First Minister's Remarks

Members of the Senedd,

When I looked out my window this morning, I saw a nation. A prosperous nation with many people who live very happy lives. One with a multi-billion pound economy that is only growing. Indeed, there is much about this nation to be proud of. But I also saw a nation in which there are people who need help. People who have to choose between heating and eating. People who are suffering in the cost of living crisis. People who are waiting far too long for NHS treatment, and people who are being failed by the education system. It is those people who I want to deliver for.

It has been a long journey to get here, one with many successes and one with many failures. But finally, I can stand before the Senedd as first minister, and offer a truly progressive agenda to benefit everyone in Cymru. That is our resolve, and I think it manifests itself most effectively in this document.

With the help of C!ymru, I fully believe we are capable of transforming lives with a compassionate agenda that deals not with petty issues but with the real priorities of the Welsh people. My friends, let's make change.

Thank you.

— Zakian3000, First Minister of Wales

Deputy First Minister's Remarks

Diolch yn fawr, Mr. Llywydd ac Aelodau o'r Senedd,

First of all, I would just like to echo the word of my Rt Hon. Friend, the First Minister, that Wales is truly a nation to be proud of and one that grows more prosperous all the time. It is good to finally stand as an elected representative of the country of my birth, chosen but all my friends and family to be here today, supporting a government that will indeed offer a highly progressive programme of legislation. I am proud to be a contributing factor in bringing this government together from two unlikely parties that have come to form what promises to be a most productive partnership.

As Deputy First Minister, I shall ensure there is always fair discussion and compromise on all that we do. C!ymru is proud to stand behind Plaid Cymru as we embark upon the task of ensuring Wales stands mighty and proud as part of the United Kingdom.

Lord Sigur, Deputy First Minister of Wales

Finance and the Economy

Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Economy - wineredpsy

The Finance and the Economy department seeks to ensure a strong and stable economy for Wales, and ensure that this economy exists for the purpose of helping the most vulnerable people in Wales. Its first and foremost aim is to ensure a budget is delivered which will support the Pobl Cymru through the cost of living crisis and ensure our public services get the funding they need to operate as effectively as possible.

The Finance and the Economy department intends to:

- •Reform taxation by raising corporation tax back to a lower rate of 18% and standard rate of 25%, moving away from WRIT by using the powers granted by the Wales Act 2021 to set our own income tax bands, and raising the highest income tax band.
- •Lower the budget surplus, but not run a deficit.
- •Create a Welsh Language Workforce Training Programme.

Health and Social Care

Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care - Dyn-Cymru

The department of health and social care seeks to ensure the NHS runs as effectively and efficiently as possible, with a service that is both free at the point of delivery and fully functional, and has facilities that are truly fit for the 21st century.

The Health and Social Care department intends to:

- •Ensure the healthcare needs of rural communities are met by increasing the provision of mobile health services and increasing funding for new GP services to increase the coverage for rural areas.
- •Improve NHS efficiency and decrease waiting times by creating clear pathways for referrals, reducing the risk of such referrals being made inappropriately.
- •Establish a national dental services to ensure everyone can get access to the oral health treatment they need

Education and Skills

Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills - xboxhelpergg

The department of education and skills seeks to empower young people across Wales, ensuring schools across the country are nexuses of knowledge to the next generation. Not only will it be seeking to give children qualifications and skills they can use for the world of work, but also expertise in a range of areas that will be useful to them in other areas of adulthood.

The Education and Skills department intends to:

- •Move the model Wales uses for examinations closer to the one introduced in Scotland by the Education (Examinations) Regulations 2021.
- •Model our education system around the needs of individual students rather than expecting them to model their learning style around the education system, bringing an end to the plague that is the one-size-fits-all approach.
- •Expand eligibility for uniform-based subsidies to ensure no family has to worry about whether they can afford to clothe a child at school.

Justice

Cabinet Secretary for Justice - Lord Sigur

The justice department seeks to create an effective and accountable law enforcement service that has the trust of local communities, and a prison service truly fit for the purpose of rehabilitation, as well as looking at how we can ensure justice for people who are so clearly being failed by the system in their daily lives.

The Justice department intends to:

- •Enshrine the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities into Welsh law.
- •Protect the safety and privacy of minors by banning paparazzi from taking or publishing pictures of under 18s without the consent of both the child and the parent.
- •Amend the Children Act 1989 to ensure the right to parental responsibility is equal for both mothers and fathers.

<u>Culture, Broadcasting, and Digital Affairs</u>

Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Broadcasting, and Digital Affairs - ViktorHr

The Culture, Broadcasting, and Digital Affairs department seeks to improve community engagement with culture by creating a wide range of opportunities for people to connect with their culture and heritage in all aspects of their lives.

The Culture, Broadcasting, and Digital Affairs department intends to:

- •Create a new body to classify media, such as films, in which the Welsh language is spoken.
- •Create more libraries in communities that are not currently serviced with one, and oppose the closure of libraries wherever possible.

•Introduce legislation to crack down on nuisance callers.

Infrastructure and the Environment

Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure and the Environment - theverywetbanana

The department of infrastructure and the environment seeks to ensure everyone has access to green transport between communities, as well as considerably cut our greenhouse gas emissions to fight back against the climate crisis.

The infrastructure and the environment department intends to:

- •Ensure we have clear aims for tackling the climate crisis by enshrining several targets into Welsh law.
- •Protect the welfare of domestic animals by placing a ban on the use of shock collars.
- •Create a national strategy to ensure public transport is accessible for disabled people.

Housing, Communities, and Local Government

Cabinet Secretary for Housing, Communities, and Local Government - DylanLC04

The Housing, Communities, and Local Government department seeks to ensure everyone in Wales has access to a home, that communities feel safe, and that local governments have as much support as possible so that they are able to fulfill their duties.

The housing, communities, and local government department intends to:

- •Ensure everyone in Wales has access to a home by beginning to lay out the foundations for a Helsinki-style model for homelessness.
- •Create an anti-flooding strategy to protect vulnerable communities and homes from the risk of inundation.
- •Reduce the number of principal areas in Wales from 22 to 14 to make the system less incongruous whilst still ensuring adequate local representation.