



Formal Minutes of the Welsh Affairs Committee in Session 2021–22

The Formal Minutes of a select committee record its formal proceedings and decisions.

They include:

- the names of the members who attended (all or part of) each meeting of the Committee;
- declarations of members' interests;
- details of written and oral evidence reported to the House by the Committee;
- any other formal decisions taken by the committee (recorded as 'orders' or 'resolutions'), for example to begin an inquiry, to report evidence to the House, to make a visit or to appoint a specialist adviser; and
- visits made by the Committee.

When the Committee publishes a Report, the Formal Minutes relating to consideration of the draft Report are published with the Report itself, and are not included in this document. You can find these reports on the Committee's webpages.

For more information about Formal Minutes, see [Erskine May paragraph 38.26](#).

Transcripts of oral evidence taken in public by the Committee are available on the Committee's webpages.

Attendance statistics for members of the Committee are available on the Committee's webpages.

Thursday 20 May 2021

Virtual meeting

The Committee met concurrently with the Northern Ireland Affairs, Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs and Scottish Affairs Committees.

Members present

Geraint Davies

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

The following Members of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee were also present (Standing Order No. 137A).

Simon Hoare

Fay Jones

Ian Paisley

The following Members of the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee were also present (Standing Order No. 137A).

Jackie Doyle-Price

David Mundell

Karin Smith

William Wragg

The following Members of the Scottish Affairs Committee were also present (Standing Order No. 137A).

Andrew Bowie

Wendy Chamberlain

Pete Wishart

William Wragg was called to the Chair (Standing Order No. 137A (1)(d)).

1. The Dunlop Review and the UK Government's union capability

The Committees considered the brief and allocated questions.

Lord Dunlop, author of the Dunlop Review, the Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for the Cabinet Office, Sue Gray, Second Permanent Secretary, Cabinet Office, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Thursday 27 May 2021 at 8.20 am

Thursday 27 May 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present:

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair¹

Tonia Antoniazzi

Simon Baynes

Virginia Crosbie

Geraint Davies

Ruth Jones

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

Beth Winter

1. One-off session on the Levelling-up and Community Renewal funds

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Forward Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

3. One-off session on the Levelling-up and Community Renewal funds

Cllr Andrew Morgan, Leader of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Council, Cllr Rob Stewart, Leader of City and Country of Swansea Council, Cllr Rosemarie Harris, Leader of Powys County Council, Cllr Dyfrig Siencyn, Leader of Gwynedd Council, Vaughan Gething MS, Minister for the Economy, Welsh Government, Peter Ryland, Director of Regional Funding, Welsh Government, David TC Davies MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Wales, Luke Hall MP, Minister of State for Regional Growth and Local Government, Kate O'Neill, Director of Policy, Cities and Local Growth Unit, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, gave oral evidence.

¹ Elected by the House (Standing Order No. 122B); see Votes and Proceedings [27 January 2020].

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 8 June 2021 at 10.00 am

Tuesday 8 June 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair

Tonia Antoniazzi

Simon Baynes

Virginia Crosbie

Geraint Davies

Ruth Jones

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

Dr Jamie Wallis

Beth Winter

1. Forward programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the Benefits System in Wales

Adjournment

Adjourned till Thursday 17 June 2021 at 08.40 am

Thursday 17 June 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair

Simon Baynes

Virginia Crosbie

Geraint Davies

Ben Lake

Dr Jamie Wallis

Beth Winter

1. Responsibilities of the Secretary of State for Wales

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

S4C funding

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Media and Data and the Chair regarding the implications of the current round of license fee negotiations for S4C, dated 10 June 2021

3. Forward programme

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Responsibilities of the Secretary of State for Wales

The Rt Hon Simon Hart MP, Secretary of State for Wales, David TC Davies MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Wales, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Thursday 24 June 2021 at 1.40 pm

Thursday 24 June 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair

Tonia Antoniazzi

Simon Baynes

Virginia Crosbie

Geraint Davies

Robin Millar

Dr Jamie Wallis

1. One-off session on the future of Air Passenger Duty

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Levelling-up and Community Renewal funds

Letter from the Chair to Welsh local authority leaders, dated 28 May 2021

Letter from Cllr Nigel Daniels, leader of Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council, to the Chair, dated 2 June 2021

Letter from Cllr Emlyn Dole, Leader of Carmarthenshire County Council, to the Chair, dated 2 June 2021

Letter from Cllr Rob Stewart, Leader of Swansea Council, to the Chair, dated 2 June 2021

Letter from Cllr David Simpson, Leader of Pembrokeshire County Council, dated 3 June 2021

Letter from Cllr Neil Moore, Leader of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, to the Chair, dated 4 June 2021

