

**P-04-526 Please make Senedd TV accessible to deaf people -
Correspondence from the Petitioner to the Committee, 08.10.14**

HI So sorry for the delay. Could you forward this to the relevant petitions agent for me ? I did send specific requests to the petitions people regarding Senedd TV, and, thanking the assembly for making more coverage accessible on youtube. health-wise I am unable to attend the Assembly for a while, but as regards to Senedd TV coverage, I did request specific coverage of the Deaf/Sensory-impaired cross-party meetings and to make them caption-accessible.

I think this vitally important, as grass roots deaf and HI have no specific dissemination area from charities who attend, and each tends to be taken from meetings what only covers own sectors. Also as a deaf person I want to know what ministers and charities are saying in my name without considerable efforts involved trying to surf the Assembly web-site to find out. I am finding blind charitable areas are covering more issues than the deaf ones are.

There were issues with the website not entirely unconnected with Senedd TV coverage, which apparently doesn't display the assembly website properly via various ISP search options (I think Google Chrome presents some issues). I don't think the request to film and caption the deaf/sensory impaired committee (Cross-party Committee), is unreasonable, these only take place every 4 - 6 months as we can see. The primary issue is few of us are members of those representing issues there, so accessible coverage reaches a much wider audience of us. As this committee already has signed interpretation when they meet, but we don't see it ! I cannot see any extra costs would be involved other than the captioning, which we would hope is NOT left to google because it becomes nonsensical if a Welsh accent is used.

As regards to Welsh language access via Senedd TV captioning, I mean no disrespect to those that use Welsh, but factually there is no Welsh sign language and thus little point to offer that access, unless the petitions committee has received a specific request which I doubt. Of course as stated two deaf charities who attend already provide their own access, which helps them doesn't help us, as there appears no input from grass roots. Another reason for Accessible Senedd TV I believe..

Thank You - Mr M E James (Newport).