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Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Llywodraeth Cymru  
Ymgynghoriad – crynodeb

## Cynllun Sŵn a Seinwedd i Gymru 2023-2028

Rhagfyr 2023

This document is also available in English.  
Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn Saesneg.

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## Cyflwyniad

Cynhaliodd Llywodraeth Cymru ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus rhwng 26 Mehefin 2023 a 2 Hydref 2023 ar ein Cynllun Sŵn a Seinwedd drafft i Gymru 2023-2028<sup>1</sup>. Mae Rheoliadau Sŵn Amgylcheddol (Cymru) 2006 yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i Weinidogion Cymru adolygu eu cynlluniau gweithredu ar sŵn amgylcheddol ac, os oes angen, eu diwygio bob pum mlynedd. At hynny, bydd Bil yr Amgylchedd (Ansawdd Aer a Seinweddau) (Cymru)<sup>2</sup> yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i Weinidogion Cymru baratoi a chyhoeddi strategaeth genedlaethol ar seinwedd a'i hadolygu ac, os yw'n briodol, ei haddasu bob pum mlynedd. Bwriedir i'r Cynllun Sŵn a Seinwedd newydd fodloni'r ddau ofyniad hyn ar gyfer y cyfnod rhwng 2023 a 2028.

Cafwyd 56 o ymatebion i'r ymgynghoriad, sy'n fwy na dwywaith nifer yr ymatebion a gafwyd bum mlynedd yn ôl i'r ymgynghoriad ar y Cynllun Sŵn a Seinwedd drafft i Gymru 2018-2023. Rydym yn croesawu'r cynnydd mewn ymwybyddiaeth o sŵn a seinwedd a diddordeb ynddynt, a gellir priodoli hyn yn rhannol i broffil cynyddol y maes polisi hwn o ganlyniad i Fil yr Amgylchedd (Ansawdd Aer a Seinweddau) (Cymru).

Cafwyd 32 o ymatebion gan unigolion preifat, a rannodd eu profiadau a'u safbwyntiau penodol mewn perthynas â sŵn a seinwedd yng Nghymru. Cafwyd un ymateb gan yr Aelod o'r Senedd, Hefin David AS, yn cynrychioli'r safbwyntiau a fynegwyd gan ei etholwyr. Cafwyd dau ymateb gan ymarferwyr iechyd yr amgylchedd (EHPs) mewn awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru. Cafwyd ymatebion gan gynrychiolwyr o'r 21 o sefydliadau canlynol hefyd, y mae eu gwaith naill ai'n cefnogi polisi'r llywodraeth ar sŵn a seinwedd neu y mae'r polisi'n effeithio ar eu gwaith:

Bureau Veritas UK Ltd  
Grŵp Gweithredu Maes Tanio Castellmartin (CRAG)  
Sefydliad Siartredig Iechyd yr Amgylchedd (CIEH)  
Comisiwn Dylunio Cymru  
Dogs Trust  
Goldsmiths, Prifysgol Llundain  
Sefydliad Elusennol Cynllun Ardystio Microgynhyrchu  
Y Weinyddiaeth Amddiffyn  
Mott MacDonald  
Parciau Cenedlaethol Cymru  
Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru (CNC)  
Nesta  
Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru  
RenewableUK Cymru  
Cymdeithas Frenhinol y Penseiri yng Nghymru (RSAW)  
Sefydliad Cynllunio Trefol Brenhinol (RTPI) Cymru  
RWE Renewables UK Ltd  
Cymdeithas Sŵn y DU  
Coleg Prifysgol Llundain  
Prifysgol Caerloyw

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.llyw.cymru/cynllun-swn-seinwedd-i-gymru-2023-i-2028>

<sup>2</sup> <https://busnes.senedd.cymru/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Ild=40984>

## Rhwydwaith Cymunedau Mwy Diogel Cymru

Canfyddiad amlycaf yr ymgynghoriad hwn yw'r amrywiaeth eang o safbwyntiau cryf a diffuant ar y maes pwnc hwn. Ychydig iawn o'r 56 o ymatebion a gawsom a fynegodd safbwyntiau unfath am yr hyn y dylai blaenoriaethau'r llywodraeth fod ym maes sŵn, a mynegodd rhai ohonynt safbwyntiau cwbl groes, gan gyflwyno pwyntiau dilys ar y naill ochr a'r llall i'r ddadl.

Yn ychwanegol at y 56 o ymatebion ysgrifenedig a gafwyd, mae swyddogion Llywodraeth Cymru wedi gwrando ar safbwyntiau amrywiaeth o randdeiliaid eraill yn ystod cyfnod yr ymgynghoriad, gan gynnwys mynychu cyfarfodydd â rheoleiddwyr sŵn (Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru ac awdurdodau lleol), Grŵp Tirwedd Cymru, Cangen Cymru y Sefydliad Acwsteg a Chynhadledd Rheoli Sŵn Sefydliad Siartredig Iechyd yr Amgylchedd.

Yn ystod cyfnod yr ymgynghoriad, mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi nodi cyhoeddi adroddiad Pwyllgor Gwyddoniaeth a Thechnoleg Tŷ'r Arglwyddi ar ei ymchwiliad i effeithiau golau artiffisial a sŵn ar iechyd pobl<sup>3</sup>. Rydym hefyd wedi ystyried yr ymatebion a gafwyd i'n hymgynghoriad yn 2022 ar ganllawiau cynllunio newydd ar gyfer ansawdd aer, sŵn a seinwedd<sup>4</sup>, a thrwy'r ymgynghoriad a gynhaliwyd gan Bwyllgor Newid Hinsawdd, yr Amgylchedd a Seilwaith y Senedd eleni ar Fil yr Amgylchedd (Ansawdd Air a Seinweddau) (Cymru)<sup>5</sup>.

Disgwylir i'r strategaeth genedlaethol gyntaf ar seinweddau a gaiff ei datblygu ar ôl i'r Bil hwnnw ddod yn Ddeddf gael ei llunio gan Lywodraeth nesaf Cymru yn 2028. Os bydd gwybodaeth, sgiliau a phrofiad gwyddonol mewn perthynas â seinweddau yn cynyddu dros y pum mlynedd nesaf, gallai strategaeth genedlaethol ddiwygiedig ar seinweddau yn 2028 fod yn fwy uchelgeisiol o ran yr hyn a ddisgwylir gan ymarferwyr na'r un y gwnaethom ymgynghori arni eleni. Rydym yn disgwyl y bydd y dystiolaeth a gesglir gan randdeiliaid drwy'r ymgynghoriad presennol yn llywio'r gwaith o fireinio Cynllun Sŵn a Seinwedd y flwyddyn hon, yn ogystal â'r gwaith o ddatblygu polisi'r weinyddiaeth hon a'r weinyddiaeth nesaf ar sŵn a seinwedd yn y dyfodol ac, felly, yn helpu i lywio'r strategaeth a gaiff ei llunio o dan y Ddeddf yn 2028.

Mae'r ddogfen grynhai hon yn canolbwyntio ar y 56 o ymatebion ysgrifenedig a gafwyd i'r ymgynghoriad ar Gynllun Sŵn a Seinwedd 2023-2028, gan dynnu sylw yn arbennig at y newidiadau a wnaed i gynnwys y Cynllun drafft cyn ei fabwysiadu o ganlyniad i'r ymatebion hynny. Roedd rhai o'r ymatebion a gafwyd yn fanwl iawn, ac yn ymhelaethu'nfaith ar faterion penodol. Er nad yw'r pwyntiau a godwyd yn yr ymatebion hynny wedi cael eu hatgynhyrchu'n llawn yn y ddogfen grynhai hon, maent wedi cael eu darllen yn llawn, a byddant yn cael eu cadw fel adnodd ar gyfer swyddogion Llywodraeth Cymru y tu hwnt i Gynllun y flwyddyn hon er mwyn helpu i ddatblygu polisi pellach ar bynciau penodol dros y blynyddoedd nesaf. Lle mae ymatebwyr wedi nodi y byddent yn croesawu trafodaethau pellach ar bynciau

<sup>3</sup> <https://committees.parliament.uk/work/7256/the-effects-of-artificial-light-and-noise-on-human-health/publications>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.llyw.cymru/canllawiau-cynllunio-diwygiedig-mewn-perthynas-ag-ansawdd-aer-swn-seinwedd>

<sup>5</sup> <https://busnes.senedd.cymru/mgConsultationDisplay.aspx?id=510>

penodol, mae'n bosibl y bydd swyddogion Llywodraeth Cymru yn cysylltu â'r sefydliadau neu'r unigolion hynny i drefnu sgysiau maes o law.

## **Nodyn ar y crynodeb o'r ymatebion i'r ymgynghoriad**

Roedd yr ymatebion a gawsom i gwestiynau'r ymgynghoriad yn cyfleu amrywiaeth eang o arbenigedd proffesiynol, profiadau bywyd, safbwyntiau am werth a dewisiadau personol mewn perthynas â'r rôl y dylai llywodraeth genedlaethol a lleol ei chwarae yn y maes hwn, a'r rôl na ddylai ei chwarae. Nododd yr ymatebwyr hefyd y camau y dylid rhoi blaenoriaeth iddynt dros y pum mlynedd nesaf, yn eu barn nhw.

Roedd rhai o'r ymatebion a gafwyd yn fanwl iawn, ac eraill yn gryno iawn. Yn y ddogfen grynhwi hon, rydym wedi dyfynnu o'r ymatebion er mwyn cyfleu ehangder y safbwyntiau a fynegwyd am swm a seinweddau. Rydym wedi ceisio cydnabod lefel y manylder yn y cyfraniadau hwy, yn ogystal â rhoi sylw dyledus i'r ymatebion mwy cryno. Pwyntiau dangosol a wneir yn y dyfyniadau hyn, yn hytrach na phwyntiau cyflawn.

Ni ddylid rhoi unrhyw bwys ar drefn yr ymatebwyr. Ymatebwyr 1 i 35 yw'r rhai a ymatebodd drwy'r ffurflen ar-lein, ac maent wedi'u rhifo yn ôl y drefn y gwnaethant ymateb. Ymatebwyr 36 i 56 yw'r rhai a ymatebodd drwy e-bost neu drwy'r post, yn nhrefn yr wyddor.

## Cwestiwn 1: Seinweddau priodol

Gwnaethom ofyn beth fyddai nodweddion pentref, tref neu ddinas a oedd wedi cyflawni “seinweddau priodol”. Ymhlith y nodweddion a nodwyd roedd pobl yn bod yn ystyriol o’i gilydd ac yn meddu ar lefel briodol o reolaeth bersonol, awdurdodau yn cadw sŵn i lefel ddiogel, a gallu clywed synau byd natur.

**Ymatebydd 2:** “Only natural sounds.”

**Ymatebydd 6:** “A pleasant place to live where people are considerate about their neighbours.”

**Ymatebydd 8:** “Appropriate regulation so that residents have the right to live without noise levels that affect their health and well-being.”

**Ymatebydd 11 (EHP 1):** “It would be a space where the range of sound sources present was tolerable/acceptable and did not detract from the character of the area.”

**Ymatebydd 23:** “I think the Senedd should leave well enough alone.”

**Ymatebydd 26 (Rhwydwaith Cymunedau Mwy Diogel Cymru):** “From a Community Safety perspective it would be that the soundscape allows enough sound that people feel safe and able to enjoy the environment.”

**Ymatebydd 35 (Prof John L Drever, Goldsmiths, Prifysgol Llundain):** “A culturally diverse, heterogeneous, vibrant even surprising soundscape that reflects the seasons, and allows nature to flourish. It needs to be allowed to develop naturally as society develops, but cultural traditions such as brass bands, should be classed as a special case when it comes to noise complaints.”

**Ymatebydd 37 (CIEH):** “Exposure to noise at night, when people are not conscious or aware of the soundscape inside their bedrooms, is a serious concern. The focus must therefore be on reducing excessive levels of noise inside bedrooms at night in order to reduce objective impacts on sleep rather than subjective impacts of noise.”

**Ymatebydd 39 (Dogs Trust):** “Somewhere with a high level of predictability and control, making a diverse and inclusive space which takes into account the needs of people and animals.”

**Ymatebydd 49 (CNC):** “The characteristics of a village, town or city that had achieved “appropriate soundscapes” appropriate to place and context would include...

- new and expanding developments that are responsive in their design and layout to existing and cumulative soundscape effects on likely receptors, ensuring suitability to place and context, and where appropriate mitigating to reduce any potential effects on sensitive receptors

- places where the acoustic measures or screening deployed worked with local landscape character in their choice of materials and planting, additionally benefitting the perception of a more appropriate local soundscape through visual and aesthetic improvements
- places where the characteristics and qualities of soundscapes that contribute to local tranquillity, health, well-being and amenity are conserved and enhanced
- places where soundscapes that are important to tranquillity as a special quality of statutory designated landscapes are conserved and enhanced”

**Ymatebydd 50 (Prof Andrew Hugill, Prifysgol Caerloyw):** “The main characteristic would be happier and more productive people. The way to evaluate the appropriateness of a soundscape is not through some measurement of sounds, but through consultation with the people who inhabit that sonic environment. Decision-making that is undertaken without the involvement of the people is not sustainable.”

