

Second Assembly Plenary Meeting (203)

Wednesday, 17th May 2006

AGENDA

The meeting will commence at 2.00pm

Item 1 - Motion to Suspend Standing Orders

Item 2 - Motion to establish a Shadow Commission

Item 3 - Motion to elect members to the Shadow Commission

Item 4 - Motion to establish the Committee on Standing Orders

Item 5 - Motion to elect members to the Committee on Standing Orders

Item 6 - Questions to Brian Gibbons, Minister for Health and Social Services

Item 7 - Questions to Alun Pugh, Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport

Item 8 - Questions to the House Committee

Urgent Question - Carl Sargeant (Alyn and Deeside): What discussion has the Minister had regarding the job losses at the Vauxhall Ellesmere Port plant and the affect this will have on North East Wales.

Item 9 - Motion to seek the National Assembly`s agreement that the

Welsh Assembly Government has satisfied the requirements of the Standing Order 31 proposal by Gwenda Thomas AM, which was debated in Plenary on 23 November 2005

Item 10 - Motion to approve changes to Main Expenditure Groups

Item 11 - Debate on the Manufacturing Industry

Item 12 - Debate on ESTYN – the Report of Her Majesty`s Chief Inspector of Schools

Item 13 - Short debate - NDM3039 Glyn Davies (Mid and West Wales): Urban Green Space and Affordable Housing

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Item 1 - Motion to Suspend Standing Orders

NNDM3048 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales in accordance with Standing Orders 37.5 and 37.6:

1. Suspends Standing Order 6.13, and that part of Standing Order 5.4 that requires the weekly Business Statement to constitute the agreed timetable for Assembly business, to allow NNDM3046 and NNDM3047 – relating to the establishment and election of the Shadow Commission – to be considered in Plenary on Wednesday 17th May 2006; and
2. Suspends Standing Order 6.14 to allow any amendments in relation to NNDM3046, tabled before 11:00am on Wednesday 17th May, to be considered in Plenary on Wednesday 17th May 2006.

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Item 2 - Motion to establish a Shadow Commission

NNDM3046 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order 8.1:

1. Establishes a Committee to plan for the matters within the responsibility of the future Assembly Commission as set out in Clause 27 of the Government of Wales Bill;
2. The title of the Committee shall be the Shadow Commission;
3. Membership of the Shadow Commission shall comprise one Assembly Member from the Labour Party, one from Plaid Cymru, one from the Welsh Conservative Party and one from the Welsh Liberal Democrat Party and the Presiding Officer who shall chair the Committee;
4. The terms of reference of the Shadow Commission shall be to plan for the matters within the responsibility of the Assembly Commission.
5. The committee shall cease to exist on the 2 May 2007.

Costs of the Commission

The Commission will be serviced from existing Assembly Parliamentary Service staff resources at no additional cost.

Benefits of the Commission

Establishing the shadow Commission, which will comprise cross party representation, would be the best way forward to consider the matters within the responsibility of the future Assembly Commission as set out in Clause 27 of the Government of Wales Bill.

There are no additional implications.

The Government of Wales Bill can be accessed on the following link: <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200506/cmbills/100/2006100.pdf>

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Item 3 - Motion to elect members to the Shadow Commission

NNDM3047 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly, acting under Standing Order 8.4, elects the following Members to its Shadow Commission:

Dafydd Elis-Thomas (Presiding Officer)

Lorraine Barrett (Labour)

Elin Jones (Plaid Cymru)

William Graham (Conservative)

Peter Black (Liberal Democrat)

and elects the Presiding Officer to be the Chair of the Shadow Commission.

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Item 4- Motion to establish the Committee on Standing Orders

NDM3044 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order 8.1:

1. Establishes an Advisory Committee to recommend Standing Orders for the Assembly constituted under the Government of Wales Bill;
2. The title of the Committee shall be the Committee on Standing Orders;
3. Membership of the Committee shall comprise seven Assembly Members, four from the Labour Party, one from Plaid Cymru, one from the Welsh Conservative Party and one from the Welsh Liberal Democrat Party who shall chair the Committee;
4. The terms of reference for the Committee on Standing Orders shall be to:
 - a) Make every effort to recommend new standing orders, which are capable of securing a two thirds majority approval by plenary;
 - b) Prepare a report, which shall set out proposed new standing orders for consideration by plenary.
5. The Committee shall, report on or before 31 January 2007. The committee shall cease to exist on the 1 March 2007.

