

Agenda – Y Pwyllgor Deisebau

Lleoliad:	I gael rhagor o wybodaeth cysylltwch a:
Fideo Gynadledda drwy Zoom	Graeme Francis – Clerc y Pwyllgor
Dyddiad: Dydd Mawrth, 9 Mehefin 2020	Ross Davies – Dipwrwy Glerc
Amser: 09.00	0300 200 6565
	Deisebau@cynulliad.cymru

Yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 34.19, mae'r Cadeirydd wedi penderfynu gwahardd y cyhoedd o gyfarfod y Pwyllgor at ddibenion diogelu iechyd y cyhoedd.

Bydd y cyfarfod hwn yn cael ei ddarlledu'n fyw ar www.senedd.tv

- 1 **Cyflwyniad, ymddiheuriadau, dirprwyon a datganiadau o fuddiant**
(Tudalennau 1 – 37)
- 2 **Deisebau Covid-19**
 - 2.1 P-05-962 Diwygiad brys i ymestyn yr oedran y ceir hawl i gymorth addysgol ychwanegol o 25 i 26 ac i ddiffinio pandemig Covid-19 yng nghanllawiau'r Llywodraeth fel amgylchiad eithriadol
(Tudalennau 38 – 64)
- 3 **Deisebau newydd**
 - 3.1 P-05-947 Dylai llythyrau meddygon teulu fod am ddim i fyfyrwyr
(Tudalennau 65 – 70)
 - 3.2 P-05-950 Dysgu Amaethyddiaeth ac Addysg Cefn Gwlad o oed 4 i 16 yn ein Hysgolion
(Tudalennau 71 – 77)
 - 3.3 P-05-951 Gosodwch derfyn ar uchafswm y geist bridio mewn sefydliadau bridio cwn trwyddedig yng Nghymru
(Tudalennau 78 – 86)



- 3.4 P-05-953 Gwahardd poteli llaeth plastig defnydd untro mewn ysgolion
(Tudalennau 87 – 96)
- 3.5 P-05-957 Gorsaf yn Sanclêr. Cefnogwch y cais am orsaf drennau yn Sanclêr
(Tudalennau 97 – 105)

4 Y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am ddeisebau blaenorol

- 4.1 P-05-798 Gwasanaethau cymorth i ddynion sy'n ddiodefswyr trais yn y cartref i gael eu rhedeg a'u cyllido'n annibynnol
(Tudalennau 106 – 112)
- 4.2 P-05-882 Trawsnewid yr ymateb i bobl hyn sy'n dioddef camdriniaeth ddomestig – galw am weithredu
(Tudalennau 113 – 124)
- 4.3 P-05-826 Mae sir Benfro yn dweud NA!! i gau adran damweiniau ac achosion brys Llwynhelyg!
(Tudalennau 125 – 129)
- 4.4 P-05-893 Achub Ein Parciau yng Nghymru
(Tudalennau 130 – 135)
- 4.5 P-05-865 Gwarantu bod dewisiadau sy'n seiliedig yn llwyr ar blanhigion ar bob bwydlen y sector cyhoeddus
(Tudalennau 136 – 144)
- 4.6 P-05-929 Annog y defnydd o 'Cymru' a 'Cymry' wrth gyfeirio atom ein hunain yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg
(Tudalennau 145 – 148)
- 4.7 P-05-778 Amddiffyn Cyllyll Môr ar Draeth Llanfairfechan
(Tudalennau 149 – 154)
- 4.8 P-05-803 Mae ein byd naturiol yn cael ei wenwyno gan blastigau untro___.mae'n bryd cyflwyno treth!
(Tudalennau 155 – 158)
- 4.9 P-05-868 Diogelwch Dwr, Atal Boddï ac effeithiau Sioc Dwr Oer i'w haddysgu ym mhob Ysgol yng Nghymru
(Tudalennau 159 – 162)

4.10 P-05-911 Dylid Diogelu Coed Yw Hynafol Cymru

(Tudalennau 163 - 167)

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

Eitem 2.1

P-05-962 Diwygiad brys i ymestyn yr oedran y ceir hawl i gymorth addysgol ychwanegol o 25 i 26 ac i ddiffinio pandemig Covid-19 yng nghanllawiau'r Llywodraeth fel amgylchiad eithriadol

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Mike Charles, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 537 lofnodion.

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i gyfarwyddo ein Llywodraeth i ddiwygio'r Ddeddf Dysgu a Sgiliau ar frys er mwyn caniatáu i gyllid mewn colegau arbenigol gael ei ymestyn o 25 oed i 26 i'r rhai y mae pandemig Covid19 yn effeithio arnynt ac i ddileu neu ddiwygio ar frys ei dogfen ganllaw, rhif: 221/2017 Tachwedd 2017 fel y caiff argyfwng Covid19 ei ddiffinio fel amgylchiad eithriadol.

Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol

Ymhen amser, bydd Deddf ADY 2018 yn newid y gyfraith, ond ni all pobl ifanc ag anghenion cymhleth aros. Mae penderfyniadau ynghylch pa mor hir y gellir eu cefnogi mewn colegau arbenigol yn cael eu gwneud heddiw. Mae ysgolion a cholegau sydd wedi cau neu'n gweithredu mewn ffordd gyfyngedig iawn yn colli amser hollbwysig. O ran y rhai ag anghenion cymhleth, cyfyngir ar eu gallu anhepgor i gael mynediad at adnoddau dysgu. Mae pobl ag anghenion cymhleth yn aml yn dysgu drwy fod allan yn yr amgylchedd i ddatblygu annibyniaeth bywyd a sgiliau cyflogadwyedd hanfodol. Mae'r ystafell ddosbarth y tu allan ond mae hyn bellach yn cael ei gyfyngu i raddau helaeth. Mae Covid19 yn newid y gallu hwn i ddysgu mewn ffordd sylweddol.

Mae llawer o rieni a phobl ifanc yn ofni bod hyn yn un flwyddyn o'r ddwy sy'n agored iddynt. Er bod y canllawiau yn caniatáu ar gyfer amgylchiadau eithriadol, cânt eu dehongli'n ymarferol fel cyfyngiad o ddwy flynedd ar y ddarpariaeth ac nid ydynt yn diffinio'n ddigonol yr hyn a fyddai'n gyfystyr ag amgylchiad eithriadol. Fodd bynnag, dim ond hyd at 25 oed y mae'r gyfraith yn caniatáu cymorth ac mae angen newid hyn ar frys er mwyn rhoi cyfle arall i'r rhai yr effeithir arnynt yn ystod y pandemig hwn. Cyfle am flwyddyn arall â llai o ymyriad.

Bydd hyn, fel arall, yn arwain at golli sgiliau a mwy o ddibyniaeth ar y wladwriaeth yn sgil hynny. Nid yw hynny'n ddymunol am gynifer o resymau, yn enwedig y ffaith y byddai colli sgiliau hanfodol yn drychinebus i'r unigolyn dan sylw.

Rydym yn galw ar ein Llywodraeth i helpu'r rhai sydd fwyaf agored i niwed. I'w cefnogi am yr hyn y maent wedi'i golli a rhoi cyfle arall iddynt. Cyfle na ddylid ei golli. I lawer, dyma'r gwahaniaeth rhwng bywyd o ddibyniaeth ac annibyniaeth.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd

- De Caerdydd a Phenarth
- Canol De Cymru

Diwygiad brys i ymestyn yr oedran y ceir hawl i gymorth addysgol ychwanegol o 25 i 26 ac i ddiffinio pandemig Covid-19 yng nghanllawiau'r Llywodraeth fel amgylchiad eithriadol

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau | 9 Mehefin 2020
Petitions Committee | 9 June 2020

Cyfeirnod: RS20/12730

Rhif y ddeiseb: P-05-962

Teitl y ddeiseb: Diwygiad brys i ymestyn yr oedran y ceir hawl i gymorth addysgol ychwanegol o 25 i 26 ac i ddiffinio pandemig Covid-19 yng nghanllawiau'r Llywodraeth fel amgylchiad eithriadol

Testun y ddeiseb: Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i gyfarwyddo ein Llywodraeth i ddiwygio'r Ddeddf Dysgu a Sgiliau ar frys er mwyn caniatáu i gyllid mewn colegau arbenigol gael ei ymestyn o 25 oed i 26 i'r rhai y mae pandemig Covid 19 yn effeithio arnynt ac i ddileu neu ddiwygio ar frys ei dogfen ganllaw, rhif: 221/2017 Tachwedd 2017 fel y caiff argyfwng Covid 19 ei ddiffinio fel amgylchiad eithriadol.

Ymhen amser, bydd Deddf ADY 2018 yn newid y gyfraith, ond ni all pobl ifanc ag anghenion cymhleth aros. Mae penderfyniadau ynghylch pa mor hir y gellir eu cefnogi mewn colegau arbenigol yn cael eu gwneud heddiw. Mae ysgolion a cholegau sydd wedi cau neu'n gweithredu mewn ffordd gyfyngedig iawn yn colli amser hollbwysig. O ran y rhai ag anghenion cymhleth, cyfyngir ar eu gallu anhepgor i gael mynediad at adnoddau dysgu. Mae pobl ag anghenion cymhleth yn aml yn dysgu drwy fod allan yn yr



amgylchedd i ddatblygu annibyniaeth bywyd a sgiliau cyflogadwyedd hanfodol. Mae'r ystafell ddosbarth y tu allan ond mae hyn bellach yn cael ei gyfyngu i raddau helaeth. Mae Covid 19 yn newid y gallu hwn i ddysgu mewn ffordd sylweddol.

Mae llawer o rieni a phobl ifanc yn ofni bod hyn yn un flwyddyn o'r ddwy sy'n agored iddynt. Er bod y canllawiau yn caniatáu ar gyfer amgylchiadau eithriadol, cânt eu dehongli'n ymarferol fel cyfyngiad o ddwy flynedd ar y ddarpariaeth ac nid ydynt yn diffinio'n ddigonol yr hyn a fyddai'n gyfystyr ag amgylchiad eithriadol. Fodd bynnag, dim ond hyd at 25 oed y mae'r gyfraith yn caniatáu cymorth ac mae angen newid hyn ar frys er mwyn rhoi cyfle arall i'r rhai yr effeithir arnynt yn ystod y pandemig hwn. Cyfle am flwyddyn arall â llai o ymyriad.

Bydd hyn, fel arall, yn arwain at golli sgiliau a mwy o ddibyniaeth ar y wladwriaeth yn sgil hynny. Nid yw hynny'n ddymunol am gynifer o resymau, yn enwedig y ffaith y byddai colli sgiliau hanfodol yn drychinebus i'r unigolyn dan sylw.

Rydym yn galw ar ein Llywodraeth i helpu'r rhai sydd fwyaf agored i niwed. I'w cefnogi am yr hyn y maent wedi'i golli a rhoi cyfle arall iddynt. Cyfle na ddylid ei golli. I lawer, dyma'r gwahaniaeth rhwng bywyd o ddibyniaeth ac annibyniaeth.

1. Darpariaeth arbenigol

Mae Deddf Dysgu a Sgiliau 2000 yn ymdrin â chynllunio ac ariannu addysg ôl-16. Ar hyn o bryd, mae dyletswydd gyffredinol ar Weinidogion Cymru o dan y Ddeddf i sicrhau darpariaeth briodol (ar gyfer y rhai rhwng 16 ac 19 oed), a chyfleusterau rhesymol ar gyfer addysg a hyfforddiant dysgwyr dros 19 oed.

Yn ogystal, mae gan Lywodraeth Cymru bŵer o dan adran 140 o'r Ddeddf i drefnu bod asesiad yn cael ei gynnal mewn perthynas ag unrhyw berson o dan 25 oed mewn achosion lle mae'n ymddangos bod gan y person hwnnw anawsterau dysgu a lle mae'r person yn cael, neu'n debygol o gael, addysg neu hyfforddiant ôl-16 neu addysg neu hyfforddiant uwch. Ar hyn o bryd, mae'r asesiadau hyn yn cael eu cynnal gan Gyrfa Cymru, a hynny drwy gontract blynyddol gyda Llywodraeth Cymru. Mae asesiad yn arwain at adroddiad sy'n nodi anghenion addysgol a hyfforddiant yr unigolyn, manylion yr addysg neu'r hyfforddiant ôl-16 sy'n ofynnol i ddiwallu'r anghenion hynny, a manylion y ddarpariaeth sy'n ofynnol.

Mae sefydliadau addysg bellach arbenigol ar gael i roi cymorth i bobl ifanc o ran cael mynediad at ddarpariaeth addysg bellach prif ffrwd, neu'n benodol i ddarparu darpariaeth addysgol arbenigol. Mae sefydliadau addysg bellach arbenigol i'w gweld yn bennaf yn y sector annibynnol. Fel rheol, nid ydynt yn cael cyllid rheolaidd gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Felly, mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn darparu cyllid er mwyn sicrhau darpariaeth i unigolion yn y sefydliadau hyn.

2. Canllawiau Llywodraeth Cymru

Cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth Cymru ganllawiau, sef Sicrhau darpariaeth i bobl ifanc ag anawsterau dysgu mewn sefydliadau addysg bellach arbenigol, ym mis Ebrill 2017. Mae'r canllawiau hyn yn nodi, o ran y bobl ifanc hynny sydd ag anawsterau dysgu, rhwng 16 a 25 oed, ac sydd am ddilyn rhaglen addysg ôl-16 ond sydd methu â chael mynediad at y ddarpariaeth addysg bellach prif ffrwd sy'n ofynnol er mwyn diwallu eu hanghenion o ran addysg a hyfforddiant:

Polisi Llywodraeth Cymru yw ariannu'r hyd gofynnol yn seiliedig ar allu'r person ifanc i ddatblygu a chyflawni yn erbyn ei ddeilliannau o ran addysg a hyfforddiant. I'r rhan fwyaf o bobl ifanc sy'n cael mynediad at ddarpariaeth sy'n arbenigol, bydd yr hyd yn gymharol â hyd y ddarpariaeth sydd ar gael mewn sefydliadau addysg bellach prif ffrwd, h.y. dwy flynedd academaidd.

Mae'r canllawiau'n nodi bod sefydliadau addysg bellach arbenigol yn gyfrifol am asesu cynnydd y person ifanc yn erbyn y rhaglen astudio a gytunwyd ar ei gyfer, ac ystyried, mewn cydweithrediad â'r person ifanc, ei rieni neu ofalwyr a Gyrfa Cymru, a yw cais am **estyniad i'r rhaglen a gytunwyd yn angenrheidiol**. Mae'r sefydliad addysg bellach hefyd yn gyfrifol am gyflwyno cais i Lywodraeth Cymru am estyniad o amser i gwblhau'r rhaglen astudio wreiddiol y cytunodd Llywodraeth Cymru i'w hariannu. Mae'r canllawiau yn nodi:

Ni chaiff ceisiadau i ymestyn lleoliad person ifanc y tu hwnt i ddyddiad gorffen gwreiddiol a gytunwyd ar gyfer y rhaglen ddysgu eu caniatáu ac eithrio mewn amgylchiadau eithriadol. Bydd angen i Lywodraeth Cymru gael ei hargyhoeddi nad oedd modd osgoi'r amgylchiadau a arweiniodd at yr angen am estyniad a bod yr estyniad yn gwbl angenrheidiol er mwyn sicrhau bod anghenion y person ifanc o ran addysg a

hyfforddiant, fel nodir yng Nghynllun Dysgu a Sgiliau y person ifanc, yn cael eu diwallu.

3. Y Ddeddf Anghenion Dysgu Ychwanegol

Mae Deddf Anghenion Dysgu Ychwanegol a'r Tribiwnlys Addysg (Cymru) 2018 yn sefydlu fframwaith statudol newydd er mwyn cefnogi plant a phobl ifanc sydd ag anghenion dysgu ychwanegol (ADY) o'u genedigaeth a thra byddant yn yr ysgol, ac, os ydynt dros yr oedran ysgol gorfodol, tra byddant yn derbyn addysg bellach hefyd. Mae'r Ddeddf hefyd yn trosglwyddo'r cyfrifoldeb am ddarpariaeth ôl-16 arbenigol o Weinidogion Cymru i awdurdodau lleol. Bydd y Ddeddf yn cael ei gweithredu o fis Medi 2021.

Gwneir pob ymdrech i sicrhau bod y wybodaeth yn y papur briffio hwn yn gywir adeg ei gyhoeddi. Dylai darllenwyr fod yn ymwybodol nad yw'r papurau briffio hyn yn cael eu diweddarau o reidrwydd na'u diwygio fel arall i adlewyrchu newidiadau dilynol.



Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-962
Ein cyf/Our ref KW/01308/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AS
Senedd Cymru
Ty Hywel
Bae Caerdydd
Caerdydd
CF99 1SN

20 Mai 2020

Annwyl Janet,

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 5 Mai ynghylch y Ddeiseb a gyflwynwyd gan Mike Charles, ac sy'n dal i fynd rhagddi, sy'n gofyn i Lywodraeth Cymru ddiwygio'r gyfraith i ymestyn yr oed y mae gan unigolion hawl i gymorth addysgol ychwanegol o 25 i 26 oed, ac i ddiffinio'r pandemig COVID-19 fel sefyllfa eithriadol yng nghanllawiau'r Llywodraeth.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd sicrhau bod darpariaeth addysgol briodol ar gael i bob dysgwr. Yn y cyfnod hwn, nas gwelwyd mo'i debyg o'r blaen, rydym yn deall y graddau y mae'r pandemig coronafeirws wedi tarfu ar y gwaith o gyflenwi addysg ym mhob sector. Mae hyn yn peri gofid, yn enwedig i'r dysgwyr mwyaf bregus yn ein cymdeithas nad ydynt yn ymateb yn dda i newidiadau sydyn i'r drefn, neu sy'n gorfod dygymod â chyfnodau o amser mewn amgylchedd nad yw mor gyfarwydd iddynt.

Mewn ymateb i'r her hon, mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi nodi'n glir y dylai ysgolion a lleoliadau arbennig barhau i ofalu am blant pan fo'n bosibl iddynt wneud hynny mewn ffordd sy'n diogelu pawb. Mae lleoliadau arbennig yn cynnwys sefydliadau addysg bellach arbenigol sydd wedi'u hariannu i gyflenwi addysg, hyfforddiant a hefyd, yn y mwyafrif o achosion, gofal i blant a phobl ifanc ag anawsterau dysgu dwys a chymhleth.

I sicrhau y gall pobl ifanc barhau i gael gofal mewn sefydliadau addysg bellach arbenigol, nawr ac yn y dyfodol, mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cytuno i barhau i ariannu rhaglenni astudio y cytunwyd arnynt eisoes, ond y mae pandemig COVID-19 wedi tarfu arnynt, tan ddiwedd y flwyddyn academaidd hon (Gorffennaf 2020). Bydd y cyllid hwn yn cael ei ddarparu hyd yn oed pan na fo'r person ifanc yn bresennol oherwydd COVID-19, a hyd yn oed os yw sefydliad addysg bellach arbenigol wedi cau dros dro neu' wedi lleihau ei wasanaethau mewn ymateb i'r pandemig presennol.

Y canllawiau gan Lywodraeth Cymru y cyfeirir atynt yn y ddeiseb yw ein polisi 'Sicrhau addysg ôl-16 i bobl ag anawsterau dysgu: canllawiau i sefydliadau addysg bellach

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
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Gohebiaeth.Kirsty.Williams@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

arbenigol'. Mae'r polisi'n glir ac yn nodi bod modd diwallu anghenion y rhan fwyaf o bobl ifanc sy'n gwneud cais i Lywodraeth Cymru am gymorth drwy raglen astudio a gyflwynir dros gyfnod o ddwy flynedd. Fodd bynnag, mae ein polisi yn cynnig hyblygrwydd i ystyried cyfnod hirach os yn briodol. Lle bo anghenion addysg a hyfforddiant person ifanc yn gofyn am raglen astudio sy'n hirach na dwy flynedd, ac os yw canlyniad proses asesu Gyrfa Cymru yn cefnogi hyn, yna bydd penderfyniad priodol yn cael ei wneud gan Lywodraeth Cymru a allai arwain at sicrhau lleoliad arbenigol yn seiliedig ar raglen astudio tair blynedd.

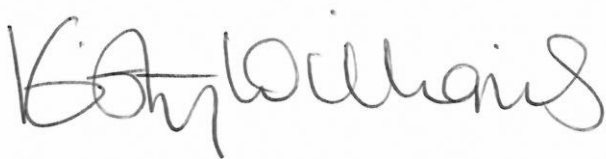
Hefyd, os nad yw person ifanc yn gallu cwblhau'r rhaglen astudio y cytunwyd arni, yna gellir gwneud cais i estyn rhaglen astudio'r person ifanc hwnnw. Mae'r canllawiau'n ymwneud â hyn i'w gweld yn y polisi a'r canllawiau technegol cysylltiedig ar gyfer Gyrfa Cymru a sefydliadau addysg bellach arbenigol. Bydd ceisiadau i estyn lleoliad person ifanc y tu hwnt i'r dyddiad dod i ben gwreiddiol y cytunwyd arno ar gyfer y rhaglen, yn cael ei ystyried fesul achos. Fodd bynnag, mae'n rhaid i'r cyfnod amser fod yn ddigonol i gwblhau'r hyn sydd ar ôl o'r raglen astudio dan sylw.

O gofio'r hyblygrwydd sydd eisoes ar gael yn y polisi, nid wyf yn argyhoeddedig y dylid newid y polisi yn sgil COVID-19. Os yw'r amgylchiadau mewn perthynas â COVID-19 yn cael eu cyflwyno i gefnogi cais ar gyfer rhaglen astudio sy'n hirach na dwy flynedd, neu i gefnogi cais am estyniad i raglen y cytunwyd arni eisoes, yna gellir eu hystyried yn unol â'r polisi fel y mae ar hyn o bryd.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru'n parhau i ystyried ceisiadau ar gyfer cyrsiau sy'n dechrau ym mis Medi 2020. Felly, ar hyn o bryd nid yw rhaglenni astudio sy'n dechrau yn y flwyddyn academaidd nesaf yn cael eu heffeithio. Felly, nid oes unrhyw reswm, ar hyn o bryd, dros ymestyn yr oed y mae gan unigolion hawl i gymorth addysgol ychwanegol o 25 i 26 oed.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru'n parhau i fonitro effaith COVID-19 ar y gwaith o gyflenwi addysg ar draws Gymru, a bydd yn parhau i ymateb i heriau wrth iddynt ddod i'r amlwg. Yn y cyfamser, gobeithio eich bod yn cytuno bod y cyhoeddiadau a wnaed yn dangos ein hymroddiad i gefnogi ein dysgwyr mwyaf bregus yn ystod y cyfnod heriol hwn.

Yn gywir



Kirsty Williams AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Addysg
Minister for Education

P-05-962 An emergency amendment to extend age of entitlement to additional educational support from 25 to 26 and to define within Government guidance the Covid 19 pandemic as an exceptional circumstance, Correspondence – Petitioner to Committee, 01.06.20

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Dear Petitions Committee,

I apologise if this reply is above the standard sized reply. It is necessary for me to explain it in detail.

PART 1 : INTRODUCTION

I intend to demonstrate three primary reasons why I am extremely disappointed by the Minister's reply to the petition which in light of Covid19 calls for;-

1. The raising of the age of entitlement from 25 to 26 for those disadvantaged by the Covid19 pandemic and
2. An amendment to guidance that influences funding decisions to afford special needs support, so that Covid19 is treated as an "exceptional circumstance" warranting departure from a practice to allow only 2 years specialist funding support for the most complex disabled learners which appear to generate on average around 110 applications in Wales each year.

In her letter dated 20th May the Minister states that she "*recognises the importance of ensuring suitable educational provision is made available to all learners*" but insofar as guidance she considers;-

- a. as the Government has "*agreed to continue funding until the end of this academic year (July 2020) for those....disrupted by Covid19*" and
- b. because the existing policy provides "*flexibility*" (*an exceptional circumstance test*) to consider a longer duration of study where an application is supported by a Carers Wales assessment (A section 140 Learning and Skills Act 2000 assessment) -

she states she is "*not convinced that the policy needs to be amended in light of Covid19.*"

In regard to the petition which requests the raising of the age of entitlement for special needs support she similarly states that because

- a. That described above and

b. as she states *“there is no disruption to programmes of study beginning from the next academic year”*

she can see *“no reason at this time to extend the age of entitlement to additional educational support from 25 to 26 years of age”* (section 41(4) of the 2000 Act).

I will set out why the Minister is wrong to have reached this conclusion and why I believe there is a moral, political and legal case for her to act.

There are of a number of things that are wrong about the Welsh Government (“The WG”) Guidance generally such that I provide a more detailed analysis of this within appendix A below. I think it generates unacceptable barriers for those burdened by severe disability. I select the passages which I believe are pertinent to this petition immediately below;

The guidance:

There are two documents of particular relevance. Firstly, policy document 196/2017 and 221/2017. The first is said to set out WG “policy and process” by which the Government will make decisions about funding placements for young people aged 16-25 with learning difficulties who require access to specialist provision and the second said to be principally setting out “advice and guidance” on the WG’s expectations for the role of specialist FE establishments.

Dealing with the assessment the technical guidance states:

In exceptional circumstances, the Welsh Government may specifically arrange for an educational psychologist (EP) to undertake the section 140 assessment of a young person.

Dealing with the duration of study that a disabled learner may envisage within the specialist sector it states:

For the majority of young people accessing specialist provision, the duration will be comparable with the duration of provision available within mainstream FE establishments. However, the Welsh Government will consider applications for a longer duration than two years on an exceptional basis

But as for those who may be able to demonstrate an exceptional basis it states:

Even in these cases, funding is unlikely to be offered for more than two years in the absence of objective evidence demonstrating that the provision identified as necessary to meet the young person’s established needs cannot realistically be provided by a study programme of two years

and insofar as three year courses it states:

The Welsh Government will not normally accept an exceptional reason to justify a duration where the programme is described /considered to be a three year ‘standard’ offer.

and if a mistake may have been made so as to call for a change of educational programme it states that changes should be brought up as early as possible within the first year as the WG - *will not normally accept any requests to significantly change a provision if it is received after this time in any academic year. The Welsh Government will however consider minor changes to support provision where it is considered necessary throughout the academic year”.*

Insofar as listening to the pleas of parents or young disabled people the policy states:

While the Welsh Government will take account of the wishes of the young person, their families and/or carers, it does not have a legal duty to fund the specialist provision of their choice; nor does it have a legal duty to fund their programme duration of choice."

The policy goes on to describe that an assessment of a disabled learner will be undertaken "to understand the young person's educational and training needs and the provision required", in the last year of compulsory schooling (aged 16) whereupon these longer term decisions will be made.

Further if a disabled learner needs to learn life skills beyond merely the school day they must leap over the obstacle of para 50 and 51 of the policy which includes:

The Welsh Government will fund a placement for a young person at a specialist FE establishment on a day basis where they are satisfied that such provision is necessary.....The Welsh Government will only fund boarding accommodation if without it the young person would be denied effective access to the specialist provision established as necessary to meet the individual's identified educational and training needs"

Importantly at paragraph 84 the policy reads:

*Requests to extend a young person's placement beyond the programme's original agreed end date will only be agreed in **exceptional circumstances**. The Welsh Government will need to be satisfied that the circumstances giving rise to the need for the extension were unavoidable and that the extension is objectively necessary to ensure that the young person's identified educational and training needs are met."*

and at para 92 of the policy it states:

*"In certain circumstances it may be necessary for a young person to undertake additional specialist provision over and above, and following completion of, the young person's original agreed programme of study. It is not the Welsh Government's policy to routinely fund continuous education and training up until the age of 25. The Welsh Government will not, therefore, usually fund a second/additional programme of study at any specialist FE establishment unless the previous funded programme of study cannot fairly be said to have afforded the young person effective access to further education, or unless **very exceptional circumstances** have resulted in the young person being objectively deprived of the educational value of the previous funded programme"*

PART 2 – MY RESPONSE :

A. The Moral Case

1. Unlike a person without disability, a disabled person with highly complex needs does not have the same choices. Courses of study for them are generally far more expensive than those open for non disabled persons as a disabled person will often require additional facilities and services. Accordingly, suitable educational provision is not in reality so readily available to those with disability.
2. A person with highly complex disabilities requiring for example specialist support will often need to be taught skills that so many of us without disability take for granted. Many will need to generalise skills that they learn in the classroom into other contexts in order to be able to

live more independently and become less reliant upon state help. They may for example need to learn:

- i. How to apply mathematical skills in a shop when purchasing food and other essentials.
 - ii. How to travel independently on a bus, train or car.
 - iii. How to cope with lining up in queues.
 - iv. How to tolerate and manage normal societal demands.
 - v. To develop basic functional skills not merely within the classroom but into their residence and every day life.
 - vi. Road safety
 - vii. Internet safety
 - viii. How to cope with other serious dangers (strangers etc).
 - ix. How to be safe when taking medication including dosages, handling everyday household items and chemicals (weed killers, sink unblocking chemicals etc).
3. These are examples and are in no way exhaustive. Disabled people may have sensory processing difficulties and feelings of serious isolation which might require them to have access to open space. Being out in a social context alongside others in society is part of their learning process. Being in a social context may therefore be extremely important and indeed critical.
4. All of these facilities and opportunities are lost during the COVID19 pandemic as
- a. They have had to socially isolate.
 - b. They have not had access to shops as they would have otherwise.
 - c. They would not have been so able to become travel trained. Buses, trains etc are all restricted.

The arguments

5. In essence, society which for them is their critical classroom is so restricted. It is like removing all or at least most of their learning resources. It is tantamount to a student being expected to learn without books.
6. For now 10 weeks have already passed and the restrictions remain and as of today a further three weeks of restrictions will continue to apply taking this to at least 13 weeks. That is at least 13 weeks out of a typical 38 week placement. Over a third of their entire year has been affected by these restrictions and their learning opportunities severely compromised. Indeed, which can be expected, the restrictions continue throughout much of the summer this figure will soon become half of what may be the otherwise last year of their entitlement. To argue that these lost opportunities this year, is met by a Government agreement to fund provision until the end of this academic year, is misguided to say the least. It fails fundamentally to address the impact that this has all had upon them this year in particular. It is tantamount to ignoring the needs of the disabled.
- i. Recognition of “*disruption*” without accepting the limited quality of the provision that these most deserving people have received this year fundamentally misses the point.
 - ii. The argument that the policy affords “flexibility” looks like a reasonable argument at first glance. Yet it fails to stand up to moral scrutiny when comparing this to actual practice. In 2018 I made a freedom of information request to the Welsh Government in which I asked some basic questions and the answers were telling;-

i. In 2015/16 there were 118 applications for specialist college placements and of those 60 were granted a three year period of study. Yet after this guidance the number of those granted a three year programme dropped to only 17 out of a total of 116 applications that year. In the year of 17/18 97 people were awarded instead a 2 year programme. It would be very interesting to know the numbers for 2019 and 2020. Plainly the guidance has been interpreted in practice to seek to limit the study opportunity from 3 to 2 years (leaving aside the fact that there is no good reason to limit a person's learning opportunities at all in this way – England unlike Wales does not seek to do it, as those in England can actually secure support from the state up to and including the year in which they turn 25. Therefore, unlike Wales there is a real opportunity to learn for more than 2 years after school.

ii. The Minister refers to the possibility for those with an assessment to receive extra years of support, yet in the freedom of information answers provided back in 2018, the number people with complex difficulties who had in fact received any assessment throughout a total of three years 2015-18 in support of an application for an extension was in fact an extraordinary zero. Nobody at all received that which the Minister placed emphasis upon. Furthermore only 5 received a further assessment but only when asking for an additional programme of study. Therefore, those who needed to remain on their course for an additional year had received an assessment to support their application. That is deeply unreasonable.

iii. Further given the sizeable population of Wales, and given that the numbers of those who appear to have needed specialist support is on average around 112 each year it appears shameful that no people whatsoever appeared to have been granted an extension under the Welsh Government appeal system. Out of those who might have needed an extension only 13 in 2017/18 were granted. In essence it appears that less than 12% of the complex special needs population in Wales received actual support beyond two years. This, with respect is the exceptional circumstance proviso failing to provide real benefits in practice.

7. The argument presented that extensions are available if supported by an assessment is accordingly extinguished by the reality that rarely if ever are assessments actually delivered (never mind the highly unsatisfactory method adopted in any event (see below)). Neither does it address the reality that assessments undertaken at the age of 16 without any obligation to do one again leaves open the injustice caused to someone who would otherwise be assessed as a late developer, or a person who later discovers they can do things that because of unmet need in the past, they never thought that they could have done. It is frankly immoral to refuse to seek affording such people a chance.
 8. The argument that the Minister is unconvinced to change the policy when she has available to her the same facts as I is deeply disappointing.
 9. The argument that there is no disruption to programmes of study beginning from the next academic year as justification for not being persuaded that there is a need to increase the statutory age of entitlement misses the point entirely. Those aged 25 this year, who may have only discovered within what would have otherwise been their final year, a skill previously masked but never permitted to flourish and who may have entered a specialist college belatedly for perhaps a number of good reasons will face exclusion. They may have only had this year within which to derive any benefit – yet this year is polluted by the dilution of opportunities created by Covid19 as described above. That is no justification for ignoring the needs of the population who are being impacted now.

B. The Political Argument

Parents and lawyers who may help them can only work with the tools that Government may provide by passing laws. I truly believe that when considering the guidance and policy documents in detail can a reader properly understand the many hurdles that must be overcome before a disabled learner can access proper support in Wales.

To assess the likelihood of real benefits around the corner we must look at the present stance of our decision makers. Scrutiny of this guidance and policy provides an insight into the thinking and priorities of those who are entrusted to do so. It is only after considering this in detail that we are able to see hope held by so many evaporating and replaced by pessimism. I have set out in appendix A a more detailed appraisal of the guidance document primarily to highlight further obstacles it creates for disabled learners in Wales. Please also see Appendix B for a few real life examples. Please seize this moment to provide hope to so many who may have already too many hurdles in their lives.

(3) The Legal Argument

The purpose of the Equality Act 2010 was to break down barriers by requiring public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations in the course of developing policies and delivering services. The UK Government advocated that the *“aim is for public bodies to consider the needs of all individuals in their day to day work, in developing policy, in delivering services, and in relation to their own employees”*.

Integral to good policy making and in *“having due regard”*, the Welsh Government is expected to listen to the people affected by its decisions and policies and to listen to and understand their views as part of the decision making.

The Additional Learning Needs and Tribunal Wales Act will change things as the idea is to improve learning opportunities for all albeit the extent by which this will be achieved is yet undetermined. The most vulnerable in Wales still wait for this change but this latest letter refusing to accept an urgent need for change in light of Covid19 is deeply disappointing. Change is needed now as the existing guidance documents are being applied now by officers who seek to use them to inform their decisions in regard to real people who are often in desperate situations.

I intend to show within this response not only why this policy and guidance documents are generally cruel to disabled people but also why failing to embrace the need for change now may in fact be unlawful. I of course appreciate that the Court of Appeal considered the guidance in the context of the particular facts in the case of *R (DJ) -v- Welsh Ministers’ [2018] EWHC 2735*. The court was considering the longstanding argument that a public body must never surrender or ignore their powers and duties nor fetter its discretion by over committing itself to a particular course or approach. The Court was dealing with the well-known public law principles which govern decision making when considering whether the policy should be declared inconsistent with the Learning and Skills Act 2000. The court merely considered two matters. First, whether the application of an exceptional circumstances test amounted to evidence of an unlawful fetter of discretion and second, whether on the facts of the particular case the decision should be quashed due to the policy being rigidly and inflexibly applied. The case was not argued in terms of the truly unique circumstances that apply to us all, and neither was the case argued in terms of the Equality Act 2010 or the Human Rights Act 1998.

The Equality Act provides

At section 1 -

1 Public sector duty regarding socio-economic inequalities

(1) An authority to which this section applies must, when making decisions of a strategic nature about how to exercise its functions, have due regard to the desirability of exercising them in a way that is designed to reduce the inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage.

(2) In deciding how to fulfil a duty to which it is subject under subsection (1), an authority must take into account any guidance issued [F1] in accordance with subsection (2A)].

[F3(aa) in the case of a duty imposed on an authority in relation to devolved Welsh functions, guidance issued by the Welsh Ministers;]

(b) in any other case, guidance issued by a Minister of the Crown.]

[F4(3) The authorities to which this section applies are—

(a) a Minister of the Crown;

(

At section 149 –

149 Public sector equality duty

(1) A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to—

(a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;

(b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

(c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

(2).....

(3) Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to—

(a) remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;

(b) take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;

(c) encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

(4) The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.

(5) Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to—

(a) tackle prejudice, and

(b) promote understanding.

(6) Compliance with the duties in this section may involve treating some persons more favourably than others; but that is not to be taken as permitting conduct that would otherwise be prohibited by or under this Act.

(7) The relevant protected characteristics are—

- age;
- disability;
- gender reassignment;

- *pregnancy and maternity;*
- *race;*
- *religion or belief;*
- *sex;*
- *sexual orientation.*

(8)A reference to conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act includes a reference to—

(a)a breach of an equality clause or rule;

(b)a breach of a non-discrimination rule.

(9)Schedule 18 (exceptions) has effect.

A sufficient summary of the requirements of section 149 for present purposes is that set out in R (Bracking) v Secretary of State for Work and Pensions [2013] EWCA Civ 1345 [2014] Eq. L.R. 60 at [25]:

“(1) As stated by Arden LJ in R (Elias) v Secretary of State for Defence [2006] 1 WLR 3213; [2006] EWCA Civ 1293 at [274], equality duties are an integral and important part of the mechanisms for ensuring the fulfilment of the aims of anti-discrimination legislation.

(2) An important evidential element in the demonstration of the discharge of the duty is the recording of the steps taken by the decision maker in seeking to meet the statutory requirements: R (BAPIO Action Ltd) v Secretary of State for the Home Department [2007] EWHC 199 (QB) (Stanley Burnton J (as he then was)).

(3) The relevant duty is upon the Minister or other decision maker personally. What matters is what he or she took into account and what he or she knew. Thus, the Minister or decision maker cannot be taken to know what his or her officials know or what may have been in the minds of officials in proffering their advice: R (National Association of Health Stores) v Department of Health [2005] EWCA Civ 154 at [26 – 27] per Sedley LJ.

(4) A Minister must assess the risk and extent of any adverse impact and the ways in which such risk may be eliminated before the adoption of a proposed policy and not merely as a “rear guard action”, following a concluded decision: per Moses LJ, sitting as a Judge of the Administrative Court, in Kaur & Shah v LB Ealing [2008] EWHC 2062 (Admin) at [23 – 24].

(5) These and other points were reviewed by Aikens LJ, giving the judgment of the Divisional Court, in R (Brown) v Secretary of State for Work and Pensions [2008] EWHC 3158 (Admin), as follows:

i) The public authority decision maker must be aware of the duty to have “due regard” to the relevant matters;

ii) The duty must be fulfilled before and at the time when a particular policy is being considered;

iii) The duty must be “exercised in substance, with rigour, and with an open mind”. It is not a question of “ticking boxes”; while there is no duty to make

express reference to the regard paid to the relevant duty, reference to it and to the relevant criteria reduces the scope for argument;

iv) The duty is non-delegable; and

v) Is a continuing one.

vi) It is good practice for a decision maker to keep records demonstrating consideration of the duty.

(6) “General regard to issues of equality is not the same as having specific regard, by way of conscious approach to the statutory criteria.” (per Davis J (as he then was) in *R (Meany) v Harlow DC* [2009] EWHC 559 (Admin) at [84], approved in this court in *R (Bailey) v Brent LBC* [2011] EWCA Civ 1586 at [74–75].)

(7) Officials reporting to or advising Ministers/other public authority decision makers, on matters material to the discharge of the duty, must not merely tell the Minister/decision maker what he/she wants to hear but they have to be “rigorous in both enquiring and reporting to them”: *R (Domb) v Hammersmith & Fulham LBC* [2009] EWCA Civ 941 at [79] per Sedley LJ.

(8) Finally, and with respect, it is I think, helpful to recall passages from the judgment of my Lord, Elias LJ, in *R (Hurley & Moore) v Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills* [2012] EWHC 201 (Admin) (Divisional Court) as follows:

(i) At paragraphs [77–78]

“[77] Contrary to a submission advanced by Ms Mountfield, I do not accept that this means that it is for the court to determine whether appropriate weight has been given to the duty. Provided the court is satisfied that there has been a rigorous consideration of the duty, so that there is a proper appreciation of the potential impact of the decision on equality objectives and the desirability of promoting them, then as Dyson LJ in *Baker* (para [34]) made clear, it is for the decision maker to decide how much weight should be given to the various factors informing the decision.

[78] The concept of ‘due regard’ requires the court to ensure that there has been a proper and conscientious focus on the statutory criteria, but if that is done, the court cannot interfere with the decision simply because it would have given greater weight to the equality implications of the decision than did the decision maker. In short, the decision maker must be clear precisely what the equality implications are when he puts them in the balance, and he must recognise the desirability of achieving them, but ultimately it is for him to decide what weight they should be given in the light of all relevant factors. If Ms Mountfield's submissions on this point were correct, it would allow unelected judges to review on substantive merits grounds almost all aspects of public decision making.”

(ii) At paragraphs [89–90]

“[89] It is also alleged that the PSED in this case involves a duty of inquiry. The submission is that the combination of the principles in *Secretary of State for Education and Science v Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council* [1977] AC 1014 and the duty of due regard under the statute requires public authorities to be properly informed before taking a decision. If the relevant material is not available, there will be a duty to acquire it and this will frequently mean that some further consultation with appropriate groups is required. Ms Mountfield referred to the following passage from the judgment of Aikens LJ in *Brown* (para [85]):

‘...the public authority concerned will, in our view, have to have due regard to the need to take steps to gather relevant information in order that it can properly take steps to take into account disabled persons' disabilities in the context of the particular function under consideration.’

[90] I respectfully agree....”

Article 8 of the European Convention incorporated into UK law by the Human Rights Act 1998 provides

Right to respect for private and family life

1 Everyone has the right to respect for his private and family life, his home and his correspondence.

2 There shall be no interference by a public authority with the exercise of this right except such as is in accordance with the law and is necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security, public safety or the economic well-being of the country, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

Points to consider about the Equality Act

1. Education for young people with disabilities is one of the most major ways to tackle economic and social disadvantage.
2. It is irrational to promulgate guidance and policy without input from bodies with specialist knowledge of child welfare and disability. Has the Minister consulted disabled groups about the impact of Covid19? I would be interested to see the responses she might have received.
3. People with disability in Wales rarely, if ever, secure an assessment from experts such as educational psychologists as practice appears to be against this. Thus the likely benefits of specialist provision is rarely, if ever, properly appraised and neither is the likely full psychological and educational impact of denying specialist help properly appraised or understood.
4. Unlike in England and other parts of the UK, people with disabilities who may have a need for specialist support post school are assessed in a particular way and involve a prescribed process of assessment by a range of experts entrusted to report on “need” without regard to a course duration or time limits. The decisions, if challenged, are scrutinised through a legal process that is designed to provide proportionate checks and balances. No such checks and balances apply here in Wales. Decisions are made by the very body that is required to fund and thus have arguably a financial vested interest in the outcome. To put it succinctly, the very fact that time limits are referred to in the document demonstrates the constraints applied in practice that should never exist and

which are unrecognised by Equality legislation. In essence, there is no justification, when tasked with eliminating inequality to erect obstacles in the form of time limits.

5. Proper compliance with the public law equality duty begs the question why anyone should advocate for an exceptional circumstance test let alone a very exceptional circumstance test which appears from the policy at para 92.
6. Restricting the provision for disabled persons to two years is fundamentally discriminatory in itself when the same limitation does not apply to those without disabilities. Indeed applying criteria to determine what should be the duration of study afforded to the most disabled learners based on the expectation of what a mainstream population will receive is discriminatory in itself. A mainstream population may need to take a resit year. A disabled learner does not get the chance.

Points to consider under the Human Rights Act

1. There is a clear and consistent line of Strasbourg jurisprudence to the effect that, although Article 8 contains no explicit procedural requirements, the decision-making process which leads to measures of interference with an individual's right to private life must be fair and such as to afford due respect to the interests safeguarded by Article 8. The purpose of implying a procedural obligation is to ensure "effective" respect for the right. Thus in *Tysiac v Poland* (2007) 45 EHRR 42, the ECtHR said at §115 (emphasis added):
"Finally, the Court reiterates that in the assessment of the present case it should be borne in mind that the Convention is intended to guarantee not rights that are theoretical or illusory but rights that are practical and effective. Whilst Art.8 contains no explicit procedural requirements, it is important for the effective enjoyment of the rights guaranteed by this provision that the relevant decision-making process is fair and such as to afford due respect to the interests safeguarded by it. What has to be determined is whether, having regard to the particular circumstances of the case and notably the nature of the decisions to be taken, an individual has been involved in the decision-making process, seen as a whole, to a degree sufficient to provide her or him with the requisite protection of their interests."
2. The current guidance appears to hide behind a clause that it does not have to consider all of the particular circumstances or the needs, wishes and feelings of the disabled learner let alone a proper consideration of the particular circumstances that they find themselves in. An assessment is rarely if ever commissioned in practice after a persons 16th birthday let alone as assessment that advocates usage of expertise from people with specialist knowledge in the field.

Conclusion

The Decision to refuse to make an emergency change to the current guidance in light of the pandemic, when that guidance does little to promote confidence in it being properly Equality Act compliant in the first place is deeply worrying. It offers insight into thinking which appears to disregard the impact that this covid19 pandemic is actually having on this group of some of the most vulnerable people in society.

The current trend appears to advocate, and indeed promote, the fact that the state should not be bound by the wishes and feelings of a family who would often be in the unique position to be best informed as to the needs of a young people and the impact that this is having on a particular disabled person.

The numbers of updated assessments in Wales beyond the 16th birthday merely reiterates this and is deeply worrying never mind the likelihood of future assessments not being delivered to those who are in need this year.

The application of what is said to be an exceptional circumstance test is merely to impose another hurdle for disabled people when the state should be doing all that is possible to eliminate prejudice and promote equality of opportunity. The very fact that only about 0.003% of the population of Wales are in actual need for this level of support should be considered exceptional enough. The fact that so few are granted either a three year period on entry, or an extension of their two year course of study or an additional programme of study is frankly shameful and representative of a Government content to focus on finance rather than need. This should not influence the Minister to reject the request but to promote the request.

I am left with an overwhelming urge to ask- Why do these people burdened by the most exceptional disabilities, still have to prove an exceptional circumstance.? Is not their disability exceptional enough? Why should exceptional people be so shamelessly ignored by the unexceptional ordinary world? Doing that which the general law requires at its most basic which is thus the least that the law expects is hardly a triumph to be proud of. For injustice, social and economic inequality to thrive, good politicians need only do nothing.

Yours sincerely

Michael Charles
SOLICITOR

sinclairslaw

P-05-962 An emergency amendment to extend age of entitlement to additional educational support from 25 to 26 and to define within Government guidance the Covid 19 pandemic as an exceptional circumstance – Petitioner to Committee, Appendix A, 31.05.20

APPENDIX A

It is necessary to consider in careful detail the wording of the policy and guidance documents. From these documents we can develop a political case for change not least due to the fact that the both guidance documents are ambiguous, contradictory and unnecessarily complex such that it is difficult to derive any sense of certainty over what would amount to an exceptional circumstance in a particular case. There are of course multiple paragraphs but I will highlight a few which perhaps exemplify the extent of the barriers in the way of disabled learners in Wales;

- a. *The transition planning and/or annual review process must be undertaken in an impartial, unbiased, person-centred way. These meeting(s) for that young person should therefore only involve those as identified within the SEN Code of Practice. The Welsh Government would not normally expect specialist FE establishments to be actively involved in review meetings as it would be difficult to maintain impartiality when discussing appropriate and available options for that young person*
- b. *The specialist FE establishment should consider the information provided and undertake their own initial assessment of the young person in order to establish the provision they can cater for.*

Surely if the college is unable to make all the provision that a learner may need, it should be involved in the critical transition planning and this would involve at the critical transitional review understanding what the learner can and cannot do, what progress needs to be made in what key areas. If needs are likely to be unmet a discussion should be had as to how they can be addressed through perhaps a more bespoke approach. Surely it is not simply a case of trying to force a square peg into a round hole.

- c. *'17.The Welsh Government consider it good practice for mainstream and specialist FE establishments to engage with each other regarding those young people with complex needs who are seeking post-16 education, to ensure the necessary provision to meet their identified education and training needs can be established and realistically delivered.'*

Yet In practice we have seen that the assessment is done at the outset prior to the young person starting at college which indicates that the longer term needs are considered determined as at the age of 16 and rarely, if ever, updated. The guidance states that The Learning and Skills Assessment is *an assessment that should result in a Learning and Skills Plan (LSP) which identifies the following:*

- *the young person's educational and training needs; and*

· the reasonable and realistic provision and duration required to meet those needs, along with any additional holistic support required, where it is needed;"

Contrast that with England where the courts have stated that the education and health care plans are evolving documents. For example, the DfE guidance on transport states:

"The DfE's statutory guidance ('Post-16 transport to education and training (October [2017](#))) sets out: (1) the LA should consider the impact of a learning difficulty or disability on the young person's ability to walk the distance [18], (2) the LA should take account of its duty to encourage, enable and assist the participation of young people with learning difficulties and disabilities up to the age of 25 in education and training pursuant to Education and Skills Act [2008](#) s68 [22], (3) it is good practice to account for the fact a learner with a learning difficulty or disability may take longer to complete a particular programme and should consider extending travel arrangements for that period [23]."

It is misguided to believe that outcomes set for a child at the age of 16 should be carried through without regard to changing needs which may be exposed later. Some children learn at different rates and achieve things later in life that were never previously thought possible. To set the goal at 16 without considering the need to review them again is deeply unfair. The critical role, long recognised in the world of special needs, is that of the Educational Psychologist. The psychologist gives advice to schools and colleges in regard to approaches to adopt, the progress made, outcomes achievable and over what period. Yet the guidance states that the involvement of such expertise in the case of those with special needs should be limited...

- d. *[25.](#)In exceptional circumstances, the Welsh Government may specifically arrange for an educational psychologist (EP) to undertake the section 140 assessment of a young person."*

Contrast this with regulation 6 of the English Special Needs Regulations that requires in all cases of assessment up to the age of 25 the involvement of an educational psychologist.

When it comes to determining duration of study the guidance states that those with complex needs have an additional hurdle when seeking support beyond two years of post 16 schooling. They must establish the extent of their disability determined at a frozen point in time without regard to the fact that needs may evolve. They also have the higher hurdle of establishing an exceptional circumstance

(e) Where specialist provision is being sought, this should include consideration of the duration required based on the young person's capability to progress and achieve against a proposed programme of study. For the majority of young people accessing specialist provision, the duration will be comparable with the duration of provision available within mainstream FE establishments. However, the Welsh Government will consider applications for a longer duration than two years on an exceptional basis"

Further at para 92 of the policy document it states:

In certain circumstances it may be necessary for a young person to undertake additional specialist provision over and above, and following completion of, the young person's original agreed programme of study. It is not the Welsh Government's policy to routinely fund continuous education and training up until the age of 25. The Welsh Government will not, therefore, usually fund a second/additional programme of study at any specialist FE establishment unless the previous funded programme of study cannot fairly be said to have afforded the young person effective access to further education, or unless very exceptional circumstances have resulted in the young person being objectively deprived of the educational value of the previous funded programme

Why should the most disadvantaged be treated so unfavourably? Why must they be expected to jump an even higher hurdle than merely demonstrating the difficulties they have encountered and continue to encounter throughout their lives?

- f. *.Where a programme of study lasting more than two academic years is proposed exceptional reasons relating to the individual's capability to learn will need to be demonstrated. Even in these cases, funding is unlikely to be offered for more than two years in the absence of objective evidence demonstrating that the provision identified as necessary to meet the young person's established needs cannot realistically be provided by a study programme of two years"*

This paragraph makes clear that even those who may need the help should not expect it, unless there is "objective evidence". What does that mean? Firstly it gives the impression that college evidence is not impartial, and then goes on to say that educational psychology evidence is only for exceptional cases. So how on earth can a person of moderate means secure any evidence that is objective especially when they are unlikely to secure an up to date learning assessment under section 140. The Act leaves this as a discretionary rather than an obligatory matter. In practice, this means there is no realistic way of achieving it other than by mere good fortune.

If that is not confusing enough let's see the next paragraph:

- g. *"[32.It](#) is the Welsh Government's expectation that 'objective evidence', as referred to in the paragraph above, would be (but not limited to) evidence of how the programme of study would generally be delivered over a two year duration. It is also our expectation that 'exceptional reasons', in this case, would normally relate to (but not limited to) why that young person (for whom the placement relates to) could not undertake that provision within the normal timescales for delivery. The Welsh Government will not normally accept an exceptional reason to justify a duration where the programme is described /considered to be a three year 'standard' offer."*

In other words, unlike a person without a disability who seeks to secure a level of skill in their life that requires them to enrol on a three year programme, the person with complex needs

must generally live with a two year period. Skill development opportunities are thereby cruelly limited by the state.

What if a person with complex needs identifies a new programme because of discovering new talents that they never knew they had? What if they, perhaps, change direction academically to that which they followed when they left school?

The guidance states

- h. *"33.Specialist FE establishments must identify a clear and reasonable programme of study that meets the young person's identified education and training needs, linked to their future aspirations, as part of the section 140 assessment process.."*

Yet this is a college that the Welsh Government promote as potentially lacking objectivity at this stage such that they should not be involved in the critical transition review for the child at 16. How do they derive any clear understanding of the future training aspirations of a young person who they are restricted to getting to know at the annual review? This seems irrational to me.

Some people who enrol at specialist colleges do so with the objective that they may be able to identify the capacity to learn new things or break down some of the barriers that have restricted their desired progress in the past. For those with complex difficulties that might take time. For example, a person with a mental health difficulty, such as acute anxiety, might take a year or longer to resolve the symptoms so as to identify new ideas or new programmes based on academic potential never previously identified as possible. Yet the Guidance expects colleges to identify changes in a programme of study within only the first term of the academic year.

The guidance states

- i. *[64.It](#) is the Welsh Government's expectation that where changes to a young person's provision significantly impacts on the agreed programme of study, e.g. change of programme or course of study, this should be identified as early as possible within their academic year. Therefore, all requests to make a 'significant' change to an agreed provision will need to be submitted within the young person's first term of study in any academic year. The Welsh Government will not normally accept any requests to significantly change a provision if it is received after this time in any academic year. The Welsh Government will however consider minor changes to support provision where it is considered necessary throughout the academic year."*

In the guidance document "securing provision for young people with learning disabilities" no [196/2017](#)

At para 2 it states:

- j. *"The Welsh Government believes, in regards to post-16 education, that all young people who have a learning difficulty (see 'Statutory context' section on page 5 for a definition) should be provided equitable access to further education at a mainstream FE establishment, through the delivery of inclusive options available locally to meet their needs"*

Unlike the case in England where the council is obliged to take into account a placement of the parent or young person's choice (section 39 Children and Families Act [2014](#)) no such right exists in Wales.

The guidance states:

- k. *"22. While the Welsh Government will take account of the wishes of the young person, their families and/or carers, it does not have a legal duty to fund the specialist provision of their choice; nor does it have a legal duty to fund their programme duration of choice."*

How to start the process.

- l. *"24. In order to determine whether to fund a placement, the Welsh Government first needs to understand the young person's educational and training needs and the provision required to meet them. The Welsh Government will generally commission an assessment to be undertaken, and have arranged for Careers Wales to conduct these assessments on their behalf. This usually forms part of the transition process during the last year of compulsory schooling for the young person. In making decisions about securing and funding a placement, the Welsh Government will take the report (LSP) of the assessment into account, together with all other relevant matters, including any information or evidence collated by Careers Wales throughout the assessment process"*
- m. *"27. For young people who are in school, section 140 assessments are carried out on behalf of the Welsh Government by Careers Wales during the last year of compulsory schooling for the young person. Careers Wales will automatically provide an assessment where the young person has a statement of SEN and where a young person is supported by School Action or School Action Plus and has been subject to an annual and/or transition review process consistent¹¹ with that undertaken for those with a statement of SEN."*
- n. *31. Where arrangements for an assessment have been made, that assessment should be completed as quickly as is reasonably possible in order to assist the young person to consider their options for further learning and to ensure appropriate arrangements can be arranged. It is expected that section 140 assessments will be completed by the end of the spring academic term for those young people expecting to commence post-16 education and training at the start of the next academic year, i.e. the following September. "*

Disabled people are not really given any priority to establish life skills beyond the school day in Wales. This is because of the operation of the guidance which states:

(o) "50. The Welsh Government will fund a placement for a young person at a specialist FE establishment on a day basis where they are satisfied that such provision is necessary to enable the individual to participate in education and training. Specialist provision will usually be necessary, in the Welsh Government's view, only where there is no other realistic means of providing the young person with effective access to the provision established as necessary to meet the individual's identified education and training needs.

(p) 51. The Welsh Government will only fund boarding accommodation if without it the young person would be denied effective access to the specialist provision established as necessary to meet the individual's identified educational and training needs."

