

# Business Committee

## Minutes BC(3)17-09

**Date:** Tuesday 9 June 2009

**Time:** 08.30

**Venue:** Meeting Room 4<sup>th</sup> 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

Sulafa Halstead, Head of Committee Service

Sian Wilkins, Head of Legislation and Chamber Services

Marc Wyn Jones, Clerk of the Business Committee

### 1. Apologies & announcements

### 2. Minutes of the previous meeting

#### (i) BC(3)16-08 (Draft minutes) - Tuesday 2 June 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)17-09(p1)

3.1 The Leader of the House said that the Minister for Rural Affairs would be making a statement on Dairy Farmers of Britain in Plenary on Tuesday.

3.2 The Committee noted that Voting Time on Tuesday and Wednesday would take place no earlier than 5pm.

3.3 The Committee noted the organisation of business for 9 and 10 June 2009.

#### 3 Week Timetable of Government Business - BC(3)17-09(p2)

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

#### 3 Week Timetable of Assembly and Non-Government Business - BC(3)17-09(p3)

3.5 The Business Committee agreed to schedule the following debates:

Debate on the Enterprise and Learning Committee's Report on Post 19 Students with Additional Learning Needs (60 mins) on 24 June;

Stage 1 Debate on the proposed Playing Fields (Community Involvement in Disposal Decisions) (Wales) Measure (60 mins) on 1 July;  
and

Debate on the Enterprise and Learning Committee's Report on the Welsh Assembly Government's Response to the Current International Economic Downturn (60 mins) on 1 July.

3.6 The Committee determined the organisation of Assembly Business.

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

#### **4. Legislation**

##### **Letter from Legislation Committee 2: Election of Temporary Chair- BC(3)17-09(p4)**

4.1 The Business Committee considered a letter from Jeff Cuthbert in relation to temporary chairs of Legislation Committees. It was noted that he had been elected as temporary Chair of Legislation Committee 2 in the absence of Val Lloyd. The decision to elect Jeff Cuthbert was not in line with the Conventions agreed by Business Committee on the operation of Legislation Committees.

4.2 The Business Committee noted that the rationale for departing from this Convention was that the Committee would be finalising its report, and that it would be preferable for the temporary Chair to have a thorough understanding of the issues. The Business Committee agreed that, under these exceptional circumstances, it was understandable for the Committee to have departed from the Convention. However, the Committee agreed that it would not wish this to become normal practice, in particular for Stage 2 consideration of Measures.

4.3 It was agreed that the Presiding Officer should write to the Legislation Committee Chairs to convey the Business Committee's view.

##### **Letter from Legislation Committee 4: National Assembly for Wales (Legislative Competence) (Environment) Order 2009 - BC(3)17-09(p5)**

4.4 The Business Committee considered and agreed a request from the Chair of Legislation Committee 4, to extend the deadline for reporting on the Environment LCO by one week from 12 June to 19 June.

#### **BUSINESS COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT**