

Agenda – Plenary

Meeting Venue:

Y Siambr – Y Senedd

Meeting date:

Wednesday, 7 December 2022

Meeting time: 13.30

109(v4)

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

1 Questions to the Minister for Social Justice

(45 mins)

The Presiding Officer will call Party Spokespeople to ask questions without notice to the Minister after Question 2.

[View Questions](#)

2 Questions to the Counsel General and Minister for the Constitution

(45 mins)

The Presiding Officer will call Party Spokespeople to ask questions without notice to the Counsel General after Question 2.

[View Questions](#)

3 Questions to the Senedd Commission

(15 mins)

[View Questions](#)

4 Topical Questions

(20 mins)

To ask the Minister for Education and Welsh Language



[Heledd Fychan \(South Wales Central\)](#): Will the Minister make a statement on the 2021 census data about Welsh language skills which shows that the number of Welsh speakers in Wales has decreased for the second decade in a row?

To ask the Minister for Health and Social Services

[Laura Anne Jones \(South Wales East\)](#): Will the Minister make a statement on the increase of cases of group A streptococcus in schools?

[Rhun ap Iorwerth \(Ynys Mon\)](#): Will the Minister make a statement on the Government's response to threats of industrial action across the Welsh NHS, and on its plans to try to avert such actions through negotiation?

5 90 Second Statements

(5 mins)

6 Debate on a Member's Legislative Proposal – A British Sign Language (BSL) Bill

(30 mins)

NDM8093 [Mark Isherwood \(North Wales\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes a proposal for a Bill that would make provision to encourage the use of British Sign Language (BSL) in Wales, and improve access to education and services in BSL.

2. Notes that the purpose of the Bill would be to:

a) remove the barriers that exist for deaf people and their families in education, health, public services, support services and in the workplace;

b) strengthen the seven well-being goals of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 as they relate to BSL;

c) work towards ensuring that deaf people who use BSL are not treated less favourably than those who speak Welsh or English;

d) ensure that deaf communities have a voice in the design and delivery of services to ensure they meet their needs;

e) establish a BSL Commissioner who will:

- (i) formulate BSL standards;
- (ii) establish a BSL advisory panel;
- (iii) produce reports every five years in BSL, Welsh and English on the position of BSL in that period;
- (iv) provide guidance and a process for public bodies to promote and facilitate BSL in their respective domains;
- f) establish a procedure for the investigation of complaints;
- g) require public bodies to report on their progress in promoting and facilitating BSL through their Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 reporting cycle;
- h) place a duty on the Welsh Government to prepare and publish an annual BSL report describing what Welsh Government departments have done to promote the use of BSL.

7 Debate on the Petitions Committee report – Mark Allen’s Law: Water safety and drowning prevention

(30 mins)

NDM8157 [Jack Sargeant \(Alyn and Deeside\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

Notes the report of the Petitions Committee, ‘Mark Allen’s Law Water safety and drowning prevention’, which was [laid](#) in the Table Office on 2 August 2022.

Note: The response of the Welsh Government to the report was [laid](#) in the Table Office on 30 November 2022.

8 Debate on the Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee report – Report on operation of the interim environmental protection measures

(30 mins)

NDM8158 [Llyr Gruffydd \(North Wales\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

Notes the Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee report: 'Report on operation of the interim environmental protection measures', [laid](#) on 28 September 2022.

The response of the Welsh Government to the report was [laid](#) in the Table Office on 30 November 2022.

9 Welsh Conservatives Debate – Independent review of children’s social care

(30 mins)

NDM8160 [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Calls on the Welsh Government to establish an independent review of children’s social care in Wales.

The following amendment was tabled:

Amendment 1 [Lesley Griffiths \(Wrexham\)](#)

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd:

Supports the Welsh Government’s plans for the reform of children’s social care without the need for an independent review that would draw in valuable resources and be a distraction to the excellent work carried out by those providing services to vulnerable children, their parents and carers.

10 Welsh Conservatives Debate – Business rates for self-catering accommodation

(30 mins)

NDM8161 [Darren Millar \(Clwyd West\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Calls on the Welsh Government to reflect on the serious concerns expressed by self-catering accommodation providers across Wales regarding the assessment period for determining eligibility for qualifying for business rates in 2022–2023, and amend the regulations accordingly.

The following amendments were tabled:

Amendment 1 [Lesley Griffiths \(Wrexham\)](#)

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Recognises that:

a) the Welsh Government has consulted widely on changes to the criteria used to classify self-catering accommodation as non-domestic for local tax purposes, which will take effect from April 2023.

b) compliance with the new criteria will not be assessed until after 1 April 2023.

c) these changes are part of a wider package measures to designed to support vibrant local communities, in which people can afford to live and work all year round

[If amendment 1 is agreed, amendment 2 will be de-selected]

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

Delete all and replace with:

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Recognises the concerns expressed by self-catering accommodation providers, which are under pressure from platforms such as AirBnB.

2. Believes the Welsh Government should continue to undertake the recommendations of the recent consultation to ensure genuine self-catered accommodation is distinguished from domestic properties in relation to local taxes.

