

Agenda – Economy, Trade, and Rural Affairs Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee room 4 – Tŷ Hywel
and video conference via Zoom

Meeting date: 25 February 2026

Meeting time: 09.30

For further information contact:

Robert Donovan

Committee Clerk

0300 200 6565

SeneddEconomy@senedd.wales

Hybrid

Private pre-meeting

09.15 – 09.30

Public session

09.30 – 11.30

1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions, and declarations of interest

09.30

2 General Ministerial Scrutiny: Economy and Skills

09.30 – 10.30

(Pages 1 – 33)

Rebecca Evans MS, Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning,
Welsh Government

Liz Lalley, Director – Economic Policy and Strategy, Welsh Government

Attached Documents:

Research brief

Evidence paper – Welsh Government



Senedd Cymru
Welsh Parliament

Break

10.30 – 10.35

3 General Ministerial Scrutiny: Economy and Skills

10.35 – 11.30

Rebecca Evans MS, Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning,
Welsh Government

Jack Sargeant MS, Minister for Culture, Skills and Social Partnership, Welsh
Government

Liz Lalley, Director – Economic Policy and Strategy, Welsh Government

Jo Salway, Director – Social Partnership, Employability & Fair Work, Welsh
Government

4 Papers to note

11.30

4.1 The Chemicals (Health and Safety) (Amendment, Consequential and Transitional Provision) Regulations 2026

(Pages 34 – 37)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate
Change and Rural Affairs – 2 February 2026

4.2 Follow-up from the Committee meeting held on 26 November 2025: Scrutiny of the Welsh Government Draft Budget 2026–27

(Pages 38 – 41)

Attached Documents:

Welsh Government response – 11 February 2026

4.3 Learning and Work Institute report: A Work, Health and Skills Plan for Wales

(Pages 42 – 43)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Director for Wales, Learning and Work Institute – 6 February 2026

4.4 Follow-up from the Committee meeting held on 21 January 2026: Inward Investment

(Pages 44 – 63)

Attached Documents:

Response from Councillor Dave Hughes, Leader of Flintshire County Council – 9 February 2026

Response from Councillor Rob Stewart, Leader of Swansea Council – 19 February 2026

Response from Ken Poole, Head of Economic Development, Cardiff Council – 19 February 2026

4.5 UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA)

(Pages 64 – 73)

Attached Documents:

UK-EU Parliamentary Partnership Assembly: Sixth meeting summary report

4.6 Holyhead Port closure

(Pages 74 – 75)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales – 12 February 2026

4.7 Local Growth Fund

(Pages 76 – 78)

Attached Documents:

Written evidence from Industrial Communities Alliance – 9 February 2026

4.8 Report on the UK–India Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement: The Welsh Government Perspective

(Pages 79 – 133)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning – 13 February 2026

4.9 Follow-up from the Committee meeting held on 29 January 2026

(Pages 134 – 137)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning – 17 February 2026

4.10 Inward Investment

(Pages 138 – 141)

Attached Documents:

Letter from New York Welsh – 17 February 2026

4.11 Farming Connect Procurement

(Pages 142 – 144)

Attached Documents:

Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs – 18 February 2026

- 5 **Motion under Standing Order 17.42(ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting and under Standing Order 17.42(vi) for item 1 of the meeting on 5 March 2026.**

11.30

Private session

11.30 – 11.45

- 6 **General Ministerial Scrutiny: Consideration of evidence**

11.30 – 11.45