

Petitions Committee

Meeting Venue:
Committee Room 1 – Senedd

Meeting date:
15 November 2011

Meeting time:
09:30

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



For further information please contact:

Abigail Phillips
Committee Clerk
029 2089 8393
Petition@cymru.gov.uk

Agenda

- 1. Introduction, apologies and substitutions 09:30**
- 2. New petitions 09:30–09:40**
 - 2.1 P-04-341 Waste and Incineration (Page 1)
 - 2.2 P-04-342 MS Nurses (Page 2)
 - 2.3 P-04-343 Prevent the destruction of amenities on common land – Anglesey (Page 3)
- 3. Updates to previous petitions 09:40–10:45**

Equality

- 3.1 P-03-144 Guide Dogs for the Blind – Shared Space (Page 4)
- 3.2 P-03-170 To increase the number of people with a learning disability employed by the public sector in Wales (Pages 5 – 10)

Education and Skills

- 3.3 P-03-298 Financing the provision of Welsh-language Provision for People with Dyslexia (Pages 11 – 13)
- 3.4 P-04-325 Funding for People with a Learning Disability to access mainstream post-16 education (Pages 14 – 17)

Housing, Regeneration and Heritage

- 3.5 P-04-320 Social Housing Policy (Pages 18 – 19)
- 3.6 P-04-336 A Welsh-language daily newspaper for Wales (Pages 20 – 22)

Environment and Sustainable Development

- 3.7 P-04-329 Control of Noise Nuisance from Wind Turbines (Pages 23 – 25)

Local Government and Communities

- 3.8 P-03-162 Road Safety in Llanspyddid (Pages 26 – 27)
- 3.9 P-03-304 Amendment to the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008 (Pages 28 – 29)
- 3.10 P-04-331 Filming and Recording of Council Meetings (Pages 30 – 31)
- 3.11 P-04-332 Local Authority Spending Details over £500 (Pages 32 – 33)

Health and Social Services

- 3.12 P-03-085 Surgeries in Flintshire (Pages 34 – 35)
- 3.13 P-03-295 Kyle Beere – Paediatric Neuro Rehabilitation Services (Pages 36 – 38)
- 4. **Paper to Note – P-04-337 Tenovus: Free sunscreen** (Pages 39 – 40)

P-04-341 Waste and Incineration

Petition wording

We call upon the National Assembly to urge the Welsh Government to review

1. Prosiect Gwyrdd, which is against WAG policy of localised facilities, and allow our councils to choose their own waste technology and waste management procurement;
2. The flawed Wales waste survey that only gave people a 2 choice option on waste disposal;
3. By 2020, make it illegal to burn recyclable waste which would promote councils to recycle.

Petition raised by: Terry Evans

Number of signatures: 21 (an associated petition collected another 13,286 signatures)

Agenda Item 2.2

PET(4)-06-11 p2a

P-04-342 MS Nurse

Petition wording

We, the undersigned, believe that MS specialist nurses provide a vital service for people living with MS and their families and should be protected from Health Board cuts. We therefore call on the Welsh Government to ensure that the numbers of MS specialist nurses are not reduced over the length of the Fourth Assembly and that investment continues to provide 1 nurse for every 300 people living with MS.

Petition raised by: Joseph Carter

Number of signatures: 342

P-04-343 Prevent the destruction of amenities on common land - Anglesey

Petition wording

We call upon the Welsh Government to examine ways to prevent the destruction of amenities on common land, including for example the Marian Common in Llangoed, Ynys Môn.

Petition raised by: JE Futter

Number of signatures: 156

Agenda Item 3.1

PET(4)-06-11 p4a

P-03-144 Guide Dogs for the Blind Petition Petition Wording

We, the undersigned representatives, petition the National Assembly for Wales to lay specific responsibility on local authorities to be aware of their duties under the Disability Discrimination Act and Disability Equality Duty, and comply with them by not creating town centres, high streets and residential streets with shared surfaces that discriminate against blind and partially sighted and other disabled people, effectively excluding them from the street environment.

Link to petition: <http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/admissible-pet/p-03-144.htm>

Petition raised by: Guide Dogs for the Blind

Number of signatures: 10

PET(4)-06-11 p5a

P-03-170 MENCAP Cymru – Petition to increase the number of people with a learning difficulty employed by the public sector in Wales.

Petition wording

We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Assembly Commission and the Welsh Assembly Government to take a lead in employing more people with a learning disability, and to encourage other public sector employers, such as the NHS and Local Authorities, to employ more people with a learning disability

Only 1 in 10 people with a learning disability who want to work are in any form of paid employment. This is unfair.

Link to petition: <http://assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions-old/eform-sign-petition-old/p-03-170.htm>

Petition raised by: MENCAP Cymru

Number of signatures: 134



William Powell AM
Chair
Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

28 July 2011

Dear William

P-03-170 Increase the Number of People with a Learning Disability Employed by the Public Sector in Wales

Thank you for your letter of 14 July 2011 about the above petition.

