

# Mike Hedges MS Senedd Report July 2021



Mike Hedges MS

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## **MIKE HEDGES MS VISITS WALES AIR AMBULANCE BASE IN LLANELLI**

MS Mike Hedges visited the Air Ambulance Base in Llanelli as part of his program of visiting groups and organisations who work in or with people from his constituency during the Senedd Recess. Mike met with Senior Management Team of Wales Air Ambulance at their Llanelli base for a discussion about their work and how it helps people right across South Wales.

The discussions covered the operation of the service, examples of the where the ambulances had been used to move people from difficult to reach locations and where the fast transfer of patients to major hospitals has saved lives and enabled faster specialist treatment. Discussion also covered the funding required to run the service; currently Wales Air Ambulance requires just over £8 million to run its 24 hour service. All of the money has to be raised through the work of the fund raising team and volunteers.

Following the meeting, Mike Hedges said... `The work of the Wales Air Ambulance is simply fantastic and none of us know when we may need its services. I wish to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the work of everyone associated with the service from the pilots, the teams who maintain the helicopters, the medical staff who attend to patients, and also the volunteers who help with all of the fund raising efforts to keep the service going.

I would like to urge everyone to contribute if they see any fundraising effort for the Air Ambulance, it really is one of the best causes you can give to.

After today's visit, I will look with renewed admiration when I see the Air Ambulance going to and from Morriston Hospital near my home.

Photo – Mike Hedges MS and Dr Sue Barnes, Chief Executive of Wales Air Ambulance



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## **MIKE HEDGES MS CALLS FOR MORE PLANTING OF TREES AND FOR A CAMPAIGN TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO PLANT A TREE FOR 23 AND ONE MORE FOR 24**

'We need more trees and we need them quickly! We need to do everything we can to encourage the planting of trees by individuals, land owners and Councils. Planting trees will help us meet climate change goals, assist with flood prevention schemes and with the greening of former industrial areas.

I welcome the Minister taking up my idea of a scheme with a catchy title – the minister is welcome to use it, the slogan having first been used in the 1970s, by an MP by the name of Sydney Chapman. The 1970's scheme led to the planting of over 150 000 new trees in 1973. If we can develop the scheme to plant 150 000 trees in 2023, we will be making a good start.

I would urge anyone with land to consider planting trees now, and in the coming years – each of us can do our bit by planting a tree! ( Senedd 13 July 2021)

## **MIKE HEDGES MS STATES CASE FOR MORE COUNCIL HOUSES AND ASKS FOR GOVERNMENT ACTION ON OTHER HOUSING ISSUES**

I regularly have residents contact me with housing issues and many have heartrending tales; building more Council houses should be THE top priority for the Welsh Government through the 6<sup>th</sup> Senedd.

It will take time to build houses and there are things the government can do now. The Government could end the rules for business rate relief on houses, making them eligible for council tax.

We need the Welsh Government to be proactive NOW to address the housing shortage now, not wait for events to develop. (July 2021)

### **Visits**

St Thomas church re environment walk  
Wales air ambulance  
Ynytawe cricket  
Morrison cricket  
Landore cricket  
Morrison bowls  
Mynyddbach bowls  
Swansea Pride online

### **Articles**

Politically speaking bio diversity  
Hiraeth Welsh economy  
Politically speaking – Welsh economy

### **Speeches**

Legislative programme  
Housing  
Constitutional convention  
Forestry and Wood  
Budget  
Free school meals  
*Devolution*  
*Bio diversity*

### **Questions**

Poverty  
Improving health  
Importance of Education  
*Cladding in SA1*  
*Job Sharing*

*Italic - in end of June post GC*

**PLEASE CONTACT ME IF YOU WANT MORE INFORMATION ON ANY OF MY ACTIVITIES**

### **GET IN TOUCH...**

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**I am unable to hold surgeries in local Libraries due to Coronavirus restrictions. I hope to restart surgeries in September 2021  
If you require any help or support please ring or email my office**