

**Second Assembly Plenary Meeting (191)
Wednesday, 15 March 2006**

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 and Transport](#)

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

[Item 4 - Motion to delegate functions under The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 to the First Minister](#)

[Item 5 - Motion to approve under Standing Order 24.25](#)

[Item 6 - Debate on Huw Lewis` Standing Order 31 motion](#)

[Item 7 - Commonwealth Debate](#)

[Item 8 - Short debate - NDM2919 Laura Anne Jones \(South Wales East\): Achieving Social Justice in South Wales East](#)

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Item 1 - Questions to Edwina Hart, Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration

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Item 3 - Questions to Jane Hutt, Minister for Assembly Business on her Responsibilities other than for Business

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Item 4 - Motion to delegate functions under The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 to the First Minister

NDM2920 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

Acting under section 62(1)(b) of the Government of Wales Act 1998, resolves to delegate functions of the National Assembly contained in or under Section 104 of The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 to the First Minister, save those which by law cannot be so delegated.

Nothing in the motion will have the effect of reducing the pre-eminence of the authority of the full Assembly or of reducing the role of the Assembly committees in the exercise of the above functions.

This delegation will be made in the knowledge that those functions will, as appropriate, be further delegated to portfolio Ministers and to staff.

Supporting Documents

The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 can be accessed at the following link: <http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2005/20050016.htm>

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Item 5 - Motion to approve under Standing Order 24.25

NDM2921 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

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

1. Considers the report of the Legislation Committee laid in the Table Office on 7 March 2006 on the draft The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 (Commencement No.1 and Savings) (Wales) Order 2006; and

2. Approves that The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 (Commencement No.1 and Savings) (Wales) Order 2006 are made in accordance with:

a) the draft Order laid in the Table Office on 21 February 2006; and

b) the Regulatory Appraisal laid in the Table Office on 7 February 2006.

Supporting Documents

[The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 \(Commencement No.1 and Savings\) \(Wales\) Order 2006](#)

[Legislation Committee Report](#)

[Regulaory Appraisal](#)

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Item 6 - Debate on Huw Lewis` Standing Order 31 motion

NDM2837 Huw Lewis (Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales, acting under Standing Order 31.2:

Supports in principle legislation to amend the General Medical Services Contract to require from GPs an annual health review for looked after children.

A statement of legal powers under which the proposed legislation could be made and an indication of the resource implications and other material in amplification of the proposal is as follows:

Statement of legal powers:

To propose that the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order 31.2:

Develop draft subordinate legislation made under sections 28R, 28S, 28V, 28W and 126(4) of the National Health Service Act 1977, and section 4(5) of the National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990, to amend regulation 2 (Interpretation) of and Schedule 2 (Additional Services) to the

National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts) (Wales) Regulations 2004 so as to include in the additional services which may be provided under a General Medical Services Contract an annual health review for looked after children.

This legislation will enable looked after children to receive an annual health review.

Resource implications:

As the most vulnerable group of looked after children are young people entering adolescence, it is proposed that the annual check would apply in the first instance to those looked after children aged between 12 and 16 who:

- a) are looked after in a residential setting by the local authority for a period of more than 6 months; and
- b) are not otherwise in receipt of NHS services.
- c) this experience to be reviewed, following twelve months, with a view to extend to other groups in the looked-after population

There are currently roughly 150 young people in this category and such a check would cost in the region of £100, the additional cost of the proposed amendment to the contract would be £15,000.

Background material:

Looked after children are particularly vulnerable, both as a result of their previous experiences and because of their reliance on public services. The evidence (see research by the Dartington Social Research Unit for example) clearly shows that, as a group, they are likely to have greater needs, both in terms of mental and physical health services. An annual check would have three key purposes:

- it would ensure that the link between the individual and primary care is properly maintained
- through that link the likelihood of receiving necessary services to deal with any difficulty would be improved
- perhaps more than anything, it would have a *preventative* effect, trying to ensure that advice and guidance in health matters is provided early in adolescence and, through maintaining that relationship, to provide a source of help which might prevent some of the difficulties which blight the lives of young people without direct family support.

The following amendment has been tabled:

Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

Delete all after ‘supports in principle legislation to’ and replace with:

‘ensure that all looked after children have the right support to improve their health and well being, which will include an annual health review. Regulations should be amended to strengthen local authorities’ arrangements before placing a child to ensure that the necessary support services such as health and education are agreed prior to placement of the child. In addition, when placing a child, the new arrangements should include consideration being given to the distance from the child’s parental home, to allow (where appropriate) looked after children to maintain valuable contact with their family and communities.’

Statement of Legal Powers

Primary Powers - Sections 23, 26 of and Schedules 2 (part II) 4 (Part III), 5(Part II) and 6 (Part II) to the Children Act 1989 and Sections 25 and 28 of the Children Act 2004.

Regulations – Arrangements for Placement of Children (General) Regulations 1991;) and the Review of Children Cases Regulations 1991;

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Item 7 - Commonwealth Debate

NDM2922

Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)

Lisa Francis (Mid and West Wales)

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)

To propose that the National Assembly:

1. Welcomes the events being staged by the Assembly today to celebrate Commonwealth Day;
2. Extends its warmest thanks to the Parliament of New South Wales for the magnificent gift of the Mace;
3. Welcomes the contribution of those individuals from many Commonwealth countries who have made their homes in Wales, working in vital services and enriching local communities;
4. Reinforces the commitment of the Assembly to the principles of free and fair trade; and
5. Looks forward to the further development of these contacts in the future.

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**Item 8 - Short debate - NDM2919 Laura Anne Jones (South Wales East):
Achieving Social Justice in South Wales East**

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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, 21 March
2006**

E P Silk

Clerk to the Assembly