

Plenary

Meeting date:
Wednesday, 6 March 2013

Meeting time:
13:30

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



Agenda (118)v2

1. Questions to the Minister for Education and Skills (45 mins)

[View Questions](#)

2. Questions to the Minister for Local Government and Communities (45 mins)

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3. Debate on the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee's Report on the Inquiry into the establishment of a separate Welsh jurisdiction (60 mins)

NDM5178 David Melding (South Wales Central)

The National Assembly for Wales:

Notes the report of the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee on its inquiry into a separate Welsh Jurisdiction, which was laid in the Table Office on 12 December 2012.

Supporting documents:

[Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee's Report](#)

4. Welsh Conservatives Debate (60 mins)

NDM5180 William Graham (South Wales East)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Recognises that the Welsh Government has the economic levers at its disposal to make a significant difference to the Welsh economy.
2. Regrets that the Gross Value Added (GVA) in Wales is the lowest of the UK nations.
3. Calls on the Welsh Government to review its strategy for economic development in light of the concerns raised by the Cardiff University Business School report 'Small Businesses in Priority Sectors' regarding the 'sectoral approach'.
4. Believes that the Minister must establish clear, measurable targets for key economic indicators to encourage economic progress and allow delivery to be monitored.

'Small Businesses in Priority Sectors' can be found on the following link:

<http://www.fsb.org.uk/policy/rpu/wales/images/cu%20fsbw%20small%20businesses%20in%20priority%20sectors.pdf>

The following amendments have been tabled:

Amendment 1 – Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

In point 1 delete 'the' before 'economic levers' and insert at end of point: 'despite many remaining in the control of the UK Government'

Amendment 2 – Aled Roberts (North Wales)

Insert at the start of point 2:

'Welcomes the progress being made to increase competitiveness across the UK following the recent rise from 10th to 8th place in the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Index 2012–2013, but'

World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Index 2012–2013 can be accessed on the following link:

http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GlobalCompetitivenessReport_2012-13.pdf

Amendment 3 – Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Insert at end of point 2: ‘but rejects the inevitability of this position’

Amendment 4 – Aled Roberts (North Wales)

Insert as new point 3 and renumber accordingly:

Calls on the Welsh Government to review the support offered for the commercialisation of academic intellectual property from all Universities in Wales, to ensure our entrepreneurs have the best opportunity to develop prosperous, home-grown Welsh businesses for the future.

5. Plaid Cymru Debate (60 mins)

NDM5179 Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

This National Assembly:

1. Recognises the complex but predominantly negative impact of economic stagnation and welfare benefit changes upon women and families in Wales as noted by the Bevan Foundation report ‘Women, work and the recession in Wales’;
2. Notes the warning of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation that Wales faces a decade of destitution;
3. Believes that that UK Government has followed the wrong economic path since 2010, putting women and families at risk; and
4. Calls upon the Welsh Government to implement the recommendations of Cuts Watch Cymru to mitigate the effects of housing benefit changes to families and develop a plan to support young women into appropriate and well-paid employment to meet their needs.

The Bevan Foundation report can be accessed on the following link:

<http://www.bevanfoundation.org/publications/women-work-and-the-recession-in-wales/>

The Cuts Watch Cymru recommendations can be accessed on the following link:

<http://cutswatchcymru.wordpress.com/2013/02/22/cuts-watch-cymru-launch-housing-action-paper/>

The following amendments have been tabled:

Amendment 1 – William Graham (South Wales East)

Delete point 1 and replace with:

Recognises the steps the UK Government has taken to address inequality in the benefits system ensuring that no one can earn more on benefits than the average family does by going out to work.

Amendment 2 – William Graham (South Wales East)

Insert at the end of point 2: ‘and further notes the barriers to work previously identified by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and that the Welsh Government must utilise the economic levers at its disposal to stimulate the Welsh economy and support Welsh families’

Amendment 3 – William Graham (South Wales East)

Insert as new point 3 and renumber accordingly:

Welcomes the work the UK Government has done to ensure that across the UK there are more women in work than ever before with a quarter of a million more women employed than at the last election.

Amendment 4 – William Graham (South Wales East)

Delete point 3 and replace with:

Notes that the UK Government is taking the necessary action to reduce the structural

deficit and is helping families with the cost of living by taking steps, such as cutting income tax for 25 million people.

Amendment 5 – William Graham (South Wales East)

Delete point 4 and replace with:

Believes that the Welsh Government and some local authorities have left it worryingly late to prepare tenants for housing benefit changes and calls on the Welsh Government to take urgent action to address this.

Voting Time

6. Short Debate (30 mins)

NDM5175 William Powell (Mid and West Wales):

Supporting the rural economy.

Debate relates to developing a rural banking network.

The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at 13:30, Tuesday, 12 March 2013

Agenda Item 1

Oral Assembly Questions tabled on 27 February 2013 for answer on 6 March 2013

R – Signifies the Member has declared an interest.

