

Concise Minutes – Local Government and Housing Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 2

Meeting date: Wednesday, 31 January 2024

Meeting time: 09.31 – 11.51

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/14009>

Hybrid

Attendance

Category	Names
Members of the Senedd:	John Griffiths MS (Chair) Jayne Bryant MS Joel James MS Sam Rowlands MS Carolyn Thomas MS Mabon ap Gwynfor MS (In place of Luke Fletcher MS)
Witnesses:	Gavin Thompson, Newsquest Rob Taylor, Wrexham.com Rachel Bowen, Older People's Commissioner for Wales Steffan Rhys, Reach PLC
Committee Staff:	Catherine Hunt (Clerk) Angharad Era (Deputy Clerk) Rachael Davies (Second Clerk) Ben Harris (Legal Adviser)



1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting of the Local Government and Housing Committee.
- 1.2 Apologies were received from Luke Fletcher MS. Mabon ap Gwynfor MS substituted for Luke Fletcher MS.

2 Local Government Finance (Wales) Bill – Evidence session 5

- 2.1 The Committee received evidence from:

Rachel Bowen, Director of Policy, Older People's Commissioner for Wales

Steffan Rhys, Audience and Content Director for Wales, Reach plc

Gavin Thompson, Regional Editor, Newsquest (Wales)

Rob Taylor, Wrexham.com

3 Papers to note

- 3.1 **Letter from the Minister for Finance and Local Government – Outcome of the Interministerial Group meeting for Housing, Communities & Local Government**

- 3.1a The Committee noted the letter.

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

- 4.1 The Committee agreed the motion.

5 Local Government Finance (Wales) Bill – consideration of evidence

- 5.1 The Committee considered the evidence.

6 Welsh Government Draft Budget 2024–25 – Consideration of draft report

6.1 The Committee considered the draft report.