

Plaid Cymru Government Cabinet — Announced 13 May 2026

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Last updated: 27 May 2026 — Nitter/X social media search added

Source: GOV.WALES press release "First Minister Rhun ap Iorwerth appoints his Ministerial team", BBC News, Wikipedia, Senedd website.

Twitter/X Discussion

“ Source: Nitter (via Docker on Windows PC), 27 May 2026

All-Welsh-Speaking Cabinet

- Widely noted that every Plaid Cymru Cabinet minister is a fluent Cymraeg speaker — the first entirely Welsh-speaking cabinet since Owain Glyndwr's 1404 parliament. Being contrasted with Scotland, where no Holyrood ministers speak fluent Gaelic.
- Practical pressure noted: ITV Wales quoted the Rural Resilience secretary saying Plaid will be "letting farmers down" if they don't deliver on the Sustainable Farming Scheme.

Rhun ap Iorwerth

- Recruitment industry lobbying to water down zero-hours contracts ban
- Catalan-language media positive profile on his Urdd Eisteddfod appearance
- Some unionist criticism accusing him of "cosying up to Sinn Fein" alongside John Swinney

Humour & Sarcasm

- Parody "HOPE-style" poster of Dan Thomas (Reform) compared to Obama campaign
- "One rule for Rhun, another for Dan" — interspersed comments about Reform MS activity

Reddit Discussion

🔒 Reddit search currently blocked by Cloudflare / Reddit bot detection. No r/Wales or r/ukpolitics data available.

1. Rhun ap Iorwerth — First Minister of Wales

- **Age:** 53 (born 27 August 1972)
 - **Constituency:** Bangor Conwy Mon (previously Ynys Mon 2013-2026)
 - **Background:** Born Tonteg, Pontypridd. Raised Meirionnydd then Anglesey from 5. Both parents teachers and Welsh language campaigners. Ysgol David Hughes. BA Politics and Welsh, Cardiff University (1993). Lives Anglesey with wife Llinos, 3 children.
 - **Career:** BBC Cymru Wales journalist 1994. Chief Political Correspondent 2001. Presented Politics Show Wales, Dragon's Eye, Good Morning Wales, Newyddion. Director of 2 companies. Gorsedd inductee 2025.
 - **Political career:** Won Ynys Mon by-election Aug 2013 (12,601 votes vs Labour 3,435). Economy spokesperson 2014, Health shadow 2016. Ran for leader 2018 (lost to Price), became Deputy Leader. Called for Betsi Cadwaladr public inquiry. Elected Plaid leader unopposed June 2023. Ended Labour co-operation deal March 2024 over Gething donation scandal.
 - **FM election:** 12 May 2026 - 44 votes (42 Plaid + 2 Green). First non-Labour FM in history.
 - **Policy:** Favours minority government, supports Welsh independence, smaller health boards, cooperative approach.
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2. Sioned Williams — Deputy First Minister / Social Justice & Equality

- **Age:** 54 (born 14 August 1971)
 - **Constituency:** Brycheiniog Tawe Nedd (prev. South Wales West region 2021-2026)
 - **Background:** Born Cwmbran, Torfaen. Ysgol Gymraeg Cwmbran, Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni. BA Welsh & English Aberystwyth. S4C scholarship Cardiff. Lives Alltwen, Swansea Valley. Husband Prof Daniel Gwydion Williams (English Lit, Swansea Uni, also jazz musician). 2 teenage children.
 - **Career:** BBC News Wales journalist. Academi Hywel Teifi, Swansea Uni. Former Plaid head of strategic communications.
 - **Political career:** Contested Alltwen ward 2017. Community councillor. Chair of Governors Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Pontardawe. Plaid spokesperson Social Justice & Early Years. Chairs CPGs on VAW, Human Rights, Learning Disability, Consumer Rights. Campaigned for Gleision Colliery inquiry reopening. Elected MS 2021, reelected 2026. Appointed DFM 13 May 2026.
 - **Policy:** Democratic socialist. Joined Plaid because Labour in Gwent Valleys was "damaging hegemony". Priorities: childcare rollout, tackling child poverty.
 - **Notable:** Great uncle was Aneurin Bevan's agent. Most family were Labour.
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3. Mabon ap Gwynfor — Cabinet Secretary for Health and Care

- **Constituency:** Gwynedd Maldwyn (prev. Dwyfor Meirionnydd 2021-2026)
 - **Background:** Grandson of Gwynfor Evans (Plaid's 1st MP). BA History, Bangor University. Married, 4 children. Gorsedd 2023. Self-published "Going Nuclear" (2023).
 - **Career:** Aberystwyth Town Councillor 2004. Stood for Parliament/Senedd several times 2005-2016. Denbighshire County Councillor 2017-2021. Elected MS 2021 (7,096 majority). Plaid Chief Whip June 2023-May 2026. National Chair CND Cymru 2023. Appointed Health Secretary 13 May 2026.
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4. Anna Brychan — Cabinet Minister for Education & Welsh Language

- **Constituency:** Caerdydd Penarth

- **Background:** From Ceredigion, lived Grangetown Cardiff 25+ yrs. Father is historian John Davies. 3 sons.
 - **Career:** Director NAHT Wales 2004-2014. Assistant Dean UWTSD.
 - **Political career:** Plaid Spokesperson 2002, former Chief Executive of Plaid. Selected Caerdydd Penarth June 2025, elected 2026. Appointed Education & Welsh Language Minister 13 May 2026.
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5. Elin Jones — Cabinet Minister for Finance

