

Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee

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

Meeting date: **Thursday, 5 February 2015**

Meeting time: **Times Not Specified**

This meeting can be viewed on [Senedd TV](http://senedd.tv) at:
<http://senedd.tv/en/2697>

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
Jeff Cuthbert AM (In place of Gwyn R Price AM)
John Griffiths AM (In place of Gwenda Thomas AM)
Rhodri Glyn Thomas AM

Witnesses:

Leighton Andrews AM, The Minister for Public Services
Sharon Barry, Welsh Government
Gareth Thomas, Welsh Government

Committee Staff:

Elizabeth Wilkinson (Second Clerk)
Chloe Davies (Deputy Clerk)
Matthew Richards (Legal Adviser)
Rhys Iorwerth (Researcher)

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 for absence were received from Gwenda Thomas AM and Gwyn Price AM. Jeff Cuthbert AM and John Griffiths AM substituted for them in accordance with Standing Order 17.48.

2 Local Government (Wales) Bill: Evidence session 1 Minister for Public Services

2.1 The Committee received evidence from Leighton Andrews AM, Minister for Public Services, and his officials.

2.2 During the session the Minister agreed to provide:

- The timetable for the work that will be undertaken in respect of local authority mergers post 2016, to include elections, shadow authorities etc;
- A note on the timeframe for reviews of the number of councillors within communities/wards, which are currently scheduled to take place following the publication of the map of new principal areas, which is expected in summer 2015.

3 Papers to Note

3.1 The Committee noted the papers.

4 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 (vi) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting and from the whole of the meeting on 11 February 2015 (approach to scrutiny and technical briefing of the renting homes bill; consideration of draft report on inquiry into poverty in Wales).

4.1 The Committee agreed the motion.

5 Local Government (Wales) Bill: discussion of evidence received in session 1

5.1 The Committee discussed the evidence.

6 Local Government (Wales) Bill: discussion of further evidence sessions

6.1 The Committee discussed further evidence sessions.

7 Consideration of European Commission Work Programme

7.1 The Committee discussed the Consideration of European Commission Work Programme