

# Concise Minutes – Local Government and Housing Committee

Meeting Venue:

[INSERT LOCATION]

Meeting date: Thursday, 9 June 2022

Meeting time: Times Not Specified

This meeting can be viewed

on [Senedd TV](#) at:

<http://senedd.tv/en/12870>

## Hybrid

### Attendance

Category	Names
Members of the Senedd:	John Griffiths MS (Chair) Mabon ap Gwynfor MS Jayne Bryant MS Joel James MS Sam Rowlands MS Carolyn Thomas MS
Witnesses:	Jo Richardson, De Montfort University Allison Hulmes, British Association of Social Workers (BASW) Cymru Dafydd Llywelyn, Dyfed–Powys Police and Crime Commissioner Carl Foulkes, North Wales Police Pam Kelly, Gwent Police
Committee Staff:	Manon George (Clerk) Catherine Hunt (Second Clerk)



	Chloe Davies (Deputy Clerk) Jonathan Baxter (Researcher) Osian Bowyer (Researcher)
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## **1 Motion to elect a temporary Chair in accordance with Standing Order 17.22**

The Committee agreed to elect Carolyn Thomas MS as a temporary Chair in accordance with Standing Order 17.22.

## **2 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest**

2.1. The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting of the Local Government and Housing Committee.

## **3 Inquiry into the provision of sites for Gypsy, Roma and Travellers – evidence session 2**

3.1. The Committee received evidence from:

Professor Jo Richardson, Associate Dean Research and Innovation / Professor of Housing and Social Research, De Montfort University

Allison Hulmes, National Director, Wales, BASW Cymru

3.2. During the evidence Professor Jo Richardson agreed to provide:

- a copy of the report produced for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation;
- copies of the reports which include examples of local authority best practice.

3.3. During the evidence session, Allison Hulmes agreed to provide a copy of the 2022 research from “The British Journal of Social Work” relating to the over-representation of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children referred to child welfare services or taken into state care.

## **4 Inquiry into the provision of sites for Gypsy, Roma and Travellers – evidence session 3**

4.1. The Committee received evidence from:

Chief Constable Carl Foulkes, North Wales Police

Chief Constable Pam Kelly, Gwent Police

Dafydd Llywelyn, Police and Crime Commissioner, Dyfed–Powys Police

4.2. During the evidence session, Chief Constable Carl Foulkes agreed to provide a copy of North Wales Police’s five–step approach of engagement with communities, that was used ahead of enforcing legislation during the Covid pandemic.

4.3. During the evidence session, Dafydd Llywelyn agreed to provide:

- a briefing note relating to the number of illegal Gypsy, Roma and Traveller encampments in Wales;
- further information relating to the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community youth forum in Pembrokeshire.

## **5 Papers to note**

**5.1 Letter from the Counsel General and Minister for the Constitution to the Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee in relation to the implications of the UK Government’s proposed legislative programme for the Senedd**

5.1.a. The Committee noted the letter from the Counsel General and Minister for the Constitution to the Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee in relation to the implications of the UK Government's proposed legislative programme for the Senedd.

**5.2 Letter from the Minister for Climate Change in relation to second homes**

5.2.a. The Committee noted the letter from the Minister for Climate Change in relation to second homes.

### **5.3 Letter from the Minister for Climate Change in relation to building safety**

5.3.a. The Committee noted the letter from the Minister for Climate Change in relation to building safety.

## **6 Inquiry into the provision of sites for Gypsy, Roma and Travellers – evidence session 4**

6.1. The Committee received evidence from:

Naomi Alleyne, Director, Social Services and Housing, Welsh Local Government Association

Tim Peppin, Director of Regeneration and Sustainable Development, Welsh Local Government Association

Daniel Hurford, Head of Policy, Welsh Local Government Association

6.2. During the evidence session, the Welsh Local Government Association agreed to provide:

- figures of the number of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller sites where planning permission has been successfully sought, and the land subsequently purchased
- figures for the number of years training for councillors across Wales relating to provisions of sites for Gypsy, Roma and Travellers, as outlined in the Welsh Government race equality action plan
- a note to clarify the number of transit sites in Wales
- a note of best practice examples of local authorities consulting and engaging with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities for sites provision.

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

7.1. The Committee agreed the motion.

## **8 Inquiry into the provision of sites for Gypsy, Roma and Travellers – consideration of the evidence received under items 3, 4 and 6**

8.1. The Committee discussed the evidence received under items 3 and 4.

## **9 Consideration of the key issues in relation to housing Ukrainian refugees**

9.1. The Committee considered and agreed the key issues for its work in relation to housing Ukrainian refugees.