

Concise Minutes – Finance Committee

Meeting Venue: **Hybrid – Committee room 3, Senedd and video conference via Zoom**

Meeting date: Wednesday, 5 February 2025

Meeting time: 09.30 – 12.06

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

<http://senedd.tv/en/15057>

Hybrid

Attendance

Category	Names
Members of the Senedd:	Peredur Owen Griffiths MS (Chair) Mike Hedges MS Rhianon Passmore MS Sam Rowlands MS
Witnesses:	David Chapman, Executive Director, Wales, UK Hospitality Cymru Roy Church, Co-Chair, Welsh Association of Visitor Attractions Zoë Hawkins, Chief Executive, MWT Cymru Rowland Rees-Thomas, Chair, Wales Tourism Alliance Iwan Thomas, Chief Executive, PLANED Emma Thornton, Chief Executive, Visit Pembrokeshire Jim Jones, Managing Director, North Wales Tourism
Committee Staff:	Rachael Davies (Second Clerk) Mike Lewis (Deputy Clerk)



	Christian Tipples (Researcher) Ben Harris (Legal Adviser)
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Registration

Private pre-meeting

1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

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

2 Paper(s) to note

2.1 The Committee noted the papers.

- 2.1 PTN 1 – Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language: Interministerial Standing Committee (F:ISC) – 27 January 2025
- 2.2 PTN 2 – Letter from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales: Response to the Committee's report on the Review into the operations, processes and investigations carried out by the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales – 24 January 2025
- 2.3 PTN 3 – Letter from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales: Response to the Committee's report on the Annual Scrutiny of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales – 24 January 2025
- 2.4 PTN 4 – Letter from Audit Wales: Response to the Committee's report on the Annual scrutiny of the Wales Audit Office and the Auditor General for Wales – 23 January 2025
- 2.5 PTN 5 – Letter from the Llywydd and Chair of the Senedd Commission: Cardiff Bay 2032 project – 28 January 2025
- 2.6 PTN 6 – Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning: Memorandum of Understanding between the UK government and the Welsh Government: Investment zones – 29 January 2025
- 2.7 PTN 7 – Letter from the Comptroller and Auditor General: Administration of Welsh Rates of Income Tax 2023–24 – 29 January 2025
- 2.8 PTN 8 – Welsh Government Draft Budget 2025–26: Written information from Sparkle (Children's Charity) – 29 January 2025
- 3 Visitor Accommodation (Register and Levy) Etc. (Wales) Bill: Evidence session 9

3.1 The Committee took evidence on the Visitor Accommodation (Register and Levy) Etc. (Wales) Bill from Rowland Rees–Evans, Chair, Wales Tourism Alliance; David Chapman, Executive Director, Wales, UK Hospitality Cymru; and Roy Church, Co–Chair, Welsh Association of Visitor Attractions.

Break

4 Visitor Accommodation (Register and Levy) Etc. (Wales) Bill: Evidence session 10

4.1 The Committee took evidence on the Visitor Accommodation (Register and Levy) Etc. (Wales) Bill from Zoë Hawkins, Chief Executive, MWT Cymru; Emma Thornton, Chief Executive, Visit Pembrokeshire; Jim Jones, Managing Director, North Wales Tourism; and Iwan Thomas, Chief Executive, PLANED.

5 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 (ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of this meeting.

5.1 The motion was agreed.

6 Visitor Accommodation (Register and Levy) Etc. (Wales) Bill: Consideration of evidence

6.1 The Committee considered the evidence received.