

Concise Minutes – Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 2 – Senedd

Meeting date: Thursday, 21 September 2017

Meeting time: 09.50 – 14.24

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/4396>

Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	John Griffiths AM (Chair) Gareth Bennett AM Janet Finch–Saunders AM Siân Gwenllïan AM Bethan Jenkins AM Rhianon Passmore AM Jenny Rathbone AM Joyce Watson AM David Melding AM
Witnesses:	Dr Lisa Scullion, University of Salford Dr Sharon Wright, University of Glasgow Ed Evans, Civil Engineering Contractors Association Andrew Marchant, Wales Construction Federation Alliance Mark Drakeford AM, Cabinet Secretary for Finance



Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales

	Sue Moffatt, Welsh Government
Committee Staff:	Naomi Stocks (Clerk) Chloe Davies (Deputy Clerk) Stephen Davies (Legal Adviser) Jennifer Cottle (Legal Adviser) Megan Jones (Researcher) Gareth David Thomas (Researcher)

1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed Members and members of the public to the meeting.
- 1.2 Apologies for absence were received from Janet Finch–Saunders AM for items 5–8. David Melding AM substituted for Janet for item 8.
- 1.3 Janet Finch–Saunders AM declared an interest as a property owner.

2 Inquiry into poverty in Wales: making the economy work for people on low incomes – evidence session 7

2.1 The Committee received evidence from:

- Dr Sharon Wright, Senior Lecturer in Public Policy, Urban Studies, School of Social and Political Sciences University of Glasgow;
- Dr Lisa Scullion, Reader in Social Policy, University of Salford

3 Inquiry into poverty in Wales: making the economy work for people on low incomes – evidence session 8

3.1 The Committee received evidence from:

- Ed Evans, Director, Civil Engineering Contractors Association
- Andrew Marchant, Chair, Wales Construction Federation Alliance

3.2 During the session the Wales Construction Federation Alliance agreed to provide the results of the FOI exercises undertaken in 2014 and 2016, which explored public bodies not adhering to Welsh Government ethical policies.

4 Inquiry into poverty in Wales: making the economy work for people on low incomes – evidence session 9

4.1 The Committee received evidence from:

- Mark Drakeford AM, Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government
- Sue Moffatt, Director, National Procurement Service

5 Paper(s) to note

5.1 Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children in relation to the Abolition of the Right to Buy and Associated Rights (Wales) Bill

5.1.a The Committee noted the letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children in relation to the Abolition of the Right to Buy and Associated Rights (Wales) Bill.

5.2 Letter from the Finance Committee in relation to the Welsh Government budget 2018–19

5.2.a The Committee noted the letter from the Finance Committee in relation to the Welsh Government budget 2018–19.

5.3 Additional information from Oxfam in relation to asset-based approaches to poverty reduction

5.3.a The Committee noted the letter from the Finance Committee in relation to the Welsh Government budget 2018–19.

5.4 Letter to the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children in relation to fire safety in high rise blocks in Wales

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5.5 Letter from the Equality and Human Rights Commission in relation to human rights in Wales

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5.6 Letter from the Llywydd in relation to Implementation of the Wales Act 2017

5.6.a The Committee noted the letter from the Llywydd in relation to Implementation of the Wales Act 2017.

5.7 Letter from the Welsh Refugee Council in relation to refugees and asylum seekers in Wales

5.7.a The Committee noted the letter from the Llywydd in relation to Implementation of the Wales Act 2017.

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

6.1 The Committee agreed the motion.

7 Inquiry into poverty in Wales: making the economy work for people on low incomes – consideration of evidence received under items 2, 3 and 4

7.1 The Committee considered the evidence received under items 2, 3 and 4 and agreed to write to the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children on a number of matters raised.

8 Abolition of the Right to Buy and Associated Rights (Wales) Bill – Order of Consideration – agreement in principle ahead of Stage 2 proceedings

8.1 Ahead of the Stage 1 debate on 5 October and the agreement of the general principles of the Abolition of the Right to Buy and Associated Rights (Wales) Bill, the Committee agreed, in principle, to the following Order of Consideration for the purposes of Stage 2 proceedings in committee:

- Sections 2 to 6
- Schedule 1 (introduced by section 6)
- Sections 7 to 12
- Section 1 (Overview of the Bill)
- Long title