

## AGENDA

**The Session will commence at 2.00pm**

### **Item 1**

**Questions to Jenny Randerson, Minister for Culture, Sport & the Welsh Language**

Click [here](#) for the questions.

### **Item 2**

**Questions to Michael German, Minister for Rural Development and Wales Abroad**

Click [here](#) for the questions.

### **Item 3**

**Questions to Carwyn Jones , Minister for Open Government**

Click [here](#) for the questions.

### **Item 4**

**Statement by Minister for Environment on Rail Services**

### **Item 5**

**Statement by the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning on Higher Education Strategy**

### **Item 6**

**Motion to approve Special Grant Report No14: terms for reimbursing local authorities for supporting unaccompanied asylum-seeking children 1 April - 7 November 2002  
NDM1297 Carwyn Jones (Bridgend)**

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

Under S88B of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, and in accordance with Standing Order 19.8, approves the Local Government Finance (Wales) Special Grant Report (No 14) (Wales) 2002 which was laid in the Table Office on 14 January 2003.

Click [here](#) for the document.

### **Item 7**

**Debate on a motion to amend the National Assembly for Wales` Members` Pension**

## **Scheme under Standing Order 3.1 NDM1298 John Marek (Wrexham)**

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales under section 18 (1) of the Government of Wales Act 1998 and Standing Order 3.1 determines to adopt the revised National Assembly for Wales Members' Pension Scheme Rules laid on 7 January 2003 and revokes the rules set out under the National Assembly for Wales (Assembly Members) (Pension Scheme) Direction 1999 as amended.

Click [here](#) for the document.

## **Item 8**

### **Debate on the Prohibition of smoking in public places**

**NDM1270 Alun Pugh (Clwyd West)**

**Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)**

**Dai Lloyd (South Wales West)**

**David Melding (South Wales Central)**

The National Assembly for Wales pursuant to Standing Order 31.9 calls upon the UK Government to bring forward a public Bill relating to Wales which would provide that the Assembly could, by statutory instrument, prohibit all smoking with tobacco in such public buildings as may be specified in that instrument. The purpose and effect of any such Bill and any statutory instrument made under it would be to reduce the exposure of employees and members of the public to the well documented and proven life threatening dangers caused by environmental tobacco smoke.

An assessment of the Costs, Benefits and other implication for the above motion Tabled by Alun Pugh, AM on 15 January 2003

Around 7,000 people die from smoking diseases every year in Wales. The cost of treating smoking diseases is around £30 million per year. If this measure becomes law there is considerable research to prove that smoking levels would fall and the related costs of treatment would also fall, although the amount is difficult to calculate.

Smoking taxation is paid to the UK Government, not the Assembly. The UK Government also pays pensions. As well as the tax proceeds, there is a very considerable saving to the HM Treasury in pensions payments as a result of the premature deaths of 100,000 UK citizens each year from smoking. Furthermore, as most smokers come from the poorest sections of society, they is a disproportionate level of claims for state benefits. Their early death benefits the Treasury greatly. I am not aware of any research which quantifies these details.

## **Item 9**

**Short debate - NDM1300 Dafydd Wigley (Caernarfon); The Potential Effect of the International Crisis on Public Services in Wales.**

**The session should conclude by 5.30pm**

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**The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at**

**2.00pm on Tuesday, 28th January 2003**

**E P Silk**

**Clerk to the Assembly**