

Agenda – Plenary

Meeting Venue:

Y Siambr – Y Senedd

Meeting date:

Wednesday, 25 October 2023

Meeting time: 13.30

167(v3)

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

1 Questions to the Minister for Climate Change

(45 mins)

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

[View Questions](#)

2 Questions to the Minister for Education and Welsh Language

(45 mins)

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

[View Questions](#)

3 Topical Questions

(20 mins)

To ask the Minister for Climate Change

[Jack Sargeant \(Alyn and Deeside\)](#): Will the Minister make a statement on how the Welsh Government will work with partners to support communities following the impact of Storm Babet?



[Jane Dodds \(Mid and West Wales\)](#): What steps is the Minister taking to ensure that Dŵr Cymru complies with its operational permit conditions following concerns over compliance against their discharge permits?

4 90 Second Statements

(5 mins)

5 Member Debate under Standing Order 11.21(iv) – The Holodomor

(60 mins)

NDM8381 [Alun Davies \(Blaenau Gwent\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Believes that the Holodomor was a predetermined crime committed and led by Stalin and the Soviet Government against the people of Ukraine.
2. Regards the Holodomor as an act of genocide.
3. Notes the crucial role of Welsh journalist Gareth Jones in bringing the cruelty of the Holodomor to the attention of the world.
4. Continues to stand with the people of the Ukraine as they face Putin's illegal war.

Co-submitters

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

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

6 Welsh Conservatives Debate – A&E department performance data

(60 mins)

NDM8390 [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes the importance of meaningful and transparent data in improving care and patient safety.
2. Regrets the findings by the Royal College of Emergency Medicine that headline emergency department performance data have not been accurately reported for more than a decade.

3. Calls on the Welsh Government to:

a) routinely publish pre-exemption figures for Welsh emergency departments to better understand performance and to inform decision making;

b) explain why the performance data in responses provided by Welsh local health boards to the Royal College of Emergency Medicine under the Freedom of Information Act and emergency department performance data published by the Welsh Government appears to be different; and

c) commission an independent review of published data to ensure that they are comparable between the UK nations.

The following amendments were tabled:

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

Delete all after point 1 and replace with:

Notes the assurance from health boards that emergency department data have been reported in line with Welsh Government guidance.

Notes that the independent Office for Statistics Regulation has welcomed the steps the Welsh Government has taken to provide assurance on the quality of the statistics.

Notes that, based on compliance by health boards with the guidance we have in Wales, Welsh statistics for major emergency departments are considered comparable to the statistics for England's Type 1 accident and emergency departments.

Further notes that work is ongoing in partnership with service users and clinicians to review the way we measure the quality of care in emergency departments.

If amendment 1 is agreed, amendments 2 and 3 will be de-selected.

Amendment 2 [Heledd Fychan \(South Wales Central\)](#)

Add as new points after point 2 and renumber accordingly:

Notes that 82 per cent of clinical leads and consultants surveyed by the Royal College of Emergency Medicine have a negative view of the breach exemptions policy.

Regrets that accident and emergency waiting times have worsened since the policy was introduced over ten years ago.

Believes that the policy compromises the ability of emergency services to plan and manage their resources effectively.

Amendment 3 [Heledd Fychan \(South Wales Central\)](#)

In point 3, delete sub-point b) and replace with: rescind the breach exemptions policy in line with the wishes of the Royal College of Emergency Medicine.

7 Plaid Cymru Debate – Transport for Wales

(60 mins)

NDM8389 [Heledd Fychan \(South Wales Central\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes that it is five years since Transport for Wales took over the all-Wales rail franchise from Arriva Trains Wales.

2. Regrets that:

a) train service provision across Wales remains unacceptably unreliable and expensive, with only 57 per cent of services arriving on time between April and June 2023;

b) only 29 per cent of journeys are currently being undertaken on new trains, well below the 95 per cent target set by the Welsh Government for 2023; and

c) Transport for Wales has the lowest customer satisfaction ratings of all major UK rail operators.

3. Calls on the Welsh Government to ensure Transport for Wales delivers on the commitments made, and secure improvements in terms of punctuality and the upgrading of the stock, as well as planning for adequate services to coincide with major events in Wales.

The following amendments were tabled:

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

Delete points 2 and 3 and replace with:

Acknowledges the impact on passengers of recent poor rail performance, with challenges including ageing and unreliable trains, industrial action in UK Government controlled companies, and the ongoing financial pressures caused by COVID and inflation.

Welcomes the stabilisation of train performance delivered by Transport for Wales since August.

