

Welsh Headlines — 4 Sep 2026

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? Top Story: "No unconditional support" for arms industry — Welsh Government defers defence investment as Newport summit protests end in eight arrests

The Welsh Government said it will not give unconditional support to the defence industry and will **defer decisions on investment in the sector** until a new ethical framework is in place — the same week it co-hosted the **Defence Security Resilience Cymru summit** at ICC Wales, Newport, where campaigners spent two days protesting outside.

Enterprise Minister **Adam Price** announced the move in a written statement, saying decisions should, "where legally and practically possible", be put on hold until the framework is published. Initial options, the government's preferred approach and a consultation will be published **this autumn**. "We have consistently opposed the provision of arms or military support where there is a clear risk that it could be used to commit or facilitate serious violations of international humanitarian law or international human rights law," Price said. "Public support for the sector cannot, however, be unconditional." The aerospace and defence industry directly employs around **16,000 people** in Wales.

Health Minister **Mabon ap Gwynfor** told Radio Wales Breakfast the sponsorship was "part of the agreement" made by the previous Labour government — "you have to respect agreements" — but added: "I don't think we will see this happening in future in this same way... we don't want to support organisations and companies who provide arms for those wars being carried out" by countries that "carry out genocide". The Welsh Government provided **£60,000** for the event; Price was advertised as a keynote speaker but the government says he never accepted an invitation and the advertising was incorrect.

Eight people were arrested at Thursday's protest — a 72-year-old woman on suspicion of breaching the peace and seven others on suspicion of public order offences, all in custody late Thursday afternoon. Protester **Adam Johannes** (Cardiff Stop the War Coalition) called it "astonishing for the Welsh government to be co-sponsor" of an event that was "knocking us into a huge military expansion". Organiser Phil Jones (Business in Focus) insisted everyone attending was "here for the right reasons". Reform's economy spokesman **Jason O'Connell** accused Plaid of putting "political ideology above thousands of defence jobs", and Welsh Conservative leader **Darren Millar** said there had "rarely been a more dangerous time" for such a message.

☐ *BBC Wales (David Deans) — 3 Sep 18:18; Nation.Cymru (Mark Mansfield) — 3 Sep 18:45. Day two of the summit continues today; campaigners have a vigil planned outside West Wales Airport at 1pm (see 03-09 file for background).*

?? Politics & Senedd

Reform leader: "hard to see" Plaid lasting the full term. Dan Thomas said Plaid Cymru was at risk of not completing its first four years in power after failing to get its mid-year spending plans through the Senedd with no major opposition support. "If that trend continues, it's hard to see how this Welsh government will last the duration of the term," he said — despite FM Rhun ap Iorwerth saying he has learned lessons and Labour leader Ken Skates indicating he wants a budget deal. Reform, which won 34 of the 96 Senedd seats in May to become official opposition, voted against the plans over "red lines" including overseas spending. Thomas is expected to use his speech at Reform's Birmingham conference **today** to tout his party's record since May (Senedd motions on bovine TB, legal protection for care leavers and a lobbyist register) and push for greater Welsh representation in the UK grooming-gangs inquiry.

☐ *BBC Wales (Catrin Haf Jones) — 3 Sep, updated 06:23 4 Sep*

Nathan Gill ordered to pay £22,592 after pro-Russian bribery. The disgraced former Reform/UKIP Wales leader — jailed for **10½ years in November 2025**, the first British politician sentenced for bribery — was given **six months** at the Old Bailey on Thursday to sell an Anglesey rental property to pay the confiscation order, or face a further nine months in prison. Gill, 53, of Llangefni, did not appear at the hearing. He took up to £40,000 from Viktor Medvedchuk's associates to make pro-Russian speeches and TV appearances while an MEP.