The above motion was accompanied by the following assessment of the costs, benefits and any other implications of establishing the committee:

Assessment of the Costs and Benefits of establishing the Committee on Standing Orders

Costs of the Committee

The Committee will be serviced from existing Assembly Parliamentary Service staff resources at no additional cost.

Benefits of the Committee

Establishing the additional Committee, which will comprise cross party representation, would be the best way forward to consider and recommend Standing Orders for the Assembly constituted under the Government of Wales Bill.

The Committee shall, report on or before January 31 2007 and shall cease to exist on the 1 March 2007.

There are no additional implications.

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Item 5 - Motion to elect members to the Committee on Standing Orders

NDM3045 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly, acting under Standing Order 8.4, elects the following Members to the Committee on Standing Orders:

Jane Hutt (Labour)

Ann Jones (Labour)

Val Lloyd (Labour)

Gwenda Thomas (Labour)

Jocelyn Davies (Plaid Cymru)

Lisa Francis (Conservative)

Jenny Randerson (Liberal Democrat)

and elects Jenny Randerson to be the Chair of the Committee.

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Item 6 - Questions to Brian Gibbons, Minister for Health and Social Services

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Item 7 - Questions to Alun Pugh, Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport

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Item 8 - Questions to the House Committee

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Urgent Question -

Carl Sargeant (Alyn and Deeside): What discussion has the Minister had regarding the job losses at the Vauxhall Ellesmere Port plant and the affect this will have on North East Wales.

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Item 9 - Motion to seek the National Assembly`s agreement that the Welsh Assembly Government has satisfied the requirements of the Standing Order 31 proposal by Gwenda Thomas AM, which was debated in Plenary on 23 November 2005

NDM3043 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

The National Assembly for Wales

1. Recognises that the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills:

- a) brought forward The Education Act 2002 (Commencement No. 8) (Wales) Order 2006, which commences section 175 of the Education Act 2002 for approved in Plenary 31 January 2006; and
- b) will issue guidance to support local education authorities and governing bodies exercise their functions to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, which includes the nomination of a named governor responsible for child protection matters and the setting up of local education authority databases of nominated governors for consultation during the summer term to take effect in schools during the Autumn term 2006.

2. Believes that the actions sought by Gwenda Thomas in her Standing Order 31.2 motion NDM2641

debated on 23 November 2005, will have been satisfactorily completed, and therefore that it should not proceed with the remaining steps in the Standing Order 31 procedure.

The Education Act 2002 (Commencement No. 8) (Wales) Order 2006 was laid in the Table Office on 10 January 2006.

The Education Act 2002 can be accessed using the following link: <http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2002/20020032.htm>

Supporting Documents
[NDM2641](#)

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Item 10 - Motion to approve changes to Main Expenditure Groups

NDM3040 Sue Essex (Cardiff North)

That the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order 21.6, approves the changes to Main Expenditure Groups for the financial year 2006-07 laid in the Table Office on Tuesday 9 May by the Minister for Finance, Local Government and Public Services and Communities, Sue Essex.

The following tables were laid in the Table Office on 9 May:

Table 1 shows the proposed changes of existing Assembly provision for Main Expenditure Groups which relates to transfers to and from other government departments and technical budget changes.

Supporting Documents
[Table 1](#)
[Explanatory Note](#)

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Item 11 - Debate on the Manufacturing Industry

NDM3041 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Notes the increasing strength of competition within the manufacturing sector globally;
2. Recognises the continuing need for the manufacturing sector in Wales to position itself to take advantage of the global situation;
3. Endorses the need for continued public sector support for the sector in Wales

The following amendments have been tabled:

In accordance with the revised guidance on the Grouping, Selection and Refusal of Amendments, the Presiding Officer has determined the order in which they will be taken for the purposes of debate. Votes will be taken separately:

(1+2+7)

(3+4)

(5+6)

Amendment 1. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

In point 2 after ‘global situation’ insert:

‘and, in the light of the limited availability of footloose international companies in the manufacturing sector, recognises the growing importance of indigenous SME's and urges the Government to take proactive steps to help existing manufacturing SME's in Wales, to expand and new ones to be established’

Amendment 2. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

In point 3 after ‘Wales’ insert:

‘and therefore recognises the need for a more focussed and strategic approach to the use of EU funding’

Amendment 3. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Target investment at growth industries and industries of the future.

Amendment 4. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Recognises that Wales' manufacturing position would be strengthened by membership of the Euro.

Amendment 5. Lisa Francis (Mid and West Wales)

Add new point at end of motion:

Regrets the drop in manufacturing output in Wales while the sector in the rest of the UK is growing, and expresses concern at falls in the index of production, construction, manufacturing and the value of exports, as well as the increase in unemployment over the last 12 months, and calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to recognise its failures and revise its strategies accordingly.

Amendment 6. Lisa Francis (Mid and West Wales)

Add new point at end of motion:

Calls upon the Welsh Assembly Government to undertake appropriate and regular surveys of employers in the manufacturing industry and to take action accordingly, to ensure the upskilling of employees within the sector.

Amendment 7. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Add new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Assembly Government, in view of its commitment to sustainability, to introduce new policies to help the manufacturing sector in Wales reduce its energy consumption and maximize its recycling capacity in order to lessen the carbon-footprint emanating from this sector, without undermining its growth potential.

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Item 12 - Debate on ESTYN – the Report of Her Majesty`s Chief Inspector of Schools

NDM3042 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales notes:

1. The annual report of Her Majesty`s Chief Inspector of Education and Training;

2. The Chief Inspector's view that standards are improving in many areas of education and training;
3. The action being taken though our distinctive agenda for Wales, "The Learning Country", to break down barriers to learning and address the areas for improvement identified by the Chief Inspector.

The annual report of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and Training can be located using the following hyperlinks:

http://www.estyn.gov.uk/publications/Estyn_Full_Annual_Report_English.pdf

http://www.estyn.gov.uk/publications/cy_Estyn_Full_Annual_Report_Welsh.pdf

"The Learning Country" is published in two parts, which can be located using the hyperlinks below:

<http://assembly/education/topics/lifelong-learning/ll-docs/learning-country/doct-e.pdf>

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/docrepos/40382/4038232/4038211/403821211/learningcountry-w.pdf?lang=cy>

http://new.wales.gov.uk/docrepos/40382/4038232/403821/the_learning_country_2/Learning_Country2_English.pdf?lang=en

http://new.wales.gov.uk/docrepos/40382/4038232/403821/the_learning_country_2/Learning_Country2_Welsh.pdf?lang=cy

The following amendments have been tabled:

In accordance with the revised guidance on the Grouping, Selection and Refusal of Amendments, the Presiding Officer has determined the order in which they will be taken for the purposes of debate. Votes will be taken separately:

(1+2+3+4+5+6+7)

(8+9+10+11)

Amendment 1. Lisa Francis (Mid and West Wales)

Add new point at end of motion:

Instructs the Assembly Government to direct funding towards reducing the number of children not in education, training or employment.

Amendment 2. Lisa Francis (Mid and West Wales)

Add new point at end of motion:

Notes with concern the number of children leaving school with inadequate literacy, numeracy and social interaction skills.

Amendment 3. Lisa Francis (Mid and West Wales)

Add new point at end of motion:

Notes with concern the Inspectors' observations that 30% of learners were absent from the lessons assessed and the lack of effective strategies to help learners keep up their attendance.

Amendment 4. Lisa Francis (Mid and West Wales)

Add new point at end of motion:

Notes with concern the failure to address education issues relating to the youth justice system.

Amendment 5. Lisa Francis (Mid and West Wales)

Add new point at end of motion:

Instructs the Assembly Government to address the 0% growth in real terms in further education spending.

Amendment 6. Lisa Francis (Mid and West Wales)

Add new point at end of motion:

Notes with concern the failure to meet Assembly Government set examination targets in secondary schools and colleges.

Amendment 7. Lisa Francis (Mid and West Wales)

Add new point at end of motion:

Notes with concern that schools in deprived areas in England outperform schools in such areas in Wales.

Amendment 8. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Notes the concern expressed by Estyn of the condition of school buildings and the lack of co-ordination in planning their maintenance and repair.

Amendment 9. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Notes with concern the limited affect of CCETs and 14-19 Networks and calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to provide these partnerships with the resources and powers to bring about change.

Amendment 10. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to improve provision for learning for young people with mental health problems.

Amendment 11. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Recognises the need for Local Education Authorities to address the lack of provision of full time

education for excluded pupils in Wales.

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**Item 13 - Short debate - NDM3039 Glyn Davies (Mid and West Wales):
Urban Green Space and Affordable Housing**

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**It is expected that the meeting will conclude by
5.30pm**

**The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at
2.00pm on Tuesday, 23rd May 2006**

E P Silk

Clerk to the Assembly