

Plenary

Meeting date:
Wednesday, 23 November 2011

Meeting time:
13:30

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



Agenda (32)v3

1. Questions to the Minister for Finance and Leader of the House (45 mins)

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2. Questions to the Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science (45 mins)

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Urgent Question 1 (10 mins)

Peter Black (South Wales West): What action is the Minister taking following the death of two babies from an E coli infection in Swansea?

Urgent Question 2 (10 mins)

Bethan Jenkins (South Wales West): What action is the Welsh Government taking following the announcement of the closure of Swansea Coastguard Station?

3. Welsh Conservatives Debate (60 mins)

NDM4858 William Graham (South Wales East)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Recognises that:

a) investing in transport infrastructure is necessary to deliver economic growth across Wales;

b) Cardiff Airport, our international gateway, is failing to effectively market Wales and

expand its air routes and needs urgent Welsh Government support and leadership;
and

c) the Welsh Government's lack of vision or ambition for creating a world leading transport network.

2. Calls on the Welsh Government to:

a) set out a marketing programme to attract the aviation sector into Wales and review and invest in public access to Cardiff International Airport;

b) review the current service stations and truck stops along main carriageways across Wales and detail a programme of investment; and

c) review and reassess the use of European funding programmes for transport infrastructure projects across Wales.

The following amendments have been tabled:

Amendment 1 – Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

Delete sub-point 1b) and replace with:

Concerns exist that there is a need to increase the economic impact of Cardiff Airport, and to develop new air routes, and that the Welsh Government is therefore working with the owners to stimulate further business activity and enhance international connectivity.

Amendment 2 – Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

Delete sub-point 1c).

Amendment 3 – Peter Black (South Wales West)

In point 2a) before 'set' insert:

'Work with the owners of Cardiff Airport to'

Amendment 4 – Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Insert as new sub point 2b) and renumber accordingly:

b) Continue to campaign for the devolution of Air Passenger Duty to Wales;

Amendment 5 – Peter Black (South Wales West)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Calls for the Welsh government and UK government to begin work on a delivery plan for electrifying the Valleys Lines

Amendment 6 – Peter Black (South Wales West)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Government to scrap the subsidy to the North–South air–link at the earliest opportunity and to rule out subsidising additional airlines.

Amendment 7 – Peter Black (South Wales West)

Add as new point at the end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Government to engage in a dialogue with Network Rail and public transport operators to improve cross border links between North Wales and Manchester and Liverpool Airports.

Amendment 8 – Peter Black (South Wales West)

Add as new point at the end of motion:

Supports on–going work by both Swansea Council and the Welsh Government to draw up a business case to extend electrification of the main line as far as Swansea.

4. Plaid Cymru Debate (60 mins)

NDM4860 Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Acknowledges the essential role that nurses, including specialist nurses, play within the NHS.
2. Calls on the Welsh Government to:
 - a) maintain the nursing bursary scheme as it currently operates;
 - b) ensure continuous professional development in the nursing profession; and
 - c) develop an adequate network of specialist nurses.

The following amendments have been tabled:

Amendment 1 – Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

Delete sub–point 2a) and replace with:

ensure that in changing the bursary scheme for nurses the principles of equality and equity have been applied.

Amendment 2 – William Graham (South Wales East)

Insert as new sub point 2a) and renumber accordingly: ‘define and develop the role of Prescribing Nurses in Wales’.

Amendment 3 – Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

Delete sub–point 2c) and replace with:

ensure LHBs plan and maintain an adequate network of specialist nurses.

Amendment 4 – William Graham (South Wales East)

Add as new sub–point at end of point 2:

‘improve security and enhance the safe working environment for nurses.’

Amendment 5 – Peter Black (South Wales West)

Add as a new sub–point at the end of point 2:

ensure that every nurse has access to the training they require to enable them to be fully effective in their role.

5. Welsh Liberal Democrats Debate (60 mins)

NDM4859 Peter Black (South Wales West)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Notes that:

- a) the number of private empty homes in Wales currently stands at around 26,000;
- b) empty homes cause a social and environmental blight on local communities;
- c) there is an increasing demand for social housing within Wales.

2. Calls on the Welsh Government to develop an empty homes strategy which includes:

- a) assistance for councils and housing associations to make use of empty homes as social housing;
- b) allowing councils greater flexibility to impose punitive council tax rates on long term empty homes so as to encourage owners to bring them back into use and to compensate communities for the blight they impose locally;
- c) making representations to the UK government to reduce the rate of VAT on building repairs and improvement work to existing buildings;

d) exploring the possibility of providing low cost loans to owners to encourage the re-development of empty homes as affordable housing for rent.

The following amendments have been tabled:

Amendment 1 – William Graham (South Wales East)

In sub point 2a) delete ‘social housing’ and replace with ‘housing for social and intermediate rent;’

Amendment 2 – William Graham (South Wales East)

Add at end of sub point 2 b) but that requires bereaved estate situations to be handled with sensitivity;

Amendment 3 – William Graham (South Wales East)

In sub point 2c), delete all after ‘UK Government’ and replace with ‘to undertake a cost benefit analysis into the economic impact of a reduction in the rate of VAT on building repairs and improvement work to existing buildings;’

Amendment 4 – William Graham (South Wales East)

Add as new sub-point at end of point 2:

‘provision that any enforcement action should be a last resort.’

Amendment 5 – William Graham (South Wales East)

Add as new sub-point at end of point 2:

‘the development within each county of a database of long term empty homes.’

Amendment 6 – Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Add as new sub point at end of point 2:

‘publishing targets for the number of homes to be brought back into use each year.’

Voting Time

6. Short Debate (30 mins)

NDM4861 Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy):

A Charter for Grandchildren

The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at 13:30 on Tuesday, 29 November 2011