

## Finance Committee

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Meeting Venue:  
**Committee Room 2 – Senedd**

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Meeting date:  
**28 February 2013**

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Meeting time:  
**09:00**

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Cynulliad  
Cenedlaethol  
Cymru

National  
Assembly for  
Wales



For further information please contact:

**Gareth Price**  
Committee Clerk  
029 2089 8409  
[FinanceCommittee@wales.gov.uk](mailto:FinanceCommittee@wales.gov.uk)

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### Agenda

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- 1. Introductions, apologies and substitutions (09:00–09:05)**
- 2. Financial implications of the establishment of Natural Resources Wales (09:05–10:00) (Pages 1 – 2)**

Emyr Roberts, Chief Executive, Natural Resources Wales  
Kevin Ingram, Executive Director designate, Finance and Corporate Services, National Resources Wales

- 3. Papers to note (Pages 3 – 6)**

# Agenda Item 2

Emyr Roberts  
Prif Weithredwr - Chief Executive  
Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru - Natural Resources Wales



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Daniel Collier  
National Assembly for Wales,  
Cardiff Bay

13 March 2013

Dear Daniel,

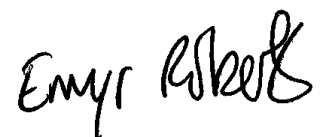
At the Finance Committee meeting of 28 February I agreed to provide further clarification on the delivery of a converged ICT solution for Natural Resources Wales.

The current position and future plans for ICT within NRW is as follows:

- The business case treated ICT as a cost rather than a benefit.
- The profile of ICT expenditure has changed compared to the business case, with more spend being 'front loaded' in the current year and the first year of NRW's operation. In the main this has been because the business case assumed a period of 3-5 years after vesting when NRW would have access to parent organisation ICT systems and processes. This assumption has been revised such that for the majority of systems access will cease at the end of year 2. Consequently the delivery of NRW systems and networks has been accelerated; bringing forward increased capital and revenue spend into the programme budget and the first year of NRW's operation.
- Total projected spend on ICT development in this year and next year is just over £18 million. This is necessary infrastructure and software investment that NRW must make in order that it can begin the process of systems transformation and process improvement that will lead to the release of benefits within the organisation
- As NRW takes forward its own transformation plans, it will identify further financial and effectiveness benefits associated with the implementation of new IT systems.

Many of the systems and processes that NRW will inherit are scaled for England and Wales or GB organisational requirements. NRW has the potential to be more agile and much leaner in its approach to system and process development and management. The impact of these benefits will be from year 3 onwards and are likely to improve the business case position.

I hope this provides the level of clarification that you were seeking. If you have any further questions that I can assist with please don't hesitate to contact me.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emyr Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'R'.

**Emyr Roberts**  
**Chief Executive**  
**Natural Resources Wales**

# Agenda Item 3

## Finance Committee

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Meeting Venue: **Committee Room 2 – Senedd**

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Meeting date: **Wednesday, 20 February 2013**

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Meeting time: **08:50 – 12:13**

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Cynulliad  
Cenedlaethol  
Cymru

National  
Assembly for  
Wales



This meeting can be viewed on Senedd TV at:

[http://www.senedd.tv/archiveplayer.jsf?v=en\\_300000\\_20\\_02\\_2013&t=0&l=en](http://www.senedd.tv/archiveplayer.jsf?v=en_300000_20_02_2013&t=0&l=en)

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### Concise Minutes:

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#### Assembly Members:

**Jocelyn Davies (Chair)**  
**Peter Black**  
**Christine Chapman**  
**Paul Davies**  
**Mike Hedges**  
**Ann Jones**  
**Julie Morgan**  
**Ieuan Wyn Jones**

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#### Witnesses:

**Christopher Chapman, WLGA**  
**Jonathan Fearn, CLAW/ACES Property and Estates Group**  
**Neil Davies, NHS Shared Services Partnership**  
**Phil Fiander, Director of Programmes, Welsh Council for Voluntary Action**  
**Matthew Brown, Communities Investment Fund Manager, WCVA**  
**Peter Williams, WCVA**  
**Jane Hutt, Minister for Finance and Leader of the House**  
**Jo Salway, Welsh Government**  
**Jeff Andrews, Welsh Government**  
**Matthew Denham-Jones, Welsh Government**

