

# Concise Minutes – Finance Committee

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Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 1 – Senedd

Meeting date: Thursday, 15 March 2018

Meeting time: 09.31 – 12.39

This meeting can be viewed  
on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/4620>

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## Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	Simon Thomas AM (Chair) Neil Hamilton AM Jane Hutt AM Nick Ramsay AM David Rees AM
Witnesses:	Alison Gerrard, Wales Audit Office Anthony Barrett, Wales Audit Office Nicola Evans, Wales Audit Office Martin Peters, Wales Audit Office Ann-Marie Harkin, Wales Audit Office Suzy Davies AM, Commissioner Manon Antoniazzi, Chief Executive & Clerk of the Assembly Nia Morgan, Director of Finance
Committee Staff:	Bethan Davies (Clerk) Leanne Hatcher (Second Clerk) Georgina Owen (Deputy Clerk)



	Joanne McCarthy (Researcher) Owen Holzinger (Researcher) Ben Harris (Legal Adviser) Gareth Howells (Legal Adviser)
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## **1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest**

1.1 The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting.

1.2 Apologies were received from Steffan Lewis AM and Mike Hedges AM.

## **2 Paper(s) to note**

2.1 The papers were noted.

2.1 PTN1 – Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Finance to the Chair – Horizon 2020 in Wales Annual Report 2017 – 7 March 2018

2.2 PTN2 – Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Finance to the Chair – Capital Investment Bonds – 8 March 2018

2.3 PTN3 – Letter from the Assembly Commission to the Chair – Scrutiny of the Assembly Commission Draft Budget 2018–19 – 9 March 2018

## **3 Public Audit (Wales) Act 2013: Evidence session (Wales Audit Office)**

3.1 The Committee took evidence from Alison Gerrard, Board Member, Wales Audit Office; Anthony Barrett, Assistant Auditor General; Martin Peters, Head of Law and Ethics, Wales Audit Office; and Nicola Evans, Head of Finance, Wales Audit Office on the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2013 fee regime.

## **4 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from items 5 and items 8–11**

4.1 The motion was agreed.

## **5 Public Audit (Wales) Act 2013: Consideration of evidence**

5.1 The Committee considered the evidence received.

## **6 Inquiry on the Remuneration Board's Determination Underspend: Evidence session 1 (Wales Audit Office)**

6.1 The Committee took evidence from Anthony Barrett, Assistant Auditor General; and Ann-Marie Harkin, Financial Audit Lead for the audit of the Assembly Commission's accounts, Wales Audit Office in relation to its inquiry on the Remuneration Board's determination underspend.

## **7 Inquiry on the Remuneration Board's Determination Underspend: Evidence session 2 (Assembly Commission)**

7.1 The Committee took evidence from Suzy Davies AM, Commissioner for Budget and Governance; Manon Antoniazzi, Chief Executive and Clerk to the Assembly; and Nia Morgan, Director of Finance, Assembly Commission in relation to its inquiry on the Remuneration Board's determination underspend.

## **8 Inquiry on the Remuneration Board's Determination Underspend: Consideration of evidence**

8.1 The Committee considered the evidence received.

## **9 Public Services Ombudsman (Wales) Bill: Consideration of Stage 1 Committee reports**

9.1 The Committee considered the Stage 1 reports on the Public Services Ombudsman (Wales) Bill from the Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee and the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee.

## **10 Assembly Procedure for Section 116C Orders in Council**

10.1 The Committee considered a letter from the Business Committee regarding proposed changes to Standing Orders in relation to an Assembly Procedure for Section 116C Orders in Council and agreed to respond.

## **11 Devolution of fiscal powers to Wales: Consideration of draft report**

11.1 The Committee agreed the draft report with minor changes.