

Agenda – Committee for the Scrutiny of the First Minister

Meeting Venue:	For further information contact:
Hybrid: Committee Room 5 and Video	Meriel Singleton
Conference via Zoom	Committee Clerk
Meeting date: 11 July 2025	0300 200 6565
Meeting time: 10.00	ScrutinyFM@senedd.wales

Private pre-meeting

(9.45 – 10.00)

Public

(10.00 – 12.00)

1 Introductions, apologies and substitutions

2 Welsh Government Delivery

(10.00 – 12.00) (Pages 1 – 39)

Eluned Morgan, First Minister.

Andrew Jeffreys, Director, Welsh Treasury.

Peter MacDonald, Director, Transport and Digital Connectivity.

Emma Williams, Director General Education, Culture and Welsh Language.

3 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of this meeting

Private

(12.00 – 12.30)

4 Discussion of previous evidence sessions

(12.00 – 12.15)



5 Discussion of future meetings

(12.15 – 12.30)

6 Papers to note

7.1 Letter from the Chairs' Forum

(Page 40)

7.2 Work of the Wales COVID-19 Inquiry Special Purpose Committee

(Pages 41 – 43)

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Senedd Committees

Via e-mail

8 July 2025

Consultation: Reviewing Committee Effectiveness in the Sixth Senedd

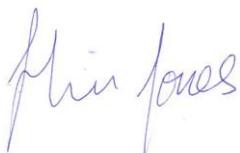
Dear Chair,

You will be aware that the Chairs' Forum is currently considering how committees have operated during the Sixth Senedd. The aim of this work is to identify whether committee procedures and practices can be improved to ensure the scrutiny function is as effective as possible, and to use this information to inform the Seventh Senedd. The Forum is keen to consider wider cultural issues around the operation of Senedd committees, as well as practical matters such as size and function.

The Future Senedd Committee has also made a [number of recommendations](#) to the Forum about the committee system and considerations for the Seventh Senedd, and these have been factored into our work on this matter.

The Forum has launched a [consultation](#), and we would be grateful for the views of individual Committees on the questions in the [consultation document](#), and any reflections that you may consider relevant by **12 September 2025**.

Yours sincerely,



Elin Jones MS/AS

Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg / We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English



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Pack Page 40

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0300 200 7403

David Rees MS

Chair, Committee for the Scrutiny of the
First Minister

13 June 2025

Dear David

**Scrutiny of the First Minister in Relation to Gaps Identified by the Wales COVID-19
Inquiry Special Purpose Committee**

Following the resignation of Conservative Members from the Wales COVID-19 Inquiry Special Purpose Committee (the Covid Committee), the Business Committee has been exploring alternative approaches to how future scrutiny of Covid-19 and the work of the UK Covid-19 Inquiry can be taken forward by Senedd committees.

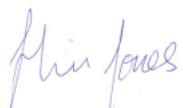
In March 2025, the Covid Committee published its first **report** containing its findings on Module 1 of the Inquiry. This identified nine areas for further scrutiny, including issues such as Wales's resilience and preparedness, governmental accountability, data sharing, and public messaging. Having considered the existing remits of Senedd committees, and noting your Committee's role in scrutinising the First Minister, the Business Committee has considered where responsibility for addressing these matters may best lie.

The Business Committee has written to the Chair of the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee (PAPAC) to invite it to take forward detailed scrutiny of the Module 1 gaps and the forthcoming Module 2 report.

We also agreed to also write to you as Chair of the Committee for the Scrutiny of the First Minister to invite you to consider taking forward scrutiny of the First Minister on the gaps identified by the Covid Committee in its findings on Module 1 of the Inquiry, which fall within the responsibilities of the First Minister – such as in relation to civil contingencies.

The Business Committee is mindful of the importance of ensuring that the public receives clear and robust scrutiny of decisions taken during the pandemic, particularly those made at the highest level of government. Should your Committee be minded to address the Module 1 response with the First Minister, you may wish to liaise with the PAPAC (if they agree to lead further scrutiny) to ensure that scrutiny of these issues can be appropriately coordinated between your committees.

Yours sincerely,



The Rt Hon Elin Jones MS
Chair of the Business Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.



Rt Hon Elin Jones MS, Chair of the Business Committee

Cc: Mark Isherwood MS, Chair of the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee

Via e-mail

04 July 2025

Dear Elin,

Work of the Wales COVID-19 Inquiry Special Purpose Committee

Thank you for your letter on 13 June 2025.

The Committee has had the opportunity to discuss taking forward scrutiny of the First Minister on the gaps identified by the Wales COVID-19 Inquiry Special Purpose Committee (the Covid Committee) in its findings on Module 1 of the Inquiry. We noted that the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee ('PAPAC') has been invited to lead on the detailed scrutiny of the Module 1 gaps and the forthcoming Module 2 report, and understand that it intends to explore this issue and consider a proposed approach at its meeting on 10 July 2025. We have therefore decided to defer making a decision on taking this work forward until PAPAC have agreed its approach.

We intend to discuss this matter further at our meeting on 11 July, when there is more clarity on how PAPAC intend to proceed.

Yours sincerely



David Rees MS

Chair, Committee for the Scrutiny of the First Minister

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.