Letter from Cllr Philippa Marsden, Leader of Caerphilly County Borough Council, to the Chair, dated 8 June 2021

Letter from Cllr Charlie McCoubrey, Leader of Conwy County Borough Council, to the Chair, dated 9 June 2021

Letter from Cllr Mark Pritchard, Leader of Wrexham County Borough Council, to the Chair, dated 14 June 2021

Letter from Cllr Dyfrig Siencyn, Leader of Gwynedd Council, to the Chair, dated 14 June 2021

Letter from Cllr Llinos Medi Huws, Leader of the Isle of Anglesey County Council, to the Chair, dated 15 June

Letter from Cllr Rosemarie Harris, Leader of Powys County Council, to the Chair, dated 18 June 2021

3. Forward programme

The Committee considered this matter.

4. One-off session on the future of Air Passenger Duty

Roger Lewis, the former Chair of Cardiff Airport, the Rt Hon Simon Hart MP, Secretary of State for Wales, Kemi Badenoch MP, Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury, Rosie Birchall, HM Treasury official, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 29 June 2021 at 10.00am

Tuesday 29 June 2021

Virtual Meeting

Members present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Simon Baynes

Virginia Crosbie

Geraint Davies

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

Dr Jamie Wallis

Beth Winter

1. Rail infrastructure in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Levelling-up and Community Renewal funds

Letter from Luke Hall MP, Minister of State for Regional Growth, to the Chair, dated 28 June 2021

Adjournment

Adjourned till Thursday 1 July 2021 at 8.20am

Thursday 1 July 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb, in the Chair

Tonia Antoniazzi

Simon Baynes

Geraint Davies

Ben Lake

Beth winter

1. One-off session on issues affecting the Welsh University sector

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Subsidy Control Bill

Letter from Kwarsi Kwarteng MP, Secretary of State for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy, to the Chair, dated 30 June 2021

4. One-off session on issues affecting the Welsh University sector

Professor Colin Riordan, Vice-Chancellor of Cardiff University, Professor Paul Boyle, Vice-Chancellor of Swansea University, Professor Iwan Davies, Vice-Chancellor of Bangor University, and Professor Tim Woods, Pro Vice-Chancellor of Aberystwyth University, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 6 July 2021 at 10.00am

Tuesday 6 July 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair

Tonia Antoniazzi

Geraint Davies

Ruth Jones

Ben Lake

Dr Jamie Wallis

Beth Winter

1. Rail infrastructure in Wales

Draft report (Rail infrastructure in Wales) proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to; the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published with the First Report of the Committee

2. Forward planner

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That a member of the International Trade Committee be invited to attend and participate at the Committee's session on 22 July (Standing Order No. 137A(1)(e)).

Adjournment

Adjourned till Thursday 8 July at 8.30am.

Thursday 8 July 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair

Simon Baynes

Virginia Crosbie

Geraint Davies

Ben Lake

Dr Jamie Wallis

1. One-off session on a Welsh freeport and progress in establishing inland post-Brexit facilities

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Forward planner

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Building Safety Bill

Letter from Lord Greenhalgh to the Chair, dated 5 July 2021

4. One-off session on a Welsh freeport and progress in establishing inland post-Brexit facilities

Ian Davies, Head of UK Port Authorities - Stena Line, Vaughan Gething MS, Minister for the Economy, Rebecca Evans MS, Minister for Finance and Local Government, Welsh Government, the Rt Hon Simon Hart MP, Secretary of State for Wales, David TC Davies MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Wales, Zamila Bunglawala, Director, Higher Education & Further Education Group, Department for Education, and Stephen Webb, Director of Infrastructure, Border and Protocol Delivery Group, Cabinet Office, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Thursday 15 July at 8.40am.

Thursday 15 July 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair.

Tonia Antoniazzi

Simon Baynes

Virginia Crosbie

Geraint Davies

Ruth Jones

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

Rob Roberts

Dr Jamie Wallis

Beth Winter

1. One-off session on the UK-Australia Free Trade Agreement

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Forward programme

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Farming in Wales

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the economic and cultural impacts of trade and environmental policy on family farms in Wales.

4. One-off session on the UK-Australia Free Trade Agreement

John Davies, President, National Farmers Union Cymru, Nick Fenwick, Head of Policy, Farmers' Union of Wales, David Swales, Head of Strategic Insight, Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board, Dmitry Grozoubinski, Director, ExplainTrade, and Sam Lowe, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for European Reform, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till 10.00am on Tuesday 20 July 2021.

Tuesday 20 July 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair.

