

# Concise Minutes – Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee

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Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 5 – Tŷ Hywel

Meeting date: Monday, 21 September 2020

Meeting time: 14.17 – 16.15

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/6496>

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## Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	John Griffiths MS (Chair) Dawn Bowden MS Huw Irranca-Davies MS Mark Isherwood MS Delyth Jewell MS
Witnesses:	Nick Bennett, Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Katrin Shaw, Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Chris Vinestock, Public Services Ombudsman for Wales
Committee Staff:	Naomi Stocks (Clerk) Catherine Hunt (Second Clerk) Chloe Davies (Deputy Clerk) Osian Bowyer (Researcher)



## **1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest**

1.1. The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting of the Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee.

1.2. In accordance with Standing Order 34.19, the Chair stated that he had determined that the public were excluded from the Committee's meeting in order to protect public health.

1.3. The Chair stated that if for any reason he dropped out of the meeting, the Committee agreed that Dawn Bowden MS would become Temporary Chair in accordance with Standing Order 17.22.

## **2 Scrutiny of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales annual report 2019/20**

2.1. The Committee received evidence from:

- Nick Bennett, Public Services Ombudsman for Wales
- Chris Vinestock, Chief Operating Officer & Director of Improvement
- Katrin Shaw, Chief Legal Adviser & Director of Investigations

2.2. The Committee agreed to write to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales with questions that were not reached during the evidence session.

## **3 Paper(s) to note**

### **3.1 Correspondence from the Older People's Commissioner for Wales in relation to the inquiry into COVID-19**

3.1.a The Committee noted the correspondence from the Older People's Commissioner for Wales in relation to the inquiry into COVID-19.

**3.2 Letter from the Minister for Housing and Local Government to the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee in relation to the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill**

3.2.a The Committee noted the letter from the Minister for Housing and Local Government to the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee in relation to the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill.

**3.3 Additional information from the Welsh Government in relation to the Renting Homes (Amendment) (Wales) Bill**

3.3.a The Committee noted the additional information from the Welsh Government in relation to the Renting Homes (Amendment) (Wales) Bill.

**4 Motion under Standing Order 17.42(ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting and from the meeting on 28 September 2020**

4.1. The Committee agreed the motion.

**5 Scrutiny of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales annual report 2019–20 – consideration of evidence**

5.1. The Committee discussed the evidence received under item 3.

**6 Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill – discussion of Stage 2 proceedings**

6.1. The Committee discussed and agreed arrangements for Stage 2 proceedings for the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill.