

**BUSINESS PAPERS**

**THURSDAY, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2001**

**PART 1 – SECTION A**

**AGENDA**

**The Session will commence at 9.05am**

**Finance 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 Mike German, Minister for Economic Development (15 minutes)**

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

**Statement on the National Economic Development Strategy**

**Debate on the Economic Development Committee Report on Business Support**

To propose that the National Assembly,

a. welcomes the Economic Development Committee's Report into Business Support (laid in the Table Office on 31 January 2001) as an important contribution to securing an effective framework for providing help and support to encourage business in Wales to grow and to achieving sustainable economic development in all parts of Wales.

b. agrees that the Administration now undertakes full consultation with business, as a requirement of section 115 of the Government of Wales Act, and full consultation with all interested parties;

c. encourages all those involved in business support, both recipients and providers to contribute to the consultation process;

## **Debate on Broadcasting and Communications**

To propose that the National Assembly:

- welcomes the consultation exercise following publication of the British Government's White Paper 'A new future for communications', copies of which are available on the internet at [www.communicationswhitepaper.gov.uk](http://www.communicationswhitepaper.gov.uk) and;
- endorses the response by the National Assembly Cabinet, which was laid in the Table Office and distributed by email to Assembly Members on 1 February 2001.

### ***The following amendments have been tabled:***

In accordance with the revised guidance on the Grouping, Selection and Refusal of Amendments, the Presiding Officer has decided to group the amendments as follows for the purposes of debate - but votes will be taken separately:

(1)

(2)+(3)+(4)

#### **1. William Graham (South Wales East);**

*After bullet point one add:*

"asserts and reaffirms the importance of S4C in the Welsh broadcasting sector"

#### **2. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East);**

*Add as new bullet point at end of motion:*

- Calls for any new legislation in this area to take into account the need for OFCOM to be supplemented in Wales by a Communications Users Council for the purposes of regulation in Wales.

### **3. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East);**

*Add as new bullet point at end of motion:*

- Calls on the UK Government to devise a strategy, as a matter of urgency, aimed at improving viewer take-up of television from Wales, including the possibility of the transmission of Welsh digital signals from Mendip, Ridge Hill, Wrekin and Winter Hill transmitters.

### **4. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East);**

*Add as new bullet point at end of motion:*

- Recognises the importance to our creative industries of maintaining a dynamic market for communications services and acknowledges the benefits the sector is bringing to the modern Welsh economy.

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

**Alun Pugh (Clwyd West); Death in the Mountains – Improving Mountain Safety 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, 13<sup>th</sup> February 2001**

**J W Lloyd**

**Clerk to the Assembly**