Simon Baynes

Geraint Davies

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

Rob Roberts

Beth Winter

1. Renewable energy in Wales

Draft report (Renewable energy in Wales) proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to; the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published with the Second Report of the Committee

2. Forward programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Adjournment

Adjourned till 8.20am on Thursday 22 July 2021.

Thursday 22 July 2021

Virtual meeting

Members present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair.

Tonia Antoniazzi

Simon Baynes

Virginia Crosbie

Geraint Davies

Robin Millar

Rob Roberts

Dr Jamie Wallis

Beth Winter

Craig Williams also attended for items 1 and 3 under the provisions of paragraph (1)(e) of Standing Order No. 137A (Select committees: power to work with other committees)(Committee's resolution of 6 July 2021).

1. One-off session on the UK-Australia Free Trade Agreement

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Forward programme

The Committee considered this matter.

3. One-off session on the UK-Australia Free Trade Agreement

The Rt Hon Greg Hands MP, Minister of State for Trade Policy, Department of International Trade, gave oral evidence.

4. Implications of the UK-Australia FTA for Wales:

Chair's draft report (*Implications of the UK-Australia FTA for Wales*), brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to; the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published with the Third Report of the Committee

Adjournment

Adjourned to a day and time to be fixed by the Chair.

Thursday 9 September 2021

Members present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair.

Tonia Antoniazzi

Simon Baynes

Virginia Crosbie

Ruth Jones

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

Dr Jamie Wallis

Beth Winter

1. One-off session on S4C

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

The Benefits System in Wales

Wales Fiscal Analysis (BSW003)

Chwarae Teg (BSW0008)

British Red Cross (BSW0012)

Children's Commissioner for Wales (BSW0016)

Joseph Rowntree Foundation (BSW0019)

Bright Blue (BSW0024)

Bevan Foundation (BSW0025)

Older People's Commissioner for Wales (BSW0026)

Welsh Government (BSW0036)

Future Generation's Commissioner (BSW0038)

Trussell Trust (BSW0044)

Department for Work and Pensions (BSW0051)

3. Forward programme

The Committee considered the forward programme.

4. One-off session on S4C

Owen Evans, Chief Executive, S4C, and Rhodri Williams, Chair, S4C, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Thursday 16 September at 8.45am.

Thursday 16 September 2021

Members present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair.

Simon Baynes

Geraint Davies

Ruth Jones

Robin Millar

Rob Roberts

Dr Jamie Wallis

Beth Winter

1. The Benefits System in Wales

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Railway infrastructure in Wales

Draft Special Report (*Railway infrastructure in Wales: Government Response to the Committee's First Report of Session 2021-22*), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the First Report from the Committee was appended to the Report.

Resolved, That the Report be the First Special Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chair make the Report to the House

3. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

The Benefits System in Wales

Purple Shoots Business Lending Ltd (BSW0002)

Conwy County Borough Council (BSW0004)

United Welsh (BSW0005)

Z2K (Zacchaeus 2000 Trust) (BSW0006)

Child Poverty Action Group (BSW0009)

Diverse Cymru (BSW0010)

Dr Sara Closs Davies, Dr Hefin Gwilym and Dr Dave Beck (BSW0013)

Disability Advice Project (BSW0014)

Care and Repair Cymru (BSW0015)

Citizens Advice Cymru (BSW0018)

Swansea Council (BSW0020)

Engage to Change (BSW0021)

Welfare at a (Social) Distance Research Project (BSW0022)

Welfare Rights Advisors Cymru (BSW0027)

Dr Rod Hick, School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University and Dr Lee Gregory,
School of Social Policy, University of Birmingham (BSW0028)

National Residential Landlords Association (BSW0029)

MS Society Cymru (BSW0030)

Welsh Revenues and Benefits Managers Group (BSW0031)

Age Cymru (BSW0032)

Sarah Millar and Francesca Bellandi, Financial Inclusion Support Workers,
Newport City Council (BSW0033)

Children in Wales (BSW0034)

Pobl Group (BSW0035)

Taxpayers Alliance (BSW0037)

All Wales People First (BSW0039)

Disability Wales (BSW0049)

Children's Society (BSW0050)

4. The Benefits System in Wales

Professor Lisa Scullion, Professor of Social Policy at the University of Salford, Emma Congreve, Knowledge Exchange Fellow, Fraser of Allander Institute, and Professor Christina Beatty, Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research, Sheffield Hallam University, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Thursday 23 September at 8.45am.

