Concise Minutes - Petitions Committee

Meeting Venue:

This meeting can be viewed

Committee Room 1 - Senedd

on Senedd TV at:

Meeting date: Tuesday, 27 September

http://senedd.tv/en/3726

2016

Meeting time: 09.01 - 10.20

Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	Mike Hedges AM (Chair)
	Gareth Bennett AM
	Suzy Davies AM
	Neil McEvoy AM
Witnesses:	Rebecca Evans AM, Minister for Social Services and Public
	Health
	Dr Rosemary Fox, Welsh Government
	Irfon Rees, Welsh Government
Committee Staff:	Graeme Francis (Clerk)
	Kath Thomas (Deputy Clerk)
	Jessica England (Deputy Clerk)
	Katie Wyatt (Legal Adviser)

Transcript

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1 Introduction, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Suzy Davies attended in place of Janet Finch-Saunders.

2 New petitions

2.1 P-05-705 Encourage Planning Committees to Ensure that Planning Decisions Take Due Regard of the Impact on, or Closure of Local Community Groups and Voluntary Organisations

The Committee considered the petition for the first time and agreed to write back to the Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs to seek clarification on how the requirement in Planning Policy Wales (Edition 8 January 2016) that the local planning authority must take into account the substance of local views including any representations made by local community groups works in practice and the weight that it carries.

2.2 P-05-715 A Ban on the Manufacture, Sale and Use of Snares in Wales

The Committee considered the petition for the first time and agreed to forward the correspondence received to date to the Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs and request to be kept informed about the outcomes of discussions being facilitated by the Welsh Government before deciding whether to take further action at a later date.

2.3 P-05-696 The Ghost Train

The Committee considered the petition for the first time and agreed to write to the petitioners, congratulating them on the successful outcome of their campaign and to close the petition.

2.4 P-05-692 Welsh Assembly to Build a International Mother languages Monuments at Cardiff Bay

The Committee considered the petition for the first time and agreed to await the views of the petitioner before deciding how best to take the petition forward.

3 Updates to previous petitions

3.1 P-04-399 Slaughter Practices

See agreed action under agenda item 3.2.

3.2 P-04-433 CCTV in Slaughterhouses

The Committee considered this petition together with P-04-399 Slaughter Practices, and agreed to write to the Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs to ask to be informed of the findings of the industry group report before considering further action on both petitions.

3.3 P-04-648 Unconventional Oil and Gas Planning Applications

The Committee considered correspondence from the Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs and agreed to await the views of petitioner before deciding how best to take the petition forward.

3.4 P-04-594 Cilmeri Community Council Appeal for The Prince Llywelyn Monument

The Committee considered correspondence on the petition and agreed to forward the petitioners' comments to the Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure and ask him to provide the Committee with a further update when a decision on the proposals for the new signs has been reached.

3.5 P-04-663 Food in Welsh Hospitals

The Committee considered correspondence from the Auditor General for Wales and agreed to ask the Public Accounts Committee to take the petition into account as part of its planned inquiry into hospital catering and patient nutrition and feed back its findings and any recommendations to the Committee in due course.

4 P-04-668 Support Yearly Screening for Ovarian Cancer (CA125 blood test)

The Minister answered questions from the Committee.

The Minister undertook to write to the Committee with:

- further information about the percentage of false positive results returned from the CA125 blood test;
- the cost of the awareness raising campaign for ovarian cancer run by Velindre in March 2016: and
- further information about the cost of administering an individual CA125 test.
- Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for the following business:
- 6 Consideration of Oral Evidence under Agenda Item 4

The Committee considered the evidence it had heard from the Minister and from the petitioner in the previous meeting, and agreed to write to a number of cancer charities to seek their views on the issues raised by the petition before considering the next steps.

The Committee also agreed to write to the Minister to seek further details on the timetable for the completion of the GP review on ovarian cancer cases diagnosed during 2015.