The Welsh Affairs Committee

The Welsh Affairs Committee is appointed by the House of Commons to examine the expenditure, administration, and policy of the Office of the Secretary of State for Wales (including relations with the National Assembly for Wales).

Current membership

David T.C. Davies MP (Conservative, Monmouth) (Chair)
Guto Bebb MP (Conservative, Aberconwy)
Geraint Davies MP (Labour, Swansea West)
Glyn Davies MP (Conservative, Montgomeryshire)
Stephen Doughty MP (Labour/Co-operative, Cardiff South and Penarth)
Jonathan Edwards MP (Plaid Cymru, Carmarthen East and Dinefwr)
Nia Griffith MP (Labour, Llanelli)
Simon Hart MP (Conservative, Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire)
Mrs Siân C. James MP (Labour, Swansea East)
Karen Lumley MP (Conservative, Redditch)
Jessica Morden MP (Labour, Newport East)
Mr Mark Williams MP (Liberal Democrat, Ceredigion)

Powers

The Committee is one of the departmental select committees, the powers of which are set out in House of Commons Standing Orders, principally in SO No 152. These are available on the internet via www.parliament.uk

Publications

The Reports and evidence of the Committee are published by The Stationery Office by Order of the House. All publications of the Committee (including press notices) are on the internet at www.parliament.uk/welshcom

The Reports of the Committee, the formal minutes relating to that report, oral evidence taken and some or all written evidence are available in printed volumes.

Additional written evidence may be published on the internet only.

Committee staff

The current staff of the Committee is Marek Kubala (Clerk), Anwen Rees (Committee Specialist), Lori Inglis Hall (Senior Committee Assistant), Dabinder Rai (Committee Assistant), and Jessica Bridges-Palmer (Media Officer).

Contacts

All correspondence should be addressed to the Clerk of the Welsh Affairs Committee, House of Commons, 7 Millbank, London SW1P 3JA. The telephone number for general enquiries is 020 7219 3264; and the Committee’s email address is welshcom@parliament.uk
1. Representation of consumer interests in Wales

Draft Special Report (Representation of consumer interests in Wales: Government response to the Committee’s Seventh Report of Session 2010-12), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government’s response to the Seventh 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.

2. The future of AHVLA services

Ordered, That the written evidence relating to the future of AHVLA services submitted by the Rt Hon James Paice MP, Minister for Agriculture, Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

3. Financial Scrutiny

Ordered, That the written evidence relating to the Main Estimate 2012-13 submitted by the Wales Office be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

4. Cross-border road and rail connectivity

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Cross-border road and rail connectivity be reported to the House for publication on the internet:
5. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

6. Support for Armed Forces Veterans in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

Lieutenant Colonel Peter Poole MBE MILT, Director of Strategy, Policy and Performance, Combat Stress; Bryn Parry OBE, Co-founder and Chief Executive, Help for Heroes, and Major General Andrew Cumming CBE, Controller, Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA), gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Monday 21 May at 2.00 p.m.]
1. Inward Investment in Wales

Draft Special Report (*Inward Investment in Wales: Government response to the Committee's Eighth Report of Session 2010-12*), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government’s response to the Eighth 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.

2. The future of AHVLA services

*Ordered*, That the letter relating to the future of AHVLA services from the Committee to the Rt Hon James Paice MP, Minister for Agriculture, Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

3. Support for Armed Forces Veterans in Wales

Keith Brown MSP, Minister for Housing and Transport, Geoff Huggins, Head of Mental Health Division, and Alistair Murphy, Policy Officer, Defence Policy Team, Scottish Government, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 12 June at 10.15 a.m]
1. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee visit Brussels in September 2012 for an update on relevant EU developments.

2. Cross-border road and rail connectivity

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the written evidence relating to Cross-border road and rail connectivity submitted by Passenger Focus be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

Mark Youngman, Chair, Sewta Working Group, South East Wales Transport Alliance, Iwan Prys Jones, Interim Executive Officer, TAITH, and David Sidebottom, Passenger Team Director, Passenger Focus; Ian Gallagher, Policy Manager for Wales, and Christopher Snelling, Head of Global Supply Chain Policy, Freight Transport Association, Robin Smith, Welsh Representative, Rail Freight Group, and Dr Elizabeth Haywod, Director, SEWEF, and Dr Grahame Guildford, CBI Wales and member, SEWEF Executive Board, South East Wales Economic Forum, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 19 June at 10.15 a.m]

TUESDAY 19 JUNE 2012

David T.C. Davies, in the Chair

Stuart Andrew  Susan Elan Jones
Guto Bebb  Karen Lumley
Geraint Davies  Jessica Morden
Jonathan Edwards  Mr Robin Walker

1. Future Programme

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the future of the Welsh Regiments.

2. Cross-border road and rail connectivity
Resolved, That the Committee visit the Wales Rail Operating Centre and the Traffic Management Centre in Cardiff, in connection with its inquiry into Cross-border road and rail connectivity.

3. Support for Armed Forces Veterans in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Support for Armed Forces Veterans in Wales be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Scottish Government
Charity Commission

Mr Neil Robertson, Head of Operations, Taunton, and Mr Harvey Grenville, Lead, Armed Forces Charities, Charity Commission, and Air Vice-Marshal Tony Stables CBE, The Confederation of Service Charities; Colonel Philip Hubbard OBE, Deputy Chief Executive, Reserve Forces and Cadets Association for Wales, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 3 July at 10.15 a.m]

TUESDAY 3 JULY 2012

David T.C. Davies, in the Chair

Guto Bebb Karen Lumley
Geraint Davies Jessica Morden
Jonathan Edwards Mr Robin Walker
Nia Griffith Mr Mark Williams

1. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee visit the National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff in October 2012 in connection with its inquiry into Support for Armed Forces Veterans in Wales.

2. Support for Armed Forces Veterans in Wales

Ordered, That the written evidence relating to Support for Armed Forces Veterans in Wales submitted by the Confederation of Service Charities be reported to the House for publication on the internet.
3. Paperless Working

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Cross-border road and rail connectivity

*Ordered*, That the following written evidence relating to Cross-border road and rail connectivity be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

TAITH
Arriva Trains Wales
Rail4Wales

Mike Bagshaw, Commercial Director, Arriva Trains Wales, and Mark Hopwood, Managing Director, First Great Western; Mark Langman, Route Managing Director, and Dylan Bowen, Public Affairs Manager, Network Rail, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Thursday 5 July at 10.15 a.m

THURSDAY 5 JULY 2012

David T.C. Davies, in the Chair

Guto Bebb  Karen Lumley
Geraint Davies  Jessica Morden
Jonathan Edwards  Mr Robin Walker
Nia Griffith  Mr Mark Williams

1. Cross-border road and rail connectivity

*Ordered*, That the written evidence relating to Cross-border road and rail connectivity submitted by Rails 4 Wales be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

2. Paperless working

*Resolved*, That the Committee move to electronic-only distribution of committee papers.

3. Future of the Welsh Regiments

*Ordered*, That the following written evidence relating to the Future of the Welsh Regiments be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Royal United Services Institute
Michael Propert Lewis
Antoinette Sandbach AM

Professor Andrew Dorman, Professor in International Security, King’s College, London; Colonel (retd) Timothy Wilson OBE, former member of the 1st The Queen’s Dragoon Guards and Major General (retd) Christopher Elliott CVO CBE, formerly Colonel of the Regiment of Wales and Divisional Commandant of the Prince of Wales Division, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 10 July at 10.15 a.m]

TUESDAY 10 JULY 2012

David T.C. Davies, in the Chair

Geraint Davies
Jonathan Edwards
Karen Lumley

Jessica Morden
Mr Robin Walker
Mr Mark Williams

1. Support for Armed Forces Veterans in Wales

Ordered, That the written evidence relating to Support for Armed Forces Veterans in Wales by the Charity Commission be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

2. Future of the Welsh Regiments

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Responsibilities of the Secretary of State for Wales

Rt Hon Mrs Cheryl Gillan MP, Secretary of State for Wales, Glynne Jones, Deputy Head of Wales Office, and Tim Hemmings, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 11 September at 10.15 a.m]

Tuesday 4 – Thursday 6 September 2012

The Chair, Guto Bebb, Geraint Davies, Jonathan Edwards, Karen Lumley, Nia Griffith, Jessica Morden, Robin Walker, and Mark Williams visited Brussels, for an update on relevant EU developments in accordance with the Committee’s decision of 12 June.
1. Broadband services in Wales

Draft Report (Broadband services 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 in the First Report of the Committee, HC 580.

