

Concise Minutes – Petitions Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 3

Meeting date: Monday, 16 June 2025

Meeting time: 14.00 – 15.06

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/15141>

Hybrid

Attendance

Category	Names
Members of the Senedd:	Carolyn Thomas MS (Chair) Rhys ab Owen MS Joel James MS Vaughan Gething MS Luke Fletcher MS
Witnesses:	
Committee Staff:	Gareth Price (Clerk) Lara Date (Second Clerk) Kayleigh Imperato (Deputy Clerk)

1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

2.2 Vaughan Gething MS declared the following relevant interest under Standing Order 17.24A: He is a Member of Unison.

3.3 Joel James MS declared the following relevant interest under Standing Order 17.24A: The petitioner is known to him.



2 New Petitions

2.1 P-06-1499 Stop the use of term 'Universal Provision' as a reason to deny ALN

The Committee considered the petition and expressed sympathy with the petitioner's campaign, recognising the importance of scrutinising the implementation of the ALN reforms to ensure the system functions effectively. It appears that the Cabinet Secretary is addressing these concerns and is due to make a statement to the Senedd in July, while the Children, Young People and Education Committee (CYPE) continues to actively monitor the situation.

Members agreed to keep the petition open while awaiting the Cabinet Secretary's statement and, in the meantime, to refer the petition to CYPE given its ongoing review of the ALN reforms. However they also emphasised the importance of avoiding duplication of work already being undertaken by another committee.

2.2 P-06-1500 Neath Port Talbot UNISON needs additional Funding for NPT Council

The Committee considered the petition and agreed to write to Neath Port Talbot Council to highlight the petition and request an update on plans for the 2025-26 allocation of Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) resources, within the framework of the Regional Economic Delivery Plan. Members agreed to keep the petition open pending a response, and to close it once a response is received.

2.3 P-06-1522 Convene a summit to accelerate sustainable and ethical investment by public sector pensions

Following detailed discussion of possible actions due to pensions being a reserved matter, Members agreed to write to the Welsh Local Government Association, the Cabinet Secretary and the Wales Pension Partnership to ask about current investment priorities, and future priorities and approach to investing to support the growth of the Welsh economy in a sustainable way, in light of the Well-being of Future Generations

(Wales) Act 2015. Members noted the importance of taking a consistent approach on petitions that touch on what are largely reserved policy areas.

2.4 P-06-1523 Reverse the Closure of Post Grad Counselling and Psychotherapy Courses at University of South Wales

As the courses do not now appear to be affected, but action is being taken on the issue of HE funding more generally, Members agreed to thank the petitioner for highlighting the situation at USW, note the positive outcome, and close the petition.

2.5 P-06-1524 Erect a statue of Rachel Williams to commemorate her impact on Welsh language education in the Vale of Glamorgan

The Committee recognised the importance of the petition, particularly as it was submitted by a Year 6 learner, and expressed regret that a more positive response could not be provided at this time. The Committee agreed to close the petition, and in doing so, congratulated the petitioner on bringing the issue forward. Members emphasised that the petition serves as an excellent example of how individuals, including young people, can engage with the Senedd to raise important issues, and thanked the petitioner for their participation in the democratic process.

In closing the petition, Members agreed to write to the school to recognise the engagement of the Year 6 learners in the petitions process, and congratulate them on their campaign, and to write to Monumental Welsh Women directly about the petition and ask to be kept updated about any future plans relating to a commemorative statue for Rachel Williams

2.6 P-06-1527 Review dog walking restrictions on Welsh beaches and issue guidance to relevant bodies

The Committee agreed to write to the Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs for more information about the review of Bathing Water regulations and associated guidance. The response would be shared with the petitioner, however Members agreed that dog walking restrictions were a matter for local authorities and so thanked the petitioner and closed the petition.

3 Updates to previous petitions

3.1 P-06-1443 Re-instate core funding for TRAC Cymru (Music Traditions Wales / Traddodiadau Cerdd Cymru)

The Committee considered the petition and noted the comprehensive letter from Trac Cymru, which highlighted some of their recent successes and future ambitions. Members welcomed the forthcoming publication of a review of traditional music, produced in collaboration with the Arts Council of Wales. It was noted that the recommendations within the report will help shape the debate around future funding requirements. Given that this work and its recommendations will now be the subject of discussions between the Arts Council of Wales and Ministers, the Committee thanked the petitioners for raising the issue and agreed to close the petition.

3.2 P-06-1464 Allow Welsh families who have experienced Baby loss before 24 weeks to obtain baby loss certificate

The Committee considered the petition, and noted that highlighting the petition had been helpful to the Minister in advocating the matter with the UK Government. It was agreed to keep the petition open for now and to write once more to the Minister in the hope of securing a positive final outcome soon.

3.3 P-06-1475 Urgently improve the safety of the A458, Middletown, Powys in light of continuous dangerous driving

The Committee considered the petition and, as action is already being taken by the Welsh Government and a consultation is planned, it was agreed to thank the petitioner and close the petition. In doing so, the Committee also agreed to draw the petition to the attention of local Senedd Members.

3.4 P-06-1489 Legislate to ensure swift bricks are installed in all new buildings in Wales

The Committee considered the petition and agreed to request a debate in the Senedd. It was also agreed to forward the petitioner's further questions and concerns relating to planning policy to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs.

3.5 P-06-1510 Direct NRW to revoke the environmental permit and ensure the closure of Enover's, Hafod Landfill Site in Wrexham

The Committee considered the petition and agreed to undertake a short inquiry and invite Natural Resources Wales (NRW), Wrexham Council, and Enover to give oral evidence on how they are addressing the petitioners' concerns. It was proposed that this take place in the autumn term to allow time for further work by the Hafod stakeholder group and residents group, and for Enover's remediation measures to be fully implemented.

4 Paper to note

4.1 P-06-1463 Continue to fund school police officers who educate children and support schools

4.2 P-06-1525 Preserve the unique character of the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal for the future generations of Wales

4.3 Higher Education Funding

5 Motion under Standing Order 17.42(ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for the remainder of today's business: