



# Formal Minutes of the Welsh Affairs Committee in Session 2023–24

The Formal Minutes of a select committee record its formal proceedings and decisions.

They include:

- the names of the members who attended (all or part of) each meeting of the Committee;
- declarations of members' interests;
- details of written and oral evidence reported to the House by the Committee;
- any other formal decisions taken by the committee (recorded as 'orders' or 'resolutions'), for example to begin an inquiry, to report evidence to the House, to make a visit or to appoint a specialist adviser; and
- visits made by the Committee.

When the Committee publishes a Report, the Formal Minutes relating to consideration of the draft Report are published with the Report itself and are not included in this document. You can find these reports on the Committee's webpages.

For more information about Formal Minutes, see [Erskine May paragraph 38.26](#).

Transcripts of oral evidence taken in public by the Committee are available on the Committee's webpages.

Attendance statistics for members of the Committee are available on the Committee's webpages.

# Wednesday 8 November 2023

## Members present

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Simon Baynes

Rob Roberts

Ben Lake

## 1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

*Resolved,* That the Committee visit Australia in January 2024 in connection with its inquiries into the Defence industry in Wales, and the Impact of population change in Wales, and that the Chair seek the approval of the Liaison Committee for expenditure in connection with the visit.

## 2. Guesting at the Defence industry in Wales inquiry

*Resolved,* That members of the Defence Committee be invited to attend meetings relating to the Committee's inquiry on the Defence industry in Wales, pursuant to Standing Order No 137A(1)(e) (Select committees: power to work with other committees).

## 3. Evidence reported for publication

*Ordered,* That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

### **Police and Crime Commissioners**

PCC Alun Michael [PCW0001]

### **Defence Industry in Wales**

ADS [DIW0010]

## 4. Police and Crime Commissioners

Police and Crime Commissioner Dafydd Llywelyn, Dyfed-Powys Police, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner Eleri Thomas, Gwent Police, Police and Crime Commissioner Andy Dunbobbin, North Wales Police, and Police and Crime Commissioner Alun Michael, South Wales Police gave oral evidence.

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 15 November 2023 at 9.30 a.m.

## Wednesday 15 November 2023

### Members present

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Simon Baynes

Ruth Jones

Ben Lake

Sarah Atherton also attended for item 3 under the provisions of paragraph (1)(e) of Standing Order No 137A (Select committees: power to work with other committees) (Welsh Affairs Committee's resolution of 8 November).

### 1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

### 2. Evidence reported for publication

*Ordered*, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

#### **Broadcasting in Wales**

Correspondence from the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport on the Media Bill, dated 8 November.

## **UK Shared Prosperity Fund**

Correspondence from Vaughan Gething MS, Welsh Minister for the Economy, dated 8 November.

### **3. Defence Industry in Wales**

Oriel Petry, Senior Vice President, Airbus UK, and Claire Mitchell, Director, Secure Communications and Information Systems, Thales gave oral evidence.

## **Adjournment**

Adjourned till Wednesday 22 November 2023 at 9.30 a.m.

## **Wednesday 22 November 2023**

### **Members present**

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Simon Baynes

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

Rob Roberts

### **1. Future programme**

The Committee considered this matter.

### **2. Evidence reported for publication**

*Ordered,* That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

#### **Defence industry in Wales**

Cardiff University [DIW0011]

Aberystwyth University [DIW0012]

#### **Water Quality in Wales**

Ofwat [WQW0005]

Dŵr Cymru [WQW0004]

### 3. Water quality in Wales

Peter Hammond, (retired) Professor of Computational Biology, University College London (UCL), campaigner, Windrush Against Sewage Pollution (WASP), Gail Davies-Walsh, Chief Executive, Afonydd Cymru and Professor Davey L. Jones, Professor of Soil and Environmental Science, Bangor University gave oral evidence.

David Black, Chief Executive, Ofwat and Clare Pillman, Chief Executive, Natural Resources Wales gave oral evidence.

Peter Perry, Chief Executive, Mike Davis, Chief Financial Officer, and Steve Wilson, Managing Director of Wastewater Services, Dŵr Cymru gave oral evidence.

### Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 29 November 2023 at 9.30 a.m.

## Wednesday 29 November 2023

### Members present

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Simon Baynes

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

Rob Roberts

### 1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

*Resolved,* That the Chair and Ben Lake visit West Wales in a representative capacity in relation to the Committee's inquiry into the Defence industry in Wales.

*Resolved,* That the Committee visit Cardiff in relation to its inquiry into Prisons in Wales.

*Resolved,* That the Committee visit Manchester and Rhosneigr in relation to its inquiries into the Impact of population change in Wales and Prisons in Wales.

## 2. Defence industry in Wales

Russ Wardle OBE DL, Managing Director, Arcanum Information Security, Peter White, Managing Director, Qioptiq, and Kimberly Northover, Business Development Manager, Tritech gave oral evidence.

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 6 December 2023 at 9.00 a.m.

## Wednesday 29 November 2023 – Thursday 30 November 2023

The Chair and Ben Lake visited West Wales in a representative capacity in connection with the Committee's inquiry into the Defence industry in Wales, in accordance with the Committee's decision of 29 November 2023.

## Wednesday 6 December 2023

### Members present

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Rob Roberts

Virginia Crosbie

Ruth Jones

Robin Millar

### 1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

### 2. Evidence reported for publication

*Ordered*, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

## **Impact of Population change in Wales**

Darogan ltd [PCW0001]

Higher Education Statistics Agency [PCW0002]

Community Pharmacy Wales [PCW0003]

Etic Lab LLP [PCW0004]

Ceredigion County Council [PCW0005]

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board [PCW0006]

Professor Peter Murphy and Mr Bernard Kofi Dom, Nottingham Trent University [PCW0007]

Jacob Riddle [PCW0008]

Professor Michael Woods, Aberystwyth University [PCW0009]

Intergeneration Foundation [PCW0010]

British Medical Association Cymru Wales [PCW0011]

Care and Repair Cymru [PCW0012]

Learning and Work institute [PCW0013]

Office for National Statistics [PCW0014]

Royal College of General Practitioners [PCW0015]

Bailey [PCW0016]

Dr Lowri Cunnington Wynn and Dr Rhys Dafydd Jones, Aberystwyth University, and from Dr Bryonny Goodwin-Hawkins, Dr Aimee Morse, Dr Demelza Jones, University of Gloucestershire [PCW0017]

Future Generations Commissioner for Wales [PCW0018]

Mentrau Iaith Cymru [PCW0019]

Tax and Welfare Research Group, Bangor Business School, Bangor University [PCW0020]

Age Cymru [PCW0021]

College of Paramedics [PCW0022]

Career Development Institute [PCW0023]

Cygnor Gwynedd, Cygnor Sir Ceredigion, Cygnor Sir Gaerfyrddin, Cygnor Sir Ynys Mon [PCW0025]

Race Council Cymru [PCW0026]

the Welsh Language Commissioner [PCW0027]

Farmers' Union of Wales [PCW0028]

Cardiff Metropolitan University [PCW0029]

Welsh Local Government Association [PCW0030]

Cymdeithas yr Iaith [PCW0031]  
Isle of Anglesey County Council [PCW0032]

### **Police and Crime Commissioners**

Correspondence from the Rt Hon Chris Philp MP, Minister of State for Crime, Policing and Fire, Home Office, dated 21 November

Correspondence from Rebecca Evans AS/MS, Minister for Finance and Local Government, Welsh Government, dated 7 November

## **3. Impact of population change in Wales**

Emma Rourke, Deputy National Statistician and Director General for Health, Population and Methods, Jen Woolford, Director of Population Statistics, Office for National Statistics, Professor Michael Woods, Aberystwyth University, and Meirion Thomas, Director – Wales, Industrial Communities Alliance gave oral evidence.

## **Adjournment**

Adjourned till Wednesday 13 December 2023 at 9.30 a.m.

# **Wednesday 13 December 2023**

## **Members present**

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Ruth Jones

Virginia Crosbie

Robin Millar

Rob Roberts

Ben Lake

## **1. Future programme**

The Committee considered this matter.



## 2. Members' attendance statistics

The Committee approved, for publication, its attendance statistics for the last session of Parliament.

## 3. Responsibilities of the Secretary of State for Wales

The Rt Hon David T C Davies MP, Secretary of State for Wales, and Fay Jones MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Wales Office gave oral evidence.

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 10 January 2024 at 9.30 a.m.

# Wednesday 10 January 2024

## Members present

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Ben Lake

Ruth Jones

Virginia Crosbie

Robin Millar

## 1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

## 2. Evidence reported for publication

*Ordered,* That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

### **Defence Industry in Wales**

Colegau Cymru [DIW0013]

### **Water Quality in Wales**

Correspondence from Welsh Water, dated 22 December 2023

### **Independent TV production sector in Wales**

Correspondence from TAC, dated 15 December 2023

### 3. Governance of S4C

Rhodri Williams, Chair, and Chris Jones, Lead Non-Executive Member of the S4C Unitary Board, S4C gave oral evidence.

### Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 17 January 2024 at 9.30 a.m.

## Wednesday 17 January 2024

### Members present

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Ben Lake

Ruth Jones

Rob Roberts

Virginia Crosbie

Beth Winter

### 1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

### 2. Evidence reported for publication

*Ordered,* That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

#### **Prisons in Wales**

University and College Union Wales (UCU Cymru) [PIW0003]

Welsh Justice Unions Group [PIW0004]

Ministry of Justice [PIW0005]

Dr Robert Jones [PIW0006]

Prisoner Learning Alliance [PIW0007]

Welsh Language Commissioner [PIW0008]

Prisoners Education Trust [PIW0009]  
Independent Monitoring Boards [PIW0010]  
Prison Reform Trust [PIW0011]  
Presbyterian Church of Wales [PIW0012]  
Catholic Bishops Conference [PIW0013]  
Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists in Wales [PIW0014]  
Clinks [PIW0015]  
British Psychological Society [PIW0016]

### **Water Quality in Wales**

Correspondence from National Resources Wales, dated January 2024

Correspondence from Professor Peter Hammond, dated 8 January 2024

## **3. Broadcasting in Wales**

Draft Special Report (*Broadcasting in Wales: Government Response to the Committee's Fifth Report of Session 2022–23*), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

*Resolved*, That the Report be the First Special Report of the Committee to the House.

*Ordered*, That the Chair make the Report to the House.

## **4. Prisons in Wales**

Dr Robert Jones, Cardiff University and Terry McCarthy, Prison Officers' Association (North Wales) gave oral evidence.

Bryn Hall, Senior Development Officer for Wales, Clinks, and Katie Fraser, Head of Prisons and Participation, Women in Prison gave oral evidence.

## **Adjournment**

Adjourned till Wednesday 24 January 2024 at 9.30 a.m.

# Wednesday 24 January 2024

## Members present

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair  
Rob Roberts  
Virginia Crosbie  
Ben Lake  
Robin Millar  
Tonia Antoniazzi

## 1. Declaration of interests

Tonia Antoniazzi declared her interests, in accordance with the Resolution of the House of 13 July 1992 (see Appendix).

## 2. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

## 3. Evidence reported for publication

*Ordered,* That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

### **Responsibilities of Secretary of State for Wales**

Correspondence from the Chair to the Secretary of State for Wales, dated 19 December 2023

Correspondence from the Secretary of State for Wales, dated 16 January 2024

### **Broadcasting in Wales**

Correspondence from BBC Cymru, dated 18 January 2024

Correspondence from Ofcom, dated 18 January 2024

### **Defence Industry in Wales**

University of South Wales [DIW0014]

Thales [DIW0015]

## **University Research Funding**

UKRI [URF0006]

### **4. Impact of population change in Wales**

Mark Harris, Planning and Policy Adviser for Wales, Home Builders Federation  
Ifan Glyn, Wales Director, Federation of Master Builders, and Barry Rees, Corporate  
Director, Ceredigion County Council gave oral evidence.

Ellie Fry, Corporate Director of Regeneration and Community Services, Blaenau Gwent  
County Borough Council, Paul Jones, Strategic Director: Environment and Sustainability,  
Newport City Council, and Aaron Hill, Director, Confederation of Passenger Transport  
Cymru gave oral evidence.

### **Adjournment**

Adjourned till Wednesday 31 January 2024 at 9.00 a.m.

## **Wednesday 31 January 2024**

### **Members present**

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Ben Lake

Virginia Crosbie

Tonia Antoniazzi

Beth Winter

Mark Tami, Sarah Atherton and Stephen Kinnock also attended for item 4 under the  
provisions of paragraph (1)(e) of Standing Order No 137A (Select committees: power to  
work with other committees) (Welsh Affairs Committee's resolution of 31 January).

### **1. Guesting at the Steel industry in Wales**

*Resolved*, That members of the Defence, Science, Innovation and Technology,  
Administration, and European Statutory Instruments Committees be invited to attend

meetings relating to the Committee's non-inquiry sessions on the Steel industry in Wales, pursuant to Standing Order No 137A(1)(e) (Select committees: power to work with other committees).

## 2. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

## 3. Evidence reported for publication

*Ordered*, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

### **Governance of S4C**

Correspondence from S4C, dated 10 January 2024

### **Water Quality in Wales**

Correspondence from Ofwat, dated 22 January 2024

## 4. Steel industry in Wales

Alasdair McDiarmid, Assistant General Secretary, Community Union, Charlotte Brumpton-Childs, National Officer for Steel, GMB and Nick Kardahji, Bargaining and Investigative Researcher, Unite gave oral evidence.

T. V. Narendran, Global CEO and Managing Director, and Rajesh Nair, UK CEO, Tata Steel gave oral evidence.

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 31 January 2024 at 2.00 p.m.

## **Wednesday 31 January 2024, afternoon sitting**

### Members present

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Ben Lake

Virginia Crosbie

Beth Winter

Mark Tami, Sarah Atherton and Stephen Kinnock also attended for item 2 under the provisions of paragraph (1)(e) of Standing Order No 137A (Select committees: power to work with other committees) (Welsh Affairs Committee's resolution of 31 January).

## 2. Steel industry in Wales

Vaughan Gething MS, Minister for the Economy, Welsh Government, gave oral evidence.

The Rt Hon David T C Davies MP, Secretary of State for Wales, UK Government, gave oral evidence.

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 7 February 2024 at 9.30 a.m.

# Wednesday 7 February 2024

## Members present

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Rob Roberts

Ruth Jones

Virginia Crosbie

## 1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

*Resolved*, That the Committee rescind the decision to visit Australia in connection with its inquiries into the Defence industry in Wales, and the Impact of population change in Wales as had been resolved on 8 November 2023.

## 2. Defence industry in Wales

Emma Morgan, Student, Cardiff and Vale College, and Victoria Searle, Industrial Engineer, Airbus gave oral evidence.

Professor Caroline Gray OBE, Director, OpTIC Technology Centre, and Bobby Manesh, Head of Research, AMRC Cymru gave oral evidence.

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 21 February 2024 at 9.30 a.m.

## Wednesday 7 February 2024 – Thursday 8 February 2024

The Chair, Rob Roberts and Ruth Jones visited HMP Cardiff in connection with the Committee's inquiry into Prisons in Wales, in accordance with the Committee's decision of 29 November 2023.

## Wednesday 21 February 2024

### Members present

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Virginia Crosbie

Rob Roberts

Ben Lake

Tonia Antoniazzi

### 1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

### 2. Evidence reported for publication

*Ordered*, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:



## **Water quality in Wales**

Correspondence from Ofwat, dated 7 February 2024

### **3. Prisons in Wales**

Chris Simpson, Governor, HMP Swansea, Amanda Corrigan, Governor, HMP Cardiff, Rebecca Hayward, Governor, HMP Berwyn, Rob Denman, Governor, HMP Usk, and Heather Whitehead, Director, HMP Parc, gave oral evidence.

