

## Agenda – Plenary

---

Meeting Venue:

Y Siambr – Y Senedd/Zoom

Meeting date:

Wednesday, 14 October 2020

Meeting time: 13.30

### 296(v4)

---

This meeting will be held in a hybrid format, with some Members in the Senedd Chamber and others joining by video-conference.

Having consulted with the Business Committee, the Llywydd has determined that in accordance with Standing Order 34.14A–D, Members will be able to vote from any location by electronic means.

The Llywydd also gives notice, in accordance with Standing Order 34.15, that the public have been excluded from attending this Plenary meeting, as is required to protect public health. The meeting will continue to be broadcast live and the record of proceedings will be published as usual.

#### 1 Questions to the Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs

(45 mins)

The Presiding Officer will call party spokespeople to ask questions without notice after Question 2.

[View Questions](#)

#### 2 Questions to the Minister for Housing and Local Government

(45 mins)

The Presiding Officer will call party spokespeople to ask questions without notice after Question 2.

[View Questions](#)

#### 3 Topical Questions

(20 mins)



## To ask the First Minister

**Adam Price (Carmarthen East and Dinefwr)** Will the First Minister make a statement following the latest news that the UK Prime Minister has rejected a further request made by the Welsh Government on 13 October relating to travel restrictions?

### **4 90 Second Statements**

(5 mins)

### **5 Member Debate under Standing Order 11.21(iv): Endometriosis**

(60 mins)

**NDM7304** [Jenny Rathbone \(Cardiff Central\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Recognises the devastating impact of endometriosis which affects one in 10 women in Wales.
2. Notes that it takes on average eight years and 26 GP appointments to get a referral to an endometriosis specialist.
3. Calls for more research into the causes and possible cures for endometriosis.
4. Calls on the Welsh Government to ensure that schools make all pupils aware of what is a normal menstrual period and when to seek medical advice.
5. Calls on the Welsh Government to ensure that more endometriosis specialists are trained so that all women can have access to specialist treatment in Wales.

#### **Co-Submitters**

[Angela Burns \(Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire\)](#)

[Suzy Davies \(South Wales West\)](#)

[Vikki Howells \(Cynon Valley\)](#)

#### **Supporters**

[Jack Sargeant \(Alyn and Deeside\)](#)

### **6 Debate on the Finance Committee report: Inquiry into a legislative budget process**

(60 mins)

**NDM7426** [Llyr Gruffydd \(North Wales\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

Notes the report of the Finance Committee into a legislative budget process, which was [laid](#) in the Table Office on 6 August 2020.

Note: The response of the Welsh Government to the report was [laid](#) in the Table Office on 21 September 2020.

## **7 Welsh Conservatives Debate: Impact of local coronavirus restrictions on employers**

(60 mins)

**NDM7428** [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Welcomes the £4 billion of extra funding made available to the Welsh Government by the Her Majesty's Government to address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic in Wales.
2. Recognises the significant adverse impact of local coronavirus restrictions on businesses and other employers.
3. Notes the need to ensure that coronavirus restrictions that impact upon employers are proportionate.
4. Calls upon the Welsh Government to:
  - a) remove the expectation for employers to have a unionised workplace in order to access Welsh Government funding and grants;
  - b) extend business rate relief to businesses with a rateable value in excess of £500,000 and to landlords who are unable to let vacant commercial properties;
  - c) waive the 10 per cent investment requirement to access grants under phase 3 of the economic resilience fund; and
  - d) publish, in the public domain, data on the number of positive COVID-19 tests on a local authority ward basis.

### **Supporting document**

Letter from the Minister for Economy, Transport and North Wales to business owners.

In accordance with Standing Order 12.23 (iii) amendment 4 tabled to the motion has not been selected.

**Amendment 1 [Rebecca Evans \(Gower\)](#)**

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes the Welsh Government is dedicating more than £4 billion to its response to COVID-19, a sum greater than the Barnett consequential received from the UK Government.
2. Recognises the Welsh Government's £1.7 billion package of COVID-19 support for business is the best anywhere in the UK, including a £500 million economic resilience fund which is helping to protect in excess of 100,000 jobs.
3. Notes that fair work is at the heart of the Welsh Government's response and that every recipient of business support has agreed to the principles of the economic contract.
4. Recognises the early, proportionate and transparent measures the Welsh Government is taking to tackle the virus and its public health and economic impacts.
5. Welcomes the Welsh Government's £140 million plans for the third phase of the economic resilience fund (ERF3), including £20 million dedicated for tourism and hospitality.
6. Notes that Welsh businesses continuing to trade are able to receive support under the ERF3 rapid reaction fund, which is not the case in relation to business support in restricted local areas in England
7. Regrets the decision of the UK Government to terminate the job retention scheme and believes that the job support scheme gives insufficient incentive for employers in the most vulnerable sectors to retain employees through the crisis, including tourism and hospitality.
8. Calls on the UK Government to make available a comprehensive package of funding for local areas subject to additional restrictions to tackle the virus.

