

**Darganfod
Dadlau
Dewis**

—
**Discover
Debate
Decide**

**Welsh Bacalaureate – Year 10
How to present an idea for a new law
or a campaign to Assembly Members**



What is the National Assembly for Wales?

The National Assembly for Wales is made up of 60 Assembly Members from across Wales. They are elected by the people of Wales to represent them and their communities, make laws for Wales and to ensure the Welsh Government is doing its job properly.

Unit 02 – What is the work of an Assembly Member?

How to present an idea for a new law or a campaign to Assembly Members

Aim:

Find out how to present an idea for a new Law for Wales or a campaign to Assembly Members

Purpose:

- To raise awareness of the Assembly's petitions system.
- To provide information about how to submit a petition to the National Assembly for Wales.
- To look in detail at some of the petitions which have been received by the Assembly.

Skills:

- Communication – pair / group / class work.
- Oracy – creating scrutiny questions.
- Presenting an idea in front of an audience.

Activities:

- Discuss a petition in a small group. Would they support that petition?
- Discuss the scrutiny questions they would ask the petitioner(s) if they were giving evidence to the Committee.
- Present the petition to the whole class and share their opinions about that petition.

Resources:

- Petitions video.**
- Resource 08: Petitions cards** (laminated) – one for each group.
- Teachers' notes giving further information about the petitions.
- Teachers' notes giving tips for presenting a successful petition.

Further work:

- The pupils could think of petitions they would like to present to the Assembly.

How to present a petition as a campaign or an idea for a new law for Wales to Assembly Members?

01. Watch a video on the Assembly's website

<http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions.htm>

02. Discuss petitions which have been presented to the Assembly.

Divide the class into 5 groups. Each group will be given a card which notes the details of a petition which has been presented to the Assembly. A choice of 9 different petitions is available. Further information about these petitions, together with information about other petitions which have been presented can be seen on the Assembly's website.

<http://www.senedd.assemblywales.org/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=218>

03. Whilst discussing the petition which is on their card, the pupils need to discuss the following questions:

–Would you support this petition? Why?

–If you were an Assembly Member, which questions would you put to the petitioners when they came in to give evidence to the Committee?

The pupils will need to prepare to present the petition to the rest of the class and to give their own opinions about that petition.

04. Every group will present the petition they have been discussing to the rest of the class, giving their own opinion about the petition.

05. After the presentations by the 5 groups, the whole class will vote for the best petition of the 5 presented.

Additional information is provided for the teacher:

–**Resource 09 – A list of the main exceptions,**

i.e. matters not devolved from Westminster.

–**Resource 10 – A list of the 20 Subjects of responsibility.**

–‘Tips for presenting a successful petition’.

Tips for submitting a successful petition

Read the guidelines on the Assembly's website, and then make sure that your petition will be admissible (i.e. within the 20 Subject areas).

<http://www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions.htm>

<http://www.senedd.assemblywales.org/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=218>

You are welcome to contact the Petitions Committee **before** submitting your petition: petition@wales.gov.uk or 029 2089 8998.

Keep the wording of your petition short (one or two sentences). Further information can be submitted separately. Your petition should clearly state the action you are calling on the National Assembly to take.

Your petition wording should start with "We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to" or "We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government to ..."

There will need to be a lead petitioner and you will only need to collect a minimum of 10 signatures before you can submit your petition.

Alternatively, a petition can be submitted in the name of a group or organisation (this could be a school council). In this case you will not need to collect signatures.

You can submit your petition by email to petition@wales.gov.uk.

You can also send the petition by post to:

The Petitions Committee
The National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

You may also like to present your petition in person; this can often lead to increased publicity for your cause.

After you submit a petition, one of the petitions team will be in touch with you within a few days. They will ask for further information such as why you want to start the petition and any action you have already taken.

