

Agenda – Plenary

Meeting Venue:

Y Siambr – Y Senedd

Meeting date:

Wednesday, 17 April 2024

Meeting time: 13.30

201(v5)

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 Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Constitution and Cabinet Office

(45 mins)

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

[View Questions](#)

2 Questions to the Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs

(45 mins)

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

[View Questions](#)

3 Topical Questions

(20 mins)

To ask the Cabinet Secretary for Culture and Social Justice



[Heledd Fychan \(South Wales Central\)](#): What assessment has the Cabinet Secretary made of National Museum Wales possibly closing National Museum Cardiff due to deteriorating conditions?

To ask the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care

[Altaf Hussain \(South Wales West\)](#): Will the Cabinet Secretary make a statement on the coroner's findings in the death of Dr Kim Harrison which highlighted serious failings at Swansea Bay University Health Board?

4 90 Second Statements

(5 mins)

Motion to elect a Member to a committee

(5 mins)

NNDM8542 [Elin Jones \(Ceredigion\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd, in accordance with Standing Order 17.14, elects Jane Hutt (Welsh Labour) as a member of the Business Committee in place of Lesley Griffiths (Welsh Labour).

Motion to appoint a Member to the Senedd Commission

(5 mins)

NNDM8543 [Elin Jones \(Ceredigion\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd, in accordance with Standing Order 7.9, appoints Hefin David (Welsh Labour) as a Member of the Senedd Commission.

5 Debate on the General Principles of the Residential Outdoor Education (Wales) Bill

(60 mins)

NDM8536 [Sam Rowlands \(North Wales\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd, in accordance with Standing Order 26.11:

Agrees to the general principles of the Residential Outdoor Education (Wales) Bill.

The [Residential Outdoor Education \(Wales\) Bill](#) and [Explanatory Memorandum](#) were laid before the Senedd on 24 November 2023.

Supporting documents

[Report of the Children, Young People and Education Committee](#)

[Report of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee](#)

[Report of the Finance Committee](#)

[Response from Sam Rowlands MS to the Children, Young People and Education Committee](#)

[Response from Sam Rowlands MS to the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee](#)

[Response from Sam Rowlands MS to the Finance Committee](#)

6 Debate on the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee report – Nuclear energy and the Welsh economy

(60 mins)

NDM8535 [Paul Davies \(Preseli Pembrokeshire\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

Notes the report of the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee, ‘Nuclear energy and the Welsh economy’, which was [laid](#) in the Table Office on 21 February 2024.

Note: The response of the Welsh Government to the report was [laid](#) in the Table Office on 10 April 2024. The [response](#) from the UK Government was also published on 10 April 2024.

7 Welsh Conservatives Debate – Public Services Ombudsman for Wales

(30 mins)

NDM8537 [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes the resignation of the Head of Investigations at the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales.

2. Expresses its concern that the political impartiality of the Office of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales has been compromised.

3. Notes that:

a) the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales has appointed a senior barrister to investigate allegations of political impartiality; and

b) the person appointed is James Goudie KC.

4. Does not believe that the appointment is appropriate given that James Goudie KC is a former Labour parliamentary candidate, a former chairman of the Society of Labour Lawyers, a former Labour spokesman for Legal Affairs in the House of Lords, and a former Labour leader of Brent Council.

5. In accordance with Standing Order 17.2, instructs the Finance Committee to urgently review the operations, processes and investigations carried out by the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales to ensure:

a) that impartiality and fairness are present throughout the employment of the former Head of Investigations; and

b) that the Senedd can have confidence that the office is able to undertake future investigations with impartiality and fairness.

6. Calls upon the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales to disclose the terms of the departure of the former Head of Investigations, in the interest of public scrutiny.

The following amendment was tabled:

Amendment 1 [Jane Hutt \(Vale of Glamorgan\)](#)

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes:

- a) the resignation of the Head of Investigations at the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales;
- b) that the Ombudsman has appointed a senior barrister to investigate allegations;
- c) that as a 'listed authority' subject to the supervision of the Ombudsman, it would not be appropriate for the Welsh Government to comment on the investigation; and
- d) the expectation of the Senedd for the Ombudsman to report back to the Senedd in due course with the outcome of the investigation.

8 Welsh Conservatives Debate – Transport

(30 mins)

NDM8538 [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Believes the Welsh Government's transport policies for Wales are not fit for purpose.
2. Regrets the north and south transport divide in Wales, with £50 million allocated to the North Wales Metro, and over £1 billion to the South Wales Metro.
3. Calls on the Welsh Government to urgently:
 - a) undertake a review of the current road-building tests with a view to implementing all previously scrapped schemes that will boost economic growth or enhance road safety;
 - b) reverse the Restricted Roads (20mph Speed Limit) (Wales) Order 2022 and adopt a targeted approach to 20mph speed limits in Wales; and
 - c) invest in public transport to make buses and trains more competitive with travelling by car.

The following amendments were tabled:

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

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Believes:

- a) the Welsh Government's transport policies for Wales are not fit for purpose;
- b) the lack of connectivity between north and south Wales is a regrettable consequence of the fact that decisions about transport are made and controlled by people outside Wales;
- c) the lack of connectivity between north and south Wales stems from historical and current failures to invest in intra-Wales journeys; and
- d) resolving issues within the Welsh transport network will only be possible by devolving all powers over transport to Wales.

