

# Agenda – Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee

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Meeting Venue:	For further information contact:
Video conference via Zoom	Fay Bowen
Meeting date: 27 June 2024	Committee Clerk
Meeting time: 09.15 – 11.30	0300 200 6565
	<a href="mailto:SeneddPAPA@senedd.wales">SeneddPAPA@senedd.wales</a>

## Remote

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### (Private pre-meeting)

(9:00 – 9:15)

### (Public meeting)

(9:15 – 9:30)

#### 1 Introduction, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

(9:15)

#### 2 Papers to note

(9:15 – 9:30)

##### 2.1 Letter from the Director General of Local Government, Housing & Climate Change and Rural Affairs – Response to Audit Wales report: Sustainable development? – making best use of brownfield land and empty buildings

(Pages 1 – 7)

Attached Documents:

PAPAC(06)–11–24–PTN1 Welsh Government – Brownfield

##### 2.2 Letter from the Permanent Secretary – Update on recommendation 18 of the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee's Report: Scrutiny of Accounts – Welsh Government 2021–22

(Pages 8 – 9)



Attached Documents:

PAPAC(06)-11-24-PTN2 Welsh Government – Annual Report and Accounts  
2021-22

**2.3 Letter from the Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee  
– Transport for Wales and Rail Services**

(Pages 10 – 11)

Attached Documents:

PAPAC(06)-11-24-PTN3 Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure  
Committee – Transport for Wales and Rail Services

**2.4 Letter from the Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee  
to Audit Wales – Transport for Wales and Rail Services**

(Pages 12 – 13)

Attached Documents:

PAPAC(06)-11-24-PTN4 Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure  
Committee to Audit Wales – Transport for Wales and Rail Services

**3 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the  
public from the remainder of the meeting**

(9:30)

**4 Draft Report – Building Safety in Wales**

(9:30 – 10:00)

(Pages 14 – 51)

Attached Documents:

PAPAC(06)-11-24-P1 Building Safety in Wales Full report– Meeting Version

**5 Discussion of the Welsh Government response to the Audit Wales  
Report – Supporting Ukrainians in Wales**

(10:00 – 10:20)

(Pages 52 – 57)

Attached Documents:

PAPAC(06)-11-24-P2 Welsh Government response to Audit Wales Report  
Supporting Ukrainians in Wales

## **6 Audit Wales Report – A465 Section 2: Update report**

10:20 – 10:50

**Supporting documents:**

[Audit Wales Report – A465 Section 2: Update report](#)

## **7 Forward Work Programme**

(10:50 – 11:10)

(Pages 58 – 70)

Attached Documents:

PAPAC(06)-11-24-P3 Draft Forward Work Programme Sept-Dec 2024

## **8 Discussion and next steps – Cabinet Manual**

(11:10 – 11:30)

## Tracey Burke

Cyfarwyddwr Cyffredinol / Director General

Llywodraeth Leol, Tai & Newid Hinsawdd a Materion Gwledig  
Local Government, Housing & Climate Change and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Mr Adrian Crompton  
Auditor General for Wales  
Audit Wales  
1 Capital Quarter  
Tyndall Street  
Cardiff  
CF10 4BZ

10 June 2024

Dear Auditor General

Thank you for your report, ***Sustainable development? – making best use of brownfield land and empty buildings.***

I am pleased to enclose our detailed response to the recommendations made to the Welsh Government.

Welsh Ministers have been clear that through delivering the Programme for Government commitments they are determined to make our cities, towns and villages even better places in which to live and work. There are of course numerous challenges, but making best use of our existing resources will help us deliver more efficiently and effectively.

Welsh Ministers are clear that previously developed 'brownfield' land should be used in preference to greenfield sites where it is suitable for development. This policy supports sustainability and, as you note in your report, is set out in national planning policy. The Town Centres First policy supports this aim with previously developed land or existing buildings being considered for the location of public services.

