

Thursday, 28th February 2002

## AGENDA

**The Session will commence at 9.05am**

### **Item 1**

**Questions to Jenny Randerson, the Minister for Culture, Sport and the Welsh Language**

Click [here](#) for the questions.

### **Item 2**

**Questions to Carwyn Jones, the Minister for Rural Affairs**

Click [here](#) for the questions.

### **Item 3**

**ICT Questions to Andrew Davies, the Minister for Economic Development**

Click [here](#) for the questions.

### **Item 4**

**Statement: the Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities on the Review of Assembly Office Locations**

### **Item 5**

**Approval of the Special Grant Report (2002) (No 4) on Allocations for Teachers' Threshold Pay**

*NDM970* - To propose that the National Assembly:

Under S88B of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, and in accordance with Standing Order 19.8, approves the Local Government Finance (Wales) Special Grant Report (No 4) (Wales) 2002 which was laid in the Table Office on 20 February 2002.

Click [here](#) for the Local Government Finance (Wales) Special Grant Report (No 4) (Wales) 2002.

### **Item 6**

**Debate on the Outcome of Restructuring the Arts Council for Wales**

*NDM972* - To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Welcomes the completion of the main parts of the Arts Council of Wales' Restructuring Plan,

including:

- i. New streamlined procedures to improve the service to organisations and individuals seeking grants
- ii. Decentralisation of services and the strengthening of regional offices across Wales
- iii. The strengthening of the Council's management team and more effective systems and procedures

2. Welcomes progress made on a five year arts development strategy, due for completion by early summer 2002.

3. Welcomes the increase in the Arts Council's budget of nearly 23% for 2002-03 which puts the funding of the arts on a much firmer footing.

The Arts Council of Wales' Restructuring Plan was E-mailed to Members on 21.02.02

Click [here](#) for the Arts Council of Wales's Restructuring Plan.

***The following amendments have been tabled:***

*In accordance with the revised guidance on the Grouping, Selection and Refusal of Amendments, the Presiding Officer has determined the order in which they will be taken and has decided to group the amendments as follows for the purposes of debate. Votes will be taken separately:*

(1) + (4) + (5) + (6)

(2) + (3)

**1. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)**

Add at end of 1 (ii):

",with the establishment of a separate South Wales office, located in the Valleys."

**2. Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central)**

Add at the end of point 3:

", but calls for the majority of this increase to be passed on to arts groups and beneficiaries instead of spending it on the Arts Council's administration."

**3. Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central)**

Add new point at end of motion:

Recognises the need to increase confidence in this ASPB from the Arts organisations which

remain deeply sceptical about the Arts Council of Wales.

#### **4. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)**

Add as new point at end of motion:

Endorses the recommendation in the Restructuring Plan that the Arts Council must demonstrate open and consultative policy development to improve its relationship with arts practitioners and the general public.

#### **5. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)**

Add as new point at end of motion:

Recognises that funding decisions made by the restructured Council must be informed by regular and objective assessment and evaluation.

#### **6. Jocelyn Davies (South Wales East)**

Add as new point at end of motion:

Instructs the Minister to ensure that the Council's restructuring costs are kept to the minimum so as to enable as much money as possible be allocated to arts projects across Wales rather than on bureaucracy.

### **Item 7**

#### **Debate on the National Modern Foreign Languages Strategy and Approval of the Strategy**

*NDM971* - To propose that the National Assembly:

1. notes with concern recent declines in foreign language learning by young people;
2. welcomes the Welsh Assembly Government's National Modern Foreign Languages Strategy and the actions it proposes, and
3. invites the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning to have the strategy printed and distributed widely throughout the education and training sectors

The National Modern Foreign Languages Strategy was E-mailed to Members on 21.02.02

Click [here](#) for the National Modern Foreign Languages Strategy.

#### ***The following amendments have been tabled:***

*In accordance with the revised guidance on the Grouping, Selection and Refusal of Amendments, the Presiding Officer has determined the order in which they will be taken and has decided to group the amendments as follows for the purposes of debate. Votes will be taken separately:*

(1) + (2)

**1. Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central)**

Add new point at end of motion:

Recognises the need to take urgent action to address the low take-up rate of foreign languages in Wales.

**2. Jonathan Morgan (South Wales Central)**

Add new point at end of motion:

Expresses concern over our future competitiveness in Europe, as a result of the decline in foreign language learning.

**Item 8**

**Short Debate:**

***NDM969* Nicholas Bourne (Mid and West Wales): Windfarms**

**The session should conclude by 12.35pm**

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**The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at**

**2.00pm on Tuesday, 5 March 2002**

**E P Silk**

**Clerk to the Assembly**