

Finance Committee

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

Meeting date: **Wednesday, 4 July 2012**

Meeting time: **09:00 – 11:00**

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



This meeting can be viewed on Senedd TV at:

http://www.senedd.tv/archiveplayer.jsf?v=en_300000_04_07_2012&t=0&l=en

Concise Minutes:

Assembly Members:

Jocelyn Davies (Chair)
Peter Black
Christine Chapman
Paul Davies
Mike Hedges
Julie Morgan
Ieuan Wyn Jones
Jenny Rathbone

Witnesses:

Jane Hutt, Minister for Finance and Leader of the House
Jeff Andrews, Welsh Government
Margaret Davies, Welsh Government
Matthew Denham-Jones, Welsh Government

Committee Staff:

Gareth Price (Clerk)
Daniel Collier (Deputy Clerk)
Martin Jennings (Researcher)
Eleanor Roy (Researcher)
Joanest Jackson (Legal Advisor)

1. Introductions, apologies and substitutions

1.1 The Chair welcomed Members and members of the public to the meeting.

1.2 Apologies had been received from Ann Jones, for whom Jenny Rathbone was substituting.

2. Welsh Government Supplementary Budget 2012–2013 (Summer 2012)

2.1 The Chair welcomed Jane Hutt AM, Minister for Finance; Jeff Andrews, Specialist Policy Adviser; Margaret Davies, Head of Budget Policy; and Matthew Denham Jones, Head of Budgetary Control and Reporting.

2.2 Members scrutinised the Minister.

Action points:

The Welsh Government agreed to:

- Publish details of projects receiving funding from round 6 of Invest-to-Save, including how much each project received, the projected savings, details of the pay-back profile, and details of the forthcoming evaluation of Invest-to-Save;
- Provide clarification on the £1million investment in the Single Environmental Body, which was raised by the Environment and Sustainability Committee at its meeting on 27 June 2012;
- Confirm when the Committee will receive a year-end report detailing variations between actual spend and the last supplementary budget of the year.

3. Papers to note

3.1 The Committee noted the correspondence from HM Treasury on the consultation on new Scottish borrowing powers. The Committee agreed to respond to the consultation, outlining the findings of the inquiry into Prudential Borrowing and Innovative Approaches to Capital Funding.

3.2 The Committee noted the correspondence on its inquiry into Devolved Funding: Borrowing Powers and Innovative Approaches to Capital Funding.

3.3 The Committee noted the correspondence from the Minister for Health and Social Services regarding the Supplementary Budget 2011–2012 (Spring 2012), which would inform its scrutiny of the Supplementary Budget 2012–2013.

3.4 The Committee ratified the minutes of the previous meeting.

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

Items 5 and 6.

5. Welsh Government Supplementary Budget 2012–2013 (Summer 2012) – Consideration of evidence

5.1 The Committee discussed the evidence on Welsh Government Supplementary Budget 2012–2013 (Summer 2012)

6. Welsh Government Draft Budget 2013–2014 – Options for appointing an expert adviser

6.1 The Committee agreed to appoint a technical advisor to assist with its scrutiny of the Welsh Government budget 2013–2014.

Transcript