Early last year, the Assembly Commission's Equality team worked with Mencap Cymru and their consortium partners to identify a suitable supported work placement opportunity for a person with a learning disability who had requested a work placement with the Assembly.

After matching up the person's skill-set with a vacancy in the Research Service, a pilot supported work placement for four hours per week began last summer. The pilot is due to finish on 19 August 2011.

The initial feedback suggests that the individual has found the paid placement to be enormously beneficial, as has the team in the Research

Bae Caerdydd
Caerdydd
CF99 1NA
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Ffôn/Tel: 029 2089 8233
E-bost/Email: Claire.Clancy@wales.gov.uk

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg/We welcome correspondence in both English and Welsh

Service. The individual undertaking the work placement provided the following for the Commission's Annual Equality Report 2010:

"I get great satisfaction from my work placement. I find the work very interesting. I now feel more confident meeting new people and am able to use this opportunity to build on my skills and social networks."

Once the pilot has come to an end on 19 August, the HR and Equality teams will conduct a review of the placement. The results of this review will inform the development of a wider strategy for future work placements/paid employment for people from under-represented groups. I have asked the Equality team to ensure that the Committee is kept informed of progress.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Claire". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Claire Clancy

**Prif Weithredwr a Chlerc/Chief Executive and Clerk
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru/National Assembly for Wales**

Leighton Andrews AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau
Minister for Education and Skills



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-03-170
Ein cyf/Our ref LA/05612/11

William Powell AM

William.powell@wales.gov.uk

29 July 2011

Dear William,

Thank you for your letter of 14 July in which you have asked for an update on the work of the Post-16 Additional Learning Needs Funding Development and Implementation Group as it relates to Mencap's petition.

The Development and Implementation Group invited Mencap Cymru to their second meeting on 1 June, at which Mencap Cymru described their supported employment model making reference to individuals' employment experiences; highlighting the role of schools in preparing disabled young people for employment together with the challenges of securing meaningful work placements.

At the 1 June meeting, Mencap Cymru offered to submit a paper to the group on good practice in terms of work experience and employment. Dr Steve Beyer from the Welsh Centre for Learning Disabilities, who is working with Mencap Cymru on their supported employment model, has also been invited onto the Group.

Yours sincerely
Leighton Andrews

Leighton Andrews AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau
Minister for Education and Skills

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Medi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Correspondence: Leighton.Andrews@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Printed on 100% recycled paper

Annwyl Sarita,

Mae'n ddrwg iawn gen i am yr oedi.

Yn dilyn ein sgwrs dydd Gwener, mae'n cyfarwyddwr, Wayne Crocker, wedi danfon yr ymateb isod i mi i ddanfon ymlaen ato chi. Fel gwelwch chi, yr ydym yn awyddus i gau'r ddeiseb oherwydd bod ein deiseb bresennol (https://www.assemblywales.org/cy/gethome/e-petitions/epetition-list-of-signatories.htm?pet_id=599) yn parhau ar yr un thema.

Rhowch ganiad i mi ar un o'r rhifau isod os hoffech drafod rhywbeth.

Yn gywir,

Rhodri

Dear Sarita,

I'm very sorry for the delay.

Following our conversation on Friday, our director, Wayne Crocker, has sent me the response below to send forward to you. As you can see, we are eager to close the petition because our current petition (https://www.assemblywales.org/cy/gethome/e-petitions/epetition-list-of-signatories.htm?pet_id=599) continues on the same theme.

Give me a ring on one of the numbers below if you want to discuss something.

Sincerely,

Rhodri

Dear William

Thank you for your letter concerning the correspondence received by the petitions committee from Leighton Andrews, Minister for Children, Education and Life long Learning.

Mencap Cymru was invited to give a presentation to the POST 16 SEN Development and Implementation Group on May 1st. I attended with Cllr Sara Pickard, a Mencap Cymru staff member who has Downs Syndrome and Lynn Preece, our head of employment and education services in Wales.

During the meeting we explained the model developed by Mencap which we believe would have a positive impact on the aspirations of young people with a learning disability to enter paid employment. One of the key elements of this model is that work needs to be done pre 16 to help develop a sense of work awareness and work aspiration among young people. Ideally Mencap Cymru would like to see programmes introduced between the 10-11 age to help embed the idea of work not only amongst the children/young people with a learning disability but also their parents and families.

We have not heard anything from the Development and Implementation group > since our meeting in May. Whilst we appreciate the opportunity to present on our ideas around supporting young people with a learning disability to find paid employment, we still hold that the wording of the original petition is crucial and that statutory bodies must take the lead of employing more disabled people.

You will be aware that we have a petition which closes on December the 4th which asks that the government develop more policies which promote the visibility and value of people with a learning disability in their communities. We believe our education/employment petition is encompassed in this current petition and would be happy for the Petitions Committee to close the previous petition accepting that there will be cross-over.

On behalf of the Mencap Cymru Committee, I thank you and the Petitions Committee for your support.

Best wishes

Wayne

Wayne Crocker
Director - Cyfarwyddwr

PET(4)-06-11 p6a

P-03-298 Financing the provision of Welsh-language resources for people with dyslexia

Petition wording

We call on the National Assembly for Wales to encourage the Welsh Government to fund Wales Dyslexia so that it can develop some of the resources that were recommended by the Enterprise and Learning Committees report, entitled Support for People with Dyslexia in Wales, which was published in July 2008, with a follow-up report published in October 2009. These include a Welsh-language screening test, dedicated and appropriate Welsh-language resources and meeting the costs of the free Wales Dyslexia helpline.

Link to petition:

<http://senedd.assemblywales.org/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=897>

Petition raised by: Wales Dyslexia

Number of signatures: 151

Supporting information:

We have made many applications to the Welsh Assembly Government for funding to allow us to take forward our work of developing resources and screening tests in Welsh. However, the Minister's response has been that funding is unavailable.

Recommendation 8 of the report that was published in July 2008, which was accepted by the Minister, states that: 'screening, assessment and support for dyslexia should be equally available in both Welsh and English, and that the Welsh Assembly Government should make additional resources available to meet the demand.'

Recommendation 2 (also accepted by the Minister) states that: 'The Committee recommends that dyslexia screening tests in both English and Welsh are available to all children at the beginning of Year 2 who are identified as having greater reading, spelling or writing difficulties compared to their peers. This must be followed by additional support and appropriate intervention by the end of the Christmas Term in Year 2 for those children who are identified as being at risk of dyslexia by the screening tests.'

Without Welsh-language resources, schools will be unable to meet the requirements of recommendation 2.

Recommendation 6 of the follow-up report published in October 2009 states that: 'we [the Committee] recommend that the Welsh

Government should fund the Welsh Dyslexia Project to run a free helpline for users in Wales, in both the Welsh and English languages.'

It should be noted that the Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills at the time, Jane Hutt AM, stated that £2 million is available for dyslexia in Wales, with £118,000 of this amount set aside for a literature review and to define dyslexia.

Dyslexia Wales proposes that the Government should agree to fund the organisation with these monies. Without this funding, there will be no equality between the provision that is already available in English and the resources that are needed in Welsh.

Leighton Andrews AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau
Minister for Education and Skills



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-03-298
Ein cyf/Our ref LA/05440/11

William Powell AM
Chair, Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

12 July 2011

Dear William,

Thank you for your letter of 29 June about financing the provision of Welsh language resources for people with dyslexia. You asked for more information on how we will take forward this issue.

My officials have made contact with Estyn to discuss the types of Welsh language materials that may be required to support this group of learners, with a view to commissioning their production.

Yours sincerely

Leighton Andrews AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau
Minister for Education and Skills

Agenda Item 3.4

PET(4)-06-11 p7a

P-04-325 Funding for People with a Learning Disability to Access Mainstream post-16 Education

Petition wording

We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Assembly Government to increase funding for people with a learning disability to access mainstream post-16 education.

Link to the petition:

<http://senedd.assemblywales.org/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=1016&Opt=0>

Petition raised by: Mencap Cymru

Number of signatures: 45 signatures.

Supporting information:

This petition serves to follow up to the Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning's statement of the 23rd November 2010, in which he pledged to increase funding that would enable SEN pupils to access mainstream, post-16 education.

The petitioners would wish to know what progress has been made in achieving this aim. The commitment to substantially increase the funding for access to mainstream education is to be strongly welcomed.

Mencap Cymru has been made aware however of at least two examples, from different areas of Wales, where young people with a learning disability have been told that they will not be able to access mainstream post-16 education due to a lack of funding. In these examples, both would be accessing said education this coming academic year (September 2011) and the decision has been made by the Local Education Authority.

Mencap Cymru also supports the principle behind the removal of statements of SEN in favour of individual development plans for people up to the age of 25.

This represents a move towards more person centred service delivery in education policy.

Worthy of mention however is that stringent monitoring of this new system needs to be in place at the time of implementation. This will ensure that the policy shift is not seen as a mechanism to exclude large numbers of people who are currently in receipt of a vital service.

Mencap Cymru believes that with the right interventions and support, the majority of people with a learning disability can access mainstream education. This is a distinctly different principle to integration whereby young people with a learning disability are granted access to slightly modified education services. Full inclusion is where all barriers to access have been removed in line with the social model of disability.

Much research and work has been done by *the Alliance for Inclusive Education* on the benefits of inclusivity. The benefits extend beyond pupils with a learning disability having person centred education. They also serve to introduce the notion of diversity into the classroom, ingratiating disabled pupils to their non-disabled peers. Further implementation of the policy of inclusion at a school stage will serve to promote inclusion in wider society in adult life.

Leighton Andrews AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau
Minister for Education and Skills



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-325
Ein cyf/Our ref LA/05437/11

William Powell AM
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

13 July 2011

Dear William,

P-04-325 Funding for People with a Learning Disability to Access Mainstream Post-16 Education

Thank you for your letter of 29 June regarding a petition submitted by Mencap Cymru urging the Welsh Government to increase funding to enable people with a learning disability to access mainstream education. I shall take this into consideration as part of the forthcoming Resource Assessment Exercise. You also requested further details on the level of funding available to support people with learning difficulties in mainstream education.

I am committed to ensuring that as many young people as possible have the opportunity to maximise their potential. In addition to funding post-16 provision in special schools, sixth form placements for learners with SEN in out-of-county schools and colleges, and bespoke further education provision, the Welsh Government also makes additional funding available to assist post-16 providers make their mainstream provision accessible.

In the financial year 2011-12 local authorities received an indicative allocation for 16-19 SEN in mainstream provision in schools of £4.45m, which is not ring-fenced and which can be allocated according to where need is greatest. In the academic year 2010/11, further education colleges received a supplementary funding allocation of £6.32m, which contributes to the cost of the additional learning support necessary to make mainstream further education provision accessible to all disabled learners over the age of 16. Also in 2010/11, £77k was allocated, on the basis of claims from work based learning providers, for additional learning support arising from the needs of disabled learners.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

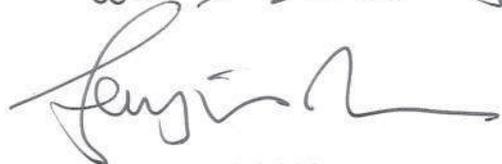
English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Correspondence.Leighton.Andrews@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

Printed on 100% recycled paper

November 2010 saw the publication of a report by the Task and Finish Group I established to consider and make recommendations on future arrangements for funding post-16 additional learning needs in schools and further education. I accepted all the recommendations made in that Group's report, which pointed to the need for greater consistency of approach across Wales, regional collaboration, more attention to value for money in the commissioning process and better planning. A Development and Implementation Group with wide ranging stakeholder representation is taking forward these recommendations and in June this group received a presentation from Mencap Cymru.

You also mention your support for the work that the Welsh Government is undertaking to consider the reform of the existing system of statementing for children and young people with SEN. One of the four pilot projects established to consider a range of alternatives to the current system, has been investigating the quality assurance of Additional Learning Needs (ALN) provision. The aim of this pilot is to develop a framework and associated processes that will allow schools to evaluate their provision for pupils with ALN and will also enable local authorities to regularly monitor and evaluate the quality of provision. The pilot scheme's framework for self-evaluation will include individual outcomes, best practice in educating pupils with ALN, and value for money. We recognise that some aspects of the quality assurance system for schools may need to be adjusted for the post-16 context. All four pilots are scheduled to end this month and an evaluation report will follow at the start of 2012.

Yours sincerely


Leighton Andrews AC / AM

Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau
Minister for Education and Skills

Agenda Item 3.5

PET(4)-06-11 p9a

P-04-320 Social Housing Policy

Petition wording

We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government to review its Social Housing policy in relation of the indigenous population of the country.

Link to petition:

<http://senedd.assemblywales.org/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Ild=924>

Petition raised by: Adam Brown

Number of signatures: 45

Supporting information:

With constant housing issues within Wales this campaign urges the Welsh Assembly Government to recognise this fact and to act by reviewing the Social Housing Policy as soon as possible. We feel that the present policy discriminates against the indigenous people of Wales on a range of issues and we also feel that local people should also have a say on who vacates any empty social accommodation in their neighbourhoods.

The people of Wales really need your help on this issue and by signing up to this petition and encouraging others to do the same will go a long way into giving them a better opportunity to call somewhere 'home'.

Huw Lewis AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth
Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-320
Ein cyf/Our ref HL/05755/11

William Powell AM
Chair, Petitions committee
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

18 October 2011

Dear William

Thank you for your further letter of 28 September regarding petition P-04-320 on social housing allocation policy. Your letter seeks clarification of the meaning of the term 'local connection' and the flexibilities local authorities have in terms of social housing allocation policy in Wales.

As previously explained, the Welsh Government has recently reviewed the *Code of Guidance for Local Authorities on Allocation of Accommodation and Homelessness*. The definition of 'local connection' in the Code of Guidance is as set out in section 199 of the Housing Act 1996. This revised guidance does not re-define the meaning of 'local connection' but reinforces the flexibility local authorities have within their allocation policies to meet local pressures.

This flexibility may include prioritising applicants in terms of local priorities, waiting time and local connection.

Local authorities requiring clarification on who qualifies as having a 'local connection' will need to seek their own legal advice as the Welsh Government is not empowered to interpret the statutes.

I hope this clarifies the position.

Best Regards
Huw

Huw Lewis AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth
Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Correspondence.huw.lewis@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

Printed on 100% recycled paper

Agenda Item 3.6

PET(4)-06-11 p10a

P-04-336 A Welsh-language daily newspaper for Wales

Petition wording

We call on the Government to award a grant to the Welsh Books Council that would enable it to support and fund a Welsh-language daily newspaper.

Link to petition: http://217.140.46.80/cmo-assistantframeset.htm?previewurl=gethome/e-petitions/petitions_under_consideration.htm

Petition raised by: Ben Screen

Number of signatures: 37

Supporting information: We need newspapers in both languages to ensure that the Government can operate democratically. How on earth can the Government govern fairly, openly and transparently if the people who voted for it do not know what it is doing? How much coverage do English-language newspapers in England give Wales? How much coverage does the English-language press in Wales give Wales? The simple answer is: not nearly enough. This situation threatens the accountability of the Government in Cardiff Bay, as well as the mindset of Welsh people and their sense of Welsh people. As a result, a subliminal message is transmitted that permeates the thinking of Welsh speakers and teaches them that Wales is not big enough or important enough to warrant coverage from the mass media. That is why people disregard the notion of a Welsh-language daily newspaper. Britishness is what is offered in these newspapers, not Welshness.

Huw Lewis AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth
Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-336
Ein cyf/Our ref HL/05784/11

William Powell AM
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

William.powell@wales.gov.uk

Dear William

November 2011

Thank you for your correspondence of 7 October in relation to the petition submitted by Ben Screen.

The Welsh Government continues to provide funding (£200,000 during the current financial year) through the Welsh Books Council, to Golwg 360 – the on-line Welsh language daily newspaper. This is in addition to the £171,000 currently being spent by the Welsh Government, through the Welsh Books Council, on Welsh-medium news and current affairs publications.

The Welsh Books Council invited interested parties to apply for the additional funding which was announced by the Welsh Government in February 2008 to provide a daily Welsh language news service. On 29 May 2008, it was announced that Golwg Ltd had won the tender. Golwg 360 was launched in May 2009.

There is no doubt that Golwg 360 has developed significantly since it was established. The number of visits to the website has increased regularly with approximately 90,000 visits a month. It has also contributed to the Welsh Government's aspiration of seeing plurality of news services in Wales.

One of the reasons Golwg had won the tender was because they offered a package which supported a new online news service as well as strengthening the weekly print *Golwg* magazine. The investment in Golwg 360 has led to job creation and training in both Golwg Newydd (the company which owns Golwg 360) and its sister company Golwg Cyf., which owns the print magazine. A total of seven posts have been created in Golwg 360, four of them journalist posts, and Golwg itself has created 1.7 new posts. The journalist training has been mostly done in-house taking advantage of the experience acquired by Golwg over many years. The majority of the jobs created are located in the Lampeter or Caernarfon areas.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Correspondence.huw.lewis@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

Printed on 100% recycled paper

The newspaper industry has changed significantly during the last few years with more emphasis on newspapers on the internet. Even during the three years since Golwg Ltd won the tender, on-line newspapers have developed to be very popular. We continue to believe that the on-line solution which emerged from the Books Council's tender process offers the best prospects for a sustainable solution.

Regards
Huw

Huw Lewis AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth
Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage

PET(4)-06-11 p11a

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

Petition wording

We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government to pass a statute controlling the noise nuisance from wind turbines during anti-social hours. We ask for the implementation of respite periods during which time turbines would be switched off.

Noise respite periods are common in public health legislation. They are called for by the World Health Organisation in their Community Noise report; and are currently implemented in the U.K. on airport operations, construction sites and factories and other evening and overnight noise nuisance.

We ask that this applies to turbines above 1.3 MW, and that respite periods be between 18.00Hrs to 06.00Hrs for turbines within 1.5 Km of individual residences; and 22.00Hrs to 06.00 Hrs for turbines within 2Km of communities. Authorities within Wales determining applications under 50MW Plate Capacity, and the Infrastructure Planning Commission determining those over 50MW should make developers aware of this Public Health restriction which may affect individual turbines.

Link to petition: http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions/epetition-closed-petition-signatories_all.htm?pet_id=595

Petition raised by: James Shepherd Foster

Number of signatures: 1074

Supporting information: In addition to human health, the measure would also protect nocturnal creatures, bats, owls, etc. Jonathan Edwards MP has called for a measure such as this. Rhodri Glyn Thomas AM has called for a measure similar to this. This would not affect, or be affected by TAN 8, because TAN 8 does not deal with health implications of turbines. Also it only requires turbine plate capacities as a value, and not the efficacy of the turbines themselves. Wales has a long history of neglect of Health and Safety issues, leading to large parts of the community having restricted lives. During development, the hearing of the young should not be left to chance, and until substantial and medically accepted research points to a relaxation of the times and distances set out in this petition, we should err on the side of caution.

John Griffiths AC /AM
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd a Datblygu Cynaliadwy
Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-329
Ein cyf/Our ref JG/06333/11

William Powell AM
Chair Petition's committee
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

6 October 2011

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

Dear William,

Petitions Committee - Control of Noise Nuisance from Wind Turbines

Thank you for your letter of 19 September. Where you asked my views on Petition P-04-329 Control of Noise Nuisance from Wind Turbines.

Noise is an issue most appropriately considered at the local level as its impacts will vary according to local circumstances. TAN 8 recognises that noise is an issue and provides detailed guidance on this.

It is for the decision maker, either the LPA or the IPC, to assess the noise impacts as part of the decision making process. Planning applications can be conditioned to make the development acceptable and restrictions on generation can be imposed via the use of planning conditions so we would refute the need for further unnecessary legislation as proposed in this petition.

I recognise that there has been much speculation surrounding the issue of noise from wind turbines, with concerns about possible health impacts often inaccurately and emotively portrayed in the media. However, independent research for the UK Government on the impacts of noise from turbines indicate that there is no evidence to support claims of negative health impacts, and that the existing guidelines do not require revision.

While we accept and stand by this research as our current evidence base, we also accept that this is a burgeoning science, and that the issue remains one of public concern. We

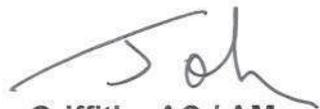
Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Correspondence: John.Griffiths@wales.gsi.gov.uk
Printed on 100% recycled paper

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

therefore welcome further evidence and discussion on wind turbine noise, to enhance our current understanding and reassure public confidence.

Best wishes,



John Griffiths AC / AM

Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd a Datblygu Cynaliadwy
Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development

Agenda Item 3.8

PET(4)-06-11 p12a

P-03-162 Road Safety in Llanspyddid

Petition wording

We, the undersigned, hereby petition the Welsh Assembly Government to improve road safety in the village of Llanspyddid, Brecon, Powys through implementation of traffic calming measures such as a reduction in the current speed limit, improved roadside lighting and improved signage on the A40.

Link to petition:

<http://www.senedd.assemblywales.org/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Ild=875>

Petition raised by: Llanspyddid Residents Association

Number of signatures: 67

Carl Sargeant AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau
Minister for Local Government and Communities



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-03-162
Ein cyf/Our ref CS/06401/11

William Powell AM
Chair Petitions Committee
committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

22ND October 2011

Dear Bill.

I am responding to your letter of 28 September regarding Petition P-03-162, Roads Safety in Llanspyddid and the lack of roadside lighting at the improvement.

The safety works at Llanspyddid were carried out in line with the work outlined in the Raglan – Llandovery Trunk Road A40 Llanspyddid Preliminary Investigation document.

New lighting would normally only be considered where there was a history of night-time traffic collisions, which is not the case in Llanspyddid.

Carl

Carl Sargeant AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau
Minister for Local Government and Communities

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Correspondence: Carl.Sargeant@wales.gsi.gov.uk
Printed on 100% recycled paper

Agenda Item 3.9

PET(4)-06-11 p13a

P-03-304 Amendment to the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008

Petition wording

We the undersigned call upon the National Assembly of Wales to urge the Welsh Government to amend the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008, so that the definition of the nearest suitable school for the purposes of provision of free/subsidised transport includes a reference to the fact that it provides the Welsh Curriculum/Cwricwlwm Cymreig.

Link to petition:

<http://www.senedd.cynulliadcymru.org/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Id=904>

Petition raised by: Arfon Jones

Number of signatures: 17

Supporting information: There are significant differences between the Welsh Curriculum and the curriculum in England for example the Foundation phase and the Welsh Bacc and the Welsh Assembly Government and the National assembly together with Welsh Local Authorities should seek to encourage parents and children to be educated in Wales and if they decline it should be a purely parental choice and Welsh LA's should be under no obligation to transport children to schools outside Wales

Rhodri,

Annhebyg iawn ydy'r Gweinidog o gefnogi y gwelliant yma, felly dydw i ddim yn gweld be yn fwy gall y Pwyllgor Deisebu ei wneud yng ngwyneb ei ymateb (digyfaddawd).

Diolch am bob help ac ymddiheuriadau i'r Cadeirydd am fethu ateb yn fwy amserol.

Yn gywir,

Arfon Jones.

Rhodri,

It is very unlikely that the Minister will support this amendment; therefore, I do not see what more the Petitions Committee can do in view of his response (which is uncompromising).

Thank you for all your help. Please send my apologies to the Chair for being unable to send a more timely response.

Yours sincerely,

Arfon Jones

Agenda Item 3.10

PET(4)-06-11 p14a

P-04-331 Filming and Recording of Council Meetings

Petition wording

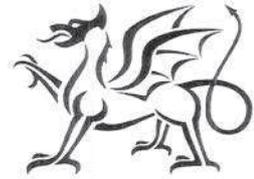
We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government to place a statutory requirement on all local authorities in Wales to record, broadcast or livestream all Council meetings which are open to the public, via their existing websites to ensure openness and transparency. This requirement should allow members of the public, as responsible observers, to record or film such meetings without the need for prior permission and to re-use the material freely to provide a direct and wider line of communication to the electorate.

Link to petition: http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions/epetition-closed-petition-signatories_all.htm?pet_id=582

Petition raised by: Jacqui Thompson

Number of signatures: 223

Carl Sargeant AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau
Minister for Local Government and Communities



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-331/332
Ein cyf/Our ref CS/06202/11

William Powell AM
Chair Petition's committee
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

10 October 2011

Thank you for your letter of 19th September.

Local authorities are obliged to allow the public entry to council meetings, unless the issues being discussed are deemed to be exempt (in the main, confidential or commercial matters). However the process that a local authority follows to allow the public access to meetings is a matter for the authority themselves, as they have to take into account the need for security in modern society.

I have placed on record my support for the principle of recording and broadcasting council meetings. Modern technology enables this possibility without prohibitive expense. It should be seen as a means of increasing public engagement with their local government. I would also encourage local authorities to allow members of the public to film their proceedings so long as, firstly, the members are aware that it is taking place and, secondly, that it can be done in a way that does not inconvenience other members of the public attending. However, I am not in favour of surreptitious filming. Nor do I have any plans to legislate on this matter.

With regard to the issue of local authority publishing details of their spending over £500, I support the key principles of openness and transparency however it is important to balance the delivery of these principles with the responsibility of each local authority to deploy its resources to provide the best value for money for its citizens and to be accountable to its local electorate for the decisions its makes.

Carl Sargeant AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau
Minister for Local Government and Communities

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)
paper

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Correspondence: Carl.Sargeant@wales.gsi.gov.uk
Printed on 100% recycled

Agenda Item 3.11

PET(4)-06-11 p15a

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

Petition wording

We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government to place a statutory requirement on all local authorities in Wales to publish details of all spending over £500 in the interest of openness and transparency. The details should be published online and in a format accessible to the public with the freedom to re-use the data.

Link to petition: http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions/epetition-closed-petition-signatories_all.htm?pet_id=582

Petition raised by: Jacqui Thompson

Number of signatures: 77

Supporting information: Many English Councils now publish this information on their websites. The information is already available on various internal council databases so would merely need to be collated centrally and in a form suitable for access and in compliance with the Data Protection Act.. Initial costs would be offset by a reduction in the volume of Freedom of Information requests received by Local Authorities concerning spending details.

Carl Sargeant AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau
Minister for Local Government and Communities



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-331/332
Ein cyf/Our ref CS/06202/11

William Powell AM
Chair Petition's committee
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

10 October 2011

Thank you for your letter of 19th September.

Local authorities are obliged to allow the public entry to council meetings, unless the issues being discussed are deemed to be exempt (in the main, confidential or commercial matters). However the process that a local authority follows to allow the public access to meetings is a matter for the authority themselves, as they have to take into account the need for security in modern society.

I have placed on record my support for the principle of recording and broadcasting council meetings. Modern technology enables this possibility without prohibitive expense. It should be seen as a means of increasing public engagement with their local government. I would also encourage local authorities to allow members of the public to film their proceedings so long as, firstly, the members are aware that it is taking place and, secondly, that it can be done in a way that does not inconvenience other members of the public attending. However, I am not in favour of surreptitious filming. Nor do I have any plans to legislate on this matter.

With regard to the issue of local authority publishing details of their spending over £500, I support the key principles of openness and transparency however it is important to balance the delivery of these principles with the responsibility of each local authority to deploy its resources to provide the best value for money for its citizens and to be accountable to its local electorate for the decisions its makes.

Carl Sargeant AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau
Minister for Local Government and Communities

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

*Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)
paper*

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Correspondence: Carl.Sargeant@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Printed on 100% recycled

Agenda Item 3.12

PET(4)-06-11 p16a

P-03-085 Surgeries in Flintshire

Petition wording

We, the doctors at the Laurels Surgery, Eyton Place Surgery and Allt Goch Medical Centre are frustrated (as we are sure you are) by our difficulties in offering enough appointments for our patients.

As you will be aware, we are totally constrained by the size of our building and desperately need to move to larger premises — preferably in a new Primary Care Centre.

Progress towards this has stopped following the recent appointment of the new Health Minister and we wish to bring our concerns to her notice.

We would ask that you sign this petition to support our efforts to have this process speeded up;

“As a patient at a GP Surgery in Flint, we would ask that our Assembly Member, Mrs Sandy Mewies, applies pressure at the Welsh Assembly Government for the development of a new Primary Care Centre as a matter of urgency.”

Link to petition:

<http://senedd.assemblywales.org/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Ild=859&optionId=0>

Petition raised by: Gillian Robinson

Number of signatures: 412



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Betsi Cadwaladr
University Health Board

Ty Matthew/Matthew House
Llys Edmund Prys,
Parc Busses Llanelwy/St Asaph Business Park,
Llanelwy, St Asaph,
Sir Dinbych/Denbighshire, LL17 0JA

Petitions Committee
Committee Service
National Assembly for Wales

Ein cyf / Our ref: GL/yel

Eich cyf / Your ref:

☎: 01745 586423

Gofynnwch am / Ask for Geoff Lang

Ffacs / Fax: 01745 582721

Geoff.Lang@wales.nhs.uk

Dyddiad/Date: 07 November 2011

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: P-03-085 Surgeries in Flintshire – A new Primary Care Centre

The Health Board attended an initial stakeholder meeting on 6th October 2011 with Flintshire County Council relating to its proposed re-development of the Town Centre. The opportunity to connect the provision of a new Primary Care Centre with this development is to be explored. This could offer the potential benefit of linking primary care with social care and other services.

