

**BUSINESS PAPERS**

**THURSDAY, 1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY 2001**

**PART 1 – SECTION A**

**AGENDA**

**The Session will commence at 9.05am**

**Local Government Questions to Edwina Hart, Minister for Finance, Local Government & Communities (15 minutes)**

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

**Questions to Sue Essex, Minister for the Environment (15 minutes)**

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

**Debate on the Diversity of Public Appointments**

To propose that the National Assembly:

- Endorses the broad proposals contained in the report from the Committee on Equality of Opportunity entitled 'Report for the National Assembly for Wales Equal Opportunities Committee on Public Appointments to Assembly sponsored Public Bodies', available on the intranet at:

[http://assembly/committees/Equal%20Opportunities%20Committee/Meetings/2000/07-00\(25%20Oct\)/EOC-07-00\(p.1\)%20-20draft%20report%20on%20public%20appointments.html](http://assembly/committees/Equal%20Opportunities%20Committee/Meetings/2000/07-00(25%20Oct)/EOC-07-00(p.1)%20-20draft%20report%20on%20public%20appointments.html)

- The National Assembly agrees that the Administration report back on the progress towards implementation by July 2001.

### Minority Party Debate: Plaid Cymru

The National Assembly expresses its concern at the delay in dealing with claims for compensation by former miners and their families in Wales following the High Court ruling on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1998, and calls on the First Minister to make the strongest representations to the UK government to:

- Employ more medical and administrative staff to speed up the processing of claims
- To abolish its clawback of benefit payments from the settled claims immediately, and
- End its challenge to the pension loss element of compensation claims.

*The following amendments have been tabled:*

#### 1. William Graham (South Wales East), Alun Cairns (South Wales West);

Place a full stop after "January 1998" and insert

'The persistent changes in Ministerial responsibility for this matter has compounded the delay'

before "and calls on"

#### 2. Andrew Davies (Swansea West);

Delete all after UK Government and add:

"to do everything within its legal powers to ensure the prompt distribution of the funds already made available for the compensation of former miners and dependents".

**Short Debate:** (to last 30 minutes)

**Phil Williams (South Wales East); The Role of Science in Wales**

**The session is expected to conclude by 12.35pm**

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

**2.00 pm on Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> February 2001**

**J W Lloyd**

**Clerk to the Assembly**