11 Voting Time

12 Short Debate

(30 mins)

NDM8159 [Mabon ap Gwynfor \(Dwyfor Meirionnydd\)](#)

Atomic dreams: nuclear power and blind faith in an ageing technology

The Senedd will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 13 December 2022

Agenda Item 1

Oral Questions tabled on 30/11/2022 for answer on 07/12/2022

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

MINISTER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Peter Fox *Monmouth*

1

OQ58833 (e)

What action is the Welsh Government taking to tackle poverty in Monmouth?

Jane Dodds *Mid and West Wales*

2

OQ58839 (e)

Will the Minister provide an update on actions taken since the Senedd passed a motion in July calling on the Welsh Government to consider establishing a basic income pilot amongst workers in heavy industry as part of Wales's transition to a zero carbon economy?

Sam Rowlands *North Wales*

3

OQ58829 (e)

What support is the Welsh Government providing to the voluntary sector in North Wales?

Jack Sargeant *Alyn and Deeside*

4

OQ58832 (e)

What conversations has the Minister had with Cabinet colleagues about supporting care leavers?

Tom Giffard *South Wales West*

5

OQ58830 (e)

What consideration did the Minister give to elder abuse when drawing up the violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence strategy?

Mabon ap Gwynfor *Dwyfor Meirionnydd*

6

OQ58835 (w)

What steps is the Welsh Government taking to tackle fuel poverty in Dwyfor Meirionnydd?

Sarah Murphy *Bridgend*

7

OQ58821 (e)

Will the Minister provide an update on the LGBTQ+ action plan for Wales?

Heledd Fychan *South Wales Central*

8

OQ58828 (w)

What discussions has the Minister had with the Post Office and Royal Mail regarding ensuring the continuation of their services in South Wales Central?

Hefin David *Caerphilly*

9

OQ58838 (e)

What action is the Welsh Government taking to strengthen the rights of disabled people?

Natasha Asghar *South Wales East*

10

OQ58823 (e)

What discussions has the Minister had with the Older People's Commissioner for Wales about increasing older people's awareness of their rights?

Mike Hedges *Swansea East*

11

OQ58810 (e)

What proposals does the Welsh Government have to improve access to public services for people with sight and hearing loss?

Paul Davies *Preseli Pembrokeshire*

12

OQ58813 (e)

What is the Welsh Government doing to ensure that people with learning disabilities do not face discrimination?

COUNSEL GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR THE CONSTITUTION

Rhys ab Owen *South Wales Central*

1

OQ58814 (e)

What discussions has the Counsel General had with the Lord Chancellor on the devolution of justice?

Jack Sargeant *Alyn and Deeside*

2

OQ58831 (e)

What legal advice has the Counsel General provided to the Welsh Government on how it can support the Orgreave Truth and Justice Campaign?

Mabon ap Gwynfor *Dwyfor Meirionnydd*

3

OQ58827 (e)

What assessment has the Counsel General made of the implications for Wales of the Supreme Court ruling regarding Scotland's right to call a referendum on its constitutional future?

Rhys ab Owen *South Wales Central*

4

OQ58818 (w)

Will the Counsel General provide an update on the reform of the Welsh Tribunals?

Janet Finch-Saunders *Aberconwy*

5

OQ58834 (e)

What legal advice has the Counsel General provided to the Welsh Government following the Supreme Court ruling that the Scottish Parliament does not have the power to legislate for a referendum on Scottish independence?

Sarah Murphy *Bridgend*

6

OQ58819 (e)

What discussions has the Counsel General had with other law officers regarding the devolution of youth justice to Wales?

Mabon ap Gwynfor *Dwyfor Meirionnydd*

7

OQ58836 (w)

What assessment has the Counsel General made of whether the legislative consent process is fit for purpose?

Huw Irranca-Davies *Ogmore*

8

OQ58817 (e)

What assessment has the Counsel General made of access to justice in Wales?

Huw Irranca-Davies *Ogmore*

9

OQ58816 (e)

What assessment has the Counsel General made of whether the new inter-governmental arrangements proposed by the Review of Intergovernmental Relations will be sufficiently open to scrutiny?

Janet Finch-Saunders *Aberconwy*

10

OQ58844 (e)

What legal advice has the Counsel General provided to the Welsh Government regarding the legal and constitutional status of designated Members?

Jack Sargeant *Alyn and Deeside*

11

OQ58846 (e)

What assessment has the Counsel General made of the impact on Welsh residents following the UK Government's final response to the Independent Review of Criminal Legal Aid?

SENEDD COMMISSION

Heledd Fychan *South Wales Central*

1

OQ58820 (w)

What is the Commission's policy on the provision of free period products on the Senedd estate?

Jack Sargeant *Alyn and Deeside*

2

OQ58824 (e)

How is the Commission ensuring that staff can readily access free sanitary products on the Senedd estate?

Jenny Rathbone *Cardiff Central*

3

OQ58837 (e)

Will the Commission provide an update on its strategy for reducing energy bills on the Senedd estate?

Huw Irranca-Davies *Ogmore*

4

OQ58815 (e)

What progress has been made on a salary sacrifice support scheme for electric cars for Commission staff and staff of Members of the Senedd?