Cwestiynau Ysgrifenedig a Atebwyd o 1 i 8 Mehefin 1999
Answers to Written Questions from 1 to 8 June 1999

[R] yn dynodi bod yr Aelod wedi datgan buddiant.
[R] signifies the Member has declared an interest.

Cwestiynaui'r Prif Ysgrifennydd
Questions to the First Secretary

Sustainable Development

Peter Black: Who has been given responsibility for drawing up the scheme of sustainable development required by section 121 of the Government of Wales Act 1998 and what time-scale is to be applied in bringing it before the Assembly for approval? (WAQ59VB)

The First Secretary: I expect all members of the Cabinet to promote sustainable development within their portfolios, both before and after the scheme is set up. An Assembly Secretary will have the lead responsibility of championing sustainable development.

Section 121 of the Government of Wales Act requires the Assembly to consult on the sustainable development scheme before it is established. I attach great importance to that process. In my capacity of Secretary of State for Wales, I hosted a national conference on sustainable development in February to draw on the ideas and expertise of people and organisations across Wales. Prior to the conference, and as a precursor to consultation required by the Act, I consulted on the nature of the scheme that should be developed. The responses of consultees, together with a summary paper, were provided as part of the conference pack for delegates and the summary has been reproduced in a conference report, which I published earlier this month, and which has been sent to each Assembly Member.

I am in the process of establishing a small sustainable development unit to co-ordinate and take forward the development of the scheme, liaising with other interested parties and taking into account the views of Assembly Committees. I expect a consultation paper to be published in the autumn, and plan a full and participative consultation process. The timetable for the scheme will depend in part on the nature of the responses, but I expect to bring forward the scheme for approval in the first half of next year.

Datblygu Cynaliadwy

Peter Black: Pwy sydd wedi cael y cyfrifoldeb am lunio'r cynllun datblygu cynaladwy sy'n ofynnol o dan Adran 121 Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998 a beth fydd yr amserlen debygol ar gyfer ei gyflwyno gerbron y Cynulliad iddynt ei gymeradwyo? (WAQ59VB)

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Yr wyf yn disgwyl i bob aelod o'r Cabinet hyrwyddo datblygu cynaliadwy o fewn eu portffolio, cyn i'r cynllun gael ei sefydlu ac ar ôl hynny. Bydd un o Ysgrifenyddion y Cabinet â'r prif gyfrifoldeb am hyrwyddo datblygu cynaliadwy.

Yn ôl Adran 121 Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru mae'n ofynnol i'r Cynulliad ymgynghori ar y cynllun datblygu cynaliadwy cyn y'i sefydlir. Yr wyf yn rhoi pwys mawr ar y broses honno. Yn rhinwedd fy swydd fel Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru, croesawais gynhadledd genedlaethol ar ddatblygu cynaliadwy ym mis Chwefror er mwyn manteisio ar syniadau ac arbenigedd pobl a sefydliadau o bob cwr o Gymru. Cyn y gynhadledd, ac i ragflaenu'r ymgynghori sy'n ofynnol dan y Ddeddf, ymgynghorais ynghylch natur y cynllun y dylid ei ddatblygu. Cafodd ymateb y rhai yr ymgynghorwyd â hwy, ynghyd â chrynodeb, eu cynnwys yn rhan o'r pecyn ar gyfer y cynadleddwyr ac mae'r crynodeb wedi ei atgynhyrchu mewn adroddiad ar y gynhadledd, a gyhoeddais yn

gynharach y mis hwn, ac sydd wedi ei anfon at bob Aelod o'r Cynulliad.

Yr wyf yn y broses o sefydlu uned datblygu cynaliadwy fechan i gydlynu datblygiad y cynllun a symud y gwaith yn ei flaen, gan gysylltu â phartïon eraill sydd â diddordeb a chymryd barn Pwyllgorau'r Cynulliad i ystyriaeth. Dylai papur ymgynghorol gael ei gyhoeddi yn yr hydref, a bwriadaf gynnal proses ymgynghori lawn a chyfranogol. Bydd amserlen y cynllun yn dibynnu yn rhannol ar natur yr ymatebion, ond yr wyf yn disgwyl gallu cyflwyno'r cynllun i gael ei gymeradwyo yn hanner gyntaf y flwyddyn nesaf.

