

# Petitions Committee

---

Meeting Venue: **Committee Room 1 – Senedd**

---

Meeting date: **Tuesday, 19 June 2012**

---

Meeting time: **09:00 – 10:15**

---

This meeting can be viewed on Senedd TV at:

[http://www.senedd.tv/archiveplayer.jsf?v=en\\_200000\\_19\\_06\\_2012&t=0&l=en](http://www.senedd.tv/archiveplayer.jsf?v=en_200000_19_06_2012&t=0&l=en)

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**

There were no apologies.

### **2. P-04-334 Petition for a new renal unit at Prince Charles Hospital – Discussion of Visit to Pentwyn Unit**

Bethan Jenkins reported back to the Committee on the rapporteur visit to the renal unit in Pentwyn, Cardiff.

The Committee agreed to:

Seek information on the current plans for a new renal unit in Merthyr; and  
Await a response to the Chair's letter to Cwm Taf Health Board seeking an update on the proposed meeting with Prince Charles Hospital renal patients.

### **3. P-04-366 Closure of Aberystwyth Day Centre – Discussion of Visit**

William Powell updated the Committee on the rapporteur visit to the new day centre in Aberystwyth.

The Committee agreed to return to this issue at the next meeting.

## **4. New petitions**

### **4.1P-04-395 Wales Air Ambulance Should Receive Government Funding**

The Committee considered this petition for the first time.

The Committee agreed to write to the Minister for Health and Social Services to seek her views on the petition and to request information on whether the Government provides core funding for Wales Air Ambulance.

### **4.2P-04-396 Emergency Life Support Skills (ELS) for Wales Schoolchildren**

The Committee considered this petition for the first time and agreed to write to the Minister for Education and Skills, acknowledging the Deputy Minister's response to the Short Debate on this issue in October 2011, and seeking his views on the petition.

### **4.3P-04-397 Living Wage**

The Committee considered this petition for the first time and agreed to write to the Minister for Local Government and Communities to: make him aware of the petition; to seek an update on the work of the stakeholder group convened; and to ask whether Save the Children's Young Ambassadors will also be consulted as part of the Government's work on the issue.

### **4.4P-04-398 Campaign for a Welsh Animal Offenders Register**

The Committee considered this petition for the first time and agreed to:

Write to the Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development to seek his views on the petition; and

Write to animal welfare groups, such as the RSPCA, to seek their views on the petition.

### **4.5P-04-399 Slaughter Practices**

The Committee considered this petition for the first time and agreed to write to the Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development and the Minister for Finance and Leader of the House to seek their views on the petition.

### **4.6P-04-400 NICE Quality Standard in Mental Health**

The Committee considered this petition for the first time and agreed to write to the Minister for Health and Social Services to seek her views on the petition.

### **4.7P-04-401 The Welsh Language in our Assembly**

The Committee considered this petition for the first time and agreed to refer it to the Assembly Commission in order to make it aware of the strength of feeling on the issue, and then close the petition.

## **5. Updates to previous petitions**

### **5.1P-04-330 A Welsh-language Record in our Assembly**

The Committee considered an update on this petition. Given that the Committee scrutinising the Official Languages Bill has recommended that there should be a bilingual Record of all Assembly proceedings, the Committee agreed to close the petition.

#### **5.2P-04-389 Arts, Agriculture and the Assembly Sheep**

William Powell declared an interest as a partner in a livestock/sheep farm. The Committee considered correspondence relating to the petition and agreed to forward the guidance outlined by the Presiding Officer to the petitioner and close the petition.

#### **5.3P-03-197 Save the Vulcan**

The Committee considered correspondence relating to this petition and agreed to close the petition.

#### **5.4P-03-162 Road Safety in Llanspyddid**

The Committee considered correspondence relating to this petition. In light of the information provided, the Committee agreed to close the petition.

#### **5.5P-04-370 Petition for the improvement of Psychic and Intuitive services in Wales**

The Committee considered correspondence in relation to this petition and agreed to write to Consumer Focus Wales to ask whether it has done any work to raise awareness of consumer protection with providers and users of psychic services.

#### **5.6P-03-261 Local Solutions to Newtown Traffic Congestion**

#### **5.7P-04-319 Newtown traffic petition**

The Committee considered correspondence in relating to these petitions and agreed to:

- Seek petitioners' comments on the report provided by the Minister;
- Ask the Minister whether any of the data collected to produce the report, which the Minister agreed to forward to the Committee during his oral evidence session, has yet to be forwarded; and
- Forward the report to the Chair of the Powys Local Growth Zones group for information.

#### **5.8P-04-384 Link to M48 off B4245 Caldicot/Rogiet**

The Committee considered correspondence relating to this issue and agreed to close the petition.

#### **5.9P-04-387 Signage and Drainage on A467**

The Committee considered correspondence in relation to this petition. As the road in question does not form part of the Welsh Government's local highway network, the Committee agreed to write to the petitioner's constituency and regional Assembly Members to request that they assist the petitioner in drawing the issue to the attention of the local authority.

The Committee then agreed to close the petition.

#### **5.10 P-04-388 Protect collective worship as a legal requirement**

The Committee considered correspondence in relation to this issue. Given the statement made by the Minister in his response, the Committee agreed to close the petition.

#### **5.11 P-03-303 Against Homophobic Bullying**

The Committee agreed to close the petition.

#### **5.12 P-04-372 More Ladies Toilets at Entertainment Venues**

The Committee considered correspondence relating to this petition. Given the Minister's response, the Committee agreed to close the petition.

#### **5.13 P-04-373 School Exclusion Zones for Mobile Hot Food**

The Committee considered correspondence relating to this petition and agreed to write to the Minister for Local Government and Communities to seek his views on using highway or parking controls and licensing arrangements for businesses.

#### **5.14 P-04-385 Petition regarding balloon and lantern releases**

The Committee considered correspondence relating to this petition. Committee Members stated that they had released balloons/lanterns in the past, being unaware of their damaging impact. The Committee agreed to update the petitioners and other interested groups on the work the Minister will be undertaking on the impact of lantern and balloon releases.

#### **5.15 P-04-360 Penylan Not Spot Petition**

The Committee considered correspondence relating to this petition and agreed to request a timescale for the upgrading of the broadband infrastructure in Penylan.

### **6. Papers Noted**

#### **6.1P-04-329 Control of Noise Nuisance from Wind Turbines**

#### **6.2P-04-368 Promote Physical Activity and Health in Further Education**

The Committee noted the papers.

### **7. Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for the following business:**

#### **7.1P-03-238 Pollution of the Burry Inlet – Draft Report**

The Committee agreed the report, subject to amendments, and requested that Wales' MEPs receive a copy of the report on publication.

**TRANSCRIPT**

View the [meeting transcript](#).