Concise Minutes - Business Committee: Procedural Work

Meeting Venue: **Committee Room 5 - Tŷ Hywel**

Meeting date: Thursday, 16 October 2025

Meeting time: 09.30 - 11.16

Private, Hybrid

Attendance

Category	Names
Members of the Senedd:	Elin Jones MS, Chair Paul Davies MS Heledd Fychan MS Jane Hutt MS
Committee Staff:	Alun Davidson, Clerk Steffan Lewis, Deputy Clerk
Others in attendance:	David Rees MS, Deputy Presiding Officer Jane Dodds MS Bethan Davies, Head of Chamber and Committee Service Graeme Francis, Head of Chamber Secretariat and Clerk to the Business Committee Helen Finlayson, Clerk for Legislative Procedural Review Adam Vaughan, Second Clerk Lisa Griffiths, Procedures Clerk Josh Hayman, Researcher

	Catrin Davies, Welsh Government Anthony Cooper, Welsh Labour Jennifer Ramsay, Welsh Conservatives Francess Ifans, Plaid Cymru

1 Introductions, apologies and substitutions

The Llywydd welcomed Members to the meeting. No apologies were received.

2 Minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 October 2025

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

3 Review of the legislative scrutiny processes for Public Bills and Member Bills

3.1 Financial resolutions for Bills

The Committee considered the paper and agreed:

- to note the Llywydd's intention to establish a practice of Presiding Officers indicating how they intend to interpret 'significant' for the purposes of financial resolution procedures during each Senedd;
- not to propose any changes to Standing Orders relating to financial resolution procedures, but to recommend that the Seventh Senedd considers whether procedural changes are required to ensure that financial resolution and explanatory memorandum procedures adequately reflect the Senedd's taxation powers.

3.2 Debate and disposal of amendments to Bills, and associated issues

The Committee considered the paper and agreed:

- not to propose any changes to Standing Orders relating to the debate and disposal of amendments;
- to encourage any Members in their groups who have views on the current amending stage documentation to provide feedback to Commission officials;
- that the provision of text by tabling Members to explain the purpose and effect of amendments should continue to be optional.

4 Parliamentary business in the Seventh Senedd

The Committee considered the paper. Members agreed to consult their groups on the issues in the paper and provide feedback at a subsequent meeting.

5 Standing Order thresholds for the formation of political groups and groupings

The Committee considered the paper and agreed that the minimum threshold for forming a political group or grouping should be raised to 5.

6 Review of the legislative scrutiny processes for Public Bills and Member Bills

6.1 Member Bills

Members provided feedback following consultation with their groups on the issues discussed at the previous meeting on 9 October.

The Committee agreed to propose that Members should be selected to introduce Member Bills via a name-only ballot instead of the current proposal-based ballot, and asked officials to bring forward draft proposals for further consideration at a future meeting.

6.2 Bill timetabling

Members provided feedback following consultation with their groups on the issues discussed at the previous meeting on 9 October.

The Committee asked officials to bring forward further advice on the outstanding issues for further consideration at a future meeting.