

## Agenda – Plenary

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Meeting Venue:

Y Siambr – Y Senedd

Meeting date:

Wednesday, 21 February 2024

Meeting time: 13.30

### 191(v4)

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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 3.

[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 3.

[View Questions](#)

#### 3 Topical Questions

(0 mins)

No Topical Questions have been accepted

#### 4 90 Second Statements

(5 mins)



## 5 Debate on the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee report – Inquiry into UK–EU governance

(60 mins)

**NDM8488** [Huw Irranca–Davies \(Ogmore\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

Notes the report of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee titled “Inquiry into UK–EU governance”, which was [laid](#) in the Table Office on 27 November 2023.

Note: The response of the Welsh Government to the report was [laid](#) in the Table Office on 14 February 2024.

### Supporting documents

[Response of the Senedd Commission to the report](#)

## 6 Welsh Conservatives Debate – Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

(60 mins)

**NDM8489** [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Recognises the work and dedication of hardworking staff at the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board.
2. Notes that:
  - a) 27 February 2024 marks one year since Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board was placed back into special measures;
  - b) the health board was previously subject to special measures between 8 June 2015 and 24 November 2020, less than 6 months prior to the 2021 Senedd elections; and
  - c) the health board has spent longer in special measures than any other NHS organisation in the history of the National Health Service.
3. Regrets that since being placed into special measures, patients and staff are yet to see the required improvements.

4. Calls on the Welsh Government to:

a) listen to the concerns of healthcare professionals when concerns are raised about the quality of services; and

b) ensure patients in North Wales get the timely, high-quality healthcare that they deserve.

**The following amendments were tabled:**

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

Delete all after 2(a) and replace with:

any decision to escalate or de-escalate an NHS organisation must be based on a proper consideration of an extensive range of factors and factual evidence;

Further notes that:

a) the recent Audit Wales follow-up review of Board effectiveness recognised improved board stability and concluded that the dysfunctionality within the board described in its previous report is no longer evident; and

b) performance for planned care has improved since February 2023, with a 1.5 percentage point improvement against the 26-week target, a 15.5 per cent reduction in the number of people waiting over 52 weeks for a first outpatient appointment and the lowest number of people with total waits over 104 weeks since August 2021.

Acknowledges that:

a) the Welsh Government recognises significant challenges remain; and

b) the Welsh Government continues to support the health board and hold it to account to ensure it listens to the concerns of healthcare professionals when concerns are raised about the quality of services and delivers the timely, high-quality healthcare that patients in North Wales deserve.

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

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

Add as new sub-point at the end of point 4:

publish a clear de-escalation process, explaining who will contribute to the de-escalation process and who would make the final decision, while also providing an explanation of the decision;

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

Add as new point at end of motion:

Welcomes the appointment of Dyfed Edwards as the new Chair of the Health Board and further calls on the Welsh Government to provide a clear timetable for the appointment of a full complement of executive directors and independent members.

## **7 Plaid Cymru Debate – Wales-specific Covid inquiry**

(60 mins)

**NDM8483** [Heledd Fychan \(South Wales Central\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes that Module 2B of the UK Covid Inquiry will hear evidence in Wales between 27 February 2024 and 14 March 2024.

2. Believes that:

a) Module 2B of the UK Covid inquiry: ‘Core political and administrative decision making in Wales’ is insufficient to enable the Welsh Government and other agencies to learn the lessons from the response to the pandemic in Wales;

b) the core participant list for the UK Covid Inquiry hearings does not include the full range of relevant Welsh organisations;

c) the Wales COVID-19 Inquiry Special Purpose Committee cannot assess the full range of matters related to the Welsh Government’s handling of the pandemic;

d) failure to establish a Wales-specific Covid inquiry undermines devolution;

e) a Wales-specific Covid inquiry is a basic right for all who lost loved ones due to Covid.

3. Recognises the importance of the UK Covid Inquiry in identifying how decisions by the UK Government influenced the Covid response in Wales.

4. Regrets that the Welsh Government, unlike the Scottish Government, has not established a nation-specific Covid inquiry to fully examine the actions and decisions of the Welsh Government before, during and after the pandemic.

5. Calls on the Welsh Government to establish a judge-led Wales Covid inquiry.

### **Supporters**

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

**The following amendment was tabled:**

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

Add as new point after point 2 and renumber accordingly:

Recognises that due to the Welsh Government's refusal to set-up a Welsh Covid inquiry, the Senedd established a special committee to attempt to get answers for the families and friends of those who died during the pandemic.

## **8 Voting Time**

## **9 Short Debate**

(30 mins)

**NDM8484** [Sioned Williams \(South Wales West\)](#)

The importance of Wales's voice in the campaign for peace – celebrating the hundredth anniversary of presenting the peace petition by the Women of Wales to President Coolidge and Wales's role in speaking up for peace today.

The Senedd will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 27 February 2024

# Agenda Item 1

## Oral Questions tabled on 14/02/2024 for answer on 21/02/2024

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

### MINISTER FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

**Joyce Watson** *Mid and West Wales*

**1** OQ60703 (e) *Withdrawn*

What is the Welsh Government doing to involve communities in the creation of a national forest for Wales?

**Sioned Williams** *South Wales West*

**2** OQ60682 (d)

How is the Government supporting public transport in South Wales West?

**Llyr Gruffydd** *North Wales*

**3** OQ60698 (e)

Will the Minister make a statement on the provision of bus routes in North Wales?

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

**4** OQ60710 (e)

What is the Welsh Government doing to improve bus services in south-east Wales?

**Mabon ap Gwynfor** *Dwyfor Meirionnydd*

**5** OQ60701 (w)

Will the Minister provide an update on bus services in north Wales communities?

**Darren Millar** *Clwyd West*

**6** OQ60690 (e)

What action is the Welsh Government taking to improve highway safety on the trunk-road network?

**Jack Sargeant** *Alyn and Deeside*

**7** OQ60696 (e)

What support is the Welsh Government and its partners providing to protect communities in Flintshire from flooding?

**Ken Skates** *Clwyd South*

8

**OQ60707 (e)**

Will the Minister make a statement on the nuclear energy sector in Wales?

**John Griffiths** *Newport East*

9

**OQ60705 (e)**

What assessment has the Welsh Government made of the impact of its policies for the greening of urban areas?

**Janet Finch-Saunders** *Aberconwy*

10

**OQ60685 (e)** Member declared an interest

What lessons has the Welsh Government learnt from the rent cap in Scotland?

**Joel James** *South Wales Central*

11

**OQ60699 (e)**

Will the Minister provide an update on the timescale for implementing a targeted seagrass-restoration scheme?

**Jenny Rathbone** *Cardiff Central*

12

**OQ60697 (e)**

What plans does the Welsh Government have to raise the minimum heat efficiency of private-rented housing?

## MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND THE WELSH LANGUAGE

**Rhun ap Iorwerth** *Ynys Môn*

1

**OQ60709 (e)** Withdrawn

What assessment has the Minister made of the impact that potential cuts to the apprenticeships budget will have on the further education sector in Ynys Môn?

**Jayne Bryant** *Newport West*

2

**OQ60711 (e)**

What discussions is the Minister having with the Minister for Health and Social Services regarding the availability of Welsh-medium childcare provision?

**Natasha Asghar** *South Wales East*

3

**OQ60693 (e)**

What action is the Welsh Government taking to support learners in South Wales East?

**Sian Gwenllian** *Arfon*

4

**OQ60677 (w)**

What discussions has the Minister had with the Minister for Health and Social Services regarding establishing a dental school in Bangor University?

**Huw Irranca-Davies** *Ogmore*

5

**OQ60675 (e)**

How is the Welsh Government involving employers in the development of VCSEs?

**Heledd Fychan** *South Wales Central*

6

**OQ60683 (w)**

How is the Welsh Government working with the National Eisteddfod of Wales and Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council to ensure a legacy for the Welsh language in light of the Eisteddfod visiting the area this year?

**John Griffiths** *Newport East*

7

**OQ60704 (e)**

What assessment has the Welsh Government made of the impact of its policies on early-years education?

**Janet Finch-Saunders** *Aberconwy*

8

**OQ60686 (e)**

What discussions has the Minister had with Conwy County Borough Council regarding the education cuts proposed by its cabinet?

**Sioned Williams** *South Wales West*

9

**OQ60679 (d)**

How is the Government supporting post-16 learners with learning disabilities in South Wales West?

**Jane Dodds** *Mid and West Wales*

10

**OQ60688 (e)**

What consideration has the Minister given to how changes to the school year would impact rural tourism and the economy in Mid and West Wales?

**Mabon ap Gwynfor** *Dwyfor Meirionnydd*

11

**OQ60702 (w)** Withdrawn

Will the Minister make a statement on funding special education schools?

**Mark Isherwood** *North Wales*

12

**OQ60692 (e)**

Will the Minister confirm Welsh Government policy for school exclusion in Wales?