

Concise Minutes – Business Committee: Procedural Work

Meeting Venue: Video conference via

Zoom

Meeting date: Thursday, 9 October 2025

Meeting time: 09.33 – 10.57

Private, Remote

Attendance

Category	Names
Members of the Senedd:	Rt. Hon. Elin Jones MS (Chair) Paul Davies MS Heledd Fychan MS Jane Hutt MS
Committee Staff:	Alun Davidson, Clerk Steffan Lewis, Deputy Clerk
Others in attendance:	David Rees MS, Deputy Presiding Officer Bethan Davies, Head of Chamber and Committee Service Graeme Francis, Head of Chamber Secretariat and Clerk to the Business Committee Helen Finlayson, Clerk for Legislative Procedural Review Lisa Griffiths, Procedures Clerk Gruffydd Owen, Legal Adviser Sophie Brighthouse, Welsh Government Anthony Cooper, Welsh Labour Jennifer Ramsay, Welsh Conservatives



1 Introductions, apologies and substitutions

The Llywydd welcomed Members to the meeting. No apologies were received.

2 Minutes of the previous meeting held on 18 September 2025

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed for publication.

3 Review of the legislative scrutiny processes for Public Bills and Member Bills: Member Bills

Members discussed the issues outlined in the paper, and agreed to return to the issues following consultation with their groups.

4 Legislation (Procedure, Publication and Repeals) (Wales) Act 2025

Members considered and agreed the draft Standing Order report.

5 Review of the legislative scrutiny processes for Public Bills and Member Bills: Bill timetabling (Stage 1 and amending stages)

Members discussed the issues outlined in the paper and agreed:

- To seek the views of committees involved in scrutiny of Year 5 Bills about the Welsh Government's recent practice of publishing draft Bills at the point of pre-introduction.
- To bring to the attention of the Chairs' Forum issues raised by consultation respondents regarding committee remits, structures and ways of working.
- To return to the outstanding issues raised once Members have consulted with their groups.

The Trefnydd agreed to provide a note for the Committee clarifying the Welsh Government's position on a number of matters relating to Bill timetabling.

5.1 Bill timetabling

5.2 Comparison of Bill timetabling arrangements

6 Review of the legislative scrutiny processes for Public Bills and Member Bills: Admissibility of 'identical' amendments

Members noted that there was no likelihood of agreement on a recommendation for formal procedural change. The Business Committee agreed that officials should implement the options outlined in the paper to improve the transparency and operation of the current practice surrounding the admissibility of amendments that are identical to, or differ only in trivial respects that have no legal effect from, amendments that have already been tabled.

7 Registration of interests

At the Committee's meeting on 18 September, Members agreed to consider proposals for changes to Standing Orders, following recommendations made in the Standards of Conduct report: Inquiry into Registration and Declaration of Interests: Consideration of Standards of Conduct Committee recommendations. At that meeting, Members requested further information in relation to recommendation 11 of the report.

Following receipt of this further information, the Business Committee agreed to the recommendations made in the report.

8 Review of the legislative scrutiny processes for Public Bills and Member Bills: Explanatory materials for Bills

Business Managers provided feedback from their groups, and agreed to ask officials to draft proposals for further consideration at a future meeting, before taking final

decisions.

9 Additional Deputy Presiding Officer

Business Committee considered and agreed the draft Standing Order report.