Plenary

Meeting date:

Tuesday, 27 January 2015

Meeting time:

13.30



Votes and Proceedings

(242)

1 Questions to the First Minister

The item started at 13.30

The first 8 questions were asked.

The Presiding Officer invited party leaders to ask questions to the First Minister after Question 2.

2 Business Statement and Announcement

The item started at 14.17

3 Statement by the Minister for Public Services: Introduction of the Local Government (Wales) Bill

The item started at 14.31

4 Statement by the Minister for Natural Resources: Improving the availability of allotments and community gardens

The item started at 15.04

5 Statement by the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty: Refreshing the Financial Inclusion Agenda

The item started at 15.42

6 Stage 4 Standing Order 26.47 motion to approve the Higher Education (Wales) Bill

The item started at 16.19

NDM5677 Huw Lewis (Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney)

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales in accordance with Standing Order 26.47:

Approves the Higher Education (Wales) Bill.

The Motion was agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

7 Debate: The Older People's Commissioner for Wales' Annual Report 2013-14

The item started at 16.32

NDM5672 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly of Wales:

Notes the annual report of the Commissioner for Older People for 2013/14, which was laid in Table Office on 6 January 2015.

The following amendments were tabled:

Amendment 1 - Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Notes the increase in the proportion of the Older People's Commissioner's casework relating to health care.

Amendment 1 was agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Amendment 2 – Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Regrets that the Impact and Reach Report notes that three local authorities are breaching their statutory time scales for delivering disabled facilities grants.

Amendment 2 was agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Amendment 3 – Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Welcomes the work of the Older People's Commissioner in developing the Declaration of the Rights of Older People in Wales.

Amendment 3 was agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

A vote was taken on the motion as amended:

NDM5672 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly of Wales:

- 1. Notes the annual report of the Commissioner for Older People for 2013/14, which was laid in Table Office on 6 January 2015.
- 2. Notes the increase in the proportion of the Older People's Commissioner's casework relating to health care.
- 3. Regrets that the Impact and Reach Report notes that three local authorities are breaching their statutory time scales for delivering disabled facilities grants.
- 4. Welcomes the work of the Older People's Commissioner in developing the Declaration of the Rights of Older People in Wales.

The motion as amended was agreed.

8 Debate: The Welsh Ministers' Report on Equality 2014

The item started at 17.07

NDM5674 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly of Wales:

Notes the Welsh Ministers' Report on Equality 2014.

The following amendments were tabled:

Amendment 1 - Aled Roberts (North Wales)

Insert as new point 1 and renumber accordingly:

Calls on the Welsh Government to consider wider transgender issues within the public sector equality duty.

Amendment 1 was agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Amendment 2 - Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire)

Add as new point at end motion:

Calls on the Welsh Government to introduce further measures to tackle homophobic bullying in schools.

Amendment 2 was agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Amendment 3 - Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire)

Add as new point at end motion:

Recognises the need for better partnership working to address the rise in tension between communities and improve cohesion following the terrorist attacks in Paris.

Amendment 3 was agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Amendment 4 - Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire)

Add as new point at end motion:

Welcomes figures published by the Office for National Statistics in November 2014 showing that the gender pay gap is at its lowest ever level, but acknowledges that there is more to do.

Amendment 4 was agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Amendment 5 – Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Government to ensure that victims of hate crime have access to comprehensive and easily accessible support services.

Amendment 5 was agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Amendment 6 - Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Regrets that little progress has been made in increasing the diversity of decision-making bodies in Wales.

Amendment 6 was agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Amendment 7 – Elin Jones (Ceredigion)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Believes that equality objectives must also confirm the right to receive public services in the official languages of Wales.

Amendment 7 was agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Voting on the motion and the remaining amendment under this item was deferred until Voting Time.

Amendment 8 – Elin Jones (Ceredigion)

Add as new point at end of motion:

Believes that equality cannot be achieved in Wales unless wealth is re-balanced across the UK.

A vote was taken on Amendment 8:

For	Abstain	Against	Total
38	0	13	51

Amendment 8 was agreed.

A vote was taken on the motion as amended:

NDM5674 Jane Hutt (Vale of Glamorgan)

To propose that the National Assembly of Wales:

- 1. Calls on the Welsh Government to consider wider transgender issues within the public sector equality duty.
- 2. Notes the Welsh Ministers' Report on Equality 2014.
- 3. Calls on the Welsh Government to introduce further measures to tackle homophobic bullying in schools.
- 4. Recognises the need for better partnership working to address the rise in tension between communities and improve cohesion following the terrorist attacks in Paris.
- 5. Welcomes figures published by the Office for National Statistics in November 2014 showing that the gender pay gap is at its lowest ever level, but acknowledges that there is more to do.
- 6. Calls on the Welsh Government to ensure that victims of hate crime have access to comprehensive and easily accessible support services.
- 7. Regrets that little progress has been made in increasing the diversity of decision-making bodies in Wales.
- 8. Believes that equality objectives must also confirm the right to receive public services in the official languages of Wales.

9. Believes that equality cannot be achieved in Wales unless wealth is re-balanced across the UK.

For	Abstain	Against	Total
37	0	13	50

The motion as amended was agreed.

9 Voting Time

The item started at 17.45

The meeting concluded at 17.46

The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at 13.30, Wednesday, 28 January 2015