Record of Proceedings of Plenary Sessions

Peter Black: Will the First Secretary make representations to the Presiding Officer to ensure that the Record of Proceedings of Plenary sessions are available on the internet within 24 hours of the meeting ending? (WAQ95VB)

Documentation for Plenary Sessions and Committees

Peter Black: Will the First Secretary make representations to the Presiding Officer to ensure that documentation for Plenary sessions and Committees is available to the press and public on the internet prior to meetings? (WAQ96VB)

Answers to Written and Oral Questions

Peter Black: Will the First Secretary make representation to the Presiding Officer to post answers to written questions and oral questions not reached in Plenary sessions onto the intranet within 24 hours of an answer being given? (WAQ97VB)

The First Secretary: I made an announcement on 12 March in response to a consultation exercise on Recording the Proceedings, which set a target of 24 hours for the production of the first electronic edition of the Record. Matters covered in these three questions are matters for the Presiding Officer but, with his agreement, I can confirm that the Record of the first three Plenary sessions of the Assembly were published on the internet during the afternoon following each meeting. Technical problems concerning the electronic transfer of data delayed the publication of the Record for 25 May, which appeared on 28 May. These problems are being thoroughly investigated in order that they can be overcome in the future. Documents are posted onto the internet as soon as possible after they are formally received. This is normally within one working day.

Answers to written questions and oral questions not reached in Plenary sessions are appearing in the Official Report within five working days of that answer being given. The matter will be referred to the Business Committee for further consideration.

Cofnod y Sesiynau Llawn

Peter Black: A fydd y Prif Ysgrifennydd yn pwyso ar y Llywydd i sicrhau fod Cofnod y Sesiynau Llawn ar gael ar y rhyngrwyd o fewn 24 awr i ddiwedd y cyfarfod? (WAQ95VB)

Dogfennau'r Sesiynau Llawn a'r Pwyllgorau

Peter Black: A fydd y Prif Ysgrifennydd yn pwyso ar y Llywydd i sicrhau fod dogfennau'r Sesiynau Llawn a'r Pwyllgorau ar gael i'r wasg a'r cyhoedd ar y rhyngrwyd cyn y cyfarfodydd? (WAQ96VB)

Atebion i Gwestiynau Ysgrifenedig a Llafar

Peter Black: A fydd y Prif Ysgrifennydd yn pwyso ar y Llywydd i sicrhau fod atebion i gwestiynau ysgrifenedig a chwestiynau llafar nad oedd amser i'w hateb mewn Sesiynau Llawn ar y fewnrwyd o fewn 24 awr i roi'r ateb? (WAQ97VB)

Y Prif Ysgrifennydd: Gwneuthum ddatganiad ar 12 Mawrth mewn ymateb i ymarferiad ymgynghori ynghylch Cofnodi'r Trafodion, a oedd yn pennu targed o 24 awr ar gyfer cynhyrchu'r golygiad electronig cyntaf o'r Cofnod. Materion i'r Llywydd yw'r rhai a godir yn y tri chwestiwn hyn, ond gyda'i gytundeb ef, gallaf gadarnhau i Gofnodion tri Sesiwn Llawn cyntaf y Cynulliad gael eu cyhoeddi ar y rhyngrwyd yn ystod y prynhawn yn dilyn pob cyfarfod. Oherwydd problemau technegol yn ymwneud â throsglwyddo data yn electronig, cafwyd oedi wrth gyhoeddi Cofnod 25 Mai, a ymddangosodd ar 28 Mai. Ymchwilir yn drylwyr i'r problemau hyn er mwyn eu goresgyn yn y dyfodol. Fel arfer rhoddir dogfennau ar y rhyngrwyd cyn gynted ag y bo modd ar ôl eu derbyn yn ffurfiol. Mae hyn fel arfer o fewn un diwrnod gwaith.