However, the development on brownfield sites presents numerous challenges and barriers, many of which are highlighted in your report. Where possible and appropriate, we want to support local authorities, developers and other stakeholders to overcome those obstacles.

We are also focused on bringing empty buildings back into use. You will see in our response to recommendations the broad range of activity that Welsh Government teams are engaged in to help tackle empty properties.



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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

The two recommendations for Welsh Government specifically, focus on recording details of sites that are available for regeneration and monitoring the levels of development on brownfield sites. As part of Local Development Plan scrutiny, we will seek to ensure that registers of brownfield and greenfield land are prepared and maintained. The Programme for Government commitment to *support the development of a register of empty buildings and help small businesses move into vacant shops* is also directly relevant to your recommendations.

Also the Transforming Towns regeneration programme, supports the development of Placemaking Plans in town and city centres across Wales. These plans are key documents developed through engagement with local people and businesses. A Placemaking Plan will set out what needs to be done to improve a town centre and provides an opportunity to identify both empty buildings and brownfield land for development.

Your report makes a valuable contribution to our ongoing work in this area, and we look forward to working with partners to take forward the recommendations.

Copies of this letter have been sent to the Chair of the Senedd Public Affairs and Public Administration Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tracey Burke'.

Tracey Burke  
Director General  
Local Government, Housing & Climate Change and Rural Affairs

## Organisational response

**Report title:** Sustainable development? – making best use of brownfield land and empty buildings

**Completion date:** January 2024

Ref	Recommendation	<b>Organisational response</b> Please set out here relevant commentary on the planned actions in response to the recommendations	<b>Completion date</b> Please set out by when the planned actions will be complete	<b>Responsible officer (title)</b>
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Pack Page 3

R4

To help enable stakeholders to assess potential sites the Welsh Government should:

- work with councils to ensure that listings of identified sites for regeneration are reported by council area; and
- produce a national listing informed by the local listings and through working in conjunction with other public sector bodies.

**We accept this recommendation.**

**We are seeking to improve the identification of brownfield sites:**

- As part of Local Development Plan scrutiny we will seek to ensure that registers of brownfield and greenfield land are prepared and maintained.
- We will explore opportunities to collate locally held data into a national register.

In relation to empty properties, we are undertaking a range of work that will support implementing this recommendation, including:

- Work on the Programme for Government commitment to “*Support the development of a register of empty buildings and help small businesses move into vacant shops*” is ongoing. We have commissioned independent research which will help establish what small businesses would find most useful in terms of accessing empty town centre properties.
- We have established a small working group of local authorities who have been making progress on identifying empty buildings in their town centres. This group will pool existing best practice and consider how this can be developed further and rolled out more widely. The work programme will cover issues such as: commercial property vacancy data collection; maintenance of registers; support for businesses; current disconnects and challenges.

Aligned with LDP cycle.

March 2025

The research work will be completed in Autumn 2024.

Autumn 2024

Chief Planner

Deputy Director,  
Land Division

Deputy Director,  
Homes and  
Places

R4  
Cont.

- The working group's deliberations and the independent research on how small businesses access empty town centre properties will run in parallel over the coming months and both inform each other.

Other developments include:

- Making vacant buildings in town centres a mandatory consideration within the Placemaking Plans that we are supporting local authorities to develop;
- Placemaking Plans provide an opportunity to identify brownfield sites within town centres that provide appropriate development opportunities;
- Promoting the existing [Business Wales Property Database | Business Wales \(gov.wales\)](#);
- Through our Empty Property Enforcement scheme, we continue to support local authorities in establishing individual Empty Property Enforcement Action Plans for dealing with long-term empty properties, both commercial and residential, prioritising properties for enforcement action;

Autumn 2024

Revenue funding to support the development of Placemaking Plans was provided in 2023/24. Subject to Ministerial approval, we will seek to allocate additional resources in 2024/25 to support this work.

Annual updates are requested on Action Plans.