### **Adjournment**

Adjourned till Wednesday 28 February 2024 at 9.30 a.m.

## **Wednesday 28 February 2024**

### **Members present**

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Virginia Crosbie

Robin Millar

Ben Lake

Ruth Jones

Beth Winter

Tonia Antoniazzi

### **1. Future programme**

The Committee considered this matter.

*Resolved,* That the Committee visit HMP Berwyn in relation to its inquiry into Prisons in Wales.

*Resolved,* That the Committee visit France in relation to its inquiry into the Defence industry in Wales, and that the Chair seek the approval of the Liaison Committee for expenditure in connection with the visit.

## 2. Members' attendance statistics

The Committee approved, for publication, its attendance statistics for session 2023-24 as at 20 December 2023.

## 3. Business Support in Wales

Rhian Elston, Investment Director, and Giles Thorley, Chief Executive Officer, Development Bank of Wales, and Ken Cooper, Managing Director, Venture Capital Solutions, British Business Bank gave oral evidence.

Professor Dylan Jones-Evans, Founder UK Start Up Awards and UK Fast Growth 50 Index, and Jane Wallace-Jones, CEO and Founder, Something Different Wholesale Ltd gave oral evidence.

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 6 March 2024 at 9.30 a.m.

# Wednesday 6 March 2024

## Members present

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Virginia Crosbie

Ben Lake

Ruth Jones

Beth Winter

Tonia Antoniazzi

Rob Roberts

## 1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

*Resolved,* That the Committee rescind the decision to visit Manchester and Rhosneigr in relation to its inquiries into the Impact of population change in Wales and Prisons in Wales as had been resolved on 29 November 2023.

*Resolved*, That the Committee visit Norway in relation to its inquiry into Prisons in Wales and work on the Steel Industry in Wales, and that the Chair seek the approval of the Liaison Committee for expenditure in connection with the visit.

*Resolved*, That the Committee take the evidence to be given by young witnesses at this day's sitting in private.

## 2. Evidence reported for publication

*Ordered*, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

### **Police and Crime Commissioners**

Correspondence with PCC Andrew Dunbobbin, dated 22 November 2023 and 5 January 2024

Correspondence with PCC Dafydd Llywelyn, dated 22 November and 11 January 2024

Correspondence with PCC Alun Michael, dated 22 November and 16 February 2024

Correspondence with Deputy PCC Eleri Thomas, dated 22 November 2023 and 26 February 2024

### **Governance of S4C**

Correspondence from Chair of S4C, dated 29 February 2024

### **Steel Industry in Wales**

Correspondence with National Grid, dated 15 February and 20 February 2024

### **Financial support for Welsh Rugby Union**

Correspondence with Dawn Bowden AS/MS, Deputy Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism, Welsh Government, dated 6 February and 26 February 2024

### **Wales as a global tourist destination**

Correspondence from VisitBritain

### 3. Impact of population change in Wales

Evidence was taken in private, in accordance with the Committee's Resolution of this day's sitting.

Young witnesses gave oral evidence.

### 4. Impact of population change in Wales

Walter May, Founder and CEO, GlobalWelsh, and Robyn Lovelock, Programme Manager, Ambition North Wales gave oral evidence.

### Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 13 March 2024 at 9.00 a.m.

## Wednesday 13 March 2024

### Members present

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Virginia Crosbie

Ben Lake

Ruth Jones

Beth Winter

Rob Roberts

### 1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

### 2. Evidence reported for publication

*Ordered,* That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

#### **Supplementary Estimate Memorandum**

## Wales Office Supplementary Estimate Memorandum 2023-2024

### **Prisons in Wales**

The Clink Charity [PIW0017]

### **Impact of population change in Wales**

Correspondence with Meirion Thomas, Industrial Communities Alliance, dated 22 February and 4 March 2024

Correspondence with Barry Rees, Ceredigion County Council, dated 22 February and 5 March 2024

### **Broadcasting in Wales**

Correspondence from Storm Fagan, Chief Product Officer, BBC Cymru Wales, dated 6 March 2024

## 3. Prisons in Wales

Nicky Park, Director of Criminal Justice/Women's Services Development, St Giles Trust, and Yvonne Thomas, CEO, The Clink, gave oral evidence.

Darren Burns, Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Timpson Group, Tony Hughes, Commercial Director, Williams Homes (Bala) Ltd, and David Abraham, Managing Director, Fulcrum Scaffold Training and Safety Ltd, gave oral evidence.

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 20 March 2024 at 9.30 a.m.

## Wednesday 20 March 2024

### Members present

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Virginia Crosbie

Ben Lake

Ruth Jones  
Beth Winter  
Rob Roberts  
Tonia Antoniazzi

## 1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

*Resolved,* That the Committee hold an inquiry into Access to High Street Banking in Wales.

*Resolved,* That the Committee visit the Royal Welsh Show in relation to its inquiry into the Impact of population change in Wales.

