Concise Minutes - Climate Change, Environment and **Rural Affairs Committee**

Meeting Venue:

This meeting can be viewed

Committee Room 3 - Senedd

on Senedd TV at:

http://senedd.tv/en/4195

Meeting date: Thursday, 6 July 2017

Meeting time: 10.03 - 14.15

Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	Mike Hedges AM (Chair)
	Gareth Bennett AM
	Jayne Bryant AM
	Siân Gwenllian AM
	Huw Irranca-Davies AM
	David Melding AM
	Jenny Rathbone AM
	Simon Thomas AM
Witnesses:	Michelle van-Velzen, Natural Resources Wales
	Peter Garson, Natural Resources Wales
	Lesley Griffiths AM, Cabinet Secretary for Environment and
	Rural Affairs
	Chris Lea, Welsh Government
	Bill MacDonald, Welsh Government
Committee Staff:	Marc Wyn Jones (Clerk)
	Martha Da Gama Howells (Second Clerk)

Louise Andrewartha (Deputy Clerk)
Helen Davies (Secretariat)
Elfyn Henderson (Researcher)

Transcript

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- 1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest
- 2 Inquiry into forestry and woodland policy in Wales oral evidence session with Natural Resources Wales

The witnesses introduced themselves and responded to questions from Members.

3 Inquiry into forestry and woodland policy in Wales – oral evidence session with Welsh Government

The Cabinet Secretary and her officials responded to questions from Members.

The Cabinet Secretary agreed to provide the Committee with further information on the effectiveness of the Glastir Woodland Opportunities Map.

4 Paper(s) to note

The Committee noted the papers and agreed action as detailed below.

- 4.1 Letter from the Chair of the Equality, Local Government and Communities

 Committee regarding one day inquiry into fire safety in high rise blocks in Wales
- 4.2 Letter from the Chair of the Finance Committee regarding changes to the budget process
- 4.3 Letter from the Chair of the Public Accounts Committee regarding scrutiny of Natural Resources Wales on its Annual Report and Accounts 2015–16

The Committee agreed to question Natural Resources Wales on the issues raised in the letter during the autumn scrutiny session.

4.4 Letter from Andrew RT Davies AM on the Rural Development Programme Wales

The Committee agreed to write to the Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs to ask for information on Rural Development Programme funding.

- 4.5 Letter from Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs with further evidence on the management of Marine Protected Areas
- 4.6 Additional evidence from Confor on forestry and woodland policy in Wales
- 6 Inquiry into forestry and woodland policy in Wales discussion of key issues

The Committee discussed and agreed the key issues which arose during the inquiry.