

# Education and Lifelong Learning Committee

**Minutes: ELL(2)-03-06**

**Meeting date: Thursday 8 February 2006**

**Meeting time: 9.00am – 12.30pm**

**Meeting venue: Committee Rooms 3 & 4, National Assembly for Wales**

## Assembly Members in Attendance

Assembly Member	Constituency
Peter Black (Chair)	South West Wales
Christine Chapman	Cynon Valley
Jeff Cuthbert	Caerphilly
Jane Davidson (Minister)	Pontypridd
William Graham (1 <sup>st</sup> half)	South Wales East
Mark Isherwood (2 <sup>nd</sup> half)	North Wales
Irene James	Islwyn
Janet Ryder	North Wales
Owen John Thomas	South Wales Central
David Melding	South Wales Central

## Officials in Attendance

Name	Job title
Richard Davies	Group Director, Department for Training and Education (DfTE)
Steve Marshall	Director of Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills Division, Welsh Assembly Government
Elizabeth Taylor	Head of Schools Management Division, Welsh Assembly Government

Catherine Roberts	Schools Management Division 4, Welsh Assembly Government
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## Committee Service

Name	Job title
Stephen George	Committee Clerk
Ruth Hatton	Deputy Clerk
Joanest Jackson	Legal Advisor
Denise Rogers	Equality Development Officer, Members Research Service

### Item 1: Introduction, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

1.1 The Chair welcomed Committee Members and members of the public.

1.2 Apologies were received from William Graham for the second half of the meeting, Mark Isherwood would substitute.

1.3 The Chair made a declaration of interest as being a Member of the College Council for Education of Swansea, Jeff Cuthbert made a declaration of interest as a Member of Court of Cardiff University.

1.4 The Chair informed Committee that the title of the Committee would change to reflect the Minister's portfolio. The Committee will be known as the Education Lifelong Learning and Skills Committee.

1.5 Richard Davies, Group Director Department for Training and Education (DfTE), informed Committee that this would be his last Committee before taking up his new role within the Welsh Assembly Government. The Chair thanked and commended Richard for all his hard work and support whilst working with the Committee. This was echoed by Committee Members

1.6 A verbatim record of the meeting is available.

### Item 2: Minister's Report

#### Paper: ELL(2)-03-06(p.1)

2.1 The Committee agreed to scrutinise two pieces of Secondary Legislation on Parenting Orders at Committee on 2 March 2006.

2.2 The Minister responded to Members' questions concerning her report.

## Actions:

- The Minister to provide information on how many whistle blowing policies are in place within Local Authorities in Wales.
- The Minister to provide regular updates to Committee on the Foundation Phase.
- The Clerk to lay a report on the Committee's consideration of the Childcare Bill.
- The Minister to bring the Annual Plan of the new Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills department to Committee for scrutiny annually.
- The Minister to provide a paper on Continuing Professional Development to the 16 March meeting
- The Minister to circulate an article written by Mr Brian Lightman, Headteacher of St Cyres School regarding the Welsh Baccalaureate.
- Committee to include an annual slot for the Basic Skills Agency on its forward work programme.

### **Item 3: Secondary Legislation Forward Look**

**Paper: ELL(2)-03-06(.2)**

3.1 The Chair asked Members to inform the Clerk of any Secondary Legislation they wished to be scrutinised.

### **Item 4: Monitoring the Recommendations of the Committee's Report into School Transport**

**Paper: ELL(2)-03-06(p.3)**

4.1 The Committee considered the paper.

Action: The Minister to provide Committee with a report of the outcome of the Assembly Government convened coordinating group meeting due to take place on 22 March 2006.

### **Item 5: Equal Opportunities**

**Paper: ELL(2)-03-06(p4)**

5.1 The Committee noted the paper.

Actions: The Committee to consider annually the draft Annex of the Equality Report, produced by the Welsh Assembly Government relating to the Education Lifelong, Learning and Skills portfolio and also to invite the Chair of the Equal Opportunities Committee to this meeting.

To ensure that all Members Research and Committee Service briefings highlight equality issues.

### **Item 6: Government of Wales Bill: Consideration of Schedule 11, paragraph 33**

**Paper: ELL(2)-03-06(p5)**

6.1 The Committee considered the paper.

Action: The Clerk to report that the Committee is content to the Government of Wales Bill Committee.

**Paper to Note: European Commission Forward Work Programme**

**Paper: ELL(2)-03-06(p6)**

The Committee noted the paper

**Paper to Note: Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

**Paper: ELL(2) -02-06(mins)**

The Committee noted the paper

**Private Session**

The Committee resolved to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting, in accordance with Standing Order 8.24(vi)