Business Committee

Minutes BC(3)06-08

Date: Tuesday 26 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

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)05-08 (Draft minutes) - Tuesday 19 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)06-08(p1)

3.1 The Business Committee agreed that a motion to suspend Standing Orders would be tabled on Tuesday to bring forward the following motions:

Motion to establish and elect a Proposed Domestic Fire Safety LCO Committee.

Motion to establish and elect a Proposed Mental Health Services LCO Committee.

- 3.2 The Leader of the House said that the Minister for Health and Social Services would be making a statement on the Reconfiguration of Services in North Wales, in Plenary on Wednesday.
- 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 26 and 27 February 2008.

3 Week Timetable of Government Business - BC(3)06-08(p2)

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

3 Week Timetable of Assembly and Non-Government Business - BC(3)06-08(p3)

3.6 The Committee agreed to schedule the following items of Assembly Business on Wednesday 5 March 2008:

Motion to change the membership of the Audit Committee.

Motion to change the membership of the Equality of Opportunity Committee.

Motion to approve revisions to the Members' Code of Conduct and Members' Complaints Procedure.

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

4. Legislative Competence Orders

Letter from Ann Jones and a paper on her Member proposed LCO relating to Domestic Fire Safety - BC(3)06-08(p4) & BC(3)06-08(p5)

4.1 The Business Committee considered the request from Ann Jones to establish a committee to consider her Member proposed LCO "National Assembly for Wales (Legislative Competence) (No 7) Order 2008" in relation to Domestic Fire Safety". "The Business Committee agreed that the committee to consider the Order would be established and elected on Tuesday 26 February 2008. 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

Paper from Committee Service: Committee Timetable - BC(3)06-08(p6)

5.1 The Committee considered the paper on proposals for the committee timetable for the summer term. The Leader of the House said he would discuss with his group the issue of holding committee meetings on Thursday afternoons. The Committee agreed to consider the options outlined in the paper and to return to the issue in its next meeting.

Request for an extra meeting slot for the Finance Committee - BC(3)06-08(p7)

5.2 The Chair said that the Business Committee had received a request from the Finance Committee to hold an extra committee meeting on Thursday 28 February 2008 to consider the Supplementary Budget motion. The Business Committee noted that the Welsh Assembly Government had tabled the Supplementary Budget motion on Thursday 19 February 2008 and that Standing Orders allowed the Finance Committee three weeks to report on the motion. The Business Committee agreed the request.

6. Any other business

6.1 The Business Committee considered proposals to reduce the size of the Equality of Opportunity Committee. As no consensus could be reached it was agreed that the Committee should remain at its current size.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT