

BUSINESS PAPERS

WEDNESDAY 14th JULY 1999

PART 1 – SECTION A

AGENDA

The session will commence at 2pm

Questions to Jane Hutt, Secretary for Health & Social Services (15 minutes)

A list of the Oral questions are on the Internet (and Chamberweb)

Questions to Tom Middlehurst, Secretary for Life-long Education & Training (15 minutes)

A list of the Oral questions are on the Internet (and Chamberweb)

Members' Salaries and Allowances

Motion: *That the Assembly approves the National Assembly for Wales's Determination on Members' Salaries and Allowances laid in The Table Office on Friday 9th July 1999*

To be proposed by The Business Secretary

The following amendments have been selected:

Rod Richards:

Delete the word " *approves* " and insert " *notes* ". After " *1999* " insert " *and refers the draft Determination to the Senior Salaries Review Body for consideration with a view to the SSRB reporting back to the Assembly with its final recommendations as soon as is reasonable.*"

Jenny Randerson :

Delete lines 6-7 from para 2.1.2; "*the provision for additional Salary payment to the 'Leader of the largest Party not represented in the Cabinet'*"

and insert: 2.1.2a:

"There should be no provision for an additional salary which validates a de facto role of 'Leader of the Opposition', since this would simply replicate the Westminster Parliamentary model whilst taking no account of the greater plurality afforded by the four-Party system now operating in Wales."

Minority Party Debate: Liberal Democrats

Enterprise Development Bank for Wales

The National Assembly recognises the pivotal importance of Small and Medium Enterprises to the future economic development of Wales and notes with concern the significant under-provision of investment banking and specialist financial services in Wales capable of facilitating the growth of indigenous enterprise. Furthermore, the Assembly recognises the unique opportunity provided by forthcoming European Structural Funds for both strategic investment in the Small and Medium Enterprise sector, and nurturing the entrepreneurial spirit essential for sustainable wealth creation. The Assembly believes, therefore, that proposals for the establishment of an Enterprise Development Bank for Wales should be incorporated immediately into the National Strategy Document.

To be proposed by Mike German

The following amendment has been selected:

Andrew Davies

In last line : delete "*immediately*" and after "*National Strategy Document*" add "*following consultation with business, local authorities, the voluntary sector, academics and other partners*".

Minority Party Debate: Plaid Cymru

Phil Williams

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

- Notes that according to the present Barnett formula for determining the budget of the National Assembly, all government expenditure on projects supported by EU structural funds (both the EU contribution and the government component of 'match-funding') has to be drawn from this budget without an automatic supplement to cover the extra expenditure incurred;*
- recognises that additional finance will be necessary for the years 2000-1 and 2001-2 to enable Wales to take full and immediate advantage of the new round of Objective-1 funding;*
- stresses the need for the next Comprehensive Spending Review to ensure that an appropriate supplement is added to the budget of the National Assembly to enable the structural funds to be drawn down and fully utilised.*

The National Assembly therefore calls on central government to make sure that no approved Objective-1 projects in Wales scheduled to commence in the years 2000 or 2001 will be postponed because of the delay in agreeing a revised formula for the budget of the National Assembly.

The National Assembly also calls on the First Secretary to obtain Treasury agreement that the following principle will be followed in revising the formula of the next Comprehensive Spending Review:

The operation of the Barnett formula should exclude all EU-supported expenditure in the English spending departments, or in Wales. The structural funding from the EU designated for Wales, and an appropriate level of government 'match-funding', shall then be added to the Barnett block as additional items in the budget of the National Assembly,

and asks that he should report to the Assembly on the progress of his representations during November 1999.

The following amendment has been selected:

Andrew Davies

To propose that the Assembly resolve to adopt the following amendments to the above motion (insert amendments):

Delete the first bullet point and replace with



"Notes that according to the past working of the Barnett formula for determining the budget of the Welsh office for which responsibility transferred to the Assembly on July 1st, government expenditure on projects supported by EU structural funds (both the EU contribution and the government component of 'match-funding) had to be drawn from this budget without an automatic supplement to cover the extra expenditure incurred;"

Line 1 second bullet delete "*necessary after 2000-1*" and replace with "*necessary after 2001-2*"

Fourth paragraph line 3 replace "*because of the delay in agreeing a revised formula for the budget of the National Assembly*" and replace with "*because of doubt or delay over the budget of the National Assembly.*"

Delete fifth paragraph and replace with:

"The National Assembly also notes that the First Secretary has secured from the Treasury an agreement to consider on their merits as part of the Comprehensive Spending Review representations from the Assembly about the public spending implications arising from Objective One Status. Calls on the First Secretary to discuss with Treasury the proposal that:"

The session will conclude at 5.30pm

The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at

2.00 pm on Tuesday, 20th July 1999

J W Lloyd

Clerk to the Welsh Assembly