

Agenda – Plenary

Meeting Venue:

Y Siambr – Y Senedd

Meeting date:

Wednesday, 13 March 2024

Meeting time: 13.30

197(v4)

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 Economy

(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 Debate: The Second Supplementary Budget 2023–24

(30 mins)

NDM8493 [Rebecca Evans \(Gower\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd, in accordance with Standing Order 20.30, approves the Second Supplementary Budget for the financial year 2023–24 [laid](#) in the Table Office on Tuesday, 20 February 2024.

Footnote:



In accordance with the relevant provisions contained in the Government of Wales Act 2006 and Standing Order 20, the Supplementary Budget comprises the following information:

- (i) the written statement required under section 125(3) of the Government of Wales Act;
- (ii) the resources agreed by the Treasury for the Welsh block budget for the financial year covered by the motion;
- (iii) a reconciliation between the resources allocated to the Welsh block budget by the Treasury and the resources to be authorised for use in the motion;
- (iv) a reconciliation between the estimated amounts to be paid into the Welsh Consolidated Fund by the Secretary of State and the amounts to be authorised for payment out of the Fund in the motion;
- (v) a reconciliation between the resources to be authorised under section 125(1)(a) and (b) of the Act and the amounts to be authorised for payment out of the Welsh Consolidated Fund under section 125(1)(c); and
- (vi) details of any revisions to the information provided in accordance with Standing Orders 20.7 – 20.7B for the draft budget, as specified in the protocol agreed under the Standing Order 20.1A

The following additional information has been made available to Members:

- a note explaining the main changes from previous plans.

Supporting documents

[Report of the Finance Committee](#)

[Report of the Llywydd's Committee](#)

4 Topical Questions

(20 mins)

To ask the Deputy Minister for Social Partnership

[Sioned Williams \(South Wales West\)](#): Will the Minister make a statement on the decision for Mid and West Wales and North Wales fire and rescue services to carry out independent reviews into their culture and values?

To ask the Minister for Health and Social Services

[Mabon ap Gwynfor \(Dwyfor Meirionnydd\)](#): What assessment has the Minister made of emergency medical retrieval and transfer service provision in mid and north Wales, following reports that a recommendation has been made to close Caernarfon and Welshpool Air Ambulance bases?

5 90 Second Statements

(5 mins)

6 Debate on the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee report – Town Centre Regeneration

(60 mins)

NDM8516 [Mark Isherwood \(North Wales\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

Notes the report of the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee on its inquiry, Regenerating Town Centres, which was [laid](#) in the Table Office on 25 January 2024.

7 Welsh Conservatives Debate – UK government budget

(60 mins)

NDM8518 [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Welcomes the UK Government’s 2024 Budget, a plan for long term growth, which will see:

- a) national insurance contributions cut by 2p, saving the average Welsh worker £450 a year;
- b) £168 million of additional Barnett consequential funding for Wales;
- c) £160 million purchase of the Wylfa site;
- d) £20 million of funding for Rhyl as part of the Long Term Plan for Towns;
- e) £10 million of funding to Venue Cymru in Llandudno;
- f) £5 million of funding for cultural facilities in Newport;

g) £5 million of funding to launch an agri-food launchpad in partnership between Welsh Government and Ceredigion Council; and

h) £1.6 million of funding towards the redevelopment of Theatr Clwyd in Mold.

The following amendments were tabled:

Amendment 1 [Heledd Fychan \(South Wales Central\)](#)

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes that:

a) the Chancellor has announced the 2024 UK Government Budget;

b) real wage growth and GDP per capita has increased at its lowest rate since the Second World War under this UK Government; and

c) tax as a proportion of GDP has increased to its highest level since 1948 under this UK Government.

2. Regrets:

a) that this Westminster Parliament will be the first in modern history to oversee a fall in household disposable income and living standards;

b) the failure to uprate the personal allowance threshold in line with inflation, which will leave low-income households worse off and entrench income inequalities;

c) that day-to-day spending for unprotected UK Government departments is set to fall by 13 per cent over the next five years, which will have a direct impact on Wales in areas such as justice;

d) that Canary Wharf is set to receive £240 million in Levelling Up Funds, whilst the Welsh Government is set to receive only £170 million; and

e) that neither the UK Conservative Party nor the UK Labour Party have committed to a fair funding deal for Wales, nor to provide Wales with its share of HS2 consequential.

3. Believes that:

- a) Wales's potential is being stifled by a lack of proper investment in our beleaguered public services and dilapidated infrastructure; and
- b) the 2024 UK Government Budget utterly fails to address the priorities and needs of the people of Wales.

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

Amendment 2 [Lesley Griffiths \(Wrexham\)](#)

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Regrets that the UK Government Spring Budget 2024:

- a) provides no additional resource funding for the Welsh Government, other than that already factored into its spending plans;
- b) leaves the Welsh Government's settlement for 2024–25 up to £700 million lower in real terms than expected at the time of the 2021 Spending Review;
- c) provides no additional capital funding for the Welsh Government, leaving its general capital budget in 2024–25 up to 8 per cent less in real terms than expected at the time of the Spending Review in 2021;
- d) ignores the Welsh Government's core asks of UK Government investment in coal tip safety and the re-classification of HS2, including provision of the £270 million Wales will have missed out on by the end of the current spending period; and
- e) fails to provide targeted support to those on the lowest incomes.

