

Agenda – Plenary

Meeting Venue:

Y Siambr – Y Senedd

Meeting date:

Wednesday, 28 February 2024

Meeting time: 13.30

193(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 Education and Welsh Language

[Adam Price \(Carmarthen East and Dinefwr\)](#): Will the Minister make a statement on the future provision of further education at Coleg Sir Gâr's Ammanford Campus?

4 90 Second Statements (5 mins)



Senedd Cymru
Welsh Parliament

5 Debate on the Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport, and International Relations Committee report – International Relations: Annual Report 2022–23

(60 mins)

NDM8495 [Delyth Jewell \(South Wales East\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

Notes the report of the Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport, and International Relations Committee ‘International Relations: Annual Report 2022–23’, which was [laid](#) in the Table Office on 24 November 2023.

Note: The response of the Welsh Government to the report was [laid](#) in the Table Office on 24 January 2024.

6 Welsh Conservatives Debate – Sustainable Farming Scheme

(60 mins)

NDM8496 [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Regrets that the Welsh Government’s proposed sustainable farming scheme will result in an estimated:

- a) 122,200 reductions in Welsh livestock numbers;
- b) 5,500 jobs on Welsh farms lost; and
- c) £199 million loss to the rural economy.

2. Recognises the strength of feeling in the agricultural community against the sustainable farming scheme.

3. Notes the poll commissioned by the Country Land and Business Association in Wales that has found just 3 per cent of Welsh farmers trust the Welsh Government.

4. Calls on the Welsh Government to:

- a) remove the requirement for each farm to have 10 per cent tree cover; and

b) scrap the current sustainable farming scheme proposals and to re-engage with the farming sector to develop a new scheme that has the support of the farming community.

The following amendment was tabled:

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

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Recognises the vital contribution that farming and agriculture make to the social, economic and cultural landscape of Wales
2. Welcomes the Welsh Government's decision to maintain levels of the basic payment scheme in 2024 to support transition to the sustainable farming scheme.
3. Welcomes the engagement with farmers and stakeholders which has resulted in positive changes to the design of the sustainable farming scheme since the outline published in 2022.
4. Supports further amendments to the sustainable farming scheme in response to feedback from farmers, during the current consultation.
5. Notes that the greatest threat to a sustainable farming sector and food security in Wales is the impact of climate change and biodiversity loss.
6. Endorses the intention of the sustainable farming scheme to reward Welsh farmers who take actions to respond to that challenge.
7. Regrets UK Government policy to remove certainty from farm funding and reduce budgets, making planning for transition more challenging in all UK nations, causing uncertainty for farmers.

7 Plaid Cymru Debate – Bovine TB

(60 mins)

NDM8494 [Heledd Fychan \(South Wales Central\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes NFU Cymru's Bovine TB in Wales survey which states:

- a) that 70 per cent of farmers describe Welsh Government's approach to TB eradication as very poor;
- b) that 85 per cent of farmers say TB negatively impacts their mental health, and 63 per cent of farmers surveyed blame wildlife for TB transmission; and
- c) that the estimated average annual financial cost to farms that provided cost details is £25,677, with data across all respondents showing over 30 per cent estimating their costs at over £10,000 and 13 per cent at over £50,000.

2. Regrets:

- a) the immense financial and mental health burden on farmers in Wales posed by Bovine TB; and
- b) the Welsh Government's persistent disregard of expert opinions and scientific evidence, at the expense of Welsh cattle and the financial and mental wellbeing of Welsh farmers.

3. Calls on the Welsh Government to:

- a) urgently undertake a long-term evaluation and appraisal of current cattle controls to determine their relative effectiveness in preventing and controlling disease transmission;
- b) make immediate changes to on farm slaughter policy;
- c) establish policies which reflect wildlife as a source of infection and which allow for proper and scientifically validated culling and control methods; and
- d) consult with NFU Cymru, FUW and other representatives of the agriculture sector in Wales to establish a new way forward in determining a bovine TB policy for Wales.

The following amendment was tabled:

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

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Supports the continued engagement with farming unions to develop an approach to TB eradication which is both robust and nuanced.

2. Welcomes:

a) the support available to farmers who are suffering the devastating impact of TB on their farm, including Cymorth TB support and also support from Tir Dewi; Farming Community Network; FarmWell Wales; The DPJ Foundation; and

b) the Government's approach to evidence-based policy and the involvement of world class expertise in developing TB policy including Cardiff University, the Centre of Excellence for Bovine Tuberculosis for Wales at Aberystwyth University, and the UK Animal and Plant Health Agency.

3. Supports:

a) ongoing evaluation of Welsh Government TB policy, informed by the first milestone target review due later in 2024 and the Bovine TB Programme Board;

b) making the review of on-farm slaughter policy a priority for the new Bovine TB Technical Advisory Group; and

c) the involvement of farming unions on the new TB Programme Board.