☐ *BBC Wales (Neil Henderson & David Deans) — 3 Sep*

Reform MS denied constituency office in Usk town hall. Laura Anne Jones's request to rent office space at Sessions House — the Victorian courthouse owned by Usk Town Council — was refused after councillors decided "no political parties" would be eligible, partly over fears it would "look dodgy" given the council's mayor, **Cllr Kay Peacock**, is Jones's aunt and had to declare an interest. Jones defected from the Welsh Conservatives to Reform in 2025 and was re-elected on 7 May; she is now shadow minister for food, farming and rural affairs.

☐ *Nation.Cymru (Emily Price) — 4 Sep 07:00*

Caerphilly vigilante group pauses activities after backlash. "Welsh Valley Child Protectors" — the anti-immigration group whose Reform branch backing and calls for migrants' addresses were covered in yesterday's file — has added a **"temporary pause"** to its public Facebook page after Nation.Cymru's report went viral. Leader **Joshua Edwards** complained he was "being posted all over FB" and had lost a customer; he deleted clips of himself ranting while driving his van without a seatbelt.

📰 *Nation.Cymru (Emily Price)* — 4 Sep 06:50

? Health

Retired medics throw down gauntlet over A&E "devastating pressure". A group of distinguished retired clinicians — calling itself **BEDS** (Bring back community beds; End Unnecessary deaths and corridor tragedies; Dignity restored; Senior Medics at the front door) — has written an open letter to Health Minister **Mabon ap Gwynfor**, copied to every MS, urging him to **block plans to close community hospital beds** and warning of a repeat of "last year's chaos and unnecessary deaths" this winter. Signatories include **Jonathan Osborne** (past chair, Welsh Consultants Committee), **Mair Dowell** (retired A&E sister, Ysbyty Glan Clwyd), **Bridget Osborne** (past chair, RCGP Wales) and **Rajan Madhok** (retired public health director). They call for action on "Y pethau bychain" (small measures to protect dignity), using existing services better, and "building on Bevan". (*Ongoing campaign — the Powys community-beds row was covered 28-08.*)

📰 *Nation.Cymru (Martin Shipton)* — 4 Sep 07:52

Family races to raise £250,000 for toddler's cancer treatment in America. **Teddy Sloman**, three, of Griffithstown near Pontypool, was diagnosed with **neuroblastoma** 14 months ago; the drug **DFMO** that could reduce the risk of relapse is no longer available to new UK patients after its US owner's approval process ended UK early-access use. Parents **Sarah and Kramer Sloman** must now raise £250,000 within weeks to take Teddy to New York for a vaccine trial — treatment must start within seven weeks of his Welsh treatment ending at the end of September. If the cancer returns, Teddy would have only a **5% chance of survival**. "Despite everything he's been through he continues to smile," Sarah said.

📰 *BBC Cymru Fyw (Rhys Ffroncon)* — 4 Sep

? Crime & Justice

Pupil jailed for stabbing teacher in the head — 4½ years' youth detention. The 16-year-old followed **Vicki Williams** into her classroom at Milford Haven Comprehensive School, Pembrokeshire, on 5 February after asking her to check his homework, then attacked her with a kitchen knife. Sentencing him at Swansea Crown Court on Thursday, Judge Paul Thomas found a "significant degree of planning"; the boy was cleared of attempted murder in July but convicted of wounding with intent. CCTV released by police shows the attack. Williams, who suffered injuries to

her head, back and hands and feared she would die, said in a victim statement she did not know if she could return to teaching: "My fellow teachers and I don't deserve this... Leaving teaching should have been my choice to make." *(Note: earlier reports suggested a four-year order; the court's order is four-and-a-half years.)*

☐ *BBC Wales (Meleri Williams) — 3 Sep*

Sex offender who fled into the sea jailed. Gavin Bennett, 45, ran into the Bristol Channel off Porthcawl at night in October 2025 as officers tried to arrest him over messages sent to a girl he believed was under 16. He pleaded guilty to two counts of attempting to engage in sexual communication with a child plus two counts of sexual assault, and was jailed for **three years and eight months** at Cardiff Crown Court on Tuesday, with a 10-year sexual harm prevention order. Body-worn footage shows officers wading in with torches to pull him out.

