

Agenda – Plenary

Meeting Venue:

Y Siambr – Y Senedd

Meeting date:

Wednesday, 4 March 2026

Meeting time: 13.30

335 (v6)

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 Housing and Local Government

(45 mins)

[View Questions](#)

2 Questions to the Cabinet Secretary for Education

(45 mins)

[View Questions](#)

3 Topical Questions

(20 mins)

To Ask The Cabinet Secretary For Finance And Welsh Language

[Heledd Fychan \(South Wales Central\)](#): Will the Cabinet Secretary make a statement on the implications for Wales of the UK Government's spring statement?

4 90 Second Statements

(5 mins)

5 Nomination under Standing Order 10.5 for the appointment of the Auditor General for Wales

(5 mins)

NDM9174 [Peredur Owen Griffiths \(South Wales East\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd, in accordance with Standing Order 10.5:

1. Expresses its gratitude for the contribution of Adrian Crompton during his term of office as Auditor General for Wales.

2. Acting under section 2(2) of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2013, and having consulted representatives of local government bodies in Wales in accordance with section 2(3), nominates Catherine Mealing-Jones for appointment by His Majesty as Auditor General for Wales for a term of eight years to commence immediately after the current Auditor General for Wales ceases to hold office.

[Finance Committee report: Nomination of the Auditor General for Wales](#)

6 Plaid Cymru Debate – The rail network

(60 mins)

NDM9189 [Heledd Fychan \(South Wales Central\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Regrets the historic and systematic underfunding of the Welsh rail network by successive UK Governments.

2. Further regrets that the Welsh Government has had to spend in non-devolved areas to make up the shortfall, such as on the core valley Lines.

3. Notes that:

a) the UK Government's recent announcement on rail investment in Wales is largely uncoded during the current UK parliamentary term; and

b) the absence of concrete promises and a plan to fund the pipeline of rail infrastructure projects through upcoming UK Government spending reviews.

4. Calls on the Welsh Government to:

a) make representations to the UK Government to clarify when Wales will be in receipt of the proposed investment and the extent to which it is dependent on the budget decisions of a future UK Government; and

b) make representations to the UK Government to devolve rail infrastructure in full to Wales, in line with powers already exercised by Scotland and Northern Ireland.

The following amendments were tabled:

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

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Regrets Plaid Cymru's mistaken belief that the core valley lines are not devolved.
2. Notes devolution of the core valley lines took place in 2020
3. Believes that views recently expressed in the media by observers demonstrate that the argument over rail funding has now been won, and the debate can now move on to delivering tangible benefits for Wales and the Borders.
4. Supports:
 - a) the devolved £1 billion transformation of the core valley lines led by the Welsh Government and funded by the Welsh Government, the UK Government and the city deal for the Cardiff Capital Region;
 - b) the Transport for Wales plan for rail, 'Today, Tomorrow, Together'; and
 - c) delivery on rail infrastructure investment now happening as fast as possible.

[Nation Cymru: Will £14bn for Welsh rail be enough to save Labour?](#)

[Nation Cymru: Writer claims 'Welsh set the example to the rest of UK's railways'](#)

[Transport for Wales: Today, Tomorrow, Together](#)

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

Amendment 2 [Paul Davies \(Preseli Pembrokeshire\)](#)

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Recognises the importance of good transport connectivity to the economic prosperity of Wales.
2. Notes that investment in cross-border rail infrastructure is fundamental to ensuring Wales is fully connected within the United Kingdom.
3. Notes that the UK Government's recent announcement on new rail stations were not new commitments as they were announced in previous spending reviews
4. Calls on the Welsh Government to make representations to the UK Government to:
 - a) reinstate funding for electrification of the North Wales Mainline
 - b) provide consequential funding for Wales as a result of spending on HS2 and the Oxford and Cambridge rail investments

7 Short Debate

(30 mins)

NDM9188 [Rhianon Passmore \(Islwyn\)](#)

How can Wales protect, enhance, and enshrine our world-leading cultural organisations for the enrichment of the people of Wales and beyond?

8 Voting Time

9 Stage 3 of the British Sign Language (Wales) Bill

(120 mins)

Please use the following link to access this item on Senedd.TV including BSL

Interpretation: <https://www.senedd.tv/Meeting/Live/73d29595-9233-4458-bada-c58a8b0d754d>

The amendments will be disposed of in the order which the sections and schedules to which they relate were set out in the motion under Standing Order 26.36 agreed by the Senedd on 25 February 2026.

