

Public Accounts Committee

Minutes PAC(3)-05-10

Date: Wednesday 23 March 2010

Time: 09.30 - 12.02

Venue: Committee Room 3, Y Senedd, Cardiff Bay

Assembly Members in Attendance

Jonathan Morgan (Chair), Cardiff North

Jeff Cuthbert, Caerphilly

Andrew RT Davies, South Wales Central

Bethan Jenkins, South Wales West

Sandy Mewies, Delyn

Jenny Randerson, Cardiff Central

Janet Ryder, North Wales

Committee Service

Alun Davidson, Clerk

Andrew Minnis, Deputy Clerk

Joanest Jackson, Legal Adviser

Others in Attendance

Dame Gillian Morgan - Permanent Secretary to the Welsh Government (Item 2)

Clive Bates, Director General, Sustainable Futures, Welsh Government (Item 2)

Gillian Body, Managing Partner - Performance Audit, Wales Audit Office (Items 2-4)

Rob Powell, Director of Innovative Studies, Wales Audit Office (Item 3)

Mark Jeffs, Performance Specialist, Wales Audit Office (Item 3)

Matthew Hockridge, Policy Research Officer, Wales Audit Office (item 4)

1. Apologies and substitutions

The Chair received apologies from Lorraine Barrett, Alun Davies, Irene James and Nick Ramsay. Andrew RT Davies attended as substitute.

2. Sustainable development and business decision making in the Welsh Assembly Government: Accounting Officer Evidence Session

Paper: PAC(3) 05-10(p1) Welsh Assembly Government - written evidence

2.1 The Committee took evidence from the witnesses.

2.2 The Committee agreed to write to the Permanent Secretary seeking clarification of issues raised by the evidence provided and expressing the Committee's intention to recommend a return to the issue by the Public Accounts Committee in the fourth assembly.

3. A Picture of Public Services: briefing from the Auditor General for Wales

Papers: PAC(3) 05-10(p2) Wales Audit Office report: A Picture of Public Services

PAC(3) 05-10(p3) Wales Audit Office paper: Improving Public Sector Efficiency

PAC(3) 05-10(p4) Wales Audit Office paper: Lean Systems Thinking in the Public Sector in Wales

3.1 The Wales Audit Office briefed the Committee on the Picture of Public Services report and presented papers on Improving Public

Sector Efficiency and Lean Systems Thinking in the Public Sector in Wales.

3.2 The Committee agreed to undertake an inquiry on the issues raised by the reports once the recommendations of future work by the Wales Audit Office in the area have been published.

4. Wales Audit Office consultation on Audit Practice

Paper: PAC(3) 05-10(p5) Wales Audit Office - Draft Code of Audit Practice of the Auditor General for Wales

4.1 The Wales Audit Office briefed the Committee on the draft Code of Audit Practice of the Auditor General for Wales.

4.2 The Committee agreed the draft Code of Audit Practice of the Auditor General for Wales.

The Committee agreed to hold the remainder of the meeting in private session under Standing Order 10.37

5. Coastal Erosion and Tidal Flooding Risks in Wales.

5.1 The Committee discussed the content of the planned report on Coastal Erosion and Tidal Flooding Risks in Wales.

6. Governance of the Wales Audit Office: appointment of a special advisor

6.1 The Committee agreed the appointment of, and terms of reference for, a special advisor.

Committee Service

March 2010