

Concise Minutes – Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 1 – Senedd

Meeting date: Wednesday, 8 February
2017

Meeting time: 09.01 – 12.28

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/3846>

Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	John Griffiths AM (Chair) Gareth Bennett AM Janet Finch–Saunders AM Siân Gwenllian AM Bethan Jenkins AM Rhianon Passmore AM Jenny Rathbone AM Joyce Watson AM
Witnesses:	Ken Skates AM, Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport Tracey Burke, Welsh Government Jo–Anne Daniels, Welsh Government Maureen Howell, Welsh Government
Committee Staff:	Christopher Warner (Clerk)



Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales

	Naomi Stocks (Clerk) Chloe Davies (Deputy Clerk) Hannah Johnson (Researcher) Stephen Davies (Legal Adviser)
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Transcript

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1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

1. 1 The Chair welcomed Members and members of the public to the meeting.

2 Scrutiny of the Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure

2.1. The Committee received evidence from:

- Ken Skates AM, Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure
- Tracey Burke, Director, Strategy
- Jo-Anne Daniels, Director, Communities & Tackling Poverty
- Maureen Howell, Deputy Director, Equality and Prosperity

2.2. The Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure agreed:

- to provide an early briefing on the Code of Practice for Ethical Employment in Supply Chains;
- to provide the figures from the recent research undertaken into under claimed benefits, for the last two financial periods;
- to provide any evidence available on the evaluation of the Lift and Communities for Work programmes. If no evidence is available, the Cabinet Secretary agreed to clarify what evaluation work will take place;
- to provide a note on the Wales Well-being Bond;
- to provide a link to the third year report on the Tackling Poverty Action Plan: Building Resilient Communities, which contains relevant statistics on child poverty;
- to look into the issue of absence as referred to by Joyce Watson AM when discussing ethical procurement;

- to provide the dashboard of data used to evaluate the progress of policies and programmes.

2.3. The Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure declared an interest in the pilot of the school summer holiday lunch and fun clubs due to involvement in drawing up the party manifesto which included this pledge.

3 Papers to note

3.1 Correspondence from the Welsh Local Government Association in relation to refugees and asylum seekers

3.1.a The Committee noted the correspondence from the Welsh Local Government Association in relation to refugees and asylum seekers.

4 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 (vi) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting

4.1. The Committee agreed the motion.

5 Scrutiny of the Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure – consideration of evidence under item 2

5.1. The Committee discussed the evidence received under item 2 and agreed to write to the Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure on matters raised during the session.

6 Senedd@Newport – Consideration of options for public engagement

6.1. The Committee considered and agreed its approach for public engagement as part of Senedd@Newport.

7 Inquiry into refugees and asylum seekers – consideration of key issues

7.1. The Committee discussed the key issues for inclusion in its report.