

# Second Assembly Plenary Meeting (217)

Wednesday, 12th July 2006

## AGENDA

The meeting will commence at 2.00pm

[Item 1 - Finance Questions to Sue Essex, Minister for Finance, Local Government and Public Services](#)

[Item 2 - Questions to Carwyn Jones, Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside](#)

Urgent Question - **Mike German (South Wales East)** Would the First Minister make a statement on the implications of the State Aids map for East Wales?

Urgent Question - **Janet Ryder (North Wales)**: Will the Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks make a statement on the closure of the Iceland distribution centre in Flintshire, which will result in the loss of 350 jobs.

[Item 3 - Motion to approve The Transport and Works \(Model Clauses for Railways and Tramways\) Order 2006](#)

[Item 4 - Motion to approve The Assembly Learning Grants and Loans \(Higher Education\) \(Wales\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2006](#)

[Item 5 - Motion to delegate functions under The Children Act 2004 to the First Minister](#)

[Item 6 - Debate on the First Minister`s Annual Report](#)

[Item 7 - Debate on the Report of the Committee on School Funding](#)

[Item 8 - Short debate - William Graham \(South Wales East\): Will a "Sarah`s Law" protect children in Wales?](#)

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**Item 3 - Motion to approve The Transport and Works (Model Clauses for Railways and Tramways) Order 2006**

## **NDM3187 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)**

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

Order 26, agrees that the Secretary of State makes The Transport and Works (Model Clauses for Railways and Tramways) Order 2006, which was laid in Table Office on 4 July 2006.

The applicability of the Order in Wales is subject to the consent of the National Assembly for Wales.

The Explanatory Memorandum was laid in the Table Office on 4 July 2006.

### **Supporting Documents**

[The Transport and Works \(Model Clauses for Railways and Tramways\) Order 2006](#)  
[The Explanatory Memorandum](#)

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## **Item 4 - Motion to approve The Assembly Learning Grants and Loans (Higher Education) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2006**

### **NDM3175 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)**

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

Considers the principle of The Assembly Learning Grants and Loans (Higher Education) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2006 a copy of which was laid in Table Office on 20 June 2006.

### **NDM3176 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)**

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Considers the report of the Legislation Committee laid in the Table Office on 4 July 2006 in relation to the draft The Assembly Learning Grants and Loans (Higher Education) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2006; and

2. Approves that the draft The Assembly Learning Grants and Loans (Higher Education) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2006 is made in accordance with:

- a) the draft laid in the Table Office on 20 June 2006;
- b) the Memorandum of Corrections laid in the Table Office and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 5 July 2006; and
- c) the Regulatory Appraisal laid in the Table Office on 27 June 2006.

**Supporting Documents**

[The Assembly Learning Grants and Loans \(Higher Education\) \(Wales\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2006](#)

[The report of the Legislation Committee](#)

[The Draft -Assembly Learning Grants and Loans \(Higher Education\) \(Wales\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2006](#)

[The Memorandum of Corrections](#)

[The Regulatory Appraisal](#)

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**Item 5 - Motion to delegate functions under The Children Act 2004 to the First Minister**

**NDM3191 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 the following functions of the National Assembly contained within the Children Act 2004 to the Assembly First Minister, save those which by law cannot be so delegated:

Section 26 subsections (1) – (4), Section 29 subsections (1)(a), (2), (5), (6), (7), (8), (10), (11) and (12), Section 31 subsections (2) and (4) and (5), Section 32 subsections (2) – (3), Section 34 subsection (1), Section 46, Section 49 subsection (1).

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 the appropriate Assembly Minister and to staff.

A copy of the Children Act 2004 can be located on the internet using the attached hyperlink: \_

<http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2004/20040031.htm>

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## Item 6 - Debate on the First Minister's Annual Report

### NDM3192 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

Notes the Report of the First Minister 2006, which was laid in Table Office and emailed to Assembly Members on 5 July 2006.

The First Minister's Report 2006 can be located on the Internet using the attached hyperlinks, which direct users to a page showing PDF versions of the Annual Report, and a summary of the report.

#### *English*

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/about/strategy/strategypubs/fm-annual-report;jsessionid=A5456CB9E7327BB618D5ED0C10AC46EB.www1?lang=en>

#### *Welsh*

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/about/strategy/strategypubs/fm-annual-report?lang=cy>

#### **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 for the purposes of debate.*

*Votes will be taken separately:*

**(1)**

**(2+3+4+5+6)**

**(7)**

#### **Amendment 1 - Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)**

Add as new points at end of motion:

- Regrets the failure of the Welsh Assembly Government to:

a) meet its hospital waiting times targets;

b) abolish homecare charges for disabled people;

c) provide free breakfasts to all primary school children;

d) ensure that everyone can have access to an NHS dentist;

e) increase the number of students in Further Education since 2003; and

f) suspend Right to Buy in areas of housing pressure.

- Expresses concern that:

a) the failure to devolve powers for policing has resulted in a Westminster imposed restructuring of police forces;

b) the financial shortfall within the NHS will result in cuts to health services and will detrimentally affect the recruitment and retention of health professionals;

c) no coherent economic strategy has been developed to improve the economy in West Wales and the Valleys;

d) the First Minister's report does not include the annual report of the sustainable development scheme;

e) insufficient progress has been made in removing the most vulnerable from fuel poverty by 2010; and

f) a quarter of children are experiencing child poverty.

- Welcomes Assembly resolutions, and decisions to:

a) establish an inquiry into ambulance services;

b) assist pensioners whose council tax band had increased by more than one band;

c) increase provision for the small school fund;

d) increase funding for rail services;

e) increase funding for universities;

f) ensure that Welsh university students studying in Wales will not pay top-up-fees; and

g) establish a committee to scrutinise the funding of schools.

## **Amendment 2 - Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)**

Add new point at end of motion:

Regrets the ditching of the Assembly Government's promise to scrap home care charges for disabled people.

**Amendment 3 - Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)**

Add new point at end of motion:

Notes the shambolic manner of the merging of certain ASPBs with the Assembly Government.

**Amendment 4 - Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)**

Add new point at end of motion:

Welcomes the reduction in waiting times over 12 months but notes that the length of waiting times for many patients are still unacceptably long.

**Amendment 5 - Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)**

Add new point at end of motion:

Notes the paucity of policies contained in the First Minister's programme of government when two of his top five 'most notable achievements' have happened through the actions of others.

**Amendment 6 - Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire)**

Add new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to give greater priority to infrastructure (particularly transport) projects in the next round of European structural funding.

**Amendment 7 - Lisa Francis (Mid and West Wales)**

Add new point at end of motion

And further notes the failure to honour key pledges in Labour's 2003 Assembly election manifesto.

**Supporting Documents**

[Report of the First Minister 2006](#)

[Report of the First Minister Summary 2006](#)

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**Item 7 - Debate on the Report of the Committee on School Funding**

**NDM3188 William Graham (South Wales East)**

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales notes the report of the Committee on School Funding titled, 'Report on School Funding Arrangements in Wales' which was laid in the Table Office (LD5751) on 14 June 2006.

**Supporting Document**

[Report on School Funding Arrangements in Wales](#)

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**Item 8 - Short debate - NDM3189 William Graham (South Wales East): Will a "Sarah's Law" protect children in Wales?**

**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, 19th September 2006**

**E P Silk**

**Clerk to the Assembly**