

Concise Minutes – Children, Young People and Education Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 1 – Senedd

Meeting date: Wednesday, 8 January
2020

Meeting time: 09.20 – 12.43

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/5913>

Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	Lynne Neagle AM (Chair) Dawn Bowden AM Hefin David AM Suzy Davies AM Janet Finch-Saunders AM Siân Gwenllïan AM
Witnesses:	Kirsty Williams AM, Minister for Education Huw Morris, Welsh Government Steve Davies, Welsh Government Julie Morgan AM, Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services Vaughan Gething AM, Minister for Health and Social Services Jo-Anne Daniels, Welsh Government Albert Heaney, Welsh Government



Cynulliad
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	Professor Jean White, Welsh Government
Committee Staff:	Llinos Madeley (Clerk) Tanwen Summers (Second Clerk) Sarah Bartlett (Deputy Clerk) Phil Boshier (Researcher) Michael Dauncey (Researcher) Sarah Hatherley (Researcher)

1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

1.1 The Chair welcomed Members, there were no apologies.

2 Scrutiny of the Welsh Government Draft Budget 2020 – 2021

2.1 The Committee scrutinised the Minister on the Welsh Government draft budget.

2.2 The Minister agreed to provide in writing, following the session, the information below:

- details of the amount of the allocation for education contained within the Local Government Revenue Support Grant 2020–21, with a breakdown that includes details of how much is intended to cover the increased costs of teachers' pay and pensions and how much remains to provide a genuine uplift to schools. The Committee also requests confirmation from the Minister of:
 - the amount of Barnett consequential funding for 2020–21 that the Welsh Government has received from the UK Government which is attributable to increases in education spending in England;
 - how much additional funding the Welsh Government has provided for education, including a breakdown of how much has been put into the local government settlement and how much is being channelled through the Education MEG;
- detail of how the Welsh Government will monitor the expenditure arising from the £15 million allocated to fund teachers' learning and professional development in preparation for the new curriculum;

- confirmation of the date by which information about the various allocations within the Welsh Government Draft Budget for research and innovation, to include detail of the amount of private funding that is expected to be leveraged, will be available (NB it was confirmed that this information will be provided once available) – the Committee will share this information with the EIS Committee given its relevance to that Committee’s portfolio;
- further detail about the findings of the Welsh Government’s internal review of how the £100m allocated to improving school standards throughout this Assembly is being spent and how these findings influenced budget allocations in 2019–20 and 2020–21.
- Due to time constraints the Committee was unable to ask a question about funding for Minority Ethnic and Gypsy, Roma and Traveller learners but has requested a response in writing.

3 Scrutiny of the Welsh Government Draft budget 2020 – 2021

3.1 The Committee scrutinised the Minister and Deputy Minister on the Welsh Government draft budget.

3.2 The Minister and Deputy Minister agreed to provide in writing, following the session, the information below:

- an update on the Welsh Government’s findings from its exploratory work with the Future Generations Commissioner’s Office to explore Social Impact Bonds as an outcomes-based investment model to reduce entry into care for Looked After Children, once that work is completed;
- confirmation of where exactly in this year’s Strategic Integrated Impact Assessment there is detail about the “clear consideration of the impact of budgetary decisions on children’s rights” referred to in the Welsh Government’s written evidence for this session;
- a list of projects that are receiving funding under the childcare offer for co-located Foundation Phase and Childcare Offer provision;

- a copy of the letter issued to Play Wales outlining the remit associated with its funding in the last financial year, and an indication of what will be expected to be delivered from the funding it is allocated in the Draft Budget 2020–21;
- further details of the purposes for which the Welsh Government has allocated £2.3 million in its Draft Budget 2020–21 to local authorities for adoption services, and further detail about its response to concerns raised by Adoption UK Wales about the impact on support services of its unsuccessful bid for Sustainable Social Services Third Sector Grant funding for 2020–21.

4 Papers to note

4.1 The papers were noted.

4.2 The Committee agreed to consider in more detail paper to note 9 (Letter from the Chair of the Committee on Assembly Electoral Reform) at next week's meeting.

- 4.1 Letter from the Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services – additional information following the meeting on 6 November
- 4.2 Letter from the Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services – Children's Rights Impact Assessments (CRIAs)
- 4.3 Letter from the Deputy Minister for Economy and Transport – Learner Travel Guidance
- 4.4 Paper from Dr David Dallimore regarding Early Childhood Education and Care in Wales
- 4.5 Letter from the Minister for Health and Social Services – Together for Children and Young People NHS Programme
- 4.6 Letter from the Minister for Education – Elective Home Education
- 4.7 Letter from the Minister for Education – Update on the Additional Learning Needs (ALN) programme
- 4.8 Letter from the Chair to the Welsh Government – The emotional and mental health of children and young people – next steps for Mind over Matter
- 4.9 Letter from the Chair of the Committee on Assembly Electoral Reform – Potential implications for Assembly committees
- 4.10 Letter from the Minister for Education – Update on training in the education sector from the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Hub
- 4.12 Letter from the Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services – Update on Stage 3 amendments to the Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Bill
- 4.13 Letter from the Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services to Strategic Implementation Group – Update on Stage 3 amendments to the Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Bill

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

5.1 The Motion was agreed.

6 Scrutiny of the Welsh Government Draft budget 2020 – 2021 – consideration of the evidence

6.1 The Committee considered the evidence heard during the Ministerial scrutiny sessions.