

# Health, Wellbeing and Local Government Committee

## Minutes : HWLG(3)-12-10 : 24 June 2010

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**Time: 12.49 - 15.05**

**Venue: Committee Room 3, Senedd**

### Assembly Members in attendance

Darren Millar, Clwyd West (Chair)  
Andrew R.T. Davies, South Wales Central  
Lorraine Barrett, Cardiff South and Penarth  
Peter Black, South Wales West  
Dai Lloyd, South Wales West  
Irene James, Islwyn  
Ann Jones, Vale of Clwyd  
Val Lloyd, Swansea East

### Witnesses

Carl Sargeant, Minister for Social Justice and Local Government (Item 2)  
Reg Kilpatrick, Head of Local Government Policy Division, Welsh Government (Item 2)  
David Powell, Head of Local Government Finance Division, Welsh Government (Item 2)

Professor Hugh Pennington, Chairman of the E.coli Public Inquiry (Item 3)

Maria Battle, Senior Director, Consumer Focus Wales (Item 4)  
Jennie Bibbings, Senior Policy Advocate, Consumer Focus Wales (Item 4)

### Committee Staff

Marc Wyn Jones, Clerk  
Sarita Marshall, Deputy Clerk

### Item 1: Introduction, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed Committee Members and members of the public.
- 1.2 Apologies had been received from Helen Mary Jones.

### Item 2: Minister for Social Justice and Local Government - General Scrutiny Session

#### Paper: HWLG(3)-12-10(p.1)

2.1 The Committee held a general scrutiny session with the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government, Carl Sargeant AM.

#### Actions

The Minister to share with Committee the speech he delivered to the recent Welsh Local Government Association Conference.

Government officials to explore whether powers to direct local government to collaborate could be added to the forthcoming Local Government Measure and to share their conclusions with Committee.

Committee to write to the Auditor General for Wales to ask him or her to investigate the financial implications of any reorganisation in local government.

The Minister to report back to the Committee on the financial implications of any measures to be taken to drive improvement in local government.

### Item 3: Implementation of the Pennington Report Recommendations

#### Paper: HWLG(3)-12-10(p.2)

3.1 The Committee took evidence from Professor Hugh Pennington on the implementation of the recommendations of the Pennington Report on the E.coli outbreak in 2005. The evidence session focussed on the response to the recommendations; funding; Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point plans; environmental health; and the impact of the outbreak on public trust.

#### **Item 4: Implementation of the Pennington Report Recommendations**

**Paper: HWLG(3)-12-10(p.3)**

4.1 The Committee took evidence from Consumer Focus Wales, focussing on the response to the Pennington Report recommendations; funding; hazard analysis critical control point plans; and the role of the Welsh Government and other organisations.

**Action**

Any guidance on the implementation of the Pennington Report recommendations to be shared with Committee once formulated.

#### **Item 5: Possible Future Inquiries**

**Paper: HWLG(3)-12-10(p.4)**

5.1 The Chair moved a motion, under Standing Order 10.37, to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting, to discuss matters relating to the Committee's forward work plan.

5.2 The Committee agreed to the motion.

#### **6: Papers Noted**

6.1 The Committee noted the following papers:

HWLG(3)-12-10-p5 Food Standards Agency

HWLG(3)-12-10-p6 Submission from Sharon Mills

HWLG(3)-12-10-p7 Submission from Julie Price

HWLG(3)-11-10-Minutes of previous meeting