



## Petitioning the Assembly

The petitions process enables the people of Wales to raise issues and directly influence the work of the National Assembly. A petition is a way of asking the National Assembly to consider any issue, problem or proposal that it has the power to do something about.

The Assembly's system ensures that all admissible petitions are considered by the Petitions Committee. The system was set up to enable members of the public who feel strongly about an issue to gather support and submit a petition to the Assembly in a way that is accessible and meaningful.

### The Petitions Committee

The Assembly has set up a Petitions Committee to consider petitions and to decide what action should be taken. If there is something that you would like to change about life in Wales, you can start a petition to raise your concerns.

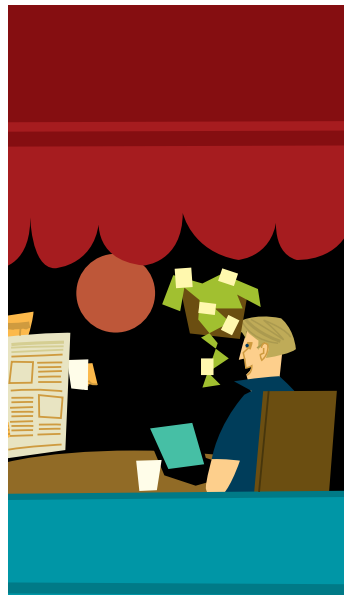
### Your petition

Petitions must meet a small number of terms and conditions set by the Assembly for them to be considered by the Petitions Committee. These terms and conditions are available at [www.assemblywales.org/get-petitions-terms](http://www.assemblywales.org/get-petitions-terms)

One of the main conditions is that your petition must be about one of the devolved subject areas in which the National Assembly can make laws for Wales. The National Assembly can make laws for Wales in the following areas affecting your life:

- 01 Agriculture, fisheries, forestry and rural development
- 02 Ancient monuments and historical buildings
- 03 Culture
- 04 Economic development
- 05 Education and training
- 06 Environment
- 07 Fire and rescue services and promotion of fire safety
- 08 Food
- 09 Health and health services
- 10 Highways and transport
- 11 Housing
- 12 Local government
- 13 National Assembly for Wales
- 14 Public services
- 15 Social welfare
- 16 Sport and recreation
- 17 Tourism
- 18 Town and country planning
- 19 Water and flood defences
- 20 Welsh Language

As long as the issue you would like to raise falls in to one of these areas and meets the other terms and conditions, you can start a petition.



### 01 Getting started

The easiest way to submit your proposal is through our website <http://www.assemblywales.org/e-petitions>. We also welcome traditional paper petitions.

To help you get started, contact the Petitions team by emailing [Petition@wales.gov.uk](mailto:Petition@wales.gov.uk) or calling **029 2089 8998** to discuss the wording of your petition. We'll work with you to help make sure that your petition can be considered by the National Assembly for Wales and we'll explain the types of issues that cannot be considered. We recommend you do this before you start collecting signatures.

### 02 Collecting signatures

Petitions submitted by individuals will need to collect at least ten signatures for the petition to be considered. Petitions submitted by an organisation, or even an unincorporated association or group, do not require signatures. See [www.assemblywales.org/e-petitions](http://www.assemblywales.org/e-petitions) for more details on collecting signatures online.

If the wording of your petition has not been discussed with the Petitions team beforehand, it will need to be assessed for admissibility before it goes any further.

### 03 Presenting your petition

Once your petition has finished collecting signatures, you can formally present it to members of the Petitions Committee on the steps of the Senedd in Cardiff Bay. This provides you with an opportunity to meet committee members and chat to them about the issue, and also to gather some publicity for your petition.

### What happens next?

The petition goes to the Committee, who can take a number of actions to progress it, including:

- writing to the Welsh Government or any other relevant organisation for further information or clarification on an issue;

- inviting petitioners or any other organisation to present oral evidence. This usually does not happen until at least the second consideration of a petition. Not all petitioners will be invited to give evidence, and it is up to the Committee to decide who to invite;
- seeking further information from the Assembly's Research Service or Legal Service;
- conducting a short inquiry into the issue;
- asking another committee to consider the issue. Whether they then take up the issue is a decision for members of that committee.

When further information is received, the petition is considered again by the Petitions Committee. The committee members decide what action to take in light of this new information. We'll get in touch with you before the Committee considers your petition to let you know when the meeting is taking place. We will also let you know the outcomes following the meeting. All committee meetings can be viewed online at [www.senedd.tv](http://www.senedd.tv)

### Get in touch

Now the Assembly wants to hear from you. Whether it's something that affects your town or village, or an issue that is of concern to your interest group or society, petitions can help you make it known to the Assembly.

If you are interested in submitting a petition, please contact us on **029 2089 8998** or email [petition@wales.gov.uk](mailto:petition@wales.gov.uk)

We are also happy to meet you in person.

**The Petitions team,  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay CF99 1NA**

[www.assemblywales.org](http://www.assemblywales.org)  
[www.assemblywales.org/e-petitions](http://www.assemblywales.org/e-petitions)