

Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee

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

Meeting date: **Wednesday, 1 May 2013**

Meeting time: **09:00 – 11:02**

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_01_05_2013&t=0&l=en

Concise Minutes:

Assembly Members:

Peter Black
Janet Finch–Saunders
Mike Hedges
Mark Isherwood
Gwyn R Price
Ken Skates
Rhodri Glyn Thomas
Lindsay Whittle
Christine Chapman (Chair)
Jenny Rathbone

Witnesses:

Reg Kilpatrick, Director, Welsh Government
Owain Lloyd, Welsh Government
Lesley Griffiths, Minister for Local Government and Government Business

Committee Staff:

Marc Wyn Jones (Clerk)
Sarah Bartlett (Deputy Clerk)

TRANSCRIPT

View the [meeting transcript](#).

1. Introductions, apologies and substitutions

1.1 There were no apologies.

2. Ministerial Scrutiny Session – Minister for Local Government and Government Business

2.1 The Committee heard evidence from the Minister for Local Government and Government Business. The Minister agreed to provide notes on the following:

The level and use of local authority reserves;

Update in the autumn on how local authorities are using the additional £1.25m funding allocated to provide support for broadcasting, remote attendance and community council websites;

The commencement in the Local Government Measure of the section relating to remote attendance;

The availability of a gender audit within the salary information that local authorities are required to provide;

An update in due course on the timetable for introducing new regulations for the council tax reduction schemes;

The possibility of requiring Councillors' to publish their declarations and interests online;

Update on the submission to the Silk Commission requesting that all matters regarding local government elections to be devolved and with the exception of registration and franchise and reasoning behind this;

The possible issues surrounding the structure of voting systems in local government if local governments were re-organised and election powers were not devolved.

When available, the evaluation report of the last round of outcome agreements;

The current funding arrangements of SARC's and IDVA's and future plans;

When available, a report on how the Anti-Human Trafficking Leadership Group's Delivery Plan has been taken forward;

Update on the issues raised and discussed at the Ministers forthcoming meeting with the Probation Service;

What work has been done regarding the issue of stalking and how the Welsh Government has engaged with the UK Government's stalking agenda;

The Scrutiny arrangements in place for the four regional education consortia across Wales;

Further information on the Public Service Leadership Group.