
**15th Meeting of the Finance Sub Group of the Partnership Council for Wales
Wednesday, 24 January 2018
Conference Room C, Tŷ Hywel, Cardiff Bay
Minutes**

MEMBERS

Welsh Government

Alun Davies AM, Cabinet Secretary for Local Government and Public Services - Chair

Welsh Local Government Association

Cllr Anthony Hunt, WLGA Finance Spokesperson (Torfaen)
Cllr Andrew Morgan, WLGA Presiding Officer (Rhondda Cynon Taff)
Cllr Paul Miller (Pembrokeshire)
Cllr Mark Pritchard (Wrexham)
Cllr Dyfrig Lewis Siencyn (Gwynedd)

ATTENDING

Welsh Government Officials

David Costa – Special Adviser
Reg Kilpatrick – Director, Local Government
Rob Hay – Deputy Director Local Government Finance Policy

Welsh Local Government Association Officials

Steve Thomas – Chief Executive, WLGA
Jon Rae – Director of Resources, WLGA
Steve Jones – Chair, Society of Welsh Treasurers (Head of Finance, Merthyr Tydfil)

Police and Crime Commissioners

APOLOGIES

Cllr Debbie Wilcox, Leader of the WLGA (Newport)
Cllr Aaron Shotton, Deputy Leader of the WLGA (Flintshire)
Cllr Peter Fox OBE (Monmouthshire)
Rt Hon Alun Michael – South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner

Agenda Item 1: Welcome and Introductions

1. The Cabinet Secretary for Local Government and Public Services (the Cabinet Secretary) welcomed members to the 15th meeting of the Finance Sub Group.

Agenda Item 2: Minutes and Matters Arising from Previous Meeting (Paper 1)

2. The previous minutes were agreed as a true record. The Action Point from the meeting, work to be undertaken to look at the key pressures and to consider how to target them specifically, was being taken forward in discussions between officials.

Agenda Item 3: Distribution Sub Group Work Programme 2018 (Paper 2)

3. WG officials set out the short term and longer term activities identified in the Work Programme. The longer term activity is important to ensure the sustainability of the distribution formula and to investigate the scope to simplify it.
4. Cllr Anthony Hunt suggested the work programme should focus on some of the more important areas.
5. The Cabinet Secretary recognised the case for greater simplicity within the settlement and asked for views on the longer term priorities.
- 6. Action: Jon Rae agreed to liaise with local government FSG members and provide a response.**
7. Cllr Morgan stated that there was some confusion surrounding the announcement of the £20m uplift to the 2019-20 budget allocation for local government and requested that the Cabinet Secretary write on this issue.
- 8. Action: The Cabinet Secretary to write to local government to clarify this issue.**

Agenda Item 4: Implications of the 2017 Police Grant Settlement for Policing in Wales

9. The paper was noted.

Agenda Item 5: Any Other Business

10. The Cabinet Secretary asked the members whether they had any other business to discuss
11. Cllr Anthony Hunt conveyed apologies from Cllr Peter Fox as he had an unavoidable family matter to attend.