

Agenda – Finance Committee

Meeting Venue:	For further information contact:
Video Conference via Zoom	Bethan Davies
Meeting date: 12 October 2020	Committee Clerk
Meeting time: 14.30	0300 200 6372
	SeneddFinance@senedd.wales

In accordance with Standing Order 34.19, the Chair has determined that the public are excluded from the Committee's meeting in order to protect public health. This meeting will be broadcast live on www.senedd.tv

On 5 October 2020, the Committee resolved to exclude the public from Item 1 of today's meeting.

1 Welsh Revenue Authority: annual accounts 2019 to 2020 – Technical briefing

(14.30–15.10)

Dyfed Alsop, Chief Executive, Welsh Revenue Authority

Rebecca Godfrey, Chief Strategy Officer, Welsh Revenue Authority

Sam Cairns, Operating Officer, Welsh Revenue Authority

Adam Al-Nuaimi, Head of Data Analysis, Welsh Revenue Authority

BREAK (15.10–15.20)

2 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

3 Paper(s) to note

(15.20)

(Pages 1 – 3)



Senedd Cymru
Welsh Parliament

Minutes of the meeting held on 5 October 2020

3.1 PTN 1 – Letter from the Minister for Housing and Local Government: Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill – 2 October 2020

(Page 4)

4 Inquiry into the implementation of the Wales Act 2014 and operation of the Fiscal Framework: Evidence session 3

(15.20–16.00)

(Pages 5 – 19)

Dr Ed Poole, Senior Lecturer, Wales Governance Centre

Guto Ifan, Research Associate, Wales Governance Centre

Supporting papers:

Research brief

5 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting

6 Scrutiny of the Senedd Commission Draft Budget 2021–22: Consideration of draft report

(16.00–16.20)

Supporting papers:

FIN(5)–19–20 P1 – Draft report

7 Consideration of information from HMRC in relation to Welsh Rates of Income Tax

(16.20–16.30)

Supporting papers:

[Letter from Director General, Customer Strategy and Tax Design, HMRC – 29 September 2020](#)

[Service Level Agreement for Operation of Welsh Rates Of Income Tax \(WRIT\) by HMRC](#)

[Welsh Rates of Income Tax HMRC Annual Report 2020](#)

8 Scrutiny of the Welsh Government's Draft Budget 2021–22:

Consideration of approach

(16.30–16.40)

(Pages 20 – 23)

Supporting papers:

FIN(5)–19–20 P2 – Suggested timetable of witnesses: Budget Scrutiny 2021–22

9 Consideration of Internal Market Bill

(16.40–16.50)

(Pages 24 – 39)

Supporting papers:

FIN(5)19–20 P3 – Research Service: UK Internal Market Bill & EU Funding Implications

FIN(5)19–20 P4 – Letter from the Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee: Scrutiny of EU withdrawal arrangements – 7 October 2020

FIN(5)19–20 P5 Letter from the Finance Committee to the Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee and the Chair of the External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee: Scrutiny of EU withdrawal arrangements – 24 September 2020

Concise Minutes – Finance Committee

Meeting Venue:

This meeting can be viewed

Video Conference via Zoom

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

Meeting date: Monday, 5 October 2020

<http://senedd.tv/en/6556>

Meeting time: 14.30 – 16.50

Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	Llyr Gruffydd MS (Chair) Alun Davies MS Siân Gwenllïan MS Mike Hedges MS Rhianon Passmore MS Nick Ramsay MS
Witnesses:	Nick Bennett, Public Services Ombudsman for Wales David Meaden, Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Office Chris Vinestock, Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Manon Antoniazzi, Chief Executive & Clerk of the Senedd Suzy Davies MS, Commissioner Nia Morgan, Director of Finance
Committee Staff:	Bethan Davies (Clerk) Leanne Hatcher (Second Clerk) Georgina Owen (Second Clerk) Mike Lewis (Deputy Clerk)



	<p>Martin Jennings (Researcher)</p> <p>Joanne McCarthy (Researcher)</p>
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1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

1.1 The Chair welcomed Members to the virtual meeting of the Finance Committee.

2 Paper(s) to note

2.1 The papers were noted.

2.1 FIN(5)–18–20 PTN 1 – Letter from the First Minister to the Llywydd: The Senedd and Elections (Wales) Act 2020 – 28 September 2020

2.2 PTN 2 – Letter from the Minister for Housing and Local Government: National Development Framework – 21 September 2020

2.3 PTN 3 – Letter from the Minister for Finance and Trefnydd: Welsh Government's Tax Policy Work Plan for 2020–21 – 29 September 2020

2.4 PTN 4 – Letter from Audit Wales to the Chair of Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee: Local Government & Elections Bill – Legislative Competence – 30 September 2020

3 Scrutiny of the Senedd Commission Draft Budget 2021–22: Evidence session

3.1 The Committee took evidence from Suzy Davies MS, Commissioner for Budget and Governance; Manon Antoniazzi, Chief Executive and Clerk of the Senedd; and Nia Morgan, Director of Finance on the Senedd Commission Draft Budget 2021–22.

