

Abstract: "Parliamentary Control of the Welsh Executive"

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This paper will examine a number of key ways in which Welsh Assembly Members scrutinise the government in Wales. The role of committees will be discussed, looking particularly at the National Assembly Audit Committee. It will then consider the purpose and function of oral and written questions and minority party debates; and will be followed by the use of no confidence and censure motions. The paper will cite examples from the National Assembly's first two terms to give a flavour and better understanding of the workings of scrutiny of the Welsh executive. Finally, it will look ahead beyond the impending elections in May this year and examine how new legislation, in the form of the Government of Wales Act 2006, will mean more change to the National Assembly and the way in which it scrutinises the Welsh executive.