

Plenary

Meeting date:
Wednesday, 3 July 2013

Meeting time:
13:30

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



Agenda (144)v2

1 Questions to the Minister for Education and Skills (45 mins)

[View Questions](#)

2 Questions to the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport (45 mins)

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3 Debate on the Enterprise and Business Committee's Report on Integrated Public Transport in Wales (60 mins)

NDM5283 Nick Ramsay (Monmouth)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

Notes the report of the Enterprise and Business Committee on the inquiry into Integrated Public Transport in Wales, which was laid in the Table Office on 22 May 2012.

Note: The response by the Welsh Government was laid on 26 June 2013.

Supporting documents:

[Enterprise and Business Committee report](#)

[Welsh Government response](#)

4 Debate on the Enterprise and Business Committee's Report on Horizon 2020: Stage 2 (60 mins)

NDM5284 Nick Ramsay (Monmouth)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

Notes the Stage 2 report of the Enterprise and Business Committee on the inquiry into Horizon 2020, which was laid in the Table Office on 31 May 2012.

Note: The response by the Welsh Government was laid on 26 June 2013.

Supporting documents:

[Enterprise and Business Committee report](#)

[Welsh Government response](#)

5 Welsh Conservatives Debate (60 mins)

NDM5282 William Graham (South Wales East)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Recognises the huge potential for tourism in rural Wales and urges the Welsh Government to address industry concerns about how the new strategy for tourism will work in rural areas.
2. Calls on the Welsh Government to encourage local councils to implement Tan 6 planning guidance to support the sustainable rural economy and encourage diversification in rural areas by enabling automatic conversion of redundant farm buildings into business premises or accommodation.
3. Recognises the difficult environmental conditions that face farmers working in Less Favoured Areas (LFA) and calls on the Welsh Government to implement an LFA support package to address these unique challenges.
4. Notes the importance of sustainable bus services as a lifeline for rural communities and calls on the Welsh Government to provide sufficient funding for rural bus services.

5. Further notes the importance of the Royal Welsh Show and National Eisteddfod in supporting the rural economy and promoting Welsh culture.

'Partnership for Growth: The Welsh Government Strategy for Tourism 2013–2020' can be accessed on the following link:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/tourism/development1/partnershipforgrowth/?lang=en>

'TAN6 – planning for sustainable rural communities' can be accessed on the following link:

<http://wales.gov.uk/docs/desh/policy/100722tan6en.pdf>

The following amendments have been tabled:

Amendment 1 – Aled Roberts (North Wales)

Insert as new point 1 and renumber accordingly:

Recognises the importance of a high street bank to the rural economy and regrets that, according to a recent 'Last Bank in Town' analysis by the Campaign for Community Banking Services, there are now thirty–eight communities in rural Wales with only one bank remaining.

The report by the Campaign for Community Banking Services 'Last Bank in Town' can be found here:

<http://www.communitybanking.org.uk/revised-last-bank-in-town.htm>

Amendment 2 – Lesley Griffiths (Wrexham)

In point 1, delete all after 'urges the Welsh Government to' and replace with 'work with the industry to develop that potential by taking forward the new strategy for tourism'

Amendment 3 – Lesley Griffiths (Wrexham)

Delete point 2

[If amendment 3 is agreed, amendment 4 will be de-selected]

Amendment 4 – Elin Jones (Ceredigion)

In point 2 delete ‘automatic’.

Amendment 5 – Lesley Griffiths (Wrexham)

Delete point 3 and replace with:

‘Recognises the difficult economic and environmental conditions that face farmers working in the current Less Favoured Area (LFA), notes the Welsh Government's work in developing the new Areas of Natural Constraint designation in advance of the final deadline of 2018 and further notes the Government's commitment to use this new designation to help address these unique challenges.’

[If amendment 5 is agreed, amendment 6 will be de-selected]

Amendment 6 – Aled Roberts (North Wales)

In point 3 delete all after ‘(LFA)’ and replace with:

‘; notes the potential of Areas of Natural Constraints to recognising these conditions and calls on the Welsh Government to explore the implementation a dedicated support package for LFA/ANC equivalent areas that could be delivered through rural development regulations akin to other counties and regions within the European Union.’

Amendment 7 – Aled Roberts (North Wales)

Insert as new point 4 and renumber accordingly:

Recognises the essential role European Union funding plays in supporting the rural Welsh economy and therefore firmly believes that Wales’ interests are best served by remaining a committed part of the United Kingdom and the European Union.

Amendment 8 – Aled Roberts (North Wales)

Insert as new point 5 and renumber accordingly:

Notes the importance of accessible rail services to the delivery of an integrated transport system in rural areas and calls on the Welsh Government to support the re-opening of suitable railway stations across rural Wales.

Voting Time

6 Short Debate (30 mins)

NDM5281 Nick Ramsay (Monmouth): The Solidarity String: Supporting Stroke Victims in Wales

Highlighting the importance of clubbing together to overcome strokes through a range of therapies and treatments.

The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at 13:30, Tuesday, 9 July 2013

Agenda Item 1

Oral Assembly Questions tabled on 26 June 2013 for answer on 3 July 2013

R – Signifies the Member has declared an interest.

