

Concise Minutes – Children, Young People, and Education Committee

Meeting Venue:

Hybrid – Committee room 4 Ty Hywel
and video conference via Zoom

Meeting date: Thursday, 18 November
2021

Meeting time: 09.15 – 14.53

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/12467>

Hybrid

Attendance

Category	Names
Members of the Senedd:	Jayne Bryant MS (Chair) James Evans MS Siân Gwenllïan MS Sioned Williams MS Laura Anne Jones MS Ken Skates MS Buffy Williams MS
Witnesses:	Professor Sally Holland, Children’s Commissioner for Wales Jane Houston, Children’s Commissioner for Wales Jeremy Miles MS, Minister for Education and the Welsh Language David Morris, Welsh Government Zenny Saunders, Welsh Government Cath Wyatt, Welsh Government



	<p>Dr David Blaney, Higher Education Funding Council for Wales</p> <p>Bethan Owen, Higher Education Funding Council for Wales</p>
Committee Staff:	<p>Naomi Stocks (Clerk)</p> <p>Tom Lewis–White (Second Clerk)</p> <p>Sarah Bartlett (Deputy Clerk)</p> <p>Jennifer Cottle (Legal Adviser)</p> <p>Phil Boshier (Researcher)</p> <p>Michael Dauncey (Researcher)</p> <p>Sian Thomas (Researcher)</p> <p>Sarah Hatherley (Researcher)</p>

1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

1.1 The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting of the Children, Young People and Education Committee.

1.2 In accordance with Standing Order 34.19, the Chair stated that she had determined that the public were excluded from the Committee’s meeting in order to protect public health but that the meeting would be broadcast live on www.senedd.tv

1.3 There were no apologies. The Chair noted that Sioned Williams MS would be subbing for Sian Gwenllian MS for items 5 to 10.

1.4 Under Standing Order 17.24A Sioned Williams MS declared her husband was employed by Swansea University, James Evans MS declared he was the Shadow Minister for Mental Health, Wellbeing and Mid Wales, and Laura Jones MS declared her mother was a Cabinet Member for Social Care, Safeguarding and Health at Monmouthshire County Council.

2 Scrutiny of Children's Commissioner for Wales Annual Report 2020 – 2021

2.1 The Committee scrutinised the Commissioner on her annual report.

2.2 The Commissioner agreed to provide the Committee with a paper that had been submitted to the Minister for Social Justice regarding the statutory review into elective home education and regulation of independent schools.

3 Motion under Standing Order 17.42(xi) to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for items 4 and 6

3.1 The motion was agreed.

4 Consideration of the evidence from the previous evidence session

4.1 The Committee considered the evidence it had heard in the previous session.

4.2 The Committee agreed to write to the Regional Partnership Boards to learn more about their work on mental health with charities.

5 Tertiary Education and Research (Wales) Bill – evidence session 1

5.1 The Committee heard evidence from the Minister for Education and Welsh Language.

5.2 The Minister agreed to share with the Committee:

- how he envisages the relationship between employers, awarding bodies, the Commission and Qualifications Wales will improve through the Bill and;
- the Legislation Implementation Plan.

5.3 The Committee agreed to write to the Minister with the questions that weren't covered during the session.

6 Consideration of the evidence from the previous evidence session

6.1 The Committee considered the evidence it had heard in the previous session.

6.2 Members agreed to invite Unions in to give oral evidence at the meeting on 9 December.

7 Tertiary Education and Research (Wales) Bill – evidence session 2

7.1 The Committee heard evidence from HEFCW.

8 Papers to note

8.1 The papers were noted.

9 Motion under Standing Order 17.42(ix) to resolve to exclude the public for the remainder of the meeting

9.1 The motion was agreed.

10 Consideration of the evidence from the evidence session on the Tertiary Education and Research (Wales) Bill

10.1 The Committee considered the evidence it had heard in the previous session.

11 Consideration of the Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Skills and Post-16 Education Bill

11.1 The Committee considered the Supplementary LCM.

11.2 Members agreed to write to the Welsh Government to seek some further clarification.

12 Consideration of the Committee's Strategic Vision

12.1 The Committee agreed its strategic vision.

12.2 Members discussed potential topics for an inquiry in the spring term, a scoping paper would be considered at a future meeting.