W – Signifies that the question was tabled in Welsh.

(Self identifying Question no. shown in brackets)

To ask the Minister for Education and Skills

1. Vaughan Gething (Cardiff South and Penarth): Will the Minister make a statement on the standards in high school education within the Cardiff section of Cardiff South and Penarth. OAQ(4)0247(ESK)

2. Ieuan Wyn Jones (Ynys Môn): Will the Minister make a statement on the My Local School website. OAQ(4)0244(ESK)W

3. Aled Roberts (North Wales): What discussions has the Minister had with the UK Ministry of Justice regarding the establishment of secure colleges in Wales and England. OAQ(4)0243(ESK)W

4. Darren Millar (Clwyd West): Will the Minister make a statement on the future of education in Wales. OAQ(4)0235(ESK)

5. Ken Skates (Clwyd South): Will the Minister outline his plans to improve collaboration between Higher Education institutions in Wales. OAQ(4)0239(ESK)

6. Llyr Huws Gruffydd (North Wales): Will the Minister make a statement on the effect of the banding system on pupil numbers in schools in low bands. OAQ(4)0240(ESK)W

7. Ann Jones (Vale of Clwyd): Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Government's progress on improving school acoustics in the Vale of Clwyd. OAQ(4)0245(ESK)

8. Peter Black (South Wales West): Will the Minister make a statement on progress on the 21st Century Schools scheme. OAQ(4)0236(ESK)

9. Mark Drakeford (Cardiff West): Will the Minister make a statement on the future of the Youth Service in Wales. OAQ(4)0237(ESK)

10. Nick Ramsay (Monmouth): How is the Minister promoting entrepreneurship in schools. OAQ(4)0248(ESK)

11. Bethan Jenkins (South Wales West): Will the Minister make a statement on training for school Governors in primary schools. OAQ(4)0242(ESK)

12. Gwyn Price (Islwyn): Will the Minister make a statement on how we can use school councils to help children learn about wider citizenship issues. OAQ(4)0246(ESK)

13. Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire): Will the Minister make a statement on what the Welsh Government is doing to support children with autism spectrum disorder within the school setting. OAQ(4)0238(ESK)

14. Jenny Rathbone (Cardiff Central): What level of sex education do you expect schools to provide at each key stage and what role does the Government play in ensuring schools are compliant. OAQ(4)0249(ESK)

15. Llyr Huws Gruffydd (North Wales): Will the Minister make a statement on the extent of the skills gap in Wales. OAQ(4)0241(ESK)W

To ask the Minister for Local Government and Communities

1. Mick Antoniw (Pontypridd): What considerations has the Welsh Government given to the SEWTA plan specifically relating to the reopening of the Pontypridd to Beddau line. OAQ(4)0249(LGC)

2. **Mick Antoniw (Pontypridd):** Will the Minister make a statement on Welsh Government policies in relation to local authority licensing powers. OAQ(4)0250(LGC)
3. **William Powell (Mid and West Wales):** What plans does the Minister have to provide direct funding to Town and Community Councils for the delivery of public services in their areas. OAQ(4)0246(LGC)
4. **Mike Hedges (Swansea East):** Will the Minister provide a progress update on the new Communities First programme clusters. OAQ(4)0239(LGC)
5. **Jenny Rathbone (Cardiff Central):** What is the Welsh Government doing to support an integrated public transport system for our capital city. OAQ(4)0254(LGC)
6. **Nick Ramsay (Monmouth):** Will the Minister outline his plans to keep Welsh council tax rises to a minimum. OAQ(4)0245(LGC)
7. **Vaughan Gething (Cardiff South and Penarth):** Will the Minister make a statement on the prospects for improving public transport in east Cardiff. OAQ(4)0244(LGC)
8. **Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East):** Will the Minister provide an update on the Welsh Government's efforts to enhance Financial Inclusion. OAQ(4)0248(LGC)
9. **David Rees (Aberavon):** What discussions has the Minister had with credit unions in Wales on supporting their members following benefit changes. OAQ(4)0253(LGC)
10. **Lynne Neagle (Torfaen):** Will the Minister provide an update on the work of credit unions in Wales. OAQ(4)0251(LGC)
11. **Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** What consideration has the Minister given to the use of his powers to cap the police precept. OAQ(4)0252(LGC)

12. Janet Finch–Saunders (Aberconwy): What assessment has the Minister made of the impact of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011. OAQ(4)0241(LGC)

13. Darren Millar (Clwyd West): Will the Minister make a statement on Welsh Government support for veterans. OAQ(4)0240(LGC)

14. Eluned Parrott (South Wales Central): Will the Minister provide an update on the Welsh Government's plans for improving rail services for the remainder of this Assembly term. OAQ(4)0243(LGC)

15. Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire): Will the Minister make a statement on the transport needs of the people of west Wales. OAQ(4)0242(LGC)