

# Concise Minutes – Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee

Meeting Venue: Video Conference via Zoom

Meeting date: Thursday, 9 July 2020

Meeting time: 08.45 – 12.45

This meeting can be viewed on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/6402>

## Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	Mike Hedges MS (Chair) Andrew RT Davies MS Llyr Gruffydd MS Jenny Rathbone MS Joyce Watson MS
Witnesses:	Lesley Griffiths MS, Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs Gian Marco Currado, Welsh Government Christianne Glossop, Chief Veterinary Officer, Welsh Government John Howells, Welsh Government Dean Medcraft, Welsh Government Tim Render, Welsh Government Nicola Davies, Royal Welsh Agricultural Society Steve Hughson, Royal Welsh Agricultural Society Sir David Henshaw, Natural Resources Wales Clare Pillman, Natural Resources Wales



Committee Staff:	Marc Wyn Jones (Clerk) Andrea Storer (Deputy Clerk) Elfyn Henderson (Researcher) Katy Orford (Researcher)
------------------	--

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

1.1 The Chair welcomed Members to the virtual meeting and apologies were received from Neil Hamilton MS.

1.2 In accordance with Standing Order 34.19, the Chair stated that he had determined that the public were excluded from the Committee's meeting in order to protect public health.

1.3 The Chair stated that if for any reason he dropped out of the meeting, the Committee agreed that Jenny Rathbone MS would become Temporary Chair in accordance with Standing Order 17.22.

## **2 Evidence session with Natural Resources Wales: impact of the Welsh Government supplementary budget**

2.1 The Committee heard evidence from Sir David Henshaw and Clare Pillman, Natural Resources Wales.

## **3 COVID-19: Scrutiny session with the Welsh Government**

3.1 Members questioned the Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs and her officials about Covid-19, its impact on the fisheries and agriculture sector, food and animal welfare, and her department's response to date to the pandemic.

## **4 COVID-19: Continuation of scrutiny session with the Welsh Government**

4.1 Members continued to question the Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs and her officials.

## **5 COVID-19: Evidence session with the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society**

5.1 The Committee heard evidence from Nicola Davies and Steve Hughson, Royal Welsh Agricultural Society.

## **6 Paper(s) to note**

6.1 The papers were noted.

6.1 **Welsh Government response to the Committee's report on the Legislative Consent Memorandum in relation to the UK Agriculture Bill 2019–21**

6.2 **Welsh Government response to the Committee's report on the Legislative Consent Memorandum in relation to the UK Fisheries Bill 2019–21**

6.3 **Correspondence from the Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs – Climate Change (Wales) Regulations 2018**

6.4 **Correspondence from the Chair, Petitions Committee – Rethinking Food in Wales**

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

7.1 The motion was agreed.

## **8 Consideration of evidence received under items 2, 3, 4 and 5**

8.1 Members considered the evidence heard under items 2,3,4 and 5.

8.2 Members agreed to write to the Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs to request further information on some of the issues raised during the session.

## **9 Discussion on the Committee's Forward Work Programme**

9.1 The Committee discussed its Forward Work Programme for the autumn term.