

# Public Accounts Committee

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Meeting Venue: **Committee Room 3 – Senedd**

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Meeting date: **Tuesday, 6 December 2011**

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Meeting time: **09:15 – 11:00**

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This meeting can be viewed on Senedd TV at:  
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Cynulliad  
Cenedlaethol  
Cymru

National  
Assembly for  
Wales



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## Concise Minutes:

### Assembly Members:

**Andrew RT Davies (Chair) (In place of Darren Millar)**  
**Mohammad Asghar (Oscar)**  
**Mike Hedges**  
**Julie Morgan**  
**Gwyn R Price**  
**Jenny Rathbone**  
**Aled Roberts**  
**Leanne Wood**

### Witnesses:

**Vanessa Young, Director of Resources, WLGA**  
**Huw Vaughan Thomas, Auditor General for Wales, Wales Audit Office**  
**Mark Jeffs, Wales Audit Office**  
**Mike Usher, Group Director – Financial Audit, WAO**  
**Dr Chris Llewelyn, Director of Lifelong Learning, Leisure and Learn, WLGA**

### Committee Staff:

**Alun Davidson (Clerk)**  
**Daniel Collier (Deputy Clerk)**  
**Joanest Jackson (Legal Advisor)**

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## 1. Introductions, apologies and substitutions

1.1 Apologies had been received from Darren Millar for whom Andrew RT Davies was substituting.

## 2. A Picture of Public Services 2011 – The key financial challenges facing Welsh public services: Evidence from the Welsh Local Government Association

2.1 The Committee welcomed Vanessa Phillips, Director of Resources, Welsh Local Government Association.

2.2 The Committee also welcomed Huw Vaughan Thomas, Auditor General for Wales and Mark Jeffs, Wales Audit Office.

2.3 The Committee questioned the witness.

### **Action points:**

The Welsh Local Government Association agreed to provide:

- Further details on prudential borrowing, including comparisons with previous years.
- A note on examples where public engagement and participatory budgeting has contributed to the development of the services to be delivered by local authorities.
- Further information explaining how Equality Impact Assessments had been applied during recent staff reductions in the public sector.

## **3. Briefing from the Auditor General for Wales on Grants Management**

3.1 The Committee received a briefing from the Auditor General for Wales on the Wales Audit Office report, Grants Management in Wales.

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

## **5. Future Committee business**

5.1 The Committee discussed forthcoming business for the spring term 2012.

## **6. Papers to note**

6.1 The Committee ratified the minutes of the previous meeting.

6.2 The Committee noted the correspondence from the Permanent Secretary of the Welsh Government on the inquiry into the delivery of ICT services and ICT projects under the Merlin contract.

6.3 The Committee noted the correspondence from the Chief Executive and Clerk of the National Assembly for Wales on the inquiry into the delivery of ICT services and ICT projects under the Merlin contract.