

Petitions Committee

"Minutes: PET(3) 14-10 : Tuesday 16 November 2010"

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Time: 09.00 – 09.50

Venue: Committee Room 1, Y Senedd, Cardiff Bay

Assembly Members in attendance

Christine Chapman AM, Cynon Valley (Chair)

Andrew RT Davies AM, South Wales Central

Veronica German AM, South Wales East

Officials

Naomi Stocks, Clerk

Andrew Minnis, Deputy Clerk

Joanest Jackson, Legal Advisor

Rhodri Wyn Jones, Committee Support

Item 1. Introductions, Apologies and Substitutions

The Chair welcomed committee members and members of the public.

Item 2. New Petitions

P-03-305 Statutory school libraries

The committee considered this petition for the first time.

Action points:

The committee agreed to:

await the response from the Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning.

P-03-306 Save Barry theatre

The committee considered this petition for the first time.

Action points:

The committee agreed to:

await the response from the Minister for Heritage

P-03-307 Design for innovation in Wales

The committee considered this petition for the first time.

Action points:

The committee agreed to:

await the response from the Deputy Minister for Science, Innovation and Skills.

Item 3. Updates to previous petitions

P-03-081 Student loan regulations / P-03-296 Unfair proposals on student loans

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

write to the Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning to ask for details of the work planned in relation to student loan regulations in the absence of explicit references in the Browne review.

revisit the petitions once the Welsh Government have published their response to the Brown review

P-03-092 A465 Relief road to Tafarnaubach industrial estate

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

write to Trish Law AM to ask for an update on her meeting with Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council on 5 November.

P-03-136 Parking in Heath and Birchgrove

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

Invite Cardiff and Vale University Health Board to give evidence to the committee on the implementation of the sustainable travel plan, and to ask that they provide details in advance of the evidence session of the parking information given to patients prior to appointments, and information on the impact of the the East Cardiff Park and Ride scheme.

P-03-143 Ysgol Penmaes

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

Write to the Deputy First Minister:

highlighting the concerns raised by TRACC about the formula used to calculate funding for the Local Transport Services Grant;

asking how the formula is arrived at;

whether the issues raised by TRACC are being addressed in the review of financial support for the bus industry; and

when the outcomes from the review will be known.

P-03-162 Road safety in Llanspyddid

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

write to the Deputy First Minister to ask when the proposed improvements detailed in the safety review will be made.

P-03-204 Public accountability and consultation in higher education

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

await the publication of the review into higher education governance.

P-03-206 Mencap swimming

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

close the petition and produce a summary closure report.

P-03-208 Historic counties

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

close the petition and produce a summary closure report.

P-03-216 IVF treatment

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

write to the petitioners asking for details of any cases they are aware of patients being unable to access the second cycle so that this can be brought to the attention of the Minister; and

write to the Minister for Health and Social Services asking if she has any indication of when she may be able to introduce the third cycle on the NHS.

P-03-220 Lower the speed limit on the A40 near Abergavenny / P-03-240 Improvements to the A40 at Llanddewi Velfrey

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

return to the issue after 6 months when the review of the speed limit on the A40 (T) near Abergavenny has been conducted.

P-03-223 Section 6, Welsh Language Act

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

close the petition and prepare and produce a summary closure report

P-03-225 Gorseinon College

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

close the petition and produce a summary closure report.

P-03-227 Against the proposed Metrix access road in Llanmaes / P-03-252 Opposing RAF St Athan Northern Access Road (Boverton Residents)

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

write to Vale of Glamorgan Council asking whether the proposed road will go ahead following the outcome of the Strategic Defence Review.

P-03-230 International conscientious objectors' day

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

close the petition and produce a summary closure report.

P-03-232 Ffynnone and Cilgwyn Woods

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

write to the Public Accounts Committee to make them aware of the petitioners continued concerns, asking that these issues be taken into account when they question the Forestry Commission Wales and asking for an update following the evidence session.

P-03-238 Pollution of the Burry Inlet

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

write to the petitioners to make them aware of the way in which the 2005 pollution incident has been taken into account into investigations of cockle mortality, and the memorandum of understanding between the Environment Agency, Carmarthenshire County Council, Dwr Cymru Welsh Water and the Countryside Council for Wales; and

write to the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing to ask that the Committee be sent a copy of the final report into cockle mortality when it is published.

P-03-244 Local authority register for road safety projects

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

write to the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government to make him aware of the petition and to ask if he would consider issuing guidance to local authorities to ensure that information on road safety schemes is made more easily accessible to the public

P-03-245 Snowdon Mountain Railway

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

write to the Snowdonia Mountain Railway Company seeking their views on the petition.

P-03-248 Improved disabled access to public transport

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

write to the Equality of Opportunity Committee asking to be kept informed of the Welsh Government's response to their inquiry into train accessibility, and of their inquiry into the wider issues surrounding transport accessibility; and

write to the petitioner notifying them of the wider Equality of Opportunity Committee inquiry.

P-03-253 Adoption of private sewers

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

write to the petitioners with details of the OFWAT correspondence; and

write to the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing asking to be informed of the outcomes from the public consultation on the draft regulations, and requesting a timetable for action following the closure of the consultation.

P-03-257 Restore Assembly broadcasting on S4C2

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

close the petition and produce a summary closure report.

P-03-263 List Stradey Park

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

return to the petition at the next meeting of the Petitions Committee.

P-03-272 Equines should not be utilised underground

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

write to the Minister for Rural Affairs asking when she envisages a decision being made in relation to future reviews of the code of practice.

P-03-273 Transportation of wind turbines in Mid Wales

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

write to the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing to ask for more details on how she intends to resolve the issues associated with the transportation of wind turbine components, and the expected timeframe is for resolution of the issues.

P-03-277 Change the decision to sell alcohol at the Urdd Eisteddfod

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

close the petition and produce a summary closure report.

P-03-283 NHS charging for alcohol related incidents

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

write to the Welsh NHS Confederation, BMA Cymru, the Royal College of Nursing, the British Paramedics Association, the Board of Community Health Councils in Wales and the Association of Chief Police Officers to inform them of the petition and ask how they think the issues raised can be best addressed; and

write to the Welsh Ambulance Service NHS trust to seek their views on the petition, and in particular whether any charges are in place for the use of ambulance services.

P-03-291 Develop HIV and sexual health information services

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

write to the Minister for Health and Social Services asking for details of the Sexual Health Action Plan.

P-03-293 Review of schools admission code

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

write to the petitioners to seek their views on the response received from the Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning.

P-03-298 Financing Welsh language provision for people with dyslexia

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

write to the Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning asking for details of the outcome of the meeting between Dyslexia Wales and officials

write to the petitioners to seek their views on the correspondence received from the Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning.

P-03-302 Compost processing plant

The committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The committee agreed to:

write to the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing requesting further information on the improvement measures being introduced, the review of guidance on odour at regulated facilities and when she envisages the report on air quality to be completed.

write to the petitioner's to seek their views on the response received from the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing.

The Committee agreed to hold the remainder of the meeting in private session under Standing Order 10.37

Item 4. Discussion of draft report

4.1 The committee discussed the draft committee report on work based learning provision for vulnerable young people.

**Committee Services
November 2010**