Wednesday, 5th May 2004

AGENDA

The meeting will commence at 2.00pm

Item 1

Local Government Questions to Sue Essex, Minister for Finance, Local Government & Public Services

Click here for the questions

Item 2

Questions to Alun Pugh, Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport Click here for the questions

Item 3

Questions to the House Committee Click here for the questions

Item 4 Debate on GMOs NDM1941 Karen Sinclair (Clwyd South)

To propose that the National Assembly:

Confirms the Assembly Government's policy of taking the most restrictive approach to GM crop cultivation that is consistent with UK and EU legislation.

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 following amendments for the purposes of debate. Votes will be taken separately:

Amendment 1
Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Delete 'the Assembly Government's' and replace with 'its'

Amendment 2 Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

In line one insert 'lawful' after 'restrictive'

Amendment 3 Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Delete all after cultivation.

Amendment 4 Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Instructs the Assembly Government to continue to promote this policy as vigorously as possible.

Amendment 5 Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Regrets that the UK Government at Westminster does not share this restrictive approach.

Amendment 6 Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Endorses the findings of the public debate on GM crops and recognises its influence on Bayer's decision to discontinue its efforts to commercialise Chardon LL maize.

Amendment 7 Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Welcomes the Welsh Assembly Government's support for the organic food sector and urges the introduction of more stringent and clearer labelling of GM related products. In particular that meat and other products from animals fed on GM feed should be labelled and the threshold for GM contamination in non-GM produce should be reduced to 0.1%.

Item 5 Debate on the Second Offer Guarantee Scheme NDM1942 Karen Sinclair (Clwyd South)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales

- 1. Notes with approval the introduction of the 2nd Offer Scheme on 1 April 2004;
- 2. Welcomes the success of the preparatory work carried out between January and March 2004;
- 3. Recognises that the scheme is set within the context of a range of measures which will lead to the progressive reduction in waiting times in Wales.

The Improving Patient Access - 2nd Offer Scheme document - WHC (2004) 015 may be accessed via the following hyperlink: http://assembly/health/Key-Publications/Circulars/2004/whc-2004-015-e.
pdf - Please note this document will not be available on the Chamberweb

The Improving Patient Access - 2nd Offer Scheme – Additional Information to WHC (2004) 015 - WHC (2004) 027 may be accessed via the following hyperlink: http://assembly/health/Key-Publications/Circulars/2004/whc-2004-027-e.pdf - Please note this document will not be available on the Chamberweb

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 following amendments for the purposes of debate. Votes will be taken separately:

Amendment 1 Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Delete all after 'The National Assembly for Wales' and replace with:

Notes the introduction of the 2nd Offer scheme on 1 April 2004 as a belated attempt by the Assembly Government to address escalating waiting times, and recognises the failure of this Assembly Government to fulfil its1999 election pledge to reduce the length of waiting times.

If Amendment 1 is carried amendments 2, 3 + 4 will fall

Amendment 2 Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central)

In point 1, delete 'with approval'.

Amendment 3 Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central)

Delete point 2 and point 3 in their entirety.

If amendment 3 is carried amendment 4 will fall

Amendment 4 Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Delete point 3 and replace with:

Deplores the failure of the Minister to publish a strategic response to the Wanless report, almost a year since its publication and believes that only such a strategic response will deliver long term sustainable falls in NHS Wales waiting times.

Amendment 5 Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central)

Add new point at end of motion:

"Condemns the failure of the Health and Social Services Minister who has broken her manifesto commitment to cut waiting lists"

Amendment 6 Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central)

Add new point at end of motion:

"Notes that over 10% of the Welsh population are on an NHS waiting list"

Amendment 7 Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central)

Add new point at end of motion:

"Notes that the number of patients waiting on an NHS waiting list before the Minister took office in 1999 was 217,266 and is now 294,243"

Amendment 8 Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central)

Add new point at end of motion:

"Notes that in the last year of a Conservative Government in 1997, the total number of patients waiting in Wales was 168,917 and further notes that this figure has grown to 294,243 today."

Item 6

Short Debate - NDM1943 Jenny Randerson (Cardiff Central); Defeating Racism in June's Elections.

It is expected that the meeting will conclude by 5.30pm

E P Silk

Clerk to the Assembly