It is noteworthy that boarding is only considered necessary to enable a person to "access specialist provision" rather than because boarding itself may be considered as constituting specialist educational provision itself. Contrast this with the legal approach seen in various cases. A waking day curriculum (which in practice is likely to lead to a requirement for a residential school placement) may be justified if the pupil needs to "translate into his home and social and indeed all areas of his life and functioning, the skill which he learns within the school and school room": *S v Solihull MBC* [\[2007\] EWHC 1139](#).

To conclude, only politicians can direct the amendment of these guidance documents and thereby influence the decision makers. Only politicians can extend the law to give those with disabilities another chance this year. They have enough hurdles to overcome and I respectfully suggest that now is the time to start removing them. I urge you not to forget what is identified within the freedom of information material provided in 2018.

P-05-962 An emergency amendment to extend age of entitlement to additional educational support from 25 to 26 and to define within Government guidance the Covid 19 pandemic as an exceptional circumstance – Petitioner to Committee, Appendix B, 31.05.20

APPENDIX B

J has highly complex needs. He lives in London and is aged 21. He has already received 5 years post 16 provision. He still receives highly specialist support because a tribunal determined so. J has been given another year. It is fortunate that J lives in England.

D has complex difficulties and has been at a Specialist College in Southern England. D has achieved his aspirations and is now doing things that he never thought possible at school. He excels in music and his life skills have developed such that he is no longer dependent on the state to support him. He can work and thereby gain employment. D has been at the college for three years. He is given a fourth. D lives in England.

S has been in post 16 specialist college for the past 4 years. She is now finishing her first mainstream year. Her mother states “without this specialist none of this would have been possible”. S lives in England.

T aspires to work in performing arts. It was the professional opinion of the team of experts contributing to his annual review that he needs access to highly specialist and bespoke provision. He is able to get direct therapy which was not available at school. T is thriving. T lives in England.

B lives in Wales. He had been in specialist college for a duration of time permitted by the Welsh Government. B applied to extend his time at the college. B was refused.

P-05-947 Dylai llythyrau meddygon teulu fod am ddim i fyfyrwyr
Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan William Bremner, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 144 lofnodion.

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Ar hyn o bryd, os bydd angen llythyr meddyg teulu ar fyfyrwr i gefnogi hawliad amgylchiadau esgusodol neu am dystiolaeth ar gyfer cais am Lwfans i Fyfyrwyr Anabl (DSA), bydd y meddyg teulu yn codi tua £35 ar y myfyrwr (gan ddibynnu ar y feddygfa). Oherwydd hyn, ar ben yr anawsterau posibl i fyfyrwyr o ran eu hiechyd, o ran anableddau dysgu, a/neu o ran anableddau, mae'n rhaid iddynt dalu i gael dogfen sy'n dangos hynny. I lawer o fyfyrwyr (yn enwedig y rhai o gefndiroedd tlotach), golyga hyn eu bod yn cael trafferth i gael y gefnogaeth sydd ei hangen arnynt i allu cwblhau eu cwrs gradd, ac mewn rhai achosion i gael dau ben y llinyn ynghyd.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd

- Canol Caerdydd
- Canol De Cymru

Dylai llythyrau meddygon teulu fod am ddim i fyfyrwyr

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau | 9 Mehefin 2020
Petitions Committee | 9 June 2020

Cyfeirnod: RS20/11947-2

Rhif y ddeiseb: P-05-947

Teitl y ddeiseb: Dylai llythyrau meddygon teulu fod am ddim i fyfyrwyr

Testun y ddeiseb:

Ar hyn o bryd, os bydd angen llythyr meddyg teulu ar fyfyrwr i gefnogi hawliad amgylchiadau esgusodol neu am dystiolaeth ar gyfer cais am Lwfans i Fyfyrwyr Anabl (DSA), bydd y meddyg teulu yn codi tua £35 ar y myfyriwr (gan ddibynnu ar y feddygfa). Oherwydd hyn, ar ben yr anawsterau posibl i fyfyrwyr o ran eu hiechyd, o ran anabledau dysgu, a/neu o ran anabledau, mae'n rhaid iddynt dalu i gael dogfen sy'n dangos hynny. I lawer o fyfyrwyr (yn enwedig y rhai o gefndiroedd tlotach), golyga hyn eu bod yn cael trafferth i gael y gefnogaeth sydd ei hangen arnynt i allu cwblhau eu cwrs gradd, ac mewn rhai achosion i gael dau ben y llinyn ynghyd.



1. Cefndir

Mae gwefan Cymdeithas Feddygol Prydain (BMA) yn darparu [canllawiau](#) i feddygon eu rhannu â'u cleifion sy'n esbonio pam eu bod yn codi ffi am ambell beth.

Nid yw'r GIG yn talu am yr holl waith y gofynnir i feddygon ei wneud, ac mae llawer o feddygon teulu yn hunangyflogedig. Mae hyn yn golygu bod yn rhaid iddynt dalu am eu hamser a'u costau - staff, adeiladau, gwres, goleuadau, ac ati - yn yr un modd ag unrhyw fusnes bach. **Dim ond am waith y GIG y mae'r GIG yn talu, rhaid i unrhyw waith y tu allan i'r GIG gael ei ariannu trwy ddulliau eraill a dyma pam y codir ffioedd.**

Pan fydd meddyg yn llofnodi tystysgrif neu'n cwblhau adroddiad, os am aros ar y Gofrestr Feddygol, mae'n amod nad ydynt ond yn llofnodi'r hyn y maent yn gwybod sy'n wir.

Pan ofynnir i feddyg roi gwybodaeth feddygol am glaf ar ffurf adroddiad, llythyr neu dystysgrif, gall y broses ddilynol fod yn hir ac nid yw bob amser yn syml i'w chwblhau.

Er mwyn llenwi hyd yn oed y ffurflenni symlaf, efallai y bydd yn rhaid iddynt wirio holl gofnod meddygol claf (efallai na fydd rhai o'r cofnodion yn hygyrch ar gyfrifiadur neu ar y safle). Gall diofalwch neu adroddiad anghywir arwain at ganlyniadau difrifol i'r meddyg gyda'r Cyngor Meddygol Cyffredinol (corff rheoleiddio'r meddyg) neu hyd yn oed yr Heddlu.

Er nad oes unrhyw ffioedd penodol, mae gwefan Cymdeithas Feddygol Prydain yn darparu [canllawiau](#) i ymarferwyr meddygol ynghylch ffioedd cyffredin, gan gynnwys **pa ffi i'w chodi a phryd.**

2. Camau gweithredu Llywodraeth Cymru

Nododd y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol mewn gohebiaeth i'r Pwyllgor ar 16 Mawrth 2020 fod y ddogfen [Cymru Iachach](#) yn gosod cynllun Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer gwasanaethau iechyd yn seiliedig ar egwyddorion gofal iechyd darbodus, gyda'r person iawn yn darparu'r gofal iawn ar yr adeg iawn. Mewn sawl achos, nid meddyg teulu fydd y person gorau i ddarparu cymorth i fyfyrwr - efallai y bydd swyddogion cymorth cwnsela neu gwngselwyr yn gallu cefnogi myfyrwyr yn well wrth wneud achos am amgylchiadau esgusodol.

Aiff y Gweinidog ymlaen i ddweud bod meddygon teulu yn darparu gwasanaethau'r GIG yn rhad ac am ddim i gleifion o fewn cwmpas **contract gwasanaethau meddygol cyffredinol**. Fodd bynnag, fel contractwyr annibynnol gallant ddewis, mewn rhai amgylchiadau, godi ffi am lenwi ffurflenni neu adroddiadau ar gyfer trydydd partïon nad ydynt yn gysylltiedig â darparu gofal iechyd y GIG.

O ran y ffioedd a awgrymwyd gan Gymdeithas Feddygol Prydain (fel y soniwyd uchod), dywed y Gweinidog fod y rhain wedi'u bwriadu fel canllaw yn unig ac nad ydynt yn argymhellion, ac nid oes rheidrwydd ar feddyg i godi'r gyfradd y mae Cymdeithas Feddygol Prydain yn eu hawgrymu. Mae hyn er mwyn cydymffurfio â deddfwriaeth sy'n atal ymarfer gwrth-gystadleuol. Mae hyn yn golygu y bydd y penderfyniad a'r ffi i'w chodi am wasanaethau o'r fath yn amrywio o feddygfa i feddygfa, ac weithiau ni fydd ffi yn cael ei chodi o gwbl.

Gwneir pob ymdrech i sicrhau bod y wybodaeth yn y papur briffio hwn yn gywir adeg ei gyhoeddi. Dylai darllenwyr fod yn ymwybodol nad yw'r papurau briffio hyn yn cael eu diweddarau o reidrwydd na'u diwygio fel arall i adlewyrchu newidiadau dilynol.



Ein cyf/Our ref VG/00497/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AC
Cadeirydd, y Pwyllgor Deisebau
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
Tŷ Hywel
Bae Caerdydd
Caerdydd
CF99 1NA

16 Mawrth 2020

Annwyl Janet,

Diolch ichi am eich e-bost 11 Chwefror ynghylch Deiseb P-05-947 mewn perthynas â chodi tâl am lythyrau ymarferwyr cyffredinol.

Mae Cymru iachach yn nodi ein cynllun ar gyfer gwasanaethau iechyd yn seiliedig ar egwyddorion gofal iechyd darbodus, gyda'r person cywir yn darparu'r gofal cywir ar yr adeg gywir. Mewn llawer o achosion nid Ymarferwyr Cyffredinol fydd y person gorau i roi cymorth i fyfyrwr - gallai swyddogion cymorth neu gynghorwyr fod mewn sefyllfa well i gefnogi myfyrwr wrth gyflwyno achos dros amgylchiadau arbennig.

Mae Ymarferwyr Cyffredinol yn rhoi gwasanaethau'r GIG yn ddi-dâl o fewn ffiniau'r contract gwasanaethau meddygol cyffredinol. Er hynny, fel contractwyr annibynnol cânt ddewis, o dan rai amgylchiadau, godi tâl am lenwi ffurflenni neu adroddiadau ar ran trydydd partion nad ydynt mewn cysylltiad â darparu gofal iechyd y GIG.

Mae Cymdeithas Feddygol Prydain (BMA) yn awgrymu ffioedd y gall Ymarferwyr Cyffredinol eu codi ar eu cleifion am waith nad yw'n waith y GIG (hy gwaith nad yw'n dod o dan eu contract â'r GIG) er mwyn helpu Ymarferwyr Cyffredinol i bennu eu ffioedd proffesiynol eu hunain. Er hynny, fel canllaw yn unig y bwriedir y ffioedd a awgrymir gan y BMA. Nid ydynt yn argymhellion ac nid oes rhwymedigaeth ar feddyg i godi'r cyfraddau y mae BMA yn eu hawgrymu. Bwriad hyn yw cydymffurfio â deddfwriaeth sy'n atal arferion gwrth-gystadleuol. Mae hyn yn golygu y bydd y penderfyniad a'r swm i'w godi am wasanaethau o'r fath yn amrywio o bractis i bractis ac weithiau ni chodir tâl o gwbl.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Gohebiaeth.Vaughan.Gething@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Gobeithio y bydd hyn o gymorth ichi.

Yn gywir,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vaughan Gething". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Vaughan Gething AC/AM

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

P-05-950 Dysgu Amaethyddiaeth ac Addysg Cefn Gwlad o oed 4 i 16 yn ein Hysgolion

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Osian Hedd Harries, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 93 lofnodion.

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i ddysgu am Amaethyddiaeth ac Astudiaethau Gefn Gwlad yn ein hysgolion.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:

Mae'n bwysig i bobl ifanc ddysgu sut mae'r broses o greu bwyd yn gweithio, gan ddysgu'r berthynas rhwng Bwyd ac Amaeth. Mae'n bwysig hefyd fod nhw'n dysgu'r sgiliau sylfaenol o sut i allu cynhyrchu cynnyrch ein bwydydd. Fydd hyn hefyd yn magu parch a dealltwriaeth o waith yr Amaethwyr.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd

- Preseli Sir Benfro
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin De Cymru

Dysgu Amaethyddiaeth ac Addysg Cefn Gwlad

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau | 9 Mehefin 2020

Petitions Committee | 9 June 2020

Papur Briffio:

Rhif y ddeiseb: P-05-950

Teitl y ddeiseb: Dysgu Amaethyddiaeth ac Addysg Cefn Gwlad o oed 4 i 16 yn ein Hysgolion

Geiriad y ddeiseb: Rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i ddysgu am Amaethyddiaeth ac Astudiaethau Gefn Gwlad yn ein hysgolion.

Mae'n bwysig i bobl ifanc ddysgu sut mae'r broses o greu bwyd yn gweithio, gan ddysgu'r berthynas rhwng Bwyd ac Amaeth. Mae'n bwysig hefyd fod nhw'n dysgu'r sgiliau sylfaenol o sut i allu cynhyrchu cynnyrch ein bwydydd. Fydd hyn hefyd yn magu parch a dealltwriaeth o waith yr Amaethwyr.

Camau gweithredu Llywodraeth Cymru

Yn ei llythyr at y Pwyllgor, mae Kirsty Williams, y Gweinidog Addysg, yn nodi bod y **cwricwlwm presennol** yn rhoi hyblygrwydd o fewn Addysg Bersonol a Chymdeithasol ar gyfer addysgu a dysgu am bynciau sy'n ymwneud ag amaethyddiaeth, yr amgylchedd a bwyd. At hynny, gall dysgwyr ymgymryd â thasgau coginio a deall deiet iach ym maes Dylunio a Thechnoleg.

Y cwricwlwm newydd i Gymru

Yn dilyn [ymarfer adborth](#) ar [fersiwn ddrafft o'r cwricwlwm newydd](#), cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth Cymru y Cwricwlwm terfynol i Gymru ar 28 Ionawr 2020. Mae'r ddogfennaeth ar y cwricwlwm newydd ar gael naill ai fel [cyfres o dudalennau gwe](#) neu fel [PDF sengl](#).

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi pwysleisio bod y Cwricwlwm newydd i Gymru **wedi'i seilio ar ddibenion yn hytrach na chynnwys**. Nid yw cynnwys dysgu penodol yn cael ei nodi yn yr un modd ag o dan y cwricwlwm cenedlaethol cyfredol.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi mabwysiadu'r chwe Maes Dysgu a Phrofiad ar gyfer y cwricwlwm newydd:

- Y Celfyddydau Mynegiannol
- Iechyd a Lles
- Y Dyniaethau
- Ieithoedd, Llythrennedd a Chyfathrebu
- Mathemateg a Rhifedd
- Gwyddoniaeth a Thechnoleg

Bydd y Cwricwlwm 3–16 oed newydd i Gymru yn cael ei gyflwyno ym mhob ysgol a gynhelir ac mewn lleoliadau meithrin a ariennir yn gyhoeddus o fis **Medi 2022 yn raddol**.

Yn ei llythyr at y Pwyllgor, mae'r Gweinidog yn nodi bod y Meysydd Dysgu a Phrofiad sy'n ymwneud ag Iechyd a Lles, y Dyniaethau a Gwyddoniaeth a Thechnoleg yn cynnwys dysgu ac arweiniad sy'n cefnogi dealltwriaeth dysgwyr o fwyd, a'r broses o'i gynhyrchu. Bydd gan ysgolion hyblygrwydd i benderfynu sut y gall eu cwricwlwm adlewyrchu eu hardal, eu cymuned a'r materion sy'n berthnasol i'w dysgwyr.

Mae'r canllawiau ar gyfer **Maes Dysgu a Phrofiad Iechyd a Lles** yn nodi:

Gellid gwella dealltwriaeth o ddeiet a maeth drwy ddysgu am y cyflenwad bwyd, yng Nghymru ac yn rhyngwladol, a sut mae hyn wedi newid dros amser.

Mae'r canllawiau ar gyfer **Maes Dysgu a Phrofiad y Dyniaethau** (sy'n cynnwys daearyddiaeth; hanes; crefydd, gwerthoedd a moeseg; astudiaethau busnes ac astudiaethau cymdeithasol) yn nodi y dylai cwricwlwm yr ysgol, ar gyfer daearyddiaeth:

[fod yn] cynnig cyd-destun cyfoethog ar gyfer archwilio materion cynaladwyedd, newid hinsawdd, dewisiadau egni, natur, peryglon a thrychinebau naturiol a risgiau peryglon, llygredd, prinder adnoddau naturiol, diogelwch bwyd, poblogaeth, hunaniaeth, ethnigrwydd, mudo, aneddiadau, globaleiddio, prynwriaeth a masnach, cynlluniau i drechu tlodi, anghyfartaledd ac annhegwch, gwahaniaethau rhwng gwledydd ar wahanol lefelau o ddatblygiad.

Adroddiad Adolygiad o Ddysgu

Yn 2014, [comisiynodd Llywodraeth Cymru](#) Yr Athro Wynne Jones OBE – cyn Brifathro a Phrif Weithredwr Coleg Prifysgol Harper Adams – i gynnal adolygiad annibynnol. Mae adroddiad terfynol yr Athro Jones, [Adolygiad Annibynnol o Ddarpariaeth Ddysgu Colegau Addysg Bellach a Pherthnasedd y Ddarpariaeth Honno o ran Cefnogi Busnesau Fferm yng Nghymru](#) (Ionawr 2015) yn argymhell y dylid sefydlu grŵp i ddatblygu Strategaeth Addysg a Datblygiad Amaethyddol ar gyfer Cymru. Argymhellodd at hynny:

bod grŵp y strategaeth yn cymryd rhan mewn trafodaeth anffurfiol i sefydlu momentwm o fewn y cwricwlwm ysgolion ar gyfer mabwysiadu TGAU mewn Gwyddor Amaethyddol yn fwy eang. Ar ben hynny, argymhellir y dylid rhoi'r cyfle i athrawon yng Nghymru gofleidio enghreifftiau o feysydd amaethyddiaeth, bwyd ac adnoddau naturiol yn fwy eang yng nghwricwlwm eu hysgolion. Dylai proffil datblygiad staff mewn addysg amaethyddol gael ei adolygu yn y sector ysgolion a'r sector AB.

Cafodd hyn [ei dderbyn mewn egwyddor gan Lywodraeth Cymru](#) a ddywedodd:

Mae angen i Cymwysterau Cymru fynd ati i ddatblygu TGAU newydd. Bydd Cymwysterau Cymru yn adolygu'r holl arlwy TGAU gwyddoniaeth yn 2016. Bydd hyn yn sicrhau bod arlwy TGAU gwyddoniaeth sy'n berthnasol ac yn gydlynol ar gael i ddysgwyr yng Nghymru. Dylai grŵp y strategaeth fod yn rhan o'r gweithgarwch hwn i ganfod yr angen am TGAU Gwyddor Amaethyddol.

Mae Cymwysterau Cymru wedi cynnal [ymgyngoriad cychwynnol](#) ynghylch y cymwysterau y bydd eu hangen ochr yn ochr â'r Cwricwlwm newydd i Gymru. Roedd yn canolbwyntio ar faterion lefel uchel, er enghraifft a ddylid cadw'r brand TGAU ac a oedd angen cymwysterau yn 16 oed o hyd. Mae Cymwysterau Cymru yn ymgymryd â gwaith datblygu pellach a bydd yn cynnal ymgyngoriadau ychwanegol yn y dyfodol ar egwyddorion dylunio manylach ar gyfer cymwysterau.

Llywodraeth y DU

Ar [7 Chwefror 2018](#), roedd dadl yn [Neuadd San Steffan](#) dan arweiniad Jim Sturdy AS wedi galw am gael TGAU mewn amaethyddiaeth yng Nghymru a Lloegr. Dadleuodd y byddai cwrs o'r fath yn helpu disgyblion TGAU feddu ar gymwysterau ar gyfer gyrfa mewn amaethyddiaeth, a chefnogi'r sector ffermio trwy ddarparu cronfa well a mwy o faint o weithwyr ifanc, addysgedig a medrus. Wrth ymateb, dywedodd Anne Milton, y Gweinidog Prentisiaethau a Sgiliau, fod nifer o bynciau a addysgir yng nghyfnod allweddol 4 ac yn gynharach yn cynnwys rhywfaint o wybodaeth greiddiol am gynhyrchu bwyd a'r amgylchedd.

At hynny, dywedodd y byddai cymhwyster 'lefel T' mewn amaethyddiaeth, yr amgylchedd a gofal anifeiliaid yn cael ei gyflwyno yn 2022. Yn Lloegr, mae Lefelau T yn gyrsiau newydd a fydd yn cychwyn ym mis Medi 2020. Mae nhw'n dilyn ymlaen o TGAU a byddant yn cyfateb i 3 Safon Uwch. Mae'r cyrsiau, sy'n 2 flynedd o hyd, wedi'u datblygu ar y cyd â chyflogwyr a busnesau er mwyn i'r cynnwys ddiwallu anghenion diwydiant a pharatoi myfyrwyr ar gyfer byd gwaith.

Methodd y Cynnig yn ystod y Dadl, a gohiriwyd yr eisteddiad heb i'r Cwestiwn gael ei ofyn.

Gogledd Iwerddon

Cyflwynodd Cyngor y Cwricwlwm, Arholiadau ac Asesu yng Ngogledd Iwerddon TGAU [mewn Amaethyddiaeth](#) yn 2013. Mae'r cymhwyster wedi'i ddiwygio i'w addysgu am y tro cyntaf o fis Medi 2019 ymlaen, ac mae'n cynnwys unedau ar Briddoedd, Cnydau a Chynefinoedd; Anifeiliaid ar y Tir; a Materion Cyfoes o ran Amaethyddiaeth a Defnydd Tir.

Gwneir pob ymdrech i sicrhau bod y wybodaeth yn y papur briffio hwn yn gywir adeg ei gyhoeddi. Dylai darllenwyr fod yn ymwybodol nad yw'r papurau briffio hyn yn cael eu diweddarau o reidrydd na'u diwygio fel arall i adlewyrchu newidiadau dilynol.



Eich cyf/Your ref: P-05-950
Ein cyf/Our ref: KW/00467/20
Janet Finch-Saunders AC
Cadeirydd
Y Pwyllgor Deisebau
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
Tŷ Hywel
Bae Caerdydd
Caerdydd
CF99 1NA

SeneddDeisebau@cynulliad.cymru

18 Mawrth 2020

Annwyl Janet,

Deiseb P-05-950 – Addysg Amaethyddol a Chefn Gwlad ar gyfer plant 4 i 16 yn ein hysgolion

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 9 Mawrth ynghylch deiseb a ddaeth gerbron eich Pwyllgor, yn cefnogi'r ddarpariaeth i addysgu am amaethyddiaeth a materion yn ymwneud â chefn gwlad o fewn y Cwricwlwm i Gymru. Rwy'n sylwi, o'r wybodaeth ychwanegol, fod pwyslais cryf yma ar godi ymwybyddiaeth o'r dulliau o gynhyrchu bwyd.

Mae cwricwlwm cenedlaethol presennol yng Nghymru yn darparu'r hyblygrwydd ar gyfer addysgu a dysgu am bynciau sy'n ymwneud ag amaethyddiaeth, yr amgylchedd a bwyd o fewn Addysg Bersonol a Chymdeithasol. Mae hyn yn cynnwys, er enghraifft, darpariaeth i alluogi dysgwyr i archwilio ystod eang o faterion sy'n ymwneud â chynaliadwyedd cynhyrchu bwyd, yn ogystal â'u cynorthwyo i ddatblygu sgiliau coginio ymarferol. Yn ogystal, drwy Ddylunio a Thechnoleg, mae dysgwyr yn gallu defnyddio ystod eang o sgiliau a thechnegau i gyflawni tasgau coginio ymarferol ac i ddatblygu dealltwriaeth o'r hyn sy'n gyfystyr â diet iachus a chytbwys.

Caiff y cyfleoedd hyn eu hehangu yn ein cwricwlwm newydd i Gymru, y cyhoeddwyd canllawiau diwygiedig ar ei gyfer ym mis Ionawr yn barod ar gyfer ei addysgu am y tro cyntaf o dan y fframwaith newydd hwn o fis Medi 2022.

Un o bedwar diben y cwricwlwm newydd yw bod dysgwyr yn symud ymlaen fel unigolion iach a hyderus. Un o nodweddion y diben hwnnw yw dysgwyr sy'n gallu defnyddio gwybodaeth am effaith bwyd a diet ar iechyd corfforol a meddyliol yn eu bywydau bob dydd.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

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CF99 1NA

Gohebiaeth.Kirsty.Williams@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

Tudalen y pecyn 76

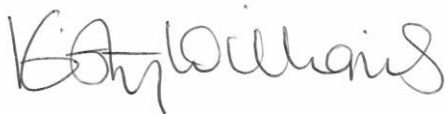
We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Bydd galluogi dysgwyr i ymgorffori'r pedwar diben yn hollol ganolog i gwricwlwm pob ysgol. Bydd y cwricwlwm newydd yn cynnwys chwe Maes Dysgu a Phrofiad ac mae'r rhai sy'n ymwneud ag Iechyd a Lles, y Dyniaethau a Gwyddoniaeth a Thechnoleg yn cynnwys dysgu ac arweiniad sy'n cefnogi dealltwriaeth dysgwyr o fwyd a'r broses o'i gynhyrchu. Mae'r cwricwlwm newydd yn caniatáu i ymarferwyr ddatblygu dull mwy integredig, gan ddod â gwahanol ddisgyblaethau a meysydd ynghyd i ystyried materion fel cynhyrchu bwyd, yn fwy holistaidd.

Mae hefyd yn bwysig ychwanegu y bydd gan ysgolion yr hyblygrwydd i benderfynu sut y gall eu cwricwlwm adlewyrchu eu cymdogaeth, eu cymuned a'r materion sy'n berthnasol i'w dysgwyr. Mae hyn yn debygol o arwain at fwy o ffocws ar amaethyddiaeth ac astudiaethau cefn gwlad, mewn rhai achosion. Mae canllawiau'r cwricwlwm newydd yn rhoi cymorth i ysgolion i dynnu ar ystod o ffactorau a chyd-destunau lleol wrth ddatblygu eu cwricwlwm, gan eu cefnogi i ddatblygu dysgu sy'n fwyaf perthnasol i'w dysgwyr.

Rwy'n gobeithio y bydd yr wybodaeth hon yn ddefnyddiol i'r Pwyllgor.

Yn gywir,



Kirsty Williams AC/AM
Y Gweinidog Addysg

Eitem 3.3

P-05-951 Gosodwch derfyn cyfreithiol ar uchafswm y geist bridio mewn sefydliadau bridio cŵn trwyddedig yng Nghymru

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Dinah Mulholland, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 229 lofnodion.

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Mae Rheoliadau Lles Anifeiliaid (Bridio Cŵn) (Cymru) 2014 wedi gosod y gofyniad i fridiwr â 3 gast fridio neu fwy gael trwydded fel sefydliad bridio. Fodd bynnag, ni osodwyd terfyn uchaf ar nifer y geist bridio y gellir eu cadw mewn sefydliad bridio cŵn trwyddedig.

Felly, mae sefydliadau bridio cŵn trwyddedig yng Nghymru sy'n bridio cŵn ar raddfa ddiwydiannol, gyda rhai sefydliadau'n drwyddedig i gael 90 neu 100 o eist bridio ar un safle. Hyd yn oed os caiff amodau trwyddedu eu bodloni yn y sefydliadau bridio torfol hyn, mae bridio cŵn ar raddfa mor ddiwydiannol yn arfer hynod amheus ac mae angen ei adolygu. Felly, mae'r ddeiseb hon yn gofyn i Lywodraeth Cymru gynnal ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus i ddiffinio terfyn uchaf ar nifer y geist bridio mewn cynelau bridio trwyddedig. Dylai'r ymgynghoriad hwn gynnwys adolygiad a yw cyhoedd Cymru a sefydliadau Cymru o'r farn bod bridio cŵn torfol yn dderbyniol. Mae angen i'r ymgynghoriad hefyd ystyried a yw'r awdurdodau trwyddedu lleol yng Nghymru wedi cyflawni eu gofyniad i archwilio a dirymu trwyddedau bridio cŵn lle y bo angen. Os ydym yn caniatáu bridio cŵn torfol, mae'n rhaid i Lywodraeth Cymru sicrhau bod awdurdodau lleol yn gorfodi amodau trwyddedu ac yn cyflawni eu rhwymedigaethau fel y'u gosodwyd yn Rheoliadau 2014.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd

- Ceredigion
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru

P-05-951: Gosodwch derfyn cyfreithiol ar uchafswm y geist bridio mewn sefydliadau bridio cŵn trwyddedig yng Nghymru

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau | 9 Mehefin 2020
Petitions Committee | 9 June 2020

Cyfeirnod: RS20/12390-1

Rhif y ddeiseb: P-05-951

Teitl y ddeiseb: Gosodwch derfyn cyfreithiol ar uchafswm y geist bridio mewn sefydliadau bridio cŵn trwyddedig yng Nghymru

Geiriad y ddeiseb: Mae Rheoliadau Lles Anifeiliaid (Bridio Cŵn) (Cymru) 2014 wedi gosod y gofyniad i fridiwr â 3 gast fridio neu fwy gael trwydded fel sefydliad bridio. Fodd bynnag, ni osodwyd terfyn uchaf ar nifer y geist bridio y gellir eu cadw mewn sefydliad bridio cŵn trwyddedig. Felly, mae sefydliadau bridio cŵn trwyddedig yng Nghymru sy'n bridio cŵn ar raddfa ddiwydiannol, gyda rhai sefydliadau'n drwyddedig i gael 90 neu 100 o eist bridio ar un safle. Hyd yn oed os caiff amodau trwyddedu eu bodloni yn y sefydliadau bridio torfol hyn, mae bridio cŵn ar raddfa mor ddiwydiannol yn arfer hynod amheus ac mae angen ei adolygu. Felly, mae'r ddeiseb hon yn gofyn i Lywodraeth Cymru gynnal ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus i ddiffinio terfyn uchaf ar nifer y geist bridio mewn cynelau bridio trwyddedig. Dylai'r ymgynghoriad hwn gynnwys adolygiad a yw cyhoedd Cymru a sefydliadau Cymru o'r farn bod bridio cŵn torfol yn dderbyniol. Mae angen i'r ymgynghoriad hefyd ystyried a yw'r awdurdodau trwyddedu lleol yng Nghymru wedi cyflawni eu gofyniad i archwilio a dirymu trwyddedau bridio cŵn lle y bo angen. Os ydym yn caniatáu bridio cŵn torfol, mae'n rhaid i Lywodraeth Cymru sicrhau bod awdurdodau lleol yn gorfodi amodau trwyddedu ac yn cyflawni eu rhwymedigaethau fel y'u gosodwyd yn Rheoliadau 2014.



