

# [180403 Connect with Carwyn in Llanelli](#)

The First Minister wants to hear your ideas and answer your questions on the issues that matter to you.

The session will take place at the Selwyn Samuel Centre, Park Crescent, Llanelli, SA15 3AE between 6pm and 7:30pm.

You can [register your interest in attending Carwyn Connect Llanelli](#). Questions can be submitted upon arrival at the venue, emailed in advance to [cabinetcommunications@gov.wales](mailto:cabinetcommunications@gov.wales) or via Twitter using [@fmwales](#) and the [#carwynconnect](#) hashtag.

First Minister Carwyn Jones said:

“It has been almost 3 years since I held the first Carwyn Connect session. Since then, I have travelled the length and breadth of Wales to hear the views of local communities and answer people’s questions.

“I am pleased to announce the next session will take place in Llanelli. I would like to see as many people as possible at the Selwyn Samuel Centre, so if you have a question for me, want to raise issues affecting your community or have a great idea that would make your home town a better place to live, please come along.

“This is your chance to ask me the questions you most want answered. I’m really looking forward to meeting you all and hearing what you have to say.”

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## [Message of solidarity to Welsh Muslims](#)

Following recent media reports about a malicious letter campaign aimed at British Muslims, Julie James, who is responsible for equalities in the Welsh Government, reassured the Muslim community in Wales that they are valued and welcome.

She wrote,

“I hope that I can provide you with some measure of reassurance by stating categorically that the Welsh Government, and the vast majority of the population in Wales utterly condemns the vile

hatred expressed by a tiny minority, and the cowardly attempt to instil fear in our communities.

“The Welsh Government stands firmly alongside all those who are the victims of threats or abuse at any time, and in constant opposition to all those who seek to spread division.”

Working alongside the four police forces and the Hate Crime Criminal Justice Board Cymru, we have robust systems and legislation in place to investigate hate crimes, support victims and punish perpetrators.

The Welsh Government and the police take all reports of hate crime extremely seriously. Even when the report does not lead to an arrest, this information is still vital to help the police forces to plan and target their prevention activities.

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## [Economy Secretary on Gold Coast to support and promote Wales](#)

His visit comes one month before the start of daily flights between Cardiff and Doha which will pave the way for increased trade links between Wales, the Middle East, Asia and Australasia.

The Commonwealth Games is the only elite multi-disciplinary event in which Welsh athletes can compete under their own flag.

And at the 2018 Games Ken Skates will be supporting Wales' 223 competing athletes who are representing their country in a range of sports including swimming, diving, athletics, boxing, cycling, gymnastics, hockey netball, lawn balls, rugby, shooting, squash, table tennis, triathlon, weightlifting and all 5 para sports.

The Economy Secretary will attend the Commonwealth Games' opening ceremony, and join other Commonwealth Government representatives and figures from business, academia and sport in an event to explore the value, power and influence of sport beyond the playing field.

He will also represent Wales at business events, aimed at maximising trading opportunities between Commonwealth countries and the Gold Coast.

Later in the week he will travel to Sydney to meet the Council of Australian Tour Operators and attend a business event with the Australian British Chamber of Commerce and Qatar Airways, before returning to the Games.

Ken Skates said:

“Sport is a huge part of our culture and the Commonwealth Games represent a unique opportunity for Wales to compete as a nation in a world class sporting event.

“This is a magnificent opportunity for Wales and our 223 athletes who, with the support of Commonwealth Games Wales and Sport Wales have worked so hard to be here, and I am proud to be cheering on team Wales as they test themselves against the very best in the world.

“The Gold Coast Games, and the new Qatar Airways flights between Cardiff and Doha which kick off next month, provide us with an excellent opportunity to further build our links with the Middle East, Asia and Australasia – and of course, these links are more important than ever as we prepare to leave the EU.

“With that in mind, my focus this week will be flying the flag for Wales, strengthening partnerships and connections, and promoting Wales as a great place to set up a business, and as a truly first class trading partner, tourism destination and place to study.”

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## [New requirements to ensure care workers are treated fairly come into force](#)

The new requirements are part of the Welsh Government’s wider efforts to support the delivery of high quality social care which is focused on the individual and the personal outcomes they want to achieve.

The new regulations support good employment practices by addressing the use of zero-hours contracts. From today, providers are required to give domiciliary care workers a choice of contract after a three month period of employment.

The regulations also place requirements on these providers to ensure that time allocated for travel and care is clearly and transparently set out, so that care time and therefore the quality and continuity of care is not eroded

by the need to travel between visits.

Social Care Minister, Huw Irranca-Davies said:

“The new regulations coming into force today are designed to support continued improvement in the care sector in Wales. They offer staff in the social care sector a fairer deal and help to safeguard the quality of care and support which people receive in their own homes.

“There is a very clear link between the use of zero-hours contracts and a reduced quality of care, due to issues around the continuity of care and communication between workers and those they support. These measures will ensure workers are offered a choice of contractual arrangements.

“Requiring providers to distinguish clearly between travel time and care time when arranging services, will also improve the experience of people needing care. Doing so will help tackle ‘call-clipping’, ensuring people’s care and support time is not eroded by travel time between visits.

“The registration of domiciliary care workers will provide the public with confidence that care workers have the appropriate skills and qualifications to do their jobs in a professional, compassionate manner.

“I’m pleased the Welsh Government has been able to act to ensure people receiving care experience the best possible care, and to ensure fairness for social care staff across Wales.”

The Welsh Government has also opened Social Care Wales’ workforce register to include domiciliary care workers, as part of its ongoing commitment to professionalise the workforce. This will ensure care workers receive the recognition and support they deserve from the Welsh Government, Care Inspectorate Wales, and their employers.

These requirements are part of a package of measures put in place by the Welsh Government and partners to raise the profile and status of the workforce, so that social care is recognised as an attractive and valued career.

The regulations flow from the Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016, which sets the new legal framework for the regulation and inspection of social care services and reforms the regulation of the social care workforce in Wales.

Domiciliary support is at the very heart of the system, and domiciliary care workers play a vital role in supporting people to maintain their independence and live at home. There are estimated to be approximately 19,500 domiciliary care workers in Wales, delivering around 260,000 hours of care a week to

23,000 people.