

**BUSINESS PAPERS**

**THURSDAY, 29th MARCH 2001**

**PART 1 – SECTION A**

**AGENDA**

**The Session will commence at 9.05am**

**Election to Planning Decision Committee 2001/2**

*To propose that the National Assembly resolves:*

1. That a committee, to be known as Planning Decision Committee 2001/2, be established, in accordance with Standing Order 35, to discharge the functions of the Assembly in determining an application under Section 77 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, and an appeal under Section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and linked Listed Building Consent appeal, in respect of the matters identified in the Schedule to this motion, and that the Assembly's functions in that respect be delegated to that Committee;

2. That the members of that Committee be:

Richard Edwards  
John Griffiths  
Rhodri Glyn Thomas  
David Davies

3. That the Committee shall cease to exist when the Chair of the Committee signs decision letters in accordance with Standing Order 35.16 or on the 11 May 2001 whichever is the earlier save that the date specified by this paragraph may be varied or further varied at any time by resolution of the Environment, Planning and Transport Committee at the request of the Chair of the Planning Decision Committee.

4. That if the Committee shall cease to exist without the Chair having signed decision letters in respect of the matters identified in the Schedule to this motion then in that event the functions identified in paragraph 1 above are, in relation to such matter, delegated to the First Secretary.

## Schedule

Application by Anglesey Boat Company Ltd for proposed construction of a marina and facilities building, car park and boat storage at Gallows Point, Beaumaris, Anglesey.

Planning appeal by Mrs R E Davies for proposed creation of ground floor flat at Manor House, Vine Square, Llanfyllin, Powys.

## LINKED CASE

Listed Building Consent appeal for proposed internal alterations to form two flats and art gallery, creation of new window and alteration to existing external door at Manor House, Vine Square, Llanfyllin, linked to the planning appeal by Mrs R E Davies, will also be considered by the Planning Decision Committee.

## **Questions to Jenny Randerson, Minister for Culture and Sports (15 minutes)**

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

## **Questions to Carwyn Jones, Minister for Rural Affairs (15 minutes)**

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

## **Debate on the Foot and Mouth Disease Outbreak**

*A procedural motion will be proposed by the Minister for Assembly Business under Standing Order 6.16 to bring forward the following No Named Day Motion which was tabled on the 26th March 2001*

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales recognises the damaging effects which the Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak is having on rural businesses, especially in tourism, and resolves:

- that the first priority remains to eradicate Foot and Mouth Disease as soon as possible;
- to ensure that accurate, and up-to-date, information, consistent with veterinary advice, is made as widely available as possible;
- to ensure that every possible avenue is explored to ease the financial burden on rural businesses which have been adversely affected by the Disease; and
- that the Wales Rural Partnership be involved in developing plans to assist the recovery of the rural economy

## ***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)+(4)+(8)

(3)

(5)+(6)+(7)+(9)+(10)

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

Amend the first sentence to read

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales recognises the damaging effects which the Foot and Mouth crisis is having on the rural economy of Wales, especially tourism, and resolves:

**2. William Graham (South Wales East);**

Amend the first bullet point as follows, insert

"control and" before "eradicate"

**3. Ron Davies (Caerphilly);**

Add new second bullet point:

- to call on the Secretary of State for Agriculture to keep under constant review the possibility of using vaccination as an additional weapon in the fight against Foot and Mouth disease.

**4. William Graham (South Wales East);**

At the end of bullet point 2, add

and the Government takes specific steps to communicate with those affected through personal visits by Cabinet Members to areas of Wales particularly affected;

**5. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East);**

After the second bullet point insert as new bullet point:

- "to request that the Labour / Liberal Democrat Partnership Government prepares a 3 year recovery package for the Welsh agricultural industry based on an enhanced Rural Development Plan to include:

a) extra funding for a revised Tir Gofal scheme to enable significantly more farmers to participate