**Ymatebydd 53 (RSAW):** “We don’t feel that any village, town or city has definable or distinct “appropriate soundscapes”. Every village, town or city will experience different soundscapes at different times, very much depending on the individual time and place of that particular area.”

**Ymatebydd 54 (RTPI Cymru):** “We must stress the importance of recognising that all places are different. No two villages, towns or cities would or should have the same characteristics in this respect. Appropriate soundscape should be considered on a place-by-place basis taking into account the qualities and characteristics of that place along with the views of wider stakeholders.”

Gwnaethom ofyn i'r ymatebwyr nodi'r prif rwystrau i sicrhau seinweddau priodol. Ymhlith yr ymatebion roedd ymwybyddiaeth annigonol, diffyg cyfathrebu rhwng cymdogion, a phrinder adnoddau a sgiliau mewn cyrff cyhoeddus.

**Ymatebydd 4:** “Failure to enforce and regulate.”

**Ymatebydd 7:** “People's disrespectful attitude to neighbours and neighbourhood, e.g. I'll do what I want on my own property.”

**Ymatebydd 9:** “1. Barriers caused by lack of personal, social consideration. 2. Lack of rule/law knowledge. 3. Lack of rule/law enforcement. 4. Lack of social education.”

**Ymatebydd 19:** “Many individuals may not be aware of the importance of soundscapes and how noise pollution can affect health and well-being. Lack of awareness can lead to apathy or resistance to noise reduction initiatives... Achieving appropriate soundscapes often requires collaboration between urban planners, architects, engineers, policymakers, and the public. A lack of communication and collaboration among these stakeholders can impede progress.”

**Ymatebydd 28:** “Selfish neighbours.”

**Ymatebydd 29:** “Lack of communication between noise maker and community.”

**Ymatebydd 32 (EHP 2):** “The Agent of Change Principle isn’t something that is currently taken into consideration during the planning process. From our experience there is a large section of the housing stock in Wales that to today’s standards would be considered substandard. This is especially true for rental sector both rental and local authority.”

**Ymatebydd 37 (CIEH):** “The main barrier is the lack of allocated funding and resources to reduce noise impacts on health and quality of life... Other barriers include competing community desires and effective engagement.”

**Ymatebydd 47 (Mott MacDonald):** “The main barrier or obstacle is getting a developer on board with what might be or seem like a costly upgrade or additional constraints to overcome. A lot of developments are reactive instead of proactive when it comes to environmental disciplines (acoustics included), but they’d need to know this is an opportunity (not a constraint).”

**Ymatebydd 49 (CNC):** “Existing development contexts and settlement characteristics with limited spatial scope for adapting soundscapes... Dealing with conflicting needs and expectations of stakeholders during the planning process... Potential lack of awareness of the importance of appropriate soundscapes and their contribution to well-being. This may be true for the public, private and third sectors as well as for communities in general.”

**Ymatebydd 50 (Prof Andrew Hugill):** “First and foremost, a lack of awareness and understanding of people’s hearing differences. Next, a recognition of the complexity that acquiring this knowledge produces... Finally, there are the practical and technical difficulties of implementing the results of an increased awareness and understanding.”

**Ymatebydd 54 (RTPI Cymru):** “We believe that the main barrier to achieving appropriate soundscapes is a lack of capacity, understanding, guidance and training.”

**Ymatebydd 56 (IEDE Acoustics Group, Coleg Prifysgol Llundain):** “Main barriers in achieving soundscape appropriateness in public spaces may be related to disproportionate representation of some stakeholders compared to others in the decision-making process... The understanding of soundscape appropriateness may vary among different cultures, contexts and social groups – what some people consider appropriate may not be the same for others.”

Gwnaethom ofyn sut y dylem geisio goresgyn y rhwystrau hynny. Roedd yr awgrymiadau a wnaed yn amrywio o fentrau addysg cyhoeddus a chyrsgiau hyfforddi proffesiynol i fwy o waith ymchwil a mwy o gyllid ar gyfer rheoleiddwyr.



**Ymatebydd 1:** “Better policing.”

**Ymatebydd 6:** “Education – more information on how noise can affect people’s health, and the environment through air and noise pollution.”

**Ymatebydd 16:** “WHY should you seek to overcome these barriers? Is it really NECESSARY?”

**Ymatebydd 19:** “Encourage the development of quieter technologies and machinery... Strengthen enforcement mechanisms and penalties for violating noise regulations... Launch public awareness campaigns about the importance of appropriate soundscapes and the health effects of noise pollution. Educate communities about simple noise reduction practices they can adopt... Engage the community in decision-making processes to ensure their concerns are heard... Integrate soundscape management into urban design and planning curricula... Foster partnerships between local governments, NGOs, research institutions, and private sectors to pool expertise and resources... Advocate for architectural and urban design that considers local cultural and acoustic values, resisting homogenization.”

**Ymatebydd 26 (Rhwydwaith Cymunedau Mwy Diogel Cymru):** “Awareness for people of what is acceptable and of what they are responsible for as individuals, businesses and communities. This should also include ensuring that people are aware of their rights to notify of breaches and funding enforcement for planning and environmental enforcement.”

**Ymatebydd 32 (EHP 2):** “Provide extra funding to LA to employ adequately trained officers... Consider including noise insulation ratings in home purchases (similarly to energy ratings), to both inform the purchaser on expectations and set minimum requirements for rented properties. It could help set the ball rolling for retrospective home improvements. Grants for poorly performing properties could be offered.”

**Ymatebydd 35 (Prof John L Drever):** “Research, dialogue and deep understanding of a diverse community and its needs regarding the soundscape.”

**Ymatebydd 37 (CIEH):** “A targeted and costed noise reduction programme should be developed to reduce the burden of noise on health and quality of life on a progressive basis.”

**Ymatebydd 38 (Comisiwn Dylunio Cymru):** “Dense and mixed-use places require very good design to bring potentially conflicting aspects of everyday existence together and to create a better quality of life. For example, the traditional urban building pattern of enclosed blocks is a great way of accommodating density and a mix of uses in a way that creates a protected acoustic space.”

**Ymatebydd 43:** “It is vital that the Welsh Government has legal power to compel a local authority to resolve noise nuisance.”

**Ymatebydd 49 (CNC):** “We would welcome building capacity across planners, developers and consultants to understand and appreciate soundscape issues, the benefits of planning for appropriate soundscapes and how to integrate this into town and country and wider development planning. Building the community of practice on this new topic (to many) will be important... Educating the public about the importance of soundscapes, noise pollution, and its impact on health and well-being is essential. Workshops, campaigns, and educational materials can help raise awareness and encourage individuals to be more mindful of sound management... Address social, cultural, and economic inequities by ensuring that noise management policies and solutions benefit all members of the community, especially marginalised groups who may be disproportionately affected by noise pollution.”

**Ymatebydd 51 (Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru):** “Ystyried seinwedd mewn unrhyw bolisiau cynllunio strategol troswaol a phan fo angen ar gyfer ceisiadau cynllunio unigol neu fathau o geisiadau... Ystyried seinwedd yn ystod unrhyw Asesiad o'r Effaith ar Iechyd perthnasol... Defnyddio arbenigedd presennol EHPs wrth asesu sŵn yng nghyd-destun seiniau eraill... Ystyried barn pobl mewn cymunedau lleol ar eu hamgylcheddau sain, gan gynnwys cydnabod y gall rhywfaint o sensiteiddio i lefelau sain ddigwydd ac na fydd lefelau sy'n dderbyniol i rai cymunedau yn dderbyniol i eraill.”

**Ymatebydd 54 (RTPI Cymru):** “It is essential that any new guidance, processes, or procedures are adequately resourced in both the short and longer term, well communicated, with training and practical guidance. Working closely with academics to understand the research context on soundscape could support planning's/decision makers' learning and skills development in this area. The sharing of case studies would also be useful in this respect.”

**Ymatebydd 56 (IEDE Acoustics Group):** “Possible ways to overcome these barriers could be (but are not limited to):

- Promote inclusive decision-making by ensuring that all relevant stakeholders have a voice in soundscape planning and policy development.
- Establish diverse advisory committees or working groups that represent different interests, including residents, businesses, transportation agencies, community organizations, and experts in acoustics and urban planning.
- ...
- Foster partnerships with academic institutions and research organizations to advance the understanding of soundscapes and noise pollution.
- Launch public awareness campaigns to inform residents and businesses about their roles in creating and maintaining a positive soundscape.”

## Cwestiwn 2: Dilyn y pum ffordd o weithio

Yn y rhan hon o'r ymgynghoriad, nododd yr ymatebwyr sut beth fyddai cymdeithas, yn eu barn nhw, pe bai pawb yn dilyn y pum ffordd o weithio yn Neddf Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol (Cymru) 2015 wrth gynnal gweithgareddau a all effeithio ar seinweddau, gan gynnig amrywiaeth o enghreifftiau. Y pum ffordd o weithio yw:

- ystyried y tymor hir fel na fyddwn yn peryglu gallu cenedlaethau'r dyfodol i ddiwallu eu hanghenion eu hunain;
- dilyn dull gweithredu integredig;
- cynnwys amrywiaeth o'r boblogaeth yn y penderfyniadau sy'n effeithio arnynt;
- gweithio gydag eraill mewn ffordd gydweithredol i ddod o hyd i atebion cynaliadwy a rennir;
- gweithredu i atal problemau rhag digwydd neu waethygu.

**Ymatebydd 3:** "More information and awareness of low flying jets and offering the communities affected ear protection and any other resources needed."

**Ymatebydd 4:** "My experience in general is that public bodies demonstrate none of these ways of working."

**Ymatebydd 8:** "A practical example would be in the rush to build windfarms. The current approach ignores these ways of working. The above criteria should be part of the planning process."

**Ymatebydd 11 (EHP 1):** "Setting up community noise groups that form part of engagement with the public on noise in the same way that air quality groups are integral to managing local air through air quality action plans."

**Ymatebydd 12:** "Working with communities to establish where issues occur, reducing speed limits as appropriate and policing road users."

**Ymatebydd 15:** "Do more surveys, but remember that minorities suffer, even if majorities don't mind. If you don't remember this, democracy fails."

**Ymatebydd 16:** "Who is this consultation REALLY aimed at? Public sector and charities? Certainly not the majority of the population."

**Ymatebydd 19:** "Investing in sustainable transportation infrastructure, such as electric vehicle charging networks and pedestrian-friendly pathways, to reduce long-term transportation noise... Collaborating with architects, urban planners, acousticians, and environmental experts to develop holistic solutions that consider both the built and natural environments... Ensuring that the needs and preferences of vulnerable populations, such as children, the elderly, and people with sensory sensitivities, are taken into account... Establishing partnerships between local governments, community organizations, businesses, and educational institutions to collectively address noise pollution challenges... Implementing proactive noise management plans for construction sites to minimize disturbances to nearby residents."

**Ymatebydd 20:** “Come on, it’s no wonder nothing ever gets done.”

**Ymatebydd 22:** “Just a play on words, very little happens in reality.”

**Ymatebydd 24:** “When planning a new-build the public should be properly consulted not faced with a definite future they cannot affect.”

**Ymatebydd 26 (Rhwydwaith Cymunedau Mwy Diogel Cymru):** “There are many examples of how this can work in practice but there are also barriers which need to be addressed. The clearest of which is the cost and impact of budget restraints and the increasing costs caused by the cost of living issues currently being seen... Collaboration and partnership working should include the reserved public bodies such as Policing, as well as those devolved... One example of this is the ongoing joint work around fireworks and anti-social behaviour which incorporates awareness raising, the use of tools and powers by the local authority and/or police and engagement with community groups and the retail sector.”

**Ymatebydd 30:** “I hyn weithio mae'n rhaid i'r pwerau mawr sy'n caniatáu hedfan isel – ac yn gwerthu y gofod uwch rin pennau i wladwriaethau eraill – dderbyn bod gan drigolion yr ardaliedd yma hawl i fyw mewn heddwch ... a bod effaith yr awyrennau yn barhaus a pharhaol ar ein hiechyd.”

**Ymatebydd 32 (EHP 2):** “Less disconnect between front line services and the decisions made at higher management levels such as Public Services Board. The planning process needs to be fully committed to adopt the aspirations contained within this policy.”

**Ymatebydd 35 (Prof John L Drever):** “Artists know how to do this kind of work. It is slow and sensitive work. It must not be top down.”

