

Business Committee

Minutes BC(3)28-09

Date: Tuesday 3 November 2009

Time: 08.30

Venue: Meeting Room 4th Floor, Corporate Unit

Assembly Members in Attendance

Dafydd Elis-Thomas, Presiding Officer (Chair)

Carwyn Jones, Leader of the House

Jocelyn Davies, Plaid Cymru Business Manager

Alun Cairns, Welsh Conservatives Business Manager

Peter Black, Welsh Liberal Democrats Business Manager

Officials in Attendance

Adrian Crompton, Director of Assembly Business

Marion Stapleton, Office of the Leader of the House

Aled Eirug, Constitutional Consultant

Sian Wilkins, Head of Legislation and Chamber Services

Sulafa Halstead, Head of Assembly Committees

Marc Wyn Jones, Clerk of the Business Committee

Anna Daniel, Chamber Services

1. Apologies & announcements

1.1 The Presiding Officer welcomed Anna Daniel to the meeting who was observing as the new Head of Chamber Services.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

(i) BC(3)27-08 (Draft minutes) - Tuesday 20 October 2009

2.1 The minutes were presented to the Committee in their draft format. As there were no comments, they would be translated in readiness for publication.

Action: Business Committee Secretariat

3. Forthcoming Business

This Week's Business - BC(3)28-09(p1)

3.1 The Presiding Officer said that the debate on the Sustainability Committee's Report on Mainstreaming Sustainability in Ministerial Portfolios which was scheduled for Wednesday, had been withdrawn.

3.2 The Business Committee agreed that the debate on the motion to annul the Tuberculosis Eradication (Wales) Order 2009, which had been allocated an indicative timing of 15 minutes, should be allocated 60 minutes due to the anticipated number of speakers.

3.3 The Committee agreed that Voting Time on Tuesday and Wednesday would take place no earlier than 5pm. The Committee noted that all votes in relation to the Education Measure would be taken during the debate, on Tuesday.

3.4 The Committee noted the organisation of business for 3 and 4 November 2009.

3 Week Timetable of Government Business - BC(3)28-09(p2)

3.5 The Committee noted the 3 Week Timetable of Government Business.

3 Week Timetable of Assembly and Non-Government Business - BC(3)28-09(p3)

3.6 The Business Committee agreed to schedule the following items of business:

Wednesday 18 November 2009 -

Debate seeking the Assembly's leave to introduce a Member proposed Measure on Additional Learning Needs Workers' Rights (Jeff Cuthbert) (60 mins)

Wednesday 25 November 2009 -

Questions to the Assembly Commission (15 mins)

Statement by the Rt Hon. Peter Hain MP, Secretary of State for Wales (45 mins)

Debate on the Queen's Speech (130 mins)

3.7 The Business Committee considered a paper outlining the pressures on the timetable of non-government business until the end of the Christmas term. The Business Committee was asked to schedule two debates arising from the Legislative ballot. The Committee agreed that these debates should be accommodated by extending the length of Plenary meetings. The Committee also agreed to take this approach if it was necessary to accommodate other business before the end of term.

3.8 The Committee determined the organisation of Assembly Business.

3.9 The Committee determined the organisation of non-government Business.

4. Legislation

Paper on the Subordinate Legislation Committee - Name Change - BC(3)28-09(p5)

4.1 The Business Committee considered a request from the Subordinate Legislation Committee to amend Standing Order 15 to revise the name of the Committee to the "Constitution Committee". Business Committee agreed to return to the issue in the new year, in the light of the debate in Plenary on the Subordinate Legislation Committee's report on its inquiry into the Scrutiny of Subordinate Legislation and Delegated Powers.

Request from Legislation Committee No.4 to hold a formal Committee meeting on Wednesday 4 November 2009 - BC(3)28-09(p6)

4.2 The Business Committee noted the request from Legislation Committee No 4 to hold an additional formal meeting after Plenary on Wednesday 4 November, which had been agreed by the Business Committee out of committee via e-mail due to the timescale.

Letter from the Chair of Legislation Committee 4: The Proposed National Assembly for Wales (Legislative Competence) (Education) Order 2010 - BC(3)28-09(p7)

4.3 The Business Committee considered a request to extend the deadline by 3 weeks for Legislation Committee No 4 to report on the Education LCO. The Business Committee did not agree to extend the deadline but agreed to consider a further request at an appropriate time, when the Committee had a clearer idea of the schedule of the Legislation Committee.

5. Committees

Request from the Enterprise and Learning Committee for an additional meeting with the Welsh Affairs Committee - BC(3)28-09(p8)

5.1 The Business Committee agreed a request from the Enterprise and Learning Committee to hold a meeting with the Welsh Affairs Committee on the morning of Monday 23 November as part of its inquiry into the future railway infrastructure in Wales.

Request from the Rural Development Sub-Committee to hold a formal off-site meeting in Tregaron - BC(3)28-09(p9)

5.2 The Business Committee agreed for the Rural-Development Sub-Committee to hold a formal meeting outwith the Assembly estate in Tregaron on Monday 23 November as part of its inquiry into the future of the uplands in Wales.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT