

Agenda – Plenary

Meeting Venue:

Y Siambr – Y Senedd

Meeting date:

Wednesday, 8 November 2023

Meeting time: 13.30

169(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 Finance and Local Government

(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 Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd

(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 Health and Social Services

[Russell George \(Montgomeryshire\)](#): Will the Minister provide an update on the University Hospital of Wales issuing a black alert regarding a significant and sustained adverse demand on services?

To ask the Minister for Education and Welsh Language



[Heledd Fychan \(South Wales Central\)](#): Will the Minister make a statement on the announcement by HSBC that they will be ending their Welsh-language customer telephone service?

4 90 Second Statements

(5 mins)

5 Debate on the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee report – Post-EU regional development funding

(60 mins)

NDM8396 [Paul Davies \(Preseli Pembrokeshire\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

Notes the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs report ‘Post-EU regional development funding’, which was [laid](#) on 12 September 2023.

Note: The response of the Welsh Government to the report was [laid](#) in the Table Office on 31 October 2023. The response from the UK Government was also [published](#) on 31 October 2023.

6 Welsh Conservatives Debate – Water quality

(60 mins)

NDM8397 [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes that:

a) sewage spills into Welsh waters account for 25 per cent of all discharges across Wales and England;

b) six of the UK’s top 20 most polluted rivers across Wales and England are in Wales; and

c) people in Wales have the second highest water bills out of the 11 water companies in Wales and England.

2. Regrets that the Welsh Government’s Storm Overflow Report, published seven months late, contains no recommendations.

3. Calls on the Welsh Government to:

- a) impose legally-binding targets on Dŵr Cymru and Natural Resources Wales to improve overflows;
- b) increase enforcement and ensure fines are used to improve rivers and restore habitats; and
- c) tackle non-permitted sewage pipes and ensure they are up to standard.

[Storm overflows in Wales: report](#)

The following amendments were tabled:

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

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes the significant increases in rivers achieving good ecological status in Wales since 1999.
2. Notes the strict legal framework within which water companies and the regulators operate.
3. Opposes the UK Government's policy to remove the nutrient neutrality requirements which would place our fragile rivers at greater risk.
4. Notes that the Welsh Government:
 - a) supports greater surface water separation to reduce pressure on wastewater systems by accelerating deployment of nature-based flood management and sustainable drainage systems.
 - b) will use its powers to ensure all water companies in Wales reduce pollution incidents year on year, aiming for zero, and stop all serious pollution incidents in the short term.

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

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

Add as new sub-points at end of point 3:

ensure that Natural Resources Wales is adequately resourced to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities effectively;

put mechanisms in place to withhold the awarding of executive bonuses in the event of Dŵr Cymru failing to uphold its responsibilities on water quality; accelerate the implementation of robust environmental governance frameworks in Wales to ensure that future instances of infringements are addressed as swiftly as possible.

7 Plaid Cymru Debate – Conflict in Israel and Gaza

(60 mins)

NDM8391 [Rhun ap Iorwerth \(Ynys Môn\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Condemns the horrifying attacks carried out by Hamas against Israeli civilians and calls for the immediate release of hostages.
2. Notes that Israel has a duty to ensure the protection, security and welfare of its citizens and the occupied Palestinian population.
3. Condemns the Israeli Government's indiscriminate attacks on Gaza, resulting in the death of thousands of innocent Palestinian civilians and agrees with the United Nations Secretary-General that collective punishment of the Palestinian people cannot be justified.
4. Calls on the international community to:
 - a) unite in seeking an immediate ceasefire to end the human suffering and allow humanitarian organisations to reach those in need;
 - b) bring pressure to bear on the Israeli Government to end the siege of Gaza which contravenes international law and the basic human rights of Palestinian civilians; and
 - c) do everything within its power to create safe and meaningful aid corridors into the Gaza Strip and enable safe passage out of the region.
5. Stands in solidarity with the Israeli and Palestinian communities in Wales affected by the conflict.
6. Urges the Senedd to support a two-state solution in order to pursue lasting peace in the region.

Supporters

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

[Carolyn Thomas \(North Wales\)](#)

[Cefin Campbell \(Mid and West Wales\)](#)

[Delyth Jewell \(South Wales East\)](#)

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

[Jane Dodds \(Mid and West Wales\)](#)

[John Griffiths \(Newport East\)](#)

[Llyr Gruffydd \(North Wales\)](#)

[Luke Fletcher \(South Wales West\)](#)

[Mabon ap Gwynfor \(Dwyfor Meirionnydd\)](#)

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

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

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

[Sioned Williams \(South Wales West\)](#)

The following amendment was tabled:

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

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Condemns the indiscriminate attacks, violence and acts of terror perpetrated by Hamas against Israel on 7th October.
2. Recognises the right of all sovereign states, including the State of Israel, to defend themselves and their citizens.
3. Believes that war should be conducted in accordance with international law, including avoiding civilian casualties.
4. Regrets the loss of civilian lives and casualties in Israel, Gaza and the West Bank.