**Ymatebydd 36 (CRAG):** “Experience suggests this won’t work unless there is a fundamental shift in attitude and empathy... Local residents and business owners’ concerns are too readily dismissed, aren’t acted upon, and there is a considerable bias towards the organisation involved that supersedes everything and everyone else.”

**Ymatebydd 37 (CIEH):** “Noise action planning should not be limited to the integration of noise and air quality management. It should go further and consider all factors affecting health and quality of life. For example, the Building Regulations set out minimum standards for health and safety, but they are not always properly integrated to achieve optimum outcomes. There is a concern that the new regulations on overheating are not based on the best available evidence and can lead to sub-optimal designs for new dwellings located in areas exposed to high levels of noise and poor air quality... People already exposed to excessive noise and poor air quality are more likely to be socially deprived and suffer from a range of poor housing conditions... Holistic ways of working need to be applied across all areas of national and local government... Interventions should be designed, developed

and implemented with community participation... There is also a need to move beyond policy statements and find cost-effective solutions that will protect and improve health and quality of life... We would recommend therefore that the Welsh Government sets up a multi-disciplinary task force to develop pilot projects to improve the health of communities exposed to high levels of noise and poor air quality.”

**Ymatebydd 38 (Comisiwn Dylunio Cymru):** “Really good design involves systemic, iterative processes that lend themselves to the five ways of working. Soundscape needs to be considered as part of that process and of the placemaking approach advocated in Planning Policy Wales. This also requires a strategic and planned approach to how our villages, towns and cities grow and evolve. This needs to be led by local authorities, rather than reacting to the development industry.”

**Ymatebydd 39 (Dogs Trust):** “A good example of this would be the Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles (Scotland) Act 2022. While there are positives in this Act, we do believe that it could be improved by making consultative processes more agile to be able to address sudden need and believe that there is a real opportunity for the UK and Welsh Governments to develop better interventions, in line with the WFGA and its ways of working, based on this learning.”

**Ymatebydd 43:** “A Council / Local Authority that has a positive not defensive or obstructive approach to the problems of noise by listening to its residents and taking appropriate action... A Council / Local Authority should act to resolve a genuine problem of noise from residents and not “pass the buck” and ignore it so that it gets worse and worse.”

**Ymatebydd 46 (Y Weinyddiaeth Amddiffyn):** “MOD supports the ways of working set out and envisions that it could work in the following way:

- educating communities about the impacts of noise (positive and negative noise)
- working with communities, planners, developers & businesses (including retail and entertainment)
- involving / encouraging engagement with/from diverse respondents
- working with developers, planners & industry to identify innovative / sustainable solutions, look to the natural environment where possible
- designing out nuisance noise, designing in ‘welcome’ noise, legal controls to manage nuisance noise, using sanctions where necessary”

**Ymatebydd 49 (CNC):** “Utilising NRW’s Green Infrastructure Assessment Guide and other impact assessments (e.g. Health, Environment, Strategic Environment and Equality) and the Tranquillity and Place resource for identifying areas that are already important from a tranquillity point of view as well as areas where green infrastructure interventions could improve relative tranquillity and perceived soundscape, particularly when linked to population density and well-being benefits; whilst ensuring local communities benefit from equitable access to green and blue spaces and positive soundscapes.”

**Ymatebydd 50 (Prof Andrew Hugill):** “Considering the listening needs of autistic people, for example, in the development of public buildings, through a co-produced approach to design that offers flexibility and security in terms of future developments.”

**Ymatebydd 53 (RSAW):** “We worry that these additional considerations for already over stretched planning officers will cause further delays to the processing of planning applications.”

**Ymatebydd 56 (IEDE Acoustics Group):** “In practice, these five ways of working would result in a holistic, forward-thinking, and collaborative approach to soundscape management. Decision-makers would prioritize the long-term well-being of communities, consider the broader context of urban development, involve a wide range of voices, seek cooperative solutions, and take proactive steps to prevent noise-related issues. This approach would promote sustainable, harmonious soundscapes that enhance the overall quality of life for current and future generations in Wales...”

- **Example:** When planning the development of a new urban park, the public body considers the long-term benefits of creating a positive soundscape. They design the park to include features such as water fountains, bird-friendly landscaping, and open green spaces that enhance the acoustic environment for generations to come, providing a tranquil and restorative natural soundscape.
- **Example:** In the revitalization of a city center, the public body integrates soundscape considerations into the overall urban renewal project. They collaborate with urban designers and acoustic experts to incorporate elements like pedestrian-friendly streetscapes, street art, and public performances that create a vibrant and culturally rich acoustic atmosphere within the city.
- **Example:** When planning a riverside promenade, the public body conducts public consultations that involve a diverse range of stakeholders, including residents, artists, musicians, and local businesses. They seek input on how to incorporate live music performances, public art installations, and recreational areas that contribute positively to the soundscape, fostering a sense of community and cultural richness.
- **Example:** In response to requests for outdoor recreational spaces, the public body collaborates with local musicians and community members to establish a "cultural sound zone"...
- **Example:** The public body takes proactive steps to enhance the positive soundscape of a historic district by implementing noise-sensitive urban design principles. They encourage businesses to adopt soundproofing measures and establish guidelines for outdoor café spaces, ensuring that the district maintains its lively and culturally enriching acoustic environment while minimizing potential noise conflicts.”

### **Cwestiwn 3: Amrywiaeth glywedol a'r sain a gynhrychir gan weithgareddau dynol**

Gwnaethom ofyn i'r ymatebwyr sut y dylai cymdeithas, yn eu barn nhw, fynd i'r afael â'r cyfyng-gyngor sy'n gysylltiedig â'r ffaith bod sain a gynhrychir wrth i bobl fyw eu bywydau yn cael ei brofi gan bobl eraill fel sŵn diangen. Roedd y safbwyntiau a fynegwyd gan yr ymatebwyr yn amrywio o awydd i weld rheoliadau llym iawn a Chymru llawer tawelach, i'r awydd i bobl allu gwneud eu penderfyniadau eu hunain heb ymyrraeth y llywodraeth. Roedd gweithwyr proffesiynol ym maes iechyd yr amgylchedd am barhau i ddefnyddio lefelau goddefiant "y person cyffredin" i sŵn fel meincnod ar gyfer rheoleiddio, ac roedd eraill am weld mwy o gydnabyddiaeth yn cael ei rhoi i amrywiaeth glywedol a llety wrth wneud penderfyniadau mewn perthynas â grwpiau sy'n fwy sensitif i sŵn. Roedd llawer o'r ymatebwyr o blaid egwyddor cynnwys cymunedau lleol yn fwy wrth wneud penderfyniadau, ond nododd eraill ddiffyg sgiliau a chapasiti i wneud hyn yn ymarferol.

**Ymatebydd 5:** "You can't please all of the people all of the time. Spending too long on another Plan when there are major real problems in Wales where effort should be focussed – education, health, economy and travel infrastructure and delivery."

**Ymatebydd 6:** "Awareness programmes emphasising how one person's noise can make another person's life hell. I find that in general there is so much noise around most people are inured to it and just don't notice."

**Ymatebydd 9:** "Create forums and facilitate spaces where those experiencing these sounds with differing viewpoints can meet in the presence of a mediator, whether this is done online or in person."

**Ymatebydd 11 (EHP 1):** "Education and awareness of the public as to when noise can become a problem rather than just not wanting it per se. In my noise enforcement the only time any education or awareness occurs is at the point when an officer is actively investigating a complaint... Every day is an opportunity to make people more noise aware and help manage their expectations better."

**Ymatebydd 15:** "Well, actually, I would love a Wales that is silent (other than natural sounds. Imagine the bliss!) Also for older people background sounds become intensified, while lower sounds become unclear. There are a lot of us."

**Ymatebydd 16:** "Governments are not 'fair and balanced'. Leave people alone to make their own choices and stop the relentless legislation and CONTROL."

**Ymatebydd 19:** "Society should recognize that people have diverse sensitivities to sound due to factors like health conditions, sensory processing differences, cultural backgrounds, and work schedules. Public awareness campaigns can educate communities about aural diversity and promote understanding and empathy toward those who experience sounds

differently... Noise regulations should be flexible and adaptable to different contexts, taking into account the needs of both sound generators and affected individuals... Engage in open and constructive dialogue among affected parties, including sound generators, local communities, and relevant authorities. Establish platforms for mediation and conflict resolution to address disputes related to sound-related conflicts... Encourage the development of diverse sound environments within communities, allowing for a range of sonic experiences that cater to different preferences and needs... Embrace the richness of sounds that contribute to local culture and heritage while ensuring they are managed responsibly... Educate individuals about responsible sound practices and the importance of considering others' well-being. Empower communities to raise concerns, engage in discussions, and collaborate on finding solutions... Finding a fair and balanced solution requires a combination of legal frameworks, community engagement, technological innovations, and a mutual understanding of the diverse ways people experience sound. It's important to foster a culture of mutual respect, empathy, and collaboration to create communities where everyone's well-being is considered and protected.”

**Ymatebydd 21:** “I am disappointed that piped music has been omitted from the Plan. Piped music is a major barrier for people with any form of hearing difficulties. Hospitals, doctors surgeries, pubs, restaurants, shops and public buildings all have piped music which is a real barrier to people who are using them.”

**Ymatebydd 23:** “Tell the people who think of it as unwanted noise to get a grip same as people who move into a village and complain about chicken noises or the church bells.”

**Ymatebydd 32 (EHP 2):** “The current system is based on EHPs providing an objective perspective which at present can be challenging to say the least. However it’s a tried and tested process which seems to work. Statutory nuisance takes into account the impact on an average person as opposed to those who may have undue sensitivity. What is being proposed will increase ambiguity and reduce consistency. The proposal of introducing another decision making process will blur and complicate the process even more making it completely unmanageable... Spell out through guidance what is considered reasonable, the matter is so subjective there will always be people with different tolerances. However, if there is guidance to say what is reasonable, it can guide people on what is fair. Outside of this scope, guidance could raise awareness of what their neighbours might be annoyed by and possibly encourage better communication and liaison (strengthening relationships) or simply promote mutual respect through reasonable practice/acceptance.”

**Ymatebydd 35 (Prof John L Drever):** “Agency must be given to those who would not normally be at the table due to their diverse hearing sensitivities.”

**Ymatebydd 36 (CRAG):** “Fundamentally it returns to society having empathy, compassion and understanding for others. That one person’s lived experience



may not be your own. Many people are too quick to have the 'I'm alright Jack' attitude and dismiss out of hand that another person's lived experience is somehow invalid just because they haven't experienced it in the same way."

**Ymatebydd 37 (CIEH):** "It must be recognised that some people and groups are more vulnerable to noise exposure than others. We also need to recognise that vulnerability to noise is not confined to small proportions of the community and can affect significant groups of people, for example people suffering from poor mental health. As such we need to stop basing decisions based on a notional average person and have regard to the needs of persons more vulnerable to the adverse effects of noise."

**Ymatebydd 49 (CNC):** "Implement policies that allow for reasonable adjustments for individuals who are particularly sensitive to noise due to health conditions or unique circumstances. This can include measures to reduce noise during the night or near sensitive locations. Meaningful engagement with health and support services prior to change to ensure mitigations for the most vulnerable/those negatively impacted the most... Communication campaigns that encourage individuals and businesses to be more mindful of noise pollution and its effects on others can foster a culture of respect and consideration for the diverse needs of the community. This will be likely to include the need for behaviour change 'programmes'."

**Ymatebydd 55 (RWE Renewables UK Ltd):** "The planning system in Wales is fit for purpose. It ensures that the right development happens in the right place at the right time, and plays a critical role in identifying what development is needed and where, what areas need to be protected or enhanced and in assessing whether proposed development is suitable. In the context of energy projects, the planning system already balances the perceived "dilemma" in a fair and balanced way."

**Ymatebydd 56 (IEDE Acoustics Group):** "Implement clear zoning and land use policies that designate specific areas for different types of activities, such as residential, commercial, industrial, and recreational. This can help prevent conflicts by separating incompatible land uses... Foster open dialogue between stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and public authorities, to raise awareness about the impacts of noise on various segments of the population. Provide education and resources to help individuals and organizations understand how to reduce noise emissions and be good neighbours... Consider time-based restrictions on "noisy" activities in residential areas, which would in other cases allow for relaxation of some limits to let culturally vibrant soundscapes to emerge... Encourage urban planning and architectural design that prioritizes the creation of diverse sound environments within communities. This includes the incorporation of green spaces, cultural and recreational areas, and soundscapes that cater to various preferences."

## Cwestiwn 4: Sŵn ac ansawdd aer

Gwnaethom ofyn i'r ymatebwyr pa gamau gweithredu mewn perthynas ag ansawdd aer sy'n cynnig y cyfleoedd mwyaf i sicrhau buddiannau yn nhermau sŵn a seinweddau, a beth arall y dylid ei wneud (os o gwbl) i gysylltu polisi sŵn a pholisi ansawdd aer. Roedd mwyafrif helaeth o'r rhai a ymatebodd i'r cwestiwn hwn o blaid camau gweithredu mwy cydgysylltiedig mewn perthynas â sŵn ac ansawdd aer, a chynigiwyd nifer o enghreifftiau a syniadau ar gyfer mynd ar drywydd hyn.

**Ymatebydd 4:** “Reduce vehicle traffic and you will reduce both air and noise pollution.”

**Ymatebydd 5:** “Improve the road network to ensure smooth journeys without stopping / starting. Do not waste time and effort on vehicle idling regulations and fireworks.”

**Ymatebydd 6:** “Stopping commercial food street vendors running constant generators or engines.”

**Ymatebydd 9:** “Electric vehicles and associated infrastructure, particularly in rural areas.”

**Ymatebydd 10:** “Improving pedestrian and cycling routes, reduce speed limits where appropriate.”

**Ymatebydd 11 (EHP 1):** “The TFW vision of how we travel around should have within it the opportunity to reduce air and noise pollution from the transportation sector which is responsible for the majority of air quality issues in our towns and cities and also the most significant component of background noise... Bringing together models that serve air quality, noise, transportation and health cost predictions/deprivation data to work on the most impacted areas for this combination of variables as a priority.”

**Ymatebydd 19:** “Investment in pedestrian-friendly zones, cycling lanes, and green corridors can not only improve air quality by reducing vehicular emissions but also create quieter and more pleasant urban environments... Expanding and improving public transportation systems can lead to reduced traffic congestion, lowering both air pollution and traffic-related noise... Leveraging technology for smart traffic management and congestion reduction can lead to smoother traffic flows, reducing both air pollutants and traffic noise... Engaging with communities to raise awareness about the benefits of reducing air pollution and noise can encourage public support for relevant initiatives.”

**Ymatebydd 23:** “Nothing we are not a nanny state.”

**Ymatebydd 26 (Rhwydwaith Cymunedau Mwy Diogel Cymru):** “From a community safety perspective fireworks are a known nuisance, health risk and fire risk.”

**Ymatebydd 30:** “20 milltir yr awr yn ddechrau da... ond dylent hefyd ymgyrchu i wahardd awyrennau sy'n hedfan yn isel dros ein cartrefi.”

**Ymatebydd 32 (EHP 2):** “The newly introduced 20 mph areas may eventually bring about change where people will seek to use alternative modes of transport. Reducing the speed limits and encouraging a shift to electric vehicles or less polluting vehicles certainly appears to reduce the noise emitted... Currently only Part A environmental permits include noise conditions... Part B permits could be extended to cover noise.”

**Ymatebydd 34:** “Reduce motorway speed in urban areas.”

**Ymatebydd 37 (CIEH):** “The action planning process must be underpinned by cost-benefit analysis of the health benefits arising from different trends and interventions... In general terms, it can be stated that it will be a wasted opportunity to implement single issue action plans or programmes which only deal with noise or air quality. Action planning for noise and air quality should be a combined and integrated process. Noise exposure maps should be overlaid with air quality maps to identify the communities that face the greatest burden to health and quality of life in the future and who are less likely to benefit from national trends such as the benefits that might be expected with vehicle fleet renewal. Local priority and action plans should be developed for those communities least likely to benefit from national trends... The integration of noise and air quality in the plan is progressive and is commended. It makes every sense to integrate noise and air quality management. However, it is very difficult to maximise opportunities and deal with the tensions without good evidence on what works and what does not work. We would encourage the Welsh Government therefore to work with the local authorities to develop exemplar intervention projects which improve health and quality of life for those people most exposed to poor air quality and excessive noise.”

**Ymatebydd 38 (Comisiwn Dylunio Cymru):** “The promotion of active travel and the creation of environments that reduce and slow traffic, along with the transition to electric vehicles. Far better design in infrastructure of all types – transport, energy, retail and logistics are all important. As the two issues are so interlinked, the policies should be completely integrated.”

**Ymatebydd 47 (Mott MacDonald):** “Link noise maps to air quality maps – noise and AQ benefits can go hand in hand, but there are times (such as in queueing traffic) where this is not the case. In some instances, the AQ requirements would override any soundscape benefits.”

**Ymatebydd 49 (CNC):** “Publication and implementation of the requirements of The Environment (Air Quality and Soundscapes) Bill. The improvement of the public transport network – i.e. South Wales metro. Active travel. 20 mph zones. 20-minute neighbourhoods.”

**Ymatebydd 50 (Prof Andrew Hugill):** “What should be done is more and more integration of the two. At the moment, I suspect that people generally

understand that air pollution can seriously threaten health, but they do not necessarily think the same about sound pollution. In fact, there is considerable scepticism about people who say they find the soundscape disturbing and their motives. So, aligning the two issues in a way that gives them equal status in terms of health benefits would be a great step forwards.”

**Ymatebydd 51 (Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru):** “O ystyried bod llawer o'r ymyriadau sy'n lleihau llygredd aer hefyd yn effeithio ar sŵn, yn enwedig y rhai ym maes trafnidiaeth, mae'n hollbwysig sicrhau bod gweithredu'r rhain yn cydnabod y gwerth deul ac yn hyrwyddo a gwerthuso'r ddwy agwedd. Mae hefyd yn bwysig ystyried yr holl ymyriadau y bwriedir iddynt fod yn “sŵn” neu'n “ansawdd aer” ar wahân, i benderfynu a oes manteision neu niwed ehangach.”

**Ymatebydd 53 (RSAW):** “We believe that if we can create more walkable neighbourhoods, this will reduce car traffic (thus reducing noise). We would also encourage greater utilisation of sensitive landscaping and suitable materials to ensure excessive sounds are reduced/muffled. We would also be cautious of generalising that greater air quality automatically leads to better soundscapes.”

**Ymatebydd 56 (IEDE Acoustics Group):** “Linking legislation of noise (and soundscapes) and air quality, as the Welsh Government is indeed trying to do.”

## Cwestiwn 5: Cynllun Sŵn a Seinwedd drafft 2023-2028

Gwnaethom ofyn i'r ymatebwyr a yw'r Cynllun yn taro'r cydbwysedd cywir am y tro rhwng osgoi creu beichiau newydd i awdurdodau cyhoeddus a busnesau yng Nghymru, a sbarduno'r newid o arferion rheoli sŵn traddodiadol i ddull sy'n canolbwyntio'n fwy ar seinweddau sy'n sicrhau bod pobl a chyd-destun wrth wraidd y penderfyniadau a wneir. Cafwyd ymatebion amrywiol, gyda rhai yn teimlo ein bod wedi taro'r cydbwysedd cywir, eraill yn teimlo ein bod yn mynd yn rhy bell neu'n rhy gyflym, ac eraill yn teimlo nad oeddem yn mynd yn ddigon pell nac yn ddigon cyflym. Nododd rhai ymatebwyr fod angen hyfforddi ymarferwyr a meithrin eu sgiliau er mwyn gwireddu uchelgais Llywodraeth Cymru i gynyddu'r defnydd o dechnegau seinwedd cyfranogol.

**Ymatebydd 11 (EHP 1):** "I think there needs to be a process put in place that looks at a roadmap for how this new discipline develops and the roles of different stakeholders within it from regulators to consultants to members of the public and the third sector. From within this will arise the priority directions for the discipline."

**Ymatebydd 12:** "The right balance can only be struck if Local Authorities are given the financial resources to tackle this important issue."

**Ymatebydd 19:** "The Welsh Government's approach of gradually transitioning from traditional noise management practices to a more soundscape-centered approach, while considering the capacity and expertise of public authorities and businesses, reflects a thoughtful and balanced approach. Balancing the avoidance of creating new burdens with the desire to embrace soundscape-centered decision-making is important, especially considering the emerging nature of soundscape approaches and the need for capacity-building."

**Ymatebydd 20:** "Some people are suffering serious effects from road and other sources of noise right now. Stop forever worrying about making everyone happy and achieving nothing and instead do something and make some people happy at least."

**Ymatebydd 22:** "Yes, but get a method of communicating in all medias."

**Ymatebydd 25 (Dr Yiyang Hao, Bureau Veritas):** "Noise and Soundscape Plan for Wales 2023-2028 has a greater depth and more practical guidance in soundscape implements in design and planning, compared with the version for 2018-2023... The Plan encourages soundscape as way of thinking and clearly listed when and how to use soundscape intervention/assessment. This is a big step moving from soundscape principles to soundscape practice. Education and training with both guidelines and good practice will help local authorities and practisers have a better understanding how it works."

**Ymatebydd 26 (Rhwydwaith Cymunedau Mwy Diogel Cymru):** "We agree in principle that the approach may be balanced for the current economic climate, however technologies may lead to alternative approaches that may be relevant ahead of the next plan and therefore there should be the

opportunity to monitor and use technology that will further improve the soundscapes across Wales.”

**Ymatebydd 32 (EHP 2):** “No we feel whilst the draft plan has good intentions, the reality of implementing such plan will unfortunately lead to far more confusion , debate, and challenge. This will also decrease the consistency in decision making. Currently the level of knowledge and expertise for considering such complex matters would rest with Environmental Health Department of Local Authorities. However current staffing levels is insufficient to undertake the additional work this would generate.”

**Ymatebydd 35 (Prof John L Drever):** “This is very exciting, Wales could be a world leader with its approach to an aurally diverse soundscape.”

**Ymatebydd 37 (CIEH):** “We do not consider that the right balance is being struck... We consider that the draft plan lacks ambition and specificity. A clear and coherent action programme, with specified timeframes, is needed to reduce the burden of noise on health and quality of life... There is a concern about:

- the resource implications for implementing these approaches for many applications,
- the lack of clear criteria for decision making,
- the applicability of soundscape approaches in some areas such as neighbour noise complaints,
- the reliability of the methods.

We would welcome an opportunity to engage with the Welsh Government to discuss those aspects of soundscape approaches that are valuable and those that need to be developed further working in collaboration with local authorities.”

**Ymatebydd 47 (Mott MacDonald):** “Yes, we believe there is the right balance for now with the aim to build skills and experience relating to soundscape over the next five years. We think it’s crucial to involve professional bodies and acousticians who are enthusiastic about acoustic opportunities at the forefront of decision-making to help drive the change. Plus, funding to LPA to develop local planning policy to implement soundscape. More training budget for the LPA officer to understand the policy fully and how to practically implement the policy.”

**Ymatebydd 49 (CNC):** “NRW recognise the financial constraints public bodies and others are operating under in the current economic climate in addition to the capacity, expertise and skills gaps related to appropriate soundscape implementation and monitoring highlighted by WG... However, NRW would like to see a more defined approach to closing these gaps set out in this Plan, rather than the ‘wait and see’ position stated by WG (if skills and experience relating to soundscape increase). The next 5 years will not see an increase in the public or private sector capacity or skills unless there is a skills development ‘curriculum’ for appropriate soundscape skills (as defined in this Draft Plan), as is available via the Institute of Acoustics for environmental noise. We would recommend that Welsh Government use the next five years

to develop appropriate pathways, relevant to the policy and practice landscape of Wales, to provide an approved mechanism through which those charged with delivering this Plan gain the appropriate expertise and skills. This should include technical soundscape skills alongside a broader pathway to build understanding of soundscapes and their impacts/benefits across (e.g.) planners and developers. All pathways must include social and environmental science and evidence.”

**Ymatebydd 50 (Prof Andrew Hugill):** “No, because this should not be a question of striking a balance between these two things. They are not in opposition. Public authorities and businesses in Wales are made up of people who all have hearing needs and differences. Making those a priority will mean that compliance will be seen as a positive thing, not an additional burden. What creates a burden is meaningless regulation. This is meaningful and will benefit everybody, not just those with medically identified hearing issues.”

**Ymatebydd 55 (RWE Renewables UK Ltd):** “If a Noise and Soundscape Plan is adopted, the Welsh Government will need to prepare explicit guidance on how to assess the soundscape in Wales with reference to specific case studies, coupled with appropriate training to local authorities, developers and other stakeholders. Without explicit guidance and comprehensive training, the proposed plan will add cost and burden to the planning process without demonstrating any significant benefits over and above what is already in place.”

## Cwestiwn 6: Cynllun Sŵn a Seinwedd drafft 2023-2028 (parhad)

Gwnaethom ofyn i'r ymatebwyr a oes unrhyw bwyntiau sy'n ymwneud ag amgylchedd sain yn yr awyr Cymru nad ydym wedi cyfeirio atynt. Cafwyd awgrymiadau amrywiol.

**Ymatebydd 6:** "Reversing beeps on heavy machinery."

**Ymatebydd 13:** "Wind turbines close to residential areas... noise/light impacts on homes/surrounding area affecting mental health."