2. Responsibilities of the Secretary of State for Wales

Ordered, That the written evidence relating to the responsibilities of the Secretary of State for Wales submitted by the Wales Office be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

3. Support for Armed Forces Veterans in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the written evidence relating to Support for Armed Forces Veterans submitted by the Charity Commission be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

4. Cross-border road and rail connectivity

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Cross-border road and rail connectivity be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

M&G Barry Consulting Ltd
Greengauge 21
5. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee visit Aberystwyth in November in connection with its inquiry into Cross-border road and rail connectivity.

Resolved, That the Committee visit Belfast and Edinburgh in connection with the Silk Commission and financial devolution in Wales.

6. Future of Welsh Regiments

Ordered, That the written evidence relating to the Future of the Welsh Regiments submitted by the Secretary of State for Defence be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 16 October at 10.15 a.m]

TUESDAY 16 OCTOBER 2012

David T.C. Davies, in the Chair

Guto Bebb, Mrs Siân C. James
Geraint Davies, Karen Lumley
Jonathan Edwards, Mr Robin Walker
Nia Griffith, Mr Mark Williams

1. Future programme

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the future of dairy farming in Wales.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the impact of changes to housing benefit in Wales.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the Work Programme in Wales.

Resolved, That the Committee visit Swansea in connection with Parliament Week.

2. Support for Armed Forces Veterans

Ordered, That the written evidence relating to Support for Armed Forces Veterans submitted by a former GCHQ employee be reported to the House for publication on the internet.
3. Collusion between banks and commercial property consultants

Resolved, That the Committee request written evidence from the Federation of Small Businesses and CBI Wales on collusion between banks and commercial property consultants.

4. Cross-border road and rail connectivity

Richard Goldson, Specialist Adviser, made a further declarations of interests (see Appendix).

Mark Barry, Consultant, Mark & G Barry Consulting Ltd and Jim Steer, Director, Greengauge 21; Rt Hon Simon Burns MP, Minister of State, and Stephen Hammond MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Transport, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Thursday 25 October at the National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff, 9.00 a.m]

Wednesday 24 October – Thursday 25 October

The Chair, Mr Geraint Davies, Mr Jonathan Edwards, Mrs Nia Griffith, Ms Siân C.James, and Ms Karen Lumley visited Cardiff in connection with the Committee’s inquiries in Support for Armed Forces Veterans in Wales, and Cross-border road and rail connectivity, in accordance with the Committee’s decision of 3 July.

THURSDAY 25 OCTOBER 2012

The Committee met at Ty Hywel, National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff

David T.C. Davies, in the Chair

Geraint Davies
Jonathan Edwards
Nia Griffith

Mrs Siân C.James
Karen Lumley

1. Support for Armed Forces Veterans in Wales

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Support for Armed Forces Veterans in Wales be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Rt Hon Elgin Llwyd MP
Welsh Local Government Association
Hazel Hunt and Kate Swinhoe, Welsh Warrior (the Richard Hunt Foundation); Carl Sargeant AM, Local Government and Communities Minister, Alyson Francis, Community Safety Division, Welsh Government, Cllr Brendan Toomey, Leader, Merthyr County Borough Council and WLGA Spokesperson for Community Safety, Policing and Fire, and Naomi Alleyne, Director, Equalities and Social Justice, Welsh Local Government Association, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 30 October at 10.15 a.m]

TUESDAY 30 OCTOBER 2012

David T.C. Davies, in the Chair

Jonathan Edwards  Mr Mark Williams
Nia Griffith

1. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. The future of dairy farming in Wales

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the future of dairy farming in Wales be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

John Wrench
National Farmers Union Wales

3. Cross-border road and rail connectivity

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the written evidence relating to Cross-border road and rail connectivity submitted by Llandudno Hospitality Association be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

4. Support for Armed Forces Veterans in Wales

Rt Hon Mark Francois MP, Minister of State for Defence Personnel, Welfare and Veterans, and Rear Admiral Simon Williams, Assistant Chief of Defence Staff (Personnel & Training), Ministry of Defence, gave oral evidence.
TUESDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2012

David T.C. Davies, in the Chair

Guto Bebb  Mrs Siân C. James
Glyn Davies  Mr Mark Williams
Jonathan Edwards

1. Declaration of Interests

Glyn Davies MP declared his interests, in accordance with the Resolution of the House of 13 July 1992 (see Appendix).