Welcomes the £1.1 billion investment in the core Valley lines and the £900 million investment in rolling stock across the Wales and borders network.

Looks forward to the step change for passengers as new rolling stock is introduced for 95 per cent of journeys by 2024, in line with the Programme for Government commitment.

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

Add as new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Government to publish the business case from Transport for Wales to justify the £125 million of additional funding being provided to the company in the current financial year.

8 Voting Time

9 Short Debate

(30 mins)

NDM8388 [Huw Irranca-Davies \(Ogmore\)](#)

Stroke awareness and the FAST/NESA campaign

The Senedd will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 7 November 2023

Agenda Item 1

Oral Questions tabled on 18/10/2023 for answer on 25/10/2023

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

MINISTER FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

Samuel Kurtz *Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire*

1 OQ60156 (e)

How is the Welsh Government supporting public transport in Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire?

Laura Anne Jones *South Wales East*

2 OQ60167 (e)

What steps is the Minister taking to address any issues caused by the default blanket 20mph speed limit?

Peter Fox *Monmouth*

3 OQ60163 (e)

What assessment has the Minister made of the accessibility of renewable energy for businesses?

Andrew R.T. Davies *South Wales Central*

4 OQ60135 (e)

Will the Minister provide an update on progress to install fire-resistant cladding on buildings in Wales?

Janet Finch-Saunders *Aberconwy*

5 OQ60141 (e)

What is the Welsh Government doing to scale up seagrass meadows?

Mike Hedges *Swansea East*

6 OQ60138 (e)

What action is the Welsh Government taking to increase the number of co-operative housing units?

Jack Sargeant *Alyn and Deeside*

7 OQ60150 (e)

How will the Welsh Government further promote the building of social housing?

Delyth Jewell *South Wales East*

8 OQ60148 (e)

Will the Minister provide an update on the situation at Ffos-y-Frân mine in Merthyr?

Rhys ab Owen *South Wales Central*

9 OQ60151 (e)

What progress is being made to restore and sell the more than 22,000 long-term empty homes in Wales to alleviate the housing crisis?

Huw Irranca-Davies *Ogmore*

10 OQ60137 (e)

Will the Minister consider new and alternative proposals in line with the roads review criteria, following the decision to halt progress on the original Llanharan bypass project?

Luke Fletcher *South Wales West*

11 OQ60157 (e)

What assessment has the Government made of the impact of rent increases on tenants' ability to cover basic expenses?

Jane Dodds *Mid and West Wales*

12 OQ60165 (e)

Will the Minister make a statement on Wales's progress towards reducing fossil fuel extraction and consumption?

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND THE WELSH LANGUAGE

Rhys ab Owen *South Wales Central*

1 OQ60152 (e)

What assessment has the Minister made of the impact of the £75 million cut to his department's budget on the Government's educational and Welsh-language targets?

Andrew R.T. Davies *South Wales Central*

2 OQ60136 (e)

Will the Minister make a statement on the findings in Estyn's Chief Inspector's Annual Report 2022-2023?

Darren Millar *Clwyd West*

3 OQ60147 (e)

What action is the Welsh Government taking to promote the adoption of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of antisemitism by the further and higher education sector in Wales?

Altaf Hussain *South Wales West*

4 OQ60154 (e)

What action is the Welsh Government taking to improve support for pupils with additional learning needs?

Jayne Bryant *Newport West*

5 OQ60166 (e)

How is the Welsh Government encouraging children and young people to develop their literacy skills?

Jane Dodds *Mid and West Wales*

6 OQ60164 (w)

How is the Government supporting Welsh-medium childcare provision?

James Evans *Brecon and Radnorshire*

7 OQ60153 (e)

Will the Minister provide an update on the uptake of degree apprenticeships?

Janet Finch-Saunders *Aberconwy*

8 OQ60140 (e)

What steps is the Minister taking to embed the principles of ocean literacy in education?

Vikki Howells *Cynon Valley*

9 OQ60145 (e)

How is the Welsh Government supporting teachers to access opportunities for high-quality professional learning?

Adam Price *Carmarthen East and Dinefwr*

10 OQ60159 (w)

What recent discussions has the Minister had with higher education institutions regarding their financial sustainability?

Gareth Davies *Vale of Clwyd*

11

OQ60143 (e)

What assessment has the Minister made of the impact of the shortening of teaching hours on pupil learning and attainment in Denbighshire?

Mike Hedges *Swansea East*

12

OQ60139 (e)

How is the Minister ensuring that further education colleges are producing increasing numbers of skilled workers for the Welsh economy?