

Business Committee

Minutes BC(3)09-08

Date: Tuesday 8 April 2008

Time: 8.30 a.m.

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

William Graham, Welsh Conservatives Business Manager

Kirsty Williams, Welsh Liberal Democrats Business Manager

Officials in Attendance

Adrian Crompton, Director of Assembly Business

Siwan Davies, Head of Legislation and Chamber Services

Aled Eirug, Constitutional Consultant

Marion Stapleton, Office of the Leader of the House

Marc Wyn Jones, Clerk of the Business Committee

1. Apologies & announcements

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

(i) BC(3)08-08 (Draft minutes) - Tuesday 11 March 2008

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)09-08(p1)

3.1 The Leader of the House said that the First Minister would be making a statement on the One Wales Delivery Plan in Plenary on Tuesday. This would replace the debate on the public sector in Wales.

3.2 The Committee agreed that a motion to suspend Standing Orders would be tabled on Wednesday, to bring forward a motion to elect Nerys Evans as a Member of the Broadcasting Committee, in place of Alun Ffred Jones.

3.3 The Committee agreed that Voting Time would take place no earlier than 5pm on Wednesday for Assembly and non-government business.

3.4 The Committee noted the organisation of business for 8 and 9 April 2008.

3 Week Timetable of Government Business - BC(3)08-08(p2)

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

3 Week Timetable of Assembly and Non-Government Business - BC(3)08-08(p3)

3.6 The Committee determined the organisation of Assembly Business.

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

4. Legislative Competence Orders and Assembly Measures

Covering paper from the Minister and a proposed timetable for the "Proposed Learner Travel (Wales) Measure" - BC(3)09-

08(p4)

4.1 The Business Committee considered the papers on the "'Proposed Learner Travel (Wales) Measure'. "The Business Committee noted that the Measure had already been subject to pre-legislative scrutiny by the Enterprise and Learning Committee and agreed that the Measure would proceed directly to a Stage 1 Plenary debate on the general principles. The Stage 1 debate had been scheduled for Tuesday 22 April 2008. The Business Committee agreed that the debate would be delayed until 29 April to allow time for the Finance Committee to report on the Proposed Measure. The Committee also agreed that the deadline for the Stage 2 Measure Committee's consideration should not be delayed and would be 4 July 2008.

Covering paper from the Minister and a proposed timetable for the "National Assembly for Wales (Legislative Competence) (Social Welfare and Other Fields) Order 2008 "- BC(3)09-08(p5)

4.2 The Business Committee considered the papers on the "National Assembly for Wales (Legislative Competence) (Social Welfare and Other Fields) Order 2008. "The Committee noted that the Order had previously been entitled "National Assembly for Wales (Legislative Competence) (No. 3) Order 2007, "which had been" "referred to the Vulnerable Children LCO Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny.

Following consultation with Whitehall Departments on the LCO and consideration of the Proposed Vulnerable Children LCO Committee's report, a revised version ""The National Assembly for Wales (Legislative Competence) (Social Welfare and Other Fields) Order 2008' "was provided to the Secretary of State for Wales and was laid before Parliament on 17 March 2008.

4.3 The Business Committee agreed that consideration of the revised Order was a matter for the LCO Committee, as it would continue to exist until the Order had been introduced. However, Business Managers expressed some concerns with this process. They did not wish committees to delay the legislative process and felt that a decision on whether or not a Proposed Order had undergone significant changes should be a matter for the Presiding Office. They did not feel that further committee scrutiny was necessary in cases where the version of the LCO presented to Parliament was different to that introduced in the Assembly, as Plenary consideration of the final draft provided the appropriate vehicle for any concerns to be expressed. Business Managers also felt that LCO committees should cease to exist when they had reported, instead of when the draft Order was introduced. The Business Committee agreed that, should the LCO Committee decide that it wished to take up the Minister's invitation to reconsider this particular Order, it should report by 13 May 2008.

Letter from Jenny Randerson and a paper on her Member Proposed Measure: "Proposed Healthy Eating in Schools (Wales) Measure 2008" - BC(3)09-08(p6)

4.4 The Business Committee considered the request from Jenny Randerson to establish a committee to consider her Member proposed Measure "'Proposed Healthy Eating in Schools (Wales) Measure 2008'. "The Business Committee agreed that the committee to consider the Measure would be established and elected as soon as possible. The Committee also agreed that the deadline for the Measure committee to report would be 13 sitting weeks after it had been established.

Letter from the Chair of the Proposed Domiciliary Care Additional LCO Committee and Report - BC(3)09-08(p7)

4.5 The Committee noted the report of the "Proposed Domiciliary Care Additional LCO Committee, "which had been laid in the Table Office on 14 March 2008.

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