2. Calls on Welsh Government to:

- a) reconsider its decision not to launch a legal challenge against the UK Government's decision to designate HS2 an England and Wales project;
- b) act with haste to implement the continuous review of the impact of the new speed limits, as previously agreed by the Senedd's vote in favour of NDM8347 as amended, on 13 September 2023;
- c) prioritise fair funding for buses that places bus funding on an equitable basis to rail funding; and
- d) work with the UK Government to devolve all powers over transport to Wales.

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

Amendment 2 [Jane Hutt \(Vale of Glamorgan\)](#)

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd:

- 1. Welcomes the Welsh Government's commitment to listening on a wide range of issues, including transport and connectivity.
- 2. Supports the Welsh Government's approach which recognises:

a) the value Wales's transport infrastructure, including roads, brings to our economy and society; and

b) that the Welsh Government can improve both the way it designs and builds new road infrastructure, and better maintain Wales's existing road network.

3. Welcomes the Welsh Government's recognition of the need to refine the implementation of 20mph speed limits in Wales; including reflecting on the classification guidance, changing speed limits on some roads, and continued engagement with communities.

9 Voting Time

10 Short Debate

(30 mins)

NDM8534 [James Evans \(Brecon and Radnorshire\)](#)

The impact of renewable energy infrastructure on rural communities

The Senedd will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 23 April 2024

Agenda Item 1

Oral Questions tabled on 10/04/2024 for answer on 17/04/2024

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

CABINET SECRETARY FOR FINANCE, CONSTITUTION AND CABINET OFFICE

Luke Fletcher *South Wales West*

1

OQ60924 (e)

What discussions has the Welsh Government had with the UK Government regarding fair funding for Wales?

Altaf Hussain *South Wales West*

2

OQ60918 (e)

What recent assessment has the Cabinet Secretary made of the impact of the visitor levy on Welsh businesses?

Hefin David *Caerphilly*

3

OQ60929 (e)

What impact does the Cabinet Secretary expect the Local Government Finance (Wales) Bill will have on council tax payers?

Rhianon Passmore *Islwyn*

4

OQ60928 (e)

What representations has the Welsh Government made to the UK Government regarding the provision of self-assessment, VAT and PAYE helplines for members of the public?

Jane Dodds *Mid and West Wales*

5

OQ60910 (e)

What discussions has the Cabinet Secretary had with the Cabinet Secretary for Housing, Local Government and Planning regarding making funding available to support local authorities in maintaining public toilet facilities?

Delyth Jewell *South Wales East*

6

OQ60914 (e)

What discussions has the Cabinet Secretary had with the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care about funding an appropriate level of pay in the health and care services?

Sian Gwenllian *Arfon*

7 OQ60905 (w)

Will the Cabinet Secretary provide an update on the future of Welsh Government offices in Arfon?

Janet Finch-Saunders *Aberconwy*

8 OQ60900 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary provide an update on the visitor levy?

Mark Drakeford *Cardiff West*

9 OQ60915 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary provide an update on plans to introduce a vacant land tax in Wales?

Sam Rowlands *North Wales*

10 OQ60903 (e)

What assessment has the Cabinet Secretary made of the effectiveness of Welsh Government departmental spending?

Mike Hedges *Swansea East*

11 OQ60895 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary provide an update on invest to save?

Buffy Williams *Rhondda*

12 OQ60926 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary provide an update on the most recent discussions she has had with the UK Government regarding UK Government funding for Welsh Government budgets?

CABINET SECRETARY FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND RURAL AFFAIRS

Sioned Williams *South Wales West*

1 OQ60908 (w)

How does the Government ensure that opencast coal mine-restoration plans safeguard communities in South Wales West?

Hefin David *Caerphilly*

2 OQ60911 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary make a statement on the impact of the new workplace recycling regulations that came into effect in Wales on 6 April 2024?

Luke Fletcher *South Wales West*

3 OQ60923 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary outline what his priorities will be for achieving net zero and a just transition?

Alun Davies *Blaenau Gwent*

4 OQ60925 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary outline his plans for tackling river pollution?

Rhun ap Iorwerth *Ynys Môn*

5 OQ60931 (w)

Will the Cabinet Secretary outline his plans for supporting farmers on Ynys Môn?

Mike Hedges *Swansea East*

6 OQ60894 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary make a statement on the Welsh Government's proposals to improve animal welfare?

Julie Morgan *Cardiff North*

7 OQ60913 (e)

What is the Welsh Government doing to protect biodiversity?

Lee Waters *Llanelli*

8 OQ60927 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary set out the next steps for developing a timber industrial strategy?

Mark Drakeford *Cardiff West*

9 OQ60920 (d)

What assessment has the Cabinet Secretary made of the implications for Wales following the recent loan default reported by Thames Water?

Jack Sargeant *Alyn and Deeside*

10 OQ60904 (e)

How does the Cabinet Secretary plan to work with relevant public bodies to protect communities in Alyn and Deeside from flooding?

Rhianon Passmore *Islwyn*

11

OQ60930 (e)

What assessment has the Welsh Government made of the performance of Welsh Water in limiting sewage spills in Islwyn?

Darren Millar *Clwyd West*

12

OQ60919 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary make a statement on the recent flooding event in Kinmel Bay?