

Public Accounts Committee

Meeting Venue:
Committee Room 3 – Senedd

Meeting date:
15 October 2013

Meeting time:
09:00

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



For further information please contact:

Fay Buckle
Committee Clerk
029 2089 8041
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Agenda

1 Introductions, apologies and substitutions (09:00)

2 Covering Teachers' Absence: Briefing from the Wales Audit Office (09:00 – 10:00)

Huw Vaughan Thomas – Auditor General for Wales
Stephen Martin – Performance Audit Manager, Wales Audit Office
Meilyr Rowlands – Strategic Director, Estyn

3 Papers to note (10:00) (Pages 1 - 5)

4 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for the following business: (10:00)

Items 5, 6, 7 & 8

5 Covering Teachers' Absence: Members' consideration of issues raised by the Wales Audit Office Report (10:00 – 10:15)

6 Grants Management in Wales: Consideration of advice from the Auditor General Wales (10:15 – 10:30) (Pages 6 - 19)

PAC(4)-27-13 Paper 1
PAC(4)-27-13 Paper 2

Huw Vaughan Thomas – Auditor General for Wales

7 Civil Emergencies in Wales: Consideration of advice from the Auditor General Wales (10:30 – 10:45) (Pages 20 - 32)

PAC(4)-27-13 Paper 3

PAC(4)-27-13 Paper 4

Huw Vaughan Thomas – Auditor General for Wales

Andy Phillips – Performance Audit Manager, Wales Audit Office

8 The Welsh Government's acquisition and action to dispose of the former River Lodge Hotel, Llangollen: Consideration of advice from Wales Audit Office (10:45 – 11:00) (Pages 33 - 47)

PAC(4)-27-13 Paper 5

Gillian Body – Assistant Auditor General for Wales

Paul Dimblebee – Group Director, Wales Audit Office

Public Accounts Committee

Meeting Venue: Committee Room 2 – Senedd

Meeting date: Thursday, 3 October 2013

Meeting time: 13:15 – 15:27

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http://www.senedd.tv/archiveplayer.jsf?v=en_300001_03_10_2013&t=0&l=en

Concise Minutes:

Assembly Members:

Darren Millar (Chair)
Mohammad Asghar (Oscar) AM
Christine Chapman
Mike Hedges
Julie Morgan
Jenny Rathbone
Aled Roberts

Witnesses:

Huw Vaughan Thomas, Auditor General for Wales, Wales
Audit Office
Stephen Lisle, Wales Audit Office
Dave Thomas, Wales Audit Office

Committee Staff:

Fay Buckle (Clerk)
Claire Griffiths (Deputy Clerk)
Joanest Jackson (Legal Advisor)

TRANSCRIPT

View the [meeting transcript](#).

1 Introductions, apologies and substitutions

1.1 The Chair welcomed Members and members of the public to the meeting.

- 1.2 Apologies were received from Sandy Mewies. Christine Chapman substituted. Apologies were also received from Jocelyn Davies.

2 Unscheduled Care: Briefing from the Wales Audit Office

2.1 The Committee received a briefing from Huw Vaughan Thomas, Auditor General for Wales, on The Wales Audit Office Report 'Unscheduled Care'. The Auditor General was accompanied by Dave Thomas and Stephen Lisle. The briefing was supplemented by questioning from the Committee.

3 Papers to note

3.1 The papers were noted.

4 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for the following business:

4.1 The motion was agreed.

5 Unscheduled Care: Members' consideration of issues raised by the Wales Audit Office Report

5.1 The Committee agreed to undertake an inquiry into Unscheduled Care. Specifically, they agreed to focus on local primary care, including:

- the role of GP's in unscheduled care
- the nature of GP contracts and their impact on unscheduled care
- out of hours provision
- the '111' service
- frequent user groups accessing unscheduled care
- plans for future sustainability of unscheduled care

Action point:

The Clerks together with the WAO to prepare a scoping paper for the inquiry.

6 Hospital Catering and Patient Nutrition: Members' consideration of correspondence from Welsh Government

6.1 Members noted the correspondence from the Government and agreed to write to the Government raising the following issues:

- IT infrastructure in regards to e-learning
- Participation of on-line training packages
- Food waste in hospitals
- Display of food hygiene rating stickers in hospitals

7 A Picture of Public Services 2011: Members' consideration of correspondence from Welsh Government

7.1 Members expressed their disappointment with the Welsh Government's response but felt there was merit in sharing the correspondence with the Communities, Equalities and Local Government Committee.

8 Capital Investment in Schools: Members' consideration of correspondence from Welsh Government

8.1 Members noted the correspondence from the Government and agreed to write to the Government seeking clarification on the following points:

Rationale for determining which Category C schools are being selected for the first wave of investment under the 21st century Schools programme and a list of these schools

A definition of 'fit for purpose'

The approach to inspecting schools for asbestos

9 Welsh Housing Quality Standards: Members' consideration of correspondence from Welsh Government

9.1 Members noted the correspondence from the Government. The Auditor General advised the Committee that his office has planned work in this area during the current financial year.

10 Caldicot and Wentlooge Levels Internal Drainage Board: Members' consideration of the draft report

10.1 Members considered the draft report and agreed to agree a final version by email.

Public Accounts Committee

Meeting Venue: Committee Room 3 – Senedd

Meeting date: Tuesday, 8 October 2013

Meeting time: 09:05 – 10:42

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Concise Minutes:

Assembly Members:

Darren Millar (Chair)
Mohammad Asghar (Oscar) AM
Mike Hedges
Julie Morgan
Jenny Rathbone
Aled Roberts
Jocelyn Davies
Sandy Mewies

Witnesses:

David Sissling, Director General for Health and Social Services, Welsh Government
Albert Heaney, Welsh Government
Alistair Davey, Deputy Director Social Services Policy and Strategy
Huw Vaughan Thomas, Auditor General for Wales, Wales Audit Office
Paul Dimblebee, Group Director – Performance Audit, WAO

Committee Staff:

Fay Buckle (Clerk)
Claire Griffiths (Deputy Clerk)
Joanest Jackson (Legal Advisor)

TRANSCRIPT

View the [meeting transcript](#).

1 Introductions, apologies and substitutions

1.1 The Chair welcomed Members and members of the public to the meeting.

2 National Framework for Continuing NHS Healthcare: Evidence from the Welsh Government

2.1 The Committee questioned David Sissling Director General for Health & Social Services/Chief Executive, NHS Wales, Albert Heaney, Director of Social Services and Alistair Davey, Deputy Director Social Services Policy and Strategy on the National Framework for Continuing NHS Healthcare.

Action points

The Welsh Government agreed to provide cumulative data identifying the number of claims being processed, clearance levels and the number of challenges made to outcomes.

The Welsh Government agreed to provide a detailed breakdown of cases logged both before and since 2010.

3 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for the following business:

3.1 The motion was agreed.

4 National Framework for Continuing NHS Healthcare: Consideration of evidence

4.1 The Committee considered the evidence received on National Framework for Continuing NHS Healthcare and agreed to consider the additional information from the Welsh Government when received and prepare a report. It was also agreed to invite David Sissling back to Committee in the summer 2014 term to receive an update on the framework.

5 Appointment of non-executive Members and Chair of the Wales Audit Office Board

5.1 The Committee noted the report and agreed with the panel's recommendations.

5.2 The Report will be published on 9 October 2013.

By virtue of paragraph(s) ix of Standing Order 17.42

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Agenda Item 8

By virtue of paragraph(s) ix of Standing Order 17.42

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