R4 Cont.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation of Enforcement: OB3 Research was appointed by the Welsh Government to undertake a review of the Empty Properties Enforcement scheme, with the aim of understanding the success and impact of the scheme to date. The evaluation concluded that the Empty Properties Enforcement support and fund is well-aligned to the policy priorities outlined by the Welsh Government in its Town Centres Position Statement. It recognised the importance of policy prioritisation at a national level continuing, supporting focus at a local authority level;</li> <li>• The Unnos programme includes an initiative to develop a guidance document for local authorities on empty homes. The programme is continuing to provide industry expert advice and assistance to local authorities on how to best use all their powers to bring back into use empty and dilapidated properties. The industry expert advice will continue throughout 2024/25, and the guidance document will be completed by the end of the 2024/25 financial year.</li> </ul>	Complete.	Deputy Director, Land Division
R5	To help inform scrutiny of performance both locally and nationally the Welsh Government should create a national framework for monitoring and assessing levels of brownfield sites being developed compared to levels of sites available and levels of greenfield development.	<p><b>We accept this recommendation. Ensuring that data on brownfield and greenfield sites is more readily accessible will support scrutiny and transparency.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National planning policy promotes the redevelopment of brownfield land ahead of greenfield. It also requires planning authorities to include policies and proposals in their LDPs for the rehabilitation and development of existing derelict sites where development is the preferred response. Data on brownfield and greenfield sites is collected through the LDP process and we will work with local planning authorities make more of this data easily accessible to stakeholders. Our response to Recommendation 4 commits us to explore opportunities to</li> </ul>	We will consult on reintroducing data collection requirements as part of a consultation on planning fees in Summer 2024.	Chief Planner

R5  
Cont.

collate locally held data into a national register and that has the potential to support scrutiny and improve transparency.

- Planning authorities produce Urban Capacity Studies as part of the evidence base for LDPs which identify vacant sites suitable for development. LDP Annual Monitoring Reports (AMRs) provide information on the split between brownfield and greenfield development.
- Prior to Covid the information from AMRs was collated to produce a national data set. Going forward, we will review how to make best use of this data on a national basis to help inform scrutiny.

Aligned with LDP cycle.

Autumn 2025

# Agenda Item 2.2

Dr Andrew Goodall  
Ysgrifennydd Parhaol  
Permanent Secretary



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Mark Isherwood MS  
Chair, Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee  
Welsh Parliament  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1SN

12 June 2024

Dear Mr Isherwood

## **Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee – Welsh Government Annual Report and Accounts 2021-22**

When I provided the Welsh Government's response to the recommendations made in the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee's report on the Scrutiny of the Accounts for the Welsh Government 2021-22, I agreed to provide an update on Recommendation 18 by 30 June 2024.

The original recommendation and our corresponding response is below.

### **Recommendation 18**

*The Welsh Government should review the way it reports losses to the Senedd and provide an explanation of what it considers a "serious" loss, as per paragraph A4.9.6 of Managing Welsh Public Money.*

### **Accept**

*We will review the way in which all losses have been reported over the last 5 years to the Senedd, consider good practice elsewhere and report back to this Committee by 30 June 2024 on our findings, including if we consider there is a need to update our current guidance on how we report losses or define a serious loss.*



BUDDSODDWYR | INVESTORS  
MEWN POBL | IN PEOPLE

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi. Dilynwch y ddolen i gael arweiniad ar sut fyddwn yn trin a defnyddio'ch data, yn unol â'r Rheoliadau Diogelu Data Cyffredinol. <https://gov.wales/about/welsh-government-privacy-notice/?skip=1&lang=cy>

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding. Please follow the link for guidance on how we will handle & use your data, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. <https://gov.wales/about/welsh-government-privacy-notice/?lang=en>

To address this recommendation, we have looked at the way in which losses have been reported over the last five years and compared the way the Welsh Government reports serious losses with the reporting undertaken by the other devolved Governments and the UK Government.

We have identified that our reporting practices and how we define a serious loss is consistent with the other administrations. In accordance with Managing Welsh Public Money where a loss is considered "serious" it is reported to the Senedd by a Written Statement.