Cefndir

Rheoliadau presennol sefydliadau bridio cŵn

Ar hyn o bryd, rheoleiddir bridio cŵn o dan [Reoliadau Lles Anifeiliaid \(Bridio Cŵn\) \(Cymru\) 2014](#) ('Rheoliadau 2014'). Mae Rheoliadau 2014 yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol bod angen trwydded ar fridwyr sy'n cadw tair gast fridio neu fwy, sy'n bridio tair torraid neu fwy o gŵn bach mewn cyfnod 12 mis, ac sy'n cyflenwi neu'n gwerthu cŵn bach o'r toreidiau hyn. Gorfodir Rheoliadau 2014 gan awdurdodau lleol. Disodlodd Rheoliadau 2014 [Ddeddf Bridio Cŵn 1973](#) yng Nghymru a chyflwynodd feini prawf lles manylach ar gyfer bridio cŵn.

Fel y mae'r ddeiseb yn nodi, nid oes terfyn uchaf ar nifer y geist bridio y gellir eu cadw mewn sefydliad bridio cŵn trwyddedig.

[Yn 2019, roedd](#) 260 o drwyddedau bridio cŵn ar waith yng Nghymru, ac roedd tair ohonynt ar gyfer mwy na 100 o eist bridio.

Pryderon ynghylch y Rheoliadau presennol

Bu galwadau i wella lles anifeiliaid mewn sefydliadau bridio cŵn ledled y DU. Yng Nghymru, bu apeliadau i Lywodraeth Cymru adolygu a chryfhau Rheoliadau 2014. Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys apeliadau gan [RSPCA Cymru](#), y [Kennel Club](#), a'r [Dogs Trust](#) ([PDF: 2.97MB](#)).

Cyfeiriodd ymatebwyr i ymgynghoriad Llywodraeth Cymru ynglŷn â [Gwerthu Cŵn a Chathod Bach drwy Drydydd Parti](#) (Chwefror 2019) at anallu awdurdodau lleol i ymchwilio'n briodol i sefydliadau bridio trwyddedig oherwydd diffyg adnoddau a hyfforddiant.

Cafwyd galwadau o'r newydd am ragor o reoliadau ar y sector bridio cŵn yn dilyn [rhaglen ddogfen gan y BBC](#) a dynnodd sylw at amodau gwael mewn rhai sefydliadau bridio.

Camau a gymerwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru

Yn dilyn rhaglen ddogfen BBC y cyfeiriwyd ati uchod, ym mis Hydref 2019 amlinellodd [Lesley Griffiths AC, Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig...](#) ('y Gweinidog') gamau gweithredu brys i reoleiddio'r diwydiant. Roedd hyn yn cynnwys comisiynu adolygiad o Reoliadau 2014 gan Grŵp Fframwaith Iechyd a Lles Anifeiliaid Cymru.

Cafodd y mater [ei drafod eto yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ar 29 Ionawr 2020](#). Ar ôl trafod adolygiad y Grŵp Iechyd a Lles Anifeiliaid, ymrwymodd y Gweinidog i ddeddfu yn

y maes hwn yn ystod y Cynulliad hwn. Fodd bynnag, ar adeg ysgrifennu hwn, mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ailflaenoriaethu ei rhaglen ddeddfwriaethol yn sgil ei hymateb i argyfwng y coronafeirws.

Comisiynodd Llywodraeth Cymru Grŵp Fframwaith Iechyd a Lles Anifeiliaid Cymru i adolygu Rheoliadau 2014 ddiwedd 2019. Cafodd [adroddiad y Grŵp](#) ei gyhoeddi ar 4 Mawrth 2020 ochr yn ochr â [datganiad ysgrifenedig gan y Gweinidog](#). Yn ei datganiad, ymrwymodd y Gweinidog i neilltuo cyllid pwrpasol i wella'r gwaith a wneir mewn perthynas â Rheoliadau 2014.

O ran yr uchafswm maint ar gyfer sefydliadau bridio, mae'r adolygiad yn nodi'r canlynol (tudalen 33):

The current regulations allow breeders to license any size of breeding operation, provided that the regulations, including the licence conditions, are met. All stakeholders agreed that socialisation and enrichment was difficult to undertake on a large scale in any dog breeding establishment. It has been reported to the group that there is very little evidence of successful socialisation and enrichment programmes being undertaken at large scale private breeding establishments. However, stakeholders hold different opinions on whether there should be a cap on the number of breeding animals at a single premise. Some stakeholders believe that the largest establishments have better welfare provision than some medium-sized establishments. Many stakeholders consider that staffing ratios, and effective socialisation and enrichment plans are of more importance than overall dog numbers.

R9. The group recommends that further research is necessary in order to determine whether there would be an animal welfare benefit to capping the number of breeding bitches, and the number of total dogs, housed at a single breeding establishment. Without this it is not possible to determine whether there should be a limit on breeding unit size, or what that limit should be.

Yn ei datganiad, dywedodd y Gweinidog y gallai rhai o'r argymhellion gael eu mabwysiadu o fewn cwmpas y ddeddfwriaeth bresennol ond y byddai angen rheoliadau newydd i weithredu eraill.

Mewn llythyr at y Pwyllgor Deisebau, ynglŷn â'r Ddeiseb hon, dywedodd y Gweinidog y canlynol:

Byddai angen newid deddfwriaeth er mwyn cyflawni'r camau a gaiff eu hawgrymu. Nodais yn glir yn fy Natganiad Ysgrifenedig fod yn rhaid mynd i'r afael â'r rhwystrau i orfodi y mae Awdurdodau Lleol yn eu hwynebu cyn cynnig diwygiadau i'r Rheoliadau Bridio presennol.

Mae nifer o argymhellion wedi deillio o'r adolygiad diweddar o Reoliadau Lles Anifeiliaid (Bridio Cŵn) 2014 a gynhaliwyd gan Grŵp Fframwaith Iechyd a Lles Anifeiliaid Cymru a bydd swyddogion yn mynd i'r afael â'r rhain yn awr.

Camau a gymerwyd gan Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

Mae'r Pwyllgor wedi cael sawl deiseb ynghylch lles anifeiliaid mewn sefydliadau bridio cŵn yn ystod y Cynulliad hwn:

- [P-05-915: P-05-915 Galwad am well gorfodaeth o ffermydd cŵn bach yng Nghymru.](#) Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Laura Clays, ar ôl casglu 112 o lofnodion;
- [P-05-939 Gosod embargo ar unwaith ar drwyddedau bridio cŵn newydd, ar adnewyddu trwyddedau ac ar geisiadau cynllunio nes bod y rheoliadau'n addas i'r diben a nes bod modd eu gorfodi.](#) Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan C.A.R.I.A.D., ar ôl casglu 1,738 o lofnodion;
- [P-05-951 Gosodwch derfyn cyfreithiol ar uchafswm y geist bridio mewn sefydliadau bridio cŵn trwyddedig yng Nghymru.](#) Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Dinah Mulholland ar ôl casglu 229 o lofnodion.

Holodd [Pwyllgor Newid Hinsawdd, yr Amgylchedd a Materion Gwledig](#) y Cynulliad y Gweinidog am y maes polisi hwn ddiweddaraf [yn ystod ei sesiwn graffu ar y gyllideb ddrafft \(2020-21\) ar 16 Ionawr 2020](#). Cydnabu'r Gweinidog y gallai fod oblygiadau ariannol ychwanegol i awdurdodau lleol wrth orfodi rhagor o reoliadau. Awgrymodd y gellid lliniaru hyn pe bai awdurdodau lleol yn cydweithio er mwyn manteisio i'r eithaf ar eu hadnoddau a'u harbenigedd. Cydnabu'r Gweinidog y gallai fod angen cyllid ychwanegol ar gyfer awdurdodau lleol yn y pen draw ar ôl i'r holl gyfleoedd eraill ddod i ben.

[Mewn ymateb \(PDF: 425KB\)](#) i [adroddiad y Pwyllgor ar y gyllideb ddrafft \(2020-21\) \(PDF: 254KB\)](#), cyfeiriodd y Gweinidog at brosiect cwmpasu sy'n cael ei gynnal gan yr awdurdodau lleol i benderfynu faint o adnoddau ychwanegol sydd eu hangen:

Mae swyddogion wedi cyfarfod â chynrychiolwyr yr Awdurdod Lleol i drafod rhwystrau i orfodi amaterion sy'n ymwneud â thrwyddedu sefydliadau bridio. Ynghyd â'r trafodaethau hynny, mae prosiect cwmpasu ar y gweill gan yr Awdurdodau Lleol i benderfynu pa adnoddau ychwanegol sy'n angenrheidiol i wneud y defnydd gorau o

strwythurau presennol a sicrhau dull cyson o drwyddedu sefydliadau bridio ledled Cymru.

Ar 12 Rhagfyr 2018 cynhaliodd y Cynulliad ddadl fer ynglŷn â bridio cŵn, pan ddadleuodd rhai o Aelodau'r Cynulliad fod arferion gwael o ran bridio cŵn yn anghymesur o uchel yng Nghymru.

Ers hynny, mae bridio cŵn wedi bod yn destun dadleuon yn y Cyfarfod Llawn saw! gwaith. Mae hyn wedi cynnwys galwadau gan Aelodau'r Cynulliad i Lywodraeth Cymru adolygu Rheoliadau 2014. Trafodwyd lles mewn sefydliadau bridio cŵn yn y Cyfarfod Llawn yn ddiweddar ar 29 Ionawr 2020. Anogodd yr Aelodau y Gweinidog i weithredu yn y maes polisi hwn a chyflwyno deddfwriaeth. Dywedodd y Gweinidog fod Llywodraeth Cymru yn ymchwilio i ffactorau sy'n rhwystro'r gwaith o orfodi'r Rheoliadau presennol a rhoddodd hefyd 'sicrwydd cadarn y bydd y ddeddfwriaeth honno yn ei lle yn y tymor hwn'.

Gwneir pob ymdrech i sicrhau bod y wybodaeth yn y papur briffio hwn yn gywir adeg ei gyhoeddi. Dylai darllenwyr fod yn ymwybodol nad yw'r papurau briffio hyn yn cael eu diweddarau o reidrwydd na'u diwygio fel arall i adlewyrchu newidiadau dilynol.



Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-951
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/00650/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AC
Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau

17 Mawrth 2020

Annwily Janet

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 9 Mawrth ynghylch Deiseb P-05-951 Gosod Terfyn Cyfreithiol ar Nifer Uchaf y Geist Bridio.

Byddai angen newid deddfwriaeth er mwyn cyflawni'r camau a gaiff eu hawgrymu. Nodais yn glir yn fy Natganiad Ysgrifenedig fod yn rhaid mynd i'r afael â'r rhwystrau i orfodi y mae Awdurdodau Lleol yn eu hwynebu cyn cynnig diwygiadau i'r Rheoliadau Bridio presennol. Heb wneud hyn ni fydd y rheoliadau newydd yn effeithiol.

Mae nifer o argymhellion wedi deillio o'r adolygiad diweddar o Reoliadau Lles Anifeiliaid (Bridio Cŵn) 2014 a gynhaliwyd gan Grŵp Fframwaith Iechyd a Lles Anifeiliaid Cymru a bydd swyddogion yn mynd i'r afael â'r rhain yn awr.

Gallwch weld yr adroddiad a'i argymhellion gan ddefnyddio'r ddolen isod:

<https://llyw.cymru/datganiad-ysgrifenedig-adolygu-rheoliadau-lles-anifeiliaid-bridio-cwn-cymru-2014>

Hoffem eich sicrhau nad ydym yn anwybyddu'r dystiolaeth sydd wedi'i chyflwyno. Rwy'n siwr eich bod yn cytuno bod yn rhaid i unrhyw newidiadau i'r deddfwriaeth neu unrhyw gamau gorfodi fod yn gymesur ac yn seiliedig ar dystiolaeth. Mae'n rhaid sicrhau nad oes unrhyw fylchau mewn unrhyw newidiadau rheoliadol yn y dyfodol a'u bod yn cyflawni'r hyn a fwriedir, a gall hyn gymryd amser.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
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Correspondence.Lesley.Griffiths@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Yn gywir

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley Griffiths". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping 'L' and 'G'.

Lesley Griffiths AC / AM

Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs

P-05-951 Impose a legal limit on the maximum number of breeding bitches in licensed dog breeding establishments in Wales – Petitioner to Committee, 01.06.20

Dear Petitions Committee

In response to the Minister's letter I would firstly like to say that I commend the comprehensive nature of the recent review of the Animal Welfare (Dog Breeding) Regulations 2014, by the Wales Animal Health and Welfare Framework Group, and welcome its recommendations.

At the time that I started the petition I was not aware that a review of the regulations was underway.

The only point I would like to make concerns Recommendation 9 in the review:

'...further research is necessary in order to determine whether there would be an animal welfare benefit to capping the number of breeding bitches, and the number of total dogs, housed at a single breeding establishment. Without this it is not possible to determine whether there should be a limit on breeding unit size, or what that limit should be.'

'R9. Further impact assessment, and examination of the evidence, should be carried out in order to determine whether there would be an animal welfare benefit to capping the number of breeding bitches, and the number of total dogs, housed at a single establishment.'

My petition calls for a public consultation to be held by Welsh Government on placing a cap on the number of breeding bitches in a single breeding establishment and I would like to stress that the views of the people of Wales, and particularly the views of residents in my region of West Wales - the heart of the puppy farming industry - are vital to this impact assessment and evidence gathering process. The residents of West Wales, who are in population terms possibly the largest group of 'stakeholders' here, have lived with the negative impacts of large-scale dog breeding for too long. This is evidenced by the number of locally raised petitions and their signatories in the West Wales area, and the number of planning objections to applications to build or expand large scale breeding establishments on the grounds of excess noise, environmental pollutants, and distress to the dogs. Our reputation as a region, and in a larger sense our reputation as a progressive nation, is soiled by this shameful activity.

Finally, I would like to say that the primary motivation of large-scale dog breeders is to make money. They create a market for puppies in order to do this. They will always find loopholes in regulation and legislation unless it is so cut and dried, so black and white, that there is no wiggle room. The pragmatic and humane solution, in my opinion, is to legislate to place a very low cap on the number of breeding bitches in any licensed breeding kennel. I think you will find that if the Welsh Government were to consult with the Welsh public on this proposal, they would agree.

Best wishes

Dinah Mulholland

P-05-953 Gwahardd poteli llaeth plastig defnydd untro mewn ysgolion

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan St Aidan's Church in Wales VA School, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 369 lofnodion.

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydyn ni, plant Ysgol Wirfoddol a Gynorthwyr yr Eglwys yng Nghymru Sant Aidan, yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i newid y ffordd rydyn ni'n defnyddio poteli llaeth plastig mewn ysgolion. Bob dydd yng Nghymru, rydym yn defnyddio oddeutu 300 cilogram o boteli llaeth plastig fel rhan o'r cynllun llaeth am ddim mewn ysgolion. Credwn ei fod yn portreadu barn negyddol o ran cynaliadwyedd, am fod mwy o bobl yn prynu mwy o blastig. Mae'n warthus faint o boteli plastig rydyn ni'n eu defnyddio.

Gwneir plastig allan o nwy naturiol, olew crai a glo. Rydym yn defnyddio tua 4,000 o boteli plastig bron bob blwyddyn ar gyfer y cynllun llaeth am ddim hwn. Rydyn ni am i chi wahardd poteli llaeth plastig defnydd untro mewn ysgolion. Rydyn ni'n awgrymu y dylai pob ysgol yng Nghymru brynu poteli mawr o laeth a'i arllwys i gwpanau plastig y gallwn eu defnyddio eto. Rydym yn defnyddio tanwyddau ffosil yn gyflymach nag y gallwn eu datblygu. Diolch i chi am ddarllen y ddeiseb hon ac am helpu'r wlad, gobeithio, i waredu ar y gwastraff hwn.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd

- Preseli Sir Benfro
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru

Gwahardd poteli llaeth plastig defnydd untro mewn ysgolion

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau | 9 Mehefin 2020
Petitions Committee | 9 June 2020

Cyfeirnod: RS20/12392-1

Rhif y ddeiseb: P-05-953

Teitl y ddeiseb: Gwahardd poteli llaeth plastig defnydd untro mewn ysgolion

Testun y ddeiseb: Rydyn ni, plant Ysgol Wirfoddol a Gynorthwyr yr Eglwys yng Nghymru Sant Aidan, yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i newid y ffordd rydyn ni'n defnyddio poteli llaeth plastig mewn ysgolion. Bob dydd yng Nghymru, rydym yn defnyddio oddeutu 300 cilogram o boteli llaeth plastig fel rhan o'r cynllun llaeth am ddim mewn ysgolion. Credwn ei fod yn portreadu barn negyddol o ran cynaliadwyedd, am fod mwy o bobl yn prynu mwy o blastig. Mae'n warthus faint o boteli plastig rydyn ni'n eu defnyddio.

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1. Cefndir

Mae plastigion untro, neu blastigion a deflir i ffwrdd, wedi'u dyfeisio i gael eu defnyddio unwaith, ac yna eu taflu neu eu hailgylchu. Maent yn cynnwys eitemau fel poteli plastig, gwellt yfed, cwpanau coffi a deunydd pecynnu bwyd brys. Amlygodd y sylw diweddar yn y cyfryngau, yn arbennig gan gyfres [Blue Planet II y BBC](#), faint o weddillion plastig sydd yn ein cefnforoedd o ganlyniad i'n harfer o 'daflu' pethau i ffwrdd. Amlygir effaith plastig untro ar yr amgylchedd morol gan y ffaith ei fod mor gyffredin mewn canlyniadau arolygon sbwriel ar ein traethau. Dangosodd [adroddiad glanhau traethau Prydain 2019](#) gan y Gymdeithas Cadwraeth Forol mai darnau o blastig a pholystyren yw'r eitemau sbwriel mwyaf cyffredin a geir ar draethau'r DU.

Mewn adroddiad yn 2018 gan Eunomia, a gomisiynwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru, ar opsiynau ar gyfer cyfrifoldeb estynedig cynhyrchwyr yng Nghymru, nodwyd bod poteli plastig yn cyfrif am 4.2 y cant (yn ôl pwysau) o'r holl sbwriel yng Nghymru. Roedd yr adroddiad yn modelu'r llifau gwastraff amcangyfrifedig ar gyfer cynwysyddion diodydd, gan amcangyfrif bod poteli plastig yn cyfrif am 29,629 tonnall o wastraff, gyda chyfradd ailgylchu amcangyfrifedig o 64.8 y cant.

Mae [cyfrifoldeb estynedig cynhyrchwyr](#) (EPR), fel y'i cyflwynwyd gan [Cyfarwydddeb Fframwaith Gwastraff yr UE](#), yn ffordd o annog cynhyrchwyr i ystyried cyfnod cylch oes cynnyrch ar ôl ei ddefnyddio drwy roi cyfrifoldeb iddynt gasglu, trefnu, trin a gwaredu ar y cynnyrch. Byddai defnyddio dull cyfrifoldeb estynedig cynhyrchwyr i gyflenwi llaeth ysgol yn golygu annog cynhyrchwyr i leihau gwastraff wrth ddyfeisio deunyddiau pecynnu.

Archwiliodd astudiaeth a wnaed gan WRAP Cymru yn 2019, yn [cymharu opsiynau pecynnu llaeth ar gyfer ysgolion cynradd](#), yr effaith amgylcheddol o ran allyriadau nwyon tŷ gwydr (NTG) a'r costau sy'n gysylltiedig â'r gwahanol fathau o ddeunydd pecynnu ar gyfer llaeth a gyflenwir i ysgolion mewn ardal beilot yn Sir Benfro. Roedd y mathau o ddeunydd pecynnu a archwiliwyd yn cynnwys:

- potel blastig (y fformat pecynnu presennol a ddefnyddiwyd fel gwaelodlin);
- potel wydr fel dewis amgen; a
- pergalau fel dewis amgen (storio llaeth mewn swmp mewn cynhwysydd sy'n ffitio mewn peiriant cyflenwi wedi'i oeri).

Canfu'r astudiaeth fod:

...poteli gwydr a phergalau yn cynnig arbedion cost o tua 15-20 y cant dros y poteli plastig a ddefnyddir ar hyn o bryd, a phergalau yw'r opsiwn mwyaf cost-effeithiol.

Wrth edrych ar effaith amgylcheddol y gwahanol fathau o becynnu, canfu'r astudiaeth fod 'agosrwydd y gadwyn gyflenwi yn cael dylanwad sylweddol', gan ddod i'r casgliad a ganlyn:

Pan fo effeithiau'r gadwyn yr un fath â'i gilydd, yna pergalau, wedyn poteli gwydr, sy'n cynnig yr effeithiau amgylcheddol lleiaf, gan arwain at arbedion posibl o 25-30 y cant mewn allyriadau NTG.

Dulliau mewn ysgolion

Awdurdodau lleol sy'n gyfrifol am gaffael llaeth (a'i ddeunydd pecynnu) ar gyfer ysgolion gan gyflenwyr.

Gall ysgolion sy'n rhan o'r cynllun llaeth am ddim mewn ysgolion gynnig llaeth am ddim i blant y Cyfnod Sylfaen a llaeth am bris gostyngol i ddisgyblion Cyfnod Allweddol 2. Yn y Cyfnod Sylfaen, mae'r Gymuned Ewropeaidd yn talu cymhorthdal ac mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn talu cymhorthdal atodol. O ran disgyblion Cyfnod Allweddol 2, mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn talu cymhorthdal mewn perthynas â chost llaeth ysgol ochr yn ochr â'r Gymuned Ewropeaidd. Gall ysgolion, awdurdodau lleol, cyflenwyr neu sefydliadau eraill hawlio'r cymhorthdal. Gall disgyblion cymwys gael hyd at 250 mililitr o gynnyrch llaeth cymorthdaledig ar gyfer pob diwrnod ysgol.

Gall cyflenwyr llaeth ysgol ddarparu llaeth i ysgolion mewn poteli mawr. Byddai'r ysgol wedyn yn ei ddsbarthu i ddisgyblion (mewn cwpanau), neu gellir ei ddarparu mewn dogneau unigol y gellir eu pecynnu mewn cartonau sydd yn aml â gwelltyn ynghlwm mewn llawes blastig, neu gall y cyflenwr ddarparu gwellt ar wahân.

2. Camau a gymerwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru:

Mewn [datganiad ysgrifenedig](#) ar 27 Medi 2017, dywedodd Lesley Griffiths AC, Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Amgylchedd a Materion Gwledig ar y pryd, "fel Llywodraeth, rydym yn derbyn bod angen gwneud mwy i wella ein cyfradd ailgylchu ymhellach ac i fynd i'r afael â sbwriel a'r materion sy'n gysylltiedig â chymdeithas a diwylliant 'taflu'. Er mwyn mynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn, awgrymodd mai'r nod fyddai "atal sbwriel rhag mynd i mewn i'r amgylchedd yn y lle cyntaf", ac i "werthfawrogi'r adnoddau hynny rydym ni'n eu cymryd yn ganiataol".

Mewn datganiad gan Lywodraeth Cymru a wnaed yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ar [8 Mai 2018](#), cyhoeddodd Hannah Blythyn AC, Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd ar y pryd, fod "Llywodraeth Cymru wedi llofnodi [cytundeb plastigau y DU WRAP](#)", sy'n ceisio dileu deunydd pacio untro erbyn 2025.

Ar 18 Mawrth 2020 cyhoeddodd Lywodraeth Cymru [ei bwriad i wahardd plastig untro](#) yng Nghymru, fel 'rhan o ddull ehangach, integredig o fynd i'r afael â phroblemau sy'n cael eu creu gan ormod o blastig a sbwriel mewn cymunedau'. Cadarnhaodd Hannah Blythyn AC, y Dirprwy Weinidog Tai a Llywodraeth Leol, y bydd ymgynghoriad ar y cynigion yn cael ei gynnal 'yn ystod y misoedd nesaf', a disgwylir i'r 'cyfyngiadau ddod i rym yn ystod hanner cyntaf 2021'.

Ynghyd â'r cyhoeddiad hwn, ar hyn o bryd, mae Llywodraeth Cymru'n [ymgyngori ar 'mwy nag ailgylchu'](#); sef strategaeth economi gylchol sy'n nodi cynigion sy'n cynnwys "symud tuag at ddyfodol diwastraff erbyn 2050". Lanswyd yr [ymgyngoriad](#) ar 19 Rhagfyr 2019, a bydd yn dod i ben ar 24 Ebrill 2020.

Mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi cyflwyno [Bil yr Amgylchedd 2020-21](#), sy'n deddfu mewn nifer o feysydd o fewn cymhwysedd Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru. Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys darpariaethau i gyflwyno cynllun cyfrifoldeb estynedig cynhyrchwyr diwygiedig; pwerau i reoleiddio ar gyfer safonau eco-ddylunio a gwybodaeth am effeithlonrwydd adnoddau ar draws ystod ehangach o gynhyrchion; ac yn darparu fframwaith ar gyfer cynllun dychwelyd ernes.

Gosododd Llywodraeth Cymru y [Memorandwm Cydsyniad Deddfwriaethol ar gyfer y Bil](#) gerbron y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ar 26 Chwefror 2020. Mewn perthynas â'r darpariaethau a wneir ar gyfer rheoli gwastraff EPR a phlastigau untro, mae Llywodraeth Cymru o'r farn bod y Bil yn 'gyfle amserol i symud ymlaen â nodweddion allweddol ei strategaeth economi gylchol'.

Wrth [ymateb i'r ddeiseb hon](#), dywedodd y Dirprwy Weinidog Tai a Llywodraeth Leol fod Llywodraeth Cymru:

... wedi bod yn siarad â phlant a phobl ifanc o bob cwr o Gymru fel rhan o'r ymgynghoriad ac mae sut yr ydym yn defnyddio plastig yn thema bwysig sydd wedi codi ledled y wlad.

Tynnodd sylw at y ffaith bod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi bod yn gweithio gyda WRAP Cymru ar yr astudiaeth a wnaed yn 2019, yn [cymharu opsiynau pecynnu llaeth ar gyfer ysgolion cynradd](#) (a drafodir uchod), ac anogodd y deisebwyr i rannu eu pryderon â Chyngor Sir Penfro, 'sy'n gyfrifol am benderfynu sut y caiff gwasanaethau eu darparu yn ei ardal'.

3. Camau a gymerwyd gan Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

Trafododd y [Pwyllgor Newid Hinsawdd, Amgylchedd a Materion Gwledig](#) yn fras y mater o ddisodli poteli llaeth plastig gyda gwydr fel rhan o ymchwiliad y Pwyllgor i [leihau gwastraff plastig](#). Tynnodd Mike Hedges AC, Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor, sylw at y '[symudiad enfawr i ffwrdd o wydr i blastig](#)' a gofynnodd a oedd hyn yn broblem. Wrth gyflwyno tystiolaeth, tynnodd David Jones o [Just One Ocean](#) sylw at [sut mae](#)

plastig wedi 'gwella ein bywydau yn ogystal â gwneud niwed', gan bwysleisio sut y mae angen cydbwysedd:

If you were to weigh up the cost of replacing all our plastic bottles with glass, you then have an increase in transportation of that product because of the increased weight. That's going to increase the amount of fuel you use and that's more emissions into the atmosphere

Mae'r Pwyllgor Deisebau wedi trafod deiseb debyg - P-05-822 gwahardd gwellt plastig (wrth yfed llaeth) yn ein hysgolion. Caewyd y ddeiseb ym mis Chwefror 2020 yn dilyn gohebiaeth gan WRAP Cymru a dynnodd sylw at fwriad Llywodraeth Cymru i gael gwared ar y defnydd o wellt plastig erbyn 2020.

