

Senedd - Petitions Committee

Summer Term 2020

This update provides information on some of the work that the Committee has undertaken during this term and progress on some of the petitions before the Committee. It has been produced by the Clerking team that supports the Committee's work. The Committee's twitter feed [@SeneddPetitions](#) carries all our latest news, petitions and meetings.

Petitions considered: April – July 2020

New petitions received on our website

We received 88 new admissible petitions.

New petitions considered by the Committee

We considered 44 petitions for the first time.

Updates on petitions

We have considered 49 updates to petitions.

Covid-19 pandemic

The Covid-19 pandemic has sent shockwaves across Wales and we send our thoughts and condolences to those who have been impacted. We reprioritised our work to initially focus on petitions related to Covid-19 and have held 5 virtual meetings between May and July.

During this period, we received 79 petitions related to Covid-19, of which 54 were admissible to collect signatures.

Petition progress

This term has seen a number of petitions make considerable progress, resulting in debates, reports and policy changes.

P-05-796 Calling on the Welsh Government to Ban The Use of Wild Animals in Circuses in Wales

The Wild Animals and Circuses (Wales) Bill was passed by the Senedd on 15 July meaning that the use of wild animals in circuses will now be banned in Wales. We would like to congratulate the petitioner and others involved on the success of this longstanding campaign.

P-05-778 Protect the Razor Clams on Llanfairfechan Beach

Detailed research is being carried out into razor clam stocks and the Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs' has made a commitment that consideration will be given to daily quotas, total allowable catch and closed periods.

P-05-801 Save the trees and ground in Roath Mill and Roath Brook Gardens before it's too late

The campaigners succeeded in their aim to have flood risk in the area reassessed prior to any work further being done in

the park, and Natural Resources Wales has stated that it does not intend to undertake further work at the current time.

P-05-815 Control Rapidly Expanding Intensive Poultry Industry in Wales

We have written to the Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee to ask if they can continue to monitor developments as part of their ongoing work into land use and biodiversity.

P-05-804 We need Welsh Government funding for play!!

The Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services' has made a commitment that funding arrangements will be considered as part of a Ministerial Play Review.

P-05-862 Tackling school bullying

The Welsh Government's new anti-bullying guidance has statutory status and contains requirements for schools to develop policies to record and monitor incidents of bullying.

P-05-880 Wales is Rapidly Losing its Musical Reputation and Heritage

The Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee will be monitoring further progress in relation to funding and delivery of music education services, following their previous report on this subject.

P-05-871 Make baby and toddler changing available in both male/female toilets

The Minister for Housing and Local Government has confirmed that proposals to strengthen provision to

expect baby-changing facilities in both male and female toilets will be included in the Welsh Government's forthcoming consultation on changing places toilet facilities.

P-05-918 Improve disabled access to Treforest train station as a priority

The Minister for Economy and Transport confirmed that works to improve access to Treforest train station are due to start in September.

P-05-751 Recognition of Parental Alienation

Cafcass Cymru has published guidance on '**Children's Resistance or Refusal to Spend Time with a Parent**' and provided training to its practitioners in how to recognise this issue.

P-05-946 Save Royal Glamorgan A&E

Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board have decided to retain a full time Emergency Department at the Royal Glamorgan Hospital. We would like to congratulate the petitioners and the wider community on the success of their campaign.

Committee meetings

The Committee has met 5 times during this term:

- **12 May**
- **9 June**
- **23 June**
- **7 July**
- **17 July**

Information on each meeting is available at the above links.

New petitions system

Our new petitions system has now been live for a number of months and we have seen a dramatic increase in the number of people who have engaged with the Senedd's petitions process.

Since the system went live on 30 April, a total of 190 new petitions have been received and nearly 135,000 signatures have been added to petitions. The majority of these signatures have been added to petitions that concern current events such as the Black Lives Matter movement and Covid-19.

Things to remember

- Petitions must meet our **admissibility criteria**.
- Petitions that gain 50 signatures will be considered by the Committee.
- We may decide to refer petitions that gain 5,000 signatures for a Plenary debate.
- We cannot accept petitions from other petition websites.

Contact details

You can email our Clerking Team:
Petitions@Senedd.Wales

Phone us: **0300 200 6565**

Follow us on Twitter: **[@SeneddPetitions](https://twitter.com/SeneddPetitions)**

Website: **www.Senedd.wales/petitions**

Committee Members



Committee Chair:
Janet Finch-Saunders MS
Welsh Conservatives



Neil McEvoy MS
Welsh National Party



Leanne Wood MS
Plaid Cymru



Michelle Brown MS
Independent



Jack Sargeant MS
Welsh Labour