

# Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee

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

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Meeting date: **Thursday, 9 October 2014**

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Meeting time: **09.00 – 15.40**

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This meeting can be viewed on Senedd TV at:

<http://www.senedd.tv/Meeting/Index/ee22abed-b708-4ef2-8a92-4599d3fee6cc>

Cynulliad  
Cenedlaethol  
Cymru

National  
Assembly for  
Wales



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## Concise Minutes:

MeetingTitle

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### Assembly Members:

**Christine Chapman AM (Chair)**

**Peter Black AM**

**Alun Davies AM**

**Jocelyn Davies AM**

**Janet Finch-Saunders AM**

**Mike Hedges AM**

**Mark Isherwood AM**

**Gwyn R Price AM**

**Gwenda Thomas AM**

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas AM**

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### Witnesses:

**Jane Hutt AM, The Minister for Finance and Government Business**

**Lesley Griffiths AM, The Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty**

**Jo Salway, Welsh Government**

**Amelia John, Welsh Government**

**Leighton Andrews AM, The Minister for Public Services**

**Reg Kilpatrick, Director, Welsh Government**

**Debra Carter, Head of Local Government Finance and Public Service Performance Division**

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Kate Cassidy, Welsh Government  
John Howells, Welsh Government  
Peter Jones (Welsh Govt), Welsh Government  
Ken Skates AM, The Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and  
Tourism  
Huw Brodie, Director of Strategic Planning & Equality  
Huw Davies, Culture & Sport

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Committee Staff:

Elizabeth Wilkinson (Second Clerk)  
Chloe Davies (Deputy Clerk)  
Hannah Johnson (Researcher)  
Jonathan Baxter (Researcher)  
Robin Wilkinson (Researcher)

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## **1 Introductions, apologies and substitutions**

1.1 The Chair welcomed Members and members of the public to the meeting.

## **2 Scrutiny of Welsh Government 2015–2016 draft budget – Evidence session from the Minister for Finance and Government Business and the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty**

2.1 The Committee received evidence from:

Jane Hutt AM, Minister for Finance and Government Business and  
Lesley Griffiths AM, Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty

2.2 The Minister for Finance and Government Business agreed to provide:

- minutes of all past meetings held by the Budget Advisory Group for Equality (BAGE);
- the minutes of their forthcoming meeting with the BAGE on 23 October, the purpose of which is to discuss the draft budget.

## **3 Scrutiny of Welsh Government 2015–2016 draft budget – Evidence session from the Minister for Public Services**

3.1 The Committee received evidence from Leighton Andrews AM, Minister for Public Services.

3.2 The Minister for Public Services agreed to provide:

- a list of the resources put in place to support areas of activity as part of the Welsh Government's prevention work in relation to sustainability and the Welsh language;
- a note on the Welsh Government's position on the preventative measures in order to best target those most at risk of fire death and injury.

#### **4 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 (vi) to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for the following business: items 5 and 6**

4.1 The Committee agreed the motion.

#### **5 Scrutiny of Welsh Government 2015–2016 draft budget: discussion of evidence sessions 1 and 2**

5.1 The Committee discussed the evidence.

#### **6 Gender-based Violence, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales)**

##### **Bill: discussion of key issues**

6.1 The Committee discussed the key issues for inclusion in its report.

#### **7 Scrutiny of Welsh Government 2015–2016 draft budget – Evidence session from the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty**

7.1 The Committee received evidence from Lesley Griffiths AM, Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty.

7.2 The Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty agreed to provide:

- a note which highlights the 19–20 key performance indicators for Communities First, including the outcomes for the indicators and for the Communities First investment. The note will also clarify how the Minister structures key performance indicators, for the Committee's reference.
- a note with specific examples and demonstrations of how Communities First activities are improving the lives of those involved in their work;
- a note to on the Houses into Homes scheme, to consider the inclusion of house buyers who have the intention of renovating a property to reside in themselves, rather than to let or sell the property;
- if available, a note of evaluation for the marketing scheme led by North Wales' Credit Union, which targeted middle to high-income earners;
- the figures for the people who receive custodial sentences as a result of debt.

#### **8 Scrutiny of Welsh Government 2015–2016 draft budget – Evidence session from the Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism**

8.1 The Committee received evidence from Ken Skates AM, Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism.

8.2 The Deputy Minister agreed to provide:

- A note on the expected outcomes provided to organisations in the annual remit letters, and the organisations' progress against these outcomes;
- A note on the changes to the commissioning procedure for the Welsh Books Council.

## **9 Papers to note**

9.1 The Committee noted the papers.

## **10 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 (vi) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting and from items 1 and 2 of the meeting on 23 October 2014**

10.1 The Committee agreed the motion.

## **11 Scrutiny of Welsh Government 2015–2016 draft budget: discussion of evidence sessions 3 and 4**

11.1 The Committee discussed the evidence.