

# Petitions Committee

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Meeting Venue: **Committee Room 1 – Senedd**

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Meeting date: **Tuesday, 21 January 2014**

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Meeting time: **09:02 – 10:23**

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Cynulliad  
Cenedlaethol  
Cymru

National  
Assembly for  
Wales

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## Concise Minutes:

Assembly Members:

**William Powell (Chair)**  
**Russell George**  
**Bethan Jenkins**  
**Joyce Watson**

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Witnesses:

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Committee Staff:

**Steve George (Clerk)**  
**Kayleigh Driscoll (Deputy Clerk)**  
**Helen Roberts (Legal Advisor)**

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## TRANSCRIPT

View the [meeting transcript](#).

### 1 Introduction, apologies and substitutions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Committee. There were no apologies.

### 2 New petitions

#### 2.1P-04-524 Planning Control and the Welsh Language

The Committee considered the petition for the first time and agreed to write to:

- the Minister for Housing and Regeneration;
- the Welsh Language Commissioner, seeking their views on the petition; and

- the Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Committee highlighting the petition in advance of the introduction of the forthcoming Planning (Wales) Bill.

### **2.2P-04-525 Funding for CREST Awards in Wales**

The Committee considered the petition for the first time and agreed to:

- write to the Minister for Economy Science and Transport, seeking her views on the petition; and
- copy in the Minister for Education.

### **2.3P-04-526 Please make Senedd TV accessible to deaf people**

The Committee considered the petition for the first time and agreed to:

- write to the Presiding Officer as Chair of the Assembly Commission seeking the Commission's views on the petition; and
- check the record of proceedings of a recent Plenary meeting to cross reference a discussion which was held by Members on similar issues relating to the petition.

### **2.4P-04-527 Campaign for a Special Cancer Drug Fund in Wales**

The Committee considered the petition for the first time and agreed to write to:

- the Minister for Health and Social Services;
- Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board; and
- the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI) Cymru

seeking their views on the petition.

### **2.5P-04-528 All Primary Schools in Wales taught through the medium of Welsh**

The Committee considered the petition for the first time and agreed to write to the:

- Minister for Education and Skills;
- First Minister; and
- Teachers Unions in Wales.

seeking their views on the petition.

### **2.6P-04-529 A Letting Agents Ombudsman for Wales**

The Committee considered the petition for the first time and agreed to write to the Minister for Housing and Regeneration seeking his views on the petition.

### **2.7P-04-530 Bilingual Labeling**

The Committee considered the petition for the first time and agreed to write to the:

- Minister for Natural Resources and Food; and
- First Minister

Seeking their views on the petition.

## **2.8P-04-531 Renaming Cardiff Airport after Welsh Icon**

The Committee considered the petition for the first time and agreed to write to the Minister for Economy Science and Transport seeking her views on the petition.

## **3 Updates to previous petitions**

### **3.1P-04-373 School Exclusion Zones for Mobile Hot Food Vans**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to:

- await the Minister's undertaking to provide a further update on developments by the end of January 2014;
- seek the petitioner's views on the Ministerial correspondence; and
- highlight the petition to the Children and Young People Committee.

### **3.2P-04-506 Free bus pass / concessionary travel for benefit claimants , students and under 18s**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to ask the Minister for any further response to the petitioner's comments, particularly in relation to the target age group for passes given changes to pension eligibility age.

### **3.3P-04-447 Campaign for Statue of Henry VII in Pembroke**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to:

- highlight the petition to Regional and Constituency Assembly Members within the Pembroke area; and
- request a research paper on what organisations would be best to signpost the petitioner to with regards to the funding issues.

### **3.4P-04-456 Dementia – This Could Happen to you**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to:

- ask the Minister for an update on the progress of the review of Continuing NHS Healthcare Framework; and
- once the response is received consider highlighting the petition to the Health and Social Care Committee.

### **3.5P-04-494 Robotic assisted laparoscopic prostatectomy must be made available to men in Wales now**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to:

- write to the Minister asking for views on whether the funding provided through the Health Technologies Fund at University Hospital of Wales will ensure equal access to the treatment across Wales;
- seek the petitioner's views on the Ministerial correspondence; and
- seek the outstanding responses from Health Boards who have not yet responded to the Committee's original letter.

### **3.6P-04-520 Regarding the Cancellation of All Elective Orthopaedic Surgery by Hywel Dda Health Board During the Winter 2013/14**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to await the petitioner's views on whether she is satisfied with the actions and explanations provided by the Minister and, in particular, the Local Health Board.

### **3.7P-04-481 Close the Gap for deaf pupils in Wales**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to:

- ask the petitioner to highlight a specific area which they would like the Committee to undertake work on; and
- copy in the Chair of the Cross Party Group on Deaf issues, for information.

### **3.8P-04-516 Make political science compulsory in education**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to:

- forward the petitioner's comments to the Minister to ask if he has any further views on the points made; and
- highlight the petition to the Assembly's Education Team.

### **3.9P-04-517 Stop the Welsh Assembly Government from bringing in the monitoring of electively home educated children under the guise of safeguarding**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to await the petitioners' views on the Minister's response.

### **3.10 P-04-522 Asbestos in Schools**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to:

- write to the Minister for Education and Skills, sharing the petitioner's correspondence and asking whether his views differ in light of this; and
- seek a legal brief clarifying whose remit the issue falls within.

### **3.11 P-04-500 Call For Regulation of Animal Welfare Establishments in Wales**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to await comments from the petitioner on the Minister's response, in particular his request for any evidence or statistics.

### **3.12 P-04-511 Support for children and young people participation standards**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to write to:

- the Minister asking for an update and for his views on the petitioners' further comments; and
- Save the Children seeking their views on the petition.

### **3.13 P-04-482 Public noticeboards across Wales notifying the public of who all their political representatives are**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to close the petition.

### **3.14 P-04-519 Abolition of Park Homes Sales Commission**

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to ask the Minister for his views on the petitioner's further comments, in particular the point that the current arrangements provide a perverse incentive to owners to force occupiers to sell.

## **4 P-03-262 Academi Heddwch Cymru / Wales Peace Institute**

Members noted the First Minister's response on the Committee's report on a Wales Peace Institute.

A debate on the report will be held in plenary on 5 February 2014.