

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: Tuesday 21st March 2006

Time: 9.00 a.m.

Venue: Conference Room C

Present: Jenny Randerson (Chair)
Jane Hutt, Business Minister
Jocelyn Davies, Plaid Cymru Business Manager
Lisa Francis, Welsh Conservatives Business Manager
Peter Black, Welsh Liberal Democrats

Paul Silk, Clerk to the Assembly
Andrew George, Clerk to the Business Committee
Marion Stapleton, Assembly Business Unit
Karin Phillips, Members' Research and Committee Service
Peter Jones, Counsel to the Assembly Parliamentary Service
Alun Jenkins, DLS (Agenda Item 4)
Marc Wyn Jones, Business Committee Secretariat
Catherine Morris, PS to the Deputy Presiding Officer

1. Apologies & announcements

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Kirsty Williams. The Chair welcomed Peter Black who would be representing her in accordance with Standing Order 13.3. Apologies for absence were also received from the Deputy Presiding Officer.

2. Minutes of the previous meetings

(i) BC(2)08-06 (Final minutes) - Tuesday 7th March 2006

2.1 The minutes were presented to the Committee in their final format. As there were no comments, they would be translated in readiness for publication.

Action: Chamber Secretariat

(ii) BC(2)09-06 (draft minutes) - Tuesday 14th March 2006

2.2 The minutes were presented to the Committee in draft. An amendment was suggested which would be incorporated before the minutes were translated before being submitted to the Committee in final draft.

Action: Chamber Secretariat

3. Matters Arising

4. Subordinate Legislation

(a) Orders for consideration

The Education (Parenting Orders) (Wales) Regulations 2006 - **BC(2)10-06 (p1)**

The Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 (Commencement No.5) (Wales) Order 2006 - **BC(2)10-06 (p2)**

& Report of the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee

The National Assistance (Assessment of Resources and Sums for Personal Requirements) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2006 - **BC(2)10-06 (p3)**

& Report of the HSS Committee - **BC(2)10-06(p9)**

The Sheep and Goats (Records, Identification and Movement) (Wales) Order 2006 - **BC(2)10-06 (p4)**

& Report of the EPC Committee – **BC(2)10-06(p10)**

The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (Commencement No.8 and Transitional Provisions) (Wales) Order 2006 - **BC(2)10-06 (p5)**

The Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications and Deemed Applications) (Amendment No.2) (Wales) Regulations 2006 - **BC(2)10-06 (p6)**

& Report of the EPC Committee - **BC(2)10-06(p16)**

The Tuberculosis (Wales) Order 2006 - **BC(2)10-06 (p7)**

& Report of the EPC Committee - **BC(2)10-06(p17)**

The Business Committee recommended the Standard procedure for BC(2)10-06(p1); BC(2)10-06(p2); BC(2)10-06(p3); BC(2)10-06(p4) and BC(2)10-06(p6) and BC(2)10-06(p5). (Following the meeting, the Presiding Officer determined that none of these draft Orders need be referred to a Subject Committee.)

BC(2)10-06 (p1) & BC(2)10-06 (p2)

4.1 The Chair referred to the report of the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, and which said that similar legislation had already been implemented in England. It was noted that the Minister had explained to the Committee that a decision had been taken by the Government to wait and see how the arrangements for Parenting Orders had worked in England before implementing them in Wales. Business Managers asked if this information could be included in the Explanatory Memorandums and commented that some parts of the Explanatory Memorandums were not clear. Marion Stapleton said that they would be made clearer and that the additional information would be included. Business Managers said they would like to debate these draft Orders.

BC(2)10-06(p7)

4.2 The Chair noted that the Explanatory Memorandum accompanying this draft Order said that “*due to the delay in implementing similar legislation in England, the State Veterinary Service (SVS), who administer the Pre-Movement testing, in Wales and England are unable to put in place the necessary administrative process to allow the legislation to come into force in Wales at the same time as in England.*” Marion Stapleton said she would clarify the reasons for the delay and report back.

(b) Standing Order 29 Subordinate Legislation

(c) Orders made under the Executive Procedure; Papers to note.

BC(2)10-06 (p11)

4.3 The Committee noted the letter on the use of the Executive procedure for The Products of Animal Origin (Third Country Imports) (Wales) Regulations 2006. It was noted that these Regulations revoked and remade previous amending Regulations because they had not been made bilingually.

(d) Papers for Information

5. Committees

6. Forthcoming Business

BC(2)10-06(p12)

6.1 The Business Minister responded to requests from Business Managers and said that:-

- A statement on ambulance response times or a review carried out by the Welsh Ambulance Service, would be scheduled within the next weeks.
- There was currently no intention of scheduling a statement on the service changes at Llandudno, St. Asaph and Abergele hospitals as this was a matter for the local health/trust boards. The proposed changes had recently been published for consultation and it would be inappropriate for the Minister to comment or make a statement at this stage.
- There was no intention of scheduling a statement on the Communities First Programme following a recent report in the media.
- The Minister for social Justice and Regeneration would be making a statement on police restructuring when the position became clearer.
- There was no intention of scheduling a debate on the report of the Power Commission.

- There was no intention of scheduling a debate on transparency in Government. However, there had been an opportunity for Members to ask questions to the Business Minister on this issue in Plenary on 15th March.

This Week's Business

BC(2)10-06(p13)

6.2 The Committee considered this paper, which detailed the Assembly's agreed business for the week.

6.3 The Business Minister said that no motion had been tabled for the debate on Primary Legislation Proposals, which had been scheduled for 22 March, and which had now been postponed until 29th March.

Business Managers' Requests

6.3 Jocelyn Davies asked if the following items of business could be scheduled :

- A debate on the manufacturing industry.
- A statement on job losses at Panasonic
- A statement on NHS debt
- A statement (written or oral) on the E-Coli Public Inquiry.
- A written statement on the Child Trust Fund.
- A debate on a Welsh honours system
- A debate on the funding of political parties
- A statement on sprinkler systems in schools
- A statement on the transitional arrangements for the Chair of the Arts Council of Wales

6.4 Lisa Francis supported the above requests and asked if the following item of business could be scheduled:

- A statement on Agri and Land-based Education.
- A statement on the Pan-Forces Military School in St.Athan.

6.5 Peter Black supported the previous requests and reiterated his request for a debate on the Power Commission.

Draft Business Statement - BC(2)09-06(p11)

6.6 The Committee noted the Business Minister's proposed statement about the organisation of the Assembly's business for the weeks commencing 28th March, 4th April and 2nd May.

BC(2)10-06(p15)

6.7 The Committee considered a paper from the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning on Gwenda Thomas' proposal for legislation under Standing Order 31. It was noted that the paper said that the proposal for legislation had already been effected by the introduction of other legislation and that the Standing Order 31 procedure could be discontinued. Business Managers noted that there were two parts to Gwenda Thomas' original motion and said that the remaining provisions of Standing Order 31 should still apply. The Business Minister said she would consider the issue and report back to the Committee as soon as possible.

7. Advice to Assembly on procedures

8. Matters referred from plenary

9. Revisions to Standing Orders

10. Presiding Officer rulings

11. Any other business.

CHAMBER SECRETARIAT