2. Further regrets that:

- a) the personal tax rises introduced by this UK Government from its previous decision to freeze thresholds are larger than the tax reductions announced in the 2024 Spring budget and 2023 Autumn Statement combined, and twice as large by 2028–29;
- b) the UK Government's overall spending totals imply no real growth in public spending per person over the next five years, with no credible plan to deliver the level of public spending they have outlined;

c) UK living standards are expected to experience six years lost growth, only returning to pre-pandemic levels in 2025, as measured by gross household disposable income per head; and

d) the UK Government's levelling up policies leave Wales with less say over less money, while bypassing and actively undermining devolution and this Senedd.

8 Debate on the Standards of Conduct Committee report – Ninth report to the Sixth Senedd under Standing Order 22.9

(30 mins)

NDM8519 [Vikki Howells \(Cynon Valley\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Considers the Report of the Standards of Conduct Committee – Ninth report to the Sixth Senedd [laid](#) before the Senedd on 6 March 2024 in accordance with Standing Order 22.9.

2. Endorses the recommendation in the report that a breach has been found.

3. Resolves that the Member shall be excluded from any Senedd proceedings under Standing Order 22.10(iii) for a period of 42 days, excluding days while the Senedd is in recess, commencing with the passing of this motion and ending no later than midnight on 15 May 2024.

4. Notes that the Member shall not be entitled to any salary from the Senedd in respect of the days to which point 3 applies, in accordance with Standing Order 22.10A.

9 Voting Time

10 Short Debate

(30 mins)

NDM8515 [Hefin David \(Caerphilly\)](#)

Mobile phone use in schools in Wales: the challenges for teachers and learners

The Senedd will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 19 March 2024

Agenda Item 1

Oral Questions tabled on 06/03/2024 for answer on 13/03/2024

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

MINISTER FOR ECONOMY

Peter Fox *Monmouth*

1 OQ60829 (e)

What assessment has the Welsh Government made of the pressures that businesses in Wales are facing?

Janet Finch-Saunders *Aberconwy*

2 OQ60835 (e)

What discussions has the Minister had with the Minister for Climate Change regarding changing permitted development rights for caravan parks?

Sian Gwenllïan *Arfon*

3 OQ60807 (w)

Will the Minister provide an update on plans to improve the economy in the city of Bangor?

Gareth Davies *Vale of Clwyd*

4 OQ60838 (e)

How is the Welsh Government supporting the growth of town centre businesses in North Wales?

Luke Fletcher *South Wales West*

5 OQ60843 (e)

What assessment has the Welsh Government made of the impact the recent UK Government budget will have on the Welsh economy?

Jack Sargeant *Alyn and Deeside*

6 OQ60810 (e)

How is the Welsh Government supporting skills development in Welsh manufacturing?

Hefin David *Caerphilly*

7 OQ60823 (e) Member declared an interest

How is the Welsh Government supporting small and medium sized enterprises to future-proof their businesses?

Tom Giffard *South Wales West*

8

OQ60817 (e)

Will the Minister outline how the cuts to the culture portfolio in the Welsh Government's budget for 2024-25 will impact the sector?

Rhun ap Iorwerth *Ynys Môn*

9

OQ60842 (e)

How is the Welsh Government supporting young people into work on Ynys Môn?

Alun Davies *Blaenau Gwent*

10

OQ60824 (e)

Will the Minister provide an update on how the Welsh Government is working to maximise the economic benefits of the A465 heads of the valleys road?

Samuel Kurtz *Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire*

11

OQ60818 (e)

What action is the Welsh Government taking to encourage economic growth in Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire?

Mabon ap Gwynfor *Dwyfor Meirionnydd*

12

OQ60837 (e)

Will the Minister make a statement on the work of Cwmni Egino?

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND THE WELSH LANGUAGE

Delyth Jewell *South Wales East*

1

OQ60811 (w)

What discussions has the Minister had with the Minister for Climate Change regarding the impact of the Learner Travel Measure?

Joel James *South Wales Central*

2

OQ60815 (e)

Will the Minister make a statement on the provision of nurses in schools?

Jenny Rathbone *Cardiff Central*

3

OQ60820 (e)

What consideration has the Minister given to removing ultra-processed foods from school meals?

Paul Davies *Preseli Pembrokeshire*

4 OQ60806 (e)

What is the Welsh Government doing to encourage more young people to study STEM subjects?

Jack Sargeant *Alyn and Deeside*

5 OQ60809 (e)

How is the Welsh Government working with schools to ensure a zero-tolerance approach to bullying?

Tom Giffard *South Wales West*

6 OQ60839 (e)

What steps is the Welsh Government taking to improve pupil attendance?

Mark Isherwood *North Wales*

7 OQ60805 (e)

What is the Welsh Government's policy on children missing education?

Sian Gwenllian *Arfon*

8 OQ60808 (w)

Will the Minister provide an update on training for educational psychologists in Arfon?

Peter Fox *Monmouth*

9 OQ60830 (e)

What assessment has the Welsh Government made of educational standards in Wales?

Mike Hedges *Swansea East*

10 OQ60803 (w)

Will the Minister make a statement on Welsh Government support for Menter Iaith Abertawe?

Ken Skates *Clwyd South*

11 OQ60813 (e)

Will the Minister make a statement on teacher retention?

Llyr Gruffydd *North Wales*

12

OQ60831 (e)

What action is the Welsh Government taking to meet its national mission of improving educational standards?