W – Signifies that the question was tabled in Welsh.

(Self identifying Question no. shown in brackets)

To ask the Minister for Education and Skills

1. **Aled Roberts (North Wales):** What measures is the Minister taking to assess the attainment of looked after children and young people?

OAQ(4)0298(ESK)W

2. **Peter Black (South Wales West):** Will the Minister make a statement on educational provision for children in women's refuges?

OAQ(4)0288(ESK)

3. **Janet Finch–Saunders (Aberconwy):** Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Government's plans for improving standards in core subjects such as mathematics, science and reading in schools in Wales? OAQ(4)0304(ESK)

4. **David Rees (Aberavon):** Will the Minister make a statement on the support provided by the Welsh Government to support CPD for teachers and teaching assistants? OAQ(4)0303(ESK)

5. **Janet Finch–Saunders (Aberconwy):** Will the Minister make a statement on home education in Wales? OAQ(4)0302(ESK)

6. **Suzy Davies (South Wales West):** What assessment has the Minister made of the benefits that walking or cycling to school can have on a child's education? OAQ(4)0295(ESK)

7. **Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East):** What action is the Minister taking to improve the literacy and numeracy skills of children in key stage 2 and 3? OAQ(4)0290(ESK)
8. **Lynne Neagle (Torfaen):** Will the Minister provide an update on the provision of post-16 education in Torfaen? OAQ(4)0293(ESK)
9. **Simon Thomas (Mid and West Wales):** What recent discussions has the Minister had regarding financial pressures within his portfolio? OAQ(4)0305(ESK)**W**
10. **Suzy Davies (South Wales West):** Will the Minister make a statement on any plans the Welsh Government has to review the school curriculum? OAQ(4)0294(ESK)
11. **Mike Hedges (Swansea East):** What progress has been made towards ensuring key stage 2 results are moderated in such a way that the results are consistent? OAQ(4)0289(ESK)
12. **William Graham (South Wales East):** Will the Minister outline the Welsh Government's considerations for improving education services in South Wales East? OAQ(4)0296(ESK)
13. **Sandy Mewies (Delyn):** Will the Minister make a statement on the provision of physical education in our schools? OAQ(4)0300(ESK)
14. **Lindsay Whittle (South Wales East):** What is the timetable for imposing the Welsh Language Standards on organisations in addition to local authorities, national park authorities and the Welsh Government? OAQ(4)0291(ESK) **TRANSFERRED FOR WRITTEN ANSWER BY THE FIRST MINISTER**
15. **Nick Ramsay (Monmouth):** Will the Minister outline his key priorities for improving educational standards? OAQ(4)0299(ESK)

To ask the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport

1. **Alun Ffred Jones (Arfon):** Will the Minister make a statement on rail electrification in the Valleys and north Wales? OAQ(4)0290(EST)W

2. **Gwyn Price (Islwyn):** Will the Minister make a statement on what the Welsh Government is doing to secure investment in Wales? OAQ(4)0284(EST)

3. **Janet Finch–Saunders (Aberconwy):** Will the Minister make a statement on the support available for small businesses in Aberconwy? OAQ(4)0295(EST)

4. **Russell George (Montgomeryshire):** Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Government’s tourism brown signs policy? OAQ(4)0293(EST)

5. **Darren Millar (Clwyd West):** Will the Minister make a statement on faith tourism opportunities in Wales? OAQ(4)0283(EST)

6. **Mike Hedges (Swansea East):** Will the Minister make a statement on the economic importance of Post Offices to local high streets in Wales? OAQ(4)0286(EST) TRANSFERRED FOR WRITTEN ANSWER BY THE MINISTER FOR COMMUNITIES AND TACKLING POVERTY

7. **Bethan Jenkins (South Wales West):** Will the Minister make a statement on bus services in South Wales West? OAQ(4)0287(EST)

8. **Julie Morgan (Cardiff North):** What steps is the Welsh Government taking to strengthen links between the Welsh language and economic development? OAQ(4)0296(EST)

9. **Sandy Mewies (Delyn):** How is the Welsh Government helping small and medium sized construction companies in Delyn access finance to create and safeguard jobs? OAQ(4)0291(EST)

10. **Elin Jones (Ceredigion):** What discussions has the Minister had with banks regarding support for businesses? OAQ(4)0288(EST)

11. Julie James (Swansea West): Will the Minister make a statement on what the Welsh Government is doing to promote Wales to air travellers, including both tourist and business travellers? OAQ(4)0292(EST)

12. Simon Thomas (Mid and West Wales): Will the Minister make a statement on her priorities for promoting science? OAQ(4)0297(EST)W

13. Russell George (Montgomeryshire): Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Government's transport priorities for mid Wales? OAQ(4)0294(EST)

14. Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East): Will the Minister make a statement on Welsh Government plans to establish a 'Support Welsh High Streets' campaign? OAQ(4)0285(EST) TRANSFERRED FOR WRITTEN ANSWER BY THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND REGENERATION

15. Eluned Parrott (South Wales Central): What plans does the Welsh Government have to improve and increase the availability of public transport across south Wales before the next Assembly election? OAQ(4)0289(EST)