Thursday 23 September 2021

Members present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair

Virginia Crosbie

Ruth Jones

Robin Millar

Rob Roberts

Dr Jamie Wallis

1. One-off session on Wylfa Newydd

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

The Benefits System in Wales

Welsh Women's Aid (BSW0017)

Samaritans Cymru (BSW0023)

Community Housing Cymru (BSW0040)

Save the Children (BSW0042)

Cymorth Cymru (BSW0043)

Chartered Institute of Housing Cymru (BSW0045)

Covid Realities research project (BSW0046)

Public Law Project (BSW0047)

Shelter Cymru (BSW0048)

3. Future programme

The Committee considered the forward programme.

4. One-off session on Wylfa Newydd

Tom Greatrex, Chief Executive, Nuclear Industry Association, Dr Paul Howarth, Chief Executive, National Nuclear Laboratory, Mark Salisbury, Head of Reactors Strategy, National Nuclear Laboratory, Professor Laurence Williams OBE, Ser Cymru Professor

of Nuclear Policy and Regulation, Bangor University, Barbara Rusinko, President of the Nuclear, Security and Environment Division, Bechtel, Ivan Baldwin, Business Development Director, Bechtel, David Durham, President of Energy Systems, Westinghouse, Lindsay Roche, Director of Government affairs, Westinghouse UK, Simon Forster, Director, Shearwater, and Declan Burke, Director of Nuclear Projects and Development at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Thursday 21 October at 8.45am.

Thursday 21 October 2021

Members present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair

Tonia Antoniazzi

Simon Baynes

Ruth Jones

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

Rob Roberts

Beth Winter

1. The Benefits System in Wales

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Renewable energy in Wales

Draft Special Report (*Renewable energy in Wales: Government Response to the Committee's Second Report of Session 2021-22*), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the Second Report from the Committee was appended to the Report.

Resolved, That the Report be the Second Special Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chair make the Report to the House

3. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

One-off session on Wylfa Newydd

Letter from Dr Paul Howarth to the Committee, dated 30 September 2021

Border Control Posts

Letter from Vaughan Gething MS, Welsh Government Minister for the Economy, dated 14 October 2021

The economic and cultural impacts of trade and environmental policy on family farms in Wales

Mr Owen Williams (HIL0001)

Hybu Cig Cymru - Meat Promotion Wales (HIL0002)

Conwy County Borough Council (HIL0003)

4. The Benefits System in Wales

Dr Mike Brewer, Deputy Chief Executive, Resolution Foundation, Dr Victoria Winckler, Director, Bevan Foundation, Charlotte Pickles, Director, Reform, and Anvar Sarygulov, Senior Research Fellow, Bright Blue, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Thursday 28 October at 9.15am.

Thursday 28 October 2021

Members present

Tonia Antoniazzi

Simon Baynes

Geraint Davies

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

Rob Roberts

In the absence of the Chair, Ben Lake was called to the chair.

1. Responsibilities of the Secretary of State for Wales

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

The economic and cultural impacts of trade and environmental policy on family farms in Wales

Welsh Government (HIL0004)

3. Future programme

The Committee considered the forward programme.

4. Responsibilities of the Secretary of State for Wales

The Rt Hon Simon Hart MP, Secretary of State for Wales, and David TC Davies MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Wales, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 3 November at 9.30am.

Wednesday 3 November 2021

Members present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair

Simon Baynes

Geraint Davies

Ruth Jones

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

Rob Roberts

Dr Jamie Wallis

Beth Winter

1. The Benefits System in Wales

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

The economic and cultural impacts of trade and environmental policy on family farms in Wales

Calon Cymru Network Community Interest Company (HIL0005)

NFU Cymru (HIL0006)

RSPCA (HIL0007)

Wales Young Farmers Clubs (HIL0009)

Welsh Language Commissioner (HIL0010)

Growing Mid Wales Partnership (HIL0011)

3. Future programme

The Committee considered the forward programme.

4. The Benefits System in Wales

Professor Paul Spicker, Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen, Dr Malcolm Torry, Research Fellow, Institute for Policy Research, University of Bath, Anna Coote, Principal Fellow at the New Economics Foundation, and Jonathan Williams, co-founder, UBI Lab Cymru, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 17 November at 9.30am.

Wednesday 17 November 2021

Members present

Tonia Antoniazzi

Simon Baynes

Geraint Davies

Ben Lake

Rob Roberts

Dr Jamie Wallis

In the absence of the Chair, Ben Lake was called to the chair.

1. One-off session on issues in the Labour market in Wales

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

The economic and cultural impacts of trade and environmental policy on family farms in Wales

WLGA (HIL0012)

Farmers Union of Wales (HIL0013)

Countryside and Community Research Institute (HIL0015)

The Prince's Countryside Fund (HIL0016)

3. Future programme

The Committee considered the forward programme.

