

# Concise Minutes – Petitions Committee

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Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 1 – Senedd

Meeting date: 8 March 2016

Meeting time: 09.06 – 10.21

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/3390>

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## Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	William Powell AM (Chair) Russell George AM Bethan Jenkins AM Joyce Watson AM
Witnesses:	
Committee Staff:	Steve George (Clerk) Kath Thomas (Deputy Clerk) Katie Wyatt (Legal Adviser)

## TRANSCRIPT

View the [meeting transcript](#).

### 1 Introduction, apologies and substitutions

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



Cynulliad  
Cenedlaethol  
Cymru

National  
Assembly for  
Wales

## **2 New petitions**

### **2.1 P-04-681 Allow Public Recording of Local Government Meetings In Wales**

The Committee considered the petition for the first time and agreed to await a response from the petitioner to allow the incoming Committee the opportunity to consider the petition further.

### **2.2 P-04-682 Routine Screening for Type 1 Diabetes in Children and Young People**

The Committee considered the petition for the first time and:

- noted that the Minister has undertaken to write to the Committee again once he has received advice from the all-Wales paediatric diabetes network;
- agreed to write to the Minister to ask why he had reached the conclusion that “Prompt diagnosis once an individual shows signs of type 1 diabetes is a more effective approach” and also to ask whether he or his officials would be prepared to meet with the petitioner;
- agreed to request a research paper on the approach of each health board to testing for type 1 diabetes amongst children and young people; and
- agreed to ask the incoming Health Committee if they would consider including this issue on its forward work programme for the 5<sup>th</sup> Assembly.

### **2.3 P-04-683 Trees in Towns**

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

- await further comments from the petitioner and ask the incoming Committee to consider the petition further when it is available;
- draw the petitioner’s attention to the final paragraph of the Minister’s response, where he suggests that they might contact local authorities in Wales to develop the benefits of urban and community tree planting and help them put forward funding applications for this purpose, particularly in the context of the implementation of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Planning (Wales) Act 2015.

## **2.4 P-04-684 We Demand Better more Effective Welsh HMO Planning Laws and a New Use Classes Order**

The Committee considered the petition for the first time and agreed to write to the Minister asking him to respond to the petitioner's further comments.

### **3 Updates to previous petitions**

#### **3.1 P-04-660 Additional Pressures on Funding for Education Provision Faced by Sparsely Populated Areas**

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

He is a registered supporter of the Save Powys Schools campaign and is actively involved in one of their sub campaigns.

Russell George declared the following 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 asking for his comments on the additional information and questions raised by the petitioner and also why the Welsh Government does not collect or hold data on pupil movement over the Wales/England border; and
- forward details of the petition to the Committee tasked with scrutinising the Local Government (Wales) Bill when it is introduced, so that they can take the issues raised into consideration.

#### **3.2 P-04-637 To Protect the Future of Youth Music in Wales**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to:

- write again to the WJEC seeking the outstanding response to previous correspondence;
- write to the WLGA to seek information on how local authorities are taking forward the recommendations of the Music Services Task and Finish Group; and

- write to the Minister to ask him to respond to the petitioners' further comments and also the basis for his decision not to use some of the available funds to protect music provision in schools.

### **3.3 P-04-522 Asbestos in Schools**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to:

- seek the Minister's views on the petitioner's further comments; and
- request a summary of the work already undertaken to inform the consideration of the incoming Committee.

### **3.4 P-04-620 Reintroduce the National Speed Limit on the Cardigan Bypass**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to ask the Minister to inform the Committee or its successor of her final decision on the proposed traffic order and that once this has been received, the petition can be closed as it marks the end of a statutory process.

### **3.5 P-04-617 Stop the Wholesale Hiving off of Public Libraries to the Voluntary Sector**

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

He is a founder member of the Small Town Library Access Group.

Members considered correspondence from the petitioner and, given that they felt they had taken the petition as far as they could, agreed to close it.

### **3.6 P-04-572 Grants for Flood Resilience**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to:

- Await the responses from the Minister and Natural Resources Wales;
- Ask the incoming Environment Committee to consider the issues raised by the petition or, depending on their response;
- Ask the incoming Committee to consider carrying out a piece of work itself on the issues raised by the petition.

### **3.7 P-04-595 Foresight Pathway**

The Committee considered further correspondence from the petitioner and, given that they had done all they could to take the matter forward, agreed to close the petition.

### **3.8 P-04-477 Support for the Control of Dogs (Wales) Bill**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition from the petitioner and Julie Morgan, AM and agreed to keep the petition open until the RSPCA's review on responsible dog ownership has been published.

### **3.9 P-04-532 Improving Specialised Neuromuscular Services in Wales**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to:

- ask the incoming Health Committee to consider the issues raised by the petition and to share the Health Boards' correspondence with them and, depending on their decision;
- advise the incoming Petitions Committee to undertake a short piece of work on the matter.

### **3.10 P-04-436: Government Expenditure and Revenue Wales**

The Committee considered correspondence from the Minister for Finance and Government Business and agreed to ask the petitioner for his comments.