

Concise Minutes – Local Government and Housing Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 5

Meeting date: Wednesday, 22 November 2023

Meeting time: 09.00 – 12.27

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/13553>

Hybrid

Attendance

Category	Names
Members of the Senedd:	John Griffiths MS (Chair) Jayne Bryant MS Luke Fletcher MS Joel James MS Sam Rowlands MS Carolyn Thomas MS
Witnesses:	Andrew Parkhurst, Welsh Local Government Association Cllr Huw David, Welsh Local Government Association Llinos Medi, Welsh Local Government Association Clare Sim, Head of Member Support, Association of Electoral Administrators Colin Everett, Wales Electoral Coordination Board Catherine Uphill, Electoral Commission
Committee Staff:	Catherine Hunt (Clerk)



	Angharad Era (Deputy Clerk) Stephen Davies (Legal Adviser) Osian Bowyer (Researcher) Rachael Davies (Second Clerk) Philip Lewis (Researcher) Ben Harris (Legal Adviser)
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1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

1.1 The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting of the Local Government and Housing Committee.

2 Papers to note

2.1 Renting Homes (Wales) Act 2016 – Letter from the Chair of Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee to Minister for Climate Change

2.1a The Committee noted the letter.

2.2 Draft Budget 2024–25 – Letter from the Chair of Finance Committee

2.2a The Committee noted the letter.

2.3 Elections and Elected Bodies (Wales) Bill – Letter from Counsel General and Minister for the Constitution

2.3a The Committee noted the letter.

2.4 Community Assets – Letter from Building Communities Trust

2.4a The Committee noted the letter.

2.5 Elections and Elected Bodies (Wales) Bill – Letter from the Chair of Reform Bill Committee

2.5a The Committee noted the letter.

2.6 Letter from the Equality and Human Rights Commission – Equality and Human Rights Monitor: Is Wales Fairer? 2023

2.6a The Committee noted the letter.

2.7 Housing Ukrainian refugees – Letter from the Minister for Social Justice & Chief Whip

2.7a The Committee noted the letter.

2.8 Inquiry into community assets – Letter from the Minister for Finance and Local Government

2.8a The Committee noted the letter.

3 Motion under Standing Order 17.42(ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the following items of the meeting: 4 and 7

3.1 The Committee agreed the motion.

4 Local Government Finance (Wales) Bill – Approach to scrutiny

4.1 The Committee considered and agreed its approach to scrutiny.

5 Elections and Elected Bodies (Wales) Bill – Evidence Session 4

5.1 The Committee received evidence from:

Councillor Huw David, WLGA Presiding Officer and Leader of Bridgend Council

Councillor Andrew Parkhurst, WLGA Liberal Democrat Group Leader

Councillor Llinos Medi, Leader of Anglesey Council and the Group Leader for Plaid Cymru

6 Elections and Elected Bodies (Wales) Bill– Evidence session 5

6.1 The Committee received evidence from:

Clare Sim, Head of Member Support, Association of Electoral Administrators

Colin Everett, Chair, Wales Electoral Coordination Board

Catherine Uphill, Manager, The Electoral Commission

7 Elections and Elected Bodies (Wales) Bill – Consideration of evidence

7.1 The Committee considered the evidence.