

Concise Minutes – Equality and Social Justice Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 5

Meeting date: Monday, 16 January 2023

Meeting time: 14.30 – 17.17

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/13174>

Hybrid

Attendance

Category	Names
Members of the Senedd:	Jenny Rathbone MS (Chair) Jane Dodds MS Altaf Hussain MS Sarah Murphy MS Sioned Williams MS Ken Skates MS
Witnesses:	Jane Hutt MS Hannah Blythyn MS Claire Bennett, Welsh Government Sian Gill, Head of Financial Reporting,, Welsh Government Maureen Howell, Welsh Government
Committee Staff:	Rhys Morgan (Clerk) Rachael Davies (Second Clerk) Angharad Roche (Deputy Clerk) Sarah Hatherley (Research)



1 Introductions, apologies and substitutions

No apologies were received and no substitutions were made.

Under Standing Order 17.24A Sarah Murphy MS made a declaration of interest.

2 Papers to note

Members noted the papers. In relation to Item 2.8, Members agreed to write to seek additional information from the Magistrates' Association.

- 2.1 Letter from the Llywydd to all Members regarding prioritising Committee business**
- 2.2 Letter from the Finance Committee to Committee Chairs regarding scrutiny of the 2023–24 draft budget**
- 2.3 Letter from the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee to the Chair regarding the Legislative Consent: Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Bill**
- 2.4 Letter from the Deputy Minister for Social Partnership to the Chair regarding the Social Partnership and Public Procurement (Wales) Bill**
- 2.5 Correspondence from the Children, Young People and Education Committee regarding childcare workforce**
- 2.6 Correspondence between the First Minister and the Finance Committee regarding scrutiny of financial implications of Bills**
- 2.7 Letter from the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee and Luke Fletcher to the Chair regarding the second meeting of the UK–EU Parliamentary Partnership Assembly**
- 2.8 Letter from The Magistrates Association to the Chair regarding additional evidence**

3 Motion under SO17.42 (vi) and (ix) to exclude the public from items 4, 5, 6 and 8 of the meeting

Members agreed the motion.

4 Forward work programme

Members considered and agreed its approach to Forward Work.

5 Inquiry into data justice: Consideration of the appointment of an expert adviser

Members considered and agreed on the appointment of an expert adviser.

6 Social Partnership and Public Procurement Bill: Order of Consideration – agreement ahead of Stage 2 proceedings

Members agreed the Order of Consideration.

7 Draft Budget 2023–24: ministerial evidence session

The Committee received evidence from the following witnesses:

Jane Hutt, Minister for Social Justice

Hannah Blythyn, Deputy Minister for Social Partnership

Claire Bennett, Director Communities & Tackling Poverty

Maureen Howell, Deputy Director Tackling Poverty & Supporting Families

Sian Gill, Head of Financial Reporting

8 Draft Budget 2023–24: consideration of evidence

Members considered the evidence and agreed to write to the Minister for Social Justice and to the Minister for Education and Welsh language seeking further clarification in relation to some of the evidence heard. The Committee agreed to consider its draft report at a future meeting.