

# Votes and Proceedings – Plenary

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Meeting Venue:

Y Siambr – Y Senedd

Meeting date:

Wednesday, 25 September 2024

Meeting time: 13.30

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/14108>

## 229

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This meeting was 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 Economy, Energy and Planning

The item started at 13.30

The first 8 questions were asked. Questions 4 and 7–8 were answered by the Minister for Culture, Skills and Social Partnership. The Presiding Officer invited party spokespeople to ask questions to the Cabinet Secretary after question 2.

### 2 Questions to the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care

The item started at 14.26

The first 8 questions were asked. Questions 3 and 6–7 were answered by the Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing. The Presiding Officer invited party spokespeople to ask questions to the Cabinet Secretary after question 2.

### 3 Topical Questions

No Topical Questions were accepted



## 4 90 Second Statements

The item started at 15.20

**Julie Morgan** made a statement on – Gynaecological Cancer Awareness Month, and Claire’s Campaign (September).

**Sioned Williams** made a statement on – 40 years of Theatr na nÓg.

**Llyr Gruffydd** made a statement on – Tribute to Ryan Evans from Wrexham, who was killed in a missile attack in Ukraine.

## 5 Motion to amend Standing Orders – Consent in relation to UK Parliament Bills

The item started at 15.25

**NDM8662** [Elin Jones \(Ceredigion\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd, in accordance with Standing Order 33.2:

1. Considers the report of the Business Committee, ‘Amending Standing Orders: Standing Order 29.1 (Consent in relation to UK Parliament Bills)’, [laid](#) in the Table Office on 18 September 2024.
2. Approves the proposal to amend Standing Order 29.1, as set out in Annex A of the Business Committee’s report.

**The motion was agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.**

## **6 Debate on the Standards of Conduct Committee report – Fourteenth report to the Sixth Senedd under Standing Order 22.9**

The item started at 15.26

**NDM8661** [Hannah Blythyn \(Delyn\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Considers the Report of the Standards of Conduct Committee – Fourteenth Report to the Sixth Senedd [laid](#) before the Senedd on 18 September 2024 in accordance with Standing Order 22.9.
2. Endorses the recommendation in the report.

The motion was agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

## **7 Welsh Conservatives Debate – 20mph speed limits**

The item started at 15.32

**Voting on the motion and amendments under this item was deferred until Voting Time.**

A vote was taken on the motion without amendment:

**NDM8667** [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Recognises the default 20mph speed limit has been in place in Wales for over one year.
2. Notes:

- a) the 469,571 signatories to the Senedd petition: 'We want the Welsh Government to rescind and remove the disastrous 20mph law';
- b) the Welsh Government's own Explanatory Memorandum to The Restricted Roads (20 mph Speed Limit) (Wales) Order 2022 which identified an economic dis-benefit of up to £8.9 billion arising from longer journey times associated with the default 20mph speed limit policy;
- c) the former Deputy Minister for Transport's comments that 'more common sense' should have been used when implementing Wales's 20mph speed limit;
- d) Transport for Wales's air quality monitoring report wherein half of tested areas saw rises in nitrogen dioxide levels inside 20mph zones compared with outside; and
- e) Welsh local authorities have received requests for thousands of roads to revert from 20mph to 30mph.

3. Calls on the Welsh Government to:

- a) repeal the default 20mph speed limit; and
- b) work with Welsh local authorities to deliver a targeted approach to 20mph speed limits with the consent of local people.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
14	0	37	51

The motion without amendment was not agreed.

The following amendments were tabled:

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

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd

1. Notes:

a) the default speed limit of 20mph has been in place in Wales for over a year; and

b) the previous cross-party support of the Senedd for the introduction of speed limits of 20mph in Wales and the presence of similar plans in councils run by the Conservatives in England.

2. Believes that, when implemented appropriately and rationally, 20mph speed limits have a useful role in making communities safer and reducing the pressure on the NHS.

3. Regrets the delay by the Welsh Government in acting on the Plaid Cymru amendment supported by the Senedd, which would have immediately empowered communities to review and make further exceptions as well as review the guidelines for local authorities.

4. Recognises the strength of feelings on this issue as a result of inconsistent action, engagement and communication regarding the changes.

5. Calls on the Welsh Government to work closely with local authorities to ensure that the current review addresses the justified concerns, and that it is adequately resourced.

