

Agenda – Plenary

Meeting Venue:

Y Siambr – Y Senedd

Meeting date:

Wednesday, 19 March 2025

Meeting time: 13.30

269 (v3)

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 Economy, Energy and Planning

(45 mins)

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

[View Questions](#)

2 Questions to the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care

(45 mins)

The Presiding Officer will call Party Leaders 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 Social Justice, Trefnydd and Chief Whip



[Sioned Williams](#): What assessment has the Welsh Government made of the impact that the UK Government's reforms to welfare will have on Wales?

4 90 Second Statements

(0 mins)

No 90 Second Statements were submitted.

5 Motion to suspend Standing Orders

(5 Mins)

NNDM8858 [Elin Jones \(Ceredigion\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd, in accordance with Standing Orders 33.6 and 33.8:

Suspends Standing Order 13.6 to allow Members to contribute on more than one occasion during the Open Debate on NDM8839 in Plenary on Wednesday 19 March 2025.

6 Open debate

(120 mins)

NDM8839 [Carolyn Thomas \(North Wales\)](#)

Can renewables alone meet the energy needs of Wales?

Supporters

[Lee Waters \(Llanelli\)](#)

[Mike Hedges \(Swansea East\)](#)

[Samuel Kurtz \(Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire\)](#)

7 Welsh Conservatives debate – Employer National Insurance

(60 mins)

NDM8857 [Paul Davies \(Preseli Pembrokeshire\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes the UK Government's increase to employer national insurance contributions, coming into effect for the 2025–26 tax year.

2. Recognises the detrimental impact the increase to employer national insurance contributions will have on Welsh charities, not-for-profits and voluntary organisations.

3. Calls on the Welsh Government to make urgent representations to the UK Government to ensure Welsh charities, not-for-profits and voluntary organisations delivering public services will be included in the UK Government's definition of ONS-defined public sector employees and will be as a result reimbursed for the rise in employer national insurance contributions.

The following amendments were tabled:

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

Delete all after point 1 and replace with

Recognises that:

- a) national insurance is not devolved;
- b) Welsh charities, not-for-profits and voluntary organisations are concerned about the impact of increases to employer national insurance contributions; and
- c) the Welsh Government has made and will continue to make representations to the UK Government on behalf of public services and Welsh charities, not-for-profits and voluntary organisations about employer national insurance contributions.

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

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

Add as new point after point 2. and renumber accordingly:

Regrets:

- a) the intention to allocate Treasury reimbursements to core public services on the basis of the Barnett Formula, which would leave Wales facing a shortfall compared to England.
- b) the lack of clarity as to the full extent of costs to core public services in Wales as a result of these changes, less than a month before the start of the next financial year and after the passing of the Welsh budget.

Amendment 3 [Heledd Fychan \(South Wales Central\)](#)

Add as new point at the end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Government to make urgent representations to the UK Government to ensure that the costs of increases to employer NI contributions to core public services in Wales are covered in full by the UK Treasury.

8 Voting Time

The Senedd will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 25 March 2025

Agenda Item 1

Oral Questions tabled on 12/03/2025 for answer on 19/03/2025

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

CABINET SECRETARY FOR ECONOMY, ENERGY AND PLANNING

Llyr Gruffydd *North Wales*

1 OQ62481 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary provide an update on the implementation of Ynni Cymru?

Hannah Blythyn *Delyn*

2 OQ62480 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary provide an update on Welsh Government support to enable organisations in Delyn to become more energy efficient?

Delyth Jewell *South Wales East*

3 OQ62461 (e)

What plans does the Cabinet Secretary have to reform the planning system to allow for greater power for local communities in decision making?

Adam Price *Carmarthen East and Dinefwr*

4 OQ62476 (e)

What assessment has the Welsh Government made of the impact of zonal pricing on electricity prices for consumers in Wales?

Laura Anne Jones *South Wales East*

5 OQ62462 (e)

What discussions has the Welsh Government had with the UK Government about improving mobile phone signal in Monmouthshire?

Janet Finch-Saunders *Aberconwy*

6 OQ62477 (e)

What steps has the Cabinet Secretary taken to ensure that the tourism and hospitality sector in North Wales is supported and prepared ahead of the spring tourism season?

Mabon ap Gwynfor *Dwyfor Meirionnydd*

7 OQ62479 (w)

What is the Government doing to improve broadband connectivity in rural communities?

Peter Fox *Monmouth*

- 8** OQ62474 (e)
What support is the Welsh Government making available to Cardiff Airport?

Alun Davies *Blaenau Gwent*

- 9** OQ62475 (e)
Will the Cabinet Secretary make a statement on the Welsh Government's progress in developing an economic development plan for the Heads of the Valleys?

Tom Giffard *South Wales West*

- 10** OQ62460 (e)
How is the Welsh Government working with the UK Government to support the transition at Tata Steel in Port Talbot?

Paul Davies *Preseli Pembrokeshire*

- 11** OQ62455 (e)
What is the Welsh Government doing to support the tourism industry in Preseli Pembrokeshire?

James Evans *Brecon and Radnorshire*

- 12** OQ62453 (e)
What is the Welsh Government doing to support the economy in Brecon and Radnorshire?

CABINET SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Alun Davies *Blaenau Gwent*

- 1** OQ62471 (e)
Will the Cabinet Secretary make a statement on the impact of the new GP contract on primary health services in Blaenau Gwent?

Altaf Hussain *South Wales West*

- 2** OQ62467 (e)
What assessment has the Welsh Government made of the impact the new system for emergency response will have on stroke care?

Darren Millar *Clwyd West*

3

OQ62470 (e)

How is the Welsh Government improving healthcare capacity in North Wales?

Tom Giffard *South Wales West*

4

OQ62466 (e)

How is the Welsh Government supporting health boards to ensure the 62-day suspected cancer pathway target is consistently met across Wales?

Paul Davies *Preseli Pembrokeshire*

5

OQ62456 (e)

What is the Welsh Government doing to improve waiting times in the Hywel Dda University Health Board area?

Samuel Kurtz *Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire*

6

OQ62464 (e)

How is the Welsh Government supporting dental services in Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire?

Peter Fox *Monmouth*

7

OQ62473 (e)

What is the Welsh Government doing to reduce waiting times for patients requiring orthopaedic surgery in south-east Wales?

Janet Finch-Saunders *Aberconwy*

8

OQ62478 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary make a statement on the impact of home-to-hospital transport provided by the Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust being cancelled at short notice for patients needing to attend hospital appointments?

Russell George *Montgomeryshire*

9

OQ62459 (e)

How is the Welsh Government ensuring rural GP practices are funded adequately to ensure that everyone in Wales lives within a reasonable distance of a GP practice?

Natasha Asghar *South Wales East*

10

OQ62469 (e)

What steps is the Welsh Government taking to improve health outcomes for residents in South Wales East?

Joyce Watson *Mid and West Wales*

11

OQ62463 (e)

How is the Welsh Government supporting general practice services?