The definition of a serious loss is dependent on the circumstances relevant to it; therefore it is not appropriate to put a value or threshold on a serious loss. Whilst large value losses are serious we would not want to have a threshold below which smaller value losses could not be considered serious and therefore brought to the Senedd's attention. The reason for the loss also needs to be taken into consideration when determining whether it is considered serious or not. For example, a loss due to external fraud may well be considered serious, whereas the same amount lost in the ordinary course of business due to exchange rate movements may not. Ultimately, the judgment is one for the Additional Accounting Officer or Principal Accounting Officer to make.

We will ensure that guidance is issued clarifying this and it is reflected in the update to MWPM.

Yours,  
*Andrew Goodall*

**Dr Andrew Goodall**  
Ysgrifennydd Parhaol/ Permanent Secretary  
Llywodraeth Cymru/ Welsh Government



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# Agenda Item 2.3

**Pwyllgor Newid Hinsawdd,  
yr Amgylchedd a Seilwaith**

**Climate Change, Environment,  
and Infrastructure Committee**

**Senedd Cymru**

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**Welsh Parliament**

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Mark Isherwood MS

Chair of the Public Accounts and Public Administration  
Committee

19 June 2024

Dear Mark,

I enclose a copy of the Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee's most recent [report on Tfw and rail services](#), which was published in May 2024.

You will be aware that, in its report, the Committee concluded that the Senedd's Public Accounts and Administration Committee and Audit Wales should consider whether the delivery of rail services and the CVL modernisation project merit further scrutiny by the Auditor General for Wales in a value-for-money study.

Estimated initially at £738 million in 2018, the project's costs have increased significantly by £306 million. The Committee recognised the severe challenges presented by inflation and unforeseeable events such as the COVID-19 pandemic; however, the scale of the increase was of particular concern.

Our discussions with Transport for Wales (Tfw) revealed that approximately one-third of this cost increase could be attributed to 'infrastructure constraints'. We were surprised that constraints on such a scale were not anticipated or identified earlier in the project planning phase. Additionally, Tfw has asserted that the budget for the South Wales metro could be reduced by £20-30 million without



compromising safety or service provision. We have sought further information on this matter from TfW.

TfW faced considerable financial challenges in the last year, including a £100 million funding gap arising from a shortfall in projected revenue growth from rail services. Although the additional funding for 2024-25 has been "baselined" in TfW's budget for future years, we continue to be concerned that TfW and, by extension, the Welsh Government will remain financially exposed if farebox revenue fails to materialise at expected levels.

Given the significant investment and associated risks and the fact that Senedd Committees are unable to access the internal TfW information essential to understanding the issues involved, we believe that the Auditor General for Wales should consider a review of the delivery of rail services and a value-for-money review of the CVL modernisation project. I have written to the Auditor General with this request and will update you on his conclusions in due course.

I would be happy for you to discuss this issue directly with Audit Wales and for your Committee to highlight any other matters that should inform the Auditor General's consideration.

Kind regards,



Llyr Gruffydd MS,  
Chair, Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.  
We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

# Agenda Item 2.4

**Pwyllgor Newid Hinsawdd,  
yr Amgylchedd a Seilwaith**

—  
**Climate Change, Environment,  
and Infrastructure Committee**

**Senedd Cymru**

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—  
**Welsh Parliament**

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Adrian Crompton  
Auditor General for Wales and CEO of Audit Wales

19 June 2024

Dear Adrian,

**Request for further scrutiny of Transport for Wales (TfW) and Core Valley Lines Modernisation Project**

You will be aware that the Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee published its most recent [report on TfW and rail services](#) in May 2024. In its report, the Committee concluded that the Senedd's Public Accounts and Administration Committee and Audit Wales should consider whether the delivery of rail services and the CVL modernisation project merits further scrutiny by the Auditor General for Wales in a value-for-money study.