4. Opposes the mass culling of badgers, a species native to Wales, as a means to control bovine TB.

8 Voting Time

9 Short Debate

(30 mins)

NDM8487 [Mark Isherwood \(North Wales\)](#)

The Spot Leukaemia campaign and access to blood tests

The Senedd will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 5 March 2024

Agenda Item 1

Oral Questions tabled on 21/02/2024 for answer on 28/02/2024

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

MINISTER FOR FINANCE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Altaf Hussain *South Wales West*

1 OQ60726 (e)

What discussions has the Welsh Government had with local authorities about the role of procurement in supporting sustainable food production in Wales?

Peter Fox *Monmouth*

2 OQ60749 (e)

What action has the Minister taken to futureproof the Welsh Government's 2024-25 budget against fiscal and economic uncertainty?

John Griffiths *Newport East*

3 OQ60755 (e)

How does the Welsh Government work with local government to develop their engagement with, and empowerment of, local communities?

Sarah Murphy *Bridgend*

4 OQ60738 (e) *Withdrawn*

What discussions has the Minister had with the Minister for Health and Social Services regarding the funding of local authority social care services?

Heledd Fychan *South Wales Central*

5 OQ60751 (e)

What discussions has the Minister had with the Minister for Social Justice and Chief Whip about ensuring sufficient funding for local authorities to develop local no recourse to public funds pathways?

Jenny Rathbone *Cardiff Central*

6 OQ60746 (e)

What progress has the Welsh Government made on working with local government on eliminating burdensome or unnecessary bureaucracy?

Delyth Jewell *South Wales East*

7 OQ60735 (w) *Withdrawn*

What assessment has the Welsh Government made of the consequential sums owed to Wales as a result of the £3 billion deal and funding package to restore devolution in Northern Ireland?

Tom Giffard *South Wales West*

8

OQ60731 (e)

How does the Welsh Government ensure that local governments prioritise statutory services in South Wales West?

Jane Dodds *Mid and West Wales*

9

OQ60754 (e)

What discussions has the Minister had with the Minister for Climate Change about ensuring adequate funding for local government to support the transition to net zero?

Natasha Asghar *South Wales East*

10

OQ60733 (e)

What discussions has the Minister had with the Minister for Climate Change regarding the financial implications of the 20mph speed limit policy?

Paul Davies *Preseli Pembrokeshire*

11

OQ60719 (e)

Will the Minister make a statement on council tax levels in Wales?

Alun Davies *Blaenau Gwent*

12

OQ60747 (e)

What discussions has the Minister had with the UK Government regarding the future of the Barnett Formula?

MINISTER FOR RURAL AFFAIRS AND NORTH WALES, AND TREFNYDD

Jenny Rathbone *Cardiff Central*

1

OQ60745 (e)

What percentage of fruit and vegetables consumed in Wales is grown in Wales?

Gareth Davies *Vale of Clwyd*

2

OQ60720 (e)

What assessment has the Minister made of the impact of the Welsh Government's proposed sustainable farming scheme on the farming and rural communities of Denbighshire?

Carolyn Thomas *North Wales*

3

OQ60728 (e)

Will the Welsh Government provide an update on its plans to review pet-microchipping regulations in Wales?

Sam Rowlands *North Wales*

4

OQ60724 (e)

Will the Minister provide an update on the expected impact of the rollout of the sustainable farming scheme on farmers in North Wales?

Huw Irranca-Davies *Ogmore*

5

OQ60752 (e)

What assessment has the Minister made of the importance of regenerative dairy farming to the future of sustainable farming in Wales?

Jack Sargeant *Alyn and Deeside*

6

OQ60721 (e)

Will the Minister provide an update on the Welsh Government's position regarding greyhound racing in Wales?

Laura Anne Jones *South Wales East*

7

OQ60741 (e)

What recent discussions has the Government had with the agricultural sector regarding the proposed sustainable farming scheme?

Andrew R.T. Davies *South Wales Central*

8

OQ60742 (e) Member declared an interest

Will the Minister make a statement on future farm support schemes?

Russell George *Montgomeryshire*

9

OQ60740 (e)

How is the Welsh Government supporting the farming sector in Montgomeryshire?

Peter Fox *Monmouth*

10

OQ60750 (e)

What action is the Welsh Government taking to support farmers in Monmouthshire?

Mike Hedges *Swansea East*

11

OQ60718 (e)

Will the Minister provide an update on the use of CCTV in abattoirs?

John Griffiths *Newport East*

12

OQ60756 (e)

Will the Minister provide an update on the development of the animal welfare plan for Wales?