## 2. Evidence reported for publication

*Ordered,* That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

### **Prisons in Wales**

Correspondence with Bryn Hall, Senior Development Officer for Wales, Clinks, dated 9 February and 11 March

### **Impact of population change in Wales**

Correspondence with Ellie Fry, Corporate Director of Regeneration and Community Services, Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council, dated 22 February and 8 March 2024

Summary note of private meeting on 6 March 2024

### **Water quality in Wales**

Correspondence from Lynn Parker, Ofwat, dated 14 March 2024

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 17 April 2024 at 9.30 a.m.

# Wednesday 17 April 2024

## Members present

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Virginia Crosbie

Tonia Antoniazzi

Ben Lake

Ruth Jones

Beth Winter

Robin Millar

## 1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

*Resolved*, That the Committee rescind the decision to visit Norway in relation to its inquiry into Prisons in Wales and work on the Steel Industry in Wales as had been resolved on 6 March 2024.

## 2. Evidence reported for publication

*Ordered*, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

### **Prisons in Wales**

Cardiff Council [PIW0018]

### **Impact of Population Change in Wales**

Correspondence with Professor Michael Woods, Aberystwyth University, dated 22 February and 13 March

Correspondence with Paul Jones, Newport City Council, dated 22 February and April 2024

### **Responsibilities of the Secretary of State for Wales**

Correspondence from Rebecca Evans MS, Minister for Finance and Local Government, Welsh Government, dated 18 March

### 3. Prisons in Wales

Katie Dalton, Director, Cymorth Cymru, and Chloe Marshall, Nacro Wales Operations Manager, Nacro, gave oral evidence.

Stephanie Rogers-Lewis, Operations Manager for Housing Need, Cardiff Council, Tracy Hague, Head of Service (Housing), Wrexham County Borough Council, and Liza Ridge, Housing Options and Allocations Lead, Wrexham County Borough Council, gave oral evidence.

### Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 24 April 2024 at 9.30 a.m.

## Wednesday 24 April 2024

### Members present

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Virginia Crosbie

Rob Roberts

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

### 1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

### 2. Evidence reported for publication

*Ordered,* That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

#### **Impact of population change in Wales**

Correspondence with Welsh Automotive Forum, dated 2 April and 18 April 2024

Correspondence with NFU Cymru, dated 2 April and 16 April 2024



Correspondence with Barry Rees, Ceredigion County Council, dated 2 April and 19 April 2024

Correspondence with Office for National Statistics, dated 22 February and 18 April 2024

Correspondence with Paul Mears, Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board, dated 2 April and 19 April 2024

### **Prisons in Wales**

Correspondence with prison Governors, dated 20 March and 18 April 2024

## **Adjournment**

Adjourned till Wednesday 1 May 2024 at 9.15 a.m.

## **Wednesday 24 April 2024 – Friday 26 April 2024**

The Chair, Rob Roberts and Robin Millar visited Toulouse in connection with the Committee's inquiry into Defence industry in Wales, in accordance with the Committee's decision of 28 February 2024.

## **Wednesday 1 May 2024**

### **Members present**

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Virginia Crosbie

Rob Roberts

Ben Lake

Tonia Antoniazzi

Robin Millar

Ruth Jones

## 1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

## 2. Evidence reported for publication

*Ordered,* That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

### **Impact of population change in Wales**

Correspondence with Universities Wales on Impact of Population Change in Wales, dated 2 April and 19 April 2024

Correspondence with Health Education and Improvement Wales, dated 2 April and 19 April 2024

Correspondence with Isle of Anglesey Council, dated 2 April and 19 April 2024

Correspondence with Hywel Dda University Health Board, dated 2 April and 19 April 2024

Correspondence with Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, dated 2 April and 19 April 2024

Correspondence with Swansea Bay University Health Board, dated 2 April and 17 April 2024

Correspondence with the Powys Teaching Health Board, dated 2 April and 19 April 2024

### **Intergovernmental Relations Annual Transparency Report**

Correspondence from Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Housing and Homelessness, dated 23 April 2024

### **Prisons in Wales**

Correspondence with Yvonne Thomas, The Clink Charity, dated 20 March and 23 April 2024

## 3. Impact of population change in Wales; Defence industry in Wales

Jeremy Miles MS, Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Welsh Language, and Andrew Slade, Director General for Economy, Treasury and Constitution, Welsh Government gave oral evidence.

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 8 May 2024 at 9.00 a.m.

## Wednesday 8 May 2024

### Members present

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Ben Lake

Tonia Antoniazzi

Robin Millar

Ruth Jones

Beth Winter

### 1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

### 2. Evidence reported for publication

*Ordered,* That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

#### **Metal Mine Pollution in Wales**

Correspondence from the Coal Authority, dated 25 April 2024

Natural Resources Wales [MPW0001]

#### **Welsh Rugby Union**

Correspondence with the Welsh Government, dated 25 March and 1 May 2024

### 3. Metal Mine Pollution in Wales

Professor Mark Macklin, Professor of River Systems and Global Change, University of Lincoln, and Dr Andrea Sartorius, Research Fellow, University of Nottingham gave oral evidence.

Dave Johnston, Senior Specialist Advisor, Abandoned Metal Mines, and Christian Wilcox, Head of Strategic Projects, Natural Resources Wales, Carl Banton, Operations and Sustainability Director, and Nick Cox, Head of Metal Mines Programme, Coal Authority gave oral evidence.

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 15 May 2024 at 9.30 a.m.