☐ *BBC Wales (Catriona Aitken) — 3 Sep*

Eight sentenced after Operation Eagle drugs and vehicle-theft probe. South Wales Police's investigation into Swansea and Neath Port Talbot crime groups recovered **360g of heroin**, ~250g of ketamine, cocaine, cannabis, £2,799 cash and £5,100 of gold and platinum. **Sean McCabe, 33** (Townhill) got the longest term — **11½ years**; Michael Brain, 41 (Waunarlwydd) 5½ years; Joshua Pope, 33 (Morrleston) five years; Daniel Bryant, 36 (Waun Wen) four years five months; Jake Thomas, 29 (Blaenymaes) four years three months; with shorter sentences for Steffan Hopkins, Lindsey Martin and Mumen Khan.

☐ *Nation.Cymru — 3 Sep 23:01*

Driver charged over cyclist's death in Carmarthenshire. Connor Clive Rees, 22, of Bancffosfelen, appeared at Llanelli Magistrates' Court on Thursday charged with causing the death by dangerous driving of **Alice Smith, 31**, who was hit by a red Seat Ibiza while cycling on the B4306 near Yr Hendy on 9 March 2024. Rees was bailed to appear at Swansea Crown Court on 5 October. Smith, a triathlete and dressage rider, was on her way to Llangyndeyrn when she died.

☐ *BBC Cymru Fyw (Elen Davies) — 3 Sep*

(Wales' papers today lead on a thug jailed for a campsite attack and an organised crime gang locked up — South Wales Echo/Evening Post print leads, details in print. BBC Wales' papers — 4 Sep 06:24.)

? Economy & Business

850-home development approved at Bridgend. Bridgend council approved the **Parc Llangewydd** scheme — up to 850 homes, a new primary school and public open space on greenfield land west of Bridgend between Bryntirion and Laleston — by nine votes to four, despite objections over traffic and pressure on services. Developer Llanmoor Homes' hybrid application covers land north of the A473, with 20% of homes classed as affordable. Two objecting councillors

warned that without strong conditions the scale could lead to "adverse outcomes for both new and existing residents".

📰 *Nation.Cymru / LDR (Lewis Smith) — 3 Sep*

Trio of Swansea fraud investigators saved taxpayers £1.2m. Swansea Council's three-person counter-fraud team — covering council tax reduction, social-housing tenancy and Blue Badge fraud — helped recover **£480,980.80** of overpayments in 2025-26 (up from £417,002.75), with notional overpayments of a further £771,214.70, including bringing nine social homes back into use after an investigation. Committee chair Paula O'Connor said the team was doing "a tremendous job".

📰 *Nation.Cymru / LDR (Richard Youle) — 3 Sep*

Variable-hours workers losing up to £470 a month, report finds. A Living Wage Foundation survey of 2,000 workers on variable-hours contracts found they lose an average of **£230 a month** — rising to £470 among those hit by short-notice shifts, cancellations and wasted costs — and that three in four make sacrifices such as skipping meals or dipping into savings. Half get less than a week's notice of shifts; one in 10 less than 24 hours. Director Graham Griffiths said millions are "trapped in poverty... making it impossible to plan a life".

📰 *Nation.Cymru / PA (Alan Jones) — 4 Sep*

Contractor appointed for Blackmill bridge replacement. Bridgend council named local firm **Centregreat** to replace the A4061 river bridge at Blackmill — the main route in and out of the Ogmore Valley — after inspections found significant cracking in the deck. The council has secured **£3.5m** from Welsh Government regional transport funding; work is being planned with utility companies whose services run beneath the bridge.