4. One-off session on issues in the Labour market in Wales

Kate Shoesmith, Deputy Chief Executive, Recruitment and Employment Confederation, Nigel Williams, Finance Director, Castell Howell Foods, Glenn Evans, Managing Director, Royal Oak Hotel Ltd, and Director, North Wales Tourism, Vaughan Gething MS, Minister for the Economy, Welsh Government, James Carey,

Senior Labour Market Analyst, Welsh Government, Paul Scully MP, Minister for Small Business, Consumers and Labour Markets, Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy, Mims Davies MP, Minister for Employment, Department for Work and Pensions, and Sarah Pearson, Area Director Work and Health Services, Wales and National Employer and Partnership Team, Department for Work and Pensions, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 24 November at 9.30am.

Wednesday 24 November 2021

Members present

Tonia Antoniazzi

Geraint Davies

Ruth Jones

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

Rob Roberts

Dr Jamie Wallis

In the absence of the Chair, Ben Lake was called to the chair.

1. The economic and cultural impacts of trade and environmental policy on family farms in Wales

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Letter from Kate Shoesmith to the Committee, dated 23 November

Letter from the Secretary of State for Wales to the Chair, dated 17 November

The economic and cultural impacts of trade and environmental policy on family farms in Wales

Nature Friendly Farming Network (HIL0017)

Tenant Farmers Association Cymru (HIL0018)

Professor Terry Marsden (HIL0019)

3. Implications of the UK-Australia FTA for Wales

Draft Special Report (*Implications of the UK-Australia FTA for Wales: Government Response to the Committee's Third Report of Session 2021-22*), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the Third Report from the Committee was appended

to the Report.

Resolved, That the Report be the Third Special Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chair make the Report to the House

4. Future programme

The Committee considered the forward programme.

5. The economic and cultural impacts of trade and environmental policy on family farms in Wales

Nick Fenwick, Head of Policy, Farmers Union of Wales, John Davies, President, NFU Cymru, William Jones, Chairman of the Rural Affairs Committee, Wales Federation of Young Farmers Clubs, David Williams, Farming Community Network, and Professor Terry Marsden, Emeritus Professor, Cardiff University, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Thursday 2 December at 8.45am.

Thursday 2 December 2021

Members present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair

Geraint Davies

Ruth Jones

Ben Lake

Rob Roberts

Beth Winter

1. The Benefits System in Wales

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Future programme

The Committee considered the forward programme.

3. The Benefits System in Wales

Jane Hutt MS, Minister for Social Justice, Welsh Government, Paul Neave, Head of Social Welfare Advice and DWP Policy, Welsh Government, Gwennan Hardy, Senior Policy Officer, Citizens Advice Cymru, Alison Corriea, Welfare Adviser, Cartrefi Conwy Housing Association, Cordelia Deady, Welfare Rights Supervisor, Wrexham County Borough Council, and Megan Thomas, Disability Wales, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 8 December at 9.30am.

Wednesday 8 December 2021

Members present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair

Simon Baynes

Geraint Davies

Ruth Jones

Robin Millar

Rob Roberts

Dr James Wallis

Beth Winter

1. The Benefits System in Wales

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Future programme

The Committee considered the forward programme.

3. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Letter from Growth Track 360 to the Committee, dated 6 December

4. The Benefits System in Wales

David Rutley MP, Minister for Welfare Delivery, Department for Work and Pensions, Geth Williams, Deputy Director, Office of the-Secretary of State for Wales, Sarah Pearson, Area Director Work and Health Services, Wales and National Employer and Partnership Team, Department for Work and Pensions, Andrew Latto, Deputy Director: Devolution, Pensioner Benefits and Carer's Allowance Policy Group, Department for Work and Pensions, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 15 December at 2.00pm.

Wednesday 15 December 2021

Members present

The Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair

Geraint Davies

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

Dr Jamie Wallis

Beth Winter

1. One-off session with the Union Connectivity Review

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

Sir Peter Hendy CBE, Chair of the Union Connectivity Review and of Network Rail, Chris Heaton-Harris MP, Minister of State, Department for Transport, and David TC Davies MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Wales, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 19 January 2022 at 9.30am.

Wednesday 19 January 2022

Members present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair

Simon Baynes

Geraint Davies

Ruth Jones

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

Beth Winter

1. The economic and cultural impacts of trade and environmental policy on family farms in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into Grid Capacity in Wales

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into Wales as a Global Tourist Destination

Resolved, That the Committee visit North Wales in February or March 2022.

3. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

The economic and cultural impacts of trade and environmental policy on family farms in Wales

UK Government (HIL0020)

The Benefits System in Wales

Leonard Cheshire (BSW0052)

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 26 January 2022 at 9.30am.

