

BUSINESS PAPERS

THURSDAY, 22nd MARCH 2001

PART 1 – SECTION A

AGENDA

The Session will commence at 9.05am

Election of the Deputy First Minister to the Carbon Trust

To propose that the National Assembly:

1. Notes that the Carbon Trust will come into being on 1 April and that its aim will be to accelerate the take up of low carbon technology by business and other organisations.
2. Notes that the details of the Trust's operation in Wales were considered and broadly supported by the Assembly's Economic Development Committee on 14 February (EDC 03-01).
3. Agrees to the Minister for Economic Development accepting membership of the Trust and appointing one non-executive Director to the Trust Board under the powers in section 5 of the Science and Technology Act 1965 and sections 40 and 85 of the Government of Wales Act.
4. Notes that the initial non-executive Director will be a senior Assembly civil servant.

Questions to Jane Hutt, Minister for Health & Social Services (15 minutes)

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

Questions to Jane Davidson, Minister for Education & Life-Long Learning (15 minutes)

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

Questions to House Committee(15 minutes)

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

A procedural motion will be proposed by the Minister for Assembly Business under Standing Order 6.16 to bring forward the following *Composite Motion* which differs from

the agreed business shown in the Forward Look of 13th March.

Composite motion:

To propose that the National Assembly, acting under Standing Order 22.25:

Approves:

- The Plastic Materials and Articles in Contact with Food (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2001 laid in the Table Office on 6 February 2001, and:

- Considers the report of the Legislation Committee which has not identified any matters for concern in the draft order The Plastic Materials and Articles in Contact with Food (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2001, laid in the Table Office on 27 February 2001 and the Memorandum of Corrections laid in the Table Office on 5 March 2001.

Approves:

- The Food Irradiation Provisions (Wales) Amendment Regulations 2001 laid in the Table Office on 14 February 2001, and:

- Considers the report of the Legislation Committee which has not identified any matters for concern in the draft order The Food Irradiation Provisions (Wales) Amendment Regulations 2001, laid in the Table Office on 27 February 2001 and the Memorandum of Corrections laid in Table Office on 9 March 2001.

Approves:

- The Restriction on Pithing (Wales) Regulations 2001 laid in the Table Office on 14 February 2001, and:

- Considers the report of the Legislation Committee which has not identified any matters for concern in the draft order The Restriction on Pithing (Wales) Regulations 2001, laid in the Table Office on 27 February 2001 and the Memorandum of Corrections laid in the Table Office on 14 March 2001.

Approves:

- The Learning & Skills Act 2000 (Commencement No.3. & Transitional Provisions)(Wales) Order 2001 laid in the Table Office on 14 February 2001, and:

- Considers the report of the Legislation Committee which has not identified any matters for concern in the draft order The Learning & Skills Act 2000 (Commencement No.3. & Transitional Provisions)(Wales) Order 2001, laid in the Table Office on 27 February 2001 and the Memorandum of Corrections laid in the Table Office on 2 March 2001.

Approves:

- The Smoke Control Areas (Exempted Fireplaces)(Wales) Order 2001 laid in the Table Office on 7 March 2001, and:

- Considers the report of the Legislation Committee which has not identified any matters for concern in the draft order The Smoke Control Areas (Exempted Fireplaces)(Wales) Order 2001 laid in the Table Office on 13 March 2001, and the Memorandum of Corrections laid in the Table Office on 14 March 2001.

Approval of the In-year transfers between the MEGs

The National Assembly

In accordance with Standing Order 19.5, approves the changes to Main Expenditure Groups for the financial year 2000-01, laid in the Table Office on Wednesday 14 March by the Minister for Finance and Communities, Edwina Hart.

A table showing the proposed changes to the 2000-2001 Main Expenditure Groups was laid in Table Office on 14 March.

Debate to approve the Sure Start Scheme Special Grant Report

To propose that the National Assembly:

Under Section 88B 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.5) (Wales) 2001 which was laid in the Table Office on 14 March 2001.

Debate to approve the Children and Young People Special Grant Report

To propose that the National Assembly:

Under Section 88B 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.6) (Wales) 2001 which was laid in the Table Office on Wednesday 14 March 2001.

Minority Party Debate: The Conservative Party

This National Assembly notes:

- the Liberal Democrat/Labour Administration's contention in *Improving Health in Wales* that "the traditional District General Hospital has served a population of around 200,000 to 250,000 people. Effective planning of secondary care now requires us to look at a population base of 500,000 people or more" (pg.16);
- the Administration's subsequent conclusion in *Improving Health in Wales* that "we will see an overall reduction in the number of traditional hospitals" (pg.16) in Wales.

The National Assembly calls upon the Liberal Democrat/Labour Administration to:

1. confirm that no existing Accident & Emergency department will be closed;
2. reject any plans to reduce the number of DGHs so as to reflect a population catchment of 500,000 or more;
3. confirm that the DGH model is not being abandoned;
4. provide £20 million for the construction of a National Children's Hospital for 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 and has decided to group the amendments as follows for the purposes of debate. Votes will be taken separately:

(1)+(2)

(3)+(4)

1. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Delete point 3 and replace with:

'recognise that hospital closures and increasing centralisation of NHS services, policies pursued over the last two decades and continued by the current Government, are not a solution to the problems of the NHS in Wales.'

And add at new points at the end of motion:

5. Review the effects of the Barnett Formula on the financial settlement for health

6. *Reviewing the concept of the health economy model, discussed in the document Access & Excellence" so that the:*

- Capacity to deliver services in Wales is developed
- The regional needs of Wales are taken into account

2. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Delete original point 3 and replace with

'The National Assembly recognises that fossilising the current model of service provision is an unsustainable strategy that will not aid in strategic long-term planning and will not deliver an improvement in patient care.'

Add new points at the end of the motion;

5. Develop a NHS in Wales that has its focus firmly in the community, expanding and strengthening the all Wales network of community hospitals.

6. Increase the capacity of the NHS in Wales.

3. Andrew Davies (Swansea West)

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Replace point 3 with new point 3:

"continue to value the work of DGH's and ensure that, in the future, hospitals offering secondary level care are fit for the new roles and functions which a modern and effective NHS will require."

4. Andrew Davies (Swansea West)

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Replace point 4 with new point 4:

"continue its support for the development of a Children's Hospital in Wales".

Short Debate: (to last 30 minutes)

Huw Lewis (Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney); Communities First and Social Justice

The session is expected to conclude by 12.35pm

The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at

2.00 pm on Tuesday, 27th March 2001

E P Silk

Clerk to the Assembly