Caiff atebion i gwestiynau ysgrifenedig a chwestiynau llafar nad oedd amser i'w hateb mewn Sesiynau Llawn eu cyhoeddi yn y Cofnod Swyddogol o fewn pum niwrnod gwaith i roi'r ateb hwnnw. Cyfeirir y mater hwn at y Pwyllgor Busnes i'w ystyried ymhellach.

Cwestiynau i'r Ysgrifennydd Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Questions to the Secretary for Health and Social Services

Baglan Moors Hospital

Peter Black: What is the annual cost to the relevant health authority of the private finance initiative agreement to build Baglan Moors Hospital? (WAQ75JS)

The Secretary for Health and Social Services (Jane Hutt): Negotiations are continuing between the Bro Morgannwg Trust and their private sector partners. The trust is expected to make affordable recommendations to the Morgannwg Health Authority from its final allocations.

Ysbyty Baglan Moors

Peter Black: Faint mae'r cytundeb menter cyllid preifat i adeiladu Ysbyty Baglan Moors yn ei gostio i'r awdurdod iechyd perthnasol bob blwyddyn? (WAQ75JS).

Yr Ysgrifennydd Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Jane Hutt): Mae'r trafodaethau'n parhau rhwng Ymddiriedolaeth Bro Morgannwg a'u partneriaid yn y sector preifat. Disgwylir i'r ymddiriedolaeth gyflwyno argymhellion fforddiadwy i Awdurdod Iechyd Morgannwg o'i dyraniadau terfynol.

Denbigh Mental Hospital

Rod Richards: Will Jane Hutt publish, in full, details of the disposal of Denbigh Mental Hospital by North Wales Health Authority? (WAQ112JS)

Jane Hutt: The site was put on the market by the North Wales Health Authority, on behalf of the Secretary of State for Wales, in June 1994 and a full brochure and publicity campaign was launched in May 1995.

The first serious interest came in 1996 from Kerrington PLC, a London based property development company who offered £1 million for the property, conditional on obtaining planning permission.

That permission could not be obtained and the company withdrew.

A further marketing exercise in 1997 resulted in a bid of £1.25 million, conditional on planning permission, from Monoplas Ltd. Monoplas originally purchased an option and subsequently contracts were exchanged in July 1997. Completion should have been achieved by April 1998 but Monoplas failed to honour its contractual commitment after failing to achieve its desired planning approvals.

The third attempt to sell the property was undertaken in October/November 1998. Four bids were received, the highest being £200,000, dependent on local authority approval for the demolition of buildings and the setting up of a technical/retail park, and the lowest being £60,000 plus claw-back arrangements. The health authority, after discussion with the department and taking professional advice, decided to proceed with the offer from Mr Gerald Hitman of Brockhall Village Ltd. This offer was for an unconditional payment of £175,000, completion of contract and transfer of property in September 1999, plus additional payments through claw-back arrangements.

The property was sold to Mr Hitman, following lengthy negotiations, at a price of £155,000 with exchange of contracts taking place on 27 April 1999 and with completion on 30 April 1999. The reduction in price from the original bid reflects the earlier transfer of a number of costs and liabilities to the purchaser, which released the Secretary of State from further substantial expenditure.

A late bid from Kerrington PLC was received by fax on 23 April 1999 but by that time negotiations with Mr Hitman were nearly complete. After careful consideration, the health authority and the department decided that it would be wrong to reopen the matter at such a late stage, less than a week before expected completion. Completion was achieved on 30 April.

Ysbyty Meddwl Dinbych

Rod Richards: A fydd Jane Hutt yn cyhoeddi'r manylion llawn ar drefniadau Awdurdod Iechyd Gogledd Cymru ar gyfer Ysbyty Meddwl Dinbych? (WAQ112JS)

Jane Hutt: Rhoddwyd y safle ar y farchnad gan Awdurdod Iechyd Gogledd Cymru, ar ran Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru, ym Mehefin 1994 a chyhoeddwyd taflen lawn ac ymgyrch gyhoeddusrwydd ym Mai 1995.

