

# Votes and Proceedings – Plenary

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Meeting Venue:

Y Siambr – Y Senedd

Meeting date:

Wednesday, 23 March 2022

Meeting time: 13.30

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/12660>

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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.

### 1 Questions to the Minister for Economy

The item started at 13.30

The first 10 questions were asked. The Presiding Officer invited party spokespeople to ask questions to the Minister after question 2.

#### Topical Question

The item started at 14.19

#### Answered by the Minister for Economy

**Luke Fletcher (South Wales West):** What assessment has the Welsh Government made of the impact the High Court decision relating to Baglan energy park will have on businesses?

### 2 Questions to the Minister for Health and Social Services

The item started at 14.27

Questions 1–3 and 5–9 were asked. Questions 4 and 8 were withdrawn. Question 1 was answered by the Deputy Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing, Question 9 was



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answered by the Deputy Minister for Social Services. The Presiding Officer invited party spokespeople to ask questions to the Minister and Deputy Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing after question 2.

### **3 Topical Questions**

The item started at 15.16

#### **Answered by the Minister for Social Justice**

**Mark Isherwood (North Wales):** Will the Minister make a statement on the progress being made to accommodate Ukrainian refugees in Wales?

### **4 90 Second Statements**

The item started at 15.30

**Janet Finch–Saunders** made a statement on – The Great Orme Mines. Uncovered in 1987 during a scheme to landscape an area of the Great Orme, the copper mines discovered represent one of the most astounding archaeological discoveries of recent times.

**Russell George** made a statement on – Recognising the work of a constituent who set up a mental health walk and talk for men after a number of young men unfortunately committed suicide in Newtown.

### **5 Member Debate under Standing Order 11.21(iv) – Religious buildings**

The item started at 15.33

**NDM7953 [Mike Hedges \(Swansea East\)](#)**

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes the continuing closure of religious buildings, including churches and chapels, throughout Wales.

2. Calls upon the Welsh Government to work with the different denominations in Wales to discuss the future of these buildings.

Co-submitters

[Darren Millar](#)

[Jane Dodds](#)

[Rhys ab Owen](#)

Supporters

[Alun Davies](#)

[Russell George](#)

[Sam Rowlands](#)

The motion was agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

## **6 Debate on the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee report: A new direction for Heavy Goods Vehicle drivers – Heavy Goods Vehicle Driver Shortage and Supply Chain Issues**

The item started at 16.27

**NDM7961** [Paul Davies \(Preseli Pembrokeshire\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

Notes the report of the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee on its inquiry: A new direction for HGV Drivers, which was [laid](#) in the Table Office on 25 January 2022.

Note: The response from the Welsh Government to the report was [laid](#) in the Table Office on 16 March 2022.

The motion was agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

## 7 Welsh Conservatives Debate – Food security

The item started at 17.03

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

A vote was taken on the motion without amendment:

**NDM7963 [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)**

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Recognises the vital contribution that farmers and rural communities make to the health and prosperity of the nation;
2. Notes the negative impact on global food security stemming from the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and the direct effect it has on people in Wales;
3. Believes that there needs to be an environmental and food production revolution in Wales;
4. Calls on the Welsh Government to:
  - a) convene a food summit including farmers, processors and retailers, so Wales can play its part in growing its food production base and boosting food security;
  - b) use the proposed Agriculture (Wales) Bill to enshrine food security as a public good;
  - c) make food security a key cornerstone of future support for Welsh farmers, including incentives;
  - d) support the proposed Food (Wales) Bill.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
13	0	35	48

The motion without amendment was not agreed.

The following amendments were tabled:

**Amendment 1 [Lesley Griffiths \(Wrexham\)](#)**

Delete points 3 and 4 and replace with:

Regrets that the most immediate threat to food security for people living in Wales today is the cost-of-living crisis created by the Conservative UK Government.

Calls on the Welsh Government to:

a) develop a Wales Community Food Strategy to encourage the production and supply of locally-sourced food in Wales, supporting our communities to bring about positive change in our food system;

b) create a new system of farm support acknowledging ecologically sustainable local food production, reflecting the UN principles of Sustainable Land Management.

A vote was taken on amendment 1:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
25	0	23	48

Amendment 1 was agreed.

*[As amendment 1 was agreed, amendment 2 was de-selected]*

A vote was taken on the motion as amended:

NDM7963 [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Recognises the vital contribution that farmers and rural communities make to the health and prosperity of the nation;
2. Notes the negative impact on global food security stemming from the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and the direct effect it has on people in Wales;
3. Regrets that the most immediate threat to food security for people living in Wales today is the cost-of-living crisis created by the Conservative UK Government.

Calls on the Welsh Government to:

a) develop a Wales Community Food Strategy to encourage the production and supply of locally-sourced food in Wales, supporting our communities to bring about positive change in our food system;

b) create a new system of farm support acknowledging ecologically sustainable local food production, reflecting the UN principles of Sustainable Land Management.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
35	0	13	48

The motion as amended was agreed.

In accordance with Standing Order 12.18, at 18.01 proceedings were suspended to allow a technical break before Voting Time.

## 8 Voting Time

The item started at 18.06

## 9 Short Debate

The item started at 18.08

**NDM7962 [Heledd Fychan \(South Wales Central\)](#)**

Supporting communities at continuous risk of flooding: is it time to establish a flood forum for Wales?

## Votes Summary

The meeting concluded at 18.29

**The Senedd will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 29 March 2022**