

Sustainability Committee

Minutes : SC(3)-23-10 : 25 November 2010

This meeting can be viewed on Senedd TV at:

http://www.senedd.tv/archiveplayer.jsf?v=en_400000_25_11_2010&t=0

Time: 9.00 – 11.00

Venue: Committee Room 3, Senedd

Assembly Members in attendance

Kirsty Williams, Brecon and Radnorshire
Alun Davies, Mid and West Wales
Joyce Watson, Mid and West Wales
Lorraine Barrett, Cardiff South and Penarth
Rhodri Morgan, Cardiff West
Angela Burns, Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire
Rhodri Glyn Thomas, Carmarthen East and Dinefwr
Leanne Wood, South Wales Central

Witnesses

Jane Davidson, Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing
Mathew Quinn, Director - Department for Environment, Sustainability and Housing
Brian J Pickett, Sustainable Futures - Operations Team, Finance
Diana Reynolds, Head of Nature Conservation and Biodiversity

Committee Staff

Aled Elwyn Jones, Clerk
Meriel Singleton, Deputy Clerk

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

1.1 The Chair welcomed Committee Members and members of the public. Apologies had been received from Brynle Williams, Karen Sinclair and Irene James. Alun Davies and Rhodri Morgan substituted.

Item 2: Welsh Government Draft Budget - Scrutiny Session

Paper: SC(3)-23-10 p1

- 2.1 The Committee scrutinised the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing on her draft budget.
- 2.2 The Minister agreed to provide further information on the savings from successful bids from the Invest-to-Save fund.
- 2.3 The Minister agreed to provide further information on the wider public savings available through energy efficiency initiatives.
- 2.4 The Minister agreed to provide further information on Rhondda Fach, Cynon, and other areas for Salmon and Sewin spawning and potential impact the budget cuts may have on the restoration of these rivers for spawning.
- 2.5 The Minister agreed to provide further information on the Planning Investment Grant.

Item 3: Inquiry into Biodiversity – Evidence Session

Paper: SC(3)-23-10 p2

3.1 The Committee took evidence from the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing as part of the inquiry into Biodiversity in Wales.

Item 4: Papers to Note

4.1 The Committee noted the following papers:

Inquiry into Biodiversity : European Commission: The 2010 Assessment of Implementing the EU Biodiversity Action Plan
SC(3)-23-10 p3

Inquiry into Biodiversity : Evidence from Environment Bank
SC(3)-23-10 p4

Inquiry into Biodiversity :Further Evidence from Welsh Association of National Parks –Work of National Parks Towards Biodiversity
SC(3)-23-10 p5

Inquiry into Biodiversity :Further Evidence from Welsh Association of National Parks – A Business Model for Agri-Environment Schemes
SC(3)-23-10 p6

Sustainability Committee Timetable
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