

# Petitions Committee

## PET(3)-15-09 Paper 2: 10 November 2009

### Updates on previous petitions

This paper provides a list of updates received to petitions previously considered by the Committee. Many of these updates have been received as correspondence. Where relevant, copies of correspondence are appended to this paper as PET(3) 15-09 Paper 2A.

#### (i) P-03-099 Multi user pathway at Talybont-on-Usk

##### Petition wording

We the undersigned ask the National Assembly for Wales to provide a non-motorised multi-user track alongside the A40 between the picnic lay by at Bwlch to the new junction at Talybont-on-Usk, thus creating a safe link between the Black Mountains and the Brecon Beacons Rights of Way network.

**Link to petition:** <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-99.htm>

**Petition raised by:** Lucienne Bennett

**Number of signatures:** 18

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 21 February 2008, 8 May 2008, 31 March 2009, 19 May 2009, 7 July 2009 and 22 September 2009

**Update:** An update has been received from the Deputy First Minister and is attached as part of PET(3) 15-09 Paper 2A.

#### (ii) P-03-170 MENCAP Cymru

##### Petition wording

We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Assembly Commission and the Welsh Assembly Government to take a lead in employing more people with a learning disability, and to encourage other public sector employers, such as the NHS and Local Authorities, to employ more people with a learning disability

Only 1 in 10 people with a learning disability who want to work are in any form of paid employment. This is unfair.

**Link to petition:** <http://assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/eform-sign-petition-old/p-03-170.htm>

**Petition raised by:** MENCAP Cymru

**Number of signatures:** 134

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 13 January 2009, 10 February 2009, 19 May 2009, 7 July 2009 and 22 September 2009

**Update:** An update has been received from the Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills, and is attached as part of PET(3) 15-09 Paper 2A.

#### (iii) P-03-172 Restore the Swansea-Cork Ferry

##### Petition wording

We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to encourage, in every way possible, the early restoration of the Swansea/Cork Ferry. We believe it will have tangible economic and social benefits to both economies.

**Link to petition:** <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/eform-sign-petition-old/p-03-172.htm>

**Petition raised by:** John Hosford

**Number of signatures:** This petition was raised by John Hosford and collected 29 signatures. In excess of 1,500 signatures and statements of support have been collected on the petitioner's website calling for the restoration of this ferry route.

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 16 October 2008, 4 December 2008, 27 January 2009, 31 March 2009, 5 May 2009, 19 June 2009, 22 September 2009 and 20 October 2009

**Update:** An update has been received from the Deputy First Minister, and is attached as part of PET(3) 15-09 Paper 2A.

#### (iv) P-03-181 Pernicious Anaemia

### **Petition wording**

**We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to recognise that the diagnosis and treatment of Pernicious Anaemia does not take into account the individual needs of patients and that the patient experience of managing the condition is often affected detrimentally because of this. We, the undersigned, demand that the diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of Pernicious Anaemia be centred on the needs of the individual in order that the dignity and rights of sufferers of the disease be protected.**

**Link to petition:** <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-181.htm>

**Petition raised by:** The Pernicious Anaemia Society

**Number of signatures:** 20

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 19 May 2009, 7 July 2009 and 22 September 2009

**Update:** An update has been received from the Minister for Health and Social Services, and is attached as part of PET(3) 15-09 Paper 2A.

### **(v) P-03-188 Special Care Baby Unit**

#### **Petition wording**

We the undersigned are protesting against the downgrading of the Royal Glamorgan Hospital SCBU from a level 3 intensive care unit to a level 2 High dependency unit.

Whilst we understand the need to ensure that staffing levels are adequate and that staff are appropriately qualified in order to ensure patient safety we deplore the lack of investment that has led to this situation.

We are therefore seeking assurances that the downgrade will only be temporary and will be for as short a period as possible, and that the Royal Glamorgan SCBU will be reinstated to a full Level 3 Intensive Care Unit.

**Link to petition:** <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-188.htm>

**Petition raised by:** Zoe Walters

**Number of signatures:** 2240

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 20 November 2008, 13 January 2009, 10 February 2009, 5 May 2009, 9 June 2009 and 22 September 2009.

