

# Agenda – Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee

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Meeting Venue:

Committee room 4 Tŷ Hywel  
and video Conference via Zoom

Meeting date: 22 May 2024

Meeting time: 09.30

For further information contact:

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Committee Clerk

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## Hybrid

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**Private pre-meeting (09.15–09.30)**

**Public meeting (09.30–12.30)**

### **1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions, and declarations of interest**

(09.30)

### **2 Climate Change scrutiny with the Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs**

(09.30–10.45)

(Pages 1 – 14)

Huw Irranca-Davies MS, Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs

Claire Bennett, Director of Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change – Welsh Government

Jon Oates, Head of Clean Growth – Welsh Government

Attached Documents:

Research brief – Climate Change Scrutiny



**Break** (10.45–11.00)

### **3 Restoration of opencast mining sites – evidence session 6**

(11.00–12.30)

(Pages 15 – 28)

Geraint Thomas, Leader of the Council – Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

Ellis Cooper, Chief Executive – Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

Judith Jones, Director of Neighbourhood Services – Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

Carwyn Morris, Head of Engineering – Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

David Cross, Principal Planning Officer – Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

Geraint Morgan, Solicitor – Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

Attached Documents:

Research brief – Restoration of opencast mining sites

### **4 Papers to note** (12.30)

#### **4.1 Environment Food and Rural Affairs Interministerial Group**

(Pages 29 – 30)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change & Rural Affairs to the Chair in relation to the Environment Food and Rural Affairs Interministerial Group

Follow up letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change & Rural Affairs to the Chair in relation to the Environment Food and Rural Affairs Interministerial Group

#### **4.2 Restoration of opencast mining sites**

(Pages 31 – 50)

Attached Documents:

Additional evidence from The Coal Authority in relation to the inquiry on the

restoration of opencast coalmining sites

Additional evidence from United Valleys Action Group in relation to the inquiry on the restoration of opencast coalmining sites

Additional evidence from Protecting and Conserving Together (PACT) in relation to the inquiry on the restoration of opencast mining sites

Letter from Friends of the Earth Cymru to Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council in relation to the Ffos Y Fran Land Reclamation Scheme – 19 April 2024

Response from Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council to Friends of the Earth Cymru in relation to the Ffos Y Fran Land Reclamation Scheme – 14 May 2024

#### **4.3 Committee remits following the recent reconfiguration of the Welsh Government Cabinet**

(Pages 51 – 52)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Chair to the Chair of the Business Committee in relation to Committee Remits following the recent reconfiguration of the Welsh Government Cabinet

#### **4.4 Impacts of the fashion industry on the environment**

(Page 53)

Attached Documents:

Letter from Faye Baugh to the Chair in relation to the impacts of the fashion industry on the environment

#### **4.5 Inter-Institutional Relations Agreement**

(Pages 54 – 55)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs to the Chair in relation to the Phytosanitary Conditions (Amendment) Regulations 2024

#### **4.6 Infrastructure (Wales) Bill**

(Page 56)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Housing, Local Government and Planning to the Chair in relation to the Infrastructure (Wales) Bill

**4.7 Annual scrutiny of the National Infrastructure Commission for Wales (NICW)**

(Pages 57 – 58)

Attached Documents:

Response from the Chair of the National Infrastructure Commission for Wales to the Committee's report – Annual scrutiny of the National Infrastructure Commission for Wales: 2023