

# Concise Minutes – Environment and Sustainability Committee

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Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 2 – Senedd

Meeting date: Wednesday, 14 October  
2015

Meeting time: 09.03 – 12.05

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/3261>

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## Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	Alun Ffred Jones AM (Chair) Mick Antoniw AM Russell George AM Sandy Mewies AM (In place of Jeff Cuthbert AM) Llyr Gruffydd AM Janet Haworth AM Julie Morgan AM William Powell AM Jenny Rathbone AM Joyce Watson AM
Witnesses:	Carl Sargeant AM, The Minister for Natural Resources Rebecca Evans AM, The Deputy Minister for Farming and Food Neil Hemington, Welsh Government



Cynulliad  
Cenedlaethol  
Cymru

National  
Assembly for  
Wales

	Matthew Quinn, Welsh Government Andrew Slade, Welsh Government Christianne Glossop, Chief Veterinary Officer, Welsh Government
Committee Staff:	Alun Davidson (Clerk) SeatonN (Researcher)

## Transcript

View the [meeting transcript](#).

### 1 Introductions, apologies and substitutions

1.1 Apologies were received Jeff Cuthbert. Sandy Mewis attended as a substitute.

### 2 General Scrutiny Session: Minister for Natural Resources

2.1 The Minister and officials responded to questions from members of the Committee.

2.2 The Minister agreed to:

- **Energy consenting:** A note on the rationale behind the 350MW ceiling for the further devolution of energy consenting powers.
- **Marine planning:** A note on the new European Commission marine planning directive.
- **Water quality:** The criteria for assessing whether a water body has a 'good ecological status' (GES).

- **Water quality:** To provide a comparison of the 42% figure for water bodies in Wales achieving GES with the percentage of water bodies in other UK countries and elsewhere in the EU achieving GES.
- **Natural Resources Wales Coastal Review:** Details of progress in implementing the seven recommendations that will not be completed during this financial year, including a timeline for completing these recommendations.

### **3 General Scrutiny Session: Deputy Minister for Farming and Food**

**3.1 Declaration of interest:** William Powell declared that he is a partner in a farm business that is in receipt of payments under the Common Agricultural Policy and is a member of Glastir Advanced.

**3.2** The Deputy Minister and officials responded to questions from members of the Committee.

**3.3** The Deputy Minister agreed to:

- **Agricultural Advisory Panel for Wales:** To provide details of the terms of reference for the Agricultural Advisory Panel for Wales, once available.
- **Independent review of Glastir advanced:** A note on progress against each of the 10 recommendations made following the independent evaluation of Glastir advanced.
- **Control of Horses (Wales) Act 2014:** A note on the impact the Control of Horses Act has had on equine welfare.

- **Animal welfare:** Confirmation the number of badger carcasses reported to the Welsh Government in response to its dead badger survey and the number infected with tuberculosis once this information becomes available.

## **4 Papers to note**

4.1 The Committee noted the papers.

- 4.1 Genetically Modified Organisms: Response from the Deputy Minister for Health**
- 4.2 Genetically Modified Organisms: Correspondence from the Deputy Minister for Health**
- 4.3 Annual Review of Controls on Imports of Animal Products: Correspondence from the Welsh Government**
- 4.4 Draft Wales Bill: Correspondence from the Presiding Officer**
- 4.5 Inquiry into energy efficiency and fuel poverty in Wales: Response from the Minister for Natural Resources**
- 4.6 Appointment Process for the Chair of Natural Resources Wales: Response from the First Minister**
- 4.7 Natural Resources Wales – Marine Programme: Summary Work Plan 2015 –2016**
- 4.8 Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards: Response from the Deputy Minister for Farming and Food**
- 4.9 Water quality in Wales: Response from the Deputy Minister for Farming and Food**
- 4.10 Control of Horses (Wales) Act 2014: Response from the Deputy Minister for Farming and Food**
- 4.11 Grid connectivity and the development of marine renewable energy in Anglesey: Correspondence from the Chair of the Enterprise and Business Committee**
- 4.12 Active travel independent report – Professor Stuart Cole: Correspondence from the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport**