

Concise Minutes – Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 2 – Senedd

Meeting date: Thursday, 3 October 2019

Meeting time: 09.04 – 12.10

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/5742>

Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	John Griffiths AM (Chair) Dawn Bowden AM Mark Isherwood AM Caroline Jones AM
Witnesses:	Nick Bennett, Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Katrin Shaw, Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Chris Vinestock, Public Services Ombudsman for Wales
Committee Staff:	Naomi Stocks (Clerk) Catherine Hunt (Second Clerk) Osian Bowyer (Researcher) Hannah Johnson (Researcher) Megan Jones (Researcher)

1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

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



Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

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Assembly for
Wales

1.2 Apologies for absence were received from Huw Irranca Davies AM and Leanne Wood AM

2 Scrutiny of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Annual Report and Accounts 2018/19

2.1 The Committee received evidence from:

- Nick Bennett, Public Services Ombudsman for Wales
- Chris Vinestock, Chief Operating Officer and Director of Improvement
- Katrin Shaw, Chief Legal Advisor and Director of Investigations.

2.2 The Ombudsman agreed to provide further information relating to the increase in the number of complaints against GPs and dentists.

3 Paper(s) to note

3.1 Correspondence from the Scottish Government regarding Benefits in Wales: options for better delivery

3.1a The Committee noted the Correspondence from the Scottish Government regarding Benefits in Wales: options for better delivery

4 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 (vi) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of this meeting and items 1 and 2 of the meeting on 17 October 2019

4.1. The Committee agreed the motion.

5 Scrutiny of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Annual Report and Accounts 2018/19 – consideration of evidence received

5.1 The Committee considered the evidence and agreed to write to the Ombudsman to request further information on a number of issues.

6 Consideration of the Welsh Government's response to the report on the Inquiry into the Blue Badge Scheme in Wales: Eligibility and Implementation

6.1 The committee discussed the Welsh Government's response to the report on the Inquiry into the Blue Badge Scheme in Wales: Eligibility and Implementation

7 Benefits in Wales: options for better delivery – consideration of draft report

7.1 The Committee agreed the draft report, subject to changes.