

# Concise Minutes – Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 5 – Tŷ Hywel

Meeting date: Tuesday, 30 June 2020

Meeting time: 14.00 – 17.32

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/6336>

## Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	John Griffiths MS (Chair) Dawn Bowden MS Huw Irranca-Davies MS Mark Isherwood MS Delyth Jewell MS Caroline Jones MS
Witnesses:	Miranda Evans, Policy and Programmes Officer, Disability Wales Megan Thomas, Policy Officer, Disability Wales Zoe Richards, Learning Disability Wales Nathan Owens, Policy and Public Affairs Manager, RNIB Ansley Workman, RNIB Cymru Steffan Evans, Bevan Foundation Claire Thomas, Policy and Research Officer, Bevan Foundation Gwennan Hardy, Senior Policy Officer, Citizens Advice



	<p>Bureau</p> <p>Rachel Cable, Oxfam Cymru</p> <p>Catherine Fookes, Women’s Equality Network (WEN) Wales</p> <p>Cerys Furlong, Chwarae Teg</p> <p>Robert Visintainer, Project Manager, Men's Sheds</p>
Committee Staff:	<p>Naomi Stocks (Clerk)</p> <p>Catherine Hunt (Second Clerk)</p> <p>Yan Thomas (Deputy Clerk)</p> <p>Hannah Johnson (Researcher)</p> <p>Stephen Davies (Legal Adviser)</p>

## **1 Introductions, Apologies and Substitutions – Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee**

1.1 The Chair welcomed Members of the Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee to the meeting.

1.2 In accordance with Standing Order 34.19, the Chair stated that he had determined that the public were excluded from the Committee’s meeting in order to protect public health.

1.3 The Chair stated that if for any reason he dropped out of the meeting, the Committee agreed that Dawn Bowden MS would become Temporary Chair in accordance with Standing Order 17.22.

## **2 Inquiry into Covid–19 and its impact: evidence session on disability**

2.1. The Committee received evidence from:

- Miranda Evans, Policy and Programmes Officer, Disability Wales
- Megan Thomas, Policy Officer, Disability Wales
- Zoe Richards, Chief Executive, Learning Disability Wales
- Ansley Workman, Director, RNIB Cymru
- Nathan Owen, Policy and Public Affairs Manager, RNIB Cymru

2.2 During the meeting, RNIB Cymru agreed to provide the Committee with additional information on the training of guide dogs and social distancing.

### **3 Inquiry into Covid-19 and its impact: evidence session on low income households**

3.1. The Committee received evidence from:

- Steffan Evans, Policy and Research Officer, The Bevan Foundation
- Claire Thomas, Policy and Research Officer, The Bevan Foundation
- Rachel Cable, Head of Oxfam Cymru
- Gwennan Hardy, Senior Policy Officer, Citizens Advice Cymru

3.2 During the meeting, Oxfam Cymru agreed to share its report, 'The Welsh Doughnut 2020' with the Committee.

### **4 Inquiry into Covid-19 and its impact: evidence session on gender**

4.1 The Committee received evidence from:

- Catherine Fookes, Director, Women's Equality Network (WEN) Wales
- Cerys Furlong, Chief Executive, Chwarae Teg
- Robert Visintainer, Project Manager, Men's Sheds Cymru

## **5 Papers to note**

### **5.1 Correspondence from the Llywydd regarding the Committee's request for a Plenary debate on benefits in Wales – 17 June 2020**

5.1a The Committee considered the correspondence from the Llywydd regarding the Committee's request for a Plenary debate on benefits in Wales.

### **5.2 Correspondence from the Royal College of General Practitioners Wales regarding advance care planning and the committee meeting on 16 June – 23 June 2020**

5.2a The Committee discussed the correspondence from the Royal College of General Practitioners Wales regarding advance care planning and the committee meeting on 16 June.

## **6 Motion under Standing Order 17.42(ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting**

6.1 The Committee agreed the motion.

## **7 Inquiry into Covid-19 and its impact: consideration of evidence**

7.1 The Committee discussed the evidence received under item 2, 3 and 4.