

## Agenda – Plenary

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Meeting Venue:

Y Siambr – Y Senedd

Meeting date: 23 September 2015

Meeting time: 13.30

**(285)v2**

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### **1 Questions to the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport**

(45 mins)

The Presiding Officer will call Party Spokespeople to ask questions without notice to the Minister after Question 2.

[View Questions](#)

### **2 Questions to the Counsel General**

(15 mins)

[View Questions](#)

### **3 Questions to the Assembly Commission**

(15 mins)

[View Questions](#)

### **4 Welsh Conservatives Debate**

(60 mins)

**NDM5825 Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire)**



To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Regrets that recent Local Data Company statistics put Wales's town vacancy rate at 15.6 per cent, by far the highest in the UK;
2. Regrets the Welsh Government's persistent failure to promote high streets and town centres, help small businesses and ensure job creation; and
3. Calls on the Welsh Government to seriously consider the proposals outlined in the Welsh Conservative documents 'A Vision for the Welsh High Street' and 'Invest Wales' which would help SMEs and regenerate our high streets.

['A Vision for the Welsh High Street'](#)

['Invest Wales'](#).

**The following amendments have been tabled:**

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

Insert as new point 3 and renumber accordingly:

Calls on the Welsh Government to help boost footfall in high streets by ensuring public and active transport links are properly accessible; applying business rates to out of town retail unit car parks; and encouraging local authorities to trial limited free parking to support struggling high streets.

**Amendment 2 – Elin Jones (Ceredigion)**

Add as new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Government to encourage local authorities to work on diversifying their high streets in order to increase footfall.

### **Amendment 3 – Elin Jones (Ceredigion)**

Add as new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Government to consider a wide range of measures to help small businesses, including those on the high street, to include easing access to finance and extending business rate relief.

## **5 Plaid Cymru Debate**

(60 mins)

### **NDM5827 Elin Jones (Ceredigion)**

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Supports a strong media as an integral element of a free and fully-functioning democracy in Wales;
2. Recognises the significant impact of the media and creative industries on the Welsh economy;
3. Is concerned about the UK Government's current proposals for the BBC ahead of its charter renewal in 2016 with particular regard to broadcasting in both English and Welsh and a strong BBC Wales and S4C;
4. Calls upon its committees to inquire into and act upon fundamental changes to the media industry in order to support its democratic functions in Wales; and
5. Re-establishes a broadcasting sub-committee in order to formulate a view and position on the BBC Charter Renewal as soon as possible.

**The following amendments have been tabled:**

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

Insert as new point 3 and renumber accordingly:

Calls on the Welsh Government to work with the UK Government to ensure the financial stability and editorial independence of S4C.

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

Delete point 5 and replace with:

Welcomes the agreement of the Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee to undertake an inquiry into the BBC charter review.

**6 Welsh Liberal Democrats Debate**

(60 mins)

**NDM5826 Aled Roberts (North Wales)**

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Recognises the importance of the Supporting People Programme which offers invaluable support for vulnerable people to live independently within their community and to end social exclusion;
2. Notes that last year the programme supported over 60,000 people in Wales including those who are homeless, at risk of domestic violence, elderly, disabled, or have complex needs;

3. Notes that the Supporting People Programme had an 8.3 per cent real terms cut in funding between 2014–15 and 2015–16.

4. Calls on the Welsh Government to:

a) review the administration and monitoring requirements of the Supporting People programme to ensure that funding is prioritised for front–line provision; and

b) protect the Supporting People grant within the 2016–17 Welsh Government budget.

**The following amendment has been tabled:**

**Amendment 1 – Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire)**

Add as new point at end of motion:

Notes that the Supporting People programme reduces unnecessary pressures on statutory services such as health and social services and that it is estimated that every £1 invested in this programme can save up to £2.30 for the public purse.

## **7 Voting Time**

## **8 Short Debate – Withdrawn**

(0 mins)

**NDM5824 Bethan Jenkins (South Wales West):** Righting an historical wrong: the case of Linda Lewis

Calls for a fresh inquiry into Linda Lewis, a mother falsely accused.

The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 29 September 2015

# Agenda Item 1

## Oral Assembly Questions tabled on 16 September 2015 for answer on 23 September 2015

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 Economy, Science and Transport

The Presiding Officer will call Party Spokespeople to ask questions without notice to the Minister after Question 2.

1. **David Rees (Aberavon):** Will the Minister make a statement on the future of Junction 41 of the M4 at Port Talbot? OAQ(4)0616(EST)
2. **Gwyn Price (Islwyn):** Will the Minister make a statement on road casualties in Wales? OAQ(4)0604(EST)
3. **Keith Davies (Llanelli):** Will the Minister provide an update on city region boards? OAQ(4)0617(EST)W
4. **Jenny Rathbone (Cardiff Central):** What progress has been made on the Cardiff eastern bay link road project? OAQ(4)0609(EST)
5. **Dafydd Elis-Thomas (Dwyfor Meirionnydd):** Will the Minister make a statement on progress in relation to the TrawsCymru T bus network? OAQ(4)0608(EST)W
6. **Julie Morgan (Cardiff North):** What plans does the Minister have to increase the use of public transport in Wales? OAQ(4)0615(EST)
7. **Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire):** What is the Welsh Government doing to support the economy of west Wales? OAQ(4)0600(EST)
8. **Russell George (Montgomeryshire):** Will the Minister make a statement on road safety in mid Wales? OAQ(4)0614(EST)
9. **Peter Black (South Wales West):** Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Government's policy towards improving the rail network in Wales? OAQ(4)0601(EST)
10. **Joyce Watson (Mid and West Wales):** Will the Minister provide an update on communications between the Welsh Government and Network Rail? OAQ(4)0618(EST)
11. **Simon Thomas (Mid and West Wales):** What discussions has the Minister held with Pembrokeshire County Council regarding tolls on the Cleddau bridge? OAQ(4)0613(EST)W

**12. Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** Will the Minister make a statement on Welsh Government support for Cardiff Airport?  
OAQ(4)0606(EST)

**13. Darren Millar (Clwyd West):** Will the Minister make a statement on highway safety on the trunk road network? OAQ(4)0602(EST)

**14. Mark Isherwood (North Wales):** Will the Minister outline the Welsh Government's support for holiday lettings in Wales? OAQ(4)0612(EST)

**15. Mark Isherwood (North Wales):** Will the Minister outline the Welsh Government's economic strategy to raise prosperity in Wales?  
OAQ(4)0611(EST)

### **To ask the Counsel General**

**1. Simon Thomas (Mid and West Wales):** What discussions has the Counsel General held with other law officers regarding the effect of the Trade Union Bill on Welsh legislation? OAQ(4)0081(CG)W

**2. Simon Thomas (Mid and West Wales):** How does the Counsel General help the public to understand more about Welsh laws?  
OAQ(4)0082(CG)W

### **To ask the Assembly Commission**

**1. Russell George (Montgomeryshire):** Will the Assembly Commission make a statement on difficulties encountered with the assembly.wales email address when subscribing to other websites? OAQ(4)0088(AC)