

Environment, Planning and Countryside Committee

Minutes EPC(2) 08-05

Meeting date: 22 June 2005

Meeting time: 9:30 – 12:30

Meeting venue: Committee Room 3 & 4, National Assembly Building

Assembly Members in Attendance

Assembly Member	Constituency
Alun Ffred Jones, Chair	Caernarfon
Lorraine Barrett	Cardiff South and Penarth
Mick Bates	Montgomeryshire
Glyn Davies	Mid and West Wales
Irene James	Islwyn
Carwyn Jones, Minister	Bridgend
Helen Mary Jones	Mid and West Wales
Sandy Mewies	Delyn)
Carl Sargeant	Alyn and Deeside
Brynle Williams	North Wales

Officials in Attendance

Name	Job title

Gareth Jones	Director of Environment, Planning and Countryside Department
Jonathan Fudge	Planning Division
Martin Williams	Plant Health and Biotechnology Branch, Food and Marketing Developing Division
Robert Williams	Environment Department - Waste Policy Branch
Owen Venables	Environment Department - Waste Policy Branch
Barry Dare	Environment Department - Protection and Quality Division
Lynda Webb	Environment Department - Protection and Quality Division
Rhodri Griffiths	Environment Department - Protection and Quality Division
Christianne Glossop	Chief Veterinary Officer
Sion Aron Jones	Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer
Tony Joss	Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer
Jo Glenn	Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer
Sean Bradley	Directorate of Legal Services
Hilary Neathey	Food Standards Agency Wales
Trish Fretten	Environment Department- Conservation Management Division

Others in Attendance

Name	Representing
Dr Keith Huckle	Dow Corning
Sally Bailey	Campaign Co-ordinator, WWF Cymru
Giles Watson	Toxic Policy Officer, WWF Cymru

Committee Service

Name	Job title
Kathryn Jenkins	Committee Clerk
Ruth Hatton	Deputy Committee Clerk

Members Research Service

Name	Job title
Gareth Williams	Members Research Service

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

1.1 There were no apologies or substitutions.

1.2 Glyn Davies declared an interest as having a potential family interest in a wind farm. Brynle Williams declared an interest as a farmer.

Item 2: Technical Advice Note (TAN) 8

Paper: EPC (2) 08-05(p.1)

2.1 The Committee considered the Report of the Consultation. The Minister stated that the TAN would be published on 12 July.

Action: The Committee to receive the TAN on publication for further discussion at the next meeting on 13 July

Item 3: Subordinate legislation

GMO (Traceability and Labelling) (Wales) Regulations 2005

Paper: EPC (2) 08-05(p.2)

3.1 The Committee previously identified these regulations for scrutiny.

3.2 The Chair reminded Committee that a report of the discussion would go before Business Committee.

Action: The Minister to provide information on the testing process and the number of facilities in Wales .

Item 4: Minister's report

Paper: EPC (2) 08-05(p.3)

4.1 The Committee questioned the Minister on the merger of the Tir Gofal scheme currently administered by the Countryside Council for Wales with the Welsh Assembly Government.

4.2 The Minister informed Committee that he had attended a Rural Development conference in Luxembourg.

4.3 The Minister informed Committee that the draft Coal TAN would be published at the end of this year. A group has been established to govern responsibilities of communities and coal extractors.

4.4 The report was taken as read.

Action points

The Minister to provide:

- a report on the risk assessment of the merger of Tir Gofal
- regular updates on the progress of the merger with the Countryside Council for Wales with the Welsh Assembly Government.
- a figure comparison of non-meat products in Wales.
- an update on the Agri-Food Partnerships as part of the implementation of the Horticultural Strategy for Wales.
- an update to Committee on the results of the independent assessment of possible causes of BSE cases after a reinforced feed ban in August 1996, are known.
- further information on the Home Loss Payments (Prescribed Amounts) (Wales) Regulations 2005.

Item 5: Paper to Note - Review of Local Biodiversity Action

Paper: EPC(2)-08-05(p.4)

5.1 The Committee noted the paper on the Review of Local Biodiversity Action.

Item 6: EU REACH Regulation

Paper: EPC (2) 08-05(p.5)

6.1 The Committee noted the information provided on the EU REACH Regulation scoping study and consultation with stakeholders.

Item 7: EU REACH Regulations Presentations

Paper: EPC (2) 07-05(p.6 & p.7)

7.1 The Committee received presentations from Dr Keith Huckle of Dow Corning and Sally Bailey and Giles Watson of WWF Cymru.

Action: Members to provide suggestions and recommendations to the Clerk for a discussion paper for the next meeting on 13 July.

Item 8: Minutes of previous meeting

EPC (2)-07-05(mins)

8.1 The Committee ratified the minutes of the previous meeting held on 25 May.

8.2 The Committee agreed to start the next meeting of 13 July at 9.15am.

Members' Research and Committee Services June 2005