Petitions Committee

Meeting Venue: Committee Room 1 - Senedd

Meeting date: Tuesday, 27 September 2011

Meeting time: 09:15 - 10:10

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

National Assembly for Wales



Concise Minutes:		
Assembly Members:	William Powell (Chair) Russell George	
	Bethan Jenkins Joyce Watson	

Witnesses:

Committee Staff:

Abigail Phillips (Clerk)
Sarita Marshall (Deputy Clerk)
Helen Roberts (Legal Advisor)

1. Introduction, apologies and substitutions

The Chair welcomed Committee Members and members of the public.

There were no apologies.

2. New petitions

2.1 P-04-329 Control of noise nuisance from wind turbines

The Committee considered this petition for the first time.

Actions

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of this issue until the call for evidence closes on 3 November.

The Committee agreed to write to the Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Committee to ask that the petition be considered as part of its inquiry into energy policy and planning.

The Clerking team to provide the Committee with the terms of reference for the Environment and Sustainability Committee's inquiry into energy policy and planning.

2.2 P-04-330 A Welsh-language Record in our Assembly

The Committee considered this petition for the first time.

Actions

The Committee agreed to await a response from the Presiding Officer to the letter from the Chair seeking initial views.

The Committee also agreed to write to the Commissioner responsible for the Assembly Commission's Welsh language functions and policy, Rhodri Glyn Thomas AM, to seek his views on the petition.

2.3 P-04-331 Filming and Recording of Council Meetings

The Committee considered this petition for the first time.

The Chair declared an interest in the subject of this petition, having issued a statement of opinion on a related subjected in the past.

Actions

The Clerking team to check whether the public and outside bodies are permitted to reuse SeneddTV footage.

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of this issue until the call for evidence closes on 3 November.

2.4 P-04-332 Local Authority Spending Details over £500

The Committee considered this petition for the first time.

Actions

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of this issue until the call for evidence closes on 3 November.

3. Updates to previous petitions

3.1 P-03-150 National Cancer Standards

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Actions

The Committee agreed to write to the Minister for Health and Social Services seeking a timetable for the publication of the national delivery plan for cancer.

The Committee agreed to invite the Minister for Health and Social Services to give oral evidence on compliance once the national delivery plan is complete.

3.2 P-03-136 Parking in Heath and Birchgrove

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Joyce Watson declared an interest as her daughter works at the University Hospital of Wales.

Actions

The Committee agreed to invite the Minister to give oral evidence on how the sustainable travel plans will be achieved and monitored.

3.3 P-03-219 Pharmacies in Barry

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Actions

The Committee agreed to close the petition and encourage the petitioners to respond to the Government's consultation on the issue.

3.4 P-03-221 Improved NHS Chiropody Treatment

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Actions

The Committee agreed to invite the Minister for Health and Social Services to give oral evidence on this issue.

3.5 P-03-222 National Osteoporosis Society

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Actions

The Committee agreed to request a copy of the cost benefit analysis undertaken by the National Osteoporosis Society.

The Committee agreed to invite the Minister for Health and Social Services to give oral evidence on this issue.

3.6 P-04-327 Keep Our Community Hospital

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Action

The Committee agreed to close the petition.

3.7 P-03-301 Equality for the transgender community

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Actions

The Committee agreed to await the results of the review of the Wales Gender Dysphoria policy currently being undertaken by the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee.

The Committee also agreed to suggest to the petitioners that they contact WHSCC in order to feed into that review.

3.8 P-03-292 Public Toilet Provision

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Actions

The Committee agreed to await the outcome of the Health and Social Care Committee's consideration of its future work programme.

The Committee also agreed to write to the Chair of the Enterprise and Business Committee to see whether the petition could be considered as part of the Committee inquiry into town centre regeneration.

The Clerking team to provide the Committee with the terms of reference for the Enterprise and Business Committee's inquiry into town centre regeneration.

3.9 P-03-162 Road Safety in Llanspyddid

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Actions

The Committee agreed to write to the Minister for Local Government and Communities to enquire why roadside lighting has not been included in the road safety improvements made in Llanspyddid.

3.10 P-03-316 Make maintenance of existing School Crossing Patrols a non-negotiable part of WAG Transport Grant to local councils

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Actions

The Committee agreed to close the petition.

3.11 P-03-273 Transportation of Wind Turbines in Mid Wales

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Actions

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of the petition until the outcomes of the Environment and Sustainability's inquiry into energy policy and planning are known.

3.12 P-03-302 Compost processing plant

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Actions

The Committee agreed to close the petition with a recommendation that the Minister be regularly apprised of the ongoing situation.

3.13 P-04-324 Say No to Tan 8 - Windfarms & High Voltage Power Lines Spoiling our Community

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Actions

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of the petition until the outcomes of the Environment and Sustainability's inquiry into energy policy and planning are known.

3.14 P-04-326 No to Incineration

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Actions

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of the petition until the outcomes of the Environment and Sustainability's inquiry into energy policy and planning are known.

The Committee agreed to request further details of the Environment and Sustainability's inquiry into energy policy and planning.

3.15 P-04-320 Social Housing Policy

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Actions

The Committee agreed to seek clarification from the Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage on what is meant by 'local connection' in the draft Code of Guidance on housing allocation and to forward this information to the petitioners.

3.16 P-03-124 Cysgliad

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Actions

The Committee agreed to await further correspondence from the Minister for Education and Skills.

3.17 P-03-307 Design for Innovation in Wales

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Actions

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of the petition until the outcomes of the Enterprise and Business Committee's inquiry into the regeneration of town centres are known.

3.18 P-03-271 Business Rates in Narberth

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Actions

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of the petition until the outcomes of the Enterprise and Business Committee's inquiry into the regeneration of town centres are known.

3.19 P-03-286 Ceredigion Business Rates

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Actions

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of the petition until the outcomes of the Enterprise and Business Committee's inquiry into the regeneration of town centres are known.

3.20 P-03-204 Public Accountability and Consultation in HE

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Actions

The Committee agreed to close the petition and recommend that the petitioners raise any further concerns with their constituency and regional Assembly Members once the Minister for Education and Skills has published his response to the Review of Higher Education Governance in Wales.

3.21 P-03-236 The Charter for Grandchildren

The Committee considered an update to this petition.

Actions

The Committee agreed to await the final report on the Family Justice Review and the Welsh Government's response to it.

3.22 Chair's Items

The Chair thanked the Clerking team for their work over the summer recess on the Committee's new ways of working and the Outreach team for supporting the Committee's presence in the Royal Welsh Show and the National Eisteddfod.

It was noted that the Committee will now be undertaking consultations on many of the petitions received.

Transcript

To view the meeting transcript, click here.