

AGENDA

The meeting will commence at 2.00pm

Item 1

Motion to elect members to the Committee on Equality of Opportunity

NDM1955 Karen Sinclair (Clwyd South)

That the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Orders 8.4 and 14.3 elects Mark Isherwood (Conservative) to its Committee on Equality of Opportunity in place of David Davies (Conservative).

Item 2

First Minister's Question Time

Click [here](#) for the questions

Item 3

Business Statement

Click [here](#) for the Draft Business Statement

Item 4

This item is not subject to debate and will proceed to a vote immediately

Motion to approve under Standing Order 24.25

NDM1952 Karen Sinclair (Clwyd South)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales, acting under Standing Order 24.25:

1. a) Considers the report of the Legislation Committee laid in the Table Office and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 11 May 2004 on the draft Order The National Health Service Bodies and Local Authority Partnership Arrangements (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2004; and

b) Approves The National Health Service Bodies and Local Authority Partnership Arrangements (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 is made in accordance with:

- i) the draft Order laid in the Table Office on 28 April 2004; and
- ii) Regulatory Appraisal laid in the Table Office on 28 April 2004

Click [here](#) for The National Health Service Bodies and Local Authority Partnership Arrangements (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2004

Click [here](#) for the report of the Legislation Committee

Click [here](#) for the Regulatory Appraisal

2. a) Considers the report of the Legislation Committee laid in the Table Office, and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 11 May 2004 on the draft Order The Meat Products (Wales) Regulations 2004; and

b) Approves The Meat Products (Wales) Regulations 2004 is made in accordance with:

i) the draft Order laid in the Table Office on 28 April 2004;

ii) Regulatory Appraisal laid in the Table Office on 28 April 2004; and

iii) the Memorandum of Correction laid in the Table Office and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 11 May 2004.

Click [here](#) for The Meat Products (Wales) Regulations 2004

Click [here](#) for the report of the Legislation Committee

Click [here](#) for the Regulatory Appraisal

Click [here](#) for the Memorandum of Correction

Item 5

This item is not subject to debate and will proceed to a vote immediately

Motion to approve under Standing Orders 24.25, 25.13 & 25.14 The Pesticides (Maximum Residue Levels in Crops, Food and Feeding Stuffs)(England and Wales) (Amendment) (No2) Regulations 2004

NDM1953 Karen Sinclair (Clwyd South)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales, acting under Standing Order 24.25, 25.12 & 25.13:

1. approves the draft The Pesticides (Maximum Residue Levels in Crops, Food and Feeding Stuffs) (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No.2) Regulations 2004, a copy of which was laid in Table Office, and emailed to Assembly Members, on 11 May 2004; and

2. notes the Explanatory Memorandum for this Order laid in Table Office and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 11th May 2004.

Click [here](#) for The Pesticides (Maximum Residue Levels in Crops, Food and Feeding Stuffs) (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No.2) Regulations 2004

Click [here](#) for the Explanatory Memorandum

Item 6

Debate on the Audit Commission Report "Transforming Health and Social Care in Wales"

NDM1956 Karen Sinclair (Clwyd South)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales

1. Congratulates staff at all levels within the Welsh NHS for a year in which long waits for treatment have been rapidly reduced and access for patients has been greatly improved.
2. Welcomes the endorsement given to the Welsh Assembly Government's health policies by the Audit Commission Report, Transforming health and social care in Wales.
3. Shares the view of the Audit Commission and the Wanless Review that consensus represents the essential prerequisite for change in the health service.
4. Notes that the next step in the reform process will be carried through by Local Wanless Action Plans, submitted to the Assembly on 30 April, and intended to be debated in Plenary again before summer recess 2004.

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:

- (1)
- (2)
- (3)+(4)+(5)

Amendment 1 - Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Delete all after "National Assembly for Wales" and insert:

1. Expresses gratitude to staff within the Welsh NHS for their continued dedication towards providing an effective and valued service under difficult conditions.
2. Notes the findings of the Audit Commission Report, Transforming health and social care in Wales, and shares the view of the Audit Commission and the Wanless Review that the health service in Wales is currently unsustainable, and while both reports acknowledge increased funding they conclude that health spending has been inefficient and ineffective with insufficient real outcomes.
3. Calls upon the Assembly Government to establish a national plan that will offer a strategic direction for improvement within the health service.

Amendment 2 - Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central)

Delete all after 'National Assembly for Wales' and replace with;

1. Express gratitude to the staff of NHS Wales for their continued dedication under exceptionally difficult circumstances for which the Welsh Assembly Government must accept responsibility.
2. Joins with the Audit Commission and the Review of Health and Social Care advised upon by Derek Wanless in condemning the Health Minister for her abysmal 5-year record of mismanagement of NHS Wales.

3. Notes that waiting lists under this administration are double that under the last Conservative Government.

4. Calls on the Labour Assembly administration to acknowledge responsibility for creating the worst Health Service in Europe

Amendment 3 - Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Delete full-stop at end of point 2 and insert:

"including that the NHS in Wales is not 'treating the right people in the right place at the right time by the right team', that beds in the acute sector are 'unnecessarily occupied by people who are fit to go elsewhere', and that the implementation of Wanless 'will necessitate the closure or re-designation of some hospitals'."

Amendment 4 - Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Delete bullet point 4

Amendment 5 - Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Notes that the report highlights that resources are not being used effectively and that continuously funding initiatives is not the solution, reinforcing the need for a strategic response from the Minister to the Wanless Review.

A copy of the Audit Commission Report Transforming health and social care in Wales was e-mailed to Assembly Members on 11 May 2004 - Please note this document will not be available on the Chamberweb.

A copy of the Local Action Plans was e-mailed to Assembly Members on 11 May 2004 - Please note this document will not be available on the Chamberweb.

Item 7

Conservative Party debate

NDM1954 Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central)

To propose the National Assembly for Wales:

Deplores the 2004/05 Local Government Settlement from the Welsh Assembly Government, which has forced Local Authorities to increase Council Tax way above the rate of inflation.

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:

(1)

(2)+(3)

(4)+(5)+(6)

Amendment 1 - Karen Sinclair (Clwyd South)

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

Notes that the rate of increase in council tax in Wales since 1999 has been significantly less than under the last Conservative Government. It reaffirms the support it gave for the local government settlement for 2004-2005 which was agreed on 10 December 2003, recognising that this was a fair settlement which responded to the needs identified by local government and the priorities of the Assembly.

Amendment 2 - Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Insert the word 'some' after 'forced'.

Amendment 3 - Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Add as new point:

Recognises that council tax places a disproportionate burden on those on fixed and low incomes such as pensioners, and should be replaced with a local income tax, as part of a fairer progressive taxation system that is based on the ability to pay.

Amendment 4 - Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Believes that Council Tax is neither a buoyant nor progressive method of taxation, hitting hardest those least able to afford it.

Amendment 5 - Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Believes that the introduction of the fairer and more transparent system of a Local Income Tax in place of the Council Tax would reduce bureaucracy and cut the tax burden for some of the poorest people in Wales.

Amendment 6 - Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

Add new point at end of motion:

Believes that the proportion of local council resources raised locally should increase significantly and notes that such an increase cannot occur with a property based tax.

It is expected that the meeting will conclude by 5.30pm

The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at

2.00pm on Wednesday, 19th May 2004

E P Silk

Clerk to the Assembly