

Concise Minutes – Finance Committee

Meeting Venue:

Video Conference via Zoom

Meeting date: Monday, 14 September
2020

Meeting time: 14.30 – 16.38

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/6428>

Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	Llyr Gruffydd MS (Chair) Alun Davies MS Siân Gwenllïan MS Mike Hedges MS Rhianon Passmore MS Nick Ramsay MS Mark Reckless MS
Witnesses:	Julie James MS, Minister for Housing and Local Government Rebecca Evans MS, Minister for Finance and Trefnydd Andrew Hewitt, Welsh Government Tom Nicholls, Welsh Government Rob Owen, Welsh Government Simon White, Welsh Government Emma Williams, Welsh Government
Committee Staff:	Bethan Davies (Clerk)



	Georgina Owen (Second Clerk) Mike Lewis (Deputy Clerk) Joanne McCarthy (Researcher) Christian Tipples (Researcher)
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1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

1.1 The Chair welcomed Members to the virtual meeting of the Finance Committee.

2 Paper(s) to note

2.1 The papers were noted.

- 2.1 PTN 1 – Letter from the Counsel General and Minister for European Transition to the External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee: Regional Investment after Brexit – 20 July 2020
- 2.2 PTN 2 – Letter from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales to the First Minister: Public inquiry into the response to the Coronavirus pandemic in Wales – 30 July 2020
- 2.3 PTN 3 – Letter from the Minister for Local Government and Housing: Information relating to the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill – 27 July 2020
- 2.4 PTN 4 – Welsh Government's response to the Committee's report: Scrutiny of the Welsh Government's First Supplementary Budget 2020–21
- 2.5 PTN 5 – Letter from the Minister for Finance and Trefnydd: Information regarding the forward financial planning for directly funded bodies – 11 August 2020
- 2.6 PTN 6 – Letter from the Minister from Finance and Trefnydd: Update on the consequential Wales has received as result of COVID-19 – 19 August 2020
- 2.7 PTN 7 – Letter from the Secretary of State for Wales: Financial response to Covid-19 – 5 September 2020
- 2.8 PTN 8 – Letter from the Minister for Finance and Trefnydd: Update on Welsh Government's formal request to UK Government for devolution of further tax competence – 8 September 2020

3 Renting Homes (Amendment) (Wales) Bill: Evidence session

3.1 The Committee took evidence from Julie James MS, Minister for Housing and Local Government; Emma Williams, Director of Housing and Regeneration, Bill – Senior Research Officer; Simon White, Head of Housing Strategy and Legislation; and Rob Owen, Renting Homes Legislation Manager on the Renting Homes (Amendment) (Wales) Bill.

3.2 The Minister for Housing and Local Government agreed to provide an update on the Welsh Government's communications strategy for the Renting Homes (Wales) Act 2016 and the Renting Homes (Amendment) (Wales) Bill.

4 Land Transaction Tax (Temporary Variation of Rates and Bands for Residential Property Transactions) (Wales) Regulations 2020: Evidence session

4.1 The Committee took evidence from Rebecca Evans MS, Minister for Finance and Trefnydd; Andrew Hewitt, Head of Tax Legislation and Dr Tom Nicholls, Economic Adviser on the Land Transaction Tax (Temporary Variation of Rates and Bands for Residential Property Transactions) (Wales) Regulations 2020.

5 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting

5.1 The motion was agreed.

6 Land Transaction Tax (Temporary Variation of Rates and Bands for Residential Property Transactions) (Wales) Regulations 2020: Consideration of evidence

6.1 The Committee was content with the evidence and agreed not to report on the regulations.

7 Renting Homes (Amendment) (Wales) Bill: Consideration of evidence

7.1 The Committee was content with the evidence and agreed not to report on the Bill.

8 Consideration of the Forward Work Programme

8.1 The Committee considered its forward work programme for the Autumn term.

9 Engagement on the inquiry into the implementation of the Wales Act 2014 and operation of the Fiscal Framework

9.1 The Committee considered its approach to public engagement on the Inquiry into the implementation of the Wales Act 2014 and operation of the Fiscal Framework.