

Agenda – Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 5 – Tŷ Hywel

Meeting date: 18 April 2018

Meeting time: 09.30

For further information contact:

Marc Wyn Jones

Committee Clerk

0300 200 6363

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1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

2 Paper(s) to note

(09.30 – 09.35)

2.1 Letter from the Llywydd on 'Resourcing for Brexit Scrutiny'

(Pages 1 – 2)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Llywydd on Resourcing Brexit

2.2 Response to the Llywydd on 'Resourcing of Brexit'

(Pages 3 – 5)

Attached Documents:

Response to the Llywydd

3 Motion under Standing Order 17.42(ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting



- 4 Briefing on the National Development Framework for Wales**
(09.35 – 10.00) (Pages 6 – 10)
Attached Documents:
Briefing paper on the National Development Framework
- 5 Inquiry into 'Rethinking Food in Wales: Public Procurement of Food' – Discussion of the conclusions of the draft short report**
(10.00 – 10.10) (Pages 11 – 14)
Attached Documents:
Short report on 'Rethinking Food in Wales: Public Procurement of Food'
- 6 Draft Welsh National Marine Plan – Discussion of the draft report**
(10.10 – 10.20) (Pages 15 – 25)
Attached Documents:
Short report on the draft Welsh National Marine Plan
- 7 Consultation on 'Health and Harmony: the future for food, farming and the environment in a Green Brexit' – Discussion of Committee response**
(10.20 – 10.30) (Pages 26 – 30)
Attached Documents:
Consultation response
- 8 Committee Forward Work Programme**
(10.30 – 10.35) (Pages 31 – 34)
Attached Documents:
Forward Work Programme – Summer 2018

9 Discussion of the draft Terms of Reference for the Inquiry into UK Frameworks

(10.35 – 10.45)

(Pages 35 – 38)

Attached Documents:

Scoping paper

Committee Chairs
National Assembly for Wales

16 March, 2018

Dear Chair,

Resourcing for Brexit scrutiny

Following our discussions at the Chairs' Forum, and similar discussions at Business Committee, about the Assembly's likely Brexit workload, I am writing as Chair of the Assembly Commission to ask you to assist with scenario and resource planning. The Assembly Commission provides a whole range of services which are engaged in Brexit-related work, but a significant proportion of the organisation's resources is dedicated to your Committees, and I want to ensure that we are planning appropriately to deliver the support you require.

I appreciate that a number of Committees have already been doing significant work on matters relating to Brexit. To help plan for the next phase of scrutiny, I would be grateful if you, working with your clerks and integrated team of officials, and in consultation with your Committee Members, could consider the paper tabled at the Chairs' Forum (which I have attached for ease of reference) and let me know your latest thinking, based on what we know so far, on the following key points:

1. The extent to which Brexit is likely to affect your Committee's work, i.e:
 - Brexit issues within your remit which will either be subject to Assembly procedures or have been identified as priorities for scrutiny by the Committee; and
 - whether Brexit work is likely to displace other inquiries and activities which you had planned, or whether there are other priorities which will have to be considered alongside Brexit issues given other imperatives (e.g. commitments to stakeholders or Government legislation).



Elin Jones AC, Llywydd

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

Elin Jones AM, Presiding Officer

National Assembly for Wales

2. Any issues around Member and Committee capacity which you can foresee, such as timetabling of meetings, and membership. Business Committee may consider a radical reshaping of committee and Plenary time if necessary.

Commission officials will take account of your views in providing advice to me about resourcing, in particular whether the current complement of staff supporting each committee:

- is likely to be sufficient;
- is unlikely to be insufficient; or
- in extremis could be redeployed to support Members in responding to Brexit related issues.

I appreciate that the situation is fast-moving and that there is a considerable degree of uncertainty. Nevertheless, I consider it absolutely essential that we maintain dialogue and plan sensibly together to ensure that the Assembly is well-placed to tackle the range of challenges facing us.

I would be grateful for your response by Friday 4 May.

I am copying this letter to Business Managers and Assembly Commissioners.

Yours sincerely,

Elin Jones AM
Llywydd

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Elin Jones AC
Llywydd

18 April 2018

Dear Llywydd,

Resourcing for Brexit Scrutiny

Thank you for your letter of 16 March in which you ask the Committee to set out the extent to which Brexit is likely to affect our work and whether this creates any issues around timetabling and capacity.

The Committee has agreed the following approach to matters relating to Brexit:

Horizon scanning – The Committee receives regular updates on Brexit. Regular input from stakeholders also assists the Committee in identifying areas on which it wishes to focus.

Prioritisation and focus – The Committee has agreed its forward work programme must be flexible to respond to issues relating to Brexit, including legislation. The Committee has agreed a work programme for the summer term which reflects its focus in this area.

Building relationships – The Committee will continue to build relationships with counterpart Committees in other legislatures, to share information and good practice. Members of the Committee met the Scottish Parliament's Environment,



Climate Change and Land Reform Committee and the Convenor of the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee. The Committee plans to visit counterpart Committees in Westminster during the summer term, subject to Business Committee agreement.

In terms of the likely impact of work associated with Brexit, the Committee has agreed to prioritise the following issues during the summer term:

- Environmental Governance – *we will be considering environmental governance and principles and the need for a domestic environmental protection body.*
- Proposals for UK frameworks – *we will undertake work on the common UK frameworks which may need to be established for devolved matters that are currently governed by EU law.*
- Fisheries – *we will be considering the future arrangements for the fisheries industry in Wales, with the aim of informing our consideration of future legislation on this matter.*

We will also respond to Defra’s consultation on future agricultural policy and legislation – “Health and Harmony: the future for food, farming and the environment in a Green Brexit”. Our response is framed by the recommendations made in our report, published in March 2017, ‘The future of land management in Wales’.

The Committee has agreed that these issues will take priority over other scheduled work. Other activities have been displaced but can be accommodated within our work programme with no detrimental effect on our ability to carry out our remit. We are confident that the work on Brexit can be managed within our current resources, including allotted Committee time and Member and staffing resource.

The Committee expects that a considerable amount of secondary legislation arising from Brexit, including the proposed agriculture and fisheries Bills, will fall within its remit. I would be grateful if you could provide further details of the



procedures the Business Committee will introduce to enable Assembly committees to scrutinise secondary legislation arising from Brexit.

As we carry out our policy and legislative scrutiny we will keep our colleagues on the External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee and the Constitutional Affairs and Legislation Committee informed to ensure we plan our work as effectively as we can. I have copied this letter to the Chairs of both Committees for information.

If the situation changes with regards to the impact of this work on our resources I will write to notify you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Hedges". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned on a light grey rectangular background.

Mike Hedges AM

Chair of Climate Change, Rural Affairs and Environment Committee



Agenda Item 4

By virtue of paragraph(s) iv of Standing Order 17.42

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Agenda Item 7

By virtue of paragraph(s) iv of Standing Order 17.42

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