**Ymatebydd 14:** "Piped music and music + noise in restaurants."

**Ymatebydd 19:** "The plan should aim to strike a balance between accommodating new sound sources and managing their potential impacts... Establish mechanisms for regularly monitoring the impacts of these emerging sound sources. This information can inform adjustments to policies and strategies over the plan's duration."

**Ymatebydd 24:** "Councils etc should time the noise related maintenance to reasonable hours unless they can do the job without the noisy machines traditional to the job."

**Ymatebydd 32 (EHP 2):** "Currently noise from barking dogs is our most popular category of complaints. Therefore would there be anything Welsh Government could introduce that would deal with this whilst also dealing with other issues relating to dog ownership? For example could there be a licensing or permit process for responsible dogs ownership? The Authority has also noted an increase in complaints received from people working from home as opposed to an office... Could the use and enjoyment of your property also extend to include working from there?"

**Ymatebydd 37 (CIEH):** "The plan says very little about retrofitting of existing homes... A lot of public health issues are caused by poor housing conditions. This includes poor noise and air quality indoors, resulting either from the ingress of pollutants from outside or generated inside. We would urge the Welsh Government to move away from single issue retrofit strategies and develop retrofit strategies for health and sustainability for the communities that are most socially deprived and suffer the greatest health burden from poor housing conditions. Retrofitting should be included as an integral part of the plan... It is considered that there is a lack of integration between the noise plan and housing policies/programmes. There is a concern about the lack of integration between the noise plan and the Building Regulations and little to promote alignment between Building Regulations and planning guidance."

**Ymatebydd 40 (Hefin David AS):** "I am concerned that there is insufficient reference to the noise pollution caused by live and recorded music at outdoor events and gatherings. Constituents of mine have brought this to my attention and therefore I would like to see more emphasis on this issue in the final Plan."



**Ymatebydd 41:** “I have looked at the draft consultation document and can find no mention of one of the curses of modern society – PIPED MUSIC. It is inflicted on us in shops, shopping malls, restaurants, public toilets, and even in open streets in some places. Please include research into the detrimental effects of piped music on health, in your report.”

**Ymatebydd 47 (Mott MacDonald):** “Water features to mask industrial sound in the Natural Soundscapes chapter. Early liaison with landscape architects and heritage teams (also potentially in the Natural Soundscapes chapter). Support and training on soundscape for acoustician and LPA/EHO.”

**Ymatebydd 48 (Parciau Cenedlaethol Cymru):** “Er y cyfeirir at ardaloedd gwledig yn gyffredinol yn y drafft, nid yw'r tirweddau gwarchoddedig yn cael unrhyw amlygrwydd penodol... Dylai'r ddogfen gyfeirio at rôl y parciau cenedlaethol a'r ardaloedd o harddwch naturiol eithriadol yng Nghymru fel curaduron pwysig seinweddau naturiol a seinodau neilltuol. Awgrymwyn y dylai'r ddogfen glustnodi seinweddau fel rhan annatod o brofiad pobl o dirweddau gwarchoddedig, a chydabod y gall synau / llonyddwch fod yn nodwedd arbennig o dirweddau gwarchoddedig yn ei rinwedd ei hun. Mae lleihau sŵn amhriodol hefyd yn aml yn dod â manteision cysylltiedig o ran ansawdd yr aer a llai o darfu ar rywogaethau... Mae cyfle i glustnodi a monitro seinweddau a seinodau drwy gynlluniau rheoli tirweddau gwarchoddedig ac adroddiadau monitro blynyddol y Cynllun Datblygu Lleol.”

**Ymatebydd 49 (CNC):** “Whilst this is probably implicit within other elements of this Plan, we feel that the expectation versus experience schism should be explicitly included... A Blue Flag beach on a sunny Bank Holiday in school holidays is a very different experience from a remote mountainside accessible only by those with some mountaineering skills. People's expectations of both places will be very different – at the first the expectation is of bustle, the noise of people, maybe jet skis or boats, excited children. At the second the expectation is of solitude, quiet, the sounds of nature. Yet change one small thing in the soundscape and the experiential value of that place is changed, influencing visit decisions about that place in the future. For example, introduce a low flying drone filming the landscape to the remote mountain side and because the expectation of the soundscape did not include this the experience is, more than likely, devalued.”

**Ymatebydd 50 (Prof Andrew Hugill):** “The restriction to airborne sound means that you are excluding all those people who listen through felt vibration rather than through the cochlear. This includes many Deaf people. You cannot decouple vibration from sound: the two are really one and the same. Vibration is “heard” through many media other than air.”

**Ymatebydd 51 (Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru):** “Ystyriaethau o effeithiau cadarnhaol a negyddol posibl o ddwysau neu newid arferion amaethyddol, technolegau newydd ac arferion a gyflwynwyd i frwydro yn erbyn newid hinsawdd.”

**Ymatebydd 56 (IEDE Acoustics Group):** “The document is quite comprehensive. If anything, electric scooters and unmanned aerial vehicles, might have been given slightly more prominence in the current document as emerging – and potentially pervasive – sound sources.”

Gwnaethom hefyd ofyn i'r ymatebwyr a oeddent yn anghytuno ag unrhyw rai o'r eitemau rydym wedi'u hamlinellu yn y Cynllun drafft. Roedd yr ymatebion yn amrywio o rhai cyffredinol a rai penodol iawn.

**Ymatebydd 5:** “Don't include areas where responsibility is not devolved e.g. fireworks.”

**Ymatebydd 8:** “Many opportunities to generate energy from the wind without harming our cherished protected landscape areas'. This is certainly not the case currently – the damage being caused is long term and irreversible.”

**Ymatebydd 12:** “7.5 states that the environment of many MOT Test stations would prohibit sound testing. This is an excuse to avoid the issue, a booth to exclude other sound should not be difficult.”

**Ymatebydd 16:** “I disagree with it all. Just stop boy racers with their souped up engines.”

**Ymatebydd 17 (John Stewart, Cymdeithas Sŵn y DU):** “No, it is an outstanding plan.”

**Ymatebydd 23:** “Yes leave Wales alone.”

**Ymatebydd 24:** “No it all seems very well thought out.”

**Ymatebydd 25 (Dr Yiyang Hao):** ““Employers sometimes... rely on personal hearing protection programmes. This is not appropriate, as the hazard, the noise source, is still present.” I don't think it is fair to assume that it is completely not appropriate. It is not possible to remove the “presence” of source of noise entirely or even largely in a lot of scenarios. Reductions can be made by better engineering or barriers etc but hearing protection is still a valid prevention method.”

**Ymatebydd 32 (EHP 2):** “In section 7.5 we don't think it's appropriate for a mechanic to use a sound level meter, especially without relevant training and they already subjectively assess excessive noise for the type of vehicle, which would indicate if there is a problem or modification to investigate... Some of these illegal modifications are carried out independently by drivers and refitted in time for the MOT only to be removed again shortly after. So it is important that Police Officers are adequately trained to identify that the vehicle is not road legal from such modifications, despite holding a current MOT.”

**Ymatebydd 37 (CIEH):** “We have specific comments on how the plan could be strengthened:

- **New Development:** TAN 11 should be strengthened to encourage good acoustic design as early as possible... We strongly recommend the use of the noise criteria set out in the ProPG and the use of consistent numerical standards... It should not be the case that unsafe levels of noise should be permitted whilst addressing excess heat.
- **Decarbonising our society:** We recommend that our guidance should be used first with the MCS procedure used as a backstop. In addition, the plan should call for the MCS system to be updated as a matter of urgency. The plan should be stronger on wind turbine noise...
- **Natural soundscapes:** This aspect of the plan is progressive and should be applauded.
- **Transportation:** The plan should go further and set out a coherent plan for improving the health and quality of life for those exposed to harmful levels of noise and air quality on a prioritised basis. Targets should be set, underpinned by cost benefit analysis and the spatial study presented by the Health Security Agency. There should be committed funding for implementing action plans and interventions... Retrofitting should also be used as part of the measures used to tackle excessive noise... Social deprivation and health indices should be used to identify priority areas... We should also explore wider opportunities to tackle carbon emissions and wider determinants of poor health as well... We also recommend specific guidance on dealing with noise nuisance from railways.”

**Ymatebydd 44:** “The permitted development rules on heat pumps should be tightened to ensure the public (owners & neighbours) are protected from noise nuisance and the technology is not tainted.”

**Ymatebydd 52 (RenewableUK Cymru):** “The Plan should state that existing standards and processes for wind turbines are fit for purpose... We would urge consideration on whether there is a need for the Noise and Soundscape Plan to address onshore wind. Onshore wind is being singled out in the draft Plan whereas other (energy and non-energy) projects that also generate noise are not included.”

**Ymatebydd 53 (RSAW):** “We encourage Welsh Government to be considerate of unintended consequences of additional rules surrounding soundscapes and noise creation. We also think it's worth highlighting the fact that this could lead to more zoning, which is running completely contrary to a lot of contemporary thinking.”

**Ymatebydd 55 (RWE Renewables UK Ltd):** “It’s not understood why onshore wind has been included in this soundscape consultation, whilst it is not included in the 2018-2023 version.”

**Ymatebydd 56 (IEDE Acoustics Group):** “One of the key concepts presented in the document is “soundscape design”, which is defined (also in the Glossary) as “a participatory, people-focused approach...” We would suggest removing “participatory” from the definition, or adding a note stating the “whenever reasonably practicable” aspect.”

## Cwestiwn 7: Cyngor arbenigol ar seinweddau

Yn dilyn awgrym y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru sefydlu panel cynghori arbenigol ar seinweddau, gwnaethom ofyn pa gwestiynau y dylai arbenigwyr eu hystyried wrth gynghori Llywodraeth Cymru dros y pum mlynedd nesaf. Yma, unwaith eto, mynegwyd amrywiaeth eang o safbwyntiau gwahanol, ynghyd â nifer o awgrymiadau defnyddiol ar gyfer gwaith ymchwil pellach a mewnbwn arbenigol i waith llunio polisiâu'r llywodraeth yn y maes hwn yn y dyfodol.

**Ymatebydd 5:** “I do not believe a Panel should be formed. Focus on issues that are real problems rather than spending time and effort on made up problems.”

**Ymatebydd 8:** “The impact of wind turbine noise, including LF and infrasound generation with greater emphasis on preserving quiet spaces. Greater understanding and subsequent legislation in relation to the negative impacts.”

**Ymatebydd 11 (EHP 1):** “1. Has the development process enhanced soundscapes? 2. Are people more aware of what noise they can reasonably expect and what is unreasonable? 3. Are the mechanisms for dealing with noise problems still applicable in 2028? 4. What new approaches to dealing with sound and noise management can be adopted? 5. Is the protection of certain soundscapes with unique characteristics warranted in some areas? Anti idling regulation as it affects the soundscape and children's health disproportionately. Bringing together the modelling resources that exist for noise, air quality, health outcomes and transportation for more directed action where impacts appear to be greatest.”

**Ymatebydd 17 (John Stewart):** “How well is noise policy being integrated with other policies? Are local authorities delivering? If not, what are the barriers? Are we meeting the challenges of ensuring noise does not lose out to decarbonisation? Is the noise climate improving for the most noise-sensitive people? The biggest challenge could be around things like heat pumps and wind turbines, given the pressure to decarbonise.”

**Ymatebydd 19:** “How can we effectively integrate soundscape considerations into urban planning and development strategies to create more harmonious and sustainable urban environments? What innovative approaches can be adopted to engage the public in the development and implementation of soundscape policies, ensuring that diverse community perspectives are considered? How can emerging technologies, such as advanced acoustic materials, smart city solutions, and noise-mitigating infrastructure, be harnessed to both improve soundscapes and manage noise pollution? What strategies can be implemented to ensure that positive sound environments are equitably distributed across different communities and socio-economic groups, addressing potential disparities in soundscape quality? What should be the core elements of a comprehensive framework that guides the long-term sustainability of soundscapes, accounting for evolving technologies, lifestyle changes, and policy advancements?”

**Ymatebydd 20:** “Don’t waste money on panels. Use the money to engineer solutions to clear problems. No talking shops, we have too many and instead need action not endless talking.”

**Ymatebydd 25 (Dr Yiying Hao):** “Soundscape quality prediction should be ideally based on the participants of the local community. However, with more and more soundscape research and practice, a bigger database of soundscape assessment can be established, which can be used as references for soundscape prediction by modelling when public participation is not feasible. For instance, the project shares similar groups of people and contexts with a previous project. It is vital to publish a technical guidance to standardise the modelling techniques and procedures with supplement of ISO standards on soundscape.”

**Ymatebydd 26 (Rhwydwaith Cymunedau Mwy Diogel Cymru):** “1. How will these changes benefit individuals, businesses and/or communities? 2. Will they make individuals and communities feel safer? 3. Are there any unexpected consequences not considered?”