## Wednesday 15 May 2024

### Members present

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Ben Lake

Tonia Antoniazzi

Robin Millar

Virginia Crosbie

Sarah Atherton also attended for item 3 under the provisions of paragraph (1)(e) of Standing Order No 137A (Select committees: power to work with other committees) (Welsh Affairs Committee's resolution of 8 November).

### 1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

### 2. Evidence reported for publication

*Ordered,* That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

#### **Prisons in Wales**

Correspondence with Nicky Park, St Giles Trust, dated 20 March and 30 April 2024

Anonymised [PIW0019]

### 3. Defence Industry in Wales

James Cartlidge MP, Minister for Defence Procurement, Major General Elizabeth Faithfull-Davies, Director of Land Equipment, Defence Equipment and Support, and Barnaby Kistruck, Director, Industrial Strategy and Exports, Ministry of Defence gave oral evidence.

### Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 15 May 2024 at 14.00 p.m.

## Wednesday 15 May 2024 (afternoon sitting)

### Members present

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Ben Lake

Tonia Antoniazzi

Beth Winter

### 1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

### 2. Prisons in Wales

Rt Hon Edward Argar MP, Minister for Prisons, Parole and Probation, Ministry of Justice and Ian Barrow, Executive Director, HMPPS Wales gave oral evidence.

### Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 22 May 2024 at 9.30 a.m.

# Wednesday 22 May 2024

## Members present

Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

Ruth Jones

## 1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

## 2. Evidence reported for publication

*Ordered,* That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

### **Access to High Street Banking in Wales**

Its Better Ltd [BIW0001]

National Pensioners Convention Wales [BIW0002]

Andy Irvine [BIW0004]

The Older People's Commissioner for Wales [BIW0005]

LINK Scheme Ltd [BIW0006]

The Federation of Small Businesses (Wales) [BIW0007]

Age Cymru [BIW0008]

The Welsh Language Commissioner [BIW0009]

Dr Stephen Clark, Dr Nick Hood, and Professor Mark Birkin [BIW0010]

The Wales Council for Voluntary Action [BIW0011]

Professor Mitchel Langford and Professor Gary Higgs [BIW0012]

Churches together in Wales [BIW0013]

The National Federation of SubPostmasters [BIW0015]

Dr. Emmanuel Mogaji [BIW0016]

Nationwide Building Society [BIW0017]

UK Finance [BIW0018]

NoteMachine Ltd. [BIW0019]

The Presbyterian Church of Wales [BIW0020]

Post Office Ltd [BIW0021]

Dr Alan Smith [BIW0022]

The Royal National Institute of Blind People [BIW0023]

Barclays [BIW0024]

The Cymru Older People's Alliance [BIW0025]

Race Council Cymru [BIW0026]

Correspondence from the Welsh Government Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Welsh Language, dated 14 April 2024

### **Prisons in Wales**

Correspondence from Chair of the Senedd's Legislation, Constitution and Justice Committee, dated 14 May 2024

## **3. Access to High Street Banking in Wales**

Christopher Dean, UK Head of Customer Channels, HSBC, Jimmy Robertson, Head of Branch Network, NatWest, Carole Layzell, Managing Director for Barclays Local South, Barclays, Miles Ravenhill, Community Bank Director, Lloyds, gave oral evidence.

Gareth Oakley, CEO, Cash Access UK, John Howells, CEO, LINK, and Ross Borkett, Banking Director, Post Office gave oral evidence.

## **Adjournment**

Adjourned till Wednesday 29 May 2024 at 9.30 a.m.

*The 2023-24 Session of Parliament was prorogued on Friday 24 May and the 2019 Parliament dissolved on Thursday 30 May.*

# Appendix: Declarations of interest by members of the Committee and specialist advisers

## (i) Members of the Committee

### **Antoniazzi, Tonia (Gower)**

#### 3. Gifts, benefits and hospitality from UK sources

Name of donor: S4C

Address of donor: Canolfan S4C Yr Egin, Carmarthen SA31 3EQ

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: Ticket with hospitality for Wales v France rugby match at the Principality Stadium (value is estimated), value £500 Date received: 10 March 2024

Date accepted: 10 March 2024

Donor status: company, registration 03418710

(Registered 14 March 2024)

### **Baynes, Simon (Clwyd South)**

#### 6. Land and property portfolio: (i) value over £100,000 and/or (ii) giving rental income of over £10,000 a year

Type of land/property: Land

Location: Unspecified, Spain (Registered 9 January 2020)

Type of land/property: Residential property (cottage)

Number of properties: 1

Location: Sussex

Interest held: from 17 April 2021 until 31 July 2023

(Registered 19 April 2021; updated 11 September 2023)

#### 8. Miscellaneous

Trustee and unpaid administrator of the Bodfach Trust.

(Registered 9 January 2020)



Director of the Cazenove Association (alumni organisation).  
(Registered 9 January 2020)

Trustee and unpaid administrator of the Concertina Charitable Trust.  
(Registered 9 January 2020)

Joint Chair of Women2Win Wales; an organisation which aims to ensure the fair representation of women at all levels of politics.

