

Concise Minutes – Public Accounts Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 3 – Senedd

Meeting date: Monday, 26 June 2017

Meeting time: 14.00 – 16.49

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/4113>

Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	Nick Ramsay AM (Chair) Neil Hamilton AM Neil McEvoy AM Rhianon Passmore AM Lee Waters AM Mike Hedges AM (In place of Vikki Howells AM)
Witnesses:	James Price, Welsh Government Tracey Mayes, Welsh Government
Wales Audit Office:	Alistair McQuaid Mike Usher
Committee Staff:	Meriel Singleton (Second Clerk) Claire Griffiths (Deputy Clerk) Katie Wyatt (Legal Adviser)

Transcript



Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales

1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

1.1 The Chair welcomed the Members to the Committee.

1.2 Following a change in Committee membership on 21 June, the Chair welcome Vikki Howells to the Committee and thanked Mike Hedges for his work. However, Mike Hedges substituted for Vikki Howells today.

2 Paper(s) to note

2.1 The papers were noted.

2.2 The Committee agreed that the Chair should write to the Children, Young People and Education Committee advising them of the work the Committee has undertaken as they may wish to seek updates from the Welsh Government during their scheduled ministerial scrutiny sessions.

2.3 Mike Hedges AM asked that the Chair write to the Welsh Government seeking further clarification on Advanced Manufacturing in relation to Kancoat.

2.1 Regional Education Consortia: Additional information from the Welsh Government (16 June 2017)

2.2 The Welsh Government's Funding of Kancoat Ltd: Letter from the Welsh Government (21 June 2017)

3 The Welsh Government's initial funding of the Circuit of Wales Project: Evidence Session

3.1 The Chair made an opening statement regarding the recent correspondence between the Welsh Government and himself.

3.2 The Committee scrutinised James Price, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Economy, Skills and Natural Resources Group, and Tracey Mayes, Head of Governance and

Compliance, Economy, Skills and Natural Resources Group, Welsh Government on the Welsh Government's initial funding of the Circuit of Wales Project.

3.3 James Price agreed to:

- Write to the Committee with clarification on the total expenditure incurred and the funding the Welsh Government has put in to date;
- Send the internal guidance officials adhere to when assessing grant applications;
- Provide further details, following the Cabinets' decision on funding the Circuit of Wales project, on the due diligence process carried out; and
- Investigate who from the Welsh Government made the comment on a press statement about 'grandstanding' and advise the Chair.

4 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for the following business:

4.1 The motion was agreed.

5 The Welsh Government's initial funding of the Circuit of Wales project: Consideration of evidence received

5.1 Members considered the evidence received and agreed that a report be prepared for their consideration.

6 Natural Resources Wales

6.1 Members noted the additional information from Natural Resources Wales and agreed the draft letter to the Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee.

7 Inquiry into Regulatory oversight of Housing Associations: Consideration of draft report

7.1 Due to time constraints, this item was not reached but Members were asked to send any comments on their initial consideration of the Committee's report to the Clerks who will reschedule the item for a future meeting.