

# Concise Minutes – Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 4 – Tŷ Hywel

Meeting date: Thursday, 19 January  
2017

Meeting time: 09.15 – 12.00

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/3843>

## Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	John Griffiths AM (Chair) Gareth Bennett AM Janet Finch–Saunders AM Siân Gwenllian AM Bethan Jenkins AM Rhianon Passmore AM Jenny Rathbone AM Joyce Watson AM
Witnesses:	Carl Sargeant AM Maureen Howell, Welsh Government Alistair Davey, Welsh Government John Davies, Welsh Government
Committee Staff:	Christopher Warner (Clerk) Elizabeth Wilkinson (Second Clerk)



Cynulliad  
Cenedlaethol  
Cymru

National  
Assembly for  
Wales

## Transcript

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### 1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

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

### 2 Inquiry into refugees and asylum seekers in Wales: evidence session

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2.1. The Committee received evidence from:

- Carl Sargeant AM, Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children
- Maureen Howell, Deputy Director, Equality & Prosperity Division
- Alistair Davey, Deputy Director, Enabling People Division
- John Davies, Senior Inclusion Manager, Equality & Prosperity Division

2.2. The Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children agreed to provide:

- The contact details for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, following the inspection that was carried out in relation to integration and community cohesion and the subsequent feedback session that was held with the Cabinet Secretary;
- Information about the outputs from the five communications programmes that are being run by the Welsh Refugee Council, or any other relevant organisations that receive funding for programmes from the Welsh Government.

### **3 Papers to Note**

#### **3.1 Additional information provided by City of Sanctuary UK and Ireland and Chair of Asylum Justice in relation to the inquiry into refugees and asylum seekers in Wales**

3.1.1. The Committee noted the additional information provided by City of Sanctuary UK and Ireland and Chair of Asylum Justice in relation to the inquiry into refugees and asylum seekers in Wales

#### **3.2 Correspondence from the Chair to Clearsprings in relation to refugees and asylum seekers**

3.2.1. The Committee noted the correspondence from the Chair to Clearsprings in relation to refugees and asylum seekers.

#### **3.3 Correspondence from the Chair to the Minister of State for Immigration in relation to refugees and asylum seekers**

3.3.1. The Committee noted the correspondence from the Chair to the Minister for State for Immigration in relation to refugees and asylum seekers.

#### **3.4 Additional information provided by the WLGA in relation to the inquiry into refugees and asylum seekers in Wales**

3.4.1. The Committee noted the additional information provided by the WLGA in relation to the inquiry into refugees and asylum seekers in Wales.

#### **3.5 House of Commons Committee of Public Accounts report on the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement programme**

3.5.1. The Committee noted the House of Commons Committee of Public Accounts report on the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement programme.

#### **3.6 Correspondence between the Chair, the Chair of the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee and the Cabinet Secretary for Health, Well-being and Sport in relation to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Annual Report 2015-16**

3.6.1. The Committee noted the correspondence between the Chair, the Chair of the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee and the Cabinet Secretary for Health, Well-

being and Sport in relation to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Annual Report 2015–16.

#### **4 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 (vi) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting**

4.1 The Committee agreed the motion.

#### **5 Inquiry into refugees and asylum seekers in Wales – consideration of evidence under item 2**

5.1. The Committee discussed the evidence received under item 2 and agreed to write to the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children on matters raised during the session.

#### **6 Trade Union (Wales) Bill – Briefing from Assembly Commission Legal Services**

6.1 The Committee received a briefing from the Assembly Commission Legal Services on the Trade Union (Wales) Bill.