

Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee

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

Meeting date: **Thursday, 23 October 2014**

Meeting time: **09.15 – 13.30**

This meeting can be viewed on Senedd TV at:

[<insert link here>](#)

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



Concise Minutes:

MeetingTitle

Assembly Members:

Christine Chapman AM (Chair)

Peter Black AM

Alun Davies AM

Jocelyn Davies AM

Janet Finch–Saunders AM

Mike Hedges AM

Mark Isherwood AM

Gwyn R Price AM

Gwenda Thomas AM

Rhodri Glyn Thomas AM

Witnesses:

Lisa James, Deputy Director of Operations

**Debra Carter, Head of Local Government Finance and Public
Service Performance Division**

Carwyn Jones AM, The First Minister

Caroline Turner, Welsh Government

Bethan Webb, Welsh Government

Meri Huws, Welsh Language Commissioner

Dyfan Sion, Welsh Government

Committee Staff:

Sarah Beasley (Clerk)

Elizabeth Wilkinson (Second Clerk)
Leanne Hatcher (Deputy Clerk)
Rhys Iorwerth (Researcher)
Chloe Davies (Deputy Clerk)
Matthew Richards (Legal Advisor)
Hannah Johnson (Researcher)

TRANSCRIPT

View the [meeting transcript](#).

1 Factual Briefing White Paper on Reforming Local Government

1.1 The Committee received a factual briefing from Welsh Government officials on Reforming Local Government.

2 Inquiry into Poverty in Wales: forward work planning

2.1 The Committee discussed the forward work planning for the inquiry into poverty in Wales.

3 Introductions, apologies and substitutions

3.1 The Chair welcomed Members and members of the public to the meeting

4 Scrutiny of Welsh Government 2015–2016 draft budget – Evidence session from the First Minister

4.1 The Committee received evidence from Carwyn Jones AM, First Minister.

5 Welsh Language Commissioner: Consideration of Annual Report

5.1 The Committee received evidence from Meri Huws, Welsh Language Commissioner and Dyfan Sion, Director of Policy and Research.

5.2 The Welsh Language Commissioner agreed to provide to the Committee any evidence submitted in relation to the Planning (Wales) Bill.

6 Papers to note

6.1 The Committee noted the papers.

7 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 (vi) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting and from the meeting on 5 November 2014

7.1 The Committee agreed the motion.

8 Welsh Government Draft Budget 2015–16: Consideration of draft letters

8.1 The Committee discussed the draft letters

9 Gender-based Violence, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales)

Bill: consideration of Stage 1 draft report

9.1 The Committee discussed the Stage 1 draft report