2. The future of dairy farming in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Support for Armed Forces Veterans in Wales

Rt Hon Elfyn Llwyd MP gave oral evidence.

THURSDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2012

The Committee met at Aberystwyth University

MORNING SITTING

David T.C. Davies, in the Chair

Jonathan Edwards  Mrs Siân C. James
Nia Griffith  Mr Mark Williams
1. The future of dairy farming in Wales

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the future of dairy farming in Wales be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

- Compassion in World Farming
- Dairy Crest Ltd
- DairyCo
- World Society for the Protection of Animals
- First Milk Limited
- National Federation of Women’s Institutes
- Welsh Retail Consortium
- Dairy UK
- Farmers’ Union of Wales
- Alun Davies AM, Welsh Government
- Rob Hoggins and Colin Morgan

2. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Cross-border road and rail connectivity

Carl Sargeant AM, Minister for Local Government and Communities, Ian Davies, head of Network Operations, Roads and Projects, and Nathan Barnhouse, Rail Policy Manager, Welsh Government; and Alec Don, Chief Executive, Milford Haven Port Authority, Welsh Ports Group, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till 2.00 p.m]

AFTERNOON SITTING

David T.C. Davies, in the Chair

Jonathan Edwards, Mrs Siân C. James
Nia Griffith, Mr Mark Williams

1. Cross-border road and rail connectivity
Ordered, That the written evidence relating to Cross-border road and rail connectivity submitted by the Department for Transport (November 2012) be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

2. The future of dairy farming in Wales

Stephen James, Deputy President, and Aled Jones, Chairman Milk Board, NFU Cymru, Dr Hazel Wright, Senior Policy Officer, and Mr Dei Davies, Chair of the FUW Milk and Dairy Produce Committee, Farmers’ Union of Wales; Alun Davies AM, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Food, Fisheries and European Programmes, Gary Haggarty, Rural Director, and Geraint Williams, Food & Market Policy Strategy Lead, Welsh Government, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 27 November at 10.15 a.m]

The Chair, Mrs Siân C. James, and Nia Griffith visited Swansea in connection with Parliament Week, in accordance with the Committee’s decision of 16 October.

TUESDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2012

David T.C. Davies, in the Chair

Guto Bebb, Geraint Davies, Glyn Davies, Stephen Doughty

Nia Griffith, Jessica Morden, Mr Mark Williams

1. Cross-border road and rail connectivity

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Future Programme

Resolved, That the Committee take oral evidence on the steel industry in Wales.

Resolved, That the Committee visit the Welsh Government office in London.

3. The future of dairy farming in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

Will Sanderson, Corporate Affairs Director, Arla Foods UK plc, Paul Flanagan, External Relations Director, First Milk Limited, Mike Sheldon, Head of Milk
Procurement, Dairy Crest Limited, and Mark Beavon, Operations Director, South Caernarfon Creameries Limited; Andrew Opie, Director of Food and Sustainability, British Retail Consortium and Welsh Retail Consortium; and Mr David Heath MP, Minister of State for Agriculture and Food, Department for the Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 11 December at 2.45 p.m]

**TUESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2012**

David T.C. Davies, in the Chair

Guto Bebb                Jonathan Edwards
Geraint Davies          Nia Griffith
Glyn Davies             Jessica Morden
Stephen Doughty

1. **Broadband Services in Wales**

Draft Special Report (*Broadband Services in Wales: Ofcom response to the Committee’s First Report of Session 2012-13*), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

Ofcom’s response to the First 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.

2. **The future of dairy farming in Wales**

*Ordered*, That the written evidence relating to the future of dairy farming in Wales submitted by Tesco be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

3. **Financial Scrutiny**

*Ordered*, That the written evidence relating to the Wales Office Annual Report and Accounts 2011-12 submitted by the Wales Office be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

4. **Responsibilities of the Secretary of State for Wales**
Rt Hon David Jones MP, Secretary of State for Wales, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 18 December at 10.15 a.m]

The Chair, Jonathan Edwards, Nia Griffith, Jessica Morden, Guto Bebb and Mr Mark Williams visited Belfast and Edinburgh in connection with the Silk Commission and financial devolution in Wales, in accordance with the Committee’s decision of 11 September.

TUESDAY 18 DECEMBER 2012

David T.C. Davies, in the Chair

Guto Bebb
Geraint Davies
Glyn Davies
Stephen Doughty

Jonathan Edwards
Nia Griffith
Jessica Morden
Mr Mark Williams

1. The steel industry in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Support for Armed Forces Veterans in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

3. The impact of changes to housing benefit in Wales

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the impact of changes to housing benefit in Wales be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Lianne Walsh
Residential Landlords Association
Advice UK
UNISON Wales
Citizens Advice Cymru
Cynon Taf Community Housing Group
The Royal British Legion Wales
Rhondda Cynon Taff Local Authority
Shelter Cymru
Welsh Government
Tai Pawb
Community Housing Cymru

4. The Silk Commission and financial devolution in Wales

Resolved, That the Committee visit the Bank of England in connection with the Silk Commission and financial devolution in Wales.

Paul Silk, Chair, Professor Noel Lloyd CBE, Commissioner, and Mark Parkinson Joint Secretary, Commission on Devolution in Wales, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 9 January 2013 at 9.15 a.m]

WEDNESDAY 9 JANUARY 2013

David T.C. Davies, in the Chair

Geraint Davies          Simon Hart
Glyn Davies             Jessica Morden
Stephen Doughty         Mr Mark Williams

1. Declaration on interests

Stephen Doughty and Simon Hart declared their interests, in accordance with the Resolution of the House of 13 July 1992 (see Appendix).

2. The future of dairy farming in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the written evidence relating to the future of dairy farming in Wales submitted by David Heath MP, Minister of State, Department for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 15 January at 9.15 a.m]

TUESDAY 15 JANUARY 2013

David T.C. Davies, in the Chair

Guto Bebb              Jonathan Edwards
Geraint Davies         Simon Hart
Glyn Davies            Jessica Morden
Stephen Doughty
1. The future of dairy farming in Wales

Ordered, That the written evidence relating to the future of dairy farming in Wales submitted by Alun Davies AM, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Food, Fisheries and European Programmes, Welsh Government be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

2. The responsibilities of the Secretary of State for Wales

Ordered, That the written evidence relating to the responsibilities of the Secretary of State for Wales submitted by Stephen Hammond MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Transport be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

3. The impact of changes to housing benefit in Wales

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the impact of changes to housing benefit in Wales be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

- Wales and West Housing
- Crisis
- Department for Work and Pensions
- Taxpayers’ Alliance

4. The steel industry in Wales

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the steel industry in Wales be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

- Tata Steel Europe Ltd
- Community Union
- Welsh Government
- Celsa Manufacturing UK

Michael Leahy, General Secretary, Roy Rickhuss, National Officer (Steel), and Robert Sneddon, Health, Safety and Environment Officer, Community Union; Martin Driscoll, Human Resources Director, Strip Products Hub (South Wales), Tim Morris, Head of Public Affairs, Tata Steel Europe Ltd, and Luis Sanz, Managing Director, and James Ellis, Head of Human Resources, Celsa Manufacturing (UK) Ltd, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 29 January at 1.20 p.m]
1. Support for Armed Forces Veterans in Wales

Ordered, That the supplementary written evidence relating to support for Armed Forces Veterans in Wales submitted by the Ministry of Defence be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

2. Responsibilities of the Secretary of State for Wales

Ordered, That the supplementary written evidence relating to the responsibilities of the Secretary of State for Wales submitted by the Rt Hon David Jones MP, Secretary of State for Wales be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

3. The impact of changes to housing benefit in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

4. The steel industry in Wales

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the steel industry in Wales be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

   Celsa Manufacturing UK (supplementary evidence)
   Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and the Wales Office

Rt Hon Vince Cable MP, Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills and Rt Hon David Jones MP, Secretary of State for Wales, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 5 February at 9.15 a.m]
1. Support for Armed Forces Veterans in Wales

Draft Report (Support for Armed Forces Veterans 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 in the Second Report of the Committee, HC 131.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 12 February at 9.05 a.m]

TUESDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2013

David T.C. Davies, in the Chair

Guto Bebb
Geraint Davies
Jonathan Edwards
Nia Griffith

Simon Hart
Jessica Morden
Mr Mark Williams

1. The Work Programme in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee visit a Work Programme centre in connection with its inquiry into the Work Programme in Wales.

