

# Agenda – Economy, Trade, and Rural Affairs Committee

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Meeting Venue:

Committee room 5 – Tŷ Hywel  
and video conference via Zoom

Meeting date: 30 April 2025

Meeting time: 09.30

For further information contact:

**Robert Donovan**

Committee Clerk

0300 200 6565

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## Hybrid

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### Private pre-meeting

09.15 – 09.30

### Public session

09.30 – 11.00

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

09.30

#### 2 Soil Health in Agriculture: Panel 1

09.30 – 11.00

(Pages 1 – 58)

Professor Bridget Emmett, Principal Scientist, UK Centre for Ecology and  
Hydrology

Dr William Stiles, Lecturer in Soil Science – Department of Life Sciences,  
Aberystwyth University

Professor Prysor Williams, Chair of Agriculture and Environment, School of  
Environmental and Natural Sciences, Bangor University



Attached Documents:

Research brief

Written evidence – Professor Bridget Emmett

Written evidence – Aberystwyth University

Additional evidence – Farmers' Union of Wales (FUW)

Additional evidence – Soil Association Cymru

### **3 Papers to note**

11.00

#### **3.1 P-06-1507 We call on UWTSD and the Welsh Government to create a viable, sustainable plan for the long-term future of Lampeter campus**

(Pages 59 – 63)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Chair of the Petitions Committee – 24 March 2025

#### **3.2 Official Controls (Extension of Transitional Periods) (Amendment) Regulations 2025**

(Pages 64 – 65)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs – 25 March 2025

#### **3.3 Meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Group for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs**

(Pages 66 – 67)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs to the Chair of the Legislation, Justice and

Constitution Committee – 25 March 2025

Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs to the Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee – 31 March 2025

### **3.4 Petitions regarding animal health and welfare**

(Pages 68 – 70)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Chair of the Petitions Committee – 27 March 2025

Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs to the Chair of the Petitions Committee – 2 April 2025

### **3.5 Follow-up to the committee meeting held on 14 November 2024 – The Foundational Economy**

(Pages 71 – 73)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Minister for Culture, Skills and Social Partnership – 27 March 2025

### **3.6 Follow-up to the committee meeting held on 5 February 2025 – Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS)**

(Pages 74 – 75)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs – 31 March 2025

### **3.7 Lord of the Manor titles**

(Pages 76 – 77)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs – 2 April 2025

### **3.8 The Ivory Prohibitions (Exemptions) (Process and Procedure) (Amendment) Regulations 2025**

(Pages 78 – 80)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs – 2 April 2025

Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs – 24 April 2025

### **3.9 Apprenticeship pathways inquiry**

(Pages 81 – 85)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Chair to the Minister for Further and Higher Education – 3 April 2025

Letter from the Minister for Further and Higher Education – 24 April 2025

### **3.10 Request for economic impact assessment of proposed closures in languages and cultures at Cardiff University**

(Pages 86 – 87)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Modern Languages – 3 April 2025

### **3.11 Meeting of the Tourism Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG)**

(Page 88)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning to the Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee – 9 April 2025

### **3.12 UK's agri-food and drink attachés**

(Pages 89 – 90)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Chair to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs – 10 April 2025

### **3.13 Follow-up to the Committee meeting held on 6 March 2025 – Freight and logistics, and regulation of ports**

(Pages 91 – 100)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales – 11 April 2025

Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales – 22 April 2025

### **3.14 Meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Standing Committee (IMSC)**

(Page 101)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs to the Chair Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee – 22 April 2025

**4 Motion under Standing Order 17.42(ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting**

11.00

**Private session**

11.00 – 12.20

**5 Consideration of evidence following the meeting**

11.00 – 11.10

**6 AI and the Welsh Economy: consideration of draft report**

11.10 – 11.30

(Pages 102 – 133)

Attached Documents:

Draft report

**7 City Deals: Scope and approach**

11.30 – 11.45

(Pages 134 – 144)

Attached Documents:

Scoping paper

**8 Food Processing: Scope and approach**

11.45 – 12.00

(Pages 145 – 150)

Attached Documents:

Scoping paper

**9 Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum: Data (Use and Access) Bill: consideration of draft report**

12.00 – 12.10

(Pages 151 – 174)

Attached Documents:

Draft report

Legal advice note

**10 Scrutiny of the Draft Budget 2025–26: Evidence provided by the Welsh Government**

12.10 – 12.20

(Pages 175 – 176)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Chair of the Finance Committee to Committee Chairs – 1  
April 2025