

BUSINESS PAPERS

THURSDAY, 11th JANUARY 2001

PART 1 – SECTION A

AGENDA

The Session will commence at 9.05am

Questions to Mike German, Minister for Economic Development (15 minutes)

A list of the Oral questions are on the Internet (and Chamberweb)

Finance Questions to Edwina Hart, Minister for Finance, Local Government & Communities (15 minutes)

A list of the Oral questions are on the Internet (and Chamberweb)

Debate on the 2nd Consultation of the Communities First Initiative

To propose that the National Assembly:

- Welcomes the publication of the second Communities First consultation paper, (which is available on the intranet at: http://assembly/aegis/Subject%20Index/Housing/Housing_Dept/Consultation/comfirst/CF2main_e.htm and was circulated to Assembly Members by email on 3rd January 2001) which sets out firm proposals for the implementation of the programme and asks local authorities and their partners to identify communities for inclusion in the programme.
- Endorses the Communities First approach as the way forward to achieve sustainable and empowered communities in areas of severe social disadvantage and invites members to comment on the proposals set out in this document.
- Welcomes the increase in the funding for Community purposes contained in the

Assembly's Budget.

- Invites each subject committee to discuss the consultation points raised in the document.
- Notes that the outcome of the consultation exercise will be reported back to Plenary.

The following amendments have been tabled:

In accordance with the revised guidance on the Grouping, Selection and Refusal of Amendments, the Presiding Officer has decided to group the amendments as follows for the purposes of debate - but votes will be taken separately:

(1)+(3)+(4)+(6)+(8)

(2)+(5)+(7)+(9)

1. William Graham (South Wales East):

Delete first bullet point, and replace with a new bullet point, which reads:

- Welcomes the publication of the second Communities First consultation paper, noting that it illustrates the continued pursuit for a community development strategy for Wales.

2. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East):

In the second bullet point delete all after "... In areas of severe social disadvantage and...."

And replace with " recognises that initiatives should be led by communities themselves and delivered in partnership. "

3. William Graham (South Wales East): Insert a new second bullet point:

- Regrets the failure to incorporate the findings of the first consultation with regard to the private sector assistance in community regeneration.

4. William Graham (South Wales East):

Insert a new third bullet point:

- Regrets the failure to recognise that the collapse in farm incomes has had a profound impact on social disadvantage in rural areas and to reflect these changed circumstances in the consultation paper.

5. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East):

Create new bullet point three and renumber remaining points accordingly

- Invites Members to comment on the proposals set out in this document, and calls on the Executive to give full consideration to issues raised.

6. William Graham (South Wales East):

Delete the current third bullet point, and replace with a new bullet point, which reads:

- Notes that the commitment for community funding contained in the Assembly's budget requires greater clarification on the measures to ensure sustainable improvements within the communities selected for this programme.

7. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East):

Add at end of the original bullet point three " and recognises that successful community schemes need longer term funding."

8. William Graham (South Wales East):

Insert a new fourth bullet point:

- Notes the lack of flexibility to respond to changes within those communities not selected for the programme, for instance, a major employer withdrawing from a community.

9. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East):

Insert new bullet point 5

- Recognises the complexity of funding mechanisms for community projects and the increasing number of "partnerships" being created and calls on the Communities, Local Government and Housing Committee to carry out a review to ensure the efficiency of these systems.

Short Debate: (to last 30 minutes)

Brian Gibbons (Aberavon); What can be done to help the steel industry in Wales.

The session is expected to conclude by 12.35pm

The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at

2.00 pm on Tuesday, 16th January 2001

J W Lloyd

Clerk to the Assembly