Estimated initially at £738 million in 2018, the project's costs have increased significantly by £306 million. The Committee recognised the severe challenges presented by inflation and unforeseeable events such as the COVID-19 pandemic; however, the scale of the increase was of particular concern.

Our discussions with Transport for Wales (TfW) revealed that approximately one-third of this cost increase could be attributed to 'infrastructure constraints'. We were surprised that constraints on such a scale were not anticipated or identified earlier in the project planning phase. Additionally, TfW has asserted that the budget for the South Wales metro could be reduced by £20-30 million without

compromising safety or service provision. We have sought further information on this matter from TfW.

TfW faced considerable financial challenges in the last year, including a £100 million funding gap arising from a shortfall in projected revenue growth from rail services. Although the additional funding for 2024-25 has been "baselined" in TfW's budget for future years, we continue to be concerned that TfW and, by extension, the Welsh Government will remain financially exposed if farebox revenue fails to materialise at expected levels.

Given the significant investment and associated risks and the fact that Senedd Committees are unable to access the internal TfW information essential to understanding the issues involved, we believe that the Auditor General for Wales should consider a review of the delivery of rail services and a value-for-money review of the CVL modernisation project. I would be grateful if you would consider this matter and share your views with the Committee in due course.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Senedd's Public Accounts and Administration Committee for information.

Yours sincerely,



Llyr Gruffydd MS,  
Chair, Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.  
We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

# Agenda Item 4

By virtue of paragraph(s) vi of Standing Order 17.42

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# Agenda Item 5

Cyfarwyddwr Cyffredinol, Grŵp Addysg, Diwylliant a'r Gymraeg  
Education, Culture and Welsh Language Group



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Adrian Crompton,  
Auditor General for Wales  
[infoofficer@audit.wales](mailto:infoofficer@audit.wales)

c/o Matthew Mortlock, Director  
[Matthew.Mortlock@audit.wales](mailto:Matthew.Mortlock@audit.wales)

21 May 2024

Dear Auditor General,

Please see attached the Welsh Government's response to the Audit Wales Report on Supporting Ukrainians in Wales.

This letter has been copied to the Chair of the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sioned'.

Sioned Evans  
Cyfarwyddwr Cyffredinol, Grŵp Addysg, Diwylliant a'r Gymraeg  
Director General, Education, Culture and Welsh Language Group

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

## Organisational response

**Report title:** Supporting Ukrainians in Wales

**Completion date:** March 2024

Pack Page 53

Ref	Recommendation	<b>Organisational response</b> Please set out here relevant commentary on the planned actions in response to the recommendations	<b>Completion date</b> Please set out by when the planned actions will be complete	<b>Responsible officer (title)</b>
R1	<p>The Welsh Government should develop and maintain contingency plans it can use if it decides to implement a similar scheme to accommodate refugees in future. These should apply lessons learned from what has worked well and what could have gone better for the Ukraine response, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the use of the Contact Centre, Arrival Hubs and Welcome Centres;</li> <li>• having a clear offer for refugees that takes account of other resettlement schemes;</li> <li>• methods for assessing need from the service user perspective;</li> <li>• methods for early modelling of demand, capacity and costs;</li> <li>• governance arrangements agreed with partners in advance that can be set up quickly; and</li> <li>• agreed data requirements and an agreed method for data sharing from the outset.</li> </ul>	<p>The Welsh Government accepts this recommendation.</p> <p>Due to the unique and groundbreaking nature of the Homes for Ukraine programme, development of the programme framework and methodology has been an iterative process. Considering this, a great deal has been accomplished within a short period of time. Our response was developed from learning taken from Afghan and Syrian resettlement programmes, as well as lessons relating to the asylum system.</p> <p>We recognise the importance of learning from each new scheme and we have already incorporated many of the lessons learnt into current approaches. We will continue to implement this recommendation by keeping our Policy Handbook updated to help us prepare effectively if a similar scheme is required in the future. The Policy Handbook has already been used to ensure consistency of approach and alignment with our Nation of Sanctuary Principles.</p> <p>In addition to the Policy Handbook, an internal 'principle recommendations from lessons learned' document will be created, highlighting lessons learned and best practices.</p> <p>Future updates to the Policy Handbook will be informed by the 'principal recommendations from lessons learned' document.</p>	August 2024	Deputy Director, Cohesive Communities Division

