

Concise Minutes – Economy, Trade, and Rural Affairs Committee

Meeting Venue:

Hybrid – Committee room 5 Ty Hywel
and video Conference via Zoom

Meeting date: Thursday, 26 May 2022

Meeting time: 10.09 – 13.27

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/12824>

Hybrid

Attendance

Category	Names
Members of the Senedd:	Paul Davies MS (Chair) Hefin David MS Luke Fletcher MS Vikki Howells MS Samuel Kurtz MS Sarah Murphy MS
Witnesses:	Steffan Evans, Bevan Foundation Shavanah Taj, TUC Wales Leighton Jenkins, CBI Cymru Llŷr ap Gareth, Federation of Small Businesses Cymru Professor Mark Shucksmith, Newcastle University Ceri Cunnington, Cwmni Bro Ffestiniog Chris Noice, Association of Convenience Stores



Senedd Cymru
Welsh Parliament

	Jackie Blackwell, Citizens Advice Ynys Mon Deborah Hann, Citizens Cymru Wales
Committee Staff:	Robert Donovan (Clerk) Lara Date (Second Clerk) Robert Lloyd-Williams (Deputy Clerk) Aled Evans (Legal Adviser) Isobel Pagendam (Researcher) Gareth David Thomas (Researcher)

1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

1.1 The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting

1.2 There were no apologies or substitutions

Sam Kurtz MS declared he is a director of the charity Wales YFC, which has been in receipt of Welsh Government funding. Sarah Murphy MS declared she is a member of the Bevan Foundation, and also trade unions. Hefin David MS declared he is a member of the Bevan Foundation. Vikki Howells MS declared she is a member of the Bevan Foundation.

2 Paper(s) to note

2.1 The papers were noted

2.1 Letter from Minister for Economy

2.2 Letter from the Counsel General and Minister for the Constitution re: UK Government's proposed legislation for the new session

2.3 Letter from the Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd

2.4 Letter from the Chair to The Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP Secretary of State for Transport

2.5 Letter from the Minister for Rural Affairs, North Wales & Trefnydd

3 Cost of Living – Workforce

3.1 Dr Steffan Evans, Shavanah Taj and Dr Deborah Hann answered questions from Committee Members

4 Cost of Living – Businesses

4.1 Leighton Jenkins, Dr Llyr ap Gareth and Chris Noice answered questions from Committee Members

5 Cost of Living – Rural communities

5.1 Professor Mark Shucksmith, Ceri Cunnington and Jackie Blackwell answered questions from Committee Members

6 UK–New Zealand Free Trade Agreement

6.1 This item was postponed to the 13 July 2022

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

7.1 The Committee agreed the motion

8 Private

8.1 Members considered the evidence heard during the session