

## Agenda – Plenary

---

Meeting Venue:

Y Siambr – Y Senedd

Meeting date:

Wednesday, 13 December 2023

Meeting time: 13.30

### 179(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 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](#)

#### 2 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](#)

#### 3 Questions to the Senedd Commission (15 mins)

[View Questions](#)

#### 4 Topical Questions (20 mins)

To ask the Minister for Finance and Local Government



[Peter Fox \(Monmouth\)](#): What discussions has the Minister had with the Office for Budget Responsibility regarding its assessment of the Welsh Government Draft Budget 2024–25 next week?

## **5 90 Second Statements**

(5 mins)

### **Motion under Standing Order 17.14 to elect a Member to a committee**

(5 mins)

**NNDM8441** [Elin Jones \(Ceredigion\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd, in accordance with Standing Order 17.14, elects Samuel Kurtz (Welsh Conservatives) as a member of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee in place of James Evans (Welsh Conservatives).

## **6 Motion under Standing Order 26.91 seeking the Senedd's agreement to introduce a Member Bill – Mental Health Standards of Care (Wales) Bill**

(60 mins)

**NDM8422** [James Evans \(Brecon and Radnorshire\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd, in accordance with Standing Order 26.91:

Agrees that James Evans MS may introduce a Bill to give effect to the information included in the [Explanatory Memorandum](#) published on 22 November 2023 under Standing Order 26.91A.

## **7 Debate on a Member's Legislative Proposal – A Bill on the regulation of debt collectors**

(30 mins)

**NDM8419** [Jack Sargeant \(Alyn and Deeside\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes a proposal for a Bill on the further regulation of debt collectors in Wales.
2. Notes that the purpose of the Bill would be to:

- a) place a duty on public service providers to only use debt collectors who sign up to a code of conduct that protects vulnerable people in a cost-of-living crisis;
- b) introduce a Wales-wide code of conduct for all debt collection agents registered in Wales; and
- c) further empower local trading standards authorities to take action against agents who mislead residents about their powers and residents rights.

## **8 Welsh Conservatives Debate – Agriculture**

(60 mins)

**NDM8440** [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Recognises the exceptional role that the agricultural sector plays in Wales, with agriculture contributing to over 220,000 jobs.
2. Notes that for every £1 invested in the agricultural sector, £9 is generated for the wider economy.
3. Celebrates the role that family farms play in supporting the Welsh language and social fabric of rural Wales.
4. Regrets that the Welsh Government have introduced cuts to the 2023–2024 rural affairs budget totalling £37.5 million.
5. Calls on the Welsh Government to ensure that no cuts will be made to the basic payment scheme budget for 2024.

**The following amendment was tabled:**

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

Delete all and replace with:

To propose the Senedd:

1. Agrees with the Welsh Government principle that its policy must keep Welsh farmers on the land.
2. Welcomes the decision by the Welsh Government to maintain the Basic Payment Scheme in 2023 and not to follow the decision in England to cut payments to farmers by up to 55 per cent.

3. Regrets the harm caused to the ability of Welsh farming to create economic value and jobs by:

a) UK Government immigration policy since EU exit;

b) the calamitous tenure of the previous UK Prime Minister;

c) the UK Government's decision to remove £243m from farm support funding in Wales; and

d) the decision by the UK Government not to provide a long-term funding commitment to farm support.

4. Agrees that a fair and rapid transition to sustainable farming methods across the whole of Wales is needed, to strengthen the economic position of Welsh farmers and to avoid the worst impacts of the climate and nature emergency.

## **9 Voting Time**

The Senedd will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 9 January 2024

# Agenda Item 1

## Oral Questions tabled on 06/12/2023 for answer on 13/12/2023

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

### MINISTER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND CHIEF WHIP

**Andrew R.T. Davies** *South Wales Central*

**1** OQ60418 (e)

Will the Minister provide an update on the Welsh Government's role in the super sponsor scheme for Ukrainian refugees?

**Mike Hedges** *Swansea East*

**2** OQ60402 (e)

What assessment has the Minister made of the effect of the recent cold weather on people living in fuel poverty?

**Buffy Williams** *Rhondda*

**3** OQ60415 (e)

What discussions has the Minister had with the Royal Mail regarding how they will meet increased delivery demand in Rhondda this Christmas?

**Mark Isherwood** *North Wales*

**4** OQ60410 (e)

How is the Welsh Government helping older people in Wales with the rising cost of living?