Yn ogystal, mae'r Pwyllgor eisoes wedi trafod a chwblhau'r deisebau cysylltiedig canlynol, gyda'r nod o leihau gwastraff plastig:

- P-05-874 Gwahardd gwerthu nwyddau sydd wedi eu pecynnu mewn plastig untro ar wasanaethau Trafnidiaeth Cymru
- P-05-750 Ar gyfer eitemau untro: cyflwyno System Dychwelyd Ernes ar gyfer cynwysyddion diodydd a sicrhau y gellir compostio cynwysyddion bwyd cyflym a'r offer sy'n gysylltiedig â hwy;
- P-05-829 Gwahardd Eitemau Plastig Untro yng Nghymru; a
- P-05-847 Creu ffynhonnau dŵr yng nghanol dinasoedd a threfi er mwyn rhoi diwedd ar wastraff plastig.

Mae'r Pwyllgor ar hyn o bryd yn ystyried deiseb gysylltiedig P-05-803 Mae ein byd naturiol yn cael ei wenwyno gan blastigau untro... mae'n bryd cyflwyno treth!

Gwneir pob ymdrech i sicrhau bod y wybodaeth yn y papur briffio hwn yn gywir adeg ei gyhoeddi. Dylai darllenwyr fod yn ymwybodol nad yw'r papurau briffio hyn yn cael eu diweddarau o reidwydd na'u diwygio fel arall i adlewyrchu newidiadau dilynol.



Ein cyf/Our ref HB/00175/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AC
Cadeirydd, Pwyllgor Deisebau
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
Tŷ Hywel
Bae Caerdydd
Caerdydd
CF99 1NA
Government.Committee.Business@gov.wales

1 Ebrill 2020

Annwyl Gadeirydd,

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 9 Mawrth ar ran Pwyllgor Deisebau Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru ac Ysgol Wirfoddol a Gynorthwyr yr Eglwys yng Nghymru St Aidan's ynghylch y defnydd o boteli llaeth plastig mewn ysgolion. Gofynnwyd i mi eich ateb gan fy mod yn gyfrifol am wastraff ac ailgylchu.

Rwy'n croesawu'r ffaith bod gan bobl ifanc ddiddordeb yn y deunyddiau rydym yn eu defnyddio a'r modd y gallwn sicrhau bod adnoddau'n cael eu defnyddio am gyfnod mor hir â phosibl a hefyd yn falch eu bod yn barod i'n herio. Rydym wrthi'n ymgynghori ynghylch ein strategaeth newydd ar economi gylchol '*Mwy nag Ailgylchu*' sy'n amlinellu ein nod o sefydlu economi gylchol yng Nghymru, lle y caiff gwastraff ei osgoi a lle y caiff adnoddau eu defnyddio am gyfnod mor hir â phosibl. Mae gwahanol ddogfennau ar gael ar ein gwefan gan gynnwys fersiwn hawdd ei darllen a chyflwyniad y gallwch ei lawrlwytho.

Rydym wedi bod yn siarad â phlant a phobl ifanc o bob rhan o Gymru fel rhan o'r ymgynghoriad ac mae'r defnydd o blastig wedi bod yn thema bwysig sydd wedi cael ei chodi ganddynt.

Un o brif gamau gweithredu'r strategaeth yw lleihau'n raddol y defnydd o blastig untro ac rydym hefyd yn awyddus i sicrhau mai Cymru fydd y wlad gyntaf i beidio ag anfon unrhyw blasting i'w dirlenwi. Yn dilyn ymgynghoriad y llynedd rydym hefyd yn bwrw ymlaen â diwygiadau blaengar a fydd yn newid y modd yr ydym yn defnyddio, casglu ac aildefnyddio plastig drwy gyflwyno Cyfrifoldeb Estynedig Cynhyrchwyr ar gyfer pecynnu, Cynllun Dychwelyd Ernes ar gyfer cynhwysyddion diodydd a chyflwyno gwaharddiadau neu gyfyngiadau er mwyn lleihau'n raddol y defnydd o blasting diangen, untro sy'n cael ei daflu'n rheolaidd fel sbwriel.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
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Correspondence.Hannah.Blythyn@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

O safbwynt cyflwyno newid o ran y defnydd o boteli llaeth plastig mewn ysgolion, rydym wedi cydweithio â Wrap Cymru ar astudiaeth ymchwil sy'n ystyried y mater hwn yn benodol. Gallwch weld manylion y gwaith [yma](#). Gallai Ysgol Wirfoddol a Gynorthwyir yr Eglwys yng Nghymru St Aidan's hefyd ddymuno tynnu sylw Cyngor Sir Penfro at eu pryderon gan mai nhw sy'n gyfrifol am benderfynu sut y caiff gwasanaethau eu cyflenwi o fewn eu hardal.

Yn gywir,



Hannah Blythyn AC/AM

Y Dirprwy Weinidog Tai a Llywodraeth Leol
Deputy Minister for Housing and Local Government

ST AIDAN'S CHURCH IN WALES V.A. SCHOOL

Wiston, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 4PS
Telephone: 01437 731449
Email: admin.staidans@pembrokeshire.gov.uk
<http://www.st-aidans.pembrokeshire.sch.uk/>



Headteacher: Mrs. S. James

*Our school is a welcoming, warm hearted place and a bubble of trust where we can feel safe to talk to God and follow the Christian values. We are encouraged to become independent and confident in ourselves as well as in society. We are challenged to reach our highest potential and climb the ladder of life because we **'Believe and Achieve'**.*

Janet Finch-Saunders AM
Chair, Petitions Committee National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

1st June 2020

Dear Chair

Thank you for your email of 18th May 2020 asking for our views on the attached letter from Hannah Blythyn AM. The pupils are very proud that their petition will be considered, despite being very disappointed that they were not able to present it on the steps of the Senedd due to the lockdown.

I have explained the contents of the letter from Ms Blythyn and the findings from Wrap Cymru to the children through our digital learning platforms and have had responses from them which I have included in the points made below. The pupils welcomed the comments made by Ms Blythyn and can see she is clearly very supportive of the petition. They feel that their ideas and thoughts have been taken into consideration.

1. The pupils are extremely positive about Wales becoming the first country to send zero waste to landfill. They clearly understand how damaging it is to the environment and feel that this move would make Wales a *'great place'* and also *'it is amazing because anything to try and reduce global warming is an excellent idea'*.
2. They feel that a Deposit Return Scheme would be an excellent incentive to encourage people to recycle their waste and this is something that would have impact on the wider community, not just schools. In general, pupils are often more ecologically aware than adults as it is something that is discussed and taught on a regular basis.
3. They are very supportive of the applying a restriction on Single Use Plastics as hopefully in the future this will lead to *'no product [being] produced in a container'*

that can't be recycled'. This would certainly have an impact on schools. Many pupils bring water and food in plastic containers that are single use and through research they have found out that the extent to which all plastics can be recycled is limited. The pupils have previously made comments after inspecting rubbish in the school and after lunchtime and realise that although recycling facilities are available, they are not used consistently. They are also aware that only about a third of plastic pots are ever recycled and just over half of all plastic bottles.

4. The findings from Wrap Cymru were very interesting. Before lockdown, as a class we had investigated the potential of having a Pergyl unit in school to dispense milk. This was greeted by the pupils as an excellent idea. Discussion was had around the need for hygiene and the washing up of cups, but it was agreed that the extra time that was needed for this would be worth it. The pupils looked at the costs of purchasing a unit and were quite shocked. They appreciated that it was a one off cost, but also realised that as a small school, we run a very tight budget. The price of a unit equated to double the cost of classroom consumables for this last academic year. The pupils felt that in the interests of equality and fairness for all schools that the one off cost for purchasing a Pergyl unit should be met by the Welsh Government. Previously there had been a great debate in class on the introduction of glass bottles as this was something being trialled in other schools in the county. Looking at the findings from Wrap Cymru it was clear that transportation is the main cost when comparing all 3 systems in school. Given that Wales has a history of innovation in many industries, would making glass bottles be an area to develop with entrepreneurs, thus reducing transportation costs across the country?

Class 4 are fully appreciative of the support they have had for their petition as well as advice from Amber Lewis from the Assembly Commission Staff. They feel proud that their petition has reached its current stage and feel very excited that their views and ideas could be instrumental in changing policy in Wales.

I will certainly make the link to Senedd TV available to the children on 9th June so that they can see the final outcome of their petition.

Yours sincerely,



Wendy MacGarvie

Class Teacher and on behalf of all the pupils in class 4, St Aidan's Church in Wales VA School

P-05-957 Gorsaf yn Sanclêr – Cefnogwch y cais am orsaf drennau yn Sanclêr
Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Cyngor Tref St Clears, ar ôl casglu 562 o lofnodion ar lein a 582 ar bapur, sef cyfanswm o 1,144 o lofnodion.

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i argymhell Sanclêr i Network Rail fel lleoliad ar gyfer gorsaf reilffordd newydd yng Nghymru. Bydd Sanclêr a'r cymunedau cyfagos yn elwa'n fawr o ailagor yr orsaf reilffordd, bydd yr orsaf yn cau'r bwlch yn llinell Gorllewin Cymru a galluogi mwy o bobl i ddefnyddio'r trê'n. Credwn y byddai gorsaf yn Sanclêr yn dod â llawer o fuddion gan gynnwys cynhwysiant cymdeithasol, lleihau ôl troed carbon a mwy o dwristiaeth yn yr ardal.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd

- Gorllewin Caerfyrddin a De Sir Benfro
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru

Gorsaf yn Sanclêr – Cefnogwch y cais am orsaf drenau yn Sanclêr

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau | 9 Mehefin 2020
Petitions Committee | 9 June 2020

Cyfeirnod: RS20/12645-1

Rhif y ddeiseb: P-05-957

Teitl y ddeiseb: Gorsaf yn Sanclêr – Cefnogwch y cais am orsaf drenau yn Sanclêr

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i argymhell Sanclêr i Network Rail fel lleoliad ar gyfer gorsaf reilffordd newydd yng Nghymru. Bydd Sanclêr a'r cymunedau cyfagos yn elwa'n fawr o ailagor yr orsaf reilffordd, bydd yr orsaf yn cau'r bwch yn llinell Gorllewin Cymru a galluogi mwy o bobl i ddefnyddio'r trênn. Credwn y byddai gorsaf yn Sanclêr yn dod â llawer o fuddion gan gynnwys cynhwysiant cymdeithasol, lleihau ôl troed carbon a mwy o dwristiaeth yn yr ardal.

1. Y cefndir

Agorodd gorsaf Sanclêr yn sir Gaerfyrddin yn y 1850au ac roedd yn gwasanaethu tref Sanclêr nes i'r orsaf gau ym 1964 yn dilyn Adroddiad Beeching.

Yn wahanol i'r Alban, nid yw'r cyfrifoldeb dros seilwaith rheilffyrdd yn faes sydd wedi'i ddatganoli i Gymru. Yn hytrach, mae ariannu buddsoddiadau mewn



seilwaith rheilffyrdd a gweithrediadau Network Rail yng Nghymru a Lloegr yn fater i Ysgrifennydd Gwladol y DU dros Drafnidiaeth.

Er bod gan Llywodraeth Cymru bwerau i fuddsoddi mewn seilwaith rheilffyrdd, nid yw'n cael dyraniad grant bloc at y diben hwn ac mae'n cael ei hystyried yn "[hyrwyddwr trydydd parti](#)" ar gyfer prosiectau seilwaith. Serch hynny, mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi buddsoddi arian sylweddol yn y seilwaith rheilffyrdd ers datganoli.

Mae Llywodraeth y DU yn darparu cyllid trwy Network Rail i ariannu yn rhannol orsafoedd newydd yng Nghymru a Lloegr [drwy ei Chronfa Gorsafoedd Newydd](#). Ar hyn o bryd, mae £20 miliwn ar gael trwy Gronfa Gorsafoedd Newydd 3 sydd ar agor i unrhyw hyrwyddwr trydydd parti [sy'n bodloni amodau'r gronfa](#). Y dyddiad cau ar gyfer ceisiadau oedd 5 Mehefin.

Dyma drydydd iteriad y Gronfa Gorsafoedd Newydd. Cynhaliwyd y gystadleuaeth ar gyfer Cronfa 1 ym mis Ionawr a mis Chwefror 2013 ac ariannodd bum gorsaf, gan gynnwys Pye Corner yng Nghasnewydd. Cynhaliwyd y gystadleuaeth ar gyfer Cronfa 2 rhwng mis Awst a mis Tachwedd 2016, gyda gorsaf Bow Street yng Ngheredigion yn cael ei hariannu.

Bydd Cronfa 3 yn ariannu hyd at 75 y cant o gost cyfalaf adeiladu gorsafoedd newydd neu orsafoedd a gaewyd yn flaenorol. Bydd [nifer y gorsafoedd a ariennir](#) yn dibynnu ar faint ohonynt all ddangos eu bod yn darparu gwerth da am arian yn ogystal â'u cost.

Cyhoeddwyd Cronfa 3 [gan yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Drafnidiaeth](#) ym mis Ionawr 2020 fel rhan o gronfa ehangach "Adfer eich Rheilffyrdd" gwerth £500 miliwn i ysgogi gwrthdroi toriadau cyfnod Beeching.

2. Camau gweithredu Llywodraeth Cymru

Ymrwymodd [cynllun cyllid trafnidiaeth cenedlaethol \(CCTC\) 2015](#) Llywodraeth Cymru i ddatblygu meini prawf asesu a llunio "rhestr wedi'i blaenoriaethu o orsafoedd newydd i'w hystyried ymhellach". Nododd restr hir o 46 gorsaf bosibl, gan gynnwys Sanclêr.

Yn dilyn hynny, datblygodd Llywodraeth Cymru broses asesu tri cham, a ddisgrifiwyd mewn [llythyr ym mis Mehefin 2017 gan y Gweinidog dros yr Economi a Seilwaith ar y pryd at holl Aelodau'r Cynulliad](#) (PDF, 488KB).

Ym mis Awst 2019 rhoddodd y Gweinidog ddiweddariad ar y broses mewn ymateb i gwestiwn ysgrifenedig gan Mark Isherwood AS:

From an original list of 46 possible new stations considered by the assessment process, twelve were prioritised for stage 2 assessment and four of these 12 have been selected to be taken forward to a Stage 3 assessment. This will include undertaking a WelTAG Stage One Report, business case and Network Rail's Governance for Railway Investment Projects (GRIP) process.

Y pedair gorsaf a aeth ymlaen at y cam nesaf oedd: Carno (sir Drefaldwyn); Melin Trelái/Parc Victoria (Caerdydd); Parc Diwydiannol Glannau Dyfrdwy/Porth y Gogledd (sir y Fflint); a Sanclêr.

Wrth ymateb i gwestiwn ysgrifenedig gan Russell George AS ym mis Hydref 2019, nododd y Gweinidog fod cynnig Sanclêr yn cael ei ddatblygu trwy waith ar Fetro De-orllewin Cymru. Dyrannwyd cyllid ar gyfer hyn drwy'r Gronfa Drafnidiaeth Leol.

Mae Metro De-orllewin Cymru, neu Fetro Bae Abertawe yn y camau datblygu cynnar, gyda Thrafnidiaeth Cymru yn gweithio ar y cyd â Llywodraeth Cymru ac awdurdodau lleol perthnasol.

Mae'r llythyr sy'n ymateb i'r ddeiseb hon gan Ddirprwy Gyfarwyddwr Strategaeth a Pholisi Trafnidiaeth Llywodraeth Cymru at Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor yn rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y broses ddatblygu ar gyfer y gorsafoedd arfaethedig newydd:

Ysgrifennodd y Gweinidog at yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Drafnidiaeth ar 2 Mawrth ynglŷn â chyllid Llywodraeth y DU ar gyfer buddsoddi mewn "Adfer eich Rheilffordd". Eir ati yn y llythyr hwnnw i nodi blaenoriaethau Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer Cronfa Gorsafoedd Newydd 3 Llywodraeth y DU, sef Glannau Dyfrdwy, Carno, Sanclêr a Melin Trelái/Parc Victoria. Mae asesiad dichonoldeb arall wrthi'n cael ei gynnal ar bob un o'r rhain – asesiad o'r opsiynau datblygu ar gyfer Metro'r De-orllewin yn achos Sanclêr.

Yng ngoleuni'r ffaith bod y cyfnod ymgeisio a bennwyd gan Lywodraeth y DU yn un byr ac na ellid bod wedi rhagweld hynny – pennwyd dyddiad cau o 5 Mehefin – comisiynwyd Trafnidiaeth Cymru (TC) i wneud rhagor o waith asesu a gwerthuso annibynnol gyda'r nod o sicrhau ein bod, yn achos pob un o'r pedair blaenoriaeth sydd ar y rhestr fer, yn barod i gyflwyno cais. Mae'r Gweinidog wedi gofyn hefyd i'r adroddiad gynnis

atebion i'r problemau o ran amserlennu a materion eraill yn ymwneud â gweithredu a nodwyd gan y diwydiant rheilffyrdd hyd yma, a hynny oherwydd y bydd Llywodraeth y DU yn gofyn i'r diwydiant hwnnw fynegi barn am y ceisiadau a gaiff eu cyflwyno iddi.

Mae'r llythyr yn nodi y gwnaeth Trafnidiaeth Cymru ymgysylltu ag Aelod Seneddol yr etholaeth a Chyngor Tref Sanclêr ddechrau mis Ebrill. Aiff ymlaen i ddweud:

Mae'r cylch gorchwyl ar gyfer astudiaeth TC yn cynnwys gofyniad i ymgysylltu â rhanddeiliaid. O ran Sanclêr, dywedwyd wrth gynghorwyr annibynnol TC y dylid cynnwys y Cyngor Sir, Cyngor y Dref a chynrychiolwyr etholedig wrth wneud hynny.

3. Camau gweithredu Senedd Cymru

Trafodwyd cynigion ar gyfer gorsafoedd newydd yn gyffredinol, a Sanclêr yn benodol, yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ar sawl achlysur yn ystod y Pumed Senedd.

Yn fwyaf diweddar, ar 26 Chwefror 2020 ymatebodd Gweinidog yr Economi, Trafnidiaeth a Gogledd Cymru, Ken Skates, i gwestiwn gan Angela Burns AS ynglŷn â'r cynnig ar gyfer gorsaf Sanclêr, a gyfeiriodd at y ddeiseb hon. Dywedodd:

Gallaf roi sicrwydd i'r Aelod fy mod yn cefnogi'r cais ar gyfer gorsaf Sanclêr. Mae'n un o bedwar sydd ar y rhestr fer ledled Cymru am asesiad pellach ac enwebiad posibl fel blaenoriaeth ar gyfer buddsoddiad gan Lywodraeth y DU. Credaf y byddai o gymorth pe bai Llywodraeth y DU yn dangos ei bod yn barod i fuddsoddi mwy yn y seilwaith rheilffyrdd yng Nghymru, ac felly mae'r prosiect yn cael ei ddatblygu o dan raglen metro'r de-orllewin.

Mae'r Pwyllgor Deisebau hefyd wedi ystyried nifer o ddeisebau eraill sy'n galw am orsafoedd rheilffordd newydd neu ailagor gorsafoedd:

- Cynnwys gorsaf ar gyfer Mynachdy a Thal-y-bont fel Rhan o Unrhyw Cynnig ar Gyfer Metro Caerdydd (cwblhawyd ym mis Medi 2017);
- Ailagor Gorsaf Carno (cwblhawyd ym mis Gorffennaf 2018); a
- Ailagor gorsaf Drenau Crymlyn (cwblhawyd ym mis Tachwedd 2018).

Gwneir pob ymdrech i sicrhau bod y wybodaeth yn y papur briffio hwn yn gywir adeg ei gyhoeddi. Dylai darllenwyr fod yn ymwybodol nad yw'r papurau briffio hyn yn cael eu diweddarau o reidrwydd na'u diwygio fel arall i adlewyrchu newidiadau dilynol.

Adran yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth Department for Economy and Transport



Ein cyf/Our ref TO/KS/01442/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AS
seneddpetitions@cynulliad.cymru

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government
6 Mai 2020

Annwyl Janet Finch-Saunders AS

Diolch ichi am eich llythyr dyddiedig 2 Ebrill ynglŷn â Deiseb P-05-957 "Stop Nesaf Sanclêr" – Cefnogwch y cais am orsaf reilffordd yn Sanclêr.

O ystyried yr argyfwng presennol, a faint o ohebiaeth sy'n dod i law Gweinidog yr Economi, Trafnidiaeth a'r Gogledd, mae wedi gofyn imi anfon ateb atoch y tro hwn.

Ysgrifennodd y Gweinidog at yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Drafnidiaeth ar 2 Mawrth ynglŷn â chyllid Llywodraeth y DU ar gyfer buddsoddi mewn "Adfer eich Rheilffordd". Eir ati yn y llythyr hwnnw i nodi blaenoriaethau Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer Cronfa Gorsafoedd Newydd 3 Llywodraeth y DU, sef Glannau Dyfrdwy, Carno, Sanclêr a Melin Trelái/Parc Victoria. Mae asesiad dichonoldeb arall wrthi'n cael ei gynnal ar bob un o'r rhain – asesiad o'r opsiynau datblygu ar gyfer Metro'r De-orllewin yn achos Sanclêr.

Yng ngoleuni'r ffaith bod y cyfnod ymgeisio a bennwyd gan Lywodraeth y DU yn un byr ac na ellid bod wedi rhagweld hynny – pennwyd dyddiad cau o 5 Mehefin – comisiynwyd Trafnidiaeth Cymru (TC) i wneud rhagor o waith asesu a gwerthuso annibynnol gyda'r nod o sicrhau ein bod, yn achos pob un o'r pedair blaenoriaeth sydd ar y rhestr fer, yn barod i gyflwyno cais. Mae'r Gweinidog wedi gofyn hefyd i'r adroddiad gynnig atebion i'r problemau o ran amserlennu a materion eraill yn ymwneud â gweithredu a nodwyd gan y diwydiant rheilffyrdd hyd yma, a hynny oherwydd y bydd Llywodraeth y DU yn gofyn i'r diwydiant hwnnw fynegi barn am y ceisiadau a gaiff eu cyflwyno iddi.

Cyfarfu swyddogion Llywodraeth Cymru, ynghyd â Chadeirydd a Phrif Weithredwr TC, ag AS yr etholaeth a Chyngor Tref Sanclêr ar 3 Ebrill i drafod cam newydd yr astudiaeth, ac roedd y cyfarfod hwnnw'n un cadarnhaol iawn. Mae'r cylch gorchwyl ar gyfer astudiaeth TC yn cynnwys gofyniad i ymgysylltu â rhanddeiliaid. O ran Sanclêr, dywedwyd wrth gynghorwyr annibynnol TC y dylid cynnwys y Cyngor Sir, Cyngor y Dref a chynrychiolwyr etholedig wrth wneud hynny.

Hoffwn bwysleisio mai cyfrifoldeb Llywodraeth y DU yn unig yw buddsoddi o dan raglen y Gronfa Gorsafoedd Newydd, a'n bod yn falch iawn o gael cefnogaeth Cyngor Tref Sanclêr i sicrhau cyllid ar gyfer y cynigion y byddwn yn eu cyflwyno.

Yn gywir,

Dewi Rowlands

Dirprwy Gyfarwyddwr Strategaeth a Pholisi Trafnidiaeth

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Parc Cathays • Cathays Park
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

ETGovernmentBusiness@llyw.cymru
ETGovernmentBusiness@gov.wales



Y Bwyllgor Ddeisebau / Petitions Committee
Senedd Cymru
Caerdydd
CF99 1NA

28/05/2020

Annwyl Bwyllgor / Dear Committee,

Petition 1721 'Next Stop St Clears'

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a statement in support of the petition noted above. In total, the petition attracted 1144 supporters (562 online and 582 on paper). It is also worth noting that there are still some paper petitions remaining in the community. Unfortunately it hasn't been possible to collect all copies of the petition during lockdown, the true number of signatures is unknown but higher than the number reported above.

While it is acknowledged that the final decision on this matter will be taken by the UK Government, the community wished to demonstrate its support to the Welsh Government ahead of the NSF3 application deadline. As one of four shortlisted stations, I'm sure you will agree that a demonstration of support, and information regarding likely usage of a new station is crucial at this time. The petition was one part of a wider public engagement exercise. A report summarising the public engagement, carried out between February and March this year can be found on St Clears Town Council website.

<https://www.stclearstowncouncil.co.uk/2020/05/28/next-stop-st-clears-report/>

The report been sent to the Welsh Government, Transport for Wales, and the UK Government. It is hoped that the clear demonstration of support and potential

46 St David's Avenue, Caerfyrddin / Carmarthen, SA31 3DN
07468 456077; clerk@stclearstowncouncil.co.uk

economic, environmental, and social benefits of a station will be conveyed in the NSF3 application to Network Rail.

Your support in this matter, would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely



Emma Smith
Town Clerk

46 St David's Avenue, Caerfyrddin / Carmarthen, SA31 3DN
07468 456077; clerk@stclearstowncouncil.co.uk

Eitem 4.1

P-05-798 Gwasanaethau cymorth i ddynion sy'n ddioddefwyr trais yn y cartref i gael eu rhedeg a'u cyllido'n annibynnol

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan FNF Both Parents Matter Cymru ac ystyriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor yn ystod Chwefror 2018, ar ôl casglu 138 o lofnodion ar-lein.

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Gwasanaethau cymorth i ddynion sy'n ddioddefwyr trais yn y cartref i gael eu rhedeg a'u hariannu yn annibynnol ar Gymorth i Fenywod Cymru a'r holl fudiadau cysylltiedig.

Y diffiniad traws-lywodraethol o drais a cham-drin yn y cartref yw: "Unrhyw ddigwyddiad neu batrwm o achosion o ymddygiad, trais neu gamdriniaeth sy'n rheoli, yn gorfodi, yn bygwth, rhwng pobl 16 oed neu hŷn sydd, neu sydd wedi bod, yn bartneriaid agos neu'n aelodau o'r teulu, waeth beth fo'u rhyw neu rywioldeb."

Gall Cam-drin yn y Cartref effeithio ar unrhyw un. Mae mwy o ddioddefwyr/goroeswyr gwrywaidd yn chwilio am help, cyngor, cymorth a diogelwch nag erioed o'r blaen. Mae'n bwysig bod dioddefwyr gwrywaidd yn haeddu cymorth a chyllid annibynnol gan grwpiau penodol o ran rhywedd fel Cymorth i Fenywod Cymru a grwpiau cysylltiedig.

Mae dioddefwyr/goroeswyr gwrywaidd yn haeddu cymorth/help sy'n benodol i'w hanghenion, tra'n parhau i gynnal eu hurddas, a rhoi diogelwch iddynt hwy a'u plant sy'n gyfartal ac yn debyg i'r hyn y mae menywod yn ei dderbyn ar hyn o bryd.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol

Mae'r ystadegau Cam-drin yn y Cartref cyfredol ledled Cymru a Lloegr yn nodi y bydd Cam-drin yn y Cartref yn effeithio ar 1 o bob 4 menyw ac 1 o bob 6 dyn yn ystod eu hoes.

Mae Cam-drin/Trais yn y Cartref yn broblem a all effeithio ar unrhyw un, felly oni ddylem fod yn:

"Rhoi pobl a'u plant yn gyntaf."

Nid oes mwy o fwlch o ran argaeledd gwasanaethau a chymorth yn seiliedig ar ryw person yn unig ar draws Cymru a'r DU.

Mae angen i agweddau newid oherwydd ni ddylai neb (a'u plant) barhau heb ddiogelwch a chymorth mewn modd mor gyhoeddus a chywilyddus oherwydd eu rhyw yng Nghymru, yn yr oes sydd ohoni.

Cefnogwch hyn i helpu i gefnogi eraill.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd

- Pen-y-Bont ar Ogwr
- Dwyrain De Cymru

10th March 2020

RE: YML/FW: P-05-798 Correspondence from the Chair of the Petitions Committee

The Safer Wales Dyn project is the only dedicated service that provides the following for Gay, Bisexual, Heterosexual and Transgender men who experience domestic abuse and/or sexual violence in Wales;

- Dedicated Dyn Wales Helpline and Independent Advisor Service
- Awareness raising and training

The Safer Wales Dyn project receives referrals to the project which include the following;

- Police
- Self referrals
- Housing
- Third Sector organisations
- Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence sector

All men accessing the Safer Wales Dyn project are assessed according to; risk of harm from domestic abuse and sexual violence levels, emotional support, wellbeing, signposting to agencies and advocating for men who experience domestic abuse and sexual violence.