- **Age:** 59 (born 1 September 1966)
 - **Constituency:** Ceredigion Penfro (prev. Ceredigion 1999-2026)
 - **Background:** Born Lampeter. BSc Economics Cardiff, MSc Agricultural Economics Aberystwyth. Former Economic Development officer. Director Radio Ceredigion.
 - **Political career:** MS since 1999 - joint longest serving. Aberystwyth Mayor 1997-98. Plaid Chair 2000-2002. Rural Affairs Minister in One Wales govt 2007-2011. Llywydd of Senedd 2016-2026. Beat Elis-Thomas 34-25 for Llywydd. Flag ban controversy 2021. Appointed Finance Minister 13 May 2026.
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6. Heledd Fychan — Trefnydd, Chief Whip & Culture/Sport Minister

- **Age:** 45 (born 20 September 1980)
 - **Constituency:** Pontypridd Cynon Merthyr (prev. South Wales Central region 2021-2026)
 - **Background:** Anglesey. Daughter of Vaughan Hughes (broadcaster) and Angharad Anwyl. History & Politics Trinity College Dublin. MA Medieval History Bangor. Lives Pontypridd with husband and son.
 - **Career:** 12 years National Museum Wales as Head of Policy & Public Affairs. Museum Association board 2009.
 - **Political career:** Contested Montgomeryshire 2010, North Wales 2011. Pontypridd councillor 2017-2022. Campaigned to save Muni Arts Centre, reopen Mill St Post Office. Led Pontypridd flood inquiry calls. Plaid culture/sport spokesperson 2021. Former director of policy & political education. Elected 2026. Appointed Trefnydd/Chief Whip/Culture Minister 13 May 2026.
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7. Adam Price — Cabinet Minister for Enterprise, Connectivity & Energy

- **Age:** 57 (born 23 September 1968)
 - **Constituency:** Sir Gaerfyrddin
 - **Background:** Former Plaid Cymru Leader (2018-2023). Former MP Carmarthen East & Dinefwr (2001-2010). Resigned as leader May 2023 over party misconduct issues. Architect of "Impeach Blair" campaign. Appointed to major economic portfolio covering business, transport, energy on 13 May 2026.
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8. Llyr Gruffydd — Cabinet Minister for Rural Resilience & Sustainability

- **Age:** 55 (born 25 September 1970)
 - **Constituency:** Clwyd (prev. North Wales region 2011-2026)
 - **Background:** Born Carmarthenshire. BA Welsh Aberystwyth. Lives Ruthin. 4 children.
 - **Career:** Youth worker. Wales Youth Agency. Management consultant for National Trust. Carmarthen Mayor 2001-02.
 - **Political career:** Elected MS 2011. Plaid roles: finance, education, environment/rural affairs spokesperson. Shadow Rural Affairs Minister. Chair climate/environment committee. Interim Plaid leader May-June 2023 after Price resignation. Maintained Labour co-operation deal. Critical of party misconduct inaction. Appointed Rural Resilience Minister 13 May 2026.
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9. Elfyn Llwyd — Counsel General (Designate)

- **Age:** 74 (born 26 September 1951)
- **Not an MS** - appointed as Counsel General (can be external)
- **Background:** Born Betws-y-Coed. Aberystwyth Uni. Barrister. Married to folk singer Eleri Llwyd, 2 children. Privy Council 2011. Pro-Chancellor Aberystwyth Uni.
- **Political career:** MP 1992-2015 (Meirionnydd Nant Conwy then Dwyfor Meirionnydd). Plaid Westminster leader. Led impeach Blair campaign with Price & Salmond. Cash-for-Honours complainant 2007. Repaid 5k for improper election advertising. Overlooked for peerage 2024. Appointed Counsel General Designate 13 May 2026.

10. Dafydd Trystan Davies — Minister for Government Effectiveness & Constitution

- **Age:** 51 (born 11 August 1974)
 - **Constituency:** Caerdydd Ffynnon Taf
 - **Background:** Born Aberdare. PhD Aberystwyth on globalisation/Welsh economy. Lives Grangetown. Senior Academic Manager Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol. Chair Active Travel Board.
 - **Political career:** Plaid Chair 2013-2019. Plaid Chief Executive 2002-2007. Stood Cynon Valley 2010/11, Cardiff S&P 2016 (3rd, 14.3%). Elected MS 2026. Pledged only public/active travel for Senedd duties. Appointed 13 May 2026.
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11. Also in Cabinet: Sian Gwenllian — Local Government, Housing & Planning

- Former Deputy Leader of Plaid Cymru. MS for Arfon.
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Deputy Ministers

Name	Portfolio
Nerys Evans	Public and Preventative Health
Delyth Jewell	Social Care, Mental Health and Women's Health
Mark Hooper	Transport
	Cefin Campbell

Context

- **2026 Senedd election:** Plaid Cymru 43, Reform UK 34, Labour 9, Conservatives 7, Greens 2, Lib Dems 1.

- **Government:** Plaid Cymru minority (43/96).
- **First FM from party other than Labour** in Welsh history.

“ **Reform UK Cymru Shadow Cabinet:** See separate file at `reform-uk-cymru-shadow-cabinet.md`

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