

Concise Minutes – Finance Committee

Meeting Venue:

This meeting can be viewed

Video Conference via Zoom

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

Meeting date: Wednesday, 13 October
2021

<http://senedd.tv/en/12446>

Meeting time: 09.30 – 12.16

Hybrid

Attendance

Category	Names
Members of the Senedd:	Peredur Owen Griffiths MS (Chair) Peter Fox MS Mike Hedges MS
Witnesses:	Nick Bennett, Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Chris Vinestock, Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Katrin Shaw, Public Services Ombudsman for Wales David Phillips, Institute for Fiscal Studies Ed Poole, Wales Governance Centre Guto Ifan, Wales Governance Centre Kevin Thomas, Audit Wales Laurie Davies, Wales Audit Office
Committee Staff:	Owain Roberts (Clerk) Leanne Hatcher (Second Clerk) Georgina Owen (Second Clerk) Mike Lewis (Deputy Clerk)



	Ben Harris (Legal Adviser) Owain Davies (Researcher)
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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

Private pre-meeting – Informal (09.15–09.30)

1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

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

1.2 Apologies were received from Rhianon Passmore MS.

2 Public Services Ombudsman for Wales (PSOW) – Scrutiny of Annual Report and Accounts 2020–21, and Estimate 2022–23: Evidence session

2.1 The Committee took evidence from Nick Bennett, Public Services Ombudsman for Wales; Chris Vinestock, Chief Operating Officer & Director of Improvement; and Katrin Shaw, Chief Legal Adviser & Director of Investigations on the PSOW's Annual Report and Accounts 2020–21, and Estimate 2022–23.

3 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 (ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of this meeting and the meeting on 18 October 2021.

3.1 The motion was agreed.

4 Public Services Ombudsman for Wales – Scrutiny of Annual Report and Accounts 2020–21, and Estimate 2022–23: Consideration of evidence

4.1 The Committee considered the evidence received.

5 Informal briefing: Understanding the financial position in Wales

5.1 The Committee received a briefing from David Phillips, Associate Director, Institute of Fiscal Studies; Dr Ed Poole, Senior Lecturer, Wales Governance Centre; and Guto Ifan, Research Associate, Wales Governance Centre.

6 Oversight of Audit Wales – External Audit Services of the Wales Audit Office's Accounts

6.1 The Committee agreed its approach to the procurement of the external auditors of the Wales Audit Office.