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Agenda - Plenary

Meeting Venue:

Y Siambr - Y Senedd

Meeting date:

Wednesday, 9 December 2020

Meeting time: 13.30

310(v5)

This meeting will be held in a hybrid format, with some Members in the Senedd Chamber and others joining by video-conference.

Having consulted with the Business Committee, the Llywydd has determined that in accordance with Standing Order 34.14A–D, Members will be able to vote from any location by electronic means.

The Llywydd also gives notice, in accordance with Standing Order 34.15, that the public have been excluded from attending this Plenary meeting, as is required to protect public health. The meeting will continue to be broadcast live and the record of proceedings will be published as usual.

1 Questions to the Minister for Economy, Transport and North Wales (45 mins)

The Presiding Officer will call party spokespeople to ask questions without notice after Question 2.

View Questions

Questions to the Counsel General and Minister for European Transition (in respect of his European Transition responsibilities) (45 mins)

The Presiding Officer will call party spokespeople to ask questions without notice after Question 2.

View Questions



3 Topical Questions

(0 mins)

No Topical Questions were accepted.

4 90 Second Statements

(5 mins)

5 Member Debate under Standing Order 11.21(iv) – Support for babies and new parents during Covid-19

(60 mins)

NDM7462 Lynne Neagle (Torfaen)

To propose that the Senedd:

- 1. Recognises that the evidence is unequivocal that the first 1,000 days of a child's life, from pregnancy to age two, lay the foundations for a happy and healthy life and that the support and wellbeing of babies during this time is strongly linked to better outcomes later in life, including educational achievement, progress at work and better physical and mental health.
- 2. Notes that since the outbreak of COVID-19 and the subsequent lockdown and social distancing measures, a growing body of research indicates parents are facing unprecedented pressures, heightened anxieties, and are at increased risk of developing mental health problems in the perinatal period.
- 3. Notes that the Babies in Lockdown 2020 survey showed that for 66 per cent of respondents from Wales, parental mental health was cited as a main concern during lockdown: only 26 per cent felt confident that they could find help for mental health if they needed it and 69 per cent of parents felt the changes brought on by COVID-19 were affecting their unborn baby, baby or young child.
- 4. Notes that the New Parents and COVID-19 2020 research found that over half of the 257 respondents who have given birth since lockdown felt that their birth experience was more difficult than expected due to the coronavirus restrictions, more than 60 per cent not receiving any form of post-natal check-up and almost a quarter wanting perinatal mental health support..
- 5. Calls on the Welsh Government to ensure services and support for families during pregnancy and the perinatal period are prioritised and that the midwifery,

health visiting and perinatal mental health workforce is protected from redeployment during the pandemic.

- 6. Calls on the Welsh Government to proactively work with health boards to ensure women can be safely supported by their partners during hospital visits during pregnancy.
- 7. Calls on the Welsh Government to provide additional ring-fenced investment for perinatal mental health services and voluntary services to cope with the increase in demand because of COVID-19.

Babies in Lockdown

New Parents and COVID-19

Co-submitters

Bethan Sayed

Leanne Wood

Supporters

Alun Davies

Dai Lloyd

David Rees

Dawn Bowden

Helen Mary Jones

Huw Irranca-Davies

Jack Sargeant

Jayne Bryant

Jenny Rathbone

Joyce Watson

Neil McEvoy

Vikki Howells

Debate on Petition P-05-1010 An independent inquiry into the 2020 flooding in Rhondda Cynon Taf so that lessons are learned (30 mins)

NDM7502 Janet Finch-Saunders

To propose that the Senedd:

Notes the petition 'P-05-1010 An independent inquiry into the 2020 flooding in Rhondda Cynon Taf so that lessons are learned' which received 6,017 signatures.

P-05-1010 An independent inquiry into the 2020 flooding in Rhondda Cynon Taf so that lessons are learned

Proposal under Standing Order 12.24 to debate items 7-8 together but with separate votes:

(60 mins)

7 Debate: New Coronavirus Restrictions

NDM7501 Rebecca Evans (Gower)

To propose that the Senedd:

Notes:

- a) the increase in the seven-day rolling incidence rate of coronavirus cases across Wales;
- b) the statement by the First Minister on 1 December which set out new national measures to protect public health and reduce the spread of coronavirus; and
- c) the £340m package of business support to be made available through the Economic Resilience Fund to support businesses affected by the new national measures.

