

Concise Minutes – Equality and Social Justice Committee

Meeting Venue:

This meeting can be viewed

Video Conference via Zoom

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

Meeting date: Monday, 21 March 2022

<http://senedd.tv/en/12639>

Meeting time: 13.30 – 16.27

Attendance

Category	Names
Members of the Senedd:	Jenny Rathbone MS (Chair) Jane Dodds MS Samuel Kurtz MS (In place of Altaf Hussain MS) Sarah Murphy MS Sioned Williams MS Ken Skates MS
Witnesses:	Jane Hutt MS, Minister for Social Justice Steve Chamberlain, Domestic Energy Efficiency and Fuel Poverty Policy Lead Mark Alexander, Head of Public Sector Decarbonisation, Innovation and Fuel Poverty Chris Pugh, Audit Wales Mark Jeffs, Audit Wales Seth Newman, Wales Audit Office
Committee Staff:	Rhys Morgan (Clerk) Rachael Davies (Second Clerk) Angharad Roche (Deputy Clerk)



1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting of the Equality and Social Justice Committee.

Apologies were received from Altaf Hussain. Sam Kurtz was in attendance as a substitute.

The Chair stated that if for any reason she dropped out of the meeting, the Committee had agreed that Sarah Murphy MS would become Temporary Chair in accordance with Standing Order 17.22.

Sam Kurtz declared an interest as a director of the registered charity: The Wales Federation of Young Farmers Clubs.

2 Fuel poverty and the Warm Homes Programme: Evidence session 5

Members heard evidence from the Minister for Social Justice, Jane Hutt, MS.

3 Papers to note

Members noted the papers.

- 3.1 Welsh Government response to Committee report: Minding the Future – The Childcare Barrier Facing Working Parents**
- 3.2 Correspondence from the Senedd Commission on the use of the term BAME**
- 3.3 Correspondence from Travelling Ahead regarding the implementation of the Housing (Wales) Act**
- 3.4 Correspondence from the Enforcement Conduct Board regarding debt enforcement**
- 4 Motion under SO17.42 (iv) and to exclude the public from the remainder of today's meeting**

The motion was agreed.

- 5 Fuel poverty and the Warm Homes Programme: Briefing session with Audit Wales**

Members received a briefing from Audit Wales.

- 6 Fuel poverty and the Warm Homes Programme: Consideration of evidence**

Members considered the evidence received under item 2.

Members agreed to write to Welsh Government to seek further information in relation to a number of items raised during the evidence session.

- 7 UK Government consultation on proposals to reform Human Rights Act 1998: consideration of draft correspondence**

Members considered and agreed a letter to the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice.

8 Future Generations Commissioner: annual scrutiny – draft report

Members considered the draft report and agreed to finalise it outside of Committee.

9 Forward work programme

Members considered and agreed the Forward Work Programme.

10 EU Settlement Scheme: Monitoring report

Members noted the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) monitoring report and agreed to write to the Minister for Social Justice to seek further information in relation to the deadline for EUSS family permits.