- b) implementing a fully funded Young Farmers Entrants Scheme in Wales by amending the current Rural Development Plan
- c) funding for a marketing drive for Welsh agricultural produce
- d) additional funding allocated to Processing and Marketing of Agricultural Produce Scheme and Promoting the Adaptation and Development of Rural Areas
- e) additional funding to maintain Tir Mynydd payments post 2003"

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

After the second bullet point insert as new bullet point:

- "To encourage the rapid re-opening of tourist attractions, where this can be done without undermining the eradication of the disease; "

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

After second bullet point, insert as new bullet point:

- "To provide immediate additional financial resources to the Wales Tourist Board over and above the 2001-2 budget to promote tourism in Wales"

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

At the end of bullet point 3, add after Disease

and that as a matter of urgency clear guidance is issued to local authorities on the provision of business rate relief

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

In the third bullet point delete semicolon, and add at end: " that specific aid schemes be published within seven days; and"

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

At end of motion insert additional bullet point:

- "That the Government of Wales makes it clear to the Treasury in London, that it expects to receive additional funding, over and above the Barnett Block, to meet additional costs arising from the Foot and Mouth crisis."

## **Composite Motion:**

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

- Approves:

The National Health Service (Travelling Expenses & Remission of Charges)(Amendment)(Wales) Regulations 2001, laid in the Table Office on 14 March 2001; and

Considers the report of the Legislation Committee which has not identified any matters for concern in the draft order The National Health Service (Travelling Expenses & Remission of Charges) (Amendment)(Wales) Regulations 2001, laid in the Table Office on 20 March 2001.

- Approves:

The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) (Amendment)(Wales) Regulations 2001, laid in the Table Office on 14 March 2001, and:

Considers the report of the Legislation Committee which has not identified any matters for concern in the draft order The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) (Amendment)(Wales) Regulations 2001, laid in the Table Office on 20 March 2001.

- Approves:

The National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) and (General Ophthalmic Services) (Amendment)(Wales) Regulations 2001, laid in the Table Office on 14 March 2001, and:

Considers the report of the Legislation Committee which has not identified any matters for concern in the draft order The National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) and (General Ophthalmic Services) (Amendment)(Wales) Regulations 2001, laid in the Table Office on 20 March 2001 and the Memorandum of Corrections laid in the Table Office on 20 March 2001.

- Approves:

The Local Authorities (Capital Finance)(Rate of Discount for 2001-2002) (Wales) Regulations 2001, laid in the Table Office on 14 March 2001, and:

Considers the report of the Legislation Committee which has not identified any matters for concern in the draft order The Local Authorities (Capital Finance)(Rate of Discount for 2001-2002) (Wales) Regulations 2001, laid in the Table Office on 20 March 2001

**Approval of the NHS (General Dental Services) and (Dental Charges) Amendment (Wales) Regulations 2001**

*To propose that the National Assembly:*

Considers the principle of The National Health Service (General Dental Services) and (Dental Charges)(Amendment)(Wales) Regulations 2001, laid in the Table Office on 14 March 2001.

**The following amendment has been tabled:**

**Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East);**

*Add at end of motion*

and calls upon the Labour / Liberal Democrat Partnership Administration to bring forward legislative proposals to promote universal free dental check ups in Wales

*To propose that the National Assembly:*

considers the report of the Legislation Committee which has not identified under Standing Order 11.5 any matters for concern in the draft order, The National Health Service (General Dental Services) and (Dental Charges) (Amendment)(Wales) Regulations 2001, laid in the Table Office on 20 March 2001;

approves that the Order is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 14 March 2001

**The following amendment has been tabled:**

**Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)**

**Dai Lloyd (South Wales West)**

**Cynog Dafis (Mid and West Wales)**

To propose that the Assembly resolves to make the following amendments to the **The National Health Service (General Dental Services) and (Dental Charges)(Amendment)(Wales) Regulations 2001** a draft of which was laid in the table office on **14 March 2001**

**Amendment 1**

Insert after Regulation 3 (1) (f) (ii)

iii) is a registered full time student over the age of 25

**Cost Benefit Analysis for NDM 608 The National Health Service (General Dental Services) and (Dental Charges) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2001**

**Introduction**

The amendment adds the category of registered full-time students over the age of 25, to the categories to those exempt from paying for dental check-up's.

