

Concise Minutes – Equality and Social Justice Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 3 (Senedd)

Meeting date: Monday, 9 December 2024

Meeting time: 13.31 – 16.45

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/14200>

Hybrid

Attendance

Category	Names
Members of the Senedd:	Jenny Rathbone MS (Chair) Mick Antoniw MS Jane Dodds MS Joel James MS Julie Morgan MS Sioned Williams MS
Witnesses:	Dr Sumina Azam, Public Health Wales Rhian Bowen–Davies, Older People’s Commissioner, Older People’s Commissioner for Wales Ceri Cryer, Age Cymru Keryl Lanfear, Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council Rebecca Hill, Public Health Wales David Mark Lewis, Gwynedd Council Meilyr Tomos, Gwynedd Council
Committee Staff:	Rhys Morgan (Clerk) Angharad Roche (Deputy Clerk)



	Sam Mason (Legal Adviser) Claire Thomas (Researcher)
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1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

Apologies were received from Joel James in respect of agenda item 1.

2 Fuel poverty in Wales: evidence session three

Members heard evidence from:

Rhian Bowen–Davies, Older People’s Commissioner for Wales

Dr Sumina Azam, National Director of Policy and International Health, Public Health Wales

Dr Rebecca Hill, Senior Public Health Specialist, Public Health Wales

Ceri Cryer, Policy Advisor, Age Cymru

3 Fuel poverty in Wales: evidence session four

Members heard evidence from:

Keryl Lanfear, Housing Strategy Officer, Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council

David Mark Lewis, Energy and Commercial Services Manager, Gwynedd Council

Meilyr Tomos, Fuel Poverty Officer, Gwynedd Council

4 Papers to note

Members noted the papers.

- 4.1 Correspondence from ColegauCymru to the Finance Committee in relation to the Welsh Government Draft Budget 2025–26
 - 4.2 Correspondence between Chair and the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Trefnydd and Chief Whip and Cabinet Secretary for Education regarding the development of the British Sign Language (BSL) GCSE in Wales
 - 4.3 Correspondence between the Chair and Councillor Andrew Morgan regarding information as part of the inquiry into the disability employment gap
 - 4.4 Correspondence between the Chair and the Future Generations Commissioner regarding strengthening and advancing equality and Human Rights
 - 4.5 Correspondence between the Chair and the Law Society regarding strengthening and advancing equality and Human Rights
 - 4.6 Correspondence between the Chair and the Equality and Human Rights Commission regarding strengthening and advancing equality and Human Rights
 - 4.7 Additional evidence from Dr Simon Lannion regarding FRESH (Foundation data for Robust Energy Strategies for Housing)
- 5 **Motion under Standing Order 17.42(iv) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of this meeting**

Members agreed the motion.

6 Fuel poverty in Wales: consideration of evidence

Members considered the evidence.

7 Disability and Employment: consideration of key issues

Members considered the key issues paper and agreed to prepare a report for consideration in the Spring term.

