

# Plenary

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Meeting date:  
**Wednesday, 11 March 2015**

Meeting time:  
**13.30**

Cynulliad  
Cenedlaethol  
Cymru  
National  
Assembly for  
Wales



## Votes and Proceedings

(253)

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### **1 Questions to the Minister for Finance and Government Business**

The item started at 13.30

The first 10 questions were asked. Questions 2 and 10 were grouped together for answer. The Presiding Officer invited party spokespeople to ask questions to the Minister after Question 2.

### **2 Questions to the Minister for Public Services**

The item started at 14.15

The first 15 questions were asked. Question 2 and 10 were grouped together for answer. The Presiding Officer invited party spokespeople to ask questions to the Minister after Question 2.

### **3 Questions to the Counsel General**

The item started at 15.06

Both questions were asked.

#### **4 Debate on the Environment and Sustainability Committee's report on its inquiry into recycling in Wales**

The item started at 15.10

##### **NDM5716 Alun Ffred Jones (Arfon)**

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

Notes the report of the Environment and Sustainability Committee on its inquiry into Recycling, which was laid in the Table Office on 18 December 2014.

Note: The Welsh Government's response to the report was laid in the Table Office on 4 March 2015.

**The motion was agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.**

#### **5 Welsh Conservatives Debate**

The item started at 15.47

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

A vote was taken on the motion without amendment:

##### **NDM5717 Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire)**

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Notes the Welsh Government's lack of ambition to improve the conditions for economic growth in Wales;
2. Recognises the significant contribution of rural businesses to the Welsh economy but notes the potential for increased growth; and
3. Urges the Welsh Government to support businesses across Wales by:
  - a) Improving infrastructure, connectivity and skills throughout Wales;
  - b) enhancing the role of local authorities in their contribution to economic growth;
  - c) improving access to finance for all Welsh businesses; and

d) increasing rate exemption for all business premises with a rateable value of less than £12,000.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
11	0	38	49

The motion without amendment was not agreed.

The following amendments were tabled:

**Amendment 1 – Aled Roberts (North Wales)**

In sub-point 3c), after 'businesses' insert 'by creating a Welsh Development Bank to act as a 'one-stop shop' for business advice and access to finance and first port of call for businesses'

A vote was taken on Amendment 1:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
15	9	25	49

Amendment 1 was not agreed.

**Amendment 2 – Aled Roberts (North Wales)**

Delete sub-point 3d) and replace with:

enabling local retention of business rates in order to incentivise local economic growth.

A vote was taken on Amendment 2:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
29	0	20	49

Amendment 2 was agreed.

As amendment 2 was agreed, amendment 3 was de-selected

**Amendment 4 – Aled Roberts (North Wales)**

Add as new sub-point at end of point 3:

supporting the market towns of Wales, the traditional hubs of our communities, and base infrastructure around them.

A vote was taken on Amendment 4:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
39	9	0	48

**Amendment 4 was agreed.**

### **Amendment 5 – Elin Jones (Ceredigion)**

Add as new sub-point at end of point 3:

increasing the proportion of public sector procurement contracts that go to Welsh businesses.

A vote was taken on Amendment 5:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
49	0	0	49

**Amendment 5 was agreed.**

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

### **NDM5717 Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire)**

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Notes the Welsh Government's lack of ambition to improve the conditions for economic growth in Wales;
2. Recognises the significant contribution of rural businesses to the Welsh economy but notes the potential for increased growth; and
3. Urges the Welsh Government to support businesses across Wales by:
  - a) Improving infrastructure, connectivity and skills throughout Wales;
  - b) enhancing the role of local authorities in their contribution to economic growth;
  - c) improving access to finance for all Welsh businesses; and

d) enabling local retention of business rates in order to incentivise local economic growth.

e) supporting the market towns of Wales, the traditional hubs of our communities, and base infrastructure around them.

f) increasing the proportion of public sector procurement contracts that go to Welsh businesses.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
23	0	25	48

The motion as amended was not agreed.

## 6 Plaid Cymru Debate

The item started at 16.41

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

### NDM5718 Elin Jones (Ceredigion)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Notes the IPCC Climate Change 2014 Synthesis Report which states that:

a) "Human influence on the climate system is clear, and recent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases are the highest in history,"

b) "The atmosphere and ocean have warmed, the amounts of snow and ice have diminished, and sea level has risen" and

c) "Substantial emissions reductions over the next few decades can reduce climate risks in the 21st century and beyond, increase prospects for effective adaptation, reduce the costs and challenges of mitigation in the longer term, and contribute to climate-resilient pathways for sustainable development."

2. Calls upon the Welsh Government to introduce statutory targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Wales.

A vote was taken on the motion without amendment:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
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9	0	40	49
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**The motion without amendment was not agreed.**

**The following amendments were tabled:**

**Amendment 1 – Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)**

Delete point 2 and replace with:

Looks forward to the Environment Bill through which the Welsh Government will legislate for statutory targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

A vote was taken on Amendment 1:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
34	0	15	49

**Amendment 1 was agreed.**

**As amendment 1 was agreed, amendments 2 and 3 were de-selected**

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

**NDM5718 Elin Jones (Ceredigion)**

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Notes the IPCC Climate Change 2014 Synthesis Report which states that:

- a) "Human influence on the climate system is clear, and recent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases are the highest in history,"
- b) "The atmosphere and ocean have warmed, the amounts of snow and ice have diminished, and sea level has risen" and
- c) "Substantial emissions reductions over the next few decades can reduce climate risks in the 21st century and beyond, increase prospects for effective adaptation, reduce the costs and challenges of mitigation in the longer term, and contribute to climate-resilient pathways for sustainable development."

2. Looks forward to the Environment Bill through which the Welsh Government will legislate for statutory targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
49	0	0	49

The motion as amended was agreed.

## 7 Voting Time

The item started at 17.24

## 8 Short Debate

The item started at 17.29

### **NDM5714 Russell George (Montgomeryshire):**

The activities of National Grid in mid-Wales.

Preventing the industrialisation and destruction of Montgomeryshire.

The meeting concluded at 17.47

**The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 17 March 2015**