**Ymatebydd 30:** “Hedfan isel... blaectoriaeth fwyaf... mae'r effaith mae nhw'n gael ar iechyd meddwl – a chorfforol – y rhai ohonom sydd yn byw efo'r hyrddiadau cyson hyn o swm yn anioddefol.”

**Ymatebydd 32 (EHP 2):** “Will the panel have some front line officers such as EHPs attending? This would allow perspective to be given from those officers working on the frontline service dealing with noise. Their input would hopefully provide some perspective on how the soundscape plan would actually work on the ground.”

**Ymatebydd 34:** “How to stop motorway noise travelling long distances – the M4 is a mile way but it's very rare for us to be able to enjoy our back garden and we sometimes can hear the traffic hum indoors and with windows shut.”

**Ymatebydd 36 (CRAG):** “A greater understanding that people do work from home now, especially after the pandemic, and that these workers are as important as anyone else.”

**Ymatebydd 37 (CIEH):** “What method should be used to undertake the cost benefit analysis? How should the noise exposure response functions in webTAG be updated? What are the most cost-effective methods for improving health and quality of life for those communities facing the greatest burden on health and quality of life? What methods should be used for measuring changes in all aspects of health and quality of life resulting from noise interventions or proposals? What are the best ways of encouraging innovation into the noise management programmes? What methods should be used to measure and quantify the effectiveness of community participation approaches? There is an urgent need to implement pilot projects to provide exemplars and to provide the evidence needed on cost-effective solutions that can be deployed to improve health and quality of life.”

**Ymatebydd 38 (Comisiwn Dylunio Cymru):** “How can the planning system plan positively for appropriate soundscapes as part of a wider strategic placemaking approach for different places? How can good design be integrated fully in different environments to improve acoustic experiences for all? How can mixed-use and higher density development ensure design which optimises appropriate soundscapes? How can we reduce the dependence on the car and create places where more people walk, cycle and use public transport? How can local authorities and consultancies be supported in the move to a soundscape-centred approach?”

**Ymatebydd 39 (Dogs Trust):** “How can Wales make fireworks usage safer, more considerate, and more inclusive using the existing policy levers at its disposal as well as in partnership with the UK Government and/or should relevant powers become devolved to Wales? How can we ensure that soundscapes and proposals relating to local and national initiatives give adequate consideration to animal welfare? How will the panel seek to engage and consult with people and organisations advocating on behalf of animals to ensure that they can be co-creators with regard to their soundscapes in future? ... We believe that it will be vital that any expert panel includes people and/or organisations with expertise in animal welfare and specifically on how noise and sound impacts on animals’ welfare and behaviour.”

**Ymatebydd 41:** “Please include research into the detrimental effects of piped music on health.”

**Ymatebydd 47 (Mott MacDonald):** “1. How should an existing soundscape be characterised by source to enable the temporal variation to be captured? 2. How should the spatial variation in soundscape be characterised given that sound level contours are probably insufficient for this? 3. How can the ‘cost’ of a change be measured so that this can be compared to the ‘benefit’ of control measures? 4. What lessons can be learned from experience elsewhere in the UK, Europe and beyond for soundscape recognition and control? 5. Besides noise reduction, what other elements of sustainability should be included in the assessment of noise control measures?”

**Ymatebydd 49 (CNC):** “Advice on the development of local soundscape assessment guidance, which can also be used as a component of local tranquillity assessment. The Landscape Institute Technical Committee, the Institute of Acoustics and the Wales Landscape Group could collaborate with the panel... How can the results from a soundscape assessment be used to make a difference in practice e.g., local landscape/place, regulation/permitting, Health Impact Assessments? How can we effectively share developing policies, best practice and progress between authorities to upskill, build capacity and knowledge? How to apply cost benefit analysis to soundscape design? How will the success, or indeed failure of newly introduced soundscapes be measured and reported?”

**Ymatebydd 50 (Prof Andrew Hugill):** “1. What is the extent of hearing differences between people and how do those translate into needs for the soundscape? 2. Where may appropriate soundscapes that meet these

identified needs be made? 3. How do we build soundscapes that address the full range of aural diversity, and which types of hearing should be excluded from a given soundscape? 4. Why should we make appropriate soundscapes? What are the benefits? 5. What does the provision of appropriate soundscapes mean for individuals and for society? How will they change things?”

**Ymatebydd 51 (Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru):** “Hyfforddiant i randdeiliaid ar y cysyniad o seinwedd a’i chymhwyso i gynnwys rhanddeiliaid nad ydynt yn arbenigwyr mewn rheoli sŵn yn unig e.e. gwasanaethau cynllunio gwlad a thref, iechyd y cyhoedd, Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru. Cael tystiolaeth o weithrediad seinwedd o astudiaethau achos yn y DU a thramor. Archwilio pa newidiadau y gellir eu gwneud i ddeddfwriaeth ac arferion presennol i alluogi dull seinwedd i ddod i'r amlwg. Cyfathrebu'r sylfaen dystiolaeth i wella dealltwriaeth o'r niwed i iechyd sy'n gysylltiedig â sŵn.”

**Ymatebydd 53 (RSAW):** “We feel there are too many advisory panels in existence and don't think an additional expert advisory panel on soundscapes is necessary.”

**Ymatebydd 56 (IEDE Acoustics Group):** “The establishment of such an expert advisory panel on soundscape to inform Welsh Government policies would be very welcome. Top questions the panel may consider are:

- What are the examples of “soundscape predictive models” that are currently available, or under development, which could potentially be used within a soundscape design application? Is there scientific evidence to support their use?
- Are there “best practice” examples of soundscape designs in Wales? If so, should they be listed/collected in a national repository?
- Which soundscapes would qualify in Wales as having cultural meaning, and thus worth being preserved/protected under a (intangible) cultural heritage framework?
- How can we leverage emerging technologies and innovative solutions to reduce noise pollution and enhance positive soundscapes, particularly in rapidly changing urban environments?
- How can we further integrate soundscape considerations into urban planning and development to create more harmonious and sustainable cities and communities?”

## Cwestiynau 8 a 9: Y Gymraeg

Cododd nifer bach o ymatebwyr bwyntiau penodol am effaith gadarnhaol neu andwyol bosibl polisïau sŵn a seinwedd ar y Gymraeg.

**Ymatebydd 4:** “Don't see this as a language issue.”

**Ymatebydd 5:** “No impact.”

**Ymatebydd 6:** “I don't see how the Welsh language would be adversely affected.”

**Ymatebydd 19:** “Emphasize the cultural significance of the Welsh language in the context of soundscapes. Promote the role of Welsh language in preserving and celebrating local heritage... When planning noise mitigation measures, consider the linguistic needs of the community. Avoid designs that inadvertently hinder communication in Welsh.”

**Ymatebydd 20:** “This is not a Welsh language issue in any shape or form.”

**Ymatebydd 29:** “Welsh speaking communities will move away from their community if the jet noise carries on.”

**Ymatebydd 30:** “Dwi ddim yn credu fod y Gymraeg yn dioddef yn waeth na'r Saesneg... yr un yw'r effaith ar bawb sy'n dioddef oherwydd swn.”

**Ymatebydd 35 (Prof John L Drever):** “This can only be good. The soundscape approach celebrates culture and language.”

**Ymatebydd 39 (Dogs Trust):** “Welsh language soundscapes (such as those created by Welsh-language music events or the Eisteddfod) should not be treated less favourably than English-language events. Given the peripatetic nature of the Eisteddfod, any changes to local soundscapes caused by Welsh-language events are infrequent and well-signposted. Changes to soundscapes are best managed through ensuring organisations are transparent, give notice, and are mindful of the potential impact on vulnerable groups and animals. This can co-exist with an ambition to support Welsh-language events and provide positive and meaningful opportunities to encourage the use of the Welsh-language.”

**Ymatebydd 56 (IEDE Acoustics Group):** “While there are qualitative and quantitative protocols developed for soundscape data collection in the ISO/TS 12913-2:2018, these are only available in English... Welsh Government may legislate for protocols for soundscape data collection to be offered in Welsh to the members of the public, as well as potentially lobbying the British Standards Institute (BSI) to provide translated versions in Welsh of the soundscape-related BSI standards.”



## Cwestiwn 10: Unrhyw sylwadau eraill

Yma ceir detholiad dangosol o sylwadau eraill a gawsom:

**Ymatebydd 8:** “The Welsh Government's policy on fast tracking windfarm development in Wales has overridden the concerns of local communities, particularly in relation to turbine noise, which currently is not being properly assessed or monitored and in the light of NRW's recent 'Tranquility and Place' designations. There needs to be a comprehensive overhaul in respect to current windfarm noise impact assessment methodology, its impact on our natural green spaces and its health implications across the audible and non-audible sound spectrum.”

**Ymatebydd 9:** “Motorists and in particular motor cyclists who use our country roads as racetracks. My observations and discussions with others indicate that 70% of these motorists have little or no effective silencers and revel in speed and noise. Discussion with the Police and politicians – local, Welsh and UK show they are fully aware of the problem but they all seem unwilling or unable to enforce social or legal requirements.”

**Ymatebydd 11 (EHP 1):** “Requiring all local authorities to have Core Policies as part of their local development plans (LDP) that relate specifically to noise and soundscapes needs to be mandatory; if not on the horizon. There are still a lot of LDP core policies out there that are too broad in their coverage and need to focus on what is being asked of developers; and a few where there are no core policies specific to noise and soundscapes. Guidance on devising planning policies for soundscapes will be required.”

**Ymatebydd 18:** “Please look at the issues that residents of Coed Camlas, New Inn, Pontypool have due to the A4042, railway line and heavy industry... in terms of the air and noise pollution they are subjected to which has increased since the site was built over 23 years ago.”

**Ymatebydd 19:** “Recent developments have led to a significant increase in noise pollution, threatening our quality of life and well-being. In recent times, it has become evident that the serenity we hold dear is being challenged by a multitude of factors. The felling of trees along the dual carriageway, the consequent rise in traffic noise due to congestion and pollution caused by traffic lights, the disruptive clamor of motorbikes during the weekends, the sounds emanating from the new train station... the emergence of more ambulances and the construction of 900 new homes... Sleep disturbances, heightened stress levels, and reduced overall quality of life are just a few of the negative impacts that we are currently enduring. Our children's ability to concentrate and learn is being compromised, and the natural beauty of our surroundings is being overshadowed by the ever-present noise.”

**Ymatebydd 25 (Dr Yiying Hao):** “Studies show electric cars are quieter than fuel cars when speed is low, however, their noise levels are similar when speed is high because sound of rolling tyres driving on pavement is predominant at high vehicle speed. The sound increases with higher vehicle

speeds. Therefore, speed limit control is still essential for car traffic noise control during age of electric cars.”

**Ymatebydd 27 (Nesta):** “Homeowners are often put off heat pumps by the cost, delay and risk of planning. Planning applications can cost thousands of pounds and add months to work... The 3m rule could make it harder for Welsh homeowners to install ASHPs than their neighbours in England where the limitation is smaller, at 1m... Consider removing restrictions on the ASHP size and where they can be installed and focusing instead on making sure they do not cause this noise nuisance... It would be sensible to set sound limits based on how noisy areas already are... Encourage UK government to give MCS responsibility for managing heat pump noise. Best practice installing ASHPs in the UK will evolve over time for various reasons (e.g. experience, new technologies, improved understanding of soundscapes)... It takes longer to update planning laws than the MCS rules. Therefore it would make sense to continuously update MCS rules based on best practice in noise nuisance prevention and allow ASHPs to be installed under permitted development as long as they comply with MCS.”

**Ymatebydd 31:** “Reducing traffic speeds and improving surfaces on **\*\*bridges\*\*** to reduce noise would help reach a number of goals including soundscape, air quality, active travel. It is important for two reasons: to encourage cyclists and pedestrians to use them more – bridges are often critical links in active travel – and also to reduce noise to surrounding homes and public areas, which carries far especially when bridges are over water.”

**Ymatebydd 33:** “To protect Wales' tranquil areas, & the well being of the rural population who would be forced to live near them, all onshore wind turbines/farms should be stopped.”

**Ymatebydd 34:** “Please address motorway noise – it gives us long-term stress and we cannot relax in our garden.”

**Ymatebydd 35 (Prof John L Drever):** “The questions are great, it would be easier to develop the discussion with a symposium in Wales with soundscape experts and Welsh language speakers, again, not only engineers.”

