

Concise Minutes – Petitions Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 1 – Senedd

Meeting date: 10 November 2015

Meeting time: 09.33 – 10.51

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/3289>

Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	William Powell AM (Chair) Russell George AM Bethan Jenkins AM Joyce Watson AM
Witnesses:	Huw Lewis AM, The Minister for Education and Skills Carol Mooney, Welsh Government Emma Williams, Welsh Government
Committee Staff:	Steve George (Clerk) Kath Thomas (Deputy Clerk) Gill Eveleigh (Deputy Clerk) Lisa Salkeld (Legal Adviser)

TRANSCRIPT

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1 Introduction, apologies and substitutions

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



Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

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Wales

2 New petitions

2.1 P-04-656 Establishing a Conscientious Objectors Day in Wales

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

She is Chair of the Cross Party Group on Human Rights and Peace

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to:

- Write to the First Minister to ask what the Welsh Government does to commemorate 15 May and whether it would consider doing more to mark the day.
- Write to the Presiding Officer as Chair of the Assembly Commission to ask whether there are any Assembly events that commemorate 15 May and whether consideration could be given to doing more to mark the day.

3 Updates to previous petitions

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

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and, given that the petitioner has indicated that he is generally satisfied with the First Minister's response, agreed to close it.

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

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

He gave procedural advice to associates of the petitioner during a visit to the Dyfi Centre.

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to write to the Minister asking him what action Welsh Government will take should the numbers of Greenland White-fronted Geese drop below the level that should trigger action under the African-European Water Bird Agreement, referred to by the petitioners.

3.3 P-04-619 LOCALISM IN PLANNING and COMPENSATION FOR THIRD PARTIES RE. INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

The Committee considered correspondence from the petitioner and agreed to close the petition, given that the issue has been specifically considered and disposed of in the Assembly's consideration of the Planning (Wales) Bill, and therefore there is little more the Committee can do to take the matter forward.

3.4 P-04-648 Unconventional Oil and Gas Planning Applications

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to write to the Minister, asking him to:

- note the Committee's interest in this matter;
- provide further details of the expected timeline for reporting to the Assembly; and
- write to the Committee again with further information at the time he reports to the Assembly.

3.5 P-04-556 No to Junction 41 closure

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to:

- seek the Minister's views on the petitioner's interim comments; and
- as requested, allow the petitioner further time to consult members of the Action Group and consider any supplementary comments at a later date.

3.6 P-04-578 Noise Mitigation Works on the M4 to the West of Junction 32

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to close the petition and in doing so to advise the petitioner that other matters raised in her most recent letter should possibly be taken up with her local authority.

3.7 P-04-633 To Raise Awareness of the Poor Broadband in Our Area

The Committee agreed to allow the petitioners further time to provide comments on the Deputy Minister's correspondence.

3.8 P-04-397 Living Wage

William Powell 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 and agreed to write to the Minister seeking his views on the petitioners' latest comments and for a further update on progress including the latest consideration by the Workforce Partnership Council.

Having concluded its consideration of new and existing petitions, the Committee agreed to adjourn at 10.07 and re-convene at 10.25 for an evidence session with the Minister for Education and Skills.

3.9 P-04-576 Allow Children in Wales to Have a Family Holiday During Term Time

3.10 P-04-606 Ensure schools exercise their statutory powers under regulation 7 of The Education (Pupil Registration) (Wales) Regulations 2010 without interference or bias.

The Minister answered questions from the Committee.