

Votes and Proceedings – Plenary

Meeting Venue:

Y Siambr – Y Senedd/Zoom

Meeting date:

Wednesday, 16 December 2020

Meeting time: 13.30

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/11127>

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

Emergency Question

The item started at 13.30

To the First Minister:

Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire): Will the First Minister make a statement on the Welsh Government's proposals to introduce further restrictions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic?

1 Questions to the Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs

The item started at 14.13

The first 9 questions were asked. Questions 7 and 10 were withdrawn. The Presiding Officer invited party spokespeople to ask questions to the Minister after question 2.

2 Questions to the Minister for Housing and Local Government

The item started at 15.00

The first 8 questions were asked. Question 2 was answered by the Deputy Minister for Housing and Local Government. The Presiding Officer invited party spokespeople to ask questions to the Minister after question 2.



3 Topical Questions

The item started at 15.51

To the Minister for Economy, Transport and North Wales:

Mick Antoniw (Pontypridd): Will the Minister make a statement on job losses at Rhys Davies Logistics in Taff's Well as a result of the company being put into administration?

To the Minister for Health and Social Services:

Rhun ap Iorwerth (Ynys Môn): Will the Minister make a statement on NHS winter pressures, on services and waiting times for diagnosis and treatment?

4 90 Second Statements

The item started at 16.15

Helen Mary Jones made a statement on Nigel Owens making history, becoming the first referee to reach 100 international test matches.

Dawn Bowden made a statement on The Merthyr Mermaid – Cath Pendleton. A record setting one mile swim in Antarctica.

In accordance with Standing Order 12.18, at 16.18 the Presiding Officer suspended the meeting.

5 Debate on the Children, Young People and Education Committee report: Mind over matter: two years on

The item started at 16.24

NDM7518 [Lynne Neagle \(Torfaen\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

Notes the Children, Young People and Education Committee Report, Mind over matter: Two years on, which was [laid](#) in the Table Office on 9 October 2020.

Note: The response by the Welsh Government was [laid](#) on 2 December 2020.

The motion was agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

6 Debate on the Culture, Welsh language and Communications Committee's report on the impact of the pandemic on the Welsh language

The item started at 17.13

NDM7519 [Helen Mary Jones \(Mid and West Wales\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

Notes the report of the Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee, The impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on the Welsh language, [laid](#) in the Table Office on 1 December 2020.

The motion was agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

In accordance with Standing Order 12.18, at 17.40 the Presiding Officer suspended the meeting.

7 Plaid Cymru debate – Free school meals

The item started at 17.48

Voting on the motion and amendments under this item was deferred until Voting Time.

A vote was taken on the motion without amendment:

NDM7521 [Sian Gwenllian \(Arfon\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

Calls on the Welsh Government to immediately amend the eligibility criteria for free school meals so that any child in any family receiving universal credit or equivalent benefit and any child in a family with no recourse to public funds is eligible, as the first step towards implementing universal provision of nutritious free school meals for all school-aged children in Wales.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
8	3	38	49

The motion without amendment was not agreed.

The following amendments were tabled:

Amendment 1 [Rebecca Evans \(Gower\)](#)

Delete all and replace with:

Welcomes that the Welsh Government:

a) provided over £50 million of additional funding to ensure the continued provision of free school meals during the pandemic and was the first government in the UK to provide provision during school holidays;

b) provided additional funding to ensure that children who are self-isolating or shielding continue to receive free school meal provision when they are not able to attend school;

c) provides funding of £19.50 per week to free school meal-eligible families, which is the most generous provision in the UK;

d) ensured that Wales remains the only country in the UK to have a universal free breakfasts in primary schools scheme;

e) has been recognised by the Education Policy Institute (EPI) for being successful in ensuring families eligible for free school meals during the pandemic had “access to timely and appropriate support”;

f) is committed to reviewing the income threshold for receiving free school meals when Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) data becomes available in April 2021.

[Education Policy Institute](#)

A vote was taken on amendment 1:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
26	5	18	49

Amendment 1 was agreed.

As amendment 1 was agreed, amendment 2 was de-selected

A vote was taken on the motion as amended:

NDM7521 [Sian Gwenllian \(Arfon\)](#)

Welcomes that the Welsh Government:

- a) provided over £50 million of additional funding to ensure the continued provision of free school meals during the pandemic and was the first government in the UK to provide provision during school holidays;
- b) provided additional funding to ensure that children who are self-isolating or shielding continue to receive free school meal provision when they are not able to attend school;
- c) provides funding of £19.50 per week to free school meal-eligible families, which is the most generous provision in the UK;
- d) ensured that Wales remains the only country in the UK to have a universal free breakfasts in primary schools scheme;
- e) has been recognised by the Education Policy Institute (EPI) for being successful in ensuring families eligible for free school meals during the pandemic had “access to timely and appropriate support”;
- f) is committed to reviewing the income threshold for receiving free school meals when Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) data becomes available in April 2021.

[Education Policy Institute](#)

For	Abstain	Against	Total
26	5	18	49

The motion as amended was agreed.

Motion to suspend Standing Orders

NDM7528 [Rebecca Evans \(Gower\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd, in accordance with Standing Orders 33.6 and 33.8:
Suspends Standing Orders 12.20(i), 12.22(i), 29.4 and that part of Standing Order 11.16 that requires the weekly announcement under Standing Order 11.11 to

constitute the timetable for business in Plenary for the following week, to allow NDM7529 to be considered in Plenary on Wednesday 16 December 2020.

The motion was agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

8 Legislative Consent Motion on the Trade (Disclosure of Information) Bill

The item started at 18.44

Voting on the motion under this item was deferred until Voting Time.

NDM7529 [Jeremy Miles \(Neath\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd, in accordance with Standing Order 29.6 agrees that provisions in the Trade (Disclosure of Information) Bill in so far as they fall within the legislative competence of Senedd Cymru, should be considered by the UK Parliament.

A Legislative Consent Memorandum was [laid](#) in Table Office on 16 December 2020 in accordance with Standing Order 29.2.

[Trade \(Disclosure of Information\) Bill](#)

The result was as follows:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
41	8	0	49

The motion was agreed.

9 Voting Time

In accordance with Standing Order 12.18, at 18.55 proceedings were suspended to allow a technical break before voting time.

The item started at 19.01

10 Short Debate – Postponed from 9 December

The item started at 19.04

NDM7504 [Andrew R.T. Davies \(South Wales Central\)](#)

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

11 Short Debate

The item started at 19.16

NDM7517 [Neil Hamilton \(Mid and West Wales\)](#)

Save our statues: the continuing importance of historic memorials and monuments.

The meeting concluded at 19.37

The Senedd will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 12 January 2021