**Ymatebydd 36 (CRAG):** “Castlemartin operates to a daily decibel level at the boundary of 140 decibels and never to a limit of 130 decibels. CRAG have repeatedly asked for parity with our English counterparts, where the MOD self-impose a 130 decibel limit at the boundary, such as at Salisbury Plain or Otterburn. CRAG have also repeatedly asked for an explanation as to why Castlemartin operates at a daily 140 decibel level when other English ranges set a 130 decibel limit and they have consistently failed to give a coherent response... CRAG have asked for mitigations to be put in place such as acoustic barriers, bunds, trees to be planted and more robust GNAT monitoring... We have asked that a noise and vibration study such as those conducted at Pendine and Shoeburyness is undertaken to fully assess the impact the firing has on both lives and properties.”

**Ymatebydd 42:** “Have someone to oversee the Council’s enforcement employees who is non-judgemental, listening to both sides to make a decision... Allow the Ombudsman to be non-judgemental and listen to both sides, looking at the evidence... I would recommend that any Councillor should be able to represent a Community member, again to ensure that justice is carried out, not allowing Council employees and Councillors to abuse their power by making their own choices... Something needs to be done to prevent the Council employees from using their own judgement over carrying out the correct procedures.”

**Ymatebydd 43:** “We look forward to this policy about noise becoming statutory with enforceable power to require that Local Authorities / Councils have a duty to act objectively and engage with the people such as ourselves as residents in the community to reduce noise pollution which adversely affects our lives and damages our health and well-being.”

**Ymatebydd 45 (Sefydliad Elusennol Cynllun Ardystio Microgynhyrchu):** “MCS Foundation welcomes the efforts the Welsh Government are making to ensure that Wales benefits in the long term from a noise and soundscape that takes into account the needs, as far as practicable, all of its residents. We also welcome the efforts made by the Welsh Government in achieving net zero... There is a clear and obvious need to focus on the rollout of technologies that are available now, and revising the permitted development rights around heat pump deployment will be a vital element in accelerating their uptake. As part of that process, we would strongly encourage all the devolved nations to align with noise requirements to create a consistent planning and regulation landscape. We would also encourage a focus on noise levels rather than distance to property boundaries when reassessing the regulations. Both the Welsh and UK Governments have recently undertaken work to reassess air source heat pump related noise with a view to relaxing permitted development rights. This work has included consulting with MCS throughout the process, with a view to refining the calculation methodology relating to sound within MCS 020. We welcome the opportunity to continue our involvement in the process of re-evaluating permitted development rights to support the heat pump rollout, and are committed to supporting the Welsh Government in doing so.”

**Ymatebydd 49 (CNC):** “We welcome that inclusion of the Tranquillity & Place resource to inform the writing of the next State of Natural Resources Report to be prepared by NRW under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 as a Welsh Government evidence priority for the next five years... We would welcome the development of guidance particularly for use in the environmental permitting and regulation regime.”

**Ymatebydd 50 (Prof Andrew Hugill):** “Case law often relies on a notion of “the man on the Clapham omnibus” as a hypothetical representative of a typical person. This is surely due for a rethink, since the typical person is likely to have significantly different hearing to the “normal” standard. (We may also observe that the gendered and London-centric nature of this cliché also demands a rewrite).”

## Ymateb Llywodraeth Cymru i'r ymgynghoriad

Mae'r gair "seinwedd" wedi ymddangos ym mholisi Llywodraeth Cymru ers 2011 pan wnaethom ofyn i swyddogion awdurdodau lleol a oedd yn enwebu mannau gwyrdd trefol fel "mannau tawel" posibl i ddisgrifio profiad clywedol nodweddiadol aelod o'r cyhoedd wrth ymweld â'r man hwnnw, ac ateb cwestiynau megis:

- Beth yw'r prif synau a achosir gan bobl (yn enwedig o drafnidiaeth neu weithgareddau diwydiannol)?
- Pa synau cadarnhaol (e.e. yr adar, dail yn crensiar, dŵr yn llifo, sain hoffus pobl eraill) sy'n nodweddu'r lle?
- A yw synau diangen yn boddi synau naturiol neu synau cadarnhaol eraill yn yr ardal dan sylw, neu'n amharu arnynt.
- A gafwyd cwynion am sŵn gan ymwelwyr?

Yn ystod y degawd dilynol, ffurfiolwyd ystyr y gair "seinwedd"<sup>6</sup> drwy safonau rhyngwladol a Phrydeinig. Cymeradwyodd Llywodraeth Cymru y diffiniad safonol o seinwedd yn 2018, ym Mholisi Cynllunio Cymru a'r Cynllun Gweithredu ynghylch Sŵn a Seinwedd, a nododd "seinweddau priodol", sef yr amgylchedd sain priodol ar yr adeg gywir ac yn y lle cywir, yn un o Ganlyniadau Creu Lleoedd Cynaliadwy Cenedlaethol Cymru.

Yn 2015, pennodd Deddf Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol (Cymru) fod yn rhaid cynnwys pobl sy'n "adlewyrchu amrywiaeth y boblogaeth" er mwyn gwneud penderfyniad "yn unol â'r egwyddor datblygu cynaliadwy". Rhestrododd Cynllun Gweithredu ynghylch Sŵn a Seinwedd 2018 bethau y dylid ac na ddylid eu gwneud er mwyn helpu cyrff cyhoeddus i gymhwyso pum ffordd o weithio'r Ddeddf wrth reoli sŵn a seinwedd, ac rydym wedi mireinio'r pethau hynny yng Nghynllun Sŵn a Seinwedd drafft 2023-2028.

Yn Rhagair y Gweinidog yn y Cynllun Gweithredu, ysgrifennodd Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd ar y pryd:

"Mae'r trefi a'r dinasoedd, y mae'r rhan fwyaf ohonom yn byw ynddynt, yn ein gwasanaethu mewn nifer o ffyrdd ac, felly, dylent gynnwys amrywiaeth o seinweddau sy'n briodol i'r defnydd tir. Yn union fel na ddylai pob stryd ac adeilad edrych yn debyg, ni ddylai fod un seinwedd drefol sy'n addas at bob diben, rydym yn ei phrofi ble bynnag yr awn."

Yn ystod y pum mlynedd ers inni gyhoeddi'r Cynllun Gweithredu ynghylch Sŵn a Seinwedd, rydym wedi gweld ymwybyddiaeth gynyddol o niwroamrywiaeth mewn cymdeithas yn gyffredinol, ac o amrywiaeth glywedol ym maes rheoli sŵn a seinwedd. Mae hyn wedi atgyfnerthu'r achos dros gynnwys amrywiaeth y boblogaeth wrth wneud penderfyniadau, fel oedd eisoes yn ofynnol o dan Ddeddf 2015, a thros ddarparu amrywiaeth o seinweddau, yn unol â'r hyn y galwyd amdano yng Nghynllun Gweithredu ynghylch Sŵn a Seinwedd 2018.

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<sup>6</sup> Diffinnir seinwedd fel yr amgylchedd acwstig fel y'i canfyddir neu y'i profir a/neu y'i deallir gan unigolion neu bobl, yn ei gyd-destun (ISO 12913-1:2014).

Felly, nid yw Cynllun Sŵn a Seinwedd drafft 2023-2028 yn cyflwyno newid i bolisi sŵn Llywodraeth, ond yn hytrach, mae'n cadarnhau egwyddorion rydym eisoes wedi'u nodi mewn polisi a deddfwriaeth. Bydd Bil yr Amgylchedd (Ansawdd Aer a Seinweddau) (Cymru) yn rhoi sail gyfreithiol gryfach i Gynllun 2023, fel ein strategaeth genedlaethol ar seinweddau, na'r hyn a welwyd o'r blaen, a bydd hefyd yn sicrhau bod y Cynllun yn parhau i gael ei adolygu bob pum mlynedd o leiaf a'i ddiwygio yn unol ag arferion gorau sy'n dod i'r amlwg ym maes rheoli sŵn a seinwedd.

Mae'r ymatebion a gafwyd i'r ymgynghoriad yn dangos y safbwyntiau amrywiol sy'n bodoli mewn perthynas â sain yn ein cymdeithas. Maent yn tynnu sylw at yr anawsterau a'r cymhlethdodau sy'n gysylltiedig â chreu seinweddau priodol sy'n diwallu anghenion poblogaeth amrywiol, ond hefyd yn rhoi mwy o hyder inni nag erioed mai dyma'r nod y dylai pob un ohonom fod yn anelu at ei gyflawni yn y maes polisi hwn.

### Addysg a chodi ymwybyddiaeth

O dan Fil yr Amgylchedd (Ansawdd Aer a Seinweddau) (Cymru), bydd gan Weinidogion Cymru ddyletswydd i godi ymwybyddiaeth o'r risgiau y mae llygredd aer yn eu peri i iechyd pobl a'r amgylchedd naturiol, a ffyrdd o leihau llygredd aer neu gyfyngu arno. Byddwn yn ychwanegu ymrwymiad i'r Cynllun Sŵn a Seinwedd i godi ymwybyddiaeth hefyd o effeithiau sŵn ar bobl ac anifeiliaid, a ffyrdd o leihau'r effeithiau hynny neu gyfyngu arnynt, wrth inni gyflawni'r dyletswyddau newydd hyn mewn perthynas ag ansawdd aer.

Byddwn yn gwneud hyn gan ei bod yn annhebygol, pan gaiff seinwedd ei orfodi ar gymuned yn erbyn ei hewyllys, sy'n anochel o bryd i'w gilydd, y bydd yn cael ei ystyried yn seinwedd briodol gan y gymuned honno. Felly, dim ond fel dewis olaf y dylid defnyddio rheoliadau sŵn i amddiffyn cymunedau rhag y lleiafrif bach o unigolion nad ydynt yn poeni bod eu gweithredoedd yn effeithio ar lesiant pobl eraill, ac ni ddylid byth eu defnyddio fel man cychwyn. Drwy orfodi rheoliadau sŵn, gellir llwyddo i ostwng lefelau desibel, ond mae risg hefyd y caiff hynny effaith andwyol ar gydberthnasau rhwng y rhai sy'n gwneud sŵn ac achwynwyr, felly dylid bob amser fynd ar drywydd datrysiadau amgen. I'r mwyafrif, yn ddelfrydol dylai sŵn gael ei reoli drwy ddeialog a pharodrwydd i geisio deall ein gilydd a gwerthfawrogi safbwyntiau gwahanol ac, felly, rydym yn ystyried y galwadau am fwy o addysg yn y maes hwn.

### Sgiliau ac adnoddau

Bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn ymrwmo i ymgysylltu â chyrrff proffesiynol sy'n cynnig hyfforddiant ym maes acwsteg, a thros y pum mlynedd nesaf, bydd yn gweithio gyda'r rhai sy'n barod i geisio llenwi'r bwch sy'n bodoli ar hyn o bryd mewn hyfforddiant ar gyfer cymhwyso technegau seinwedd wrth wneud penderfyniadau cyhoeddus o ddydd i ddydd.

Rydym am annog mwy o ddefnydd o dechnegau seinwedd cyfranogol megis arolygon cymdeithasol a theithiau cerdded sain i lywio prosesau gwneud penderfyniadau, er mwyn cynnwys pobl sy'n adlewyrchu amrywiaeth y boblogaeth y mae'r penderfyniadau hynny yn effeithio arni. Mae dulliau o'r fath wedi'u nodi yn y

safonau seinwedd rhyngwladol a Phrydeinig. Fodd bynnag, rydym yn cydnabod bod bwloch sylweddol yn bodoli yn yr hyfforddiant a'r cynlluniau ardystio ffurfiol sydd ar gael ar hyn o bryd i ymgynghorwyr a rheoleiddwyr ym maes acwsteg yn y DU, sy'n canolbwyntio'n bennaf ar dechnegau asesu sŵn mwy traddodiadol. Rydym yn derbyn bod hyn yn cyfyngu ar allu ymgynghorwyr a rheoleiddwyr i roi dulliau seinwedd ar waith yn gyson ar hyn o bryd.

Mae'r Cynllun yn argymhell y dylid defnyddio'r dulliau a amlinellir yn y safonau seinwedd mewn modd penodol, i ddarparu pa wybodaeth bynnag am ganfyddiad pobl o'u hamgylchedd sain yr ystyrir ei bod o fudd ymarferol i'r rhai sy'n gwneud penderfyniadau fesul achos, ac y dylai'r ffordd y caiff y dulliau eu rhoi ar waith yn ymarferol fod yn gymesur â'r potensial i ymyriadau seinwedd sicrhau seinweddau priodol a chanlyniadau cyffredinol gwell.

