

Concise Minutes – Petitions Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 1 – Senedd

Meeting date: 6 October 2015

Meeting time: 09.03 – 10.15

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/3251>

Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	William Powell AM (Chair) Russell George AM Bethan Jenkins AM Joyce Watson AM
Witnesses:	
Committee Staff:	Steve George (Clerk) Kayleigh Driscoll (Deputy Clerk) Kath Thomas (Deputy Clerk) Jonathan Baxter (Researcher) Lisa Salkeld (Legal Adviser)

TRANSCRIPT

View the [meeting transcript](#) (PDF 135KB) [View as HTML](#) (105KB)

1 Introduction, apologies and substitutions

The Chair welcomed everybody to the meeting. There were no apologies.



Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales

2 New petitions

2.1 P-04-650 Scrap Local Government Councillors' Salaries

William Powell declared the following relevant interest under Standing Order 17.24A:

He is a Member of Powys County Council.

Russell George declared the following relevant interest under Standing Order 17.24A:

He is a Member of Powys County Council.

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition for the first time and agreed to:

- write to Minister asking him to clarify some of the issues raised in the wording of the petition; and
- await the petitioner's views on the Minister's original letter.

2.2 P-04-652 Android and iOS – Welsh in the 21st Century

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition for the first time and agreed to await the views of the petitioner before responding to the First Minister.

3 Updates to previous petitions

3.1 P-04-408 Child and Adolescent Eating Disorder Service

Bethan Jenkins declared the following relevant interest under Standing Order 17.24A:

She is Chair of the Cross Party Group on Eating Disorders.

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to draw together the history of the Committee's consideration of the issue and report to the Assembly before closing the petition.

3.2 P-04-492 Diagnosis of autism in children

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to:

- await the publication of the Task and Finish Group's Report; and
- in the meantime, write to the Minister asking him to provide the Committee with a timeframe for the review and to ask for his views on Professor Trevor Purl's call for further policy guidance on the relative contributions of Community Child Health/Community Paediatrics and of CAMHS.

3.3 P-04-532 Improving specialised neuromuscular services in Wales

Bethan Jenkins declared the following relevant interest under Standing Order 17.24A:

She is Chair of the Cross Party Group on Muscular Dystrophy and Neuromuscular Conditions.

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to:

- Pursue with Health Boards how the benefits of additional neuromuscular consultant time (as identified by ABMU in particular) can be realised across Wales; and
- write to the Health and Social Care Committee asking them to consider the issue as part of their forward work programme.

3.4 P-04-640 Bring Down the Age of Smears to 18

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to:

- give the petitioner more time to comment on the substantial information provided by the UK National Screening Committee; and
- seek her views on the recent letter from the Minister for Health and Social Services.

3.5 P-04-539 Save Cardiff Coal Exchange

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to await comments from the petitioner before considering further steps.

3.6 P-04-544 Ban the Shooting of Greenland White-fronted Geese

Joyce Watson declared the following relevant interest under Standing Order 17.24A:

She is involved with a number of groups who are in support of the petition.

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to:

- await comments from the petitioners; and
- close the petition if none are forthcoming in the next 6 weeks.

3.7 P-04-632 Mynyddoedd Pawb

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to:

- write to the Deputy Minister asking for his comments on the generally very supportive comments of the Welsh language Commissioner and the Chair of RCAHMW; and
 - ask whether he has been in discussion with any other Ministers on the issue.
- pass the correspondence received on to the Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee for them to be aware of and take into account in their consideration of the Historic Environment (Wales) Bill;
- seek outstanding responses from Visit Wales and the Wales Tourism Alliance; and
- make the petitioners aware that they are able to contact other Assembly Members and Members of the Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee given their consideration of the Historic Environment (Wales) Bill.

4 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for the following business:

The motion was agreed.

5 Review of the National Assembly for Wales Petitions System

The Committee considered progress on the review of the petitions system.