

Concise Minutes – Equality and Social Justice Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 5 (Ty Hywel)

Meeting date: Monday, 20 October 2025

Meeting time: 14.00 – 17.15

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/15643>

Attendance

Category	Names
Members of the Senedd:	Jenny Rathbone MS (Chair) Mick Antoniw MS Jane Dodds MS Altaf Hussain MS Julie Morgan MS Sioned Williams MS
Witnesses:	Mark Isherwood MS, Member in charge of the Bill Gareth Rogers, Bill Manager, Senedd Commission Aled Evans, Legal Services, Senedd Commission Claire Thoams, Research, Senedd Commission Dr Rachel Minto, Cardiff University Dr Alison Parken, Cardiff University
Committee Staff:	Mared Llwyd (Second Clerk) Angharad Roche (Deputy Clerk) Masudah Ali (Legal Services) Gwennan Hardy (Research Service)



1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

The Chair welcomed Members and witnesses to the meeting.

No apologies, substitutions or declarations of interest were given.

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

Members heard evidence from the following:

Mark Isherwood MS, Member in Charge of the Bill

Gareth Rogers, Bill Manager, Senedd Commission

Claire Thomas, Research Service, Senedd Commission

Aled Evans, Legal Services, Senedd Commission

3 Papers to note

Members noted the papers.

- 3.1 Correspondence to the Chair from Mark Isherwood MS regarding the British Sign Language (Wales) Bill
- 3.2 Correspondence to the Chair from the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Trefnydd and Chief Whip regarding the British Sign Language (Wales) Bill
- 3.3 Correspondence to the Chair from the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Trefnydd and Chief Whip regarding the Committee's report on social cohesion
- 3.4 Correspondence to the Chair from Dr Rob Wilks regarding evidence given as part of the Committee's scrutiny of the British Sign Language (Wales) Bill
- 4 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 (vi) and (ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting

Members agreed the motion.

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

Members considered the evidence.

- 6 Fire and Rescue Service Association: consideration of draft response to the consultation

Members considered a draft consultation response.

- 7 Family Friendly and Inclusive Parliament Review

Members participated in the review undertaken by:

Dr Alison Parken, Cardiff University

Dr Rachel Minto, Cardiff University.