

# Finance Committee

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

Meeting date: **Wednesday, 25 March 2015**

Meeting time: **09.02 – 12.10**

Cynulliad  
Cenedlaethol  
Cymru

National  
Assembly for  
Wales



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<http://senedd.tv/en/3155>

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## 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:

**Georgina Haarhoff, Welsh Government**  
**Sarah Tully, Welsh Government**  
**Bethan Davies, Welsh Government**  
**Leighton Andrews AM, The Minister for Public Services**  
**Gareth Thomas, Welsh Government**  
**Clare Smith, Welsh Government**  
**Nick Bennett, Public Services Ombudsman for Wales**  
**Susan Hudson, Policy and Communication Manager**  
**Katrin Shaw, Public Service Ombudsman for Wales Office**

### Committee Staff:

**Bethan Davies (Clerk)**  
**Leanne Hatcher (Second Clerk)**  
**Tanwen Summers (Deputy Clerk)**

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Martin Jennings (Researcher)  
Richard Bettley (Researcher)  
Helen Jones (Researcher)  
Joanest Varney-Jackson (Legal Adviser)

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## **1 Factual briefing from Welsh Government on Landfill Tax**

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting.
- 1.2 The Committee received a factual briefing from the Welsh Government on Landfill Tax.
- 1.3 Members requested the following additional information:
  - a list of qualifying waste;
  - a list of local authority landfill sites; and
  - a list of the 191 registered Environmental and Distributive Environmental bodies in Wales.

## **2 Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Bill: Initial Consideration**

- 2.1 The Committee considered the financial implications of the Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Bill and agreed to invite the Minister for Health and Social Services in for further scrutiny.

## **3 Introductions, apologies and substitutions**

- 3.1 There were no apologies.

## **5 Local Government (Wales) Bill: Evidence session 1**

- 5.1 The Committee took evidence from the Minister for Public Services on the Local Government (Wales) Bill.
- 5.2 The Minister agreed to make available to the Committee:
  - any estimates of costs contained in the cases submitted to him by the six local authorities for voluntary mergers;
  - clarification on whether the Welsh Government has the power to merge pension funds and if there are specific rules regarding local government pension funds; and
  - a report of the previous staff commission (possibly published in September 1996) in relation to previous mergers.

## **6 Consideration of powers: Public Services Ombudsman for Wales: Evidence Session 12**

6.1 The Committee took evidence from the Public Service Ombudsman for Wales on its inquiry.

## **8 Consideration of powers: Public Services Ombudsman for Wales: Key Issues**

8.1 The Committee considered the key issues of its inquiry into Consideration of powers: Public Services Ombudsman for Wales.

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

7.1 The motion was agreed.

## **4 Papers to note**

4.1 The papers were noted.