

HUW IRRANCA-DAVIES MS/AS

Member of the Senedd for Ogmore | Aelod o'r Senedd dros Ogwr

Ogmore's Voice in the Senedd



Maesteg Line Improvements: Transport for Wales Responds to Campaigning Efforts



Our campaigning for improvements on the trains definitely has the full attention of Transport for Wales following the recent public meeting we organised, and my follow-up letter to the CEO.

A positive response has been received from Transport for Wales outlining planned actions to address issues on the Maesteg line acknowledging the challenges passengers have faced, including cancellations, delays, and disruptions.

They addressed specific problems like timetables, turnaround times, disruptions caused by the South Wales Main Line, rolling stock availability, and cleanliness.

In response, TfW outlined several planned actions to include: Investigate connecting Maesteg and Ebbw Vale services for improved turnaround times; Develop a plan to manage cancellations, prioritising Bridgend station; Collaborate with Network Rail to minimise disruptions; Review cleaning procedures for trains and platforms. Full details of the response can be found on my website and social media channels.

Public meetings are crucial for further discussion and ensuring continued efforts towards improvement. Residents are encouraged to attend these meetings to voice their concerns and hold TfW accountable.

A follow-up meeting is scheduled for 25th April in Pencoed with full details to be announced soon and also another meeting is being planned in Pontyclun with TfW and Mick Antoniw MS.

We also continue to press for the the Maesteg half-hourly service and the Minister for Transport has agreed to my request for a meeting with TfW - watch this space !

Dydd Gwyl Dewi Hapus/ Happy St David's Day

What better way to celebrate St David's Day than with a Welsh Choir.

It was a pleasure to attend a wonderful concert to celebrate St David's Day, with the Ogmore Valley Male Voice Choir and Ysgol Gyfun Bro Ogwr. Beautiful singing, plenty of hwyl, and great friendship too.

Cyngerdd bendedig i ddathlu Dydd Gwyl Dewi, gyda Chôr Meibion Cwm Ogwr ac Ysgol Gyfun Bro Ogwr. Canu hyfryd, digon o hwyl, a chyfeillgarwch gwydh hefyd.



2nd Welsh Open Inclusive Dance Championships



sponsored by RMA Sport

I was delighted to officially open and enjoy watching the Welsh Open Inclusive Dance Championships at Tondu along with Sarah Murphy MS, Bridgend Council Leader Huw David and others.

The competition had been arranged through a collaboration between Impetus Dance Community Interest Company & Inclusive Dance UK with the support of Bridgend County Borough Council Prevention & Wellbeing Team and local charities BING and Lads & Dads.

Fantastic performers, great audience support, and real inclusion in action as the competition welcomed athletes from across the UK who will compete in Wheelchair and Standing Inclusive Ballroom, Latin and freestyle Dance categories.



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A strong voice in the Senedd and around the constituency

One Network, One Timetable, One Ticket: Planning Buses as a Public Service for Wales

Decades of deregulation have resulted in significant challenges for bus services, particularly the lack of connectivity in far out reaches of the Ogmore constituency.

As a frequent and vocal campaigner for better bus services, I am pleased to hear the Welsh Government are to bring forward a new 'Roadmap to Bus Reform' to amend the failed system of deregulation. This will enable all levels of government to work with our communities to design and deliver bus services they need and will prioritise needs of passengers over profit.

The next steps to a more connected public transport system for Wales have now been published: www.gov.wales/bus-reform-wales-our-roadmap-franchising

A new "Roadmap to Bus Reform" from the Welsh Labour Government aims to improve the ease and accessibility of public transport, connecting up bus, rail, walking and cycling routes to create seamless journeys for passengers.

The Welsh Government want to create one joined up network and one integrated timetable which can be accessed using one ticket. It's not an easy or quick fix, but it will address the current flaws, creating a system that puts the needs of passengers first.

As well as connecting people, bus reform will be crucial in tackling transport poverty and the new approach will be rolled out on a geographical basis over several years.

Look out for my next public event on this very soon so you can get involved in these radical reforms!



Improvements in eating disorder care across Wales

Support is growing and improving for those with eating disorders in Wales.

The Welsh Labour Government are investing in positive changes and the vast majority of people who need treatment for an eating disorder are now seen in Wales and treated in their local communities.

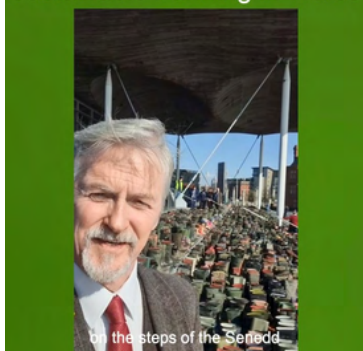
We know that getting the right support as early as possible is crucial to helping recovery.

Read more: www.gov.wales/improvements-eating-disorder-care-across-wales



Farmers Give it Some Welly! - Sustainable Farming in Wales

Sustainable Farming in Wales



Welsh farmers held a peaceful demonstration on the steps of the Senedd with rows and rows of wellies, each representing farming communities across Wales.

I regularly meet with farming communities in Ogmore so it was good to talk with the demonstrators about ideas for sustainable farming in Wales. We discussed how we take forward the necessary reforms now that we have left the EU, how we move to a sustainable farming system of payments, that not only rewards sustainable food production to the highest standards which we do well in Wales, but also that we deal with the emergencies we face within climate change and also restoring nature and biodiversity.

The Welsh Government is committed to supporting farming as a crucial means of addressing the climate and nature emergency which is threatening the ability of future generations to produce the food they need. The consultation on 'The Sustainable Farming Scheme' is now closed and every response to the consultation will be carefully considered.

A strong voice in the Senedd and around the constituency

Creating a more effective & representative Senedd



The Welsh Government plans to strengthen democracy under a major Senedd Reform by creating a more effective and representative Welsh Parliament. To help achieve this, 2 Bills have been introduced to the Senedd: The Senedd Cymru (Members and Elections) Bill and The Senedd Cymru (Electoral Candidate Lists) Bill

Following scrutiny, Members of the Senedd will vote to decide whether to support the 2 Bills and if passed, will take effect from the 2026 Senedd elections

Wales is the most under-represented country in the UK and the Senedd is by far the smallest of the UK's devolved parliaments, even smaller than some county councils in Wales. Under the new Bills, the number of Senedd constituencies is set to fall to 16, which would be pairings of the proposed 32 constituencies in Wales for Westminster elections

There has been a lot of focus on the current size of the Senedd Cymru which was set in 1999 – before the Senedd had full law-making powers, with a view to increasing it to 96 members. Now that we have primary law making powers, tax varying powers and make decisions that affect people's lives directly throughout Wales, it is important that we have the right number of Senedd Members to scrutinise the Welsh Government.

The Bills will consider how we elect people to the Chamber, whether we do it on a proportional or a more proportional basis. They will look at what constituencies should be represented and how we get greater diversity of individuals to sit in the Senedd to represent us and to speak for all walks of life within Wales.

Welsh Labour has led the way on gender equality amongst its Senedd representatives but we must do better for other under-represented groups. The wider package of reform will help ensure that the Senedd is truly representative of the people of Wales.

British Heart Foundation offers free CPR Training

It was great meeting with British Heart Foundation - Wales again to hear about their work and to brush up on my knowledge of CPR lifesaving skills.

Over 30,000 people have an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest every year in the UK, with less than 1 in 10 surviving.

British Heart Foundation are calling on people to learn CPR for free in 15 minutes via their interactive online training course RevivR – all you need is a cushion and a mobile phone
For more information and to access the course: www.bhf.org.uk/revivr



Minister Praises Innovative Day Surgery Knee Replacements at the Princess of Wales Hospital



Eluned Morgan, the Minister for Health and Social Services visited the Princess of Wales Hospital where she met the team carrying out total knee replacements as day surgery cases.

Surgeon, Professor Singhal provides patients with a 'one-stop shop' for their care, offering outpatient consultations and surgery on the same day. For low risk patients requiring surgery, this approach is resulting in a reduced number of appointments as well as less time spent in hospital after their procedures.

My colleague Sarah Murphy MS and I have often highlighted the incredible work of Professor Singhal and his team several times in the Senedd.

A strong voice in the Senedd and around the constituency

Strong Turnout for Funding Advice Day 2024

Held this year at Pencoed RFC and co-hosted by myself, Chris Elmore MP and Sarah Murphy MS, we were delighted to welcome many local organisations and groups to chat with potential funders.



Our Annual Funding Advice Day is a valuable opportunity to bring new community funding opportunities to Ogmore and Bridgend and local clubs, charities or groups looking for funding are encouraged to attend.



Many organisations are on hand to provide information about potential funding opportunities and help with queries.



Contact Me!

Get in touch if you need help or support. Or if you wish to highlight issues or share ideas.

Advice Surgeries

I hold regular Advice Surgeries and 'Coffee Mornings' in all parts of the constituency and these are advertised via my website and social media channels

Committee Work & Cross Party Groups



I am currently Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee and a member of the Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee, Chair of the Strategic Forum for Regional Investment in Wales and Chaired the Special Purpose committee on Senedd Reform.



I am also Chair, Vice Chair and member of 25 Cross Party Groups.

Keep up with my committee work here: <https://senedd.wales/people/huw-irranca-davies-ms/>

Follow Me on Social Media



/huw4ogmore



@huw4ogmore



huw_irranca_davies

CONSTITUENCY CASEWORK

Housing, Transport and Health continue to dominate my daily caseload.

I am often seen highlighting issues raised by my constituents directly with Ministers during Plenary sessions or via Written Parliamentary Questions.

Follow my policy work and Plenary exchanges via this link: <https://rb.gy/phsb8s>



Website: [huwirranca-davies.wales](https://www.huwirranca-davies.wales)

Promoted by & on behalf of Huw Irranca-Davies MS - Welsh versions are available on request