The Safer Wales Dyn project only works with men and does not support women who experience domestic abuse and sexual violence. Safer Wales does not currently deliver a dedicated Wales helpline and Independent Advisor Service to women.

In line with the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act, all people accessing Safer Wales Services who disclose domestic and/or sexual violence will be supported and appropriately referred to relevant multi-agency safeguarding and support services, such as MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference) or SARC (Sexual Assault Referral Centre) following agreed assessment, such as Safe Lives DASH/RIC (Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment Risk Indicator Checklist).

Simon Borja
Director of Project Development
Safer Wales



**61 Cowbridge Rd East
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CF11 9AE
paul@fnf-bpm.org.uk**

P-05-798 – Male domestic violence victim support services to be independently run & funded

RESPONSE FROM FNF BOTH PARENTS MATTER CYMRU TO SAFER WALES SUBMISSION

We thank the Committee for their interest in these important and difficult issues for male victims of domestic violence and abuse.

We believe that male victims of domestic violence and abuse are being failed by Welsh Government, Local Authorities and service deliverers who adopt a perspective that marginalises or denies the experience of men and funds ‘support’ that is not grounded in the experience of men. Welsh Women’s Aid rightly campaign for services that are ‘by and for’ women – grounded in their experience and responsive to their needs as women.¹ We understand and support the need for women only services – primarily because evidence shows that this is what women experiencing abuse want. However, in relation to male victims the National Quality Service Standards for specialist Domestic Abuse Services (funded by Welsh Government) states that:

1.9. Services for male service users are tailored to their needs and are delivered safely, using a recognised assessment tool to review risk and needs, which is aligned with the Safer Wales Dyn Project assessment toolkit or ‘Respect Toolkit for work with male victims of domestic violence’ and associated standards for supporting male victims.

This is a different approach to that stipulated for female service users.

We note the response from Safer Wales – a member organisation of Welsh Women’s Aid²
The assessment process used by Safer Wales for men is fundamentally different to that used

¹ https://www.welshwomensaid.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Welsh-Womens-Aid_Service-Standards-Final.pdf p7

² <https://www.welshwomensaid.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Annual-Membership-Report-2018-19-FINAL.pdf> p2 footnote



by themselves and other member organisations of Welsh Women's Aid with female service users presenting as victims of VAWDASV.

The Dyn Project assessment tool seeks to determine the extent to which an individual is a 'genuine' victim of abuse on a continuum from pure victim to pure abuser with bi-directional violence at the mid point. It does this by asking individuals accessing their service a series of around 40 questions about their experience. These questions include a set asking the caller to reflect upon the answers that their 'partner' or alleged abuser might give. We know of no assessment tool used with female victims that uses a similar approach.

Safer Wales do not explain to callers that their assessment tool is used to determine whether or not they are 'genuine' victims of domestic abuse. We believe therefore that any consent granted by callers to process their information is not a valid consent. It is our view that the Safer Wales Dyn Project assessment tool discriminates against men seeking help and support. The Safer Wales Dyn project is funded by Welsh Government to provide a service to male victims of domestic violence and abuse.

There is no external assessment or validation of the use of the assessment tool. This was confirmed by James Rowlands, who developed the tool, in an email recorded by Dr Sarah Wallace in her PhD thesis³

Mrs Anne O'Regan – Vice Chair of our charity raised the discriminatory practice of the Safer Wales Dyn Project assessment tool with the Equality and Human Rights Commission. Their initial response was:

'It is our view that the practice of screening men is unlikely to amount to direct discrimination because of sex.it is our view that there is a material difference in circumstances between a man and a woman seeking support from a similar helpline. Women constitute the overwhelming majority of victims of domestic abuse and it is not possible to rely on this statistical probability when dealing with complaints from men. In our view, it is not possible to make a 'like for like'

³ https://pure.southwales.ac.uk/files/2792531/Sarah_Wallace_PhD_thesis_May18.pdf Appendix 39 p558



comparison in the context of the screening of male / female callers which will make it difficult to establish less favourable treatment because of sex.’⁴

This position was later overturned – with the assistance of Mark Drakeford AM – the constituency Member for Mrs O’Regan – following the EHRC decision to commission an external independent legal opinion.

In later correspondence from EHRC to Mark Drakeford AM it was stated:

‘The question we asked Counsel to consider is whether screening male, but not female, callers to domestic violence services constitutes direct discrimination.

I am writing to advise that we have now received that advice. Counsel’s advice is that screening male only callers to domestic violence helplines does constitute direct discrimination so we have revised our initial view about the legality of these policies and will be writing to the service provider.’⁵

We understand that the Safer Wales Dyn Project continues to use the discriminatory assessment tool with male callers relying on the fact that the service only engages with male callers and therefore cannot technically be in breach of s13 of the Equality Act 2010 because it does not provide an equivalent service to women. This is an important point and may indicate why in the response from Safer Wales they seek to point out to the Committee that:

‘Safer Wales does not currently deliver a dedicated Wales helpline and Independent Advisor Service to women.’

The purpose of this Petition was to draw into question the appropriateness of funding organisations grounded in a feminist perspective to provide support directly to male victims of abuse. The Welsh Government legislated in 2015 to Domestic Violence and abuse is a gendered issue. In that context it is difficult to understand why organisations grounded in a feminist perspective are felt to be appropriate as a service deliverer to male victims of domestic violence and abuse.

⁴ Extract from letter dated 5th April 2017 to Mark Drakeford AM from EHRC Wales

⁵ Letter from EHRC to Mark Drakeford AM dated 26th October 2017



In the delivery of our dedicated domestic violence support service for men – Aegis DV – we are increasingly seeing men being signposted or directed to feminist organisations for help and support. Two specific examples in the last week of May 2020 involve men being contacted by Welsh Women’s Aid member organisations – both of whom have attained the WWA Quality standard – following a referral from a statutory agency. Neither service explained that they were a member organisation of WWA nor that their ethos is feminist. Both have been awarded the WWA Quality Standard that requires that ***‘The organisation promotes a gendered understanding of domestic abuse as a cause and consequence of women’s inequality in all its publicity and promotional material.’***⁶

We therefore call on the Petitions Committee to hold the Welsh Government to account in the commissioning of services for men and women who experience domestic violence and abuse by ensuring that men are treated in an equal and appropriate way – based on the level of need - ensuring that funding to support male victims is only granted to organisations that can provide a service that is grounded in the experience of men and delivered by men. This is no more than any women should expect from services commissioned to support her.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Apreda".

NATIONAL MANAGER, BOTH PARENTS MATTER / IDVA, AEGIS DV

⁶ https://www.welshwomensaid.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Welsh-Womens-Aid_Service-Standards-Final.pdf standard 7.2

P-05-882 – Trawsnewid yr ymateb i bobl hŷn sy'n dioddef camdriniaeth ddomestig – galw am weithredu

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Sarah Wydall, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 125 lofnodion.

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i:

- godi ymwybyddiaeth ymhlith y cyhoedd, sefydliadau'r trydydd sector ac asiantaethau statudol o nifer y menywod a'r dynion hŷn yng Nghymru sy'n dioddef camdriniaeth ddomestig gan aelodau'r teulu, a
- sicrhau bod lefelau hanfodol o gefnogaeth a diogelwch ar gael i bobl hŷn sy'n dioddef camdriniaeth o'r fath.

Camdriniaeth ddomestig yn ddiweddarach mewn bywyd: 'Diystyru, anweledig ac anwybyddu'

Mae diffiniad y DU gyfan o gamdriniaeth ddomestig, ni waeth beth yw oedran yr unigolyn, fel a ganlyn: 'Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over, who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass but is not limited to the following types of abuse – psychological, physical, sexual, financial, emotional and as a result of neglect'.

Amcangyfrifir bod cyfanswm nifer y bobl hŷn yng Nghymru sy'n dioddef camdriniaeth ddomestig yn 40,000. Yn aml, mae camdriniaeth ddomestig pobl 60 oed neu hŷn, sy'n byw yn eu cartrefi eu hunain, yn ffenomen sydd wedi'i chamddeall, sy'n cael ei hanwybyddu ac nad yw'n cael ei chydabod, sydd ag effeithiau eang ar eu bywydau. Yn aml, ni ddefnyddir delweddau o bobl hŷn mewn ymgyrchoedd cyhoeddus ynghylch camdriniaeth ddomestig. Mae'n anodd i ddynion a menywod hŷn nodi eu hunain fel dioddefwyr posibl o gamdriniaeth ddomestig.

Mae'r mater wedi'i esgeuluso mewn polisi ac arfer o'i gymharu â grwpiau oedran eraill.

- Nid oedd yr Arolwg Trosedd ar gyfer Cymru a Lloegr yn cynnwys ystadegau ynghylch camdriniaeth ddomestig ar gyfer y rheini dros 59 oed, hyd at fis Ebrill 2017, pan gynyddwyd y terfyn oedran ar gyfer y sawl sy'n cymryd rhan yn yr arolwg i 74 oed (Y Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol, 2017) .
- Mae pobl hŷn â dementia mewn perygl uwch o gamdriniaeth oherwydd eu gallu diffygiol i geisio cymorth, eiriol drostynt eu hunain neu dynnu eu hunain o sefyllfaoedd a allai fod yn gamdriniaeth.
- Mae anabledd hefyd yn cynyddu'r tebygolrwydd y bydd rhywun yn dioddef camdriniaeth.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:

A yw pobl hŷn yn ceisio cymorth?

Mae gwaith ymchwil yn dangos bod pobl hŷn yn llai tebygol o roi gwybod am gamdriniaeth na grwpiau oedran iau; nid ydynt yn defnyddio gwasanaethau arbenigol y trydydd sector ac maent hefyd eisiau cymorth i'r un sy'n cam-drin.

Ar lefel unigolyn efallai y bydd llawer o resymau pam nad yw pobl hŷn yn ceisio cymorth:

- Teimlad camsyniol eu bod rhywsut yn gyfrifol am y gamdriniaeth;
- Ofn ôl-effaith gan y tramgwyddwr;
- Lefel uwch o ddibyniaeth emosiynol, ariannol a chorfforol ar eu tramgwyddwr na'u cymheiriaid iau;
- Nid ydynt eisiau troseddu'r un sy'n cam-drin, a allai fod yn blentyn neu'n wŷr neu'n wyres.

Ar lefel fwy sefydliadol, mae rhwystrau i geisio cymorth yn cynnwys y canlynol:

- Gall ffactorau o ran cenhedlaeth, gan gynnwys syniadau o breifatrwydd sy'n ymwneud â'r cartref a pherthnasoedd agos, fod yn rhwystr i geisio cymorth. (Zink et al, 2004, 2005).

- Mae ein gwaith ymchwil yn dangos nad yw'r gwasanaethau presennol yn addas ar gyfer dioddefwyr hŷn. Yn aml, caiff gwasanaethau eu teilwra i symud y goroeswr sy'n dioddef i ffwrdd o'r un sy'n cam-drin drwy adleoli o'r cartref teuluol a'r gymuned.

- Mewn sawl achos, mae pobl hŷn sy'n dioddef eisiau cynnal perthynas â'r person sy'n cam-drin, yn enwedig os mai plentyn neu wŷr neu wyres sy'n oedolyn sy'n cam-drin. (Gwaith ymchwil gan SafeLives yn 2016 a Sprangler & Brandl, 2007).

- Mae'r rhai sy'n gwneud penderfyniadau yn aml yn gweld pobl hŷn fel grŵp o oedolion unffurf sy'n agored i niwed na allant wneud eu penderfyniadau eu hunain. (Harbison, 2012).

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd

- Ceredigion
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru

Jane Hutt AC/AM
Y Dirprwy Weinidog a'r Prif Chwip
Deputy Minister and Chief Whip



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref JH-/00111/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AM
Chair, Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Dear Janet,

22 February 2020

Thank you for your latest letter of 12 February relating to petition P-05-882 Transforming the response for older people experiencing domestic abuse – a call for action. I have outlined responses to both your requests below.

Members requested that my officials directly engage with petitioners, Dewis Choice in relation to training and service provision. I have asked my officials to make direct contact with Dewis Choice representatives and I am informed introductions have been made. I am confident that mutual priorities can be agreed through direct engagement and discussion.

I'm also assured that VAWDASV officials have been engaged with the work of Dewis Choice indirectly, with attendance at the 'Transforming the Response to Domestic Abuse in Later Life' launch event this month.

Members of the Committee also enquired about funding allocations of outreach services available for victims of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence (VAWDASV). The Housing Support Grant supports vulnerable people over the age of 16 to address the, sometimes multiple, problems they face, such as debt, employment, tenancy management, substance misuse, violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence, and mental health issues. The Grant is disseminated to local authorities and through local needs assessments and needs-led commissioning to develop a Housing Support Programme (HSP) Strategy every four years.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Gohebiaeth.Jane.Hutt@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Jane.Hutt@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

Tudalen y pecyn 116

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Through the Housing Support Grant in 2018-19 we provided £9,808,784 to fund support to victims of VAWDASV, this amounted to 1,397 units of support, 73% of these units (1020) were dedicated to Outreach support for victims of VAWDASV.

We also provided £10,018,187 of housing-related support for older people provision (over 55), a total of 14,316 units of support was offered and 50.6% of these units (7,248) were dedicated to outreach support for older people provision.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 ('the Act') shares seven well-being goals detailing the ways in which public bodies must work, and work together to improve the well-being of Wales and to create a more equal Wales. This goal is supported through the VAWDASV National Strategy, where we have committed to provide victims with equal access to appropriately resourced, high quality, needs led, strength based, gender responsive services across Wales.

I hope this reassures you that needs led commissioning of Services is happening throughout Wales.

I also wish to update the Committee on equipping staff in VAWDASV specialist services with appropriate skills, knowledge and confidence to respond to older victims of domestic abuse. I referred to this in my previous response to you on 3 December 2019.

We have commissioned a four-day specialist course, 'Responding to Older People Affected by Domestic Abuse' through our National Training Framework. The course is due to begin next month and will improve specialist workers' understanding of the particular forms of abuse that older people can experience and the best ways of providing support in order to create an age-inclusive service.

Best Wishes



Jane Hutt AC/AM

Y Dirprwy Weinidog a'r Prif Chwip
Deputy Minister and Chief Whip

P-05-882 Transforming the response for older people experiencing domestic abuse – a call for action, Correspondence – Petitioner to Committee, 18.03.20

Thank you for email and attached documentation outlining Jane Hutt's AC/AM response to our community-led petition, **P-05-882 Transforming the response for older people experiencing domestic abuse – a call for action.**

Dewis Choice is a practice-based Welsh initiative designed and implemented by older people to deliver support to older victims –survivors of domestic abuse. The Initiative provides the first dedicated service for all older people aged 60 years and over; it provides the first global longitudinal study of older people's help seeking and justice seeking in the context of coercive control.

Since 2012, our work in communities and our research has identified that there are insufficient specialist services available in Wales to ensure equality in provision to support and protect older people. The responses available are also not equipped to address older male victim-survivors, older LGBTQ+ groups and the most high-risk group where domestic abuse co-exists with a diagnosis of dementia.

The Dewis Choice community engagement programme, involving nearly five thousand people in the last four years, provides evidence that older people do not feel current services are suitable for them because awareness-raising material, guidance, risk assessments and service provision is aimed as younger women with families.

The response by Jane Hutt AC/AM discusses the following areas:

1. VAWDASV Officials engagement with Sarah Wydall and the team from Dewis Choice;
2. Funding allocations of outreach services available for victims of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence (VAWDASV);
3. The additional fund for housing support provision aimed at older people;
4. The VAWDASV 2015 Strategy and the National Training Framework, including Ask and Act
5. Appropriately resourced , high quality need led, strengths based, gender responsive services cross Wales
6. The initial funding for training ' Responding to Older People affected by Domestic Abuse'

We will take the opportunity to respond to the six areas above identified by the Deputy Minister. We propose a transformative response is required based on our extensive knowledge both in terms of our practice and research evidence in Wales and globally and the stakeholder response to the community-led Dewis Choice service. We are concerned that none of the six points provides evidence of an appropriate level of service provision and the training will not address the significant gap in responses for older victim-survivors, who are more at risk of harm than other age groups from domestic abuse, because of the service, guidance and policy gaps.

1. VAWDASV Officials engagement with Sarah Wydall and the team from Dewis Choice

Amy Jones, a Senior Policy lead representing the VAWDASV team, attended the launch event, ' Transforming the Response to Domestic Abuse in Later Life,' held in Cardiff on

19th February 2020 and offered to meet with Sarah Wydall and the team to discuss how the learning from Dewis Choice can be embedded into VAWDASV work. We welcome this meeting as a positive step forward. However, the Dewis Choice pilot service ends in June 2020, which will leave the 122 clients and their family members without the vital support they have experienced through engagement with the service. Referrers?

2. Funding allocations of outreach services available for victims of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence (VAWDASV).

Clients engaging with the Dewis Choice service have reported a significant lack of access to appropriate specialist outreach domestic abuse services. There is limited availability of one to one support, particularly for those who require a home visit due to additional needs. Recovery programmes are often designed for younger women in heterosexual relationships and involve attending group sessions. Older women who have attempted to engage with group recovery programmes have reported that they are not relevant to their needs or circumstances. Whilst others have reported being advised by services that the programmes are no appropriate to them. There are also no current recovery programmes designed for older males and older people who are LGBTQ+ or those where domestic abuse and dementia co-exist.

3. The additional fund for housing support provision aimed at older people.

Housing related support for older people - With the exception of a minority, the majority of clients engaging with Dewis Choice are unable to use Refuge, as Refuge does not meet a range of complex needs associated with people aged 60 years and over. Furthermore, older victim-survivors who are owner-occupiers face additional barriers, including having to fund a Refuge space whilst keeping up payments on jointly owned property. In addition, leaving their homes poses the risk of not being able to regain access to a jointly owned property or personal belongings while the perpetrator is still in residence.

4. The VAWDASV 2015 Strategy and the National Training Framework, including Ask and Act.

'The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 ('the Act') shares seven well-being goals detailing the ways in which public bodies must work , and work together to improve the well-being of Wales and to create a more equal Wales. This goal is supported through the VAWDASV National Strategy, where we have committed to provide victims with equal access to appropriately resourced, high quality, needs led, strengths based, gender responsive services across Wales.' Section 4 of the Act: Equality of Health outcomes, signposts resources and provision in relation to improving the VAWDASV response. Resources include a 'Manual for Health Managers' and the 'Ask me' Scheme and 'Trusted Professionals' that form part of the Welsh Women's Aid 'Change that Lasts' programme.

However, there is very limited provision of specialist training around identifying, appropriately risk assessing and supporting older victim-survivors of domestic abuse with the exception of Dewis Choice. **Older men** the 'Manual for health managers' explicitly states the guidance does not include a response to male victim-survivors of domestic abuse; thus the response excludes older men. Older men comprise a third of our client

base. In later life, there is a higher prevalence of male victims comprising 25% of cases (Smith et al (2012) and Clarke et al., (2012) Our previous research (Clarke et al., 2015) shows that older men are less likely to disclose abuse and more likely to tolerate abuse for longer. Our current longitudinal study also confirms this fact, as male clients do not feel able to access current VAWDASV services and tend to form a higher risk group within our client base as they have delayed help seeking for many years.

Non engagement with current VAWDASV services We have strong evidence from a decade of research focussing on domestic abuse and older people, and from running our dedicated service for older people that our clients do not engage with VAWDASV support for a range of reason outlined in our previous responses. Instead, older people are 'welfarised' and referred into social care routes. Our Pan Wales study (2015), indicated that practitioners in 21 out of 22 local authorities may not recognise domestic abuse occurring in older people, especially when it is adult family violence or involves a female perpetrator and a male victim-survivor. When reviewing more generalist training, it is worth noting that the Auditor General for Wales Report (2019) highlighted that the training rolled out under the Social Services and Wellbeing Act **is a 'tick box' exercise and is not effective at equipping frontline staff with the confidence and skills to identify and respond to potential cases of harm or abuse.**

Drawing on the Ask and Act guidance, we illustrate an example of a missed opportunity to highlight older victims of VAWDASV. Although across the guidance it does not give an upper age limit for victimisation, there is no specific reference given to older people. Instead, older people's needs are assumed to be encapsulated within the general approach to Ask and Act. Whilst specific reference is made to training 'maternal health services' and 'hospital-based specialists' where it is noted that younger victims are being identified. The absence of specific reference to older people is surprising given that research has found higher levels of victimisation in later life (Fisher, 2006; Bonomi, 2007). It is important to recognise that the subtlety of language that omits to mention services commonly occupied by older people, reinforces the view that VAWDASV is a younger person's problem. We recommend that particular reference should be made within the guidance that makes a direct link to older victim-survivors

Welsh Language Provision: when responding to the needs and rights of this age group - very few services are able to recruit practitioners especially Independent Domestic Violence Advisors who are first language Welsh speakers. These are specialists who deal with high risk crisis intervention, thus for an older survivor living in fear, or someone with fluctuating capacity, using their first language to disclose is /will be significant. This deficit in service provision reflects **a failure to meet the needs of the Welsh speaking population;** Furthermore, provision rarely includes adult-child to parent abuse which is a significant feature of older people's experience of domestic abuse;

6. The initial funding for training 'Responding to Older People affected by Domestic Abuse.'

We are pleased to learn that options are being explored to provide enhanced training to the VAWDASV specialist sector. Especially given that people aged 60 years and over may have additional needs than younger cohorts. The material rarely addresses older people's

experience of the abuse. Typically, guidance and research are based on white, middle class, heterosexual, female victim-survivors under 70 years of age, who experience intimate partner violence, not adult family violence. Adult family violence is as common as intimate partner violence in people aged 60 years and over. References to older people are presented as a homogenous group with shared needs and values, without consideration of the different generational norms and values that exist within and across three generations of older people.

We call for a more inclusive approach to training that encompasses the diversity of people aged 60 years and over. We welcome the commissioning of a four-day specialist course 'Responding to Older People Affected by Domestic Abuse.' It is essential that practitioners working with older victim-survivors identified as high risk have access to specialist training to respond to the specific needs of this demographic, particularly as there is a lack of training available specialising in responding to victim-survivors of abuse from adult family members, male victims, LGBTQ+ groups and people experiencing domestic abuse whilst living with dementia.

How Dewis Choice are supporting training and further training needs.

Dewis Choice co-delivered specialist training with SafeLives as a pilot in England & Wales during 2018 and 2019. Dewis Choice have agreed to partner to co-deliver the four day specialist training to be held in Wales in April 2020. The training is targeted at accredited Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVA's) working with victim-survivors identified as high risk using the DASH Risk assessment tool.

However, SafeLives (2018-2019), found only 3% of those accessing IDVA services supported by the MARAC model, were over 60 years of age, suggesting a lack of identification of older victim-survivors of domestic violence by statutory services. Therefore, it is essential that specialist training is extended to all practitioners coming into contact with older victim-survivors, in particular domestic abuse practitioners, police and health and social care professionals.

Generalist practitioners do not recognise the abuse as domestic abuse within this age group; secondly qualified IDVAs are a minority, in the response to tackling domestic abuse. Current domestic abuse assessments are based on research from the study of, and designed for, younger women experiencing intimate partner violence from men who have young families.

Taken together, the six points show a general commitment to addressing the needs and rights of a demographic group that fall into the 'public story of domestic abuse. However, for the diverse range of people aged 60 years and over we can evidence in Wales that they do not receive sufficient protection and support. As a result, as researchers with significant experience in this area we feel that there is a significant well-being and human rights deficit with regard to protection, private life, and justice.

Response provided by Sarah Wydall, Elize Freeman, Rebecca Zerk, 'Dewis Choice – Transforming the response to domestic abuse in later life ' The Centre for Age Gender and Social Justice , Aberystwyth University

P-05-882 Transforming the response for older people experiencing domestic abuse – a call for action, Correspondence – Interested party to Committee

Natalie Hancock
Mid and West Wales
Regional VAWDASV Adviser
Carmarthenshire County Council,
5 Spilman Street,
Carmarthen,
SA31 1LE

28th June 2019

To whom it may concern,

I have worked within the field of Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) for over a decade and my current role has strategic responsibility for the implementation of the Mid and West Wales (MWW) Regional 'Safer Lives, Healthier Families' VAWDASV Strategy.

My first introduction to the Dewis Choice Project was at a professional development training conference run in partnership with the Office of the Older Peoples Commissionaire and Social Care Wales. Professor John Williams spoke at the conference and I was struck by the wealth of expert knowledge and awareness within the project for this area of work, where previously so little was known or understood.

Immediately I was able to make links with the project and the work of the MWW Regional VAWDASV Strategy. There has recently been a Domestic Homicide Review completed within the MWW Region, where key learning identifies the need for work around raising awareness of adult to parent abuse and the support mechanisms currently available.

The MWW Regional VAWDASV Strategy also identifies the need to further understand the needs and experiences of older people who have experienced all forms of VAWDASV. The contributions made from the project in the development of the Welsh Government and Older People's Commissioner for Wales' information and guidance document on domestic abuse: Safeguarding older people in Wales is just one example of the essential work the project is doing to address this.

I work very closely with Adult Safeguarding within my role and this document is instrumental in the development of services and the awareness of practitioners, to better support and respond to older people experiencing abuse, in achieving better outcomes for themselves and their families.

When I visited the project and met with John Williams and Sara Wydall, I was amazed at the extent to which survivor engagement and participation is core and imbedded within the project. Within the MWW Regional Strategy survivor engagement is identified as a priority. The work that the Dewis Choice Projects does to engage with survivors, will be key learning for us to develop and embed a

meaningful framework for the engagement of survivors throughout Mid and West Wales.

The impact that the Dewis Choice Project has had for older people who have experienced abuse and their families is unmeasurable. The project has also agreed to be part of the Regional VAWDASV Partnership responsible for the implementation of the MWW VAWDASV Strategy. This input is invaluable with the comprehensive data and information the project's research has to inform and design the regions approach to supporting older people within our communities.

As I mentioned earlier, the project also has considerable knowledge and learning for us as a region to imbed within our workforce development and the design of key interventions including how this work is specified and commissioned.

The project has already designed and delivered specialist Independent Domestic Violence Advisor training on working with older victims of domestic violence (OPVA) which included members of our MWW Regional IDVA Team.

It is my observation that the work and research the project is producing has and will continue to have, a profound and ground breaking impact on the understanding and awareness of the abuse experienced by older people, as well as the development and improvement of the responses and support available to the older people and their families within our communities.

Yours sincerely

Natalie Hancock
Mid and West Wales Regional VAWDASV Adviser

P-05-826 Mae sir Benfro yn dweud NA!! i gau adran damweiniau ac achosion brys Llwynhelyg!

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Myles Bamford-Lewis, ar ôl casglu 40,045 o lofnodion.

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Rydym ni sydd wedi llofnodi isod yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru a Bwrdd Iechyd Hywel Dda i wrthdroi eu penderfyniad i israddio ein hysbyty sirol a chael gwared ar ein hadran damweiniau ac achosion brys.

Mae Bwrdd Iechyd Hywel Dda wedi cynnig newidiadau sylweddol i'r ffordd y caiff gwasanaethau eu darparu mewn ysbytai yng ngorllewin Cymru. Maent yn cynnig israddio ysbyty cyffredinol Llwynhelyg yn ein sir ni ac ysbyty cyffredinol Glangwili yn sir Gâr, y ddau i safon ysbytai cymuned, ac adeiladu ysbyty cyffredinol newydd yn ardal Hendy-gwyn ar Daf. Fodd bynnag, mae hyn hefyd yn golygu na fydd gennym bellach adran damweiniau ac achosion brys sy'n gweithredu'n llawn yn ein sir oherwydd y bydd yr adran hon wedi'i disodli gan uned mân anafiadau ar safle Llwynhelyg. O ganlyniad, bydd cleifion y mae angen gofal brys arnynt yn ein sir yn wynebu teithio am hyd at awr, neu efallai hyd yn oed yn fwy os ydynt yn byw yn ardaloedd mwy gwledig ein sir, i gael gofal brys a all achub bywyd mewn ysbyty a fydd y tu allan i'r sir. Byddai'r oedi hwn yn golygu bod bywydau yn sir Benfro mewn perygl, heb ystyried yr oedi ychwanegol wrth orfod aros am ambiwlans i gyrraedd y claf, sefydlogi'r claf, wedyn cludo'r claf i ysbyty sydd y tu hwnt i ffiniau ein sir. Mae hyn yn golygu colli munudau hanfodol mewn sefyllfa lle nad oes amser i'w golli.

