

Concise Minutes – Equality and Social Justice Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 5 (Ty Hywel)

Meeting date: Monday, 22 September
2025

Meeting time: 11.00 – 17.09

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/15639>

Hybrid

Attendance

Category	Names
Members of the Senedd:	Jenny Rathbone MS (Chair) Jane Dodds MS Altaf Hussain MS Sioned Williams MS
Witnesses:	Sarah Thomas, Centre of Sign Sight Sound Cath Booth, Wales Council for Deaf People Martin Griffiths, British Deaf Association Charles Hampton, Wales Council for Deaf People Tom Lichy, British Deaf Association Jemina Napier, Herriot-Watt University Polly Winn, RNID Wales Biao Zeng, University of South Wales
Committee Staff:	Rhys Morgan (Clerk) Mared Llwyd (Second Clerk) Angharad Roche (Deputy Clerk)



	Gwennan Hardy Masudah Ali
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1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

The Chair welcomed witnesses and Members to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Mick Antonw, MS and Julie Morgan, MS.

No substitutions or any declarations of interest were made.

2 Stage one scrutiny of the British Sign Language (Wales) Bill: evidence session two

Members heard evidence from:

Polly Winn, RNID

Sarah Thomas, Centre of Sign Sight Sound

3 Stage one scrutiny of the British Sign Language (Wales) Bill: evidence session three

Members heard evidence from:

Tom Lichy, British Deaf Association

Martin Griffiths, British Deaf Association

Cath Booth, Wales Council for Deaf People

Charles Hampton, Wales Council for Deaf People

4 Stage one scrutiny of the British Sign Language (Wales) Bill: evidence session four

Members heard evidence from:

Jemina Napier, Herriot–Watt University

Biao Zeng, University of South Wales

5 Papers to note

Members noted the papers.

- 5.1 Correspondence from the Children's Legal Centre Wales to the Chair regarding Deprivation of Liberty Orders for children and “If Not Now, Then When? Radical Reform for Care–Experienced Children and Young People” Inquiry recommendations**
 - 5.2 Correspondence from the Cabinet Secretary for Education to the Chair of the Legislation, Justice and the Constitution Committee regarding the Memorandum of Understanding Welsh Ministers and HM Prison and Probation Service**
 - 5.3 Correspondence from Mark Isherwood to the Chair regarding the British Sign Language (Wales)Bill**
- 6 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 (vi) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of this meeting**

Members agreed the motion.

7 Stage one scrutiny of the British Sign Language (Wales) Bill: consideration of the evidence

Members considered the evidence.

8 Social Cohesion: consideration of draft report

Members considered the revised report and agreed for the final changes to be circulated and agreed following the meeting.