The amendments have been grouped for the purposes of debate and the groupings will be debated as follows:

1. BSL: national adviser, advisory panel and complaints

1, 14, 10, 12, 13, 15

2. Targets for Teachers and Assessors of BSL

2

3. Data on use of BSL and monitoring

3, 11

4. Consultation and involvement

4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

Supporting documents:

[British Sign Language \(Wales\) Bill \(as amended at Stage 2\)](#)

[Explanatory Memorandum](#)

[Marshalled List of Amendments – 26 February 2026](#)

[Groupings List – 27 February 2026](#)

The Senedd will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 10 March 2026

Agenda Item 1

Oral Questions tabled on 25/02/2026 for answer on 04/03/2026

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

CABINET SECRETARY FOR HOUSING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Mick Antoniw *Pontypridd*

1 OQ63909 (e) *Withdrawn*

Will the Cabinet Secretary make a statement on Welsh Government support for local authority twinning initiatives?

Lesley Griffiths *Wrexham*

2 OQ63906 (e)

How is the Welsh Government supporting town center regeneration in Wrexham?

James Evans *Brecon and Radnorshire*

3 OQ63924 (e)

How is the Cabinet Secretary increasing the availability of homes for people in Brecon and Radnorshire?

Luke Fletcher *South Wales West*

4 OQ63938 (e)

What discussions has the Cabinet Secretary had with the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning regarding the implications for local government workforce planning of the local growth fund's capital-revenue split?

Sam Rowlands *North Wales*

5 OQ63928 (e)

What is the Welsh Government doing to improve housing affordability across North Wales?

Carolyn Thomas *North Wales*

6 OQ63918 (e)

What support is the Welsh Government providing for town centre regeneration across Denbighshire?

Mark Isherwood *North Wales*

7 OQ63900 (e)

What are the Welsh Government's priorities for the delivery of housing?

Rhys ab Owen *South Wales Central*

8

OQ63898 (e)

How is the Cabinet Secretary working with local authorities to review how residents can best be informed of candidates' party affiliation in local elections?

Rhianon Passmore *Islwyn*

9

OQ63930 (e)

What support is the Welsh Government providing to local authorities to transform town centres in Islwyn?

Janet Finch-Saunders *Aberconwy*

10

OQ63917 (e)

How is the Welsh Government ensuring that housing developments include key infrastructure such as education and health services?

Russell George *Montgomeryshire*

11

OQ63939 (e)

How is the Welsh Government supporting residents in Powys to retrofit their homes?

CABINET SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION

Mike Hedges *Swansea East*

1

OQ63899 (e)

Will the Cabinet Secretary make a statement on the provision of higher and further education in Swansea?

Paul Davies *Preseli Pembrokeshire*

2

OQ63905 (e)

What are the Welsh Government's priorities for further education in Pembrokeshire?

Laura Anne Jones *South Wales East*

3

OQ63920 (e)

What action is the Welsh Government taking to improve educational outcomes in South Wales East?

Adam Price *Carmarthen East and Dinefwr*

4

OQ63936 (w)

Will the Cabinet Secretary make a statement on the Welsh Government's policy regarding small schools?

Luke Fletcher *South Wales West*

5

OQ63925 (e)

What steps is the Welsh Government taking to ensure that all learners across Wales can attend the college of their choice?

Llyr Gruffydd *North Wales*

6

OQ63937 (e)

What assessment has the Cabinet Secretary made of the impact on education standards of recent data from Estyn about teacher recruitment and retention in schools in Wales?

Sian Gwenllian *Arfon*

7

OQ63935 (w)

Will the Cabinet Secretary make a statement regarding additional learning needs and neurodiversity training in schools?

Peter Fox *Monmouth*

8

OQ63908 (e)

How is the Welsh Government supporting local authorities to strengthen and sustain leadership in schools in line with Estyn's expectations?

Peredur Owen Griffiths *South Wales East*

9

OQ63932 (e)

What steps is the Government taking to improve educational attainment?

Julie Morgan *Cardiff North*

10

OQ63934 (e)

What plans does the Government have to develop the provision for children with special educational needs?

Lindsay Whittle *Caerphilly*

11

OQ63914 (e)

What assessment has the Cabinet Secretary made of the impact of reductions to classroom support on schools in Caerphilly?

Tom Giffard *South Wales West*

12

OQ63911 (e)

What is the Welsh Government's strategy to improve the literacy standards of young people?