

Enterprise and Business Committee

Meeting Venue: **Committee Room 3 – Senedd**

Meeting date: **Wednesday, 11 March 2015**

Meeting time: **09.15 – 12.15**

This meeting can be viewed on [Senedd TV](http://senedd.tv/en/2642) at:
<http://senedd.tv/en/2642>

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



Concise Minutes:

Assembly Members:

William Graham AM (Chair)
Mick Antoniw AM
Byron Davies AM
Keith Davies AM
Dafydd Elis-Thomas AM
Rhun ap Iorwerth AM
Joyce Watson AM

Witnesses:

Edwina Hart AM, The Minister for Economy, Science and Transport
Tracey Burke, Welsh Government
Iestyn Davies, Federation of Small Businesses Wales
Joshua Miles, Federation of Small Businesses Wales
Chris Sutton, Welsh Government

Committee Staff:

Marc Wyn Jones (Clerk)
Martha Da Gama Howells (Second Clerk)
Rachel Jones (Deputy Clerk)
Ben Stokes (Researcher)

TRANSCRIPT

View the [meeting transcript](#).

1 Introductions, apologies and substitutions

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Eluned Parrott, Jeff Cuthbert and Gwenda Thomas.

2 Business Rates Policy – Federation of Small Businesses

2.1 The Committee took evidence from Iestyn Davies and Josh Miles.

3 Business Rates Policy – Ministerial Scrutiny

3.1 The Committee scrutinised the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport.

3.2 The Minister agreed to provide information on SMEs that have benefited from and qualified for the Business Rates Scheme, for each Enterprise Zone.

3.3 The Minister agreed to provide information on examples of good practice in terms of small business rates relief in Northern Ireland and any useful data derived from this.

3.4 The Minister agreed to provide information on any economic assessments the Welsh Government has made and the benefits which have come as a result of temporary schemes, including the Enterprise zone and Murco business rates schemes.

3.5 The Minister agreed to provide details of developments in terms of business rates for self-catering properties and an executive summary of the study to which the Minister referred.

4 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting.

4.1 The Committee resolved to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting.

5 Draft Report on Assisting Young People into Work

5.1 The Committee agreed the Draft Report on Assisting Young People into Work.

6 Forward Work Programme

6.1 The Committee agreed the Summer 2015 Forward Work Programme.

7 Papers to note

7.1 Letter from Jane Hutt to William Graham regarding Business Rates Policy

7.1.1 The paper was noted by the Committee.

7.2 Written submission from the Welsh Retail Consortium

7.2.1 The paper was noted by the Committee.

7.3 The British Retail Consortium (BRC) response to the administration of business rates in England (interim findings)

7.3.1 The paper was noted by the Committee.

7.4 Summary of the rapporteur visits 12 February 2015

7.4.1 The paper was noted by the Committee.

7.5 Letter from The Older People's Commissioner for Wales to William Graham regarding the Older People's Skills Strategy

7.5.1 The paper was noted by the Committee.