3.2 The Commission agreed to write to the Committee with further information on its Communication and Engagement strategy; and to provide further details on the restructuring of specific posts within the Engagement Directorate.

4 Scrutiny of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Estimate 2021–22: Evidence session

4.1 The Committee took evidence from Nick Bennett, Public Services Ombudsman for Wales; Chris Vinestock, Chief Operating Officer and Director of Improvement; and David Meaden, Financial Accountant on the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Estimate 2021–22.

5 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting and the start of the Committee meeting on 12 October.

5.1 The motion was agreed.

6 Scrutiny of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Estimate 2021–22: Consideration of evidence

6.1 The Committee considered the evidence received.

7 Scrutiny of the Senedd Commission Draft Budget 2021–22: Consideration of evidence

7.1 The Committee considered the evidence received.

Agenda Item 3.1

Julie James AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Tai a Llywodraeth Leol
Minister for Housing and Local Government



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref JJ/00280/20

Llyr Gryffydd MS / AS
Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Cyllid / Chair of the Finance Committee
Senedd Cymru / Welsh Parliament
Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay
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2 October 2020

Dear Llyr

Thank you for your letter of 21 September regarding the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill (the Bill) and the potential costs and benefits of Corporate Joint Committees.

In my letter of 27 July I noted that the report which I shared with the Finance Committee would inform the development of a Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) which would accompany any subsequent regulations establishing a Corporate Joint Committee.

We are in the process of preparing draft regulations to establish the first Corporate Joint Committees in Wales and, subject to the passage of the Bill in the Senedd, will be consulting on these as soon as possible. As part of this we are preparing a detailed RIA to assess the potential costs and benefits of establishing these Corporate Joint Committees.

I think it more appropriate to include the costs and benefits in the RIA which supports these regulations as opposed to the Bill itself as it is the regulations which will provide the detail on what each CJC will look like and on which the RIA can make appropriate informed assumptions. The Bill simply provides the framework for such regulations to be made.

I would be happy to share a copy of the Regulatory Impact Assessment for the regulations with the Finance Committee as soon as I am able to.

Yours sincerely

Julie James AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Tai a Llywodraeth Leol
Minister for Housing and Local Government

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Document is Restricted

Agenda Item 8

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

Document is Restricted

Agenda Item 9

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

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Llyr Gruffydd MS
Chair
Finance Committee

7 October 2020

Dear Llyr

Scrutiny of EU withdrawal arrangements

Thank you for your letter of 24 September 2020 in which you ask whether it would be appropriate to work together on EU withdrawal arrangements.

Following an initial scrutiny session on 21 September, we have arranged to take further evidence from the Counsel General, Jeremy Miles MS, on the UK Government's United Kingdom Internal Market Bill at 10.00am on 2 November 2020.

Given that clauses 46 and 47 of the Bill concern powers for UK Ministers which could potentially impact on the Welsh financial settlement and accordingly the effectiveness of how devolution operates, we would like to invite you and a member of your Committee to attend our session with the Counsel General on 2 November. We are also extending an invitation to the External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee.

If you agree, our respective Clerks can make the necessary arrangements.

Yours sincerely



Mick Antoniw AM
Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg
We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English



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David Rees MS

Chair of the External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee

Mick Antoniw MS

Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

24 September 2020

Dear David and Mick,

Scrutiny of EU withdrawal arrangements

Further to the [correspondence](#) from the Counsel General and Minister for European Transition dated 20th July, the Finance Committee have been considering how the substantial changes as a result of Brexit will impact on funding available in Wales, and our role in scrutinising these changes.

It is clear changes to funding programmes, the internal market proposals and EU exit legislation have an impact on the remit of each of our Committees and I would like to consider how the work of Finance Committee can add value to the work you are undertaking. Additionally, it might be helpful for us to consider whether some joint scrutiny sessions may be an effective use of Committee and Ministerial time.

I'd welcome your views on whether joint working might be helpful or any other ways the work of the Finance Committee can work to compliment the work of your Committees.





Llyr Gruffydd AM

Chair of the Finance Committee



Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.



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