

Finance Committee

Meeting Venue: **Committee Room 2 – Senedd**

Meeting date: **Thursday, 2 October 2014**

Meeting time: **08.30 – 12.44**

This meeting can be viewed on Senedd TV at:

<http://www.senedd.tv/Meeting/Archive/5f05222e-ad77-486a-97c2-6abe50e70d1d?autostart=True>

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



Concise Minutes:

Assembly Members:

Jocelyn Davies AM (Chair)
Peter Black AM
Christine Chapman AM
Mike Hedges AM
Alun Ffred Jones AM
Ann Jones AM
Julie Morgan AM
Nick Ramsay AM

Witnesses:

Dame Rosemary Butler AM, Presiding Officer
Claire Clancy, Chief Executive & Clerk of the Assembly
Nicola Callow, Assembly Commission
Jane Hutt AM, The Minister for Finance and Government Business
Jo Salway, Welsh Government
Matt Denham Jones, Welsh Government
Jeff Andrews, Welsh Government

Committee Staff:

Bethan Davies (Clerk)
Meriel Singleton (Second Clerk)
Tanwen Summers (Deputy Clerk)

Don Peebles (Expert Advisor)
Martin Jennings (Researcher)

1 Welsh Government Draft Budget 2015–16: Pre–budget report from CIPFA

1.1 The Committee received a briefing from Don Peebles, Expert Adviser.

TRANSCRIPT

View the [meeting transcript](#).

2 Introductions, apologies and substitutions

2.1 The Chair welcomed the Members to Committee.

2.2 There were no apologies.

3 Papers to note

3.1 The papers were noted.

3.1 Supplementary Budget 2014–2015: Welsh Government response

4 Assembly Commission Draft Budget 2015–16

4.1 Peter Black AM absented himself for this item and item 8 due to his role as a Member of the Assembly Commission.

4.2 Members scrutinised Dame Rosemary Butler AM, Presiding Officer and Commission Chair, Claire Clancy, Chief Executive and Clerk to the Assembly, and Nicola Callow, Director of Finance on the draft Assembly Commission budget 2015–16.

4.3 The Presiding Officer agreed to raise at the next meeting of the Business Committee the issue of ushers collecting Members' notes from the Chamber to help with the Record of Proceedings and also committed to investigating the possibility of alternative travel options for educational visits from schools.

4.4 Claire Clancy agreed to look into the copyright issues relating to the Carbon Trust report and make it available to Members if possible and provide the Committee with information on who owns Ty Hywel.

5 Welsh Government Draft Budget 2015–16: Evidence Session 1

5.1 The Committee scrutinised the Minister for Finance and Local Government on the Welsh Government's draft budget for 2015–16.

5.2 The Chair indicated she would ask the relevant committee to explore with the portfolio Minister if the cuts to the Supporting People programme will be delivered equally across Wales or will some areas see larger cuts.

5.3 The Minister agreed to:

- provide a note to the Committee clarifying the position on non-domestic rates providing it does not undermine negotiations with the UK Government;
- share with the Committee some of the early advice the Government has received on the process of devolving stamp duty land tax;
- confirm the arrangements for allocating money to Local Authorities specifically for social services;
- provide the Committee with more information on the prospect of a skills gateway for adults in relation to the Careers Wales service;
- check on the publication of an evaluation on the Pupil Deprivation Grant and provide the Committee with details; and
- provide the Committee with details around invest-to-save funding.

6 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for the following business:

6.1 The motion was agreed.

7 Welsh Government Draft Budget 2015–16: Consideration of evidence received

7.1 The Committee considered the evidence received.

7.1 Consultation Responses – Welsh Government Draft Budget 2015–16

8 Assembly Commission Draft Budget 2015–16: Consideration of evidence received

8.1 The Committee considered the evidence and noted that a draft report will be prepared for consideration at the Committee meeting scheduled for 8 October 2014.

9 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Bill: Committee correspondence

9.1 The Committee discussed the correspondence.