This accompanying document provides an estimate of the costs and benefits of implementing the motion.

**A. Objectives**

The primary objective to be achieved by this measure is to exempt the category of registered full-time students over the age of 25 from paying for dental check-up's.

**B. Assessment of Costs**

<b>COST CATEGORY (annual costs except where stated)</b>	<b>OPTION 1</b>	<b>OPTION 2</b>
Direct costs (Costs falling on the Assembly which are directly attributable to the option)	Do nothing/do minimum.	Amend subordinate legislation adding students aged 25 and over whose home authority is in Wales to the classes of those exempt from charges for dental check-ups. Funding costs of approximately £25,000.
Indirect costs (Costs falling on the Assembly which cannot be directly attributed)		Minimal translation, printing and publicity costs as regulations are due to be amended and reprinted. Limited marginal additional staff costs for consulting on revisions and preparing revised draft legislation for consideration by the Assembly. Accommodation costs. In-house copying, telephones, lighting etc
Opportunity costs		Plenary Costs – Assembly staff time (incl Legal, Committee Sec, Chamber Sec, ROP, Translation)
Other costs (including costs falling on other bodies and unquantified costs)	Unquantifiable costs resulting from students not seeking dental treatment at appropriate time.	Some administrative costs for implementation of new exemption.
Total costs (including unquantified costs)	Minimal.	Approximately £25,000 direct costs.  Unquantified Indirect, Opportunity and Other costs.

**E. Justification**

Financial hardship is a grave concern for all students. NUS' *Student Hardship Survey* (1999) found that

73.3% of full time undergraduates were in debt, 71.4% of p/t undergraduates and 76.6% of postgraduates. The survey found that mature students have substantially more debt than any other students do. They often require more support and have more previously incurred debt. For 1998/9, DfEE figures show the drop-out rate to be approaching 20%. For mature students, and those in institutions with a high proportion of mature students or students from disadvantaged backgrounds, the rate rises to 40%. Extending exemption for dental check-up charges to this category would be a small but significant step towards reducing student hardship for this vulnerable group

## **F. Course of Action**

If the Assembly so resolves, the Assembly Secretary shall bring forward the draft Order within a period of 3 months from the date of the Assembly resolution.

## **Approval of the NHS (Charges for drugs and appliances) (Wales) Regulations 2001**

*To propose that the National Assembly:*

Considers the principle of The National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances)(Wales) Regulations 2001, laid in the Table Office on 14 March 2001.

**The following amendment has been tabled:**

**Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East);**

*Add at end of motion*

and calls on the Labour / Liberal Democrat Partnership Administration to bring forward legislative proposals to end prescription charges in Wales.

*To propose that the National Assembly:*

considers the report of the Legislation Committee, which has not identified under Standing Order 11.5 any matters for concern in the draft order, The National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances)(Wales) Regulations 2001, laid in the Table Office on 20 March 2001;

approves that the Order is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 14 March 2001 and the Memorandum of Corrections laid in the Table Office on 20 March 2001.

**The following amendment has been tabled:**

**Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)**

**Dai Lloyd (South Wales West)**

**Cynog Dafis (Mid and West Wales)**



To propose that the Assembly resolves to make the following amendments to the **The National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances)(Wales) Regulations 2001** a draft of which was laid in the table office on **14 March 2001**

## **Amendment 1**

Insert after Regulation 8 (1) (f)

g) a registered full time student over the age of 25

## **Cost Benefit Analysis for proposed amendment to NDM 606: National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) (Wales) Regulations 2001**

### **Introduction**

The amendment adds the category of registered full-time students over the age of 25 to the categories exempt from payment.

This accompanying document provides an estimate of the costs and benefits of implementing the motion.

### **A. Objectives**

The primary objective to be achieved by this measure is to exempt the category of registered full-time students over the age of 25 from paying prescription charges.

### **B. Assessment of Costs**

<b>COST CATEGORY (annual costs except where stated)</b>	<b>OPTION 1</b>	<b>OPTION 2</b>
Direct costs (Costs falling on the Assembly which are directly attributable to the option)	Do nothing/do minimum.	Amend subordinate legislation adding students aged 25 and over whose home authority is in Wales to the classes of those exempt from prescription charges. Funding costs of approximately £700,000-750,000.
Indirect costs (Costs falling on the Assembly which cannot be directly attributed)		Minimal translation, printing and publicity costs as regulations are due to be amended and reprinted. Limited marginal additional staff costs for consulting on revisions and preparing revised draft legislation for consideration by the Assembly. Accommodation costs. In-house copying, telephones, lighting etc

Opportunity costs		Plenary Costs – Assembly staff time (incl Legal, Committee Sec, Chamber Sec, ROP, Translation)
Other costs (including costs falling on other bodies and unquantified costs)	Unquantifiable costs resulting from students not seeking medical treatment at appropriate time.	Some administrative costs for health authorities etc for implementation of new exemption.
Total costs (including unquantified costs)	Minimal.	Approximately £700,000 to £750,000 direct costs. Unquantified Indirect, Opportunity and Other costs.

## **E. Justification**

Financial hardship is a grave concern for all students. NUS' *Student Hardship Survey* (1999) found that 73.3% of full time undergraduates were in debt, 71.4% of p/t undergraduates and 76.6% of postgraduates. The survey found that mature student have substantially more debt than any other students do. They often require more support and have more previously incurred debt. For 1998/9, DfEE figures show the drop-out rate to be approaching 20%. For mature students, and those in institutions with a high proportion of mature students or students from disadvantaged backgrounds, the rate rises to 40%. Prescription charges are in themselves an iniquitous tax on sickness. Removing prescription charges from this category would be a small but significant step towards reducing student hardship for this vulnerable group

## **F. Course of Action**

If the Assembly so resolves, the Assembly Secretary shall bring forward the draft Order within a period of 3 months from the date of the Assembly resolution.

### **Approval of the Beef Labelling (Enforcement)(Wales) Regulations 2001**

*To propose that the National Assembly:*

Considers the principle of The Beef Labelling (Enforcement)(Wales) Regulations 2001, laid in the Table Office on 27 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 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)

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

*After 27 February 2001, add a bullet point:*

- calls on Ministers to secure stronger import controls on inferior foreign meat imports.

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

*After 27 February 2001 add a bullet point:*

- calls on the Assembly to make rapid progress toward implementation of a policy of honesty in food labelling.

*To propose that the National Assembly:*

considers the report of the Legislation Committee which has not identified under Standing Order 11.5 any matters for concern in the draft order, The Beef Labelling (Enforcement)(Wales) Regulations 2001, laid in the Table Office on 6 March 2001;

approves that the Order is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 27 February 2001

## **Approval of the South Wales Sea Fisheries District (Variation) Order 2001**

*A procedural motion will be proposed by the Minister for Assembly Business under Standing Order 6.16 to bring forward the following Motion which differs from the agreed business shown in the Forward Look of 20<sup>th</sup> March*

*To propose that the National Assembly:*

Considers the principle of The South Wales Sea Fisheries District (Variation) Order 2001, laid in the Table Office on 14 March 2001.

*To propose that the National Assembly:*

considers the report of the Legislation Committee which has not identified under Standing Order 11.5 any matters for concern in the draft order, The South Wales Sea Fisheries District (Variation) Order 2001, laid in the Table Office on 20 March 2001;

approves that the Order is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 14 March 2001 and the Memorandum Of Corrections laid in Table Office on 20 March 2001

## **Approval of the Supplementary Budget**

To propose that the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order 19.4, adopts the Supplementary Budget for the financial years 2001-2002, 2002-2003 and 2003-2004, laid in the Table Office on Wednesday 21 March by the Minister for Finance and Communities, Edwina Hart

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

**Richard Edwards (Preseli Pembrokeshire); I'm not a racist but...**

**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, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2001**

**E P Silk**

**Clerk to the Assembly**