

Mike Hedges

Member of the Senedd for Swansea East



Welsh Labour  Llafur Cymru

SENEDD REPORT – JULY 2024

IN THE SENEDD MIKE HEDGES ASKS FOR STATEMENT ON EMPTY HOUSES IN WALES AND ASKS FOR COUNCILS TO BE GIVEN POWERS TO COMPULSORY PURCHASE PROPERTIES EMPTY FOR 5 YEARS.

I am constantly surprised by the number of empty houses around Swansea, and it bothers me that this is so at a time when we have many thousands of people on the housing waiting list in the area. Whilst campaigning in the election, I have been disappointed with the number of empty houses, and that includes a detached five-bedroomed house.

Whilst the loans for upgrading and the extra council tax are having some effect, I have requested further action by the Welsh Government including considering a range of further options such as allowing councils to compulsorily purchase a property that has been empty for five years.

Local authorities know their areas best and should have more power to deal with housing issues in their areas.



WALES WORLD LEADING IN RECYCLING

Wales has climbed to second in the world for recycling. This is due to the ongoing efforts of households and workplaces across the country.

At the start of devolution 25 years ago, we were a nation of very low recycling rates and it is wonderful to mark this enormous improvement.

By adopting a successful approach to recycling, we are also making successful strides to tackle the climate and nature emergencies.

Wales has been a leading country in this area too; we were the first UK nation to charge for plastic bags and later removed the ability to sell many single-use plastic items.

Recycling isn't just great for our planet but also helps the Welsh economy, with high quality recycling supporting the creation of jobs.



CASUALTIES ON ROADS AMONG LOWEST ON RECORD SINCE 20MPH INTRODUCTION

Data published last month shows that between October-December 2023, road casualties on 20mph and 30mph roads reduced.

The figures showed that the number of casualties were the lowest on record (outside of the Covid-19 pandemic period). We still have a way to go in ensuring we have the right speeds on the right roads and that drivers are confident and comfortable with any new speed limits, but given this policy was brought in to save lives and reduce casualties this data is very promising.

Articles Published

Nation Cymru- 4th June- Devolution we need a full overhaul. This article discusses how the devolution settlement in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland need to be the same and devolution to the English regional mayors.

Nation Cymru 10th June - Why cannot Tata update its steel works. This article argues for the continuation of iron and steel making at Port Talbot and the importance of an integrated steel works.

Nation Cymru- 13th June- Developments in technology a threat to democracy. This article looks at how photo shop and voice copying and video editing are posing a threat to democracy.

Nation Cymru 10th July Barnett formula- calling for a review by of the Barnett formula and asking for a review

Evening post 6th June- politically speaking River pollution. This article looked at river pollution and its causes Wales concentrating on sewerage in the river Tawe.

Evening post- 4th July - politically speaking Music venues. This article looked at the reduction in music venues in Swansea, the importance of small music venues and the effect of rent increases.

Welsh Fabians 24th June- IT a threat to democracy. This article looks at how photo shop and voice copying and video editing are posing a threat to democracy.

Welsh Fabians- 14th June- Steel This article argues for the continuation of iron and steel making at Port Talbot and the importance of an integrated steel works.



St Illtyds RC Primary School –
Present School of Sanctuary Award



Peniel Green Care Home –
Care Home Open Week



St Martins Care Home –
Care Home Open Week

Constituency Visits

D-Day Church Service
Meet new Health Board Chair
Peniel Green Nursing Home
St Martins Court Nursing Home
Swansea Deaf Centre
Wales Armed Forces Service
Swansea Air Show
Morrison Ladies choir Annual Concert
Phoenix Wales Choir Annual Concert
Morrison Orpheus Choir Annual Concert
Swansea City DSA Coffee Morning
Parc Llewelyn Open Day

Sport

Landore Cricket
Morrison Cricket
Ynystawe Cricket
Swansea Cricket

School visits

Ynystawe Primary School
Glyncollen Primary School
Clwyd Primary School
Plasmarl Primary School
Morrison Primary School
St Illtyd's RC Primary School

Get in touch

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MONTHLY ADVICE SURGERIES

1st Friday – Brynhyfryd Library 3-4pm
2nd Friday – Morrison Library 3-4pm
3rd Friday – Penlan Library 2-3 pm
4th Thursday – St Thomas Library 3-3.30pm
4th Friday – Llansamlet Library 3-4pm