**Update:** An update from the Minister for Health and Social Services has been received and is attached as part of PET(3) 15-09 Paper 2A.

### **(vi) P-03-207 Support for the unemployed in Monmouth**

#### **Petition wording**

We, the undersigned urge the Welsh Assembly Government to investigate how to provide support and effective information to people in Wales, who are looking for employment, training or trying to initiate a business enterprise, locally.

**Link to the petition:** <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-207.htm>

**Petition raised by:** Monmouth Town Council Community Affairs Committee

**Number of signatures:** 286

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 31 March 2009, 19 May 2009, 23 June 2009, 7 July 2009 and 22 September 2009

**Update:** An update has been received from the petitioners, and is attached as part of PET(3) 15-09 Paper 2A.

### **(vii) P-03-208 Historic Counties**

#### **Petition wording**

We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh government to instruct the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales to conduct a review of preserved county boundaries in Wales. This review should consider amending the existing preserved county boundaries to match the boundaries of the 13 historic shires.

**Link to petition:** <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-208.htm>

**Petition raised by:** Owain Vaughan

**Number of signatures:** 23

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 6 October 2009

**Update:** An update has been received from the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government and is attached as part of PET(3) 15-09 Paper 2A.

**(viii) P-03-213 Abandon the badger cull (Secret World Wildlife Rescue petition)**

**Petition wording**

We call upon the Welsh Assembly Government to abandon its proposed cull of badgers as part of its Bovine TB Eradication programme. This is in the light of overwhelming evidence of sound science which has been peer reviewed from the Independent Scientific Group. This quite clearly states 'that badger culling can make no meaningful contribution to cattle TB'

Join our campaign - stop the cull!

**Link to the petition:** <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-213.htm>

**Petition raised by:** Secret World Wildlife Rescue

**Number of signatures:** 14098

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 5 May 2009, 23 June 2009, 22 September 2009 and 20 October 2009.

**P-03-235 Abandon the Badger Cull (RSPCA petition)**

**Petition wording**

Please sign the petition today and voice your protest against the Welsh Assembly Government's decision to cull badgers in Wales part of a strategy to tackle bovine tuberculosis (bTB) in Cattle.

The RSPCA is shocked by the decision to cull badgers but welcomes the plans to increase cattle testing and biosecurity.

The Independent Scientific Group (ISG) supervised a badger culling trial in England, which took 10 years, cost £34 million, and the lives of nearly 11000 badgers. The research found that culling badgers alters the social behaviour of remaining badgers which, in turn, increases the risk of the disease spreading to other badgers and to cattle. Only by wiping out badgers over very extensive areas might this increased risk of disease be avoided. The ISG concluded that culling badgers on such a scale was not a feasible control option, because of logistical, economic, legal, environmental and welfare concerns.

**Link to petition:** <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-235.htm>

**Petition raised by:** RSPCA

**Number of signatures:** 304

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 22 September 2009 and 20 October 2009

**Update:** An update has been received from the Minister for Rural Affairs, and this is attached as part of PET(3) 15-09 Paper 2A.

**(ix) P-03-220 Lower the speed limit on the A40 near Abergavenny**

**Petition wording**

Petition to the Welsh Assembly:

In order for pedestrians to be able to walk in safety, we feel it is imperative that the 40 mph speed limit on the A40 between the Hardwick round-a-bout and Plas Derwen Way be lowered to at least 30 mph.

**Link to the petition:** <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-220.htm>

**Petition raised by:** Councillor Maureen Powell

**Number of signatures:** 220

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 19 May 2009, 7 July 2009 and 22 September 2009

**Update:** An update has been received from the Deputy First Minister, and is attached as part of PET(3) 15-09 Paper 2A.

**(x) P-03-234 Wales needs more native trees**

**Petition wording**

Wales needs more native trees!

We, the undersigned, welcome the Forestry Commission Wales target to create 1,500 hectares of new woodland over the next three years and call on the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government and the Forestry Commission to fulfil this target, as the first step towards a doubling of native woodland cover by 2050.

