

# Concise Minutes – Health and Social Care Committee

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Meeting Venue:

Hybrid – Committee Room 5, Ty Hywel  
and video conference via Zoom

Meeting date: 20 March 2025

Meeting time: 09.00 – 14.48

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/14862>

## Hybrid

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### Attendance

| Category               | Names  |
|------------------------|--|
| Members of the Senedd: | Russell George MS (Chair)<br>Joyce Watson MS   |
| Witnesses:             | Rhianon Reynolds, Ophthalmology Clinical Implementation Network – NHS Executive<br>William Oliver, Ophthalmology Clinical Implementation Network – NHS Executive<br>Owain Mealing, Optometry Wales<br>Dan McGhee, Federation of Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians (FODO)<br>Ansley Workman, RNIB Cymru<br>Sara Crowley, RNIB Cymru |
| Committee Staff:       | Sarah Beasley (Clerk)<br>Karen Williams (Deputy Clerk)<br>Sarah Hatherley (Researcher)   |



## **1 NHS waiting times monitoring report**

1.1 The Committee discussed the report findings.

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

2.1 The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting.

## **3 Ophthalmology Services in Wales: evidence sessions – Panel 1**

3.1 The Committee received evidence from the NHS Wales Executive.

## **4 Ophthalmology Services in Wales: evidence sessions – Panel 2**

4.1 The Committee received evidence from Dr Andrew Pyott; Consultant Ophthalmologist, Clinical Lead – Ophthalmology – NHS Highland.

## **5 Ophthalmology Services in Wales: evidence sessions – Panel 3**

5.1 The Committee received evidence from Optometry Wales, Federation of Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians, and the Association of Optometrists.

## **6 Ophthalmology Services on Wales: evidence sessions – Panel 4**

6.1 The Committee received evidence from patients representatives from RNIB Cymru, the Macular Society, Wales Council of the Blind, Vision Support, and Betsi Cadwaladr and Cardiff and the Vale University Health Boards.

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

**7.1 Letter to the Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing following the Committee's scrutiny session on the Welsh Government's draft budget**

7.1.1 The Committee noted the letter.

**7.2 Letter from the Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing in response to follow up questions from the Committee's scrutiny session on Welsh Government's draft budget**

7.2.1 The Committee noted the letter.

**7.3 Letter from Chair of Petitions Committee re Petition P-06-1488: Establish a 'Care Society' to Tackle the Long COVID Crisis in Wales**

7.3.1 The Committee noted the letter.

**8 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 (ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of today's meeting**

8.1 The Committee agreed the motion.

**9 Ophthalmology Services in Wales: consideration of evidence**

9.1 The Committee discussed the evidence received and the need for an additional evidence session after the Easter recess.