

Business Committee

Minutes BC(3)05-08

Date: Tuesday 19 February 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

Chris Franks, Plaid Cymru

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

1.1 The Chair welcomed Siwan Davies, the newly appointed Head of Legislation and Chamber Services, to the meeting.

1.2 Apologies for absence were received from Jocelyn Davies. The Chair welcomed Chris Franks who would be representing her.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

(i) BC(3)04-08 (Draft minutes) - Tuesday 5 February 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)05-08(p1)

3.1 The Leader of the House said that the Minister for Rural Affairs would be making a statement on the Rural Development Plan for Wales, in Plenary on Wednesday.

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

3.3 The Committee noted the organisation of business for 19 and 20 February 2008.

3 Week Timetable of Government Business - BC(3)05-08(p2)

3.4 The Leader of the House said that a debate celebrating Commonwealth day would be scheduled for 11 March 2008. The Committee agreed that the motion would be tabled in the name of the Presiding Officer and the Chair of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA). The Committee also agreed that the Queen's message to the Commonwealth would be included in the Record of Proceedings on that day.

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

3 Week Timetable of Assembly and Non-Government Business - BC(3)03-08(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

Letter from Jonathan Morgan and a paper on his Member proposed LCO relating to provision of Mental Health Services - BC(3)05-08(p4) & BC(3)05-08(p5)

4.1 The Business Committee considered the request from Jonathan Morgan to establish a committee to consider his Member proposed LCO "The National Assembly for Wales (Legislative Competence) (No 6) Order 2008" in relation to Mental Health Services". "The Business Committee agreed that the committee to consider the Order would be established and elected as soon as possible. The Committee also agreed that the deadline for the LCO committee to report would be 11 sitting weeks after the establishment of the committee.

5. Assembly Committees

Request from the Equality of Opportunity Committee to meet in North Wales - BC(3)05-08(p6)

5.1 The Chair said that the Equality of Opportunity Committee had requested to meet in Wrexham, North Wales, on Thursday 28 February 2008, as part of its inquiry into service provision for migrant workers in Wales. The Business Committee agreed the request.

Request from the Petitions Committee to meet in North Wales - BC(3)05-08(p7)

5.2 The Chair said that the Petitions Committee had requested to meet in the National Assembly for Wales' Colwyn Bay Office, North Wales, on Thursday 6 March. The Business Committee noted that the Petitions Committee was considering a number of petitions from North Wales and that the meeting would give North Wales-based petitioners the opportunity to engage with the Committee in their own region. The Business Committee agreed the request.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT