

# Concise Minutes – Petitions Committee

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Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 1 – Senedd

Meeting date: Tuesday, 21 March 2017

Meeting time: 09.00 – 10.44

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/3947>

## Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	Mike Hedges AM (Chair) Gareth Bennett AM Angela Burns AM Neil McEvoy AM
Witnesses:	Simon Cursio, First Cymru Joe Graham, Great Western Railway Margaret Hickish MBE, Network Rail Barry Lloyd, Arriva Trains Wales Geraint Morgan, Arriva Trains Wales Cynthia Ogbonna, Cardiff Bus John Pockett, Confederation of Passenger Transport
Committee Staff:	Graeme Francis (Clerk) Kayleigh Driscoll (Deputy Clerk) Kath Thomas (Deputy Clerk) Sam Mason (Legal Adviser)



## Transcript

View the meeting [transcript](#) (PDF 561KB) [View as HTML](#) (221KB)

### **1 Introduction, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest**

The Chair welcomed everyone to meeting. Angela Burns attended in place of Janet Finch-Saunders.

### **2 New petitions**

#### **2.1 P-05-745 Increased provision for off road motorsports**

The Committee considered the petition for the first time and agreed to await the outcome of the petitioner's meeting with Welsh Government officials before considering how to progress the petition.

#### **2.2 P-05-746 Free School Transport for All Children in Wales**

The Committee considered the petition for the first time and agreed to await the petitioner's views on the response from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure before considering how to progress the petition.

#### **2.3 P-05-747 TB testing of cattle**

The Committee considered the petition for the first time and agreed to await the view of the petitioner in response to the letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Environment & Rural Affairs before considering how to progress the petition.

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

#### **3.1 P-04-479 Tywyn Memorial Hospital X-ray & Minor Injuries Unit Petition**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and, given the petitioners' satisfaction with the commitments made regarding the provision of services, agreed to close the petition. Members also wished to congratulate the petitioners on the successful outcome of their petition.

### **3.2 P-05-697 45000 Reasons Wales Needs a Dementia Strategy**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and, given that the main aim of the petition is now being met, agreed to close the petition. In doing so, Members also wished to thank the petitioners for their engagement with the petitions process.

### **3.3 P-05-732 Unacceptable Waiting Times for NHS patients in A & E**

#### **Wrecsam/Wrexham Maelor Hospital**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to await the view of the petitioner in response to the correspondence from the Welsh Government and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board before considering how best to progress the petition.

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

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to write to the Cabinet Secretary for Education to ask whether any further steps have been taken in relation to this issue in response to the information received from local authorities, since the last correspondence between the Committee and her predecessor in February 2016.

### **3.5 P-04-628 To improve access to Education and services in British Sign Language**

Mike Hedges declared the following relevant interest under Standing Order 17.24A:

His sister is profoundly deaf and he has had some involvement with the petitioners but not in relation to this specific petition.

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to ask the petitioners, the WLGA and the Minister for Lifelong Learning and Welsh Language to come in to give evidence to the Committee at a future meeting.

### **3.6 P-05-727 Funding for the Education Workforce Council Registration (EWC) Fee for Learning Support Workers in Schools**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to close the petition given that the primary subject of the original petition, which was the subsidy level for 2017/18, has been resolved.

### **3.7 P-05-701 Road Safety Improvements Along the A487 Trunk Road between Cardigan and Aberystwyth, to Include Passing Places**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to contact the petitioner to ask if he has any further comments on the information received from the Welsh Government.

### **3.8 P-05-721 Penegoes Speed Limit Petition**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to write to the Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure to seek an update on the outcome of the petitioners' discussion with Welsh Government officials.

### **3.9 P-05-734 Ban Letting Agent Fees to Tenants**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to:

- await a response from the Equalities, Local Government and Communities Committee as to whether they intend to conduct further work on this issue, before deciding on how to progress the petition; and
- ask the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children when he intends to make a statement on the issue.

## **4 Evidence Session – P-05-710 Ensure Disabled People can Access Public Transport As and When They Need it**

The witnesses answered questions from the Committee.