

Agenda – Plenary

Meeting Venue:

Y Siambr – Y Senedd

Meeting date:

Wednesday, 18 September 2024

Meeting time: 13.30

227(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 Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales (45 mins)

The Cabinet Secretary will be responding to questions tabled to the previous Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Transport and North Wales portfolio. 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 Social Justice, Trefnydd and Chief Whip (45 mins)

The Cabinet Secretary will be responding to questions tabled to the previous Cabinet Secretary for Culture and Social Justice, Trefnydd and Chief Whip portfolio. The Presiding Officer will call party spokespeople to ask questions without notice to the Cabinet Secretary after Question 2.

[View Questions](#)

3 Questions to the Senedd Commission (30 mins)

[View Questions](#)

4 Topical Questions

(0 mins)

No topical questions were accepted

5 90 Second Statements

(5 mins)

Motion to elect a Member to a committee

(5 mins)

NNDM8663 [Elin Jones \(Ceredigion\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd, in accordance with Standing Order 17.14, elects Sam Rowlands (Welsh Conservatives) in place of James Evans (Welsh Conservatives) as a Member of the Wales COVID-19 Inquiry Special Purpose Committee.

6 Debate on Petition P-06-1455 – Protect the junior departments of the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama from closure

(30 mins)

NDM8653 [Rhianon Passmore \(Islwyn\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

Notes the petition '[P-06-1455 Protect the junior departments of the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama from closure](#)' which received 10,560 signatures.

7 Welsh Conservatives Debate – Winter fuel payment

(60 mins)

NDM8651 [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Expresses deep concern that around 400,000 households in Wales will lose up to £300 per person after the UK Government's decision to end the universal winter fuel payment.

2. Notes the Welsh Government's Cabinet Secretary for Culture and Social Justice, Trefnydd and Chief Whip's response to [WQ93698](#) where she stated that the UK Government's decision to end the winter fuel payment will risk pushing some pensioners into fuel poverty.

3. Calls on the UK Government to reverse its decision to end the universal winter fuel payment.

The following amendments were tabled:

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

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Recognises that the UK Government has made difficult choices, such as changes to the winter fuel allowance eligibility, as a result of 14 years of economic mismanagement.
2. Welcomes the commitment to the triple lock and a targeted approach to the Warm Home Discount
3. Agrees that maximising incomes, building financial resilience, and putting money back into people's pockets are priorities to help alleviate the impact of high energy prices, and encourages people to find out about the financial support they may be entitled to through Advicelink Cymru.
4. Supports the principle of a social tariff to protect the most vulnerable customers, and calls on OFGEM to reform standing charges.

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

Add as new point at end of motion:

Regrets that the withdrawal of the inclusive winter fuel payment provision is a continuation of the austerity agenda of the previous UK Conservative Government.

8 Plaid Cymru Debate – NHS waiting lists

(60 mins)

NDM8652 [Heledd Fychan \(South Wales Central\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes that the First Minister and her predecessors have prioritised cutting waiting lists in the NHS.
2. Regrets that:

a) the latest NHS performance statistics show that waiting lists in Wales are at a record high; and

b) the UK Labour Government's decision to embrace austerity policies, such as cutting back the winter fuel payment, are intensifying the pressure on the NHS.

3. Calls on the Welsh Government to urgently review its plan to reduce waiting lists and to honour the commitment made by past First Ministers and the current First Minister.

The following amendments were tabled:

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

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd:

1) Notes:

a) the First Minister and her predecessors have prioritised cutting waiting lists in the NHS; and

b) the number of people waiting more than two years for treatment has fallen by 67% since the peak in March 2022.

If amendment 1 is agreed, amendments 2 and 3 will be de-selected.

Amendment 2 [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

Delete point 2(b) and replace with:

spending decisions such as cutting winter fuel payments to pensioners will lead to an adverse impact on the Welsh NHS;

Amendment 3 [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

Add as new new sub-point at end of point 2:

on three occasions, the Welsh Government cut the health budget in real terms: the only government in the United Kingdom to have ever done so;

Amendment 4 [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

Add new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Government to ensure the full Barnett consequential 20 per cent uplift for health is spent on the Welsh NHS.

9 Voting Time

10 Short Debate

(30 mins)

NDM8650 [Heledd Fychan \(South Wales Central\)](#)

Rhondda Cynon Taf National Eisteddfod: Securing a legacy for the Welsh language in the Valleys

The Senedd will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 24 September 2024

Agenda Item 1

Oral Questions tabled on 11/09/2024 for answer on 18/09/2024

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

CABINET SECRETARY FOR THE ECONOMY, TRANSPORT AND NORTH WALES

Hannah Blythyn *Delyn*

1

OQ61526 (e)

What action is the Welsh Government taking to ensure a just transition for workers in north Wales?

