

Enterprise and Learning Committee

Minutes (EL(3)-06-07)

Date: 10 October 2007

Time: 9.00am – 12.30pm

Venue: Committee Room 3, Senedd

Assembly Members in Attendance

Gareth Jones, Aberconwy
Alun Cairns, South Wales West
Christine Chapman, Cynon Valley
Jeff Cuthbert, Caerphilly
Andrew RT Davies, South Wales Central
Huw Lewis, Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney
Sandy Mewies, Delyn
Janet Ryder, North Wales
Kirsty Williams, Brecon and Radnorshire

Committee Service

Dr Kathryn Jenkins, Clerk
Daniel Collier, Deputy Clerk

Committee Specialist

Alys Thomas, Members' Research Service

Legal Counsel

Gwyn Griffiths, Legal Counsel
Keith Bush, Chief Legal Adviser

Others in Attendance

Roderic Jenkins, Chair ATCO Cymru
David Brown, Chair CPTCymru
Clayton Jones, Vice-Chair CPTCymru
John Pockett, Director CPTCymru
Cllr John Davies, WLGA spokesperson for Lifelong Learning, Pembrokeshire County Council, WLGA
Dr Chris Llewellyn, Director of Lifelong Learning, Leisure and Information, WLGA
Daisy Seabourne, Policy Officer Lifelong Learning, WLGA
Ieuan Wyn Jones AM, Deputy First Minister and Minister for Economy and Transport
Keith Parsons, Transport and Infrastructure Policy – Measure Team, Welsh Assembly Government
Piers Bisson, Head of Transport and Infrastructure policy, Welsh Assembly Government
Catrin Huws, Legal Services Department, Welsh Assembly Government
Simon Shouler, Director of Transport Policy & Administration
Anna Thomas, Additional Needs & Inclusion Division, Welsh Assembly Government

Item 1: Introduction, apologies and substitutions

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed Committee Members and members of the public to the meeting.
- 1.2 Apologies had been received from David Melding, for whom Andrew RT Davies was substituting.

Item 2: Pre-legislative scrutiny of the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure

Papers: EL(3) 06-07(p1), EL(3) 06-07(p2), EL(3) 06-07(p3), EL(3) 06-07(p4)

2.1 The Committee welcomed Roderic Jenkins, Chair ATCO Cymru; David Brown, Chair CPTCymru; Clayton Jones, Vice-Chair CPTCymru; John Pockett, Director CPTCymru; Cllr John Davies, WLGA spokesperson for Lifelong Learning and Information, Pembrokeshire County Council, WLGA; Dr Chris Llewellyn, Director of Lifelong Learning, Leisure and Information, WLGA; Daisy Seabourne, Policy Officer Lifelong Learning, WLGA; Ieuan Wyn Jones AM, Deputy First Minister and Minister for Economy and Transport; Keith Parsons, Transport and Infrastructure Policy – Measure Team, Welsh Assembly Government; Catrin Huws, Legal Services Department, Welsh Assembly Government; Simon Shouler, Director of Transport Policy & Administration, Welsh Assembly Government; Piers Bisson, Head of Transport and Infrastructure policy, Welsh Assembly Government;

2.2 The Committee scrutinised the witnesses on their evidence.

Actions for ATCO:

to provide a copy of a safety video relating to the behaviour of pupils on school transport;

to consider proposals relating to 14-19 Learning Pathways and to provide a response to the Committee.

Actions for the Minister:

to provide a paper outlining the legal difficulties of treating Welsh medium education equitably in relation to the provision of school transport;

to provide a timescale of when he might be disposed to introduce a Legislative Competence Order seeking further powers in this field;

to provide a paper outlining the results of his consideration of the implications of the Additional Learning Needs Legislative Competence Order for this Measure.

Papers to note:

National Autistic Society response to the Welsh Assembly Government consultation on the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure

Paper: EL(3) 06-07(p5)

The Committee noted the National Autistic Society response to the Welsh Assembly Government consultation on the draft Measure.

Minutes of the last meeting

Paper: EL(3) 05-07 – Minutes

The Committee ratified the minutes of the 3 October meeting.

Private session

The Committee resolved to exclude the public from the final item of the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 10.37(vi).

Item 3: Evaluation of evidence taken during pre-legislative scrutiny of the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure

Kirsty Williams AM requested that private sessions should be used sparingly for future Committee business in order to underpin the openness and transparency of proceedings.

The Committee evaluated the evidence taken during the pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Learner Travel (Wales) Measure.

Committee Service

October 2007