Mae bod heb adran damweiniau ac achosion brys yn ein sir yn hollol annerbyniol, a'r rheswm am y cynnig yw torri costau ac, yn bwysicach oll, torri corneli. Wel, byddwn ni'n sefyll cornel sir Benfro ac ni fyddwn yn caniatáu iddynt ein torri ni o'r map!

Llofnodwch a rhannwch y ddeiseb hon. Ni allwn adael i Lywodraeth Cymru a Bwrdd Iechyd Hywel Dda gymryd ased pennaf ein sir oddi wrthym. Maen nhw eisoes wedi mynd â'r uned gofal arbennig babanod, yr uned famolaeth dan arweiniad meddyg ymgynghorol a'r gwasanaeth gofal pediatrig 24 awr oddi wrthym, gan roi ein babanod, ein plant a'n mamau mewn perygl mawr! Nawr

maent yn dod i orffen y gwaith gyda gweddill gwasanaethau ysbyty ein sir.
Peidiwch â gadael i hynny ddigwydd!

Gyda'n gilydd, byddwn yn anfon neges at Steve Moore a Vaughan Gething y gallant feddwl eto os ydynt yn credu y bydd sir Benfro yn ildio heb frwydro'n ôl wrth iddynt fynd â'n gwasanaethau ysbyty oddi wrthym!

Achub adran damweiniau ac achosion brys Llwynhelyg! Achub Ysbyty Llwynhelyg!

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd

- Preseli Sir Benfro
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Hywel Dda
University Health Board

Eich cyf / Your ref: P-05-826
Ein cyf/Our ref: CEO 1671
Gofynnwch am/Please ask for: Katie Jenner
Rhif Ffôn /Telephone: [REDACTED]
Dyddiad/Date: 5 March 2020

Swyddfeydd Corfforaethol, Adeilad Ystwyth
Hafan Derwen, Parc Dewi Sant, Heol Ffynnon Job
Caerfyrddin, Sir Gaerfyrddin, SA31 3BB

Corporate Offices, Ystwyth Building
Hafan Derwen, St Davids Park, Job's Well Road,
Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 3BB

Janet Finch-Saunders AM
Chair
Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales

Email: SeneddPetitions@assembly.wales

Dear Janet

Re: Petition P-05-826 Pembrokeshire says NO!! To the closure of Withybush A&E!

I apologise for the delay in providing the Committee with an update on our Health and Care Strategy.

Hywel Dda University Health Board (the Health Board) has the opportunity to advance transformation in community services over the next two years, by accessing the Transformation Fund, which makes £100m available for projects across Wales. The Health Board is working closely with partners to develop services and support in key areas.

The three areas being progressed locally, which will have an impact on delivery of local services and support are:

Help to Help Yourself: Delta Connect (Proactive, Technology Enabled Care) – in the delivery phase

- Proactive, responsive care – early intervention, proactive response if required, ongoing monitoring of condition
- Digital system
- Individualised well-being plan – keeps people connected
- Appropriate response – localised and within own home
- Provision of technology to develop virtual communities
- Key staff have been recruited in both Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire.
- The App designed to alleviate loneliness based on the 'vincles' work in Spain, provisionally called 'link' in West Wales, has been built and is ready for roll-out.
- A bespoke assessment, planning and evaluation tool has been designed, which is being used as the standard tool to evaluate personal impact of programmes. This tool is called 'The Wheel of Wellbeing' and a bespoke App is being built to roll-out across the whole county – with a paper-based version being used until the app is fully operational.

Swyddfeydd Corfforaethol, Adeilad Ystwyth,
Hafan Derwen, Parc Dewi Sant, Heol Ffynnon Job,
Caerfyrddin, Sir Gaerfyrddin, SA31 3BB

Corporate Offices, Ystwyth Building,
Hafan Derwen, St Davids Park, Job's Well Road,
Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 3BB

Cadeirydd /Chair
Miss Maria Battle

Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive
Mr Steve Moore

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Hywel Dda ydychydig ydyd ydyd Lleoel Prifysgol Hywel Dda
Hywel Dda University Health Board is the operational name of Hywel Dda University Local Health Board

Mae Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Hywel Dda yn amgylchedd di-fwg Hywel Dda University Health Board operates a smoke free environment

Help When you Need It: Crisis Response Service (Fast tracked, consistent integration) – in the delivery phase

- Focus on development of Fast Access Community System – multi-agency crisis response service – professional response
- Care in home setting
- Aim to have the model in place across the whole area – currently in Carmarthenshire
- The Crisis Response Service has been fully recruited – the service builds on the good practice of the Acute Response Team (ART) and Transformation Fund monies have more than doubled capacity of the team. The service has also successfully recruited two clinical leads (GPs) to the service, who will be in post by February 2020.
- Crisis Response Service has been operational since the second week of November 2019, with a significant escalation in activity to support winter pressures. Focus is currently on reducing Length of Stay in the acute sector with efficient pull into the community.

Helping Strong Communities: Communities for All

- Community connectors model
- Promotion/support of volunteering – developing connectivity and resilience
- Intergenerational buddying – developing IT skills
- West Wales is Kind Programme
- These include consideration of a series of bids against a regional investment fund to support inter-generational working.
- *West Wales is Kind* steering group established, with review of materials and an engagement and marketing campaign planned to coincide with national and international events, such as National Kindness Day and Loneliness Awareness Week.
- Appointment to regional and local Community Connector Plus posts.
- Appointment of local Volunteering Officers by County Voluntary Councils to take forward a programme of promotion and support within selected communities.

All of these programmes are interconnected and will support patient flow through our system and enable key changes to our hospital system in Wylabach General Hospital (WGH).

Other local initiatives include:

- WGH is looking to introduce an A&E screening service to assess patients as they present in the department, ensuring that patients are being assigned to the correct workstream e.g. A&E, GP, minor injuries.
- Implementation of the Frailty Pathway, which includes admission avoidance and falls clinic.

WGH forms an integral part of the Transforming our Hospitals (TOH) programme, which will deliver the changes required to transform our hospital model to provide the most specialist health and care support, via a network of hospitals across Mid and West Wales.

As part of the TOH programme, initial work to develop the capital estate has involved the production of a Pre-Programme Business Case (PPBC). The PPBC highlights the context and high-level need for the resources to support capital and estates planning for the delivery of the first stages of our Health and Care Strategy: *A Healthier Mid & West Wales*. This will deliver the essential estates infrastructure, including the re-purposing of WGH to provide continued delivery of care to the population of Pembrokeshire.

The PPBC also includes information relating to the development of a new purpose built planned and urgent care hospital, and the re-purposing of Glangwili General Hospital, so as to provide care for the entire population of Hywel Dda. This is the subject of an ongoing discussion with Welsh Government colleagues.

I trust this provides you with the update you required on the ongoing work being undertaken as part of our transformation programme. Please accept my apologies for the delay in providing this information.

Should you have any further enquiries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes
Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Moore". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'S' at the beginning.

Steve Moore
Chief Executive

Eitem 4.4

P-05-893 Achub Ein Parciau yng Nghymru

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Crispian Huggill, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 244 lofnodion.

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Mae parciau a mannau chwarae yn mynd yn adfail, neu maent dan fygythiad o gael gwaith adeiladu arnynt neu gael eu gwerthu i ddatblygwyr.

Mae hyn er gwaethaf y manteision iechyd a chymdeithasol hanfodol a gynigir gan y mannau gwyrdd hyn, sydd mor agos at ein calonnau.

Diben y ddeiseb hon yw ysgogi cefnogaeth i achub ein parciau, ein meysydd chwarae a'n mannau agored rhag cael eu colli am byth, i ddiwallu anghenion cenedlaethau heddiw a chenedlaethau'r dyfodol ac ategu'r rhwymedigaethau sydd ar gynghorau yng Nghymru o dan Ddeddf Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol 2015 a Deddf yr Amgylchedd 2016.

Rydym eisiau:

- 1) Gofyniad statudol i gynghorau neilltuo cyllid o £30 yr aelwyd y flwyddyn ar gyfer parciau.
- 2) Gweld dyletswydd gyfreithiol i bob man gwyrdd gael ei reoli i safon dda.
- 3) Rheolau newydd yn gwahardd gwaith datblygu ar barcdiroedd, gwerthu parcdiroedd neu ddefnyddio parcdiroedd yn amhriodol.
- 4) Cronfa newydd gan Lywodraeth Cymru i ddarparu cymorth brys i'r parciau sy'n wynebu'r perygl mwyaf a sicrhau dyfodol mannau gwyrdd agored Cymru yn yr hirdymor.
- 5) Gofyniad cyfreithiol i bob cyngor weithredu Strategaeth Mannau Agored yn unol â Safonau Meysydd Chwarae Cymru, Deddf Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol 2015, a Deddf yr Amgylchedd 2016, ac iddynt weithio gyda Meysydd Chwarae Cymru i ddiogelu a gwella'r holl fannau gwyrdd agored cyhoeddus yng Nghymru.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd

- Gŵyr
- Gorllewin De Cymru

Dyddiad /Date:
Gofynnwch am/Please ask for:
Llinell uniongyrchol/Direct line:
Ebost/Email:

4 March 2020
D Hopkins



Janet Finch-Saunders, AC
Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
Bae Caerdydd
Caerdydd
CF99 1NA

Annwyl Ms Finch-Saunders,

Deiseb P-05-893 Achub Ein Parciau yng Nghymru

Ymddiheuraf am yr oedi wrth ymateb i'ch llythyr ar y mater hwn, dyddiedig 30 Medi 2019.

Mae Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru yn deall gwerth parciau, ardaloedd chwarae, a mannau gwyrdd, ac mae'r rhain yn asedau pwysig i bobl Cymru. Mae'r cyfleusterau hyn yn ychwanegu gwerth at gymunedau lleol ac yn gymorth i iechyd a lles cyffredinol y cymunedau.

Mae enghreifftiau gwych o barciau a mannau agored eraill sy'n cael eu cynnal yn dda mewn sawl ardal awdurdod lleol yng Nghymru, ac mae'r esiamplau hyn wedi eu cynnal yn erbyn cefndir o galedi yng nghyllidebau'r sector cyhoeddus dros rai blynyddoedd. Mae ystâd gyfan awdurdodau lleol sy'n cynnwys parciau, mannau agored, caeau chwarae a llwybrau troed, yn sylweddol o ran maint, ac yn gyffredinol brysur.

Fodd bynnag, mae'n bwysig deall nad cyfrifoldeb y 22 awdurdod lleol yng Nghymru yw'r holl barciau a mannau agored: Mae'r Cynhorau hyn yn gweithio'n agos gyda grwpiau cymunedol, cynhorau tref a chymuned, a sefydliadau'r trydydd sector ar draws Cymru. Mae'r cydweithio hwn yn werthfawr wrth ystyried modelau newydd ar gyfer darparu gwasanaeth cynaliadwy sy'n gallu cefnogi lles cymunedol. Gallai hyn gynnwys rhaglenni trosglwyddo gwasanaethau ac asedau cymunedol, er enghraifft, wedi eu cynllunio i alluogi cymunedau i ychwanegu at neu gynnal gwasanaethau a chyfleusterau cymunedol. Mae'r dull gweithredu hwn yn cael ei gefnogi gan nifer o raglenni grant cenedlaethol gan y Llywodraeth a'r Loteri Fawr, gyda'r nod o gefnogi dinasyddion a chymunedau i gymryd rhan yn y broses o siapia a datblygu eu hardaloedd lleol.

Yn gyffredinol fodd bynnag, dull gweithredu Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, yw cefnogi'r egwyddor mai awdurdodau lleol a ddylai benderfynu ar wariant, gan ystyried angen lleol a'r cyllid sydd ar gael. Mae hynny'n golygu y dylai unrhyw ddyletswyddau neu ofynion

Dr Chris Llewelyn
Prif Weithredwr
Chief Executive

Cymdeithas Llywodraeth
Leol Cymru
Tŷ Llywodraeth Leol
Rhodfa Drake
CAERDYDD CF10 4LG
Ffôn: 029 2046 8600

Welsh Local Government
Association
Local Government House
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Tel: 029 2046 8600

wlga.cymru
wlga.wales

@WelshLGA

Croesawn ohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg a byddwn yn ymateb i ohebiaeth yn yr un iaith.

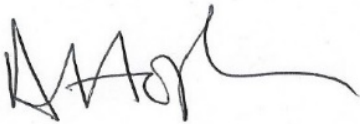
Ni fydd defnyddio'r naill iaith na'r llall yn arwain at oedi.

Tudalen y pecyn 132
We welcome correspondence in Welsh and English and will respond to correspondence in the same language.
Use of either language will not lead to a delay.

ychwanegol sy'n cael eu gosod ar awdurdodau lleol, fod wedi eu diffinio a'n eglur a'u cyllido'n llawn.

Felly er y byddai Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru yn hyrwyddo'r syniad y dylid cynnal manau gwyrdd i safon sy'n briodol ar gyfer y defnydd y'u bwriadwyd, nid yw clustnodi cyllid ar gyfer rheoli manau gwyrdd yn rhywbeth y byddai awdurdodau lleol yn dymuno ei weld yn digwydd. Yn hytrach, mae cyllid cyffredinol ar gyfer gwasanaethau cyhoeddus ar lefel sy'n galluogi dyrannu adnoddau lleol ar draws yr holl wasanaethau yn unol ag anghenion a chynlluniau pob awdurdod lleol, yn cael ei ffafrio ar draul cyllid penodol neu wedi ei dargedu.

Yn gywir / Yours sincerely



**Pennaeth Addysg dros dro
Interim Head of Education**

Croesawn ohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg a byddwn yn ymateb i ohebiaeth yn yr un iaith.

Ni fydd defnyddio'r naill iaith na'r llall yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh and English and will respond to correspondence in the same language.

Use of either language will not lead to a delay.

**P-05-893 Save Our Parks In Wales, Correspondence – Petitioner to Committee,
01.06.20**

FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE PETITIONS COMMITTEE, JUNE 9 2020

Petition: Save Our Parks In Wales

This petition was originally launched in response to two matters. Firstly, the nationwide 'Save Our Parks' campaign appeal and petition launched by the Mail On Sunday in the autumn of 2018. And secondly, in response to a campaign that a group of dedicated local residents here in Gorseinon had been running, to protect our one and only recreational park in the town, namely Parc y Werin ('The Peoples' Park') from a development by Swansea Council; as the chosen site for a much needed replacement primary school.

Despite there being a far superior site for this school, and one that was and still is existing Education land, Swansea Council's plans have won through; a narrow one vote majority on the Planning Committee December 2015, two failed village green applications November 2015 and October 2017, and a failed Common Land Application May 2019. School construction started within two weeks of the Common Land application being filed with the Commons Registration Authority, Swansea Council, and was not halted for the duration of the consideration of this application by the Planning Inspectorate.

In the light of the current coronavirus emergency, and the lockdown restrictions that we in Wales, as well as everyone across the whole UK have had to live in these past ten weeks (and counting), the benefit of our parks and green open spaces is self evident. Who amongst us has not taken a walk in a park or an open space in these past weeks? And consequently, who has not appreciated the benefit of these facilities? Wonders of our urban and wider environments! Physical health and mental health providing benefits, contact with nature, and some peace and tranquillity.

It might be the case the case that national governments and some local authorities are now recognising the existence, value and benefit of these resources. But this in itself is not sufficient to ensure that we as a nation, indeed the whole of the UK, strive with positive vigour to safeguard the very existence of our parks and open spaces.

With all the good intent of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act 2015, the Environment Act 2016, both from Welsh Government, and the Biodiversity Protection Policy from Swansea Council, these laudable statements of intent and policy projection lack teeth when they run up against economic development. As with Parc y Werin, it appears all too easy for an authority to go with the lowest cost/easiest solution, and skew the argument to suit. Such developments do nothing to safeguard our biodiversity, our natural and tended green

open spaces. Spaces which NHS and other commentators define as the lungs of the community; and our 'natural health service'.

It is therefore a necessity that Government seeks to put flesh on the bones of these protective measures, to ensure that they have a chance to succeed in their stated aims of safeguarding these gems of our natural environment. For today, and for future generations. For once these sites are lost or developed on, they are lost for ever. It's a one way street!

To enable this safeguarding in Wales, it is essential that Welsh Government adopt a proactive strategy of financial support for our parks and open spaces.

The Mail on Sunday's campaign asked for the following:

1. a statutory requirement for councils to ring fence funding for parks at £30 per household per year,
2. there be a legal duty for all green space to be managed to a good standard,
3. new rules banning the development on, or the inappropriate use of, parkland,
4. a new central Government fund to provide emergency help for parks most at risk and ensure the long term future of Britain's green spaces.

These are also the aims of the 'Save Our Parks In Wales' petition. And I commend them to the Committee.

In conclusion. I strongly urge the Committee to give favourable and positive consideration and to recommend that this petition be referred to the Assembly for inclusion as official policy. Such a move will be seen a clear recognition that Welsh Government is serious about safeguarding the wonderful assets that our parks and open spaces are. For today's generation, and for the foreseeable time while we remain under some form of covid lockdown. Together with the benefit in following years and for future generations, who will still be able to use, enjoy and have all the health benefits from our parks and open spaces.

Yours sincerely,

Crispian Huggill
Gorseinon,
Swansea

Eitem 4.5

P-05-865 Dylid gwarantu bod dewisiadau sy'n seiliedig yn llwyr ar blanhigion ar bob bwydlen y sector cyhoeddus, i ddiogelu hawliau figaniaid ac er budd ein hiechyd, yr amgylchedd ac anifeiliaid

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Louise Davies, ar ôl casglu 1,109 o lofnodion.

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau bod holl sefydliadau'r sector cyhoeddus yng Nghymru yn darparu o leiaf un opsiwn bwyd sy'n seiliedig ar blanhigion ar bob bwydlen ddyddiol i fodloni hawliau figaniaid ac i wneud y mwyaf o fanteision moesegol, manteision amgylcheddol a manteision iechyd deietau figan.

Mae rhagor o bobl o bob oedran yn gwneud y penderfyniad i fyw'n figan, ac mae nifer y bobl yn y DU sy'n figaniaid wed dyblu ddwywaith yn y pedair blynedd diwethaf. Mae rhagor o bobl hefyd yn dewis bwyd sy'n seiliedig ar blanhigion am resymau iechyd, rhesymau amgylcheddol a rhesymau moesegol.

Mae gan figaniaid yr un amddiffyniadau cyfreithiol â phobl â chredoau crefyddol, oherwydd mae ein hargyhoeddiad moesegol ei bod yn anghywir i ddefnyddio a lladd anifeiliaid nad ydynt yn ddynol yn ddiangen wedi'i ddiogelu'n gyfreithiol. Mae gan ddarparwyr gwasanaethau rwymedigaeth i ddarparu ar gyfer figaniaid ac i osgoi unrhyw wahaniaethu ar sail figaniaeth. Yn anffodus, er gwaethaf hyn, yn aml mae diffyg darpariaeth ar gyfer figaniaid yn y sector cyhoeddus, ac mae cleifion mewn ysbytai, carcharorion a phlant ysgol yn aml yn llwglyd. Llywodraeth Cymru sy'n gyfrifol am sicrhau bod y sector cyhoeddus yng Nghymru yn darparu ar gyfer figaniaid, a byddai'r ddeddfwriaeth arfaethedig yn cynorthwyo i gyflawni'r ddyletswydd honno.

Gall pawb fwynhau bwyd sy'n seiliedig ar blanhigion. Mae Cymdeithas Ddeieteg Prydain yn cydnabod bod deietau planhigion sydd wedi'u cynllunio'n dda yn addas ar gyfer pob oedran a phob cyfnod bywyd. Mae gwaith ymchwil sylweddol wedi cysylltu deietau planhigion â phwysedd gwaed is, lefel colesterol is, cyfraddau is o glefyd y galon, diabetes math 2 a rhai mathau o ganser.

Mae deiet sy'n seiliedig ar blanhigion yn well ar gyfer yr amgylchedd a gall leihaus ein hallyriadau carbon sy'n gysylltiedig â bwyd hyd at 50 y cant. Mae'r Cenhedloedd Unedig wedi annog newid byd-eang tuag at ddeiet heb ddim cig a llaeth er lles ein planed, ac mae gan Gymru y cyfle i arwain y ffordd.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:

Diffinnir figaniaeth fel ffordd o fyw sy'n ceisio gwahardd, cyn belled ag y bo'n bosibl ac yn ymarferol, pob math o fanteisio ar anifeiliaid, a chreulondeb tuag atynt, ar gyfer cael bwyd, dillad nac i unrhyw bwrpas arall.

Mae ymgyrch 'Arlwyo i Bawb' y Gymdeithas Figan wedi bod yn annog sefydliadau'r sector cyhoeddus (ysgolion, ysbytai, cynghorau a charchardai), i gynyddu eu dewisiadau o ran planhigion. Cafodd yr ymgyrch dderbyniad da, ac mae llawer o sefydliadau'r sector cyhoeddus yn cydnabod y gellir gwneud gwelliannau, ac maent wedi cytuno i gynyddu'r ddarpariaeth o ran llysiau. Mae cyngor sir yn Lloegr, prifysgolion ym Manceinion a Llundain, a bwrdd iechyd yng Nghymru ymhlith nifer o sefydliadau'r sector cyhoeddus sy'n gwneud newidiadau cadarnhaol i'w bwydlenni oherwydd yr ymgyrch hon.

Mae Cymdeithas Ddeieteg Prydain ac Academi Maetheg a Deieteg America yn cydnabod bod deietau planhigion yn addas ar gyfer pob oedran a phob cyfnod bywyd. Er mwyn manteisio i'r eithaf ar ddeiet planhigion, dylai gynnwys digon o rawn cyflawn, ffrwythau, cnau, hadau a llysiau, sy'n llawn ffibr, fitaminau a mwynau buddiol. Mae'n hawdd cynnig opsiynau blasus sy'n cynnwys y bwydydd hyn, sy'n gyfoethog mewn ffibr ac yn isel mewn braster gorllawn. Mae gan y Gymdeithas Figan lawer o adnoddau a ryseitiau ar eu gwefan, a all helpu sefydliadau i sicrhau eu bod yn cynnig bwyd planhigion iach, cytbwys a blasus.

<https://www.vegansociety.com/resources/nutrition-and-health>

Mae Portiwgal wedi cyflwyno deddfwriaeth sy'n ysgogi holl ffreuturau'r sector cyhoeddus i ddarparu opsiwn llysieuol (figan) llym ar eu bwydlenni dyddiol. Deilliodd y deddfwriaeth hon yn sgîl ymgyrch a deiseb a hyrwyddwyd gan Gymdeithas Llysieuol Portiwgal, gweler:

<https://www.vegansociety.com/whats-new/news/new-law-makes-vegan-option-compulsory-portuguese-public-canteens-%E2%80%93-britain-next>

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd

- Brycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru

Yn rhinwedd paragraff(au) vi o Reol Sefydlog 17.42

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-865
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/00546/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AM
Chair of the Petitions Committee

Government.Committee.Business@gov.wales

4

March 2020

Dear Janet

Thank you for your letter of 26 February, regarding the petition seeking to ensure that there are plant based options on every public sector menu to protect the rights of vegans.

The Welsh Government recognises that there are health & well-being arguments with respect to the consumption of plant based products. In sourcing produce for menus public sector establishments must take into account a number of considerations such as choice, locally sourced produce and dealing with waste.

People will make better choices when the choices are easier to make and the industry has been quick to respond to consumer demand by bringing more plant based products to market. Establishments take sensible decisions in considering consumer demand for plant based products at individual locations and respond accordingly.

The Welsh Government has established guidelines and regulations for the public sector in relation to nutritional standards, and steps are taken to ensure that all parts of the public sector are aware of their responsibilities in providing for all dietary choices.

These guidelines and regulations are reviewed periodically, for example, the Welsh Government has made a commitment to review the current Healthy Eating in Schools (Nutritional Standards and Requirements) (Wales) Regulations 2013 in light of changes to nutritional recommendations since they were introduced six years ago. We will be considering the latest research and information concerning nutritional standards when undertaking this task, including whether additional guidance needs to be provided for vegan diets.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Gohebiaeth.Lesley.Griffiths@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Lesley.Griffiths@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

Tudalen y pecyn 141

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

We have also recently developed best practice guidance for food and nutrition in care homes for older people, which encourages residents to eat well and have positive health and well-being outcomes. The guidance includes a specific section on catering for vegan diets, highlighting the importance of talking to residents and their families to devise a suitable menu, seeking advice from dietitians if required.

This approach of review and improvement where necessary will allow the relevant guidance to be relevant to the needs of its target cohort and ensure food meeting all nutritional requirements can continue to be provided.

Regards
Lesley Griffiths

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs

P-05-865 Guarantee fully plant-based options on every public sector menu to protect the rights of vegans and for our health, the environment and animals, Correspondence – Petitioner to Committee, 01.06.20

We thank the Minister for Environment, Energy & Rural Affairs for their response to the letter provided by the Committee.

Whilst we welcome the Minister acknowledging the health and wellbeing arguments of plant-based foods, it's concerning to note that the Minister has completely disregarded the environmental arguments we keep presenting regarding this petition.

Environment

Chatham House research states that 'the public want government intervention on climate change issues' and the Committee on Climate Change have explicitly stated that the 'public sector take a strong lead by providing plant-based options in schools and hospitals'.

- Plant-based diets are better for the environment and can reduce an individual's food-related carbon emissions by up to 50%.
- Researchers from Oxford University have concluded that eating a plant-based diet could be the single biggest way to reduce an individual's environmental impact on the planet.

The benefits are clear - mandating a vegan option on all public sector menus would be a simple way of tackling the climate crisis effectively; it would familiarise the public with sustainable and nutritious foods, and would therefore encourage a transition towards better consumption habits in the wider population. Implementing our ask would assert that the Welsh government take the public demand for government intervention seriously.

Demand

The Minister has stated that 'people will make better choices when the choices are easier to make' – the only way to do that however, is to ensure accessibility. Mandating a vegan option available on all menus, every day, expands choice and encourages consumers to opt for food options they may not have otherwise considered.

The Minister also claims that industry has responded to demand by bringing more plant-based products to the market, and yet, the reality contradicts this statement. Response to demand has predominantly been from the private sector, whilst we continue to campaign public sector institutions through this petition, to ensure that a single plant-based option is even available to consumers.

The number of vegans in the UK has quadrupled in the last five years, and continues to rise, as more people become mindful of their consumption. What this means is that a rising number of people find themselves unable to be catered to in many public sector settings.

Inclusivity

We welcome that The Vegan Society are referenced in the care home guidance but we would like to assert that there is nothing within many of these regulatory guidance documents which reinforce the need to have vegan options available in the first place.

What this means is that procurement of foods with animal products generally gets favoured over vegan-friendly options. This therefore leads to a form of indirect discrimination as vegans are often left with very basic options which do not constitute a nutritious meal - such as a single jacket potato

or a piece of fruit - and miss out on key nutrients within their meals. Our petition seeks to counter this by ensuring that at least one vegan option is mandated on all menus, which by default will be suitable for people of all backgrounds and beliefs.

It's evident that our petition isn't for the sole benefit of vegans, but also for the planet. In light of the climate crisis, **it is the responsibility of the government to accelerate a change which encourages the public to adopt more sustainable consumption habits for the benefit of the planet**, and it is imperative for the government to act now.

P-05-929 Annog y defnydd o 'Cymru' a 'Cymry' wrth gyfeirio atom ein hunain yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Mair Edwards, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 127 lofnodion.

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i gyfeirio at ein gwlad fel Cymru, a'r genedl fel Cymry, yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg ym mhob datganiad swyddogol. Mae tarddiad y termau "Wales" a "Welsh" yn cyfeirio atom fel estroniaid a thaeogion yn ein gwlad ein hunain. Mae'n bryd i ni ddiffinio ein hunain yn hytrach na chael ein diffinio gan genedl arall – a symbol o hynny fyddai cyfeirio atom ein hunain fel Cymry a'n gwlad fel Cymru.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd

- Ynys Mon
- Gogledd Cymru

Eluned Morgan AC/AM
Gweinidog y Gymraeg a Chysylltiadau Rhyngwladol
Minister for International Relations and the Welsh
Language



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-929
Ein cyf/Our ref EM/00099/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AM
Assembly Member
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

2 Mawrth 2020

Annwyl Janet,

Deiseb P-05-929 Annog y defnydd o 'Cymru' a 'Cymry' wrth gyfeirio atom ein hunain yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 7 Chwefror, a oedd yn cynnwys copi o sylwadau pellach y deisebydd yn y mater uchod.

Fel y nodais yn fy llythyr dyddiedig Rhagfyr 2019, rwy'n cefnogi'r syniad o annog pobl i ddefnyddio "Cymru" a "Cymry" mewn deunydd Saesneg mewn ffordd sy'n cryfhau ein neges: ond mae'n bwysig hefyd ein bod yn para'n hyblyg ac yn gwneud hynny mewn ffordd sy'n briodol i'r cyd-destun a'n cynulleidfa. Nid wyf felly yn cefnogi cyflwyno polisi cyffredinol i ddefnyddio'r termau hyn ym mhob sefyllfa yn ddiau.

