

**Second Assembly Plenary Meeting (160)  
Wednesday, 12th October 2005**

**AGENDA**

**The meeting will commence at 2.00pm**

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[Item 1 - Questions to Edwina Hart, Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration](#)

[Item 2 - Questions to Andrew Davies, Minister for Economic Development & Transport](#)

[Item 3 - Questions to Jane Hutt, Business Minister, on her responsibilities other than for business.](#)

[Item 4 - Revised Draft Business Statement](#)

[Item 5 - Statement by the Minister for Health and Social Services: Update on the E. coli outbreak in South Wales](#)

[Item 6 - Statement by the Minister for Health and Social Services: Mental Health](#)

[Item 7 - Debate on Council Tax in Wales](#)

[Item 8 - Short Debate - NDM2615 Jeff Cuthbert \(Caerphilly\): Welsh Baccalaureate: The Future for Qualifications](#)

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**Item 4 - Revised Draft Business Statement**

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**Item 6 - Statement by the Minister for Health and Social Services: Mental Health**

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## Item 7 - Debate on Council Tax in Wales

NDM2616 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

Welcomes the support given to Welsh local government by the Welsh Assembly Government to contain the levels of council tax within Wales.

*The following amendments were 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 for the purposes of debate.*

*Votes will be taken separately:*

**(1 + 3)**

**(2 + 7)**

**(4, 5 + 6)**

### **1. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)**

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

'Regrets the insufficient level of support given to Welsh Local Government by the Welsh Assembly Government which has placed great pressure on local government to continually increase council tax to unsustainable levels;

Believes that the current Council Tax system introduced by a Conservative Government and perpetuated by New Labour is a regressive form of taxation which fails to take account of the ability to pay and should be replaced by a local income tax.'

### **2. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)**

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

'Believes that council tax is a regressive tax, hitting hardest those who can least afford to pay it, and should be replaced with a Local Income Tax.'

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

Add as new point at end of motion:

Notes that the UK Government has performed a U turn on rebanding Council tax for England

4.

**David Melding (South Wales Central)**

Add new point at end of motion:

'Notes that the Council Tax burden has increased substantially in the last six years because the Welsh Assembly Government has not matched the extra demands placed on local authorities with adequate additional funding.'

**5. David Melding (South Wales Central)**

Add new point at end of motion:

'Notes the severe hardship inflicted on many pensioners and others on low incomes as a result of the Welsh Assembly Government's decision to increase the Council Tax burden.'

**6. David Melding (South Wales Central)**

Add new point at end of motion:

'Demands that local government be adequately funded so that the Council Tax burden is frozen or reduced over the next three years.'

**7. Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)**

Add new point at end of motion:

'Believes that the Assembly Government have managed to make council tax even more unpopular due to their handling of revaluation; notes that the Government in England have seen the introduction of revaluation in Wales and decided to abandon a similar process for England.'

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Item 8 - **Short Debate** - NDM2615 Jeff Cuthbert (Caerphilly): Welsh Baccalaureate:

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**It is expected that the meeting will conclude by 5.30pm**

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**The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at 2.00pm on Tuesday, 18th  
October 2005**

**E P Silk**

**Clerk to the Assembly**