Date interest arose: 25 January 2020  
(Registered 4 February 2020)

## **Crabb, Stephen (Preseli Pembrokeshire)**

### **1. Gifts, benefits and hospitality from UK sources**

Name of donor: Entain Holdings (UK) Limited

Address of donor: 3rd Floor, One New Change, London EC4M 9AF

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: Two tickets with hospitality for the Coral Eclipse Stakes at Sandown Park, total value £500

Date received: 8 July 2023

Date accepted: 8 July 2023

Donor status: company, registration 11159638 (Registered 14 July 2023)

### **4. Visits outside the UK**

Name of donor: Conservative Friends of Israel Ltd (CFI Ltd)

Address of donor: PO Box 72288, London SW1P 9LB

Estimate of the probable value (or amount of any donation): Air travel, accommodation and hospitality, value £2,450

Destination of visit: Israel

Dates of visit: 3-7 January 2024

Purpose of visit: Fact finding political delegation.

(Registered 08 January 2024)

Name of donor: Conservative Friends of Israel Ltd

Address of donor: PO Box 72288, London SW1P 9LB

Estimate of the probable value (or amount of any donation): Flights, accommodation and hospitality, total value £2,450

Destination of visit: Israel

Dates of visit: 12-16 February 2024

Purpose of visit: Fact finding political delegation to Israel.

(Registered 26 February 2024)

## **Crosbie, Virginia (Ynys Môn)**

### **2. (b) Any other support not included in Category 2(a)**

Name of donor: Patrick Evershed

Address of donor: private

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £20,000

Date received: 27 April 2023

Date accepted: 10 May 2023

Donor status: individual

(Registered 22 May 2023)

Name of donor: Charles Lewington

Address of donor: private

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £5,000

Date received: 16 June 2023

Date accepted: 16 June 2023

Donor status: individual

(Registered 10 July 2023)

Name of donor: Hugo Page Croft

Address of donor: private

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £3,000

Date received: 26 September 2023

Date accepted: 26 September 2023

Donor status: individual

(Registered 16 October 2023)

Name of donor: The Cayzer Trust Company Limited  
Address of donor: Cayzer House, 30 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6NN  
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £5,000  
Date received: 7 November 2023  
Date accepted: 7 November 2023  
Donor status: company, registration 04987694  
(Registered 24 November 2023)

Name of donor: Patrick Evershed  
Address of donor: private  
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £20,000  
Date received: 15 February 2024  
Date accepted: 4 March 2024  
Donor status: individual  
(Registered 11 March 2024)

Name of donor: The Cayzer Trust Company Limited  
Address of donor: Cayzer House, 30 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6NN  
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £2,500  
Date received: 8 March 2024  
Date accepted: 8 March 2024  
Donor status: company, registration 04987694  
(Registered 25 March 2024)

### 3. Gifts, benefits and hospitality from UK sources

Name of donor: John Harrison  
Address of donor: private  
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: Ticket for the Conservative Winter Party, value £1,000  
Date received: 29 February 2024  
Date accepted: 29 February 2024  
Donor status: individual  
(Registered 2 April 2024)

## 4. Visits outside the UK

Name of donor: Nuclear Industry Association

Address of donor: 5th Floor, Tower House, 10 Southampton Street, London W2E 7HA

Estimate of the probable value (or amount of any donation): Return flights to Helsinki, hotel accommodation, transport and meals, total value £839.68

Destination of visit: Helsinki and Rauma, Finland

Dates of visit: 2-4 November 2023

Purpose of visit: To visit the Olkiluoto 3 Nuclear Power Plant, Onkalo Geological Disposal Facility and Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (STUK) as part of a Nuclear Energy APPG Visit.

(Registered 28 November 2023)

Name of donor: Coalition for Global Prosperity (CGP) (funded by the Eleanor Crook Foundation)

Address of donor: 1 Horse Guards Avenue, London SW1A 2HU

Estimate of the probable value (or amount of any donation): Airport transfers and other car services (£458,90); hotel accommodation, including breakfasts £1,575,60; economy flights (£2,227,90); and food (£441.80), total estimated value £4,704.20

Destination of visit: Washington DC, USA

Dates of visit: 13-16 November 2023

Purpose of visit: Delegation of Conservative and Labour MPs convened by CGP's 1946 Caucus, including discussions with US policymakers, officials and policy professionals to consider joint UK-US foreign policy challenges.

(Registered 06 December 2023)

## David, Wayne (Caerphilly)

### 3. Gifts, benefits and hospitality from UK sources

Name of donor: S4C

Address of donor: Canolfan S4C Yr Egin, Carmarthen SA31 3EQ

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: Ticket with hospitality for Wales v France rugby match at the Principality Stadium (value is estimated), value £500 Date received: 10 March 2024  
Date accepted: 10 March 2024  
Donor status: company, registration 03418710  
(Registered 13 March 2024)

#### 4. Visits outside the UK

Name of donor: Sariya Al Hadi & Ali Al Rashdi & Co. Advocates & Legal Consultants Address of donor: 4th Floor, Bait Al Reem, Thaqafah St, Al Khuwair, P.O Box 2746, PC 130 Athaibah, Muscat, Oman  
Estimate of the probable value (or amount of any donation): Accommodation (£974.95) and travel (£5,640.84), total value £6,615.79  
Destination of visit: Oman  
Dates of visit: 2-6 October 2023  
Purpose of visit: Fact finding visit to find out more about the important relationship between Oman and the UK. (Registered 24 October 2023)