The 20 Subjects



Ancient monuments and historic buildings



Agriculture, fisheries, forestry and rural development



Economic development



Culture



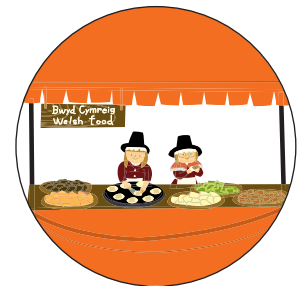
Welsh language



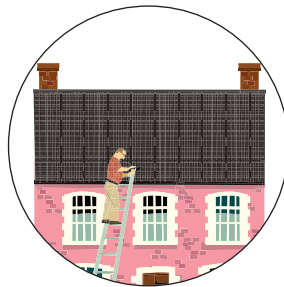
Environment



Health and health services



Food



Housing



Social welfare



Education and training



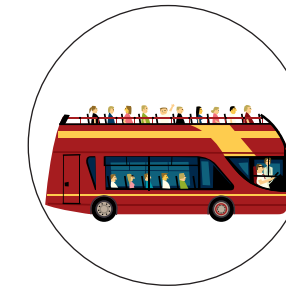
Fire and rescue services and promotion of fire safety



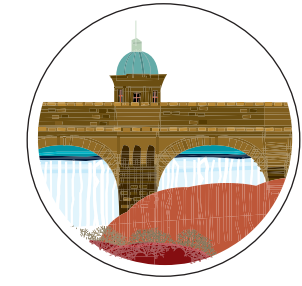
Public administration



Highways and transport



Tourism



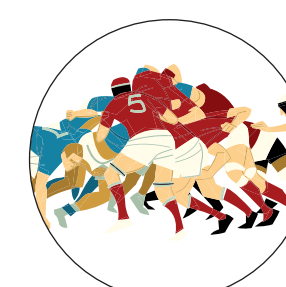
Water and flood defences



Local government



National Assembly for Wales



Sport and recreation



Town and country planning



Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales

Resource 09 Reserved powers

The UK Parliament retains control of:

- UK constitutional matters
- Defence
- Foreign policy
- Economic, fiscal and monetary policy
- Corporate law and regulation
- Employment and equality legislation
- Social security
- Transport safety and regulation
- Nuclear safety
- Film, video and broadcasting
- The Ordnance Survey
- Assisted area designation
- The National Lottery
- Abortion, human fertilisation and embryology
- Control and safety of medicines
- Vivisection.

Resource 08 – Petition Cards

This sheet should be cut up to give each group a different petition to consider

<p>P—03-153 Body piercing restrictions on age.</p> <p>We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to place restrictions on the age at which a minor can have body piercing. The age for body piercings, other than the ears and nose, should be regulated up to the age of 16 years.</p>	<p>P-03-305 Statutory school libraries.</p> <p>We the undersigned, call on the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government to accept in principle that it will make schools libraries statutory and run by suitably qualified staff, and to prepare the necessary legislation in consultation with the appropriate professional associations and trade unions.</p>
<p>P-03-283 NHS Charging for alcohol related incidents.</p> <p>We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government to consider the introduction of charges for treatment and transport of patients to hospitals in those cases where the incident is alcohol related and wholly the fault of the individual or individuals concerned. We hope that these charges will help to reduce the number of calls and treatment by the NHS and as a consequence would hopefully reduce the amount of physical and verbal abuse towards NHS staff</p>	<p>P-03-260 The Campaign for Dark Skies.</p> <p>We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Assembly Government to tackle the growing problem of light pollution in Wales. Light pollution is the result of wasted light, which means wasted energy. The Campaign for Dark Skies are calling on the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Assembly Government to provide clear guidance to Welsh local authorities regarding light pollution. Such guidance should be aimed at curbing light pollution by setting clear limits for lighting on all planning applications and by placing a statutory duty on local authorities to reduce the amount of wasted light in their area.</p>

P-03-187

Abolish the Severn Bridge Toll.

We the undersigned call upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the UK Government in Westminster to do everything in its power to abolish the two Severn Bridge tolls.

P-03-313

The Animal Welfare (breeding of dogs) (Wales) Regulations 2011.

We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government to undertake further consultation with hobby breeders and not to implement the proposed Animal Welfare (Breeding of Dogs) (Wales) Regulations 2011 until this has been completed.

P-03-292

Public toilet provision

We the undersigned call upon the National Assembly for Wales to investigate the health and social well-being implications resulting from public toilets closures and to urge the Welsh Government to issue guidance to local authorities to ensure adequate public toilet provision.