

Concise Minutes – Public Accounts Committee

Meeting Venue:

Video Conference via Zoom

Meeting date: Monday, 4 May 2020

Meeting time: 13.04 – 15.51

Private

Attendance

Category	Names
Assembly Members:	Nick Ramsay MS (Chair) Mohammad Asghar (Oscar) MS Gareth Bennett MS Vikki Howells MS Delyth Jewell MS Jenny Rathbone MS
Witnesses:	Gawain Evans, Welsh Government Dr Andrew Goodall, Welsh Government Andrew Jeffreys, Welsh Government Shan Morgan, Welsh Government David Richards, Welsh Government
Audit Wales:	Adrian Crompton – Auditor General for Wales Matthew Mortlock Mike Usher
Committee Staff:	Fay Bowen (Clerk) Claire Griffiths (Deputy Clerk)



1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

1.1 The Chair welcomed the Members to the meeting.

1.2 Apologies were received from Rhianon Passmore MS.

2 COVID-19: Evidence session with the Welsh Government

2.1 The Committee questioned the Permanent Secretary, Welsh Government and her officials on the response and action taken by the Welsh Government to date, on dealing with the Covid-19 Public Health Emergency.

2.2 The Permanent Secretary agreed to write to the Chair on a number of issues.

2.3 During the Member's consideration of the evidence received, Members asked for some additional information, which the Chair will write to the Permanent Secretary with.

Paper(s) to note

3.1 The papers were noted.

3.1 Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board – Arrangements for interim senior staff appointments: Letter from the Auditor General for Wales (17 March 2020)

3.2 Scrutiny of Accounts 2018–19: Letter from Assembly Commission (18 March 2020)

3.3 COVID-19: Letter from the Permanent Secretary, Welsh Government (30 March 2020)

3.4 Scrutiny of Accounts 2019–20: Joint letter from Permanent Secretary, Welsh Government and Auditor General for Wales (14 April 2020)

3.5 Scrutiny of Accounts 2018–19: Letter from the Permanent Secretary, Welsh Government (21 April 2020)

3.6 Ministerial Direction – NHS pension arrangements for 2019/20: Letter from the Permanent Secretary, Welsh Government (23 April 2020)

4 Auditor General for Wales Report: Update on developments in terms of WAO work

4.1 The Auditor General for Wales updated the Committee on developments and decisions taken regarding Audit Wales' work programme in light of the Covid-19 Public Health Emergency.

4.2 The Auditor General also advised that, in April, after listening to feedback from stakeholders, staff and the public in Wales, the organisation changed its name to Audit Wales.