We envisage a further meeting being held before the end of the year.

Yours sincerely

Geoff Lang
Director Primary Care, Community & Mental Health

Agenda Item 3.13

P-03-295 Kyle Beere – Paediatric Neuro Rehabilitation Services

Petition wording

We, the undersigned, call upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government to recognise and deliver services for the rehabilitation of brain injured children. There is currently no facility in Wales to provide this vital service. Despite there being a purpose built children's hospital being built in Cardiff, there is still no provision included in its design

Link to petition:

<http://senedd.assemblywales.org/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=892>

Petition raised by: Kyle's Goal

Number of signatures: The petition was submitted by Kyle's Goal. An associated petition collected 9,128 signatures.



GIG
NHS

Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Iechyd
Arbenigol Cymru (PGIAC)
Welsh Health Specialised
Services Committee (WHSSC)

Your ref/eich cyf: P-03-295
Our ref/ein cyf: CR/NJ/GGM
Date/dyddiad: 25 July 2011
Tel/ffôn: 01443 443 443 ext: 8131
Fax/ffacs: 029 2080 7854
Email/eboost: cerilan.rogers2@wales.nhs.uk

William Powell AM
Chair, Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Dear Mr Powell

Re: P-03-295 Paediatric Neuro-rehabilitation Services

Thank you for your letter regarding paediatric neuro-rehabilitation services. The WHSSC Annual Plan is due to be signed off formally at the meeting of the WHSSC Joint Committee on 26 July.

However funding to support the development of paediatric neuro-rehabilitation at Cardiff and Vale University Health Board was not included in the final draft of this plan. The business case that was put to us by the Health Board was not complete and, despite requests, it was not available within the timescale for the Annual Plan.

The issue will now be considered again in the formulation of WHSSC's Annual Plan for 2012/13. Plans for this service will be influenced in the future by the implications of the 'Safe and Sustainable Review of Children's neurosurgical services' in England.

The Committee may be interested to know that to date this year, no patients from Wales have had complex neuro-rehabilitation needs that have required their admission to the service at Tadworth.

Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee
Unit 3a
Caerphilly Business Park
Caerphilly
CF83 3ED

Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Iechyd Arbenigol Cymru
Uned 3a
Parc Business Caerffili
Caerffili
CF83 3ED

Chair/Cadeirydd: *Professor Mike Harmer*

Director of Specialised and Tertiary Services/Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Arbenigol a
Thrydyddol: *Dr Cerilan Rogers*

Yours sincerely



CERILAN ROGERS
Director of Specialised and Tertiary Services

Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee
Unit 3a
Caerphilly Business Park
Caerphilly
CF83 3ED

Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Iechyd Arbenigol Cymru
Uned 3a
Parc Business Caerffili
Caerffili
CF83 3ED

Chair/Cadeirydd: *Professor Mike Harmer*

Director of Specialised and Tertiary Services/Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Arbenigol a

Thyrddeol: Dr Cerilan Rogers

Lesley Griffiths AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-337
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/06663/11

William Powell AM
Chair, Petitions Committee

William.powell@wales.gov.uk

24th October 2011

Dear Bill,

Petition P-04-337 Tenovus: Free sunscreen

I am replying to your letter of 7 October in relation to the above petition.

As a Government, we are committed to promoting the need to adopt sun protection behaviours. For children we emphasise it is important to cover up and wear suitable clothing whilst outside, including wide brimmed hats and clothing which offers suitable protection from the sun. They should also be encouraged to spend time in the shade between 11am and 3pm, the hottest time of day, and wear at least a factor 15 sunscreen on exposed areas of skin when shade and protective clothing are not practical.

This broader approach has been adopted as part of the Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes, of which 99% of schools in Wales are now part of. As schools progress through the scheme they are expected to put in place a whole-school approach to a range of health issues. As part of this work the local healthy school co-ordinator would direct the school to guidance on sun safety policy provided by the SunSmart campaign.

This guidance advises schools to develop their own policy taking account of the individual needs of the school and its pupils and to consult with the whole school community including parents, school governors, Healthy School practitioners, school nurses, Health & Safety co-ordinators and pupils when looking to develop the sun protection policy. The guidelines are intended to outline ways in which the community can work towards minimising harmful effects from over exposure to the sun's ultraviolet rays. It advises schools to develop their own policy.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Correspondence.lesley.Griffiths@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Printed on 100% recycled paper

I believe this broader approach will be more effective in protecting our children from over exposure to sun.

Regards
Lesley

Lesley Griffiths AC / AM

Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services