📰 *Nation.Cymru — 4 Sep 00:00*

? Environment

Anger as human poo and maggot-infested food left at beauty spot. Bannau Brycheiniog National Park says a warden spent the bank holiday weekend clearing "a tent full of kit" with chairs, a BBQ and **two bags of maggot-infested food**, plus human excrement, near **Llyn y Fan Fawr** — "one of the worst" examples of a growing problem. Head of communications Bronwyn Lally said the park is "baffled" by the change in attitude: "Leave no trace... There is no justification for this behaviour." Wildlife Trust Wales warned wildlife "can't sustain another threat" after the summer's extreme heat. *(Following the park's long-running wildfires — covered 03-09.)*

📰 *BBC Wales (Catriona Aitken) — 3 Sep, updated 4 Sep 08:59*

Council battles to stop "thousands of tonnes" of waste tipping near two Wrexham villages. Wrexham Council has issued stop and enforcement notices over land at **Coed-poeth** and

Mwynglawdd where residents describe "industrial-scale" tipping of material including plastic pipes, metal and old toilets. Firm **SOS Aggregates** says it is placing "grade 1A fill" on its own land near Ffordd Talwrn to create a flat surface for a horse arena, denies dumping while the stop notice was in force, and says it will submit a planning application this week. Natural Resources Wales is investigating; a second site saw caravans installed opposite homes over the bank holiday, which the council says amounts to an unlawful change of use to a gypsy/traveller site.

📰 *BBC Cymru Fyw — 4 Sep*

? Culture & Entertainment

Tributes to Sara Ogwen Williams, 55. The producer, presenter and actress — daughter of broadcaster **Jenny Ogwen** and the late **Euryn Ogwen Williams**, sister of broadcaster **Rhodri Ogwen Williams** — has died after a battle with cancer. She became an icon of the devolution era in a **Red Dragon dress** for the 1999 campaign urging young people to vote in the first Assembly election (the dress now sits at St Fagans museum); she won the Urdd National Eisteddfod chair at Merthyr Tudful in 1987 and worked for BBC Cymru, children's producer Boomerang for 12 years, and Little Bird Films. S4C's Llion Iwan said she was "always full of ideas and creativity". Her brother wrote: "Sara was our heroine, and that's what she will be to us forever."

📰 *BBC Cymru Fyw — 3 Sep*

Mold Alehouse named Wales' Pub of the Year 2026. The micro pub on Daniel Owen Square — run by **Gareth and Rebecca Jones** in a Grade II-listed building, four cask ales, no food, spirits or TV — took the CAMRA Wales title, having previously won in 2022, and is one of 16 finalists for the national Pub of the Year. CAMRA is also urging the Welsh Government to require planning permission before pubs can be converted or demolished.

📰 *Nation.Cymru — 3 Sep 22:27*

World-first Welsh text-to-speech reading pen launched. Scanning Pens has added Welsh to its **C-Pen Exam Reader 2**, making it the world's first offline pen scanner to support Welsh — letting learners with dyslexia or reading difficulties scan Welsh-language exam papers and hear them read aloud, under the Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050 target.

📰 *Nation.Cymru — 4 Sep 07:15*

Historic telescope to become centrepiece of Holyhead observatory. A 19-inch Newtonian reflector hand-built in 1999 by the late amateur astronomer **Robert Smith** — complete with a 10.5ft-high dome — will be restored and housed at a new observatory and education centre at Breakwater Country Park, after Anglesey Council unanimously approved plans led by the Anglesey Astronomical Society.

📰 *Nation.Cymru / LDR (Dale Spridgeon) — 4 Sep*

Comedian who stops breathing 17 times an hour to gig in Darth Vader mask. **Gethin Evans**, an NHS worker, drummer and stand-up from Caernarfon with severe sleep apnoea, joins Caryl Burke and Arwel Phillips at the New Inn, St Asaph on 18 September as part of the North Wales International Music Festival fringe. "I stop breathing when I sleep at night," he says — his mask is now part of the act.