The following amendments were tabled:

In accordance with Standing Order 12.23 (iii), amendment 1 tabled to the motion was not selected.

Amendment 2 Darren Millar (Clwyd West)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Does not believe that a Wales-wide approach is proportionate given that COVID-19 is circulating at different rates in different parts of the country.

Amendment 3 Darren Millar (Clwyd West)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Believes that there is insufficient evidence to demonstrate that the Welsh Government's current restrictions on the sale of alcohol in public houses, cafes and restaurants are proportionate.

Amendment 4 Darren Millar (Clwyd West)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Believes that the financial support available to businesses affected by the restrictions is insufficient, especially when firms have spent vast sums on ensuring their premises are COVID secure for staff and customers.

Amendment 5 Darren Millar (Clwyd West)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Calls upon the Welsh Government to publish the evidence on which it based its decision to close indoor entertainment venues.

Amendment 6 Darren Millar (Clwyd West)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Further calls upon the Welsh Government to make sufficient financial support available to businesses in a timely manner.

In accordance with Standing Order 12.23 (iii), amendments 7, 8 and 9 tabled to the motion were not selected.

Amendment 10 Caroline Jones (South Wales West)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Regrets:

a) that the Welsh Government has pursued a course of action based on very limited evidence of the situation in Wales:

b) that the restrictions will have a very limited impact upon infection rates in Wales;

c) that these restrictions will have a lasting impact on jobs and livelihoods and will cause lasting damage to the hospitality sector in Wales.

Amendment 11 Sian Gwenllian (Arfon)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Agrees that, whilst hospitality venues can remain open, they should not be subject to a complete ban on the sale of alcohol as currently set out in regulations which came into force on 4 December.

Amendment 12 Sian Gwenllian (Arfon)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Agrees that the cut-off time on the sale of alcohol in supermarkets and off-licences should be consistent with the cut-off time imposed on hospitality venues.

Amendment 13 Sian Gwenllian (Arfon)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Agrees that hospitality venues should be allowed to stay open until 8pm.

Amendment 14 Sian Gwenllian (Arfon)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Government to outline:

- a) the specific objectives it hopes the new national restrictions outlined in the First Minister's statement to the Senedd on 1 December will achieve; and
- b) what the threshold will be for relaxing those measures.

Amendment 15 Sian Gwenllian (Arfon)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Agrees that the latest Welsh Government technical advisory cell advice, together with all data supporting the policy decisions taken, should be published alongside or prior to any announcement on further national coronavirus restrictions.

Amendment 16 Sian Gwenllian (Arfon)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Agrees that the Welsh Government should adopt a presumption in favour of holding a meaningful vote in the Senedd to precede the coming into effect of any further national coronavirus restrictions of the magnitude outlined in the First Minister's statement to the Senedd on 1 December.

Amendment 17 Sian Gwenllian (Arfon)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Government to afford the opportunity for opposition parties to make reasonable requests for independent modelling by the technical advisory cell on alternative proposals in relation to matters such as the closure of the hospitality sector and other non-pharmaceutical interventions.

8 Welsh Conservatives Debate - Coronavirus - December Restrictions

NDM7505 Darren Millar (Clwyd West)

To propose that the Senedd:

- 1. Notes the coronavirus restrictions imposed on the hospitality and indoor entertainment industries in Wales from 4 December 2020.
- 2. Regrets the adverse impact of the restrictions on Welsh businesses and jobs.
- 3. Calls upon the Welsh Government to:
- a) suspend the restrictions with immediate effect; and
- b) adopt a more proportionate and targeted approach to tackling the coronavirus in Wales.

In accordance with Standing Order 12.23(iii), the amendments tabled to the motion have not been selected.

