

Votes and Proceedings – Plenary

Meeting Venue:

Siambr Hywel – Tŷ Hywel

Meeting date:

Wednesday, 17 December 2025

Meeting time: 13.30

This meeting can be viewed
on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/15473>

321

This meeting was held in a hybrid format, with some Members in Siambr Hywel, Tŷ Hywel and others joining by video-conference.

1 Questions to the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language

The item started at 13.30

The first 8 questions were asked. The Presiding Officer invited party spokespeople to ask questions to the Cabinet Secretary after question 2.

2 Questions to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs

The item started at 14.20

The first 8 questions were asked. The Presiding Officer invited party spokespeople to ask questions to the Cabinet Secretary after question 2.

3 Topical Questions

The item started at 15.15

Answered by the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Trefnydd and Chief Whip

Adam Price (Carmarthen East and Dinefwr): What discussions has the Welsh

Government had with the UK Government regarding reports that the Home Secretary is considering merging the police forces of England and Wales into larger integrated forces, and regarding the possible implications of this for policing in Wales?



Answered by the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care

[Mabon ap Gwynfor \(Dwyfor Meirionnydd\)](#): Will the Cabinet Secretary make a statement on Welsh Government measures to address gaps in NHS waiting list data?

4 90 Second Statements

The item started at 15.41

James Evans made a statement on The Honourable Dame Shân Legge-Bourke.

Jane Dodds made a statement on Dyfed-Powys Police's stalking victim support service – Paladin.

Motion to elect a Member to a committee

The item started at 15.45

NNDM9091 [Elin Jones](#)

To propose that the Senedd, in accordance with Standing Order 17.14, elects Mark Isherwood (Welsh Conservatives) in place of Samuel Kurtz (Welsh Conservatives) as a member of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee.

The motion was agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

5 Debate on the General Principles of the British Sign Language (Wales) Bill

The item started at 15.46

NDM9087 [Mark Isherwood \(North Wales\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd, in accordance with Standing Order 26.11:

Agrees to the general principles of the British Sign Language (Wales) Bill.

The [British Sign Language \(Wales\) Bill](#) and [Explanatory Memorandum](#) were laid before the Senedd on 14 July 2025; the report of the Equality and Social Justice Committee on the British Sign Language (Wales) Bill was [laid](#) before the Senedd on 5 December 2025.

The motion was agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

6 The financial resolution in respect of the British Sign Language (Wales) Bill

The item started at 16.58

NDM9089 [Jane Hutt \(Vale of Glamorgan\)](#)

To propose that Senedd Cymru, for the purposes of any provisions resulting from the British Sign Language (Wales) Bill, agrees to any increase in expenditure of a kind referred to in Standing Order 26.69, arising in consequence of the Bill.

The motion was agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

7 Member Debate under Standing Order 11.21(iv) – children's access to play

The item started at 16.59

NDM9072 [Rhys ab Owen \(South Wales Central\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Welcomes the fact that Wales was the first country in the world to legislate for children's right to play, and that Cardiff is the UK's first UNICEF-accredited Child Friendly City.
2. Acknowledges that for children under 11, play areas with swings, slides and other equipment to play are really important.
3. Notes that the 'What children say about play in Wales: 2025' report by Play Wales found that in several areas, play equipment was described as outdated, broken or suitable only for younger children, and that many had called for investment in spaces for older children and teenagers, especially in Anglesey, Denbighshire and Caerphilly.
4. Regrets that overall satisfaction with opportunities to play has declined from 84 per cent in 2019 to 71 per cent in 2025, and that a notable 25 per cent are not permitted to play independently.
5. Calls on the Welsh Government to safeguard children's access to play by:

- a) strengthening the duty under section 11 of the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010 so that local authorities must secure sufficient play opportunities in a playground for each community;
- b) developing ways to publicise safe and local places to play;
- c) safeguarding playgrounds from local authority cuts;
- d) supporting community groups who have taken over responsibility for playgrounds; and
- e) tackling the fact that children, especially disabled, in rural and deprived areas often have greater access to outdoor spaces, but encounter greater issues with maintenance, accessibility and inclusivity.

The motion was agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

8 Plaid Cymru Debate – The devolution settlement

The item started at 17.52

Voting on the motion and amendments under this item was deferred until Voting Time.

A vote was taken on the motion without amendment:

NDM9090 [Heledd Fychan \(South Wales Central\)](#)

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes the letter sent to the UK Prime Minister by over a third of the Senedd's Labour Members on 3 December 2025.
2. Believes that the Labour UK Government is rolling back on the existing devolution settlement, as stated in the letter.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
13	0	37	50

The motion without amendment was not agreed.

The following amendments were tabled:

Amendment 1 [Paul Davies \(Preseli Pembrokeshire\)](#)

Delete point 2 and replace with:

Believes that rows about the devolution settlement are a distraction from getting to grips with the everyday challenges facing Wales.

A vote was taken on amendment 1:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
13	0	37	50

Amendment 1 was not agreed.

Amendment 2 [Jane Hutt \(Vale of Glamorgan\)](#)

Delete point 2 and replace with:

Reaffirms this Senedd's commitment to strengthening the devolution settlement, in line with the Independent Commission on the Constitutional Future of Wales.

A vote was taken on amendment 2:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
25	1	24	50

Amendment 2 was agreed.

A vote was taken on the motion as amended:

To propose that the Senedd:

1. Notes the letter sent to the UK Prime Minister by over a third of the Senedd's Labour Members on 3 December 2025.
2. Reaffirms this Senedd's commitment to strengthening the devolution settlement, in line with the Independent Commission on the Constitutional Future of Wales.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
25	13	12	50

The motion as amended was agreed.

9 Voting Time

The item started at 19.21

10 Short Debate

The item started at 19.24

NDM9079 [John Griffiths \(Newport East\)](#)

Locked In Bruh! The impact of screens, smartphones, and online-gaming on young people.

The meeting concluded at 19.52

The Senedd will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Tuesday, 13 January 2026