2. Cross-border road and rail connectivity

Ordered, That the supplementary written evidence relating to Cross-border road and rail connectivity by the Welsh Government be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

3. The future of dairy farming in Wales

Ordered, That the supplementary written evidence relating to the future of dairy farming in Wales submitted by Dairy Crest Ltd be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

4. The impact of changes to housing benefit in Wales
Ordered, That the written evidence relating to the impact of changes to housing benefit in Wales submitted by the Institute of Economic Affairs be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 26 February at 9.15 a.m]

TUESDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2013

David T.C. Davies, in the Chair

Guto Bebb
Geraint Davies
Glyn Davies
Jonathan Edwards

Nia Griffith
Jessica Morden
Mr Mark Williams

1. Cross-border road and rail connectivity

Draft Report (Crossing the border: road and rail links between England and 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 in the Third Report of the Committee, HC 95.

2. The future of dairy farming in Wales

Ordered, That the supplementary written evidence relating to the future of dairy farming in Wales submitted by the Welsh Retail Consortium be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

3. The Work Programme in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the Work Programme in Wales be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Oxfam Cymru
Citizens Advice Cymru
Llamau
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
ERSA
Rehab JobFit
Department for Work and Pensions
Remploy Employment Services
Working Links Wales
4. Broadband services in Wales

Ordered, that the following correspondence be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Letter from the Chair to Edwina Hart AM, dated 31 January 2013, concerning broadband services in Wales;

5. The impact of changes to housing benefit in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till Monday 11 March at 2.00 p.m]

TUESDAY 5 MARCH 2013

The Chair, Geraint Davies, Jonathan Edwards, Simon Hart, Mrs Siân C. James, Jessica Morden and Mr Mark Williams visited the Bank of England, in accordance with the Committee’s decision of 18 December.

MONDAY 11 MARCH 2013

David T.C. Davies, in the Chair

Guto Bebb                 Nia Griffith
Geraint Davies           Mrs Siân C. James
Jonathan Edwards         Jessica Morden
Stephen Doughty           Mr Mark Williams

1. The impact of changes to housing benefit in Wales

Ordered, that the following written evidence relating to the impact of changes to housing benefit in Wales be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

    National Landlords Association
    Hafal

John Puzey, Director, Shelter Cymru, Fran Targett, Director, Citizens Advice Cymru, and Alicja Zalesinska, Director, Tai Pawb; Jonathan Isaby, Political Director, The Taxpayers’ Alliance, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Monday 19 March at 9.15 a.m]

TUESDAY 19 MARCH 2013
1. The Work Programme in Wales

Ordered, That the written evidence relating to the Work Programme in Wales submitted by the Welsh Local Government Association be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

Chris Johnes, Director UK, Poverty Programme, Oxfam Cymru, and Fran Targett, Director, Citizens Advice Cymru; Kirsty McHugh, Chief Executive, Employment Related Services Association, Marcella Maxwell, Director of Wales, Working Links Wales, and Chris Peel, Managing Director, Rehab Jobfit, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Monday 15 April at 10.45 a.m

MONDAY 15 APRIL 2013

The Committee met at Committee Room 3, Senedd, National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff

David T.C. Davies, in the Chair

Guto Bebb
Geraint Davies
Glyn Davies
Jonathan Edwards
Nia Griffith

Simon Hart
Mrs Siân C. James
Jessica Morden
Mr Mark Williams

1. Financial Scrutiny

Ordered, That the written evidence relating to the Supplementary Estimate 2012-13 submitted by the Welsh Office be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

2. The future of dairy farming in Wales

The Committee considered this matter.
3. The impact of changes to housing benefit in Wales

Ordered, That the written evidence relating to the impact of changes to housing benefit in Wales submitted by Bron Afon Housing Community be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

Carl Sargeant AM, Minister for Housing and Regeneration, Karl Thomas, Head of Welfare Reform Housing and Rent Officers Wales, Tamsin Stirling, Special Adviser, Welsh Government, Naomi Alleyne, Director of Equalities and Social Justice, and Sue Finch, Housing Policy Officer, Welsh Local Government Association, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 16 April at 9.15 a.m

TUESDAY 16 APRIL 2013

David T.C. Davies, in the Chair

Guto Bebb  Nia Griffith
Geraint Davies  Simon Hart
Glyn Davies  Jessica Morden
Jonathan Edwards  Mr Mark Williams

1. Visteon Pensioners.

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee visit Brussels in September 2013 for an update on relevant EU developments.

