

Public Accounts Committee

Meeting Venue: **Committee Room 3 – Senedd**

Meeting date: **Tuesday, 10 July 2012**

Meeting time: **09:00 – 11:00**

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



This meeting can be viewed on Senedd TV at:

http://www.senedd.tv/archiveplayer.jsf?v=en_400000_10_07_2012&t=0&l=en

Concise Minutes:

Assembly Members:

Darren Millar (Chair)
Mohammad Asghar (Oscar) AM
Mike Hedges
Julie Morgan
Gwyn R Price
Jenny Rathbone
Aled Roberts
Lindsay Whittle

Witnesses:

Dame Gillian Morgan, Permanent Secretary, Welsh Government
James Price, Director General BETS
Arwel Thomas, Head of Corporate Governance
David Richards, Welsh Government

Committee Staff:

Tom Jackson (Clerk)
Daniel Collier (Deputy Clerk)

1. Consideration of draft report 'Grants Management in Wales'

- 1.1 The Committee noted that it had agreed at its last meeting, on 3 July 2012, to begin this meeting in private.
- 1.2 The Committee commented on and agreed amendments to its draft report 'Grants Management in Wales'.

2. Consideration of draft report 'Progress in delivering the Welsh Housing Quality Standard'

2.1 The Committee commented on its draft report 'Progress in delivering the Welsh Housing Quality Standard' and agreed to consider further at its meeting on 17 July 2012.

3. Preparation for evidence from Welsh Government on The Welsh Government's acquisition and action to dispose of the former River Lodge Hotel, Llangollen

3.1 The Committee discussed their intended handling of the subsequent evidence session (item 5) on the Wales Audit office report 'The Welsh Government's acquisition and action to dispose of the former River Lodge Hotel, Llangollen'.

4. Introductions, apologies and substitutions

4.1 The Chair welcomed Members and members of the public.

5. The Welsh Government's acquisition and action to dispose of the former River Lodge Hotel, Llangollen – Evidence from the Welsh Government

5.1 The Chair welcomed Dame Gillian Morgan, Permanent Secretary, Welsh Government; James Price, Director General, Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science; Arwel Thomas, Deputy Director, Corporate Governance and Assurance Division; and David Richards, Director of Governance.

5.2 The Committee questioned the witnesses.

Action points:

In response to questions, the Welsh Government agreed to provide:

- Details on whether senior Welsh Government managers above regional level would have been present for briefings of the former Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks regarding proposals to purchase the River Lodge Hotel.
- A note on whether a deadline has been set to dispose of the former River Lodge Hotel site.
- A note on the process for evaluating bids for use of the site, including details on any conditions on the construction of a footbridge on the site.
- Further details on the Welsh Government's Property Leadership Team.
- Details on how Welsh Government officials in North Wales handled concerns raised by a local Assembly Member in a letter to the Minister regarding the acquisition of the River Lodge Hotel.

6. Papers to note

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

Transcript