

Public Accounts Committee

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

Meeting date: **Tuesday, 5 May 2015**

Meeting time: **09.00 – 10.57**

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



Concise Minutes:

Private

Assembly Members:

Darren Millar AM (Chair)
Jocelyn Davies AM
William Graham AM
Mike Hedges AM
Sandy Mewies AM
Julie Morgan AM
Jenny Rathbone AM
Aled Roberts AM

Committee Staff:

Michael Kay (Clerk)
Leanne Hatcher (Second Clerk)
Claire Griffiths (Deputy Clerk)
Tanwen Summers (Deputy Clerk)
Joanest Varney-Jackson (Legal Adviser)
Andrew Minnis (Researcher)
Stephen Martin (Wales Audit Office)
Jeremy Morgan (Wales Audit Office)
Matthew Mortlock (Wales Audit Office)
Carol Moseley (Wales Audit Office)
Mike Usher (Wales Audit Office)

The Committee agreed on 28 April 2015, a motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from this meeting.

1 Introductions, apologies and substitutions

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed the Members to the meeting.
- 1.2 There were no apologies.

2 Papers to note

2.1 The papers were noted.

2.1 Inquiry into value for money of Motorway and Trunk Road Investment: Letter from the Auditor General for Wales (24 April 2015)

2.2 Inquiry into value for money of Motorway and Trunk Road Investment: Additional information from the Chartered Institute of Highways and Transportation

2.3 Scrutiny of Commissioners' Accounts 2013–14: Letter from PSOW, CCW, OPCW (28 April 2015)

2.4 Inquiry into value for money of Motorway and Trunk Road Investment: Letter from James Price, Welsh Government (28 April 2015)

3 Covering Teachers' Absence: Consideration of update from the Welsh Government

3.1 Members discussed the update from the Welsh Government, and in particular Recommendation 3, where the Committee recommended that the Welsh Government amend Regulations to make it a requirement for at least one member of each governing body to be designated to lead on HR matters and that such members are suitably trained to fulfil this role.

3.2 The Committee's Legal Adviser agreed to prepare a Legal Advice Note on the Regulations for Committee to discuss further.

3.3 On receipt of the Legal Advice Note, the Chair agreed to write to the Welsh Government setting out clearly what the Committee hoped Recommendation 3 would achieve, and asking for further consideration of the issue.

3.4 The Committee agreed to write to the Chair of Children, Young People and Education Committee to raise issues of interest as part of its inquiry into supply teaching.

4 Intra-Wales – Cardiff to Anglesey – Air Service

4.1 Members noted and discussed the Arup Report which the Welsh Government had published at the end of March.

4.2 Members requested that the Clerks prepare a report for their consideration.

5 NHS Wales Health Board's Governance: Auditor General for Wales Memorandum and evidence from Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

5.1 Members discussed the Auditor General for Wales' Memorandum on NHS Governance.

5.2 Members discussed the additional information received from Dr Peter Higson, Chair of Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board following his appearance at Committee on 24 March.

5.3 Members requested that the Clerks prepare a draft report for their consideration.

6 Inquiry into value for money of Motorway and Trunk Road Investment: key issues

6.1 Members considered and discussed the key issues paper and noted that the Clerks will be drafting a report for consideration at a future meeting.

7 Public Account Committee Annual Report 2014–2015

7.1 Members considered the draft report and agreed that a refreshed version would be circulated by email for comments.

8 Financial Resilience of councils in Wales: Briefing from the Wales Audit Office

8.1 Due to time restraints, this item was deferred and will be re-scheduled for a future meeting.