9 Standards of Conduct Committee report - Report 03-20 (15 mins)

NDM7503 Jayne Bryant (Newport West)

To propose that the Senedd:

- 1. Considers the Report of the Standards of Conduct Committee Report 03–20 <u>laid</u> before the Senedd on 2 December 2020 in accordance with Standing Order 22.9.
- 2. Endorses the recommendation in the report that a breach has been found.
- 3. Resolves that for a period of 21 days, excluding days while the Senedd is in recess, commencing with the passing of this motion and ending no later than midnight on 21 January 2020 that:
- a) the Member's rights and privileges of access to the Senedd and Ty Hywel shall be withdrawn under Standing Order 22.10 (ii);
- b) the Member shall be excluded from any Senedd proceedings under Standing Order 20.10(iii), and
- c) the Member shall not be entitled to any salary from the Senedd in respect of the days to which paragraphs a. and b. above apply, in accordance with Standing Order 22.10A.

Procedural Motion to postpone the Short Debate to next Wednesday's Plenary

10 Voting Time

11 Short Debate

(30 mins)

NDM7504 Andrew R.T. Davies (South Wales Central)

The importance of fans at sporting events for the social fabric of our communities.

The Senedd will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 15 December 2020

Agenda Item 1

Oral Questions tabled on 02/12/2020 for answer on 09/12/2020

The Presiding Officer will call party spokespeople to ask questions without notice after Question 2.

Minister for Economy, Transport and North Wales

1. Angela Burns (Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire) OQ56003 (e)

What support is the Welsh Government making available for business development in Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire?

2. Alun Davies (Blaenau Gwent) OQ56004 (e)

Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Government's strategy to invest in the economic development of towns in the Heads of the Valleys?

3. Mandy Jones (North Wales) OQ56006 (e)

Will the Minister provide an update on the progress of the red route in Flintshire?

4. Helen Mary Jones (Mid and West Wales) **OQ56005 (e)**

What discussions has the Minister had regarding the future of Trostre steelworks in Llanelli?

5. Rhianon Passmore (Islwyn) OQ56017 (e)

What impact will the recommendations of the report One Region, One Network, One Ticket by the South East Wales Transport Commissioner have on rail services in Islwyn?

6. Mark Reckless (South Wales East) OQ56015 (e)

Will the Minister make a statement on the funding of Transport for Wales now that it has taken control of the Wales and Borders rail franchise?

7. Dawn Bowden (Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney) OQ56009 (e)

Will the Minister provide an update on strategic transport investment in Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney?

8. Darren Millar (Clwyd West) Q55990

What assessment has the Minister made of the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic on Clwyd West?

9. Leanne Wood (Rhondda)

OQ55997 (e)

How is the Welsh Government encouraging cycling in the Rhondda?

10. Gareth Bennett (South Wales Central)

OQ56002 (e)

Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Government's priorities for promoting economic growth in South Wales Central?

11. Mick Antoniw (Pontypridd)

OQ56001 (e)

Will the Minister make a statement on transport infrastructure investment in Pontypridd and Taff-Ely?

12. Russell George (Montgomeryshire)

OQ55998 (e)

How is the Welsh Government supporting small businesses on high streets in mid Wales?

Counsel General and Minister for European Transition

1. David J. Rowlands (South Wales East) OQ56010 (e)

Will the Counsel General make a statement on the operation of the shared prosperity fund?

2. Mark Isherwood (North Wales) OQ55989 (e)

What discussions has the Counsel General had regarding the Port of Holyhead after the EU transition period comes to an end?

3. Dawn Bowden (Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney) OQ56011 (e)

Will the Counsel General provide an update on the impact of Brexit preparations on Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney?

4. John Griffiths (Newport East) OQ55999 (e)

What steps has the Welsh Government taken to develop its relationship with the European Union and member states post-Brexit?

5. Neil Hamilton (Mid and West Wales) OQ55995 (e)

What assessment has the Counsel General made of the impact that the UK Government's recent announcements on immigration plans will have on Wales?

6. Huw Irranca-Davies (Ogmore) OQ55988 (e)

What assessment has the Counsel General made of the impact of the UK shared prosperity fund on the devolution settlement?

7. Mark Reckless (South Wales East) OQ56016 (e)

What discussions has the Counsel General had regarding the impact of the Brexit process on the pace of regulatory approvals for COVID-19 vaccines?

8. Nick Ramsay (Monmouth) OQ55993 (e)

Has the Counsel General discussed post-Brexit arrangements for supporting the export of Welsh produce with ministerial colleagues?