Daeth y gwir ddiddordeb cyntaf yn 1996 gan Kerrington PLC, cwmni datblygu eiddo â'i bencadlys yn Llundain, a gynigiodd £1 miliwn am yr eiddo, yn amodol ar sicrhau caniatâd cynllunio. Ni lwyddwyd i gael y caniatâd hwnnw a thynnodd y cwmni yn ôl.

Yn sgîl ymgyrch farchnata arall yn 1997 cafwyd cynnig o £1.25 miliwn, yn amodol ar ganiatâd cynllunio, gan Monoplas Ltd. Yn wreiddiol prynodd Monoplas opsiwn, ac ar ôl hynny cyfnewidiwyd contractau yng Ngorffennaf 1997. Dylai pethau fod wedi'u cwblhau erbyn Ebrill 1998 ond methodd Monoplas â chadw'i ymrwymiad i'r contract ar ôl methu â chael y gymeradwyaeth gynllunio a ddymunai.

Cafwyd trydedd ymgais i werthu'r eiddo yn Hydref/Tachwedd 1998. Derbyniwyd pedwar cynnig: yr uchaf yn £200,000 yn amodol ar gymeradwyaeth yr awdurdod lleol i ddymchwel adeiladau a sefydlu parc technegol/adwerthu, a'r isaf yn £60,000 ynghyd â threfniadau adafael. Penderfynodd yr awdurdod iechyd, wedi trafod â'r adran a chael cyngor cyfreithiol, symud ymlaen â'r cynnig gan Mr Gerald Hitman o Brockhall Village Ltd. Yr oedd y cynnig hwn yn cynnwys taliad diamod o £175,000, cwblhau'r contract a throsglwyddo'r eiddo ym Medi 1999, yn ogystal â thaliadau ychwanegol trwy drefniadau adafael.

Gwerthwyd yr eiddo i Mr Hitman, ar ôl trafodaethau hir, am bris o £155,00. Cyfnewidiwyd y

contractau ar 27 Ebrill 1999 a chwblhawyd y trefniadau ar 30 Ebrill 1999. Mae'r gostyngiad yn y pris o'r cynnig gwreiddiol yn adlewyrchu'r weithred a wnaethpwyd yn gynharach o drosglwyddo nifer o gostau ac atebolrwyddau i'r prynwr, gan ryddhau'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol rhag gwariant sylweddol pellach.

Derbyniwyd cynnig hwyr gan Kerrington PLC drwy ffacs ar 23 Ebrill 1999, ond erbyn hynny yr oedd y trafodaethau â Mr Hitman bron wedi'u cwblhau. Ar ôl ystyried yn ofalus, penderfynodd yr awdurdod iechyd a'r adran na fyddai'n iawn ailagor y mater cyn hwyred â hynny, lai nag wythnos cyn y dyddiad cwblhau disgwyliedig. Cwblhawyd y trefniadau ar 30 Ebrill.

Cwestiynau i'r Ysgrifennydd Datblygu Economaidd
Questions to the Secretary for Economic Development

Tourism

Nick Bourne: Does the Secretary for Economic Development have plans for a fundamental review of tourism in Wales? (WAQ57VB)

The Secretary for Economic Development (Rhodri Morgan): The Wales Tourist Board is consulting widely on its structure and a revised strategy for tourism in Wales and will be submitting recommendations for consideration by the Assembly in the autumn.

Twristiaeth

Nick Bourne: A oes gan yr Ysgrifennydd Datblygu Economaidd gynlluniau ar gyfer cynnal arolwg sylfaenol o'r diwydiant twristiaeth yng Nghymru? (WAQ57VB)

Yr Ysgrifennydd Datblygu Economaidd (Rhodri Morgan): Mae Bwrdd Croeso Cymru yn ymgynghori'n eang ynglŷn â'i strwythur a strategaeth ddiwygiedig ar gyfer twristiaeth yng Nghymru a bydd yn cyflwyno argymhellion i'w hystyried gan y Cynulliad yn yr hydref.

Cwestiynau i Ysgrifennydd yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol
Questions to the Secretary for the Environment and Local Government

Private Finance Initiative (Schools)

Jocelyn Davies: Will the Secretary for the Environment and Local Government outline the mechanism and time-scale of the Assembly in deciding the private finance initiative credits for the delivery of fully serviced schools? (WAQ91VB)

The Secretary for the Environment and Local Government (Peter Law): The Welsh Office is supporting six pathfinder private finance initiative projects in the local government sector, three of which involve schools. Once the final business cases on these projects have been submitted—that is expected to be in the next couple of months for two of the school projects—we will decide the precise level of PFI credits to be issued for them.

The Welsh Office sought bids earlier this year for a new round of PFI credits and 22 applications across the range of local government services are currently being evaluated. There is no specific allocation for school services as each bid will be considered on its merit, leading to decisions in July about which projects will be supported.

Menter Cyllid Preifat (Ysgolion)

Jocelyn Davies: A wnaiff Ysgrifennydd yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol amlinellu peirianwaith

ac amserlen y Cynulliad wrth benderfynu ar gredydau'r fenter cyllid preifat ar gyfer darparu ysgolion sydd â gwasanaethau llawn? (WAQ91VB).

Ysgrifennydd yr Amgylchedd a Llywodraeth Leol (Peter Law): Mae'r Swyddfa Gymreig yn cefnogi chwe phrosiect arloesi dan y fenter cyllid preifat yn y sector llywodraeth leol, tri ohonynt yn ymwneud ag ysgolion. Unwaith y bydd achosion busnes terfynol y prosiectau hyn wedi eu cyflwyno—disgwylir y bydd hynny o fewn y deufis nesaf i ddau o'r prosiectau ysgol—byddwn yn penderfynu ar union lefel y credydau menter cyllid preifat i'w rhoi iddynt.

Gwahoddodd y Swyddfa Gymreig geisiadau yn gynharach eleni am gylch newydd o gredydau menter cyllid preifat ac mae 22 o geisiadau ar draws holl amrediad gwasanaethau llywodraeth leol yn cael eu cloriannu ar hyn o bryd. Nid oes dyraniad penodol i wasanaethau ysgol gan y bydd pob cais yn cael ei ystyried ar ei haeddiant, gan arwain at benderfyniadau ym mis Gorffennaf ynglŷn â pha brosiectau a gefnogir.

Traffic (Mid Wales)

Nick Bourne: What plans exist for relieving towns in mid Wales of heavy through traffic? (WAQ58VB)

Peter Law: Following extensive consultation during the review of the Welsh trunk road programme, the report 'Driving Wales Forward' concluded that there is no case on either traffic or environmental grounds for major new road building through the heart of Wales. A copy of that report is available in the Library.

There are a number of places in mid Wales where the trunk road is below the standard required, and there are a number of accident sites along the routes. The report discusses these and sets out the conclusions.

A corridor study encompassing the A470 from Brecon to Llandudno has commenced. This will include Rhayader and Builth Wells. We are also planning transportation studies of the Newtown and Llandeilo areas to identify options—including those that do not require new construction—to resolve existing or predicted congestion. These studies will commence when resources are available.

The traffic patterns in Aberystwyth are such that provision of a bypass is unlikely to be a complete solution since the majority of traffic is seeking to enter the town. Small and medium scale schemes to increase capacity and enhance safety through targeted junction improvements, which will also improve reliability for the extensive network of local bus services, will be undertaken as resources become available.

Following receipt of the inspector's report from the public inquiry it has been accepted that the original Talgarth bypass proposals should not proceed. I am keen to consider other options to resolve the problems in Talgarth and I have twice discussed these issues on site during recent visits.

Traffig (Canolbarth Cymru)

Nick Bourne: Pa gynlluniau sy'n bod ar gyfer lliniaru'r sefyllfa yn nhrefi'r Canolbarth sy'n dioddef o draffig trwm? (WAQ58VB)

Peter Law: Yn dilyn yr ymgynghori helaeth tra'r oedd rhaglen gefnffyrdd Cymru yn cael ei hadolygu, daeth yr adroddiad 'Gyrru Cymru Ymlaen' i'r casgliad nad oes achos, am resymau traffig nac amgylcheddol, o blaid cynlluniau mawr i godi ffyrdd newydd trwy ganol Cymru. Mae copi o'r adroddiad hwnnw ar gael yn y Llyfrgell.

