

Agenda – Plenary

Meeting Venue:

Y Siambr – Y Senedd

Meeting date:

Wednesday, 21 June 2023

Meeting time: 12.45

147(v4)

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

1 Joint item with the Welsh Youth Parliament

(45 mins)

2 Questions to the Minister for Social Justice and Chief Whip

(45 mins)

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

[View Questions](#)

3 Questions to the Counsel General and Minister for the Constitution

(45 mins)

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

[View Questions](#)

4 Questions to the Senedd Commission

(30 mins)

[View Questions](#)



5 Topical Questions

(20 mins)

To ask the Deputy Minister for Climate Change

[Andrew RT Davies \(South Wales Central\)](#): What assessment has the Minister made of 61 drink retailers operating in Wales writing an open letter to the Welsh Government calling for the exclusion of glass from its deposit return scheme in line with the rest of the UK?

To ask the Minister for Social Justice and Chief Whip

[Jenny Rathbone \(Cardiff Central\)](#): In light of recent revelations, what discussions has the Welsh Government had with the UK Government regarding how many members of the Windrush generation from Wales with chronic and mental illness were deported?

To ask the Minister for Education and Welsh Language

[Altaf Hussain \(South Wales West\)](#): What immediate action is the Welsh Government taking to work with schools to educate young people about water safety following the tragic drowning at Aberavon pier on Monday evening?

6 90 Second Statements

(5 mins)

7 Debate on a Member's Legislative Proposal – A civic duty to vote Bill – Postponed

(0 mins)

NDM8293 [Adam Price \(Carmarthen East and Dinefwr\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes a proposal for a Bill on the introduction of a civic duty to vote.
2. Notes that the purpose of this Bill would be to:
 - a) to seek to emulate the success of other democracies that have introduced a civic duty to vote in increasing levels of voter turnout at elections and thereby improving the level of engagement and representativeness across all ages, classes and communities;

- b) to introduce a civic duty for all those eligible to vote to participate in Senedd and county council elections;
- c) to allow those wishing to indicate their dissatisfaction with a candidate, party or politics more broadly to do so by means of a positive abstention option on the ballot paper;
- d) to allow for the introduction of an appropriate sanction for non-compliance with the civic obligation to vote or positively abstain, with legitimate exemptions; and
- e) to provide for the introduction of a pilot phase for the introduction of the duty on an age-specific basis.

Supporters

[Rhys ab Owen \(South Wales Central\)](#)

8 Debate on the Health and Social Care Committee report – Dentistry

(60 mins)

NDM8299 [Russell George \(Montgomeryshire\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

Notes the Health and Social Care Committee report, ‘Dentistry’, [laid](#) on 15 February 2023.

Note: The response of the Welsh Government to the report was [laid](#) in the Table Office on 14 June 2023.

9 Plaid Cymru Debate – Devolution of justice and policing

(60 mins)

NDM8300 [Sian Gwenllian \(Arfon\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes that over a quarter of a century since devolution, Wales remains the only devolved nation without its own legal system and powers over its police forces, despite there being no rational basis for this.

2. Believes that:

- a) powers over justice and policing should be fully devolved to Wales; and
 - b) establishing a distinct Welsh legal system and making Welsh police forces fully accountable to the Senedd can be vital steps along the road to independence.
3. Calls on the Welsh Government to formally request powers over justice and policing.

The following amendment was tabled:

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

Delete all after sub-point 2 (a) and replace with:

establishing a distinct Welsh legal system and making Welsh police forces fully accountable to the Senedd can be vital steps to ensuring that justice and policing can be better delivered for the benefit of the people of Wales; and

the Commission on Justice in Wales set out clearly why powers over justice should be wholly devolved and a Welsh legal jurisdiction established.

Calls on the Welsh Government to continue pursuing the case and preparing for the devolution of policing and justice.

10 Voting Time

11 Short Debate

(30 mins)

NDM8291 [Joel James \(South Wales Central\)](#)

The repurposing of drugs to treat rare diseases

The Senedd will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 27 June 2023

Agenda Item 2

Oral Questions tabled on 14/06/2023 for answer on 21/06/2023

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

MINISTER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND CHIEF WHIP

Rhys ab Owen *South Wales Central*

1

OQ59680 (e)

What discussions has the Minister had with the police and other criminal and youth justice agencies about ending strip searches on children, following the recommendation in the report of the Children's Commissioners of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child?

Russell George *Montgomeryshire*

2

OQ59693 (e)

How is the Welsh Government supporting the voluntary sector in Montgomeryshire?

Sarah Murphy *Bridgend*

3

OQ59702 (e)

Will the Welsh Government provide an update on progress in relation to developing guidance to address concerns about the relationship between data sharing and the willingness of survivors of gender-based violence to seek support?

