

# Plenary

---

Meeting date:  
**Tuesday, 14 May 2013**

Meeting time:  
**13:30**

Cynulliad  
Cenedlaethol  
Cymru

National  
Assembly for  
Wales



## Votes and Proceedings

(131)

---

### **1. Questions to the First Minister**

The item started at 13.30

The first 10 questions were asked. The Presiding Officer invited party leaders to ask questions to the First Minister after Question 2.

### **2. Business Statement and Announcement**

The item started at 14.18

### **3. Statement by the First Minister: Progress on Implementing "Energy Wales"**

The item started at 14.25

### **4. Statement by the Minister for Education and Skills: Post 16 Planning and Funding Review: Final Report**

The item started at 14.56

### **5. Statement by the Minister for Finance: The Welsh Government Response to the Guilford Report Recommendations**

The item started at 15.23

### **6. Statement by the Deputy Minister for Skills and Technology: Jobs Growth Wales – one year in**

The item started at 16.01

## 7. Debate: Strengthening Local Government Democracy

The item started at 16.38

Voting on the motion and amendments under this item was deferred until Voting Time.

### NDM5237 Lesley Griffiths (Wrexham)

To propose the National Assembly for Wales:

Recognises the value of promoting open, transparent and accountable local democracy and the importance of encouraging greater diversity in Local Government.

The following amendments were tabled:

#### Amendment 1 – William Graham (South Wales East)

Delete ‘Recognise the value of promoting’ and replace with ‘Appreciates the necessity of advocating efficient,’

A vote was taken on Amendment 1:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
39	0	14	53

Amendment 1 was agreed.

#### Amendment 2 – William Graham (South Wales East)

After ‘diversity’ insert ‘and stakeholder engagement’

A vote was taken on Amendment 2:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
44	0	10	54

Amendment 2 was agreed.

#### Amendment 3 – William Graham (South Wales East)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Welcomes the Welsh Government’s eventual commitment to facilitating live streaming during all council scrutiny and cabinet meetings.

A vote was taken on Amendment 3:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
54	0	0	54

**Amendment 3 was agreed.**

**Amendment 4 – Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)**

Add as new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Government to bring forward a comprehensive agenda that will tackle issues around openness, transparency and accountability in local democracy and local government.

A vote was taken on Amendment 4:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
54	0	0	54

**Amendment 4 was agreed.**

**Amendment 5 – Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)**

Add as new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Government to confirm its support for devolving responsibility for local government elections to the National Assembly.

A vote was taken on Amendment 5:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
42	12	0	54

**Amendment 5 was agreed.**

**Amendment 6 – Aled Roberts (North Wales)**

Add as new point at end of motion:

Supports the introduction of a fair and proportional electoral system to ensure that outcomes reflect the way that people vote and are more representative of their local communities and calls on the Welsh Government to implement the recommendation of the Sunderland Commission in 2002 by promoting legislation to introduce the single transferable vote system for local councils.

A vote was taken on Amendment 6:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
14	0	40	54

**Amendment 6 was not agreed.**

## **Amendment 7 – Aled Roberts (North Wales)**

Add as new point at end of motion:

Regrets that around 77,000 16 and 17 year olds in Wales are currently denied the vote and believes that democratic accountability would be strengthened by allowing 16 and 17 year olds to vote in elections to local councils.

A vote was taken on Amendment 7:

<b>For</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Total</b>
41	7	5	53

**Amendment 7 was agreed.**

**A vote was taken on the motion as amended:**

### **NDM5237 Lesley Griffiths (Wrexham)**

To propose the National Assembly for Wales:

Appreciates the necessity of advocating efficient open, transparent and accountable local democracy and the importance of encouraging greater diversity and stakeholder engagement in Local Government.

Welcomes the Welsh Government's eventual commitment to facilitating live streaming during all council scrutiny and cabinet meetings.

Calls on the Welsh Government to bring forward a comprehensive agenda that will tackle issues around openness, transparency and accountability in local democracy and local government.

Calls on the Welsh Government to confirm its support for devolving responsibility for local government elections to the National Assembly.

Regrets that around 77,000 16 and 17 year olds in Wales are currently denied the vote and believes that democratic accountability would be strengthened by allowing 16 and 17 year olds to vote in elections to local councils.

<b>For</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Total</b>
42	12	0	54

**The motion as amended was agreed.**

## **8. Motions to elect Members to committees**

The item started at 17.15

**NDM5241 Rosemary Butler (Newport West)**

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order 17.14, elects Bethan Jenkins (Plaid Cymru) as a member of the Petitions Committee in place of Elin Jones (Plaid Cymru).

**NDM5242 Rosemary Butler (Newport West)**

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order 17.14, elects Elin Jones (Plaid Cymru) as a member of the Business Committee in place of Jocelyn Davies (Plaid Cymru).

**The motions were agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.**

**Voting Time**

The item started at 17.15

The meeting concluded at 17:18

**The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at 13:30, Wednesday, 15 May 2013**