*[If amendment 1 is agreed, amendments 2 and 5 will be de-selected]*

**Amendment 2 [Sian Gwenllian \(Arfon\)](#)**

Delete point 1 and replace with:

Calls for the enhancement of borrowing powers at the Welsh level to respond to the impact of the pandemic in line with the needs and priorities of Wales.

**Amendment 3 [Sian Gwenllian \(Arfon\)](#)**

Insert as new point after point 1 and renumber accordingly:

Regrets that the UK Government's job support scheme is of no help to a large number of Welsh businesses, particularly small businesses and businesses in the service sector such as hospitality and hair and beauty.

**Amendment 5 [Sian Gwenllian \(Arfon\)](#)**

Add as new sub-point at end of point 4:

re-evaluate COVID-19 business support to ensure that it effectively fills the gaps left by the UK Government's schemes.

## **8 Voting Time**

## **9 Short Debate – Hefin David**

(0 mins)

No motion tabled.

## **10 Short Debate – Alun Davies – postponed from 7 October 2020**

(30 mins)

**NDM7415 [Alun Davies \(Blaenau Gwent\)](#)**

Beyond COVID-19: a sustainable economy for the Heads of the Valleys.

The Senedd will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 20 October 2020

## Oral Questions tabled on 07/10/2020 for answer on 14/10/2020

The Presiding Officer will call party spokespeople to ask questions without notice after Question 2.

### Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs

**Adam Price** *Carmarthen East and Dinefwr*

1 OQ55692

(w)

Will the Minister make a statement on the recent flooding in the Pontargothi area?

**Mark Isherwood** *North Wales*

2 OQ55678

(e)

What discussions has the Minister had with supermarkets to ensure that they are COVID-19 compliant?

**Jenny Rathbone** *Cardiff Central*

3 OQ55695

(e)

What is the Welsh Government's strategy for expanding horticulture in Wales?

**Llyr Gruffydd** *North Wales*

4 OQ55707

(w)

How will the Welsh Government's white paper on an agriculture Bill for Wales recognise the importance of the sector to the future of the Welsh language?

**Dai Lloyd** *South Wales West*

5 OQ55688

(e)

What assessment has the Minister made of air pollution levels in Wales?

**David J. Rowlands** *South Wales East*

6 OQ55682

(e)

What measures is the Welsh Government putting in place to ensure that farmers can make the best of the opportunities provided to the farming industry post-Brexit?

7 **Michelle Brown** *North Wales*  
OQ55704

(e)

What assessment has the Welsh Government made of the opportunities it has to build a greener economy?

8 **Rhun ap Iorwerth** *Ynys Môn*  
OQ55697

(w)

Will the Minister provide an update on energy projects in Ynys Môn?

9 **Helen Mary Jones** *Mid and West Wales*  
OQ55701

(e)

What assessment has the Minister made of the impact of the train derailment and diesel spillage at Llangennech on the local cockle picking industry?

10 **Janet Finch-Saunders** *Aberconwy*  
OQ55694

(e)

Will the Minister make a statement on the use of marine conservation zones in Wales?

11 **David Rees** *Aberavon*  
OQ55689

(e)

How does the Welsh Government manage the development of on-shore wind farms?

12 **Angela Burns** *Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire*  
OQ55710

(e)

How does the Minister ensure that rural development projects funded by the Welsh Government provide value for money?

## **Minister for Housing and Local Government**

1 **Vikki Howells** *Cynon Valley*  
OQ55676

(e)

Will the Minister provide an update on Welsh Government interventions to eliminate homelessness in Wales?

2 **Caroline Jones** *South Wales West*  
OQ55709

(e)

What assessment has the Welsh Government made of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on local government resources?

**Mike Hedges** *Swansea East*

3 OQ55673

Withdrawn

(e)

Will the Minister outline the Welsh Government's plans for leasehold reform?

**Adam Price** *Carmarthen East and Dinefwr*

4 OQ55693

(w)

What assessment has the Minister made of the impact of the One Planet development policy?

**Jenny Rathbone** *Cardiff Central*

5 OQ55702

(e)

What is the Welsh Government's strategy for decarbonising Wales's housing stock?

**Andrew R.T. Davies** *South Wales Central*

6 OQ55671

(e)

What support is the Welsh Government making available to apartment complexes that have been identified as having fire safety issues across South Wales Central?

**Darren Millar** *Clwyd West*

7 OQ55690

(e)

Will the Minister make a statement on support for residents to reduce energy costs in their homes?