**Peredur Owen Griffiths** *South Wales East*

**5** OQ60429 (e)

Will the Minister provide an update on Welsh Government schemes for refugees?

**Ken Skates** *Clwyd South*

**6** OQ60405 (e)

Will the Minister provide an update on progress in making Wales a nation of sanctuary?

**Mabon ap Gwynfor** *Dwyfor Meirionnydd*

**7** OQ60437 (w)

Will the Minister provide an update on the Welsh Government's plans to fund police community support officers?

**Heledd Fychan** *South Wales Central*

**8** OQ60436 (e)

How is the Minister working with the Minister for Education and Welsh Language to address the impact of child poverty on school attainment, in light of the PISA 2022 results?

**Peter Fox** *Monmouth*

**9** OQ60433 (e)

What action is the Welsh Government taking to ensure people have access to opportunities to lift themselves out of poverty?

**Sian Gwenllian** *Arfon*

**10** OQ60408 (w)

How is the Welsh Government prioritising tackling violence against women on the streets of Bangor?

**Jack Sargeant** *Alyn and Deeside*

**11** OQ60407 (e)

What discussions has the Welsh Government had with Ofgem regarding standing charges in Wales?

**Carolyn Thomas** *North Wales*

**12** OQ60413 (e)

How is the Welsh Government supporting people from disadvantaged communities during the ongoing cost-of-living crisis this winter?

## COUNSEL GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR THE CONSTITUTION

**Carolyn Thomas** *North Wales*

**1** OQ60414 (e)

What assessment has the Welsh Government made of the fairness of the electoral system for Senedd elections?

**Sarah Murphy** *Bridgend*

**2** OQ60423 (e)

What legal advice has the Counsel General provided to the Welsh Government on the impact of the EU-US Data Privacy Framework on Wales?

**Sarah Murphy** *Bridgend*

3 OQ60420 (e)

What assessment has the Counsel General made of the legal implications for Wales of the UK Government's Data Protection and Digital Information Bill?

**Delyth Jewell** *South Wales East*

4 OQ60443 (e)

What legal advice has the Counsel General provided to the Welsh Government about powers available to Welsh Ministers to help women born in the 1950s who were denied their pensions?

**Jack Sargeant** *Alyn and Deeside*

5 OQ60404 (e)

What discussions has the Counsel General had with the UK Government regarding the impact of the Victims and Prisoners Bill on Welsh residents?

**Delyth Jewell** *South Wales East*

6 OQ60444 (e)

What discussions has the Counsel General had with UK law officers regarding the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman's update on their investigation into the Department for Work and Pension's communication of changes to the state pension age?

**Rhys ab Owen** *South Wales Central*

7 OQ60427 (e)

What assessment has the Counsel General made of the impact on Welsh law of the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act 2023's sunset of EU law at the end of this year?

**Mabon ap Gwynfor** *Dwyfor Meirionnydd*

8 OQ60442 (w)

What legal advice has the Counsel General given to the Government regarding which elements of employment law are within the competence of the Senedd or the Welsh Government?

**Janet Finch-Saunders** *Aberconwy*

9 OQ60430 (e)

What assessment has the Counsel General made of the impact that the Senedd Cymru (Members and Elections) Bill will have on trust in politicians?

**Rhys ab Owen** *South Wales Central*

10

**OQ60426 (e)**

What legal advice has the Counsel General provided to the Welsh Government on the withdrawn Senedd Cymru (Electoral Candidate Lists) Bill?

**Janet Finch-Saunders** *Aberconwy*

11

**OQ60431 (e)**

What assessment has the Counsel General made of the possible impact of the Senedd Cymru (Members and Elections) Bill on voter turnout?

**Mabon ap Gwynfor** *Dwyfor Meirionnydd*

12

**OQ60441 (w)**

What legal advice has the Counsel General given to the Government regarding its contribution to the UK COVID inquiry?

## **SENEDD COMMISSION**

**Carolyn Thomas** *North Wales*

1

**OQ60416 (e)**

What is the Commission doing to ensure that the Senedd can continue to meet as a hybrid parliament?

**Sarah Murphy** *Bridgend*

2

**OQ60425 (e)**

What discussions has the Senedd Commission had with the Remuneration Board regarding Member support staff salaries?

**Delyth Jewell** *South Wales East*

3

**OQ60445 (w)**

What action has the Commission taken to ensure that pension funds do not fund deforestation?