

# Concise Minutes – Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee

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Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 2 – Senedd

Meeting date: Wednesday, 21 September 2016

Meeting time: 09. – 12.00

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/3716>

## Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	John Griffiths AM (Chair) Gareth Bennett AM Janet Finch–Saunders AM Siân Gwenllïan AM Bethan Jenkins AM Rhianon Passmore AM Jenny Rathbone AM Joyce Watson AM
Witnesses:	Carl Sargeant AM, Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children Matthew Howells, Association of Police Officers Jo–Anne Daniels, Welsh Government
Committee Staff:	Jon Antoniazzi (Clerk) Elizabeth Wilkinson (Second Clerk) Jonathan Baxter



	Katie Wyatt Hannah Johnson
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## **1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest**

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed Members and members of the public to the meeting.
- 1.2 Janet Finch–Saunders AM declared an interest as a landlord in the private rented sector.

## **2 Scrutiny of the Minister for Lifelong Learning and Welsh Language – role and priorities of the Ministerial Taskforce for the Valleys**

### **2.1 The Committee received evidence from:**

- Alun Davies AM, Minister for Lifelong Learning and Welsh Language
- Maureen Howell – Deputy Director – Equality and Prosperity

### **2.2 The Committee agreed to write to the Minister to follow-up on points raised during discussions**

## **3 Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children – discussion of early priorities**

### **3.1 The Committee received evidence from:**

- Carl Sargeant AM, Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children
- Jo–anne Daniels, Director, Communities and Tackling Poverty
- John Howells, Director, Housing and Regeneration
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### **3.2 The Cabinet Secretary agreed to write to the Committee:**

- on the outcome of his planned future discussion with the UK Government Minister with responsibility for Syrian refugees on the role of the Welsh

Government in the resettlement of refugees, in particular unaccompanied children.

- and with details of timings for the proposed introduction by the UK Government of a British Bill of Rights as soon as they become available, and of how the Welsh Government intends to influence the development of such a Bill

#### **4 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 (vi) and (ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting and for the meeting on the 29 September 2016**

4.1 The Committee agreed the motion.

#### **5 Consideration of the evidence given by the Minister for Lifelong Learning and Welsh Language and Cabinet Secretary for the Communities and Children**

5.1 The Committee discussed the evidence.

#### **6 Scrutiny of the UK Government Wales Bill – consideration of draft response**

6.1 The Committee discussed and agreed the draft letter on the UK Government Wales Bill.