Yn gywir,

Eluned Morgan AC/AM
Gweinidog y Gymraeg a Chysylltiadau Rhyngwladol
Minister for International Relations and Welsh Language

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

Tudalen y pecyn 146
We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

P-05-929 Annog y defnydd o 'Cymru' a 'Cymry' wrth gyfeirio atom ein hunain yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg, Gohebiaeth – Deisebydd at y Pwyllgor, 16.03.20

Rwyf wedi darllen ymateb Gweinidog y Gymraeg a Chysylltiadau Rhyngwladol.

Tra'n falch o weld bod y Gweinidog o blaid annog pobl i ddefnyddio "Cymry" a "Cymry" mewn deunydd Saesneg rwy'n nodi nad ydi'r Gweinidog am i hyn fod yn bolisi cyffredinol ym mhob sefyllfa yn ddiau. Tybed er hynny fyddai modd bod fymryn yn fwy cadarn ac chael polisi cyffredinol bod y termau "Cymru" a "Cymry" yn cael eu defnyddio gan amlaf - ac felly bod y defnydd yn dod yn fwy-fwy cyffredin ac yn y pen draw (mewn rhai blynyddoedd o bosib) yn dod yn naturiol a di-eithriad.

Rwy'n derbyn na fyddai modd newid popeth dros nôs a dyna pam bod y ddeiseb wedi ei geirio fel annog yn hytrach na gorfodaeth - ond mae angen lefel uchel o ewyllys da ac ymarfer da gan Lywodraeth Cymru yn y lle cyntaf er mwyn normaleiddio'r defnydd.

Yn gywir

Mair Edwards

Mae cyfyngiadau ar y ddogfen hon

P-05-778 Amddiffyn Cyllyll Môr ar Draeth Llanfairfechan

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Vanessa L Dye ac ystyriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor yn ystod Hydref 2017, ar ôl casglu 225 o lofnodion ar-lein a 234 ar bapur – cyfanswm o 459 lofnodion.

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i wneud y canlynol:

- comisiynu astudiaeth ymchwil i ganfod cyflwr gwelyau'r cyllyll môr a'u hyfywedd fel adnodd naturiol hirdymor, a rhoi moratoriwm ar waith ar gyfer pysgota cyllyll môr hyd nes y gall yr ymchwil adrodd ar ei ganfyddiadau;
- cadarnhau tymor 'caeëdig' ar gyfer cynaeafu cyllyll môr sy'n cyd-fynd â'r tymor silio h.y. mis Mai i fis Medi;
- llunio rheoliadau yn ogystal â'r maint glanio lleiaf o 10cm i gynnwys cwotâu penodol y mae unigolion yn cael eu casglu; a
- chyflwyno deddfwriaeth a rheoliadau i amddiffyn y cyllyll môr ar draeth Llanfairfechan.

"Mae'r cynaeafu ar raddfa fawr o gyllyll môr ar draeth Llanfairfechan wedi bod yn destun pryder i lawer o drigolion a chadwraethwyr ers nifer o flynyddoedd." (Cyf: llythyr at Lesley Griffiths AC, Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet gan Janet Finch Saunders AC 28 Gorffennaf 2017.)

Ar hyn o bryd yr unig reolaeth reoliadol ar gyllyll môr yw bod yn rhaid iddynt fod â maint glanio lleiaf cyfreithiol o 10cm, ac mae gwiriadau sy'n ymwneud â rheoli'r hyn sy'n dod yn rhan o'r gadwyn fwyd. Mae llawer o drigolion yn pryderu am y diffyg ymddangosiadol o weithdrefnau a/neu reoliadau sy'n llywodraethu'r broses o gasglu cyllyll môr yn enwedig o ran dynodi tymor 'caeëdig' yn ystod silio, y cwotâu a ganiateir, a'r angen am gynnal gwaith ymchwil ar y cyllyll môr i ganfod yr effaith ar yr ecosystem a'r amgylchedd lleol.

Ers 2013 nodwyd gan nifer o ffynonellau fod cyllyll môr yn cael eu cynaeafu mewn niferoedd mawr o draeth Llanfairfechan. Mae tystiolaeth i gefnogi'r

honiad hwn wedi cael ei dogfennu ar sawl achlysur yn y cyfryngau cymdeithasol. Mae cais diweddar ar Hysbysfwrdd Llanfairfechan ar gyfer unrhyw luniau neu fideos o'r rheini sy'n casglu cyllyll môr yn dangos yn glir bod nifer fawr o bobl yn ymwneud â'r gweithgarwch hwn. Mae'r broses o gasglu'r cyllyll môr fel arfer yn digwydd ar ôl llanw uchel.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol

Dyma rywfaint o gefndir hanesyddol am y mater hwn. Yn 2013 amlygwyd y cynaeafu gan bapur newydd Weekly News gan Tom Davidson pan nodwyd fod 'criw o dros 100 o bobl yn cynaeafu llawer iawn o gyllyll môr...' Roedd pryderon hefyd fod gweithwyr anghyfreithlon yn cael eu hecsbloetio a bod y cyllyll môr yn cael eu pysgota at ddibenion masnachol. Ar y pryd, dywedodd un o'r trigolion ei fod 'wedi gweld golygfeydd tebyg yn ymwneud â nifer cynyddol o gasglwyr yn ystod yr ychydig wythnosau diwethaf. Mae'r trigolion yn flin oherwydd y nifer fawr o gynaeafwyr gydag ofnau y gallai'r cynefin lleol gael ei ddifrodi yn anadferadwy, gyda channoedd o gyllyll môr yn cael eu casglu oddi ar y traeth yn rheolaidd.'

Er bod yr ofnau o ran bod y casglwyr yn cael eu defnyddio fel rhan o gaethwasiaeth fodern a'r pysgod cregyn yn dod yn rhan o'r gadwyn fwyd wedi cael eu tawelu gan ymdrechion parhaus yr heddlu a'r Asiantaeth Safonau Bwyd, mae canlyniadau amgylcheddol y broses gyson a systematig o gasglu cyllyll môr yn parhau i fod yn broblem fawr, a all effeithio ar fywyd adar môr ac eraill yn yr ardal, ynghyd ag achosi newidiadau posibl yn y dwysedd o dywod ar y traeth. Mae rhai pryderon ynglŷn â'r tywod yn ansefydlog mewn mannau a gallai pobl sy'n anghyfarwydd â'r traeth yn hawdd fynd i drafferthion e.e. mae rhai o'r casglwyr yn cynaeafu'r cyllyll môr gryn bellter i ffwrdd oddi wrth ddiogelwch y tir.

Mae wedi bod yn eithaf diraddiol a rhwystredig i ddinasyddion cyffredin wylio'r ysbeilio o adnodd amgylcheddol ac yn cwestiynu pam mae sefydliadau sydd â chylch gwaith i warchod yr amgylchedd yn ymddangos i gael eu llyffetheirio oherwydd y diffyg gweithdrefnau/deddfau priodol. Mae hyn yn syndod o gofio bod traeth Llanfairfechan wedi'i dynodi'n Safle o Ddiddordeb Gwyddonol Arbennig, Ardal Gwarchodaeth Arbennig ac Ardal Cadwraeth Arbennig. 2013. Mae'n rhaid bod rheoliadau o fewn y cyrff hyn o

wybodaeth i fanteisio arnynt fel ffynhonnell i ddiogelu'r anghydbwysedd hwn
mewn ecosystem o'r fath?

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd

- Aberconwy
- Gogledd Cymru

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-778
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/00518/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AM
Chair of the Petitions Committee

Government.Committee.Business@gov.wales

3
March 2020

Dear Janet

Thank you for your letter of 24 February, regarding consideration of new regulations for governing razor clam harvesting at Llanfairfechan beach.

My letter of 14 January (LG/0021/20) provided information on ongoing and proposed scientific studies into razor clams. Such studies include genetic profiling and work to improve our understanding of harvesting levels.

Any conclusions from the studies will inform management responses for Llanfairfechan and other areas supporting razor clam beds in Wales.

Officials will consider a closed period, daily quotas and a total allowable catch as part of any future management measures and legislation. Such future measures will help improve the management and sustainability of the fishery.

Regards
Lesley

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

Tudalen y pecyn 152
We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

**P-05-778 Protect the Razor Clams on Llanfairfechan Beach, Correspondence –
Petitioner to Committee – two responses**

14.03.20

Dear Petition Committee Members

Re: Protect the razor clams on Llanfairfechan Beach

Thank you once again for the ongoing work of the Petition Committee members in respect of this petition and for the opportunity to comment on the letter dated 3rd March from Lesley Griffiths AC/AM. The Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs.

It is pleasing to note in the Minister's letter that once the assessment of the razor clam beds is complete and information about the extent and viability of razor clam beds is available that *“Officials will consider a closed period, daily quotas and a total allowable catch as part of any future management measures and legislationto help improve thesustainability of the fishery”*. The point about individual *“daily quotas”* may need to take account of the fact that in the past; there is verifiable evidence; that the number of people visiting the beach for the purpose of collecting the clams, has on some occasions been between 50 - 100 people. Clearly: such numbers: even over only a few occasions is likely to have a profound affect on the health and sustainability of razor clam beds. Therefore, in line with the initial premise of the petition the officials drawing up any legislation may need to look to the *“total allowable catch”* for each individual over/within the agreed open season to ensure legislation protects the environment and aids the sustainability these razor clam beds for the future, whilst simultaneously providing clear and equitable rules for those managing and monitoring the harvesting and those engaged in the harvesting.

I also wish to inform the Petition Committee Members that despite the current ban on harvesting razor clams that some people are still coming to the beach to collect clams, particularly after big tides.

I hope these comments may be included/raised at the March Meeting of the Petition Committee.

Once again thank you for your ongoing interest and actions on resolving this important local issue.

Yours sincerely

Vanessa L Dye(Mrs)

Petitioner for Protecting the Razor Clams on Llanfairfechan beach

23.05.20

Thank you for the opportunity to make additions to the attached letter dated 14th March. The only thing I would like to add is that there have been at least three further violations of the Harvesting ban. This has involved people arriving in cars together, which may also be in breach of the social distancing laws.

P-05-803 Mae ein byd naturiol yn cael ei wenwyno gan blastigau untro...mae'n bryd cyflwyno treth!

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Friends of Barry Beaches ac ystyriwyd am y tro cyntaf gan y Pwyllgor yn ystod Mawrth 2018, ar ôl casglu 102 o lofnodion ar-lein.

Geiriad y ddeiseb

Mae'r dystiolaeth ar gael i'r rhai sydd am ei gweld ... mae ein dibyniaeth ar blastig untro a daflir i ffwrdd yn gwenwyno ein byd naturiol.

Mae adar y môr yn bwyta plastigau, mae pysgod yn bwyta plastigau, mae pysgod cregyn yn bwyta plastigau ac rydym ni, felly, yn bwyta plastigau.

Mae cynhyrchu plastigau untro yn cynyddu bob blwyddyn, ond dim ond 9 y cant o blastigau sy'n cael eu hailgylchu yn y byd.

Ers i gynhyrchu plastigau ar raddfa fawr ddechrau yn y 1950au, rydym wedi cynhyrchu 8.3 biliwn o dunelli ... yn gyfwerth â phwysau un biliwn o eliffantod Affricanaidd! A disgwylir i'r ffigur hwnnw gyrraedd 34 biliwn o dunelli erbyn 2050!!

Nid oes dim o'r plastig hwn wedi bioddiraddio yn ystod y cyfnod hwn, ond yn hytrach mae wedi parhau i leihau, gan ei wneud bron yn amhosibl i'w ddileu!

Rydym yn annog Llywodraeth Cymru i gyflwyno treth ar yr holl blastigau untro sy'n debyg i'r taliad 5p llwyddiannus iawn ar fagiau siopa untro.

Mae'n bryd gweithredu.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:

Grŵp gwirfoddol yw Cyfeillion Traethau'r Barri, a sefydlwyd saith mlynedd yn ôl, y mae ei nod yw cael gwared â sbwriel, llawer ohono yn blastig, o bum prif draeth y Barri. Rydym yn ymdrechu i ailgylchu cymaint ohono ag y gallwn.

Mae angen inni ddylunio ein pecynnau a'n cynwysyddion untro fel eu bod yn boddiddio'n hawdd yn ein hamgylchedd.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd

- Bro Morgannwg
- Canol De Cymru

Rebecca Evans AC/AM
Y Gweinidog Cyllid a'r Trefnydd
Minister for Finance and Trefnydd



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref RE/00030/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AM
Chair, Petitions Committee

2 March 2020

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your letter regarding the petition P-05-803 related to taxing single-use plastics.

The Welsh Government continues to engage with the UK Government on their proposals for a UK-wide plastic packaging tax. The UK Government is planning to launch a technical consultation on the design and operation of the tax in the next few months. We will work with key Welsh stakeholders, as part of this next round of evidence gathering, to ensure Welsh views are fed into the detailed design and implementation aspects of any tax in this area.

Welsh Government is also actively considering a Welsh-specific tax or charge on single-use plastic cups. We are currently building an evidence base to assess the merits of introducing such a measure. I am mindful that the decision to introduce a tax should be considered in light of the expected impact of forthcoming changes to Extended Producer Responsibility schemes and proposals for a deposit return scheme, to ensure that any additional measures are fair and proportionate, in line with our tax principles set out in the Tax Policy Framework.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Evans AC/AM
Y Gweinidog Cyllid a'r Trefnydd
Minister for Finance and Trefnydd

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

P-05-803 Our natural world is being poisoned by single use plastics...it's time to introduce a tax!, Correspondence – Petitioner to Committee, 18.03.20

Dear Assembly Member,

Our members are extremely frustrated that some politicians make public statements about tackling the rising tide of single use plastics, but then fail to take any real action.

We also believe that after 20 years of devolution, we should have the ability and confidence to develop our own policies to tackle this plastic emergency.

We therefore welcome the proposal to introduce a charge on single use cups but believe that polystyrene single use cups and food containers are a much bigger threat to the environment and should be included.

The threat from new streams of plastic waste such as pet food pouches and crisp packets must also be added to the agenda, along with micro plastics.

We fully appreciate that at the moment priorities will be diverted to tackling the Corona virus threat, but the plastic pollution crisis cannot be ignored indefinitely.

Yours faithfully,

Rob Curtis

Friends of Barry Beaches

P-05-868: Diogelwch Dŵr/Atal Boddi ac effeithiau Sioc Dŵr Oer i'w haddysgu ym mhob Ysgol yng Nghymru

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Carmarthenshire Water Safety Partnership, ar ôl casglu 394 o lofnodion ar-lein a 502 ar bapur – cyfanswm o 896 lofnodion.

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Rydym yn galw ar Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i gynnwys Diogelwch Dŵr/Atal Boddi ac effeithiau sioc dŵr oer i'w haddysgu drwy'r cwricwlwm cenedlaethol yng Nghymru.

Yn 2016, gwelsom lansiad y strategaeth diogelwch dŵr gyntaf erioed yn y DU, sy'n anelu at leihau 50% o farwolaethau sy'n gysylltiedig â dŵr erbyn 2026. Mae'n canolbwyntio'n bennaf ar gydweithio, ymwybyddiaeth, addysg ac atal. Mae angen i Gymru ymateb i'w chefnogi.

Mae teuluoedd Cameron Comey, Luke Somerfield, Kieran Bennett-Leefe, Robert Mansfield a Jem Pendragon oll yn cefnogi'r ddeiseb hon er cof am eu meibion a gollwyd mewn dŵr.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol:

Mae cannoedd o oedolion a phlant yn boddi'n ddamweiniol bob blwyddyn yn y DU ac Iwerddon, ac mae Cymru, gyda'i hafonydd a'i llynnoedd niferus a'i harfordir gwyllt yn dioddef hefyd. Mae addysg ac atal yn allweddol i ddiogelu ein cymunedau rhag achosion diangen o fodd.

Mae'r ddeiseb hon hefyd yn canolbwyntio ar ddiogelwch iach ac addysgedig ar lawer o'n dyfrffyrdd agored yng Nghymru drwy hyrwyddo digwyddiadau yn genedlaethol ac yn lleol, lle gall pobl ifanc a'r cyhoedd gael mynediad at ddiogelwch sydd wedi'u trefnu er mwyn cymryd rhan mewn digwyddiadau cymdeithasol, gweithgar a diogel gyda chlybiau/sefydliadau sy'n ymwneud â gweithgareddau dŵr.

Rydym hefyd yn cydnabod bod toriadau gan awdurdodau lleol i hygyrchedd nofio i bob disgybl (drwy bwysau llywodraeth ganolog) a Bagloriaeth Cymru newydd ar ddiogelwch dŵr yn fwllch rhy eang i sicrhau neges addysgol gyson

i bawb. Mae gan Gymru dair strategaeth fras (Ein Dyfodol Iach, Adeiladu Dyfodol Mwy Disglair a Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol) sydd â chysylltiadau ag atal anafiadau, ac felly lleihau boddi.

Cefnogir y ddeiseb hon gan lawer o bartneriaid gan gynnwys: pum teulu i ddyfodol ifanc a foddodd yng ngorllewin Cymru, Bad Achub Glan-y-fferi, Jonathan Edwards AS, Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub De Cymru, Rebecca Ramsey (ymgyrchydd dros addysg diogelwch dŵr yn Lloegr), Grŵp Diogelwch Dŵr Cymru Gyfan, Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru, Simon Hart AS, Cyngor Tref Caerfyrddin, y Gymdeithas Cyryclau a Physgotwyr Rhwydi, Clwb Canŵio Padlwyr Cwm Gwendraeth, Gorsaf Heddlu Rhydaman, Clwb Cychod Caerfyrddin, Tîm Achub Mynydd Aberhonddu, Gwylwyr y Glannau Llansteffan, Angela Burns AC, Fferiau Bae Caerfyrddin, Canolfan Ganŵio Padlwyr Llandysul, i enwi rhai.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd

- Dwyrain Caerfyrddin a Dinefwr
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru

P-05-868 Water Safety/Drowning Prevention and the effects of Cold Water Shock to be taught in all Schools in Wales, Correspondence - Royal Life Saving Society to Chair, 05.03.20

Dear Janet,

Firstly, thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to respond. I am very sorry for the delayed response.

Our role as an organisation is to actively educate, campaign and prepare the Welsh public to enjoy the water safely, in a safe environment. This includes all water usage whether it be at inland, open water sites in the pool. We support the intended efforts of The Carmarthen Water Safety Partnership to lobby for such issues. Water safety and especially education about 'cold water shock' should, without doubt, be communicated to all young Welsh citizens.

We, within our membership of the All Wales Water Safety Group, are currently planning a holistic, strategic approach to being in, on or near water safely.

The group, chaired by the Fire and Rescue Service and supported by RLSS UK, MCA and RNLI are currently drafting an all Wales Water Safety Strategy. As a crucial stakeholder, we plan to actively engage with the Welsh Assembly to ensure that it meets the needs of all Welsh citizens and that the strategies reach, and distribution is empowered to all that are responsible. A key part of the strategy will include how children are proactively educated to enjoy the water, get out and see their beautiful country but to do so with knowledge and with responsibility. A draft strategy will be released for consultation in summer of 2020.

We are confident that the All Wales Strategy will effectively empower and support the number of passionate local groups, such as the Carmarthen Water Safety Partnership to deliver the outcomes that they so desperately desire.

I hope that provides effective insight into our current approach. Please get in touch if you have any further enquiries

Yours Sincerely

Robert Gofton

P-05-868 Water Safety/Drowning Prevention and the effects of Cold Water Shock to be taught in all Schools in Wales, Correspondence – Petitioner to Committee, 16.03.20

Shwmae,

We are pleased to finally see a response from RLSSUK on this matter. As the only independent Welsh water safety charity, we wish to make our final points in relation to this subject.

» As Carmarthenshire Water Safety Partnership (CWSP) has been a member of RLSSUK since 2015, we would have appreciated it if we were addressed by the right title in the letter.

» CWSP is the only Welsh organisation providing bilingual water safety education information via PDF and hard copy leaflets to schools in Wales. It recently delivered 13,500 leaflets to every secondary school in Dyfed. All self funded. These are supported in the leaflet by adverts from the RNLI and National Fire Chiefs Council.

» RLSSUK attended the 2019 Royal Welsh Show without any bilingual drowning prevention literature. Not acceptable. Much work is needed to deliver effective interventions for Wales which is currently sorely underrepresented, which is very frustrating to see.

» The Water Safety Wales group is still not actively delivering any interventions to the general public in Wales. It has been in a setting up phase since 2017. Delivery of a robust WHO national water safety plan should be driven by Welsh Government.

» CWSP are pleased to be supported as a key lobbyist to increase awareness of the issues of cold water shock, as per the UK National Drowning Prevention Strategy 2016-2026.

Diolch pawb,

Adam Whitehouse

Chair

Carmarthenshire Water Safety Partnership

P-05-911 Dylid Diogelu Coed Yw Hynafol Cymru

Cyflwynwyd y ddeiseb hon gan Janis Fry, ar ôl casglu cyfanswm o 77 lofnodion ar bapur.

Geiriad y ddeiseb:

Dyma ofyn i chi lofnodi fy neiseb yn galw am i goed Yw hynafol gael eu diogelu yn ôl y gyfraith.

Ar hyn o bryd nid yw'r coed prydfferth hyn yn cael eu diogelu'n gyfreithiol. Mae'n hollbwysig i ni ddiogelu'r rhan hanfodol hon o'n treftadaeth â mesurau diogelu cyfreithiol penodol cyn i ni golli rhagor o goed. Mae'r coed Yw hyn wedi tyfu ym Mhrydain ers miloedd o flynyddoedd. Maen nhw'n henebion byw ac yn dystion hynafol i hanes ein cyndeidiau a'n gwareiddiad. Rhaid i ni eu diogelu ar fyrder cyn i ragor gael eu colli.

Etholaeth a Rhanbarth y Senedd

- Dwyrain Caerfyrddin a Dinefwr
- Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru



Eich cyf P-05-911
Ein cyf DET/00170/20

Janet Finch-Saunders AC
Cadeirydd, y Pwyllgor Deisebau
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
Tŷ Hywel
Bae Caerdydd
Caerdydd
CF99 1NA

05 Mawrth 2020

Annwyl Janet Finch-Saunders AC,

Deiseb P-05-911 Dylid Diogelu Coed Yw Hynafol Cymru

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 17 Chwefror yn gofyn am fanylion gan Cadw am:

1. unrhyw fesurau diogelwch a roddir i goed hynafol, fel yw, yng Nghymru, ac unrhyw gynlluniau y gellid eu defnyddio at y diben hwn; a
2. chyfeiriadau a wneir gan y deisebydd at gamau a gymerir gan English Heritage mewn perthynas â choed yw yn Lloegr.

Byddaf yn mynd i'r afael â'r pwyntiau hyn yn eu trefn.

1. Mae'r Pwyllgor Deisebau eisoes wedi derbyn gwybodaeth am Orchmynion Diogelu Coed a mesurau diogelu posibl eraill a weinyddir gan adrannau eraill yn Llywodraeth Cymru ac awdurdodau lleol.

Gwelaf fod y deisebydd yn gofyn yn benodol am y posibilrwydd o ddiogelu drwy gofrestru coed fel henebion. Fel gwasanaeth amgylchedd hanesyddol Llywodraeth Cymru, mae nodi henebion sy'n bodloni'r meini prawf cofrestru yn un o gyfrifoldebau Cadw.

Cofrestru yw'r ffordd o gydnabod henebion neu safleoedd archeolegol o bwysigrwydd cenedlaethol yn ôl y gyfraith drwy Ddeddf Henebion Hynafol ac Ardaloedd Archaeolegol 1979. Defnyddir cofrestru i ddiogelu adfeilion hanesyddol nad oes unrhyw un yn byw

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Gohebiaeth.Dafydd.Elis-Thomas@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Dafydd.Elis-Thomas@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

Tudalen y pecyn 164
We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

ynddynt a safleoedd archeolegol. Mae rhai henebion cofrestredig yn cynnwys adeiladau sy'n sefyll neu adfeilion ac nid oes gan eraill unrhyw adfeilion i'w gweld uwchben y tir, ond mae eu harchaeoleg o dan y tir o bwysigrwydd cenedlaethol. Gall safleoedd dan ddŵr fod yn rhai cofrestredig hefyd, fel aneddiadau llynnoedd tanddwr neu ddrylliadau hanesyddol.

Cymerodd Cadw ran mewn grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen a sefydlwyd i edrych ar ddiogelu coed hynafol. Edrychodd y grŵp ar hyfywdra defnyddio cofrestru i ddiogelu coed hynafol, ond daeth i'r casgliad mewn trafodaethau cynnar nad dyma'r ffordd fwyaf effeithiol ymlaen. Y prif reswm am hyn yw nad yw coed yn cael eu dosbarthu yn hawdd i'r diffiniad o henebion oherwydd eu cynefinoedd ehangach a diddordeb o ran bioamrywiaeth, a gallai cofrestru gyfaddawdu'r gallu i'w rheoli yn effeithiol gan y byddai unrhyw waith rholi coed yn gofyn am gydsyniad henebion cofrestredig. Fodd bynnag, deallaf o'r ymateb i'r Pwyllgor Deisebau gan y Gweinidog Tai a Llywodraeth Leol dyddiedig 18 Rhagfyr 2019, bod opsiynau eraill mwy priodol ar gyfer sicrhau gwell diogelwch yn cael eu hystyried.

2. Mae'r deisebydd yn nodi bod English Heritage wedi cymryd cam pwysig i wneud yr Ywen Ankerwycke yn Runnymede yn heneb gofrestrredig. Rydym wedi ymchwilio i hyn ac wedi penderfynu nad yw'r Ywen Ankerwycke yn goeden gofrestrredig; mae'n goeden sydd wedi'i lleoli o fewn ffin heneb gofrestrredig. Mae'r dynodiad heneb gofrestrredig ar gyfer Abaty Ankerwycke (Ileandy Benedictaidd a sefydlwyd yn hwyr yn yr ugeinfed ganrif) – Heneb Gofrestrredig Cofnod Rhestr Rhif: 1007943 <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1007943>. Historic England yw'r corff yn Lloegr sy'n gyfrifol am gofrestru ar hyn o bryd, Mae Historic England yn datgan bod amrywiaeth mawr o dros 200 categori o henebion ar ei gofrestr ond yn nodi mai dim ond strwythurau, nodweddion ac adfeilion sydd wedi'u creu yn fwriadol gaiff eu cofrestru.

3. Am y rhesymau a nodwyd yn gynt, nid yw Cadw yn ystyried cofrestru fel mecanwaith priodol ar gyfer diogelu coed hynafol ac, fel Historic England, ni fyddai'n cymhwysu dynodiad i goed yw hynafol penodol.

Yn gywir,



Yr Arglwydd Elis-Thomas AC/AM

Y Dirprwy Weinidog Diwylliant, Chwaraeon a Thwristiaeth

P-05-911 Protect Wales' Ancient Yew Trees – Petitioner to Committee, 19.03.20

Thankyou for keeping me informed. At this stage I have no further comments to make except to reiterate that it simply does not make sense that we do not have any legal protection for what is the largest collection of ancient yews on earth, the oldest living trees, here in the UK. It also makes no sense that we are not celebrating the fact that Wales's most important accolade is as the Land of the Yews as we have more of these ancient trees here than in the rest of Britain. This is Wales' true importance in the world. My online petition now has 263,000 signatures and if you were able (after the virus) to arrange for me to come and make a presentation at the Senedd I would be happy to do so.

Yours sincerely,

Janis Fry

P-05-911 Protect Wales' Ancient Yew Trees, Correspondence – Petitioner to Committee 28.05.20

Dear Petitioners Committee,

I can assure you that English Heritage has indeed made the Ankerwycke Yew a Scheduled Monument. I can understand the Deputy Minister believing that just Ankerwycke Priory is one because it was deemed too sensitive for the public to discover that there were 2 scheduled monuments at the site one being the Yew tree and the other the Priory as the National Trust were not ready security wise and so it is not easy to find but it is most certainly in place and the National Trust before the virus were beginning to have boat trips run for tourists to visit the tree.

The rest of my petition representation still stands and I have nothing to add except to reiterate that Wales has the largest collection of ancient yews on earth. Yews are the oldest living trees. Don't you think the nation should protect and flag up this amazing asset? If you are not in the know with the tree world you will not know that this is Wales' true importance internationally. People come from all over the world to see these ancient trees and if you go to Defynnog near Brecon you can see just how many people come from right across the world from the visitors book! The Defynnog Yew is probably the oldest tree in Europe (in excess of 5.000 years) yet it has no legal protection. Most modern countries would give it that protection.

Best wishes,

Janis Fry