Mae nifer o leoedd yng nghanolbarth Cymru lle nad yw'r gefnffordd yn cyrraedd y safon ofynnol, ac

mae nifer o fannau ar hyd y ffyrdd lle ceir damweiniau. Mae'r adroddiad yn trafod y rhain ac yn rhoi'r casgliadau.

Dechreuwyd ar astudiaeth goridor yn cwmpasu'r A470 o Aberhonddu i Landudno. Bydd yn cynnwys Rhaeadr Gwy a Llanfair ym Muallt. Yr ydym hefyd yn cynllunio astudiaethau trafnidiaeth yn ardaloedd y Drenewydd a Llandeilo er mwyn nodi opsiynau—gan gynnwys opsiynau nad ydynt yn golygu codi ffyrdd newydd—i ddatrys y tagfeydd presennol neu ddisgwyliedig. Bydd yr astudiaethau hyn yn dechrau fel y bydd adnoddau ar gael.

Oherwydd y patrymau traffig yn Aberystwyth nid yw'n debygol y byddai darparu ffordd osgoi yn ateb llwyr gan fod y rhan fwyaf o'r traffig am fynd i mewn i'r dref. Fel y daw adnoddau ar gael byddwn yn ymgymryd â chynlluniau ar raddfa fach a chanolig fel bod y ffyrdd yn gallu ymdopi â mwy o gerbydau ac i wella diogelwch trwy wella rhai cyffyrdd, a fydd hefyd yn golygu y bydd y rhwydwaith helaeth o wasanaethau bws lleol yn gallu bod yn fwy dibynadwy.

Ar ôl derbyn adroddiad yr arolygydd o'r ymchwiliad cyhoeddus derbyniwyd na ddylid bwrw ymlaen â'r cynigion gwreiddiol i godi ffordd osgoi i Dalgarth ac yr wyf wedi trafod y materion hyn ar y safle yn ystod ymweliadau diweddar.

Cwestiynau i'r Ysgrifennydd Amaethyddiaeth a Datblygu Gwledig
Questions to the Secretary for Agriculture and Rural Development

Calf Processing Aid Scheme

David Davies: Is it in the Secretary for Agriculture and Rural Development's powers, from July 1999, to retain the calf processing aid scheme in Wales? (WAQ135VB)

David Davies: Will the Secretary for Agriculture and Rural Development consider retaining the Calf Aid Processing scheme in Wales? (WAQ136VB)

The Secretary for Agriculture and Rural Development (Christine Gwyther): The calf processing aid scheme is a European Union scheme and is 100 per cent EU financed. The scheme is administered in the UK by the Intervention Board which can only operate with the agreement of all four Agriculture Ministers. The National Assembly for Wales will assume this joint responsibility from 1 July.

Cynllun Cymorth Prosesu Lloi

David Davies: A fydd gan yr Ysgrifennydd Amaethyddiaeth a Datblygu Gwledig bŵer o fis Gorffennaf 1999 i gadw'r cynllun cymorth prosesu lloi yng Nghymru? (WAQ135VB)

David Davies: A wnaiff yr Ysgrifennydd Amaethyddiaeth a Datblygu Gwledig ystyried cadw'r cynllun cymorth prosesu lloi yng Nghymru? (WAQ136VB)

Yr Ysgrifennydd Amaethyddiaeth a Datblygu Gwledig (Christine Gwyther): Cynllun gan yr Undeb Ewropeaidd yw'r cynllun cymorth prosesu lloi, a'r UE sy'n rhoi 100 y cant o'r cyllid ar ei gyfer. Gweinyddir y cynllun yn y DU gan y Bwrdd Ymyrraeth, na all weithredu heb gytundeb pob un o'r pedwar Ysgrifennydd Amaethyddiaeth. Bydd Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn mabwysiadu'r cydgyfrifoldeb hwn o 1 Gorffennaf.