Wednesday 26 January 2022

Members present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair

Geraint Davies

Robin Millar

Dr Jamie Wallis

Beth Winter

1. The Benefits System in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Letter from the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and Minister for Intergovernmental Relations to the Chair, regarding the the Review of Intergovernmental Relations, dated 19 January 2022

The economic and cultural impacts of trade and environmental policy on family farms in Wales

Woodland Trust Wales (HIL0021)

National Trust Cymru (HIL0022)

3. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 2 February 2022 at 9.30am.

Wednesday 2 February 2022

Members present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair

Simon Baynes

Geraint Davies

Ruth Jones

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

Dr Jamie Wallis

Beth Winter

1. The economic and cultural impacts of trade and environmental policy on family farms in Wales

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

3. The economic and cultural impacts of trade and environmental policy on family farms in Wales

Julie James MS, Minister for Climate Change, Welsh Government; Vicky Jones, Head of Agriculture, Sustainability and Development Division, Welsh Government; James Owen, Head of Land Management Reform, Welsh Government; Jon Travis, Head of Forestry Reform, Welsh Government, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 9 February 2022 at 9.00am.

Wednesday 9 February 2022

Members Present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair

Simon Baynes

Geraint Davies

Ruth Jones

Ben Lake

Dr Jamie Wallis

Beth Winter

1. One-off session on Intergovernmental Relations

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. The Benefits System in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Correspondence between the Chair and the Deputy Prime Minister, Secretary of State for Justice and Lord Chancellor, the Rt Hon Dominic Raab, dated 12 January and 4 February

4. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

5. One-off Session on Intergovernmental Relations

Dr Hugh Rawlings CB, former senior Civil Servant; Philip Rycroft CB, former senior Civil Servant; Akash Paun, Senior Fellow, Institute for Government, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 23 February 2022 at 9.30am.

Wednesday 23 February 2022

Members Present

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP, in the Chair

Geraint Davies

Ruth Jones

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

Beth Winter

1. Responsibilities of the Secretary of State for Wales

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

The Rt Hon Simon Hart MP, Secretary of State for Wales, and David TC Davies MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Wales, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 2 March 2022 at 9.00am.

Wednesday 2 March 2022

Members Present

Simon Baynes
Geraint Davies
Ruth Jones
Robin Millar
Ben Lake
Beth Winter
Dr Jamie Wallis

In the absence of the Chair, Ben Lake was called to the chair.

1. Benefits System in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

2. The economic and cultural impacts of trade and environmental policy on family farms in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Wales Office Supplementary Estimates Memorandum 2021-22:

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 09 March 2022 at 09.30pm.

Wednesday 2 March - Thursday 3 March 2022

Ben Lake MP, Ruth Jones MP and Robin Millar MP visited North Wales in connection with the Committee's inquiry into The economic and cultural impacts of trade and environmental policy on family farms in Wales, in accordance with the Committee's decision of 19 January 2022.

Wednesday 9 March 2022

Members Present

Simon Baynes
Geraint Davies
Ruth Jones
Ben Lake
Beth Winter
Dr Jamie Wallis

In the absence of the Chair, Ben Lake was called to the chair.

1. Benefits System in Wales

Draft report (The Benefits System) proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to; the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published with the Fourth Report of the Committee (HC 337).

2. One-off session with the First Minister of Wales

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

The Rt Hon Mark Drakeford MS, First Minister of Wales, Desmond Clifford, Director General, Welsh Government, and Helen John, Deputy Director, Border Controls Programme, Welsh Government, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 16 March at 9.30am.

Wednesday 16 March 2022

Members Present

Simon Baynes
Ruth Jones
Ben Lake
Dr Jamie Wallis

In the absence of the Chair, Ben Lake was called to the chair.

1. Grid Capacity in Wales

The committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Future programme

The Committee considered the forward programme.

3. Grid Capacity in Wales

Jon O'Sullivan, Director of Onshore Wind & Solar, EDF Energy, Tom Glover, RWE Country Chair, RWE UK, Robert Proctor, Business Development Manager, Community Energy Wales, Rhys Wyn Jones, Director of RenewableUK Cymru, Renewable UK, Chris Williams, Head of Industrial Decarbonisation, Industry Wales, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 23 March at 9.00am.

Wednesday 23 March 2022

Members Present

Simon Baynes

Ruth Jones

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

Beth Winter

In the absence of the Chair, Ben Lake was called to the chair.

1. One-off session on Levelling-up and Intergovernmental Relations

The committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Future programme

The Committee considered the forward programme.

3. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Grid Capacity in Wales

Community Energy Wales (GRD0001)

4. One-off session on Levelling-up and Intergovernmental Relations

Neil O'Brien MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Levelling Up, The Union and Constitution), Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, and Sue Gray, Second Permanent Secretary, Cabinet Office, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 30 March at 8.45am.