A vote was taken on amendment 1:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
10	0	41	51

**Amendment 1 was not agreed.**

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

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Recognises the default 20mph speed limit has been in place in Wales for over one year.
2. Notes:
  - a) the significant reduction in collisions and casualties since the limit was introduced; and
  - b) the 469,571 signatories to the Senedd petition: 'We want the Welsh Government to rescind and remove the disastrous 20mph law';
  - c) the comprehensive listening programme carried out over the summer, engaging with people, business and communities across Wales as well as key stakeholders;
  - d) that ongoing monitoring and evaluation will evidence the economic, health and environmental impacts of the policy;
  - e) Transport for Wales's phase 1 air quality monitoring report published in May 2024 showed no material effect on local air quality to date; and
  - f) the support the Welsh Government is providing to Welsh local authorities that have received requests for roads to revert to 30mph.
3. Calls on the Welsh Government to continue supporting Welsh local authorities to deliver a targeted approach to 20mph speed limits, ensuring the limit is applied to the right roads where people live, work and play.

A vote was taken on amendment 2:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
27	0	24	51

**Amendment 2 was agreed.**

**A vote was taken on the motion as amended:**

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Recognises the default 20mph speed limit has been in place in Wales for over one year.
2. Notes:
  - a) the significant reduction in collisions and casualties since the limit was introduced; and
  - b) the 469,571 signatories to the Senedd petition: 'We want the Welsh Government to rescind and remove the disastrous 20mph law';
  - c) the comprehensive listening programme carried out over the summer, engaging with people, business and communities across Wales as well as key stakeholders;
  - d) that ongoing monitoring and evaluation will evidence the economic, health and environmental impacts of the policy;
  - e) Transport for Wales's phase 1 air quality monitoring report published in May 2024 showed no material effect on local air quality to date; and
  - f) the support the Welsh Government is providing to Welsh local authorities that have received requests for roads to revert to 30mph.

3. Calls on the Welsh Government to continue supporting Welsh local authorities to deliver a targeted approach to 20mph speed limits, ensuring the limit is applied to the right roads where people live, work and play.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
27	0	24	51

The motion as amended was agreed.

## 8 Plaid Cymru Debate – Welsh Government priorities

The item started at 16.37

Voting on the motion and amendments under this item was deferred until Voting Time.

A vote was taken on the motion without amendment:

**NDM8665** [Heledd Fychan \(South Wales Central\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes the Welsh Government's statement of priorities.

2. Regrets:

a) that after 25 years in government, the latest Welsh Labour Government could not identify the priorities of the people of Wales without conducting the 'listening exercise' initiated by the First Minister; and

b) that any milestones, targets and delivery dates are absent from the First Minister's statement of priorities.

3. Calls on the Welsh Government to:

- a) set a timetable for reducing NHS waiting lists;
- b) publish a delivery plan based on the range of 'people's priorities', including, but not limited to, milestones, targets, and delivery dates;
- c) introduce an updated Programme for Government and Legislative Programme; and
- d) honour its 'partnership in power' principle by using all intergovernmental channels to press on the UK Government for fair funding, devolution of the Crown Estate and the full devolution of justice.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
10	0	41	51

**The motion without amendment was not agreed.**

**The following amendments were tabled:**

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

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes the Welsh Government's statement of priorities.
2. Supports the Government's focus on the people's priorities and endorses the priorities as set out by the First Minister.
3. Further notes the First Minister's commitment to set out in due course further detail of how the priorities will be delivered.
4. Commends the Government's commitment to:

a) iechyd da – Cutting NHS waiting times, including for mental health, bettering access to social care, and improving services for women’s health;

b) green jobs and growth – creating green jobs to make families better off, tackle the climate crisis and protect nature, and accelerating planning decisions to grow our Welsh economy;

c) opportunity for every family – boosting standards in our schools and colleges, and providing more homes for social rent; and

d) connecting communities – transforming our railway and delivering a better bus network, fixing our roads, and empowering local communities to make choices on 20mph.

A vote was taken on amendment 1:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
27	0	24	51

**Amendment 1 was agreed.**

**As amendment 1 was agreed, amendments 2 and 3 were de-selected.**

**A vote was taken on the motion as amended:**

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes the Welsh Government's statement of priorities.
2. Supports the Government’s focus on the people’s priorities and endorses the priorities as set out by the First Minister.
3. Further notes the First Minister’s commitment to set out in due course further detail of how the priorities will be delivered.

4. Commends the Government's commitment to:

a) iechyd da – Cutting NHS waiting times, including for mental health, bettering access to social care, and improving services for women's health;

b) green jobs and growth – creating green jobs to make families better off, tackle the climate crisis and protect nature, and accelerating planning decisions to grow our Welsh economy;

c) opportunity for every family – boosting standards in our schools and colleges, and providing more homes for social rent; and

d) connecting communities – transforming our railway and delivering a better bus network, fixing our roads, and empowering local communities to make choices on 20mph.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
27	0	24	51

The motion as amended was agreed.

## 9 Voting Time

The item started at 17.31

## 10 Short Debate

The item started at 17.37

**NDM8657** [Hannah Blythyn \(Delyn\)](#)

It's the economy stupid!: how can devolution make it work for workers and Wales?

The meeting concluded at 18.02

**The Senedd will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 1 October 2024**