3. The impact of changes to housing benefit in Wales

Nick Bennett, Chief Executive, Community Housing Cymru, Shayne Hembrow, Deputy Chief Executive, Wales and West Housing, Antonia Forte, Chief Executive, Cynon Taf Community Housing Group and Duncan Forbes, Chief Executive, Bron Afon Community Housing Group; and Richard Lambert, Chief Executive Officer, Lee Cecil, Wales Representative, National Landlords Association and Douglas Haig, Director for Wales, Residential Landlords Association, gave oral evidence.
[Adjourned till Tuesday 14 May at 9.15 a.m]
DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS’ INTERESTS

14 July 2010

Guto Bebb:
Remunerated employment, office, profession etc: Proprietor of Egin Partnership, Caban, Brynrefail, Caernarfon, Gwynedd LL55 3NR, an economic consultancy.

Sponsorships: Donation of £5,000 to the constituency association from the Patrons Club of Conwy, Caerhun Hall. Ty’n Groes, Conwy LL32 8HX, a private members club. The constituency association will report this donation to the Electoral Commission.

David T.C. Davies:
Gifts, benefits and hospitality (UK): As a serving Special Constable with the British Transport Police, 25 Camden Road, London NW1 9LN, I may travel for free on London transport in return for intervening if I see a crime or if someone needs first aid. Remunerated consultancy work for Phoenix Chinese News & Entertainment Co. Ltd Television and Radio Station Operators and president of the Welsh Amateur Boxing Association

Sponsorships: Donation of £3,000 from Ronald Hear, The Old Manor, Forge Road, Osbaston, Monmouth, NP25 3AZ which has been reported to the Electoral Commission.

Geraint Davies:
Sponsorships: Donation of £4,500 from the GMB, Newport Road, Cardiff and a donation of £3,000 from the Cooperative Party, 1 Cathedral Road, Cardiff, which have been reported to the Electoral Commission.

Land and Property: Two properties in London for which rental is received.

Registrable shareholdings: In Pure Crete Ltd, a tour operator to Crete.

Jonathan Edwards:
Remunerated employment, office, profession etc: Payments of £30 from BBC Wales, PO Box 480, Manchester M14 OEL, for a 30 minute appearance on a radio programme on 21 June 2010, and £100 from Boomerang, 218 Heol Penarth, Caerdydd CF11 8NN, for three hours media work.

Nia Griffith:
Land and Property: Small holding in Carmarthenshire.
Susan Elan Jones:
Remunerated employment, office, profession etc: Payment of £25 from Boomerang
Plus plc, 218 Heol Penarth, Caerdydd, CF11 8NN, a radio station, for a 15 minute
telephone interview for Radio Cymru

Karen Lumley:
Directorships: RKL Geological Services, 4 Grove Road, Wrexham LL11 1AY, a
geological consultancy company.

Sponsorships: Donation of £500 per month to my constituency party from Loxton
Developments Ltd, Longbourn Farm, Pittern Hill, Kineton. Warwick CU35 0JF,
company registration number 02171248.

Jessica Morden:
Nil.

Mr Mark Williams:
Sponsorships: Donation of £2,000 from Mr Clive Jenkins.

Stuart Andrew
Elected member of Leeds City Council. Resigned September 2010. Received payments
as follows:

Payment of £868 for May 2010. Hours: 60 hrs. (Registered 3 June 2010). 16 June 2010,
payment of £643.90. Hours: 30 hrs approx. (Registered 29 September 2010). 16 July
2010, payment of £643.90. Hours: 30 hrs. (Registered 29 September 2010). 16 August
2010, payment of £643.90. Hours: 30 hrs. (Registered 29 September 2010) 16
September 2010, payment of £24.25. Hours: 5 hrs. (Registered 29 September 2010);
and sponsorship: donation of £2000 to the constituency party or association from
Mr Graham Smith, private donor. (Registered 3 June 2010).

Mr Robin Walker
Remunerated employment, office, profession etc:
Finsbury Limited, (financial communications advisory), Tenter House 45 Moorfields
London, EC2 9AE.

Received £2,500 for June 2010 Hours: 2 hours (Registered 5 July 2010)
Received £2,500 for July 2010 Hours: 1 hour (Registered 28 July 2010
Received £2,500 for August 2010 Hours: 10 hours (Registered 6 September 2010)
Received £2,500 for September 2010 Hours: 10 hours (Registered 19 October 2010)
Received £2,500 for October 2010 Hours: 1 hour (Registered 16 November 2010)
Received £2,500 for November 2010. Hours: 3 hrs. (Registered 9 December 2010)
Received £2,500 for December 2010. Hours: 10 hrs. (Registered 26 January 2011)
Received £3,000 in December 2010 for work over the year 2010. No additional
hours worked. (Registered 26 January 2011)
Received £2,500 for January 2011. Hours: 8 hrs. *(Registered 26 January 2011)*  
Received £2,500 for February 2011. Hours: 4 hrs. *(Registered 2 March 2011)*  
Received £2,500 for March 2011. Hours: 2 hrs. *(Registered 7 April 2011)*  
Received £2,500 for April 2011. Hours: 0 hrs. *(Registered 11 May 2011)*  
Received £2,500 for May 2011. Hours: 10 hrs. *(Registered 7 June 2011)*

Clients:  
Clients of Finsbury Limited advised by me:  
Tomkins plc, East Putney House 84 Upper Richmond Road London DW15, 2ST, diversified engineering company.  
Morgan Crucible plc, The Morgan Crucible Company plc Quadrant 55-5 High St Windsor Berkshire SL4 1LP, specialist materials company  
Rio Tinto plc, 2 Eastbourne Terrace London W2 6LG, diversified mining company  
Vedanta Resources plc, 16 Berkeley Street London W1J 8DZ, diversified mining company  
African Barrick Gold plc, c/o Shearman and Sterling (London LLP, Broadgate West 9 Appold Street London EC2A 2AP, gold mining company  
Hochschild Mining plc, 46 Albemarle Street London W1S 4JL, precious metals mining company  
CRH plc, Belgard Castle Clondalkin Dublin 22 Ireland, building materials company  
NSG Pilkington Ltd, Alexandra Business Park Prescott Road St Helens Merseyside WA10 3TT, building materials company  
Trigon Agri A/S, Trigon Agri A/S Viru Valjack 2 Tallin Estonia, agribusiness (until 31 July 2010).  

Overseas visits:  
Name of donor: Conservative Middle East Council  
Address of donor: 83 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0HW  
Amount of donation (or estimate of the probable value): flights, hotels, transport and food to the value of £1,100  
Destination of visit: Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories  
Date of visit: 3-7 February 2011  
Purpose of visit: study visit including meeting the Prime Minister of the Palestinian National Assembly and Deputy Foreign Minister of Israel. *(Registered 8 February 2011)*

6 November 2012

Glyn Davies (Montgomeryshire)

Remunerated employment, office, profession etc:

Self-employed farmer.
Land and Property

Two-bedroom flat at Century Wharf, Cardiff Bay.
Farmland, house and buildings near Castle Caereinion, Montgomeryshire.
Farmland, house and buildings near Llanefydd, Montgomeryshire.
I receive rental income from all the above properties.

9 January 2013

Stephen Doughty (Cardiff South and Penarth)

Sponsorships: Donation of £2,636.29 from Mr Clive Jones.

Miscellaneous: Unremunerated trustee, Moorland Day Centre.

Simon Hart (Carmarthen West and Pembrokeshire South)

Remunerated employment, office, profession etc: Payments received as Trustee of the Sundorne Estate. Payments for administration and attending meetings made by Balfours, Windsor House, Windsor Place, Shrewsbury SY1 2BY: Payment of £850. Hours: 5 hrs.

DECLARATION OF SPECIALIST ADVISERS’ INTERESTS

26 October 2010

Mr Alan Trench
Constitutional Adviser and Director, Tomorrow’s Wales (company limited by guarantee).

Author, ‘Devolution Matters’ blog.

Honorary Senior Research Fellow, The Constitution Unit, University College London (all remunerated)

Occasional remuneration from academic work for University of Edinburgh

11 October 2011

Mr Robert Aitken CBE FCMI
Nil.
13 April 2012

Mr Charles Richard Goldson
Specialist Adviser to the Transport Select Committee of the House of Commons.

Associate with the Oxford Economic Research Association.

Chairman of the RPMI (Rail Pensions Administration).

I attended a cricket test match during the summer of 2012 as a guest of the First Group pension fund and have agreed not to be involved in any work by the Committee relating to the West Coast Main Line franchise.