

# Concise Minutes – Finance Committee

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Meeting Venue: **Hybrid – Committee room 4 Ty Hywel and video conference via Zoom**

This meeting can be viewed on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/13820>

Meeting date: Wednesday, 20 December 2023

Meeting time: 09.35 – 11.20

## Hybrid

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### Attendance

| Category               | Names  |
|------------------------|--|
| Members of the Senedd: | Peredur Owen Griffiths MS (Chair)<br>Mike Hedges MS<br>Rhianon Passmore MS<br>Laura Anne Jones MS (In place of Peter Fox MS)       |
| Witnesses:             | Rebecca Evans MS, Minister for Finance and Local Government<br>Andrew Jeffreys, Welsh Government<br>Emma Watkins, Welsh Government |
| Committee Staff:       | Owain Roberts (Clerk)<br>Martin Jennings (Researcher)<br>Mike Lewis (Deputy Clerk)   |



## **Registration (09.00–09.15)**

## **Private Pre-meeting (09.15–09.30)**

### **1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest**

1.1 The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting of the Finance Committee.

1.2 Apologies were received from Peter Fox MS.

1.3 Laura Anne Jones MS attended as a substitute for Peter Fox MS.

### **2 Paper(s) to note**

2.1 The papers were noted.

- 2.1 PTN 1 – Letter from the Chair of the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee: Evidence papers supporting the 2024–25 Draft Budget – 27 October 2023
- 2.2 PTN 2 – Letter from the First Minister: Finance Committee Stage 1 report on the Food (Wales) Bill: Recommendation 1 – 15 November 2023
- 2.3 PTN 3 – Letter from the Chair of the Petitions Committee: Evidence session for Petition P-06-1358 Review the inadequate funding for Schools in Wales – 22 November 2023
- 2.4 PTN 4 – Agriculture (Wales) Act 2023 – Revised Explanatory Memorandum – 22 November 2023
- 2.5 PTN 5 – Letter from the Minister for Finance and Local Government: Revenue Settlement Grant – 29 November 2023
- 2.6 PTN 6 – Infrastructure (Wales) Bill: Welsh Government response – 1 December 2023
- 2.7 PTN 7 – Letter from the Minister for Finance and Local Government: Statement of Principles for Directly Funded Bodies (DFBs) – 14 November 2023

### **3 Scrutiny of the Welsh Government Draft Budget 2024–25: Evidence session 1**

3.1 The Committee took evidence on the Welsh Government Draft Budget 2024–25 from Rebecca Evans MS, Minister for Finance and Local Government; Andrew Jeffreys, Director Treasury; and Emma Watkins, Deputy Director, Budget and Government Business.

3.2 The Minister agreed to provide a note on:

- How the GDP deflator and CPI index indices work, and why the Welsh Government opted for the CPI index in its inflation calculations, in relation to the Draft Budget.

#### **4 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 (ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of this meeting**

4.1 The motion was agreed.

#### **5 Scrutiny of the Welsh Government Draft Budget 2024–25: Consideration of evidence**

5.1 The Committee considered the evidence received.