Name of donor: Iraq Britain British Council  
Address of donor: 80 Petty France, London SW1H 9EX  
Estimate of the probable value (or amount of any donation): Accommodation (£1,052.31) and travel (792.54), total value £1,844.85  
Destination of visit: Dubai, United Arab Emirates  
Dates of visit: 6-10 December 2023  
Purpose of visit: Invited to attend and speak at the Iraq Britain British Council Conference in Dubai.  
(Registered 13 December 2023)

## **Davies, Geraint (Swansea West)**

**Nil**

## Jones, Ruth (Newport West)

### 2. (b) Any other support not included in Category 2(a)

Name of donor: Labour Animal Welfare Society

Address of donor: 30 Station Road, Carlton, Nottingham NG4 3AX

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: Provision of a staff member working in my office on animal welfare policy, value £1,740

Date received: 2-31 January 2024

Date accepted: 2 January 2024

Donor status: members' association

(Registered 09 February 2024)

Name of donor: Labour Animal Welfare Society

Address of donor: 30 Station Road, Carlton, Nottingham NG4 3AX

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: Provision of a staff member working in my office on animal welfare policy, value £3,095

Date received: 21 February 2024 to 8 March 2024

Date accepted: 21 February 2024

Donor status: other (members' association) (Registered 15 March 2024)

Name of donor: Labour Animal Welfare Society

Address of donor: 30 Station Road, Carlton, Nottingham NG4 3AX

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: Provision of a staff member working in my office on animal welfare policy, value £3,250

Date received: 11 March 2024 to 3 April 2024

Date accepted: 11 March 2024

Donor status: other (members' association)

(Registered 3 April 2024)

Name of donor: Labour Animal Welfare Society

Address of donor: 30 Station Road, Carlton, Nottingham NG4 3AX

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: Provision of a staff member working in my office on animal welfare policy, value £3,810

Date received: 4 April 2024 to 29 April 2024

Date accepted: 4 April 2024  
Donor status: other (members' association)  
(Registered 30 April 2024)

#### 4. Visits outside the UK

Name of donor: ChinaAid

Address of donor: 1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 700 Washington, DC 20004

Estimate of the probable value (or amount of any donation): Accommodation (£304), economy class flights (£2,157.11) and other travel (£15), total value £2,466.11

Destination of visit: Taipei, Taiwan

Dates of visit: 5-8 September 2023

Purpose of visit: As an officer of the APPG for the Freedom of Religious Beliefs, to lead a delegation to the Taiwan International Religious Freedom Summit and be the keynote speaker at the plenary session.

(Registered 02 October 2023)

## Lake, Ben (Ceredigion)

Nil

## Millar, Robin (Aberconwy)

### 2. (a) Support linked to an MP but received by a local party organisation or indirectly via a central party organisation

Name of donor: United and Cecil Club

Address of donor: New Penderel House, 283-287 High Holborn, London WC1V &HF

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £5,000 for campaigning activities

Donor status: unincorporated association

(Registered 26 April 2024)

## 8. Miscellaneous

Unpaid director of Conservative Union Research Unit Ltd, which provided research and briefings to Members on topics related to strengthening the union of the United Kingdom.

Date interest arose: 14 June 2021

Date interest ended: 5 December 2023

(Registered 27 July 2021; updated 15 April 2024)

## **Roberts, Mr Rob (Delyn)**

**Nil**

## **Wallis, Dr Jamie (Bridgend)**

6. Land and property portfolio with a value over £100,000 and where indicated, the portfolio provides a rental income of over £10,000 a year

Type of land/property: Commercial property (office units)

Number of properties: 4

Location: Bridgend

Rental income: Yes

(Registered 11 January 2020)

7. (i) Shareholdings: over 15% of issued share capital



Name of company or organisation: Fields Data Recovery LLC (US branch of Fields Associates Ltd)  
(Registered 11 January 2020)

Name of company or organisation: Endeavour Law Ltd (law firm)  
(Registered 11 January 2020)

Name of company or organisation: Daten Phoenix Ltd (dormant)  
(Registered 11 January 2020)

Name of company or organisation: Fields Asset Management (commercial office space)  
(Registered 11 January 2020)

Name of company or organisation: Clinique De Donnees Ltd (dormant)  
(Registered 11 January 2020)

Name of company or organisation: Fields Associates (Digital Forensics, Recovery and Security)  
(Registered 11 January 2020)

Name of company or organisation: Fields Data Recovery Ltd (dormant)  
Interest held: from 1 January 2024  
(Registered 11 January 2020)

Name of company or organisation: Fields Group Ltd (holding company)  
(Registered 11 January 2020)

Name of company or organisation: Fields Analytics Ltd (office support functions, based in Thailand)  
(Registered 11 January 2020)

Name of company or organisation: Clinica De Datos Ltd (dormant)  
(Registered 11 January 2020)

Name of company or organisation: Fields Administration Ltd (management services)  
(Registered 11 January 2020)

Name of company or organisation: Rapid Data Recovery Ltd (dormant)  
(Registered 11 January 2020)

Name of company or organisation: Quickie Divorce (online legal services)  
(Registered 11 January 2020)

Name of company or organisation: Fields Holdings Ltd (holding company)  
(Registered 11 January 2020)

Name of company or organisation: Salvataggio Dati Ltd (dormant)  
(Registered 11 January 2020)

Name of company or organisation: Quickie Divorce LLC (dormant; US Branch of Quickie Divorce Ltd)  
(Registered 11 January 2020)

## **Winter, Beth (Cynon Valley)**

**NIL**