

Agenda – Economy, Trade, and Rural Affairs Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee room 3 – Senedd
and video conference via Zoom

Meeting date: 15 January 2025

Meeting time: 09.30

For further information contact:

Robert Donovan

Committee Clerk

0300 200 6565

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Hybrid

Private pre-meeting

09.15 – 09.30

Public session

09.30 – 12.10

1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions, and declarations of interest

09.30

2 Papers to note

09.30

2.1 Meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Group for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

(Page 1)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate
Change and Rural Affairs – 2 December 2024



2.2 Meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Standing Committee (IMSC)

(Page 2)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs – 2 December 2024

2.3 42nd British-Irish Council Summit

(Page 3)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the First Minister of Wales – 6 December 2024

2.4 Petition: P-06-1478 Comprehensively review NRW and its failure to deliver its statutory obligations to protect Wales

(Pages 4 – 7)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Petitions Committee to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs – 6 December 2024

Letter from Alun Phillips to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs – 11 November 2024

2.5 Foundational Economy evidence session – 14 November 2024: follow-up

(Pages 8 – 10)

Attached Documents:

Letter from Sarah Simmonds, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board – 9 December 2024

Letter from Community Gateway, Cardiff University – 17 December 2024

2.6 Visitor Accommodation (Register and Levy) Etc. (Wales) Bill

(Pages 11 – 15)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning – 10 December 2024

Letter from the Chair to the Finance Committee – 11 December 2024

Letter from the Chair of the Finance Committee – 16 December 2024

2.7 Invitation to attend meetings relating to the Children, Young People and Education Committee's inquiry 'Routes into post-16 education and training'

(Pages 16 – 17)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Chair of the Children, Young People and Education Committee – 11 December 2024

2.8 Legislative Consent: Product Regulation and Metrology Bill

(Pages 18 – 21)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning – 11 December 2024

2.9 The Disability Employment Gap and the education system

(Pages 22 – 24)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Chair of the Equality and Social Justice Committee to the Minister for Further and Higher Education and the Cabinet Secretary for Education – 12 December 2024

2.10 Future of Welsh Steel

(Pages 25 – 28)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Chair to the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning – 13 December 2024

Letter from the Chair to the Secretary of State for Wales – 13 December 2024

2.11 Annual scrutiny of the Development Bank of Wales

(Pages 29 – 30)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Chair to the Development Bank of Wales – 13 December 2024

2.12 Meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Group on UK–EU relations

(Page 31)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning – 17 December 2024

2.13 Publication of amendments to the Joint Fisheries Statement (Annex A – Fisheries Management Plans)

(Pages 32 – 33)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs – 18 December 2024

2.14 Temporary Closure of Holyhead Port

(Pages 34 – 35)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Chair to the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and

Planning, and Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales – 20
December 2024

2.15 Representation on Inter-Parliamentary Bodies

(Pages 36 – 37)

Attached Documents:

Letter to Chairs from the Llywydd – 7 January 2025

3 Welsh Government Draft Budget 2025–26: Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning and the Minister for Culture, Skills and Social Partnership

09.30 – 10.30

(Pages 38 – 122)

Rebecca Evans MS, Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning,
Welsh Government

Jack Sargeant MS, Minister for Culture, Skills and Social Partnership, Welsh
Government

Duncan Hamer, Director – Operations, Welsh Government

Jo Salway, Director, Social Partnership, Employability & Fair Work, Welsh
Government

Jason Thomas, Director – Tourism, Marketing, Events & Creative, Welsh
Government

Attached Documents:

Research brief

Evidence paper – Welsh Government – Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy
and Planning

Evidence paper – Welsh Government – Minister for Culture, Skills and Social
Partnership

Break

10.30 – 10.35

4 Welsh Government Draft Budget 2025–26: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs and the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning

10.35 – 11.05

(Pages 123 – 175)

Huw Irranca-Davies MS, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs, Welsh Government

Rebecca Evans MS, Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning, Welsh Government

Gian Marco Currado, Director – Rural Affairs, Welsh Government

Andrew Gwatkin, Director – International Relations and Trade, Welsh Government

Richard Irvine, Chief Veterinary Officer, Welsh Government

Peter Ryland, Chief Executive WEFO, Welsh Government

Attached Documents:

Research brief

Evidence paper – Welsh Government – Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs

Break

11.05 – 11.10

5 Welsh Government Draft Budget 2025–26: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs

11.10 – 12.10

(Pages 176 – 189)

Huw Irranca–Davies MS, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs, Welsh Government

Gian Marco Currado, Director – Rural Affairs, Welsh Government

Richard Irvine, Chief Veterinary Officer, Welsh Government

Jamie Powell, Deputy Director of Finance, Welsh Government

Attached Documents:

Research brief

6 Motion under Standing Order 17.42(ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting

12.10

Private session

12.10 – 12.25

7 Consideration of evidence following the meeting

12.10 – 12.25