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#### Committee Staff:

**Gareth Price (Clerk)**  
**Daniel Collier (Deputy Clerk)**  
**Martin Jennings (Researcher)**  
**Eleanor Roy (Researcher)**  
**Kerry Dearden (Researcher)**

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## 1. Introductions, apologies and substitutions

1.1 The Chair welcomed Members and members of the public.

## **2. Asset Management – Evidence from Welsh Local Government Association**

2.1 The Chair welcomed Christopher Chapman, Programme Manager – Efficiency and Procurement, Welsh Local Government Association; and Jonathan Fearn, Chair of the joint CLAW / ACES Property & Estates Group.

2.2 Members questioned the witnesses.

2.3 The Committee agreed to write to the WLGA with questions which were not raised during proceedings.

## **3. Asset Management – Evidence from NHS Shared Services**

3.1 The Chair welcomed Neil Davies, Assistant Director Facilities Service, NHS Wales Shared Services.

3.2 Members questioned the witness.

### **Action points:**

NHS Shared Services Partnership agreed to provide:

- Case studies identifying how the NHS in Wales has collaborated with other public bodies in Asset Management to enhance service delivery.
- A list of examples where bodies in the NHS in Wales have effectively used the Land Transfer Protocol.

## **4. Asset Management – Evidence from Wales Council for Voluntary Action**

4.1 The Chair welcomed Phil Fiander, Director of Enterprise and Regeneration, WCVA; Mathew Brown, Communities Investment Fund Manager; and Peter Williams, Director, Development Trusts Association Wales.

4.2 The Committee questioned the witnesses.

### **Action point:**

The WCVA agreed to provide:

- A note outlining examples of organisations in the voluntary sector, where assets are managed as a resource to aid service delivery and where it forms part of their overall strategy.

## **5. Welsh Government Supplementary Budget 2013–2014 – Evidence from the Welsh Government**

5.1 The Chair welcomed Jane Hutt AM, Minister for Finance and Leader of the House; Jo Salway, Head of Strategic Budgeting; Matthew Denham-Jones, Head of Budgetary Control & Reporting; and Jeff Andrews, Specialist Policy Adviser.

5.2 The Committee scrutinised the Minister on the Welsh Government's Supplementary Budget 2013–14.

**Action points:**

The Minister agreed to provide:

- Clarification on the request in the supplementary budget motion for a reduction in the amount to be paid from the Consolidated Fund, due to other sources of income being higher than originally forecast, and a breakdown of these sources and the forecast amounts.
- Clarification on funds allocated in this financial year to the NewBuy (Mortgage Guarantee Scheme) and Welsh Housing Bond – and whether there is likely to be any draw down on these funds given the likely launch dates. Also an explanation as to how it is intended that the NewBuy scheme will be provided for in the budget, at the time where provision is made, and in the event of any default resulting in a cost to the Welsh Government.
- Further information on the transfer of capital funding from Invest-to-Save repayments to address IT costs and details of how the revenue funding for the Fund has increased as a result of further transfers.

**6. Papers to note**

6.1 The Committee noted the paper on Invest to Save visits; correspondence from the Welsh Government in response to action points from the 16 January meeting; and the minutes of the previous meeting.

**7. Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for the following business:**

**8. Financial Implications of the Social Services Bill**

8.1 The Committee discussed the financial implications of the Social Services Bill and agreed to invite the Minister for Social Services to be scrutinised by the Committee at a forthcoming meeting.

**9. Consideration of evidence on the Welsh Government Supplementary Budget 2013–2014**

9.1 The Committee discussed the evidence received on the Welsh Government's Supplementary Budget 2013–14 and instructed the Clerk to prepare a draft Committee report.

**10. Consideration of evidence on Asset Management**

10.1 The Committee discussed the evidence received on Asset Management and potential witnesses for forthcoming meetings.

10.2 The Committee agreed to prepare a survey to be addressed to Chief Executives of public bodies to gain further evidence for the inquiry.

## TRANSCRIPT

View the [meeting transcript](#).