**Jack Sargeant** *Alyn and Deeside*

8 OQ55691

(e)

Will the Minister make a statement on how interested parties can inform Welsh Government planning policy?

**Rhun ap Iorwerth** *Ynys Môn*

9 OQ55698

(w)

Will the Minister make a statement on measures to help people to afford homes in their communities?

**Joyce Watson** *Mid and West Wales*

**10** OQ55696

**(e)**

What plans does the Welsh Government have to reduce homelessness this winter?

**David J. Rowlands** *South Wales East*

**11** OQ55681

**(e)**

What assessment has the Welsh Government made of the number and role of community councils?

**Laura Anne Jones** *South Wales East*

**12** OQ55672

**(e)**

What discussions has the Minister had with the Minister for Finance and Trefnydd regarding a review of the local government funding formula in Wales?

Business Owners

25 September 2020

Dear all

I am writing to you as a grant recipient of the Welsh Government's unique Economic Resilience Fund (ERF).

The ERF has already supported 13,000 businesses in Wales, helping to protect around 100,000 jobs. More than £300 million has already been provided to help sustain micro and SME firms like yours. I hope the funding is helping your business through these difficult and unprecedented times and helping to protect your business and workforce.

One of the expectations of the ERF is that you engage with the evaluation of the fund. We will be contacting you over the coming months to collect your feedback and understand the impact on your business. This will include as part of the monitoring requirements of your ERF grant award, contacting you at around 12 months from the date that the grant was paid to ask that you provide us with documents, information and reports in order to monitor compliance with the conditions of funding. Further information on the type of evidence required is detailed within your award letter.

When accepting the grant you were expected to align with the ethos and principles of the Economic Contract including fair work. Further details on the Economic contract can be found on the Business Wales website: <https://businesswales.gov.wales/economic-contract>.

During the coming months the Business Wales service will be offering related business support in all areas to help your business sustain and thrive beyond Covid-19 and of course Brexit so if we can help please call us on 03000 6 03000 or visit <https://businesswales.gov.wales>

Areas Business Wales may be able to support include access to finance and:

1. Access to the Welsh Government's Development Bank of Wales  
<https://developmentbank.wales>
2. Accessing the right skills for your employees through the Skills Gateway  
<https://businesswales.gov.wales/skillsgateway>
3. Further advice as we leave the EU, for example on how to export  
<https://export.businesswales.gov.wales>
4. Covid-19 and what your business needs  
<https://businesswales.gov.wales/coronavirus-advice>

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

[Gohebiaeth.Ken.Skates@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Ken.Skates@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Ken.Skates@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Ken.Skates@gov.wales)

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Fair Work is a key principle of the Economic Contract. The Welsh Government is committed to working with employers, trade unions and others to change people's working lives for the better so that more people have access to good work and a secure and fair income. As part of this, we support widening access to Trade Unions and collective agreements to help realise our ambition of making Wales a Fair Work nation. Research consistently demonstrates the benefits of employers and Trade Unions working as partners in a spirit of collaboration, shared commitment and mutual respect.

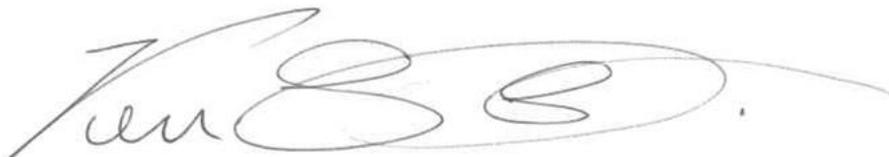
Every worker has a legal right to join a trade union, and we expect employers who receive public funds to allow trade unions access and seek a recognition agreement where workers request it. We would like you to remind your staff about this and encourage them to find the right union for them via: [www.findyourunion.tuc.org.uk](http://www.findyourunion.tuc.org.uk).

Recognising a workplace trade union benefits you as an employer, as well as your workforce. To employers, trade unions can be effective and resourceful partners in enabling simpler and successful negotiation processes, in assisting early identification and resolution of issues, and in enhancing employee engagement and satisfaction. A union can also help you with safety issues, so that fewer days are lost as a result of work-related injuries and occupational illnesses, organise training and development, including access to the Wales Union Learning Fund and support via union learning reps. For these reasons, we encourage all employers to see Trade Unions as partners in contributing to a more committed and productive workforce. More information on trade union recognition is available here: [www.gov.uk/trade-union-recognition-employers](http://www.gov.uk/trade-union-recognition-employers).

I would ask you to share a copy of this letter with your workforce to show the support that is being provided to businesses such as yours and to highlight our shared commitment to Fair Work and Decarbonisation through the Economic Contract.

I wish your business every success for the future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ken Skates', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Ken Skates AC/AM**

Gweinidog yr Economi, Trafnidiaeth a Gogledd Cymru  
Minister for Economy, Transport and North Wales