R2	<p>The Welsh Government should review and update relevant guidance to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• make clear that decisions to not publish Contract Award Notices, and the rationale for that, should be fully recorded at the time; and</li> <li>• promote a consistent approach to publishing, or not publishing, notices where the Welsh Government works with partners to procure goods or services.</li> </ul>	<p>The Welsh Government accepts this recommendation.</p> <p>Decisions whether to publish or not to publish contract award notices must comply with the Procurement Regulations, currently Public Contracts Regulations 2015- Welsh Contracting Authorities must comply with these regulations.</p> <p>Internal Welsh Government procurement procedures will be updated as per the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Immediately update the WG Procurement Tender Checklist to       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. provide guidance in line with the regulations on when it is appropriate to withhold an award notice.</li> <li>ii. include space for Welsh Government to record the rationale for not publishing an award notice, if that decision is taken;</li> <li>iii. include guidance to state where WG are working with other public sector partners to procure, a single, consistent approach should be adopted.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Review the checklist autumn 2024 in light of the Procurement Act coming into force and amend notes/guidance as necessary.</li> </ol>	<p>1 – April 2024</p> <p>2 – November 2024</p>	<p>1 - Welsh Government Corporate Procurement Services</p> <p>2 - Welsh Government Procurement Delivery/Operations</p>
R3	<p>The Welsh Government should work with local authorities to review whether to retrospectively publish Contract Award Notices for Welcome Centres that have closed.</p>	<p>The Welsh Government accepts this recommendation.</p> <p>Local authorities retain their own procurement guidelines, including their commitments to publish contract award notices. In relation to most Welcome Centres, publishing retrospective notices will ultimately be a decision for Welsh local authorities.</p> <p>The Welsh Government will however undertake the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conduct an internal review of Contract Award Notices issued or not, and</li> </ol>	<p>30 June 2024</p>	<p>Deputy Director, Cohesive Communities Division</p>

		<p>2. Remind Local Authorities of their responsibilities to comply with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 as per the Grant terms and conditions and</p> <p>3. Ensure that where notices have not been published, that a rationale has been recorded for not publishing an award notice in line with Welsh Government decisions not to publish a notice.</p>		
R4	<p>The Welsh Government should establish whether local authorities are using the refusals policy consistently to support move-on while ensuring equitable treatment of Ukrainians in initial accommodation, regardless of their location.</p>	<p>The Welsh Government accepts this recommendation.</p> <p>The refusals policy has supported more effective move-on from Welcome Centres and initial accommodation and has provided a level of assurance to the Homes for Ukraine programme. Timely move-on supports the integration outcomes of those arriving, supports good value for money and helps to ensure more equity of treatment for different groups in housing need.</p> <p>Use of the refusals policy is discussed in our regular meetings with local authorities to help ensure consistency of its application.</p> <p>The policy has been kept under review since its trial and full introduction, with changes being made based on partner feedback and to reflect good practice. Changes have also been made to the guest Code of Conduct to ensure that guests understand what is expected of them in terms of engagement with move-on and payment of fees associated with continuing to refuse offers of move-on accommodation. A review will be completed on how consistently the refusals policy has been used within local authorities.</p> <p>Our 'Initial Accommodation' is now in the closure phase with the final initial accommodation venues closing early summer,</p>	30 June 2024	Deputy Director, Cohesive Communities Division

but we will ensure learning is taken from implementation and impact of the refusals policy to shape a revised refusals policy under any new strategy for welcoming new Ukrainian arrivals. This will be developed in consultation with local authorities.

# Agenda Item 7

By virtue of paragraph(s) ix of Standing Order 17.42

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