Wales is one of the least wooded countries in Europe. We support the ambition outlined in the Woodlands for Wales Strategy to create more woodland to benefit people and wildlife, to help avoid flooding, to absorb CO2 from the atmosphere and also provide a sustainable supply of timber for the future.

**Link to petition:** <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-234.htm>

**Petition raised by:** Coed Cadw (The Woodland Trust)

**Number of signatures:** 2165

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 22 September 2009

**Update:** An update has been received from the Minister for Rural Affairs and is attached as part of PET(3) 15-09 Paper 2A.

#### **(xi) P-03-237 Welsh Countryside**

##### **Petition wording**

We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government to prevent the destruction of the Welsh countryside by making sure that large industrial buildings such as power plants and factories are built on brown field sites, are environmentally friendly and are not an eyesore.

**Link to petition:** <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-237.htm>

**Petition raised by:** Sion Gilbey

**Number of signatures:** 43

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 22 September 2009

**Update:** An update has been received from the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing and is attached as part of PET(3) 15-09 Paper 2A.

#### **(xii) P-03-238 Pollution of the Burry Inlet**

##### **Petition wording**

Petition from Carmarthenshire residents requesting a public inquiry by the Welsh Assembly Government into the sewage pollution of the Burry Inlet and Carmarthen Bay.

**Link to petition:** <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-238.htm>

**Petition raised by:** Rhys Williams

**Number of signatures:** 2240

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 22 September 2009

#### **P-03-241 Save Our Sewers - Llanelli Star**

##### **Petition wording**

We support the Llanelli Star's campaign to sort out the sewers, paving the way for hundreds of jobs to come to the area and stopping sewage spills wrecking our environment.

**Link to the petition:** <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-241.htm>

**Petition raised by:** Llanelli Star

**Number of signatures:** 425

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 22 September 2009

**Update:** An update has been received from the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing and is attached as part of PET(3) 15-09 Paper 2A.

#### **(xiii) P-03-239 Lifelong Learning in Welsh Universities**

### **Petition wording**

We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government to require Welsh Universities to provide a full and varied lifelong learning programme by making this a condition of any public funding they receive.

**Link to the petition:** <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-239.htm>

**Petition raised by:** Nick Jones

**Number of signatures:** 10 (In addition, the petitioner collected 3000+ signatures for an associated petition)

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 22 September 2009

**Update:** An update has been received from the Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills and is attached as part of PET(3)-15-09 Paper 2A.

### **(xiv) P-03-240 Improvements to the A40 in Llanddewi Velfrey**

#### **Petition Wording**

Due to the increasing levels of traffic, especially heavy goods vehicles, on the A40 and due to the inadequate provision of safe pavements and pedestrian crossings acknowledged by the Trunk Road Agency through research on behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government we, the undersigned, hereby demand the Welsh Assembly Government, as a matter of urgency, improve road safety in the village of Llanddewi Velfrey, Narberth, Pembrokeshire through implementation of the following measures:

Improve the inadequate pavement along the southern side of the A40 between Llandaff Row and the far eastern end of the village to ensure that it meets current safety standards, that it is sufficiently wide for the safe use of pedestrians, pushchairs and wheel chair users taking into consideration the proximity of heavy goods traffic passing by at speeds often in excess of the current limit of 40mph.

Install speed cameras at the eastern and western ends of the village.

Utilise the existing electrical installation for road crossing signs to provide flashing warning lights at times when children will be crossing the A40 to catch their school bus.

Install traffic calming measures at each end of the village and at road junctions to emphasise the need to reduce speed.

Reduce the speed limit to 30mph.

**Link to petition:** <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-240.htm>

**Petition raised by:** Llanddewi Velfrey Community Council

**Number of signatures:** 154

**Previously considered by the Committee on:** 22 September 2009

**Update:** An update has been received from the Deputy First Minister and is attached as part of PET(3) 15-09 Paper 2A.

#### **Committee Service**

**November 2009**