

Agenda – Plenary

Meeting Venue:

Y Siambr – Y Senedd

Meeting date:

Wednesday, 27 April 2022

Meeting time: 13.30

66(v4)

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

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.

1 Questions to the Minister for Finance and Local Government

(45 mins)

The Presiding Officer will call Party Spokespeople to ask questions without notice after Question 2.

[View Questions](#)

2 Questions to the Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd

(45 mins)

The Presiding Officer will call Party Spokespeople to ask questions without notice after Question 2.

[View Questions](#)

3 Topical Questions

(20 mins)

To be answered by the Deputy Minister for Social Services

Gareth Davies: Will the Minister make a statement on the exclusion of auxiliary care home staff from the care home and home care worker's bonus payments?



4 90 Second Statements

(5 mins)

5 Welsh Conservatives debate – Tourism

(60 mins)

NDM7990 [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Celebrates Wales's strength as a world-class tourist destination.
2. Regrets the devastating impact of COVID restrictions on the tourism industry in Wales.
3. Believes that the Welsh Government's proposed changes to the non-domestic ratings system will undermine many holiday letting businesses.
4. Notes Wales Tourism Alliance data that shows a large majority of businesses will be unable to meet the criteria to qualify as a holiday let business.
5. Calls on the Welsh Government to:
 - a) abandon damaging proposals for a tourism tax in Wales;
 - b) acknowledge that the majority of responses to its consultation oppose the proposed non-domestic rates changes for holiday lets;
 - c) scrap plans to extend the number of days that a property must be let in order to meet the non-domestic rating requirement.

The following amendment was tabled:

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

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Recognises the world class strength of Welsh tourism and welcomes the significant support provided to the tourism industry and operators by the Welsh Government through the COVID pandemic.
2. Recognises the United Nations World Tourism Organization's definition of sustainable tourism development: "Tourism that takes full account of its current

and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities"

3. Recognises that tourism levies are common place across the world, with revenues used to the benefit of local communities, tourists and businesses, which in turn help make tourism sustainable and successful.
4. Welcomes the commitment to introduce local tourism levies which will allow local authorities to raise a tourism levy if they choose to do so.
5. Notes the intention to undertake a major consultation during autumn 2022 as part of a careful process of developing proposals for a levy, which will involve communities, businesses and operators and further notes that the process of translating those proposals into legislation will be subject to detailed scrutiny and approval by the Senedd.
6. Welcomes the Senedd's decision on 22 March to approve the Council Tax (Long-term Empty Dwellings and Dwellings Occupied Periodically) (Wales) Regulations 2022, introduced as part of the wider commitment to address the issue of second homes and unaffordable housing facing many communities in Wales and to tackle the housing crisis
7. Welcomes the commitment to act on the wide-ranging consultations undertaken to date to ensure genuine self-catered accommodation is distinguished from domestic properties with regard to local taxes and notes that a technical consultation on draft regulations to amend the lettings criteria for self-catering accommodations undertaken as part of taking forward this commitment closed on 12 April; the responses to which are currently being analysed.

[The Council Tax \(Long-term Empty Dwellings and Dwellings Occupied Periodically\) \(Wales\) Regulations 2022](#)

6 Plaid Cymru debate – The cost of living crisis and housing

(60 mins)

NDM7989 [Sian Gwenllian \(Arfon\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes that the cost-of-living crisis affecting households across Wales is increasing the risk of homelessness.

2. Notes that Wales's average rental values have increased to £726 per month in March 2022, up by 7.2 per cent compared to March 2021

3. Notes that, despite the local housing allowance being designed to cover the lowest 30 per cent of households in Wales, only 3.8 per cent of households are actually covered by it.

4. Calls on the UK Government to reform the local housing allowance to make it work for Wales.

5. Calls on the Welsh Government to consider the recommendations of the End Youth Homelessness Cymru Roadmap.

[A Roadmap to Ending Youth Homelessness in Wales – End Youth Homelessness Cymru](#)

The following amendments were tabled:

Amendment 1 [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

Add as new point after point 1 and renumber accordingly:

Acknowledges that, until recently, there were more empty homes than second homes in Wales.

Amendment 2 [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

Add as new point after point 3 and renumber accordingly:

Recognises the important role that landlords play in providing accommodation in Wales.

Amendment 3 [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

Delete point 5 and replace with:

Calls on the Welsh Government to:

- a. reintroduce a reformed right-to-buy;
- b. develop a Wales-wide scheme to provide incentives to bring more empty homes in need of renovation back into use;
- c. respond to the recommendations of the End Youth Homelessness Cymru Roadmap;
- d. rule out the introduction of rent controls in Wales.

7 Voting Time

8 Short Debate

(30 mins)

NDM7988 [Peredur Owen Griffiths \(South Wales East\)](#)

No place like home: houses in multiple occupation and community empowerment

The Senedd will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 3 May 2022

Agenda Item 1

Oral Questions tabled on 20/04/2022 for answer on 27/04/2022

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

MINISTER FOR FINANCE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Peter Fox *Monmouth*

1 OQ57912 (e)

What discussions has the Minister had with the Minister for Economy about the impact of the Welsh Government's draft Non-Domestic Rating (Amendment of Definition of Domestic Property) (Wales) Order 2022 on the tourism industry?

Sioned Williams *South Wales West*

2 OQ57934 (e)

What consideration did the Minister give to supporting the introduction of community wealth-building strategies when allocating the budgets of local authorities in South Wales West?

Sam Rowlands *North Wales*

3 OQ57910 (e)

What assessment has the Minister made of the number of uncontested seats in Welsh local government elections?

Rhianon Passmore *Islwyn*

4 OQ57922 (e)

What discussions has the Minister had with HM Treasury to ensure that the Welsh Government has the finance it needs to support the people of Islwyn through the cost-of-living crisis?

Mark Isherwood *North Wales*

5 OQ57916 (e)

What discussions has the Minister had with the Minister for Economy regarding the provision of financial support for the tourism sector in North Wales?

Ken Skates *Clwyd South*

6 OQ57937 (e)

What is the Minister's assessment of the local government settlement provided to Wrexham County Borough Council for the current financial year?

Tom Giffard *South Wales West*

7 OQ57908 (e)

How does the Minister work with council leaders to ensure that decisions they take are in the public interest?

Rhun ap Iorwerth *Ynys Môn*

8 OQ57935 (w)

Will the Minister make a statement on Isle of Anglesey County Council's budget?

Carolyn Thomas *North Wales*

9 OQ57928 (e) Member declared an interest

What assessment has the Minister made of the impact of the UK Government's apprenticeships levy on the finances of local authorities?

Laura Anne Jones *South Wales East*

10 OQ57917 (e)

What steps will the Minister take to ensure fairness in council funding?

MINISTER FOR RURAL AFFAIRS AND NORTH WALES, AND TREFNYDD

Carolyn Thomas *North Wales*

1 OQ57929 (e)

What plans does the Welsh Government have to legally recognise animal sentience in the devolved policy-making process?

Jenny Rathbone *Cardiff Central*

2 OQ57915 (e)

What action is the Welsh Government taking to increase the amount of Welsh food that is processed in Wales?

Natasha Asghar *South Wales East*

3 OQ57924 (e)

How is the Welsh Government co-operating with UK Government departments and agencies to protect animal welfare by preventing the illegal importation of dogs through Welsh ports?

Heledd Fychan *South Wales Central*

4 OQ57920 (w)

What assessment has the Government made of the impact on animal welfare of the inability of people on low incomes to pay for pet food and veterinary fees?

Joel James *South Wales Central*

5 OQ57907 (e)

Will the Minister make a statement on the impact of illegal puppy smuggling through Welsh ports on animal welfare in Wales?

Sam Rowlands *North Wales*

6 OQ57909 (e)

How does the Minister work with the Minister for Economy to ensure North Wales benefits from equal economic outcomes to the rest of Wales?

Cefin Campbell *Mid and West Wales*

7 OQ57931 (w)

What assessment has the Minister made of the impact of the war in Ukraine on the agriculture sector in Mid and West Wales?

Laura Anne Jones *South Wales East*

8 OQ57918 (e)

What action has the Minister taken to support dairy farmers in Wales?

Rhun ap Iorwerth *Ynys Môn*

9 OQ57936 (w)

Will the Minister make a statement on the seafood industry in Ynys Môn?

Vikki Howells *Cynon Valley*

10 OQ57932 (e)

Will the Minister provide an update on Welsh Government priorities for the food and drink sector in Wales?

Janet Finch-Saunders *Aberconwy*

11 OQ57930 (e)

Will the Minister make a statement on the progress being made towards recognising animal sentience in Welsh law?