Mae'r fframwaith cyffredinol ar gyfer gwneud penderfyniadau sydd wedi'i gynnwys yn y Cynllun yn nodi'n glir nad ydym yn disgwyl i dechnegau seinwedd gael eu cymhwyso os yw'r potensial i sicrhau canlyniadau gwell drwy ymyriadau seinwedd yn isel. Os oes potensial canolig i sicrhau canlyniadau gwell, mae'r fframwaith yn pennu mai dim ond lle bo hynny'n ymarferol y dylid cymhwyso technegau seinwedd i sicrhau canlyniadau gwell. Bydd yr hyn sy'n ymarferol yn dibynnu i raddau helaeth ar y cynnydd a wnawn dros y pum mlynedd nesaf tuag at feithrin sgiliau a chymhwysedd ar gyfer asesu a dylunio seinwedd yn y DU. Yn ei ymateb i'r ymgynghoriad, mae lechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru yn galw am i hyfforddiant ar gysyniad seinwedd a dulliau o'i gymhwyso gynnwys rhanddeiliaid ar wahân i arbenigwyr ar reoli sŵn.

Rydym yn derbyn bod cyfyngiadau ariannol yn y sector cyhoeddus hefyd y rhwystr i fabwysiadu dulliau anhraddodiadol o reoli sŵn a seinwedd yn gyflym, yn yr un modd ag y maent yn cyfyngu ar ein gallu ein hunain i ymrwymo i ymyriadau lliniaru sŵn mwy traddodiadol, ar y rhwydwaith trafniadaeth ac mewn adeiladau sy'n bodoli eisoes. Rydym wedi clywed rhai gweithwyr proffesiynol ym maes iechyd yr amgylchedd yn dweud na fyddai ganddynt yr amser i fynychu cyrsiau hyfforddi hyd yn oed pe baent ar gael yn hawdd. Mae datblygiad proffesiynol parhaus yn hanfodol i ddarparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus o ansawdd uchel, felly bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn ceisio rhagor o eglurder mewn perthynas â hyn ac yn gweithio gydag awdurdodau lleol i sicrhau nad dyma'r sefyllfa, a bod modd i swyddogion gael yr hyfforddiant sydd ei angen arnynt i wneud eu gwaith yn unol â'r ffyrdd o weithio a bennir yn Neddf Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol (Cymru). Mae hyn yn berthnasol i swyddogion sŵn presennol a'r rhai sy'n dymuno ehangu eu set sgiliau i ddefnyddio arolygon cymdeithasol a chydweithio â chymunedau, ac i swyddogion awdurdodau lleol sydd wedi arfer â gweithio gydag arolygon cymdeithasol a chydweithio, ond sy'n dymuno ehangu'r defnydd o'r dulliau hyn i gynnwys yr amgylchedd sain, a chefnogi gwaith eu cydweithwyr ym maes iechyd yr amgylchedd.

### Terminoleg

Gan fynd i'r afael â phwynt a godwyd gan Goleg Prifysgol Llundain, yn y Cynllun hwn byddwn yn gwahaniaethu rhwng "dylunio seinweddau", term cyffredinol a all gynnwys y defnydd o fodelau sy'n rhagfynegi canfyddiadau a phrofiadau posibl pobl

o amgylchedd sain yn y dyfodol, a “dyluniad seinwedd”, sy'n cyfeirio at ddull dylunio cyfranogol sy'n seiliedig ar safbwyntiau cymuned drwy gydol y broses ddylunio.

### Cwmpas y Cynllun

Awgrymodd ymatebwyr y dylid ychwanegu amrywiaeth o bynciau at Gynllun Sŵn a Seinwedd 2023-2028 neu roi mwy o sylw iddynt ynddo. Cyfeirir yn fanylach at rai o'r rhain, megis cerddoriaeth gefndir, cŵn yn cyfarth, digwyddiadau cerddoriaeth awyr agored, a thirweddau dynodedig, yn y Cynllun. Fodd bynnag, dylid nodi y caiff unrhyw ffynonellau sain yn yr awyr nad ydynt wedi'u henwi yn y Cynllun eu cwmpasu gan ei bolisiau trawsbynciol. Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys y pum ffordd o weithio / pethau y dylid ac na ddylid eu gwneud, defnyddio dull cymesur o gymhwyso'r safonau seinwedd, a diwallu anghenion poblogaeth clywedol amrywiol. Ni ddylid ystyried bod y ffaith na chyfeirir at ffynhonnell sŵn benodol yn golygu nad yw'r polisiau hynny yn berthnasol iddi.

Awgrymwyd hefyd ein bod, yn anfwriadol, drwy gyfyngu'r cwmpas i sŵn yn yr awyr er mwyn canolbwyntio ein sylw ar yr amgylchedd daearol, yn allgau pobl sy'n gwrando drwy deimlo dirgryniadau. Mae hyn yn bwynt dilys inni ei ystyried. Fodd bynnag, byddai ehangu cwmpas y Cynllun i gynnwys dirgrynu yn golygu bod angen ymgysylltu ymhellach â rhanddeiliaid a datblygu cynnwys newydd, a fyddai'n gohirio cyhoeddi'r Cynllun tan 2024. Yn lle hynny, rydym yn ymrwmo i archwilio'r bwlch ymddangosiadol hwn dros y blynyddoedd nesaf, gyda'r nod o gynnwys polisiau sy'n mynd i'r afael â dirgrynu yn y diweddariad nesaf i'r Cynllun.

### Sŵn ac ansawdd aer

Byddwn yn hyrwyddo'r broses o droshaenu data gofodol ar ansawdd aer, sŵn, canlyniadau iechyd, amddifadedd a dangosyddion perthnasol eraill wrth flaenoriaethu ymyriadau lleol o dan system rheoli ansawdd aer lleol ddiwygiedig, wrth inni roi'r Bil yr Amgylchedd (Ansawdd Aer a Seinweddau) (Cymru) ar waith.

Ers lansio'r ymgynghoriad hwn, gwnaethom gyhoeddi ein [mapiau sŵn newydd](#) ar MapDataCymru. Maent yn rhagori ar ofynion Rheoliadau Sŵn Amgylcheddol (Cymru) 2006 drwy gynnwys pob ffordd a rheilffordd yng Nghymru am y tro cyntaf un. Yn ei ymateb i'r ymgynghoriad, mae Sefydliad Siartredig Iechyd yr Amgylchedd yn galw am i fapiau sŵn gael eu troshaenu â mapiau ansawdd aer er mwyn nodi'r cymunedau sy'n wynebu'r baich mwyaf o ran iechyd ac ansawdd bywyd yn y dyfodol ac sy'n llai tebygol o gael budd o dueddiadau cenedlaethol. Rydym yn cytuno bod yn rhaid inni barhau i chwalu seilos polisiau ac, felly, rydym yn derbyn yr argymhelliad hwn yn llawn.

### Pympiau gwres

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn croesawu parodrwydd Sefydliad Elusennol y Cynllun Ardystio Microgynhyrchu i weithio gyda Llywodraeth Cymru a Llywodraeth y DU i gyflwyno gwelliannau cyflym i fethodoleg asesu 020 y Cynllun Ardystio Microgynhyrchu. Rydym yn rhagweld y bydd y gwelliannau hyn, pan fyddant wedi'u gwneud, yn ein galluogi i ddiweddarau'r rheolau mewn perthynas â hawliau datblygu a ganiateir ar gyfer pympiau gwres ffynhonnell aer domestig yng Nghymru mewn

ffordd nad yw'n amlygu pobl mewn ardaloedd poblog i lefel annerbyniol o niwsans sŵn drwy gyflwyno'r dechnoleg ddatgarboneiddio bwysig hon.

### Tyrbinau gwynt ar y tir

Galwodd sawl aelod o'r cyhoedd a sefydliad a ymatebodd i'r ymgynghoriad am i'r Cynllun Sŵn a Seinwedd gael ei atgyfnerthu mewn perthynas â gwynt ar y tir, ac i flaenoriaeth gael ei rhoi i ddiweddarau'r canllawiau cyfredol yn sgil cyhoeddi adolygiad diweddar Cynllun Gofodol Cymru o ETSU-R-97, a gomisiynwyd gan Lywodraeth y DU. Galwodd rhai am i geisiadau cynllunio ar gyfer ffermydd gwynt gael eu hoedi nes y cytunir ar ganllawiau diwygiedig ac y cânt eu cyhoeddi. I'r gwrthwyneb, roedd yr ymatebion a gafwyd gan y sector ynni adnewyddadwy yn cwestiynu a ddylid cynnwys gwynt ar y tir yn y Cynllun o gwbl, gan nodi bod y system gynllunio yng Nghymru yn deg ac yn gytbwys ac yn sicrhau'r cydbwysedd cywir yn y lle cywir, ar yr adeg gywir, ac roeddent yn anghytuno â'r awgrym bod angen diweddari'r dulliau presennol o asesu sŵn.

Rhaid i'r holl ganllawiau ar sŵn gael eu diweddarau o bryd i'w gilydd yn unol â gwybodaeth wyddonol a datblygiadau technolegol, a byddai'n anghyson trin canllawiau'r DU ar sŵn tyrbinau gwynt yn wahanol i Safonau Prydeinig, y caiff eu cynnwys ei adolygu a'i ddiweddarau ar adegau penodol fel mater o drefn. Ni ddylid ystyried bod unrhyw ganllawiau ar sŵn yn derfynol ac na ellir eu herio nac awgrymu bod lle i'w gwella. Mae adolygiad Cynllun Gofodol Cymru o ETSU-R-97 yn codi cwestiynau y mae angen iddynt gael eu hateb gan sefydliadau proffesiynol sy'n arbenigo yn y maes hwn, megis y Sefydliad Materion Cymreig a Siartredig Iechyd yr Amgylchedd. Mae canllawiau yn dyddio dros gyfnod o flynyddoedd yn hytrach na thros nos, a dylent gael eu hadolygu a'u diweddarau'r ddigon aml fel na fyddant byth yn anaddas i'w defnyddio.

Yn yr un modd, byddai'n anghyson oedi ceisiadau ar gyfer ffermydd gwynt tra bod canllawiau'n cael eu hadolygu, ac os penderfynir bod hynny'n angenrheidiol, eu diweddarau. Pan fydd dogfennau canllaw neu Safonau Prydeinig ar gyfer mathau eraill o sŵn yn destun adolygiadau, bydd y canllawiau presennol yn parhau i fod yn gymwys nes y caiff y diweddariad ei gwblhau a'r canllawiau diwygiedig eu mabwysiadu. Fel y nodir yn Atodiad E i'r Cynllun Sŵn a Seinwedd newydd, "*dylai'r rhai sy'n gwneud penderfyniadau a'u cynghorwyr bob amser gyfeirio at y safonau a'r canllawiau arferion gorau diweddaraf sydd ar gael ar adeg cynnal eu hasesiadau, i'r graddau y maent yn cyd-fynd â gofynion Llywodraeth Cymru a pholisi cynllunio lleol*". Nes y caiff canllawiau proffesiynol newydd eu llunio mewn ymateb i ganfyddiad adolygiad Cynllun Gofodol Cymru a'u mabwysiadu gan y Llywodraeth, bydd y canllawiau presennol yn parhau mewn grym.

### Sŵn sy'n deillio o weithgareddau milwrol

Roedd nifer o'r ymatebion a gafwyd yn codi pryderon am awyrennau milwrol yn hedfan yn isel, a hefyd am y sŵn a grëir gan feysydd tanio.

Nid yw'r Weinyddiaeth Amddiffyn ymysg y cyrff cyhoeddus sy'n ddarostyngedig i Ddeddf Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol (Cymru). Serch hynny, yn ei hymateb i'r ymgynghoriad, nododd y Weinyddiaeth Amddiffyn ei chefnogaeth i'r pum ffordd o



weithio. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn croesawu hyn, ac yn gobeithio y gellir mynd i'r afael â'r pryderon a godwyd gan breswylwyr yng Nghymru mewn perthynas â sŵn milwrol mewn lleoliadau penodol, a'u goresgyn drwy gymhwyso'r egwyddorion craidd hyn. Bydd swyddogion Llywodraeth Cymru yn fwy na pharod i helpu lle bynnag y gallant i wella'r llinellau cyfathrebu rhwng y Weinyddiaeth Gyfathrebu a'r rheini y mae sŵn milwrol yn effeithio arnynt yng Nghymru.

### Cyngor arbenigol ar seinweddau

Rydym yn ymrwymedig i barhau â'n harfer o geisio cyngor gan yr arbenigwyr cywir ynghylch y cwestiynau amrywiol y byddwn yn eu hwynebu yn y maes polisi hwn dros y blynyddoedd nesaf, o ddiwygio'r rheolau cynllunio ar gyfer pypmpiau gwres i uwchsgilio'r proffesiwn mewn perthynas â thechnegau seinwedd. Fodd bynnag, nid ydym o'r farn bod achos wedi'i gyflwyno dros benodi pwyllgor cynghori ffurfiol i ymdrin â'r maes polisi hwn yn ei gyfanrwydd.

Rydym yn ymrwymedig i adolygu'r cynnig hwn yn barhaus dros y misoedd a'r blynyddoedd nesaf, ac i fod yn agored i unrhyw sylwadau pellach sy'n cyflwyno achos dros benodi panel cynghori ar seinweddau ffurfiol.