Janet Finch-Saunders *Aberconwy*

2

OQ61497 (e)

What economic assessment has the Cabinet Secretary made of the performance of the tourism sector in north Wales this summer?

Mabon ap Gwynfor *Dwyfor Meirionnydd*

3

OQ61513 (w)

What guidance is the Cabinet Secretary providing to energy companies regarding community contribution as they develop projects in Wales?

Rhianon Passmore *Islwyn*

4

OQ61528 (e)

How does the Welsh Government plan to improve bus services in Islwyn?

Paul Davies *Preseli Pembrokeshire*

5

OQ61492 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary provide an update on the implementation of road projects in Pembrokeshire?

Sam Rowlands *North Wales*

6

OQ61518 (e)

What assessment has the Cabinet Secretary made of the reliability of rail services between North Wales and London?

John Griffiths *Newport East*

7

OQ61516 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary make a statement on progress in joint working between the Welsh Government and the UK Government on economic development in Wales?

Darren Millar *Clwyd West*

8 OQ61520 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary make a statement on the reliability of public transport in North Wales?

Russell George *Montgomeryshire*

9 OQ61494 (e)

What assessment has the Cabinet Secretary made of the impact in Powys of 20mph speed limits being in place for one year?

Joyce Watson *Mid and West Wales*

10 OQ61514 (e)

How is the Welsh Government supporting sports broadcasters in Wales?

Adam Price *Carmarthen East and Dinefwr*

11 OQ61529 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary provide an update on Welsh Government support for bus companies?

Peter Fox *Monmouth*

12 OQ61511 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary provide an update on the temporary speed restrictions on trunk roads in Monmouthshire?

CABINET SECRETARY FOR CULTURE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE, TREFNYDD AND CHIEF WHIP

Sam Rowlands *North Wales*

1 OQ61519 (e)

What due diligence does the Cabinet Secretary's department undertake before awarding contracts?

Mike Hedges *Swansea East*

2 OQ61496 (e)

What action is the Welsh Government taking to reduce coercive behaviour?

Altaf Hussain *South Wales West*

3 OQ61502 (e)

What assessment has the Welsh Government made of the impact prison overcrowding is having on its ability to support prisoners?

Alun Davies *Blaenau Gwent*

4 OQ61510 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary make a statement on Welsh Government funding for the arts and culture sector?

Rhianon Passmore *Islwyn*

5 OQ61525 (e)

What actions is the Welsh Government taking to safeguard arts and culture in Islwyn?

James Evans *Brecon and Radnorshire*

6 OQ61505 (e)

What is the Welsh Government doing to support pensioners who will lose their winter fuel payments?

Darren Millar *Clwyd West*

7 OQ61521 (e)

What discussions has the Cabinet Secretary had with the UK Government regarding winter fuel payments?

John Griffiths *Newport East*

8 OQ61517 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary make a statement on the Welsh Government's progress in widening participation in sport?

Vikki Howells *Cynon Valley*

9 OQ61503 (e) Withdrawn

How does the Welsh Government support advisory services across Wales?

Mabon ap Gwynfor *Dwyfor Meirionnydd*

10 OQ61512 (e)

What assessment has the Government made of the impact on pensioners in Wales of the UK Government's cuts to winter fuel payments?

Julie Morgan *Cardiff North*

11

OQ61500 (e)

What plans does the Welsh Government have to support the National Library of Wales?

Joyce Watson *Mid and West Wales*

12

OQ61522 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary provide an update on Welsh Government action on ending violence against women and girls?

SENEDD COMMISSION

Laura Anne Jones *South Wales East*

1

OQ61509 (e)

Will the Commission provide an update on the estimated costs of enlarging the Senedd chamber to accommodate extra Members?

James Evans *Brecon and Radnorshire*

2

OQ61506 (e)

What is the Commission doing to inform people about the changes to the voting system and constituency boundaries for the next Senedd election?

Rhianon Passmore *Islwyn*

3

OQ61531 (e)

What assessment has the Commission made of the current levels of live broadcasting of Senedd proceedings on publicly-funded television channels?

Hannah Blythyn *Delyn*

4

OQ61527 (e)

What is the Commission doing to actively tackle sexual harassment in the workplace?