

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES (LEG(2)-16-2006)

Meeting Date: 23 May 2006

Meeting Time: 9:30 a.m.

Meeting Venue: Committee Room 1, Senedd

Assembly Members in Attendance:

Assembly Member	Constituency
Eleanor Burnham	North Wales
Rosemary Butler	Newport West
Janice Gregory	Ogmore
Christine Gwyther	Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire
Ann Jones	Vale of Clwyd
Dai Lloyd	South Wales West
David Melding (Chair)	South Wales Central
Janet Ryder	North Wales

Officials

Name	Job Title
Gwyn Griffiths	Legal Adviser
Joanest Jackson	Assistant Legal Adviser

Committee Service

Name	Job Title
Olga Lewis	Committee Clerk
Hasera Khan	Committee Deputy Clerk

Item 1: Apologies for absence: Brynle Williams, Jeff Cuthbert

Item 2: Minutes of the Previous Meeting – LEG(2)-15-2006

2.1 The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 2006.

Item 3: Chair's Report

3.1. As there were no outstanding action points from the previous meeting, the Chair suggested moving directly to discussing legislation.

Item 4: Assembly Orders for Consideration

4.1 In relation to the following Statutory Instruments Members agreed that the reports should be made in the form of the drafts presented to the Committee by the Legal Advisers:

LC1288 - The Housing Act 2004 (Commencement No. 3 and Transitional Provisions and Savings) (Wales) Order 2006

LC1289 - Street Works (Inspection Fees) (Wales) Regulations 2006

Item 5: The Scrutiny of Legislation Following the 2007 Elections to the National Assembly. Draft Review Report

5.1 The Chair stated that the Review gathering evidence stage of the Review was now over and the Draft Report had been circulated to Members. He commended the drafting of the report, observing that it was succinct and precise. The Chair then invited the Members to express their opinions on the subject.

5.3 In discussion, the following points were made:

It was essential to develop closer links between the lawyers from both parts of the Assembly with the Welsh Universities to ensure a sufficient supply of lawyers, translators and jurilinguists to sustain the quality and quantity of bilingual legislation.

It was agreed that together with the report a letter should be sent to the Presiding Officer and First Minister, highlighting the two aspects:

- o the concerns about secure paper records of legislation;
- o the particular requirements to make bilingual legislation process.

Action: Chair/Legal Advisers/Clerk

It was also suggested that the First Minister and the Presiding Officer should be encouraged to hold seminar devoted to the bilingualism of Welsh legislation. Representatives of higher education institutions in Wales, including Welsh Universities, could be invited to the seminar.

The Chair requested that the paragraph 8.1 of the Report should be "tightened" to reflect the fact that the Legislation Committee did not aspire to question the policy objective, just ensure the best possible way to give effect to that policy.

Action: Legal Advisers/Clerk

5.4 Subject to that one amendment, the draft Report was agreed. It was further agreed that the Report should be printed and send to the Presiding Officer, First Minister, all presenters, AMs and the newly formed Committee on Standing Orders. Action: Clerk.

Actions

The Chair was asked to send a letter to the Presiding Officer and First Minister with the report;

The Legal Adviser was asked to clarify paragraph 8.1 of the Report;

The Clerk was asked to arrange the publication and distribution of the report.

Item 6: Any Other Business and Date of Next Meeting

6.1 The next meeting of the Committee would be held on 6 June 2006.