5. Extends the deepest sympathy of people across Wales to those who have lost loved ones.

6. Recognises the further risks posed by the significant humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

7. Calls for:

a) the release of hostages;

b) a suspension of hostilities to allow for the establishment of humanitarian corridors;

c) the reopening of the Rafah crossing to enable civilians, foreign nationals, aid workers and humanitarian supplies to cross without unnecessary hindrance;

d) the international community to work with Israeli and Palestinian representatives to bring an end to the conflict and negotiate a permanent peace settlement which delivers security and prosperity for all, based on the principle of the two-state solution.

Co-submitters

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

[Hefin David \(Caerphilly\)](#)

Supporters

[Gareth Davies \(Vale of Clwyd\)](#)

8 Voting Time

9 Short Debate

(30 mins)

NDM8392 [Sioned Williams \(South Wales West\)](#)

Can carers afford to care?

The Senedd will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 14 November 2023

Agenda Item 1

Oral Questions tabled on 01/11/2023 for answer on 08/11/2023

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

MINISTER FOR FINANCE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Delyth Jewell *South Wales East*

1 OQ60204 (e)

What discussions has the Minister had with the UK Government ahead of the Chancellor's autumn statement to ensure the Welsh Government gets a fair share of UK public expenditure?

Rhys ab Owen *South Wales Central*

2 OQ60201 (e)

Will the Minister provide an update on the development of the proposed council tax reforms set to be introduced in 2025?

John Griffiths *Newport East*

3 OQ60195 (e)

What assessment has the Welsh Government made of progress in the work of corporate joint committees in local government?

Hefin David *Caerphilly*

4 OQ60192 (e) *Withdrawn*

Will the Minister provide an update on the medium-term outlook for local authority budgets?

Sam Rowlands *North Wales*

5 OQ60185 (e)

What plans does the Minister have for further devolution from the Welsh Government to local authorities and regional bodies?

Huw Irranca-Davies *Ogmore*

6 OQ60180 (e)

What discussions has the Minister had with Cabinet colleagues regarding financial support for local government?

Jack Sargeant *Alyn and Deeside*

7 OQ60188 (e)

What additional allocations will the Minister make to the climate change portfolio to aid local authorities in supporting communities affected by the risk of flooding?

Adam Price *Carmarthen East and Dinefwr*

8

OQ60199 (e)

What discussions has the Minister had with the Minister for Climate Change regarding making additional funding available to retain programmes like the fflecsi Bwcabus service?

Jane Dodds *Mid and West Wales*

9

OQ60207 (e)

What discussions has the Minister had with the Minister for Health and Social Services regarding Welsh Government financial support for the childcare sector?

MINISTER FOR RURAL AFFAIRS AND NORTH WALES, AND TREFNYDD

Huw Irranca-Davies *Ogmore*

1

OQ60181 (e)

What discussions has the Minister had with the Minister for Climate Change about reducing the impacts of agriculture on water pollution?

Samuel Kurtz *Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire*

2

OQ60196 (e)

How is the Welsh Government improving the welfare of companion animals?

Russell George *Montgomeryshire*

3

OQ60193 (e)

How will the Habitat Wales scheme support farmers in Montgomeryshire?

Peter Fox *Monmouth*

4

OQ60203 (e)

What assessment has the Welsh Government made of the impact of the end of the Glastir scheme on farmers who receive funding from it?

Jack Sargeant *Alyn and Deeside*

5

OQ60189 (e)

What discussions has the Minister had with the Minister for Climate Change about supporting councils in North Wales to prevent flooding?

Sam Rowlands *North Wales*

6 OQ60186 (e)

What assessment has the Minister made of the impact that proposed Welsh Government budget cuts will have on the agricultural sector?

Altaf Hussain *South Wales West*

7 OQ60198 (e)

What action has been taken by the Welsh Government to protect inland and coastal fisheries?

Rhys ab Owen *South Wales Central*

8 OQ60200 (e)

What assessment has the Minister made of the impact of the UK Government's upcoming ban of American Bully XLs on the animal rescue sector in Wales?

Joyce Watson *Mid and West Wales*

9 OQ60208 (e)

Will the Minister make a statement on the implementation of the Hunting Act 2004 in Wales?

Natasha Asghar *South Wales East*

10 OQ60183 (e)

What action is the Minister taking to boost the trade of Welsh food and drink?

Tom Giffard *South Wales West*

11 OQ60205 (e)

How is the Welsh Government working to promote economic growth in rural areas?