

Plenary

Meeting date:
Wednesday, 19 February 2014

Meeting time:
13:30

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



Agenda

(182)v2

1 Questions to the Minister for Finance (45 mins)

[View Questions](#)

2 Questions to the Minister for Local Government and Government Business (45 mins)

[View Questions](#)

3 Questions to the Assembly Commission (15 mins)

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4 Debate on the Enterprise and Business Committee's Report on The Future of the Wales and Borders Rail Franchise (60 mins)
NDM5437 Nick Ramsay (Monmouth)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

Notes the report of the Enterprise and Business Committee's Report on the Inquiry into the Future of the Wales and Borders Rail Franchise, which was laid in the Table Office on 11 December 2013.

Note: The response by the Welsh Government was laid on 12 February 2014.

Supporting Documents

[Enterprise and Business Committee's Report](#)

[Welsh Government's Response](#)

5 Plaid Cymru Debate (60 mins)

NDM5438 Elin Jones (Ceredigion)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Notes the 44% drop in farm incomes across all farm types in Wales last year;
2. Regrets the Welsh Government's decision to transfer the full 15% from Pillar 1 to Pillar 2 of the Common Agriculture Policy and the subsequent 23.4% reduction to Single Payment Scheme entitlements; and
3. Calls on the Welsh Government to give full regard to these and other challenging circumstances currently being faced by the agriculture industry as it introduces reforms to the Common Agriculture Policy, a new Rural Development Plan and wider rural policy initiatives in Wales.

The following amendment has been tabled:

Amendment 1 – Aled Roberts (North Wales)

Insert as new point 3 and renumber accordingly:

Calls on the Welsh Government to use the Rural Development Plan to bring forward a Moorland specific Areas of Natural Constraint scheme.

Amendment 2 – Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire)

Insert as new point 3 and renumber accordingly:

Further regrets the impact of Bovine TB on farm income in Wales and the Welsh Government's failure to tackle this important issue.

6 Welsh Liberal Democrats Debate (60 mins)

NDM5439 Aled Roberts (North Wales)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Recognises that affordable, accessible and high quality childcare can be the key to a stronger economy and fairer society, enabling parents to return to work, reducing child poverty and giving children the best start in life.

2. Welcomes the positive action being taken by the UK Government including £1 billion investment in childcare to increase free early education for all 3 and 4 year olds and extended to 2 year olds from low income families, the introduction of tax free childcare for working families and new rights on shared parental leave.

3. Calls on the Welsh Government to:

a) review the system of pre-school childcare entitlement in light of enhanced provision in England;

b) examine the effectiveness of Flying Start on parenting and child development outcomes and the inequality in Welsh medium early years provision;

c) assess whether local authorities are fully utilising funding for the statutory provision of an early years education place for 3-4 year olds;

d) examine ways to improve childcare supply across all ages, in particular wraparound and holiday childcare schemes;

e) provide clarity for parents on eligibility for childcare schemes in Wales in light of recent UK Government policy developments; and

f) introduce a single online source of information to help new parents with

information about childcare services and entitlements and how to access them.

The following amendment has been tabled:

Amendment 1 – Elin Jones (Ceredigion)

In point 1 delete all after ‘child poverty and’ and replace with ‘helping children to get the best start in life.’

Amednment 2 – Lesley Griffiths (Wrexham)

Delete point 2 and replace with:

Notes the failure of the UK Government to take action on tax credits for childcare this side of the general election, expresses serious concern at their shift of resources away from families in greatest need and further notes the decimation of the Sure Start programme in England with the closure of over 500 centres.

[If amendment 2 is agreed, amendment 3 will be de-selected]

Amendment 3 – Elin Jones (Ceredigion)

In point 2 delete ‘Welcomes the positive’ and replace with ‘Notes the’.

Amendment 4 – Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire)

Insert as new point 3 and renumber accordingly:

Notes that the £1 billion investment in childcare is only for England, as childcare in Wales is devolved.

Amendment 5 – Elin Jones (Ceredigion)

Delete sub-point 3a) and replace with ‘assess the system of pre-school childcare entitlement’.

Amendment 6 – Elin Jones (Ceredigion)

In sub-point 3e) delete all after 'Wales'.

Amendment 7 – Elin Jones (Ceredigion)

Delete sub-point 3f).

[If amendment 7 is agreed, amendment 8 will be de-selected]

Amendment 8 – Lesley Griffiths (Wrexham)

Delete sub-point 3f and replace with:

consider how best to provide parents with information about childcare services and entitlements and how to access them.

Voting Time

7 Short Debate (30 mins)

NDM5431 Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East)

Opening the Gateway to Wales

How to regenerate the economy of South East Wales.

The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at 13:30, Tuesday, 4 March 2014

Oral Assembly Questions tabled on 12 February 2014 for answer on 19 February 2014

R – Signifies the Member has declared an interest.

W – Signifies that the question was tabled in Welsh.

(Self identifying Question no. shown in brackets)

To ask the Minister for Finance

- 1. Mike Hedges (Swansea East):** Will the Minister make a statement on the devolution of Stamp Duty Land Tax? OAQ(4)0364(FIN)
- 2. Leighton Andrews (Rhondda):** Will the Minister make a statement on the process for procuring information technology by public sector organisations in Wales? OAQ(4)0370(FIN)
- 3. Dafydd Elis-Thomas (Dwyfor Meirionnydd):** What discussions has the Minister had with UK Finance Ministers with regards to the Barnett formula? OAQ(4)0377(FIN)W
- 4. Angela Burns (Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire):** Will the Minister outline the timetable for reviewing spending priorities during the Fourth Assembly? OAQ(4)0374(FIN)
- 5. Rhun ap Iorwerth (Ynys Môn):** Will the Minister make a statement on the overall funding allocation to the Economy, Science and Transport portfolio? OAQ(4)0373(FIN)W
- 6. Mark Isherwood (North Wales):** Will the Minister make a statement on the overall budget allocation to the Housing and Regeneration portfolio? OAQ(4)0367(FIN)
- 7. Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire):** Will the Minister make a statement on the second supplementary budget 2013–14? OAQ(4)0371(FIN)
- 8. Bethan Jenkins (South Wales West):** Will the Minister make a statement on the additional £55m funding announced in the Welsh Government's second supplementary budget 2013–14? OAQ(4)0375(FIN)
- 9. Mick Antoniw (Pontypridd):** Will the Minister make a statement on the benefits of the European Social Fund to people in Rhondda Cynon Taf? OAQ(4)0372(FIN)

10. Janet Finch–Saunders (Aberconwy): Will the Minister make a statement on public procurement in Wales? OAQ(4)0378(FIN)

11. Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire): Will the Minister make a statement on what action the Welsh Government is taking to deliver value for money across all Welsh Government departments? OAQ(4)0363(FIN)

12. Leighton Andrews (Rhondda): Will the Minister make a statement on the next round of European funding? OAQ(4)0365(FIN)

13. Alun Ffred Jones (Arfon): Will the Minister make a statement on the devolution of financial powers? OAQ(4)0368(FIN)W

14. Julie James (Swansea West): What progress has the Minister made in encouraging the use of the National Procurement Service for Wales? OAQ(4)0369(FIN)

15. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire): Will the Minister make a statement on the additional funding allocation to the Health and Social Services portfolio in the second supplementary budget 2013–14? OAQ(4)0376(FIN)

To ask the Minister for Local Government and Government Business

1. Mike Hedges (Swansea East): Will the Minister outline how many No–Cold Calling Zones are in operation throughout Wales? OAQ(4)0375(LG)

2. Keith Davies (Llanelli): Will the Minister provide an update on Local Government funding in Wales? OAQ(4)0391(LG)W

3. Angela Burns (Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire): Will the Minister outline how local authorities are monitored with regard to the implementation of Welsh Government policy? OAQ(4)0383(LG)

4. Simon Thomas (Mid and West Wales): Will the Minister undertake a cost–benefit analysis of the recommendations of the Williams Commission? OAQ(4)0381(LG)W

5. Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Carmarthen East and Dinefwr): What discussions has the Minister had with local authority leaders regarding their audit processes? OAQ(4)0385(LG)

6. Rhun ap Iorwerth (Ynys Môn): Will the Minister make a statement on delivering value for money across local government? OAQ(4)0382(LG)W

7. Jenny Rathbone (Cardiff Central): What action can the Welsh Government take to protect girls from Female Genital Mutilation? OAQ(4)0380(LG)

8. Bethan Jenkins (South Wales West): What advice has the Welsh Government issued to local authorities regarding the reduction of residential street lighting levels as a cost saving measure? OAQ(4)0390(LG)

9. Bethan Jenkins (South Wales West): How does the Welsh Government ensure local authorities achieve maximum value for money from the funding they receive? OAQ(4)0376(LG)

10. Elin Jones (Ceredigion): What discussions has the Minister had regarding financial pressures on rural local authorities? OAQ(4)0386(LG)

11. Leighton Andrews (Rhondda): Will the Minister make a statement on local government reorganisation? OAQ(4)0377(LG)

12. Eluned Parrott (South Wales Central): What plans does the Minister have to ensure that local councils work together to deliver improved services over the next few years? OAQ(4)0387(LG)

13. Mark Isherwood (North Wales): Will the Minister outline Welsh Government support for local government collaboration? OAQ(4)0378(LG)

14. William Powell (Mid and West Wales): Will the Minister make a statement on the issues facing rural local authorities in Wales? OAQ(4)0388(LG)R

15. William Powell (Mid and West Wales): Will the Minister provide an update on the live internet broadcasting of Welsh local authority proceedings? OAQ(4)0389(LG)

To ask the Assembly Commission

1. Jenny Rathbone (Cardiff Central): What evaluation has been made of the performance of the ground source heat pump which serves the Senedd building? OAQ(4)0079(AC)