

Concise Minutes – Petitions Committee

Meeting Venue:

Ystafell Bwyllgora 3 – Y Senedd

Hybrid

Meeting date: Monday, 25 September

2023

Meeting time: 14.03 – 15.27

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/13482>

Hybrid

Attendance

Category	Names
Members of the Senedd:	Jack Sargeant MS (Chair) Rhys ab Owen MS Joel James MS Peredur Owen Griffiths MS Buffy Williams MS
Witnesses:	Mark Harris, Home Builders Federation
Committee Staff:	Gareth Price (Clerk) Mared Llwyd (Second Clerk) Kayleigh Imperato (Deputy Clerk)

1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.



2 Evidence session – P-06-1307 The Welsh Government should commit to the adoption of the maintenance of new housing estates by local authorities

The Committee heard evidence from Mark Harris, Planning and policy adviser for the Home Builders Federation in Wales

3 New petitions

3.1 P-06-1341 Accessible guidance for parents and schools to help develop plans to support children with additional learning needs

The Committee considered the petition and noted that the

Children, Young People and Education Committee are currently undertaking a detailed inquiry into equal access to education and childcare.

In light of this Members agreed to write the Chair of the Children, Young People and Education Committee to ask if they would consider taking evidence from the petitioner as part of their detailed inquiry.

3.2 P-06-1353 Devolve responsibilities and budgets for trunk roads in North Wales to North Wales

Jack Sargeant MS declared the following relevant interest under Standing Order 17.24A:

The petitioner is one of his constituents.

The Committee considered the petition and agreed to write back to the Deputy Minister to seek answers to some of the questions raised by the petitioner which have not already been addressed.

3.3 P-06-1357 Draw up a new Microplastics Action Plan for Wales

The Committee considered the petition and agreed to write back to the Minister to ask whether the Welsh Government plan to work with relevant organisations and experts to draw up a Microplastics Action Plan, as described by the petitioners.

3.4 P-06-1358 Review the inadequate funding for Schools in Wales

The Committee considered the petition and agreed to defer it to the private session of the meeting and consider it alongside the Committee's forward work programme.

It was later agreed that the petition would be considered again at the next Committee meeting on 9 October in order for Members to explore further options and the best way to take the petition forward.

4 Updates to previous petitions

4.1 P-06-1209 Create a national list of all unpaid carers in Wales

Rhys ab Owen MS declared the following relevant interest under Standing Order 17.24A:

He has met with the petitioner on a number of occasions.

The Committee considered the petition and agreed to ask the Minister for a final update following the Ministerial Advisory Board on 25 September.

4.2 P-06-1262 Welsh Government to hold a public inquiry into decisions taken by them before & during the pandemic

The Committee considered the petition and agreed to keep it open pending the forward work programme of the special purpose COVID Committee becoming available.

4.3 P-06-1288 Deliver Magor and Undy Walkway Station, part of the Burns Delivery Programme, as a quick win

Peredur Owen Griffiths MS declared the following relevant interest under Standing Order 17.24A:

He has met with the petitioner and been involved in cross-party discussions.

The Committee considered the petition and agreed to keep it open pending the results of the public consultation.

4.4 P-06-1348 Commission suitable NHS services in Wales for people with EDS or hypermobility spectrum disorders

Joel James MS declared the following relevant interest under Standing Order 17.24A:

He has family members who suffer with the condition.

The Committee considered the petition and agreed to write again to the Minister highlighting the concerns raised that rheumatologists are refusing to see EDS or hypermobility spectrum disorders patients, emphasising the need to address this with Local Health Boards.

5 Paper to note – P-06-1344 Moderate quality agricultural land (grade 3b) should be used for food security not solar farms

The paper was noted.

6 Motion under Standing Order 17.42(ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting

The motion was agreed.

7 Discussion of evidence – P-06-1307 The Welsh Government should commit to the adoption of the maintenance of new housing estates by local authorities

The Committee discussed the evidence.