Wednesday 30 March 2022

Members Present

Simon Baynes
Geraint Davies
Ruth Jones
Ben Lake
Robin Millar
Beth Winter

In the absence of the Chair, Ben Lake was called to the chair.

1. The economic and cultural impacts of trade and environmental policy on family farms in Wales

Draft report (The economic and cultural impacts of trade and environmental policy on family farms in Wales) proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to; the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published with the Fifth Report of the Committee (HC 607).

2. One-off session on policing in Wales

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

Jeremy Vaughan, Chief Constable, South Wales Police, Amanda Blakeman, Deputy Chief Constable, Gwent Police, Carl Foulkes QPM, Chief Constable, North Wales Police, and Dr Richard Lewis, Chief Constable, Dyfed-Powys Police, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 20 April at 9.30am.

Wednesday 20 April 2022

Members Present

The Rt Hon Stephen Crabb in the Chair.

Geraint Davies

Ruth Jones

Ben Lake

Robin Millar

Beth Winter

1. Wales as a Global Tourist Destination

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Future programme

The Committee considered the forward programme.

3. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Wales as a Global Tourist Destination

Bangor University, Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies and Swansea University (TOU0001)

Professor Dorothy Yen, Dr Ana Canhoto and Dr Liyuan Wei (TOU0005)

North Wales Tourism (TOU0006)

National Lottery Heritage Fund (TOU0008)

FSB Wales (TOU0009)

Green Man (TOU0010)

UK Theatre (TOU0011)

VisitBritain (TOU0012)

TAC – Teledwyr Annibynnol Cymru (TOU0013)

Wales Office and DCMS (TOU0014)

Welsh Sports Association (TOU0015)

Welsh Beer and Pub Association (TOU0016)

UK Music (TOU0017)

Grid capacity in Wales

Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (GRD0027)

The Crown Estate (GRD0028)

4. Wales as a Global Tourist Destination

Gwyneth Sweatman, Head of Communications (Wales), Federation of Small Businesses, David Chapman, Executive Director for Wales, UK Hospitality, Suzy Davies, Chair, Wales Tourism Alliance, David Anderson, Director General, National Museum Wales, Ian Edwards, Chief Executive, Celtic Manor Resort, and Rebecca Williams, Assistant Director, National Trust Cymru, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 27 April at 9.30am.

Wednesday 27 April 2022

Members Present

The Rt Hon Stephen Crabb in the Chair.

Simon Baynes

Beth Winter

1. Grid Capacity in Wales

The Committee considered the brief and allocated questions.

2. Future programme

The Committee considered the forward programme.

3. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Grid Capacity in Wales

BP (GRD0029)

4. Grid Capacity in Wales

Peter Bingham, Chief Engineer, Ofgem, Huub den Rooijen, Managing Director, Marine, The Crown Estate, Julian Leslie, Head of Networks, National Grid ESO, Roisin Quinn, Director of Customer Connections, National Grid NGET, Ben Godfrey, Distribution System Operator Manager, Western Power Distribution, and Malcolm Bebbington, Head of Future Systems Strategy, Scottish Power, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 18 May at 9.30am.

Appendix: Declarations of interest by members of the Committee and specialist advisers

(i) Members of the Committee

Tonia Antoniazzi MP

5 March 2020: Register of Members' Interest (as at 1 June 2021)

Nil

Simon Baynes MP

5 March 2020: Register of Members' Interest (as at 1 June 2021)

6. Land and property portfolio: (i) value over £100,000 and/or (ii) giving rental income of over £10,000 a year

Property in Wales consisting of main house, annex, ancillary building, cottage and farmland: (i). These generate an income which does not exceed £10,000 in a calendar year. (Registered 09 January 2020)

Land in Spain: (i). (Registered 09 January 2020)

From 17 April 2021, cottage in Sussex: (i). (Registered 19 April 2021)

8. Miscellaneous

Director of the Cazenove Association (alumni organisation).

(Registered 09 January 2020)

Trustee and unpaid administrator of the Concertina Charitable Trust. (Registered 09 January 2020)

Trustee and unpaid administrator of the Bodfach Trust. (Registered 09 January 2020)

From 25 January 2020, Joint Chair of Women2Win Wales; an organisation which aims to ensure the fair representation of women at all levels of politics. (Registered 04 February 2020)

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP

Nil

Virginia Crosbie MP

5 March 2020: Register of Members' Interest (as at 1 June 2021)

1. Employment and earnings

Payments from YouGov, 50 Featherstone Street, London, EC1Y 8RT, for surveys.
All payments paid direct to charity.

