr haf. [AELODAU'R CYNULLIAD: 'O.'] Adroddiad gan y Swyddfa Archwilio Genedlaethol yw hwnnw. Mae'n gwbl annibynnol ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad. Pan gyhoeddir yr adroddiad, byddwn yn gwybod a oes unrhyw gontractau eraill sydd heb gydymffurfio â rheolau cyfrifyddu Llywodraeth, ac, os oes, pa nifer. Dim ond wedyn—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Ymyriad yw hwn.

Nick Bourne: Caf fy nhemtio i beri ichi fynd ymlaen, gan y byddech yn torri twll dyfnach i chi eich hun. Mae'n rhyfeddol eich bod yn dweud bod y Swyddfa Archwilio Genedlaethol yn gwybod mwy am redeg ELWa nag yr ydych chi. Mae'n rhyfeddol nad ydych wedi codi'r ffôn i ofyn i'r prif weithredwr a oes rhagor o 'ffatrioedd pop' wedi eu cynllunio ar gyfer y dyfodol. Efallai fod y Prif Weinidog yntau'n synnu na wnaethoch hynny, ond mater iddo ef yw dweud hynny.

Yn fyr, yr ydych yn dioddef gan un gwendid anghywiol—yr ydych yn anghywir bob tro. Mae'n anghywir ichi amddiffyn yr anamddiffynadwy, mae'n anghywir ichi beidio â galw am gamau adferol ac ymddiswyddo, mae'n anghywir ichi beidio â chyflwyno adroddiad Bentley Jenison, ac yn anghywir ichi beidio â chyfaddef y cwbl i'r Cynulliad am y diffygion a welsom sydd ar raddfa anferthol. Mae'n anghywir ichi gymeradwyo camweithredoedd ac anghywir yw sefyll o'r neilltu a gadael i'r rhai sy'n gyfrifol gael dianc. Yn tu ôl i hyn i gyd y mae'r Prif Weinidog a'r anwadalau a'r diffyg pryder sy'n ei nodweddu. Sgandal yw hyn, yn fy marn i. Mae'r holl wrthbleidiau a llawer o feincwyr cefn Llafur yn gwybod mai sgandal ydyw. Beth bynnag a ddywedodd y Gweinidog heddiw, mae'n sgandal nad aiff i ffwrdd. Hyd nes y carthir y stablau Awgeas hyn ac y gelwir rhywun i gyfrif am y diffygion dybryd a difrifol hyn, ni fydd neb yn teimlo ei fod yn gallu ymddiried yn och chi neu ELWa eto, Weinidog.

Gwelliant 1: O blaid 30, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 27.

Amendment 1: For 30, Abstain 0, Against 27.

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Cairns, Alun
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Isherwood, Mark
Lloyd, David
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment accepted.*

Methodd gwelliannau 2 a 3.
Amendments 2 and 3 fell.

Motion NDM1481 as amended:

the National Assembly for Wales expresses its support for ELWa in the achievement of learning outcomes and requires ELWa to ensure that its management and business processes are brought fully into line with good practice. The National Assembly for Wales has confidence in the procedures of the National Audit Office and the Audit Committee, and deplores the attempt of the Welsh Conservative Party to undermine those procedures and misrepresent the role of the Welsh Assembly Government.

Cynnig NDM1481 wedi'i ddiwygio:

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn datgan ei gefnogaeth i ELWa o ran cyflawni canlyniadau dysgu ac yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i ELWa sicrhau bod ei brosesau rheoli a busnes yn llwyr gyd-fynd ag arfer da. Mae gan Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru ffydd yng ngweithdrefnau'r Swyddfa Archwilio Genedlaethol a'r Pwyllgor Archwilio, ac mae'n gresynu at ymdrech Plaid Geidwadol Cymru i danseilio'r gweithdrefnau hynny a chamgyfleu rôl Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru.

*Cynnig wedi'i ddiwygio: O blaid 30, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 27.
Amended motion: For 30, Abstain 0, Against 27.*

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:

The following Members voted for:

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Butler, Rosemary
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda

The following Members voted against:

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Cairns, Alun
 Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Graham, William
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Isherwood, Mark
 Lloyd, David
 Melding, David
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig wedi'i ddiwygio.
 Amended motion carried.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: That brings today's proceedings to a close. **Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Daw hynny â chyfarfod heddiw i ben.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 5.22 p.m.
 The meeting ended at 5.22 p.m.*

Aelodau a'u Pleidiau Members and their Parties

Andrews, Leighton (Llafur – Labour)
 Barrett, Lorraine (Llafur – Labour)
 Bates, Mick (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Black, Peter (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Bourne, Nick (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Burnham, Eleanor (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Butler, Rosemary (Llafur – Labour)
 Cairns, Alun (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Chapman, Christine (Llafur – Labour)
 Cuthbert, Jeff (Llafur – Labour)
 Davidson, Jane (Llafur – Labour)
 Davies, Andrew (Llafur – Labour)
 Davies, David (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Davies, Glyn (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Davies, Janet (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Davies, Jocelyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin (Llafur - Labour)
 Elis-Thomas, Dafydd (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Essex, Sue (Llafur – Labour)
 Francis, Lisa (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)

German, Michael (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Graham, William (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Gregory, Janice (Llafur – Labour)
 Griffiths, John (Llafur – Labour)
 Gibbons, Brian (Llafur – Labour)
 Gwyther, Christine (Llafur – Labour)
 Hart, Edwina (Llafur – Labour)
 Hutt, Jane (Llafur – Labour)
 Idris Jones, Denise (Llafur – Labour)
 Isherwood, Mark (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 James, Irene (Llafur – Labour)
 Jones, Alun Ffred (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Ann (Llafur – Labour)
 Jones, Carwyn (Llafur – Labour)
 Jones, Elin (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Helen Mary (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Laura Anne (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Law, Peter (Llafur – Labour)
 Lewis, Huw (Llafur – Labour)
 Lloyd, David (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Lloyd, Val (Llafur – Labour)
 Marek, John (Annibynnol – Independent)
 Melding, David (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Mewies, Sandy (Llafur – Labour)
 Morgan, Jonathan (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Morgan, Rhodri (Llafur – Labour)
 Neagle, Lynne (Llafur – Labour)
 Pugh, Alun (Llafur – Labour)
 Randerson, Jenny (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Ryder, Janet (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Sargeant, Carl (Llafur – Labour)
 Sinclair, Karen (Llafur – Labour)
 Thomas, Catherine (Llafur – Labour)
 Thomas, Gwenda (Llafur – Labour)
 Thomas, Owen John (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Williams, Brynle (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Williams, Kirsty (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Wood, Leanne (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)