

Cross-Party Group Minutes

Meeting Minutes:

Cross Party Group Title:	Welsh Wool
Date of Meeting:	10/01/2023
Location:	Virtual (Microsoft Teams)

In attendance:

Name:	Title:
Cefin Campbell MS	(Chair) Member of the Senedd
Samuel Kurtz MS	Member of the Senedd
Luke Fletcher MS	Member of the Senedd
Jane Dodds MS	Member of the Senedd
Sam Rowlands MS	Member of the Senedd
Jacqui Pearce	Welsh Wool Alliance
Aled Morgan Hughes	Office of Cefin Campbell MS
Ryland Doyle	Office of Mike Hedges MS

Apologies:

Name:	Title:
Llyr Gruffydd MS	Member of the Senedd
Rhun ap Iorwerth MS	Member of the Senedd
Carolyn Thomas	Member of the Senedd
Mike Hedges MS	Member of the Senedd

Summary of Meeting:

1. Croeso & ymddiheuriadau

Welcome & apologies

Cefin Campbell MS welcomed Members to the inaugural meeting of the Cross Party Group on Welsh Wool. Cefin gave a short introduction on the importance of Wool in Wales and the welcome development of creating a CPG focused on the resource.

Apologies were noted from Llyr Gruffydd MS, Rhun ap Iorwerth MS and Carolyn Thomas MS. Ryland Doyle was present on behalf of Mike Hedges MS.

2. Penodi swyddogion

Appointment of officers

Samuel Kurtz MS nominated Cefin Campbell MS as chair of the CPG. The nomination was seconded by Luke Fletcher MS. Cefin Campbell MS was duly elected chair.

3. Penodi ysgrifennydd

Appointment of secretariat

Cefin Campbell MS noted that Jacqui Pearce on behalf of the Welsh Wool Alliance had kindly agreed to undertake secretariat duties of the CPG, supported by his office. This was unanimously approved by Members.

4. Pwrpas

Purpose

Cefin Campbell MS noted a draft 'purpose' had been distributed to MS' prior to the meeting. The following was unanimously approved as the purpose of the CPG:

A forum for cross-party policy debate and discussion related to the Wool Industry in Wales. The group brings together both representatives from the Senedd and from across the wool sector; to consider and identify the challenges and future facing potential, protection and opportunities for the sector.

5. Cyflwyniad ar Wlân Cymreig – Jacqui Pearce (Cynghrair Wlan Cymru)

Presentation on Welsh Wool – Jacqui Pearce (Welsh Wool Alliance)

Jacqui Pearce of the Welsh Wool Alliance gave a short Powerpoint presentation on the current state of the wool sector in Wales, as well as the associated industries and businesses within the sector.

Specific reference was made to proposals of hosting further events in the Senedd following a successful Welsh Wool event in November 2022. The idea of a Wool Eisteddfod in Spring was considered, together with a specific event in October to acknowledge wool month.

6. Trafodaeth fer / Unrhyw fater arall

Short discussion / Any other business

Jane Dodds MS thanked Cefin Campbell MS and his office for bringing together the CPG. She noted the importance of involving other industry bodies and businesses within the sector – including British Wool, Campaign for Wool and Farming Unions.

- It was concluded that an effort should be undertaken to contact such bodies over the coming weeks to inform them of the creation of the CPG.

Luke Fletcher MS expressed his interest in learning more about the potential wool could play in Welsh Government housing and insulation purposes. He noted his desire to get the Welsh Government and Climate Change Minister to a future CPG meeting to discuss this potential further.

Luke Fletcher MS also suggested the potential of MS' wearing woollen ties to the Senedd to mark wool month.

- There was general consensus to this proposal of wool's role in insulation/housing policy, and it was agreed this would be a good topic for the next meeting. Contact would be initiated with the Climate Change Minister's office.

Mabon ap Gwynfor MS highlighted the work being undertaken by Bangor University and others regarding wool – particularly in natural products such as packaging. It would be worth keeping the work in mind for future meetings.

7. Dyddiad y cyfarfod nesaf

Date of next meeting

It was agreed in principle the CPG meets once a term. The date of the next meeting would be distributed to MS' by email – with the aim of end of February/March. Cefin Campbell MS thanked Members present and drew the meeting to a close.