31 March 2021, payment of £120. Hours: 30 mins. (Registered 14 May 2021)

13 May 2021, payment of £110. Hours: 30 mins. (Registered 14 May 2021)

2. (a) Support linked to an MP but received by a local party organisation or indirectly via a central party organisation

Name of donor: Goredd Ltd Address of donor: Bryn Eira, Lon Refail, Llanfairpwll, Ynys Môn LL61 5AJ Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £2,000 Donor status: company, registration 03627773 (Registered 17 May 2021)

Name of donor: Patrick Evershed Address of donor: private Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £20,000 Donor status: individual (Registered 17 May 2021)

2. (b) Any other support not included in Category 2(a)

Name of donor: The Cayzer Trust Company Ltd Address of donor: Cayzer House, 30 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6NN Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £7,500 Date received: 30 November 2020 Date accepted: 30 November 2020 Donor status: company, registration 04987694 (Registered 22 December 2020)

Name of donor: The Carlton Club Political Committee Address of donor: 69 St. James's Street, London SW1A 1PJ Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £4,500 Date received: 12 January 2021 Date accepted: 12 January 2021 Donor status: unincorporated association (Registered 14 January 2021)

Name of donor: Charles McDowell Properties Address of donor: 55 Beauchamp Place, London SW3 1NY Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £2,000 Date received: 1 March 2021 Date accepted: 1 March 2021 Donor status: company, registration 04982959 (Registered 04 March 2021)

Geraint Davies MP

5 March 2020: Register of Members' Interest (as at 1 June 2021)

6. Land and property portfolio: (i) value over £100,000 and/or (ii) giving rental income of over £10,000 a year

Residential property in London: (i) and (ii). (Updated 3 June 2015)

Ruth Jones MP

5 March 2020: Register of Members' Interest (as at 1 June 2021)

Nil

Ben Lake MP

5 March 2020: Register of Members' Interest (as at 1 June 2021)

Nil

Robin Millar MP

5 March 2020: Register of Members' Interest (as at 1 June 2021)

7. (i) Shareholdings: over 15% of issued share capital

Until 6 October 2020, RJ Millar Consulting Ltd; management consultancy (dissolved). (Registered 09 January 2020; updated 26 October 2020)

8. Miscellaneous

Until 31 July 2020, Director of the Newmarket Festival. (Registered 09 January 2020; updated 25 January 2021) Until 6 October 2020, Director of R J Millar Consulting Ltd. (Registered 29 January 2020; updated 26 October 2020)

Rob Roberts MP

5 March 2020: Register of Members' Interest (as at 1 June 2021)

1. Employment and earnings

Payments from Utility Warehouse, 508 Edgware Road, London NW9 5AB, for sales commissions: 19 June 2020, received £147.22. Hours: none since my election. (Registered 20 July 2020)

7. (i) Shareholdings: over 15% of issued share capital

R J Roberts (UK) Ltd (dormant company). (Registered 10 January 2020)

Dr Jamie Wallis MP

5 March 2020: Register of Members' Interest (as at 1 June 2021)

6. Land and property portfolio: (i) value over £100,000 and/or (ii) giving rental income of over £10,000 a year

Four commercial office units in Bridgend: (i) and (ii). (Registered 11 January 2020)

7. (i) Shareholdings: over 15% of issued share capital

Clinica De Datos Ltd; dormant. (Registered 11 January 2020)

Clinique De Donnees Ltd (dormant). (Registered 11 January 2020)

Daten Phoenix Ltd (dormant). (Registered 11 January 2020)

Fields Asset Management (commercial office space). (Registered 11 January 2020)

Fields Associates (Digital Forensics, Recovery and Security). (Registered 11 January 2020)

Fields Data Recovery Ltd (dormant). (Registered 11 January 2020)

Fields Group Ltd (holding company). (Registered 11 January 2020)

Fields Administration Ltd (management services). (Registered 11 January 2020)

Quickie Divorce (online legal services). (Registered 11 January 2020)

Rapid Data Recovery Ltd (dormant). (Registered 11 January 2020)

Salvataggio Dati Ltd (dormant). (Registered 11 January 2020)

Fields Data Recovery LLC (US branch of Fields Associates Ltd). (Registered 11 January 2020)

Quickie Divorce LLC (dormant; US Branch of Quickie Divorce Ltd). (Registered 11 January 2020)

Endeavour Law Ltd (law firm). (Registered 11 January 2020)

Fields Analytics Ltd (office support functions, based in Thailand). (Registered 11 January 2020)

Fields Holdings Ltd (holding company). (Registered 11 January 2020)

Beth Winter MP

5 March 2020: Register of Members' Interest (as at 1 June 2021)

Nil