

Agenda Supplement – Petitions Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 1 – Senedd

Meeting date: 7 May 2019

Meeting time: 09.00

For further information contact:

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– P-05-847 Correspondence – Petitioner to Committee

Please note the documents below are in addition to those published in the main Agenda and Reports pack for this Meeting

3.2 P-05-847 Create water fountains in the centre of cities and towns to eliminate plastic waste

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Attached Documents:

Cover sheet

06.05.19 Correspondence – Petitioner to committee



Agenda Item 3.2

To whom it might concern,

Thank you very much for your emails and the response from Ms. Blythyn, the Minister of Environment. I deeply apologise about my late answer which is caused by traveling and not being present in the country.

I carefully read the response of the Minister of Environment and I completely understand the risen points.

I do understand that the water fountains according to the response need to have an owner who would be responsible for the maintenance. However, I think the water fountains should be created on public places and it is not necessary to create a high number of the fountains. If we say that there could be only three or four water fountains in the City Centre of Cardiff created in the shopping centres like St. Davids or Capitol, the water fountains could then be controlled by the maintenance staff working in these places. Therefore I don't think that this option would then need a big investment.

Regarding the refill campaign, the fact that around 600 places are part of the campaign, not necessarily means that all the places are really collaborating. Also, this scheme is not familiar to visitors and tourists who are coming to Cardiff only for a short time period. It is a very long process with installing an app and looking for these places specifically, but if there is a water fountain on a visible space in the centre it might have a better effect and can be used by more people. Also, the public might not be even aware of this campaign yet.

At this point, I would like to mention a decision made by London council, when similar idea was supported and water fountains were created in the city. The city of London has saved more than 155,000 single used plastic bottles in less than a year, what is an incredible success. This project is also supported with the Refill London campaign.

According to some data, one million plastic bottles are bought every minute around the world and that number will top half a trillion by 2021. Less than half of those bottles end up getting recycled. Reducing the use of plastic bottles should then be introduced as soon as possible and not in just one project. Therefore, I think there should be more projects which should collaborate together in order to reduce the number of single used plastic bottles.

Thank you very much for your time and your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Tereza Tothova