[!\[\]\(35e4f762fc1cfea5610d92e2d225d5b4_img.jpg\) Nation.Cymru](#) — 4 Sep 06:15

? Sport

Barry-Murphy to become Cardiff's longest-serving boss since Warnock. The 48-year-old takes charge of his 63rd game on Saturday at Portsmouth, surpassing Neil Harris's 62-match tenure — an accolade reached in less than 450 days that says everything about Cardiff's managerial churn since Warnock left in 2019 (eight permanent appointments since). "I don't look back too often," he said. "I'm very focused on the now."

[!\[\]\(9dfdaff1d86ba3c1f8353b4d1b61b8c5_img.jpg\) BBC Sport Wales](#) — 4 Sep

Joe Rodon out for 8-10 weeks — will miss Wales' Nations League trip. Leeds boss Daniel Farke confirmed the Wales centre-back, 28, has a "serious hamstring injury" from the Brentford draw. Rodon will miss Wales' away Nations League matches against **Portugal (24 September)** and **Denmark (27 September)**.

[!\[\]\(8d0f0e0fe25b320c33272c52aec1fbca_img.jpg\) BBC Sport](#) — 3 Sep

Sheffield Wednesday sign Wrexham's Keillor-Dunn on loan — the Owls added the midfielder after the window closed. **Somerset cement their County Championship advantage against Glamorgan**, with Tom Lammonby again among the runs at the SWALEC.

[!\[\]\(2b376d1a92330ab09dad2665d2f89bf5_img.jpg\) BBC Sport](#) — 3 Sep

? Quick Summary

Section	Key story
 Top Story	WG: no unconditional arms support; defence investment deferred pending ethical framework; eight arrested at Newport summit protests
 Politics	Dan Thomas: Plaid may not last the term; Nathan Gill ordered to pay £22,592; Reform MS denied Usk office; Caerphilly vigilante group pauses
 Health	Retired medics' BEDS letter on A&E "devastating pressure"; £250k race for Teddy Sloman's cancer treatment

Section	Key story
☐☐ Crime	Pupil jailed 4½ years for stabbing teacher (CCTV released); sea-fleeing sex offender jailed; eight sentenced in Operation Eagle; driver charged over cyclist death
☐☐ Economy	850-home Bridgend scheme approved; Swansea fraud trio saves £1.2m; variable-hours pay report; Blackmill bridge contractor
☐☐ Environment	Human poo/maggot fly-tipping at Bannau Brycheiniog; Wrexham waste-tipping battle
☐☐ Culture	Sara Ogwen Williams dies at 55; Mold Alehouse is Wales' Pub of the Year; Welsh reading pen; Holyhead telescope; sleep-apnoea comedian
☐☐ Sport	Barry-Murphy longevity milestone; Rodon out 8–10 weeks; Keillor-Dunn loan

Compiled 4 Sep 2026 ~09:10 BST by Emrys (Hermes cron) · Sources: BBC Wales, BBC Sport Wales, BBC Cymru Fyw, Nation.Cymru, PA, LDR. SearXNG returned full garbage mode (queries 1-2 Wikipedia/travel spam, query 3 explicit spam) — zero usable leads; sources swept directly via the Playwright fetch service (192.168.178.100:8090) + RSS feeds. No fresh GOV.WALES release (newest remains 2 Sep 23:00, covered 03-09). Skipped as repeats/covered: Catherine Zeta-Jones Welsh accent (03-09), NHS follow-up appointments plan (03-09), Sheen/Prince of Wales title (03-09), WRU/EHRC (03-09), Reform donations scandal and UK top stories (UK file 04-09), Royal Mint Star Trek 50p (UK-wide, UK file), south Wales wildfire "ongoing" (02-09/03-09), Aberfan survivors (01-09/UK file), slurry widow (02-09), "Dad-of-10 family tribute" BBC Wales item — no article URL/body obtainable, not written up. Browser harness (browser-exec) down — no running Chrome; Playwright path used throughout.

Tags

- #daily-news
- #wales
- #senedd
- #arms-fair
- #health