Carolyn Thomas *North Wales*

4

OQ59708 (e)

How is the Welsh Government working to ensure compassion is built into support systems for people seeking asylum in Wales?

Joel James *South Wales Central*

5

OQ59701 (e)

Will the Minister provide an update on how credit unions are supporting families in Wales?

Darren Millar *Clwyd West*

6

OQ59689 (e)

What action is the Minister taking to address digital exclusion?

Gareth Davies *Vale of Clwyd*

7

OQ59715 (e)

Will the Minister outline the Welsh Government's ambition for increasing community police provision in Denbighshire?

Huw Irranca-Davies *Ogmore*

8

OQ59688 (e)

What recent discussions has the Minister had with Police and Crime Commissioners about tackling people trafficking in south Wales?

Luke Fletcher *South Wales West*

9

OQ59710 (e)

What discussions has the Minister had with the Minister for Economy regarding cross-cutting measures for inclusion in the refreshed child poverty strategy?

Buffy Williams *Rhondda*

10

OQ59683 (e)

What assessment has the Minister made of the impact the cost of living will have on poverty in Rhondda this winter?

Heledd Fychan *South Wales Central*

11

OQ59714 (w)

How is the Welsh Government supporting collaboration between communities in South Wales Central and local police, including the office of the South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner?

Peter Fox *Monmouth*

12

OQ59692 (e)

What is the Welsh Government doing to tackle poverty in Wales?

COUNSEL GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR THE CONSTITUTION

Jenny Rathbone *Cardiff Central*

1

OQ59712 (e)

What discussions has the Counsel General had with the Magistrates Association regarding youth experience of the courts system?

Jack Sargeant *Alyn and Deeside*

2

OQ59717 (e)

What discussions has the Counsel General had with other law officers regarding the impact on Wales of amendments made to the Public Order Act 2023?

Gareth Davies *Vale of Clwyd*

3 OQ59716 (e)

What discussions has the Counsel General had about maximising the opportunities provided by Brexit for the Welsh Government's constitutional policy?

Carolyn Thomas *North Wales*

4 OQ59707 (e)

What assessment has the Counsel General made of electoral turnout in Wales?

James Evans *Brecon and Radnorshire*

5 OQ59679 (e)

Will the Counsel General provide an update on the Welsh Government's proposals and timetable for Senedd reform?

John Griffiths *Newport East*

6 OQ59718 (e)

What assessment has the Minister made of the effectiveness of the working arrangements between the Welsh Government and the UK Government?

Huw Irranca-Davies *Ogmore*

7 OQ59690 (e)

What assessment has the Counsel General made of the impact on voter behaviour of the divergence between voter ID and registration systems at UK general elections and Wales-based elections?

Rhys ab Owen *South Wales Central*

8 OQ59681 (e)

What consideration has the Counsel General given to the need for accuracy and clarity in the terms used to describe future jurisdictional arrangements?

Rhys ab Owen *South Wales Central*

9 OQ59684 (w)

What discussions does the Counsel General intend to have with the new Chief Justice regarding the devolution of justice?

Huw Irranca-Davies *Ogmore*

10

OQ59686 (e)

What assessment has the Counsel General made of the implications of the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Bill for Wales?

John Griffiths *Newport East*

11

OQ59720 (e)

What progress has the Welsh Government made towards its aim of devolving further powers to the Senedd and Welsh Government?

SENEDD COMMISSION

Heledd Fychan *South Wales Central*

1

OQ59703 (e)

What action has the Commission taken to resolve the trade dispute with the PCS Union?

Natasha Asghar *South Wales East*

2

OQ59697 (e)

What recent discussions has the Commission had with the Independent Remuneration Board of the Senedd?

John Griffiths *Newport East*

3

OQ59698 (e)

What steps will the Commission take to enhance the Senedd's engagement with the Welsh public?

Huw Irranca-Davies *Ogmore*

4

OQ59691 (e)

What preparations are being made by the Commission for electoral reform of the Senedd by 2026?

Carolyn Thomas *North Wales*

5

OQ59706 (e)

What assessment has the Commission made of the impact of rising costs on the ability of school children to visit the Senedd?

Jack Sargeant *Alyn and Deeside*

6

OQ59682 (e)

Will the Commission update the Senedd on plans to bring services currently provided by external contractors in-house?

Tom Giffard *South Wales West*

7

OQ59696 (e)

Will the Commission provide an update on its role in Senedd reform?

James Evans *Brecon and Radnorshire*

8

OQ59678 (e)

How is the Commission promoting CPR and defibrillator training to Senedd Members and Senedd Commission staff?

Jenny Rathbone *Cardiff Central*

9

OQ59711 (e)

What progress has the Commission made in reducing the amount of food waste generated on the Senedd estate this year compared with the comparable period last year?