Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee

Meeting Venue: Committee Room 2 - Senedd

Meeting date: Thursday, 12 March 2015

Meeting time: Times Not Specified

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Concise Minutes:

MeetingTitle

Assembly Members:

Christine Chapman AM (Chair)

Peter Black AM

Alun Davies AM

Jocelyn Davies AM

Janet Finch-Saunders AM

Mark Isherwood AM

Gwyn R Price AM

John Griffiths AM (In place of Gwenda Thomas AM)

Rhodri Glyn Thomas AM

Witnesses:

Owen Watkin, Local Government Boundary Commission for

Wales

Steve Halsall, Local Government Boundary Commission for

Wales

Huw Vaughan Thomas, Auditor General for Wales, Wales

Audit Office

Alan Morris, Wales Audit Office

Committee Staff:

Elizabeth Wilkinson (Second Clerk)

Sarah Sargent (Deputy Clerk)

Matthew Richards (Legal Adviser)

Rhys Iorwerth (Researcher)

TRANSCRIPT

View the <u>meeting transcript</u>.

1 Introductions, apologies and substitutions

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed Members and members of the public to the meeting.
- 2.1 Apologies for absence were received from Mike Hedges AM and Gwenda Thomas AM. John Griffiths AM substituted for Gwenda Thomas AM in accordance with Standing Order 17.48.

2 Local Government (Wales) Bill: evidence session 5 - Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales

- 2.1 The Committee received evidence from:
 - Owen Watkin, Chair Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales.
 - Steve Halsall, Chief Executive Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales

3 Local Government (Wales) Bill: evidence session 6 - Auditor General for Wales

- 3.1 The Committee received evidence from:
- Huw Vaughan Thomas, Auditor General for Wales
- Alan Morris, Director, Sector Leader for Local Government Criminal Justice.
- 3.2 The Auditor General for Wales agreed to provide the Committee with the following:
 - A copy of his letter to the Minister for Public Services in respect of the definition of "chief officer" for the purpose of section 28 of the Local Government (Wales) Bill, and
 - Further details of any studies undertaken following previous restructuring in the public sector (either in Wales or elsewhere).
- 4 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 (vi) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting and from the whole of the meeting on 18 March 2015 (Renting Homes (Wales) Bill Stakeholder event)
- 1.1 The Committee agreed the motion

| 5 | Local Government (Wales) | Bill: | discussion | of evide | ence i | received | l in |
|----|--------------------------|-------|------------|----